

VMCA Newsletter – November 2016

Construction Junction

Just when we were starting to think we had the construction under control...BOOM!



The recent water main break was obviously unexpected. The break was 20 feet underground and was encapsulated in concrete which made detection of the actual leak even more difficult. But all is now fixed and since the hole was already opened, we had isolation valves added so that, in a similar situation, water to one building can be turned off rather than shutting down the entire complex.

This was a difficult situation for all and Management and the Board realize the inconvenience caused. We are appreciative of the patience and understanding expressed by most. The Board will be meeting next week to determine the impact on our budget and will work towards completion of a balanced budget for 2017. We hope to present that budget at a general meeting scheduled for Monday November 21.

Parking News



Parking garage work is on hold until the water issue is completely resolved. In the interim, tarps have been installed in the lower bays to ensure that cars will no longer be victims of the seepage that has occurred. Carl Walker will continue to address this situation. Kevin, our engineer, is working with them to assure all is completed as originally outlined.

Stencils have been ordered to designate the upper parking bays as "Permit Only Parking". We hope to have that project completed soon. Residents please remind visitors and contractors that the front parking spaces are for residents only.

Just a reminder that we should be courteous to our neighbors. The upper parking bay spaces are limited. If you plan to be away for weeks or months, think about parking your vehicle in the below or side parking.

HOA Coupon Books



The monthly HOA Coupon Books will no longer be automatically supplied to all residents. If you still want a coupon book, please give your information to Ellen by November 30, 2016.

Hiring Outside Contractors

(We posted this in the summer but it seems we need to reiterate it!)

Please keep in mind when hiring outside contractors, the following is required:

- **48 hour notice** and **\$250 security deposit** for use of the elevator. The elevators must be padded before large objects are brought in or out of the building. Not sure what defines a large object? If it doesn't fit in a shopping cart, it's a large object! 😊
- **VMCA office should be notified** upon arrival and departure of contractors. This is to ensure that the front doors are safely and securely opened when necessary, that there are no unidentified workers wandering the building and that the office is aware of the renovation in the event of a problem that affects others. Propping the doors open will damage them!
- **Contractors must remove and dispose of all debris** resulting from the job. This does not mean throwing debris over the terrace railing or filling the dumpsters with old rugs and appliances.
- Work must be completed **Monday through Saturday between the hours of 9:00 AM & 5:00 PM**. This is also true of any work you may be doing yourself in your home. No one wants to hear hammering and sawing late into the night and fines may be imposed for habitual offenders. (You know who you are! 😊)
- Damage to common areas as a result of contractors work will be the responsibility of the unit. This is why it is important to follow the last bullet...
- For your protection **verify that contractors are insured**. If you choose to use a contractor or handyman that is not licensed or insured, please be aware that YOU will be responsible for any damage/problems that affect the common area and/or your neighbor's home.



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Get to know your Neighbor!

This month's Neighbor is Georganne Regan (East Building).

Q: *When & why did you move to Virginia Mansions?*

A: I lived in Bethlehem, PA for 31 years and taught fifth & sixth grade at St Anne's. After retiring, I spend a year sorting, pitching & mailing boxes of treasures to my four children in preparation for the big move back to Pittsburgh. I was born & raised in Bethel Park, one of six children, and some of my family still live in this area. Pittsburgh is the main gathering place for most family reunions!

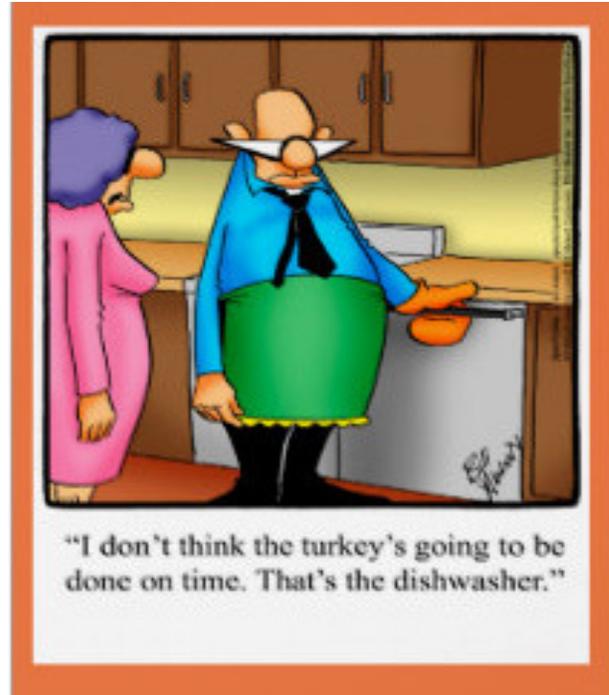
I spent many weekend visits looking for my new home, viewing over 21 different places in the South Hills! Though condo living was new to me, Virginia Mansions seemed the perfect fit. I moved here in August of 2011.

Q: *What do you do to fill your days?*

A: I bowl once a week, volunteer with the Ladies of Charity monthly, and belong to the USC Speaker Series. I love to sew, paint and read and our family is always gathering to play cards or share a meal.

Q: *Tell us something people might find interesting about you.*

A: One of my retirement gifts from my niece Allison, in Philadelphia, was a beautiful, colorful tattoo of a butterfly on my left shoulder! It is my first tattoo...and probably my last!



Social Committee Calendar

November – Angel Trees in Lobbies
November 12 – Coffee & Crafts
November 21 – General Meeting 7 PM
November 28 – Special Assessment Due!
December 10 – Holiday Party



Not Your Mama's Coffee Klatch!

Time is running out! ☹ Please contact **Gail Laska (412-489-5276)** for more info.



DID YOU KNOW....?

- Wild turkeys have incredible hearing, they can hear and discern what they are hearing a mile away. Their ears are just holes in their head just behind their eyes, with nothing external to capture sounds.
- They have periscopic vision – meaning they have excellent vision in a 360 degree field, instead of just directly ahead of where they are looking.
- Male turkeys have sharp, bony spikes on the backs of their legs for defense. The age of the male turkey can be determined by the length of the spike. 5 year old male turkeys can have spikes between 1 ½ to 2 ¼ inches in length.
- Mating season for the Eastern Wild Turkey is generally mid-March through June. The male will fluff his feathers to attract a mate.
- When it is time for a female to lay her eggs, she will produce about 12 eggs, one per day for just under 2 weeks. Those eggs will incubate for about 28 days before hatching. All of the fertile eggs will hatch in a one day period.
- Wild Turkey is a brand of Kentucky straight bourbon whiskey distilled and bottled by the Austin Nichols division of Campari Group.