



The Cloverdale Communicator

March 2013



Hidey Ho and welcome to our second edition. In this edition, we'd like to focus on the health of our community. From community maintenance to personal maintenance, its all connected. With Spring coming, we have a chance this year to make a difference. Let's get out and walk, run, bike, plant new flowers, lay down those last bags of mulch from last year , and breathe the fresh air of spring.

The President's Message

By Bob Montgomery

HOA grass cutting: Spring is around the corner. I hope that you all survived the winter without too much effort or too many problems. Spring does mean that we will be cutting our lawns soon. We, as a community, have two parcels of land that the HOA is responsible for; the common area near the back of the sub-division and the entrance road to Cloverdale. In the past, we bush-hogged these areas monthly. Last year, we cut these areas on a regular basis with mower blades and we decided to do the same this year. The trees that died and were cut down by our entrance last fall will be replaced with Crape myrtles this spring.

The roads in Cloverdale: I am looking into a comparison of what it will cost to have our roads repaired which includes sealing the cracks and applying a seal coat vs. having the roads totally resurfaced. From what I learned, we can extend the life of the roads for five to seven years by having the cracks sealed and applying a seal coat. The comparison of the two estimates will help us decide whether or not we should make these road repairs.

Fixing the cracks and applying the seal coat may be too cost prohibitive. We will have to see. So far, I have received one estimate and I am awaiting two others.

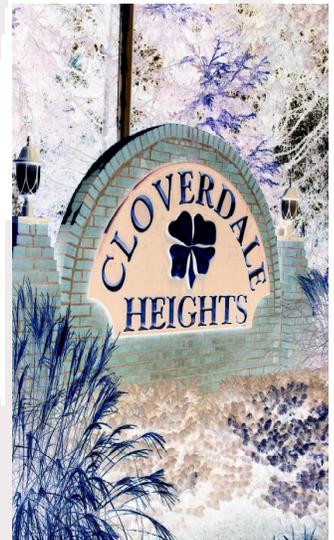
The street lights: As you know, the poles are in very bad shape. Also, three lights are currently out. I am happy to say that the Missing light head on Cloverdale Road has been replaced. I am asking your patience. We are working to get the poles and lights replaced. If a street light is out near your home, feel free to contact the electric company. There is a procedure on the website. It is under the FAQ

(Frequently Asked Questions) tab.

Reminder: We have a beautiful sub-division. It is a perfect place to raise children and to take walks. Please be aware of this as you drive in and out of our neighborhood.

God bless,

Bob Montgomery



Tips and Tricks

Dispose your fireplace and grill ashes in a metal container away from the house

Notices

Community Yard Sale
May 4-5

Reminder

Income Tax filing
deadline April 15.

Put "Spring" back in your step.....

If you're like me, you spent the latter part of this winter griping about the cold and simply waiting anxiously for spring and warm weather. Now that kinder temperatures are right around the corner, it's time to not only think about what kinds of flowers to choose for our gardens and firing up the lawn mower, but the season for getting out and moving and shaking off the doldrums (and those few extra pounds) of winter. We live in a subdivision that lends itself to an excellent walking program, with well lighted, paved roads and many hills and inclines. Walking for fitness is one of the easiest and mostcontinued



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joint-friendly exercises in which we can participate, needing little equipment and no training. So put on your comfy shoes, limber up the legs and take a lap or two around our beautiful neighborhood. Did you know that one lap around the subdivision (including Veronica Lane) is approximately 1.7 miles? Add in a cul-de-sac or two, and you've completed a two mile walk simply by circling the subdivision. Can't find a walking partner? Download an audio book or two to your favorite portable device, and enjoy your walking time by "reading" that best seller you've been putting off. I guarantee you that one lap will quickly turn into two when you realize you're almost home and you're just getting to the good part. We're looking forward to shedding those coats and resuming our after dinner walks. Maybe we'll see you out there!

Let's talk about.....

Lawn Care. Did you know grass grows old? It becomes yellow and straw like. It will no longer produce that shade of green we all desire.

Here's a few tips: 1. Aerate, aerate, aerate. 2. Over seed your lawn. Fall is the best time and spring is the second best time (don't fertilize at the same time). 3. Set your mower at 3-4 inches. Taller grass creates a larger root structure and is less inviting for weeds.

Our Favorite Recipe

Granola Clusters

1 pound Quaker oats, 3 cups coarsely chopped nuts-I use 2 cups of almonds and a combination of pine nuts and sunflower seeds for the third cup, 1 tsp cinnamon, 2 cups dried fruit. I use raisins and cranberries, 1/2 cup flaked coconut, 1 cup packed brown sugar, 1 cup honey, 1 stick of butter, 1/3 cup of water, 1/2 tsp salt, 2 tsp vanilla extract,

Preheat oven to 350°, In food processor or coffee grinder, grind 1/2 the oats to a fine powder, In large bowl, combine the ground and whole oats, fruit, nuts and spices, In a saucepan over medium heat, bring brown sugar, water, butter and honey to a simmer. Add vanilla and salt, pour over oat mixture and stir well. Should be moist. If not, add a little water. Let stand for 10 minutes, Spread on large cookie sheet. Bake in 350 oven for 25 to 30 minutes or until top is golden brown, Remove from oven, stir and then let cool completely. Break into chunks and store in air tight container at room temperature.

Upcoming Events

May 4-5, Cloverdale Heights Community Yard Sale

May 7, Bi-Monthly Board Meeting at St. John Episcopal Church

Classifieds

Pet Sitter available. Responsible 15 year old Cloverdale Heights and Washington High sophomore.
(240) 215-5276

Reminders

Control Burns are allowed thru May 31st - AFTER 5 PM and must be entirely out by 7AM. See your community web site for burning regulations or call (304) 725-8484. Let's clean up those brush piles.

Please report any street light outages and light pole problems to Potomac Edison at 1-800-686-0011.

...The final word

We all want to feel better and live longer, yes? And something deep down inside is telling you to be more active or to get out and mow that grass more often, clean out those flower beds, wash the cars, or finish that project you been putting off. But, what about just getting out to walk, notice the neighborhood, meet your neighbors again for the first time. Don't let people around you discourage your efforts. The more we put into something the more passionate we will feel about it. Until next time.....see you out and about.