

MERIDIAN FIRS 1

TOWNHOME COMMUNITY

August/September 2011

National Night Out Save the Date . . .

Tuesday - August 2, 2010
5:00PM – 9:00PM (upper
grass lot by old tennis
courts)

Together Again: Meridian
Firs 1 & 2

- HOA to provide
Hawaiian Pork &
Chicken
- Water & Sodas

Meridian Firs 1 residents,
bring Salad or Chips to share

Meridian Firs 2 residents,
bring Dessert to share

Games – Prizes – Bounce
Toy - Food - Fun - Friends

Board of Directors

President	Marilyn Kennedy
Vice Pres	Judy Berghuis
Secretary	Heidi Guthrie
Treasurer	Deb Camuso
At Large	Ron Knowlton
At Large	Pauline Schoeneman
At Large	Susann Haines

Property Manager
Shelley Murray - 206-387-7177
smurray@windermere.com



Presidents Message: Better Communities

More than a destination at the end of the day, a community association is a place you want to call home and where you feel at home. There is a difference between living in a community and being a part of a community. Being a part of a community means sharing with your neighbors a common desire to promote harmony and contentment.

This goal is best achieved when homeowners, non-owner residents and association leaders reorganize and accept their rights and responsibilities. In all cases, this entails striking a reasonable, logical balance between the best interest of individual homeowners and those of the community as a whole.

Community Associations exist because communities exist and because they offer choices, lifestyles, amenities and efficiencies that people value. Yet, with all their inherent advantages, Community Associations face complicated issues, none more common than the challenge of balancing the rights of the individual homeowner and those of the community as a whole. Managing this critical and delicate balance is often the essence of effective community leadership.

RV Lot Vandalism

by Board of Directors

Vandalism at a trailer in the RV lot has been reported by one of our homeowners. It was discovered someone had opened a water heater door and broke the latch to the door. Pieces of the latch were on the ground. In addition, the block which they keep between the wheels to prevent the trailer from rolling was moved out from between the wheels.

It would seem someone is using the trailer for target practice. It was covered with "pock marks", for lack of a better term, and found green, yellow and white plastic pellets all around the trailer. This is very, very disturbing that someone is intentionally causing this damage. Because the RV area was so sheltered, no one could see anyone in the area, especially at night!

The Board of Directors directed Jonathan (our handyman) to spend a couple of days clearing the area around the RV area. We think it creates great visibility and should make vandalism and loitering less likely. This will be a regular area that he will maintain from now on.



Meridian First 1 Now an Official Block Watch!

by Stacy Judd (Kent Police Department)



Thank you to everyone for helping us join the "Neighborhood Watch"!

Your participation and awareness will keep us all safe. Remember if you see anything or anyone suspicious - call "911" right away and DO NOT confront anyone. That is the job of the Kent Police Department. Thank you again for just being aware and keeping us all safe! Be Aware and Show That You Care!

Steps you can take to prevent crime in our neighborhood:

Get to know your neighbors and keep an eye out for *anything suspicious*

1. If you see anything suspicious **call 9-1-1 immediately** – this can include people going back and forth and appear to be "casing" the neighborhood, kids wandering around with backpacks, unknown cars to the neighborhood, people knocking on doors and asking for someone who doesn't live there
2. When calling 9-1-1 provide them with **as good a description as possible** – physical attributes (height, weight, clothes, hair color etc), description of car, license plate etc.
3. After calling 9-1-1 **notify your block watch captain** and they will let the neighborhood know through email or phone tree.
4. The police department will be sending **weekly crime statistics** and crime prevention information to your block watch captains. The information provided will apply to the East Hill area and what specific trends we are seeing.
5. **Block Watch signs** will be put up throughout your neighborhood as a reminder of what Block Watch means!

Your Block Watch Captain: Pauline Schoeneman 253-220-8375 (remember to call 911 first & then call Pauline)

Building A	Patricia North
Building B	Darleen Alkhalili
Building C	Kristine Laney
Building D	Marilyn Kennedy
Building E	Susann Haines
Building F	Deborah Camuso
Building G	Kristan Matthews
Building H	Carlisa Bacote
Building I	Heidi Guthrie
Building J	Terri Sue Tewksbury
Building K	Jeffrey Spencer



For more information on crime prevention to go:

<http://www.ci.kent.wa.us/content.aspx?id=1650>

Association Storm Drainage System Update

by Board of Directors

The city of Kent's public works department and the law department have recently reviewed its file regarding the storm drain system, in addition to inspecting portions of the storm drainage system currently owned and operated by the Meridian Firs Owners' Association.

Based on prior correspondence, the city will accept the easement, but before accepting the easements, the city must inspect the system and receive a Bill of Sale conveying the system to the city as a condition of accepting the easements and taking over the system.

In order to accept the Bill of Sale, the city's public works department must inspect TV the system. The city will report any maintenance issues. If there are any serious defects, they will have to be repaired before the city will accept the easement and Bill of Sale. Once the repairs are identified and we have an estimate of our costs to complete the repairs, the HOA may either perform the repairs or withdraw the proposed agreement with the city.

If the HOA elects to move forward with this process, please note that the HOA must also give easements open space tracts A, B, and C, which the city is willing to prepare.

The Board of Directors task will be to get the storm drain system in compliance with the city's standard once we receive their punch list. We will also be getting 2/3 of the homeowners to sign an instrument being prepared by Shelley Murray, our property manager, and approved by our lawyer. This legal instrument will be the Bill of Sale for the actual storm drain system that will then enable the city to take over maintenance of the system.



"I vote that we turn this storm drain system over to the city and save ourselves a huge headache & a pile of money later on . . . all in favor?"

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New Planters!

by Board of Directors

The planters are finished & now filled with 3-Way Top Soil and ready for planting!

Many thanks to all that helped pull this together (Marilyn Kennedy, the entire Alkhalili Family, Rob & Heidi Guthrie, Judy Berghuis, Les Haney, Say Sot and our new handyman Ernesto Sanchez, for building the actual planters. This project has been a major undertaking and without the help of so many kind & caring homeowners, would have cost the BOA quite a bit more money to get it done!

A trench from the enclosure downspout was dug and lined with river rock for the upper planters to divert the water away from the mailboxes. There is more work to be done around the catch basin and we will be having Ernesto finish the job.

WELL DONE!





Community Notes

by Judy Berghuis

SPECIAL ATTENTION!



Report all Vandalism to Police:

Lately there has been an increase in damage to personal property at MF1 (trailer damage, writing on cars & two cars stolen) keep a sharp eye out for each other – report any type of illegal activities to police!

Playground Equipment Refurbishment:

We are having the playground equipment refurbished on Saturday, July 30th by Rainbow Depot Co. This will include tightening all bolts, replacing damaged and broken parts, reattaching awning and restraining the wood.

Slow Down and Come To A Complete Stop

In Washington, it is illegal not to make a complete stop at a stop sign.

Be sure to stop completely at all stop signs and watch your speeds when driving through our neighborhood. Keep our kids, joggers, dogs and neighbors safe!

Roll Up Your Windows and Lock Your Doors!

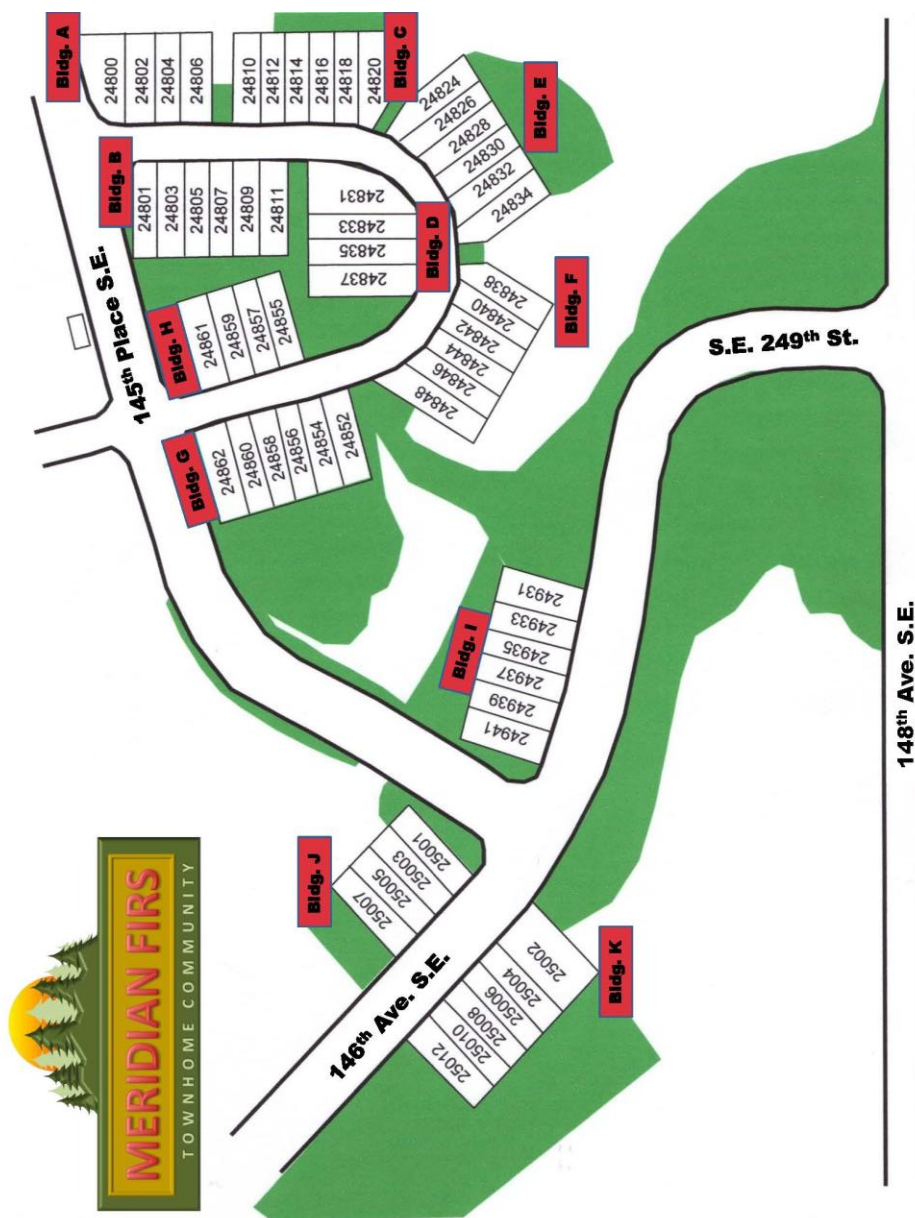
It really is THAT simple! Make it hard on them! It only takes a second for a vehicle prowler to access your car if you let them.

Be a Hero:

If you witness illegal dumping on MF1 site, the numbers to call are: 206-296-7483 or 1-800-431-7483. You can also report it online at:

<http://your.kingcounty.gov/solidwaste/cleanup/report-dumping.asp>

Block Watch Map of Complex








Your Block Watch Captain: Pauline Schoeneman 253-220-8375
(remember to call 911 first & then call Pauline)

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Calendar of Events

by Judy Berghuis

AUGUST 2011						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1		3	4 Garbage  ★	5	6
7	8	9 No regular Board Meeting	10	11 Garbage 	12	13
14	15	16	17	18 Garbage 	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Garbage 	26	27
28	29	30	31			

SEPTEMBER 2011						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
				1 Garbage 	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 Garbage 	9	10
11	12	13 Board Meets 5:00 at Winder- mere Office ★	14	15 Garbage 	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 Garbage 	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 Garbage 	30	



Board Activities



Recycle Day Pickup



Yard Waste Pickup

Outdoor Grilling

by Board of Directors

One of the most enjoyable summer pastimes is cooking outdoors with family and friends. Remember, in multi-residential housing, you are not alone. The risk of fire to one homeowner is a risk to all homeowners sharing the same and nearby buildings. Failure to take adequate precautions to prevent the spread of fire can result in injury or death to fellow residents, and a large lawsuit against you.

Position grills well away from siding, deck rails and out from under building eaves and overhanging tree branches. Keep a portable fire extinguisher near the grilling area.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, one-half of all structure fires started by gas or charcoal grills begin on an exterior balcony or open porch. By taking a few simple precautions, you could prevent a relaxing evening outdoors from turning into a fiery tragedy for you and your community.

