



# The Fernshire Crier

<http://www.FernshireFarms.org>

Volume 21 Issue 3

March 2009



**ANNUAL MEETING**  
 March Meetings  
 Monday, March 23  
 Ridgeview Middle School  
 7:30 PM Annual Meeting  
 Regular Meeting Afterwards

## Results of first attempt at holding 2009 Annual

**Meeting:** The meeting required a quorum of 10% of voting households within the community. Twenty-seven people were counted in person or represented by proxy. The Annual Meeting was rescheduled for March 23.

## 2009 Annual Meeting Agenda

- Roll call and certification of proxies
- Approval of 2008 Board Meeting Minutes
- Reports of Officers
- Reports of Committees
- Nominations, if any, of Board Candidates
- Appointment Inspectors of Election
- Elections of Directors
- 2008 Unfinished Business
- New Business
- Homeowner Open Forum
- Regular Meeting Follows

## February Board Meeting Highlights

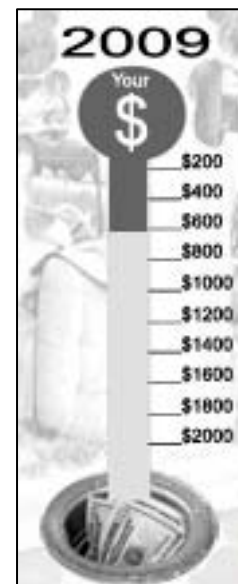
Election of Officers was deferred until after the Annual Meeting in March.

### Community Open Forum:

Homeowner disagreed with some information published in the newsletter. The editor will investigate and print retraction, if indicated.

### Vanguard Management Report:

- **Reviewed open violations and status.** Actions were decided concerning tree stump, light post, light fixture, and fence and gate violations.
- **New violation letters** were identified for front porch lights installed without application for new design, nonconforming gate, new fence sections not in conformance and lattice installed in front yard.
- **Pilot parking program** was deemed not consistent with community parking policies and has been abused. Spaces will be returned to guest parking spaces and a contractor will be asked to stencil the space on the curb and pavement.



- **Discussion about possible solutions to the growing problem of strewn trash** throughout the community included using black trash bags and spraying them with ammonia to discourage squirrels; hiring a contractor to pick up strewn trash; using the newsletter to advise people that this could cause



increases in assessments; post reminders on mailboxes; dividing

community into five sections and assigning area to a Board member to monitor trash; list rules in newsletter (Carole Carter will provide and Larry Seeger will look again at notice holders).

- **Front Entrance Signs:** A meeting, on site, was held and the thinking is to install signs with brick pillars and sign in center. Lighting will need to be moved. Board will consider LED lighting (Vanguard will get bids for lighting, signage and landscaping).
- Decisions made on action to take regarding maturing **bank CDs.**

**From the Board:**

**Action:** Larry Seeger will again contact the City manager about light.

**Action:** Management will contact attorney to get a status on delinquent accounts.

**Action:** Henny Van Gogh will get all addresses to Vanguard so violation letter may be sent.



**2008 Annual Meeting Highlights (Repeat)**

**Hot topics during Board reports:**

- 1. High cost of special trash pickups and Board explanation that the cost can be passed on if the resident is identified. Suggested received to post flyers advertising date of regular pickups.
- 2. Type of fence to be installed. Wrought iron was selected (and later installed). Will apply for City grant of \$5,000. Later, plants will be planted.
- 3. **ACTION:** Management will consider line item in next budget to cover cost of pickups.
- 4. **ACTION:** Motion to waive reading of Reports, as they were distributed to attendees.

**Hot topics during Committee reports:**

- 1. Asked Landscaping committee to walk community with management to identify areas needing attention.
- 2. Need for lighting. City has allotted \$150,000 for lighting and planned for summer installation. After the City has finished, further needs will be considered.
- 3. Question about plans for entrance. Consideration was put on hold until after fence installed.
- 4. Results of asking for students to deliver newsletters as school community service requirements. No volunteers came forward.
- 5. **ACTION:** Motion to waive reading of Reports, as they were distributed to attendees.

**Election of Directors (1 seat)**

Larry Seeger was the only candidate who submitted questionnaire prior to meeting. Call for Board member nominations from the floor. None received. Seeger elected by proclamation.

**Unfinished Business from 2007**

- 1. Concerns about resident behavior and condition of 3 Bayridge Court. Suggestion made to write a letter to the organization which placed these residents on the property. Discussion about violations and fines.
- 2. **ACTION:** Management will send a violation notice or hearing notice to resident and discuss placing a lien on the property with the attorney.
- 3. Discussion concerning hiring a private security firm to patrol the community. Board looked into hiring off-duty police officers (\$45-50 per hour deemed too high. Association will track incidents after fence is installed. Main problems are loitering and car larceny.

**New Business for 2008**

- 1. ACTION Planned: Hire summer community patrol
- 2. ACTION Planned: Continue with lighting
- 3. ACTION Planned: Plant shrubs after fence is installed.

**Community Phone Book**

County Police Non-emergency	301-279-8000
County Fire Non-emergency	240-777-0744
City Police Dept (non-emergency) police@gaithersburgmd.gov RWagner@gaithersburgmd.gov	301-258-6400
Gaithersburg Police Tip Line	301-330-4471
County Poison Center	202-625-3333
Sex Offender Compliance and Enforcement in Maryland (SOCEM) http://www.socem.info/	1-866-559-8017 (sign up for alerts)
Emergency Preparedness & ALERT	301-258-6310
City Neighborhood Services neighborhoods@gaithersburgmd.gov	301-258-6340
City Crime Prevention	301-258-6400
County Landlord-Tenant Affairs	240-777-3609
City Animal Control lholland@gaithersburgmd.gov (after hours)	301-258-6343 240-773-5900
City Public Works publicworks@gaithersburgmd.gov	301-258-6370
City Code Enforcement Neighborhood Services	301-258-6340
County Housing Code Enforcement	240-777-3785
City Bulk Pickup	301-258-6370
County Environmental Protection	240-777-7770
MD Dept. of the Environment	410-631-3300
Weeds & Tall Grass on Private Property (County)	240-777-3785
Building Permits (County)	240-777-6210

# ANNUAL MEETING

## Monday, March 23rd



### Board of Directors & Committees

No non-emergency calls after 9:00pm, please.

<b>PRESIDENT:</b> Larry Seeger (term expires 2011)	301 990-9413 1015 Bayridge Terrace
<b>VICE PRESIDENT:</b> Robin Confino (term expires 2010)	855 Flagler Drive
<b>TREASURER:</b> Anil Srivastava (term ends 2009)	240-246-0677 42 Beacon Hill Court
<b>SECRETARY</b> Carole Carter (term ends 2010)	301-977-4657 1003 Bayridge Terrace
<b>At-Large</b> Henny van Gogh (term expires 2009)	301-947-5317 5 Bayridge Court
<b>Welcome Committee:</b>	Chair: Ferrah Pourahmadi
<b>Landscape Committee:</b>	Chair: Cindy Nelson
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	Bev Weidmann

### Thank You, LaShina Williams



Community homeowner LaShina Williams is a shining example of a homeowner who cares about, not just her property, but the whole community. She is often seen walking with a large trash bag picking

up trash off the ground. She walks the talk when it comes to caring about her community. LaShina, thank you. (Can you be cloned?)

### Welcome New Neighbors

The **Parias** have moved onto Bayridge Drive. Welcome to Fernshire Farms. We invite you to attend the Board of Directors Annual Meeting on Monday night, as well as the other monthly meetings, to learn about the functioning of your new community.

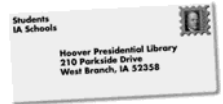


### Correspondence

Send all correspondence and ACC applications to: Vanguard Management Associates, P.O. Box 39, Germantown MD 20875-0039

Attn: Ms. Sandra Ewing. Her phone number is 301-540-8600 Ext. 3319. E-mail her at

[sandi@vanguardmgt.com](mailto:sandi@vanguardmgt.com). Only signed letters with name and contact telephone number will be discussed and addressed. ANONYMOUS letters will be discarded.



### City Paint Giveaway Program

The purpose of this program is to assist homeowners with the costs associated with painting the exterior of their homes. The program is a reimbursement program whereby owners-occupants provide the labor and the City will rebate the cost of the materials such as paint, brushes, rollers, caulk, putty, and glazing compound. Contact Neighborhood Services at 301-258-6340.



### For Police Service in the City of Gaithersburg

Call 911 for life threatening emergencies and 301-279-8000 for all other police requests. The officers of the Gaithersburg Police Department are dispatched through the Montgomery County Police communications center, same as County Police officers. If a City officer is not available, a County officer is dispatched. In some cases, both are dispatched.

### 3 Ways to Contact the Police

There are three ways to call the police when you see suspicious activity.

1. **For best results, leave your name and number. You may ask for the officer to come see you or not.**
2. Reluctant. Ask that your information not be given the officer over the radio.
3. Anonymous. These calls have a lower priority because the officer has less to go on and they don't hold up in court.





## Recycling Summary Friday Pickups

Before throwing out items, please consider other ways to donate, reuse, or recycle them.

**Newspapers, Mixed Paper, Recyclable Cans, Glass Containers, and Plastic Containers** - Collected by the City's recycling contractor in City provided bins, placed at the curb on your recycling day.

To prevent paper products from blowing out of the recycling bin please be sure to place mixed paper in brown paper bags. Newspaper may also be placed in brown paper bags or tied with string or twine.

**Corrugated Cardboard** - Collected by the City's recycling contractor when cut or flattened into 2x3 foot pieces and placed underneath your bin or in **brown paper grocery bags** and placed at the curb on your recycling day.

**Brush and Branches** - Collected by the City's recycling contractor when tied in bundles or placed in **biodegradable brown paper bags** and placed at the curb on your recycling day.

**Grass Clippings and Other Yard Trimmings** - Collected by the City's recycling contractor when placed in **biodegradable brown paper bags** and set at the curb on your recycling day.

**Recycling Cans, Glass and Plastic Bottles** - Cans, glass and plastics (commingled materials) will be collected weekly when placed in City provided recycling bins and set out at the curb. If you move, please leave the bin for the next resident. If you need a replacement bin, call **301-258-6370**. Recyclable items include:

**CANS** - Any aluminum or steel food beverage cans. *Examples: soft drink, beer and juice cans; tuna, bean, and vegetable cans; pet food cans, etc.*

### DOs

Empty and rinse all cans.  
Labels and attached lids are okay.  
Push lids down into cans so they will not injure collectors.

### DON'Ts

NO cans other than food or beverage containers.  
NO automobile parts or household metal items, pots and pans, aluminum siding, furniture or propane tanks.  
DON'T completely remove can lids.  
DON'T crush cans.

**Aluminum** - Disposable aluminum foil products (*i.e., pie plates, foil, etc.*). Clean and wipe aluminum foil.

**Glass Jars/Bottles** - Any glass food or beverage jars or bottles; no lids. *Examples: soft drink, juice, beer and wine, spaghetti sauce, pickle, mayonnaise jars, etc.*

### DOs

Empty and rinse all containers.  
Discard all caps and lids.  
Attached labels are okay.

### DON'Ts

NO mirrors or window glass.  
NO broken glass.  
NO drinking glasses, cups, plates, cookware, pottery, ceramics, or crystal.  
NO light bulbs.  
NO caps or lids.



**PLASTICS** - We now accept the following materials:

**Narrow-neck plastic bottles that contained food, drink and household products:**

*examples: milk, juice, water, syrup, vegetable oil, salad dressing, cleaning, detergent and shampoo/conditioner bottles*

**Plastic food-grade tubs and lids:**

*examples: margarine/butter tubs, cottage cheese, yogurt, sour cream, mayonnaise, whipped topping, peanut butter and deli containers, and prescription bottles*

**Plastic pails/buckets.** *Examples: ice cream, detergent, pet food and kitty litter containers*

**Plastic flower pots & plastic beverage cups**

### **Not Acceptable:**

Any plastic bottle or container that held hazardous automotive or garden products. *Examples: motor oil, antifreeze and pesticides*  
Plastic wrap and bags  
Polystyrene and Styrofoam products