



Monroe Manorisms

June 2008 ♦ Volume 13, Issue 2

I. A FEW WORDS FROM THE BOARD

by Gordon Jarratt



Community Party on June 13!

All Monroe Manor families are invited to the End-of-School/Beginning-of-Summer Party on Friday afternoon, June 13 (6:00 pm on Camberwell Court)!

Lisa Fee, Judy May, and Jennifer Carson are planning another fun event for both children and adults. Read more about this party in Section III Community/Social Events on page 4.

New Monroe Manor Homeowners Website!

By Doug Barbee

The Monroe Manor HOA “officially” unveiled our new website earlier this year, thanks to the efforts of our new webmaster, **Debbie Nelson!** We are excited to bring you the new site www.monroemanorhoa.org which contains news articles, information from board meetings, ARC articles, and community events data. It also has electronic copies of our community documents (ARC Submission form and guidelines, HOA Bylaws, previous newsletters, etc.).

In an effort to help Monroe Manor be a “greener” community, it is our intent to substantially reduce the frequency of our current paper newsletter by providing the same information electronically via the web. This will be done by displaying articles in HTML format, as well as having PDF versions available for download. As significant articles and/or announcements are periodically added to the website, broadcast announcements with a link will be e-mailed to all residents. It is important that your HOA have at least one valid e-mail address for an adult homeowner living in each of Monroe Manor’s 184 homes. Send a message to directory@monroemanorhoa.org if we still do not

have your e-mail address.

In order to minimize site maintenance costs and password administration, we have not implemented a website with a secure area where neighbors can login to view ‘confidential’ community information. Therefore, personal phone numbers, addresses, and e-mail addresses will typically not be displayed on the public website. To help reduce spam to personal e-mail accounts, any necessary contact info will be routed through temporary homeowner association provided e-mail addresses (example: John.Doe@monroemanorhoa.org). There will also be links available for homeowners to request copies of other community documents that will not be posted on the website (such as the Resident Directory, Contractor List, and Babysitter List, etc.).

We hope that you find the new website to be helpful and we welcome your comments and suggestions that you may have. Please send your ideas or info on any problems that you encounter to hoaboard@monroemanorhoa.org.

Important -- E-mail Addresses Needed for 15 Homes!

There are two reasons why your HOA needs at least one home or work e-mail address for the owner of each Monroe Manor home:

(1) In the future, the frequency of the printed version of the *Monroe Manorisms* newsletter will be significantly reduced. In its place, most of the news and content that used to be in the newsletter will now be posted on the website. Instead of the quarterly mailed newsletters, the HOA will be sending out periodic e-mail messages to all residents when there is some new link, announcement, or content to view on the website.

(2) E-mail is the only practical way to keep residents informed about last minute service changes and notifications about community issues (such as changes in trash pick-ups, significant crime incidents, school issues, snow removal, and upcoming social or community events).

If you are not already receiving occasional community broadcast messages (averaging maybe one per month), please contact **Laurie Gibson** at directory@monroemanorhoa.org so she can add you to the list. We still need e-mail addresses for residents of the following 15 homes:

2501 Camberwell Ct.
2518 Fallon Dr.
2523 Fallon Dr.
2553 Fox Hound Ct.
12688 Fox Woods Dr.
12809 Monroe Manor Dr.
12902 Monroe Manor Dr.
12905 Monroe Manor Dr.
13008 Monroe Manor Dr.
13009 Monroe Manor Dr.
13011 Monroe Manor Dr.
2505 Tallyrand Ct.
2506 Tatnuck Ct.
2507 Tatnuck Ct.
2509 Tatnuck Ct.

Thanks to all the residents that have already provided e-mail addresses!

Make Sure Your HOA Dues have been Paid

Reminder that remaining **quarterly dues payments of \$165.00** are due on July 1, and October 1, 2008. Dues coupons with pre-addressed remittance envelopes were mailed to each homeowner in December 2007. It is each homeowner's individual responsibility to ensure that full HOA payments are received before the due dates. Late payments are assessed late fees and collection fees. Homeowners may elect to prepay dues up to a year in advance to help avoid issues with late payments. Please make checks payable to Monroe Manor Homeowners Association, Inc. Contact Pat Dillon at Zalco (pdillon@zalco.com, or 301-495-6632) if you need coupons or have questions about the quarterly assessments. The remittance address for dues payments only is Zalco Realty, Inc., P.O. Box 17344, Baltimore, MD 21297-1344. Several residents have overdue accounts which need to be paid off to avoid possible interest and legal collection charges.

Future of the Multipurpose Court

Within two years the Monroe Manor basketball court (at the intersection of Monroe Manor Drive and New Parkland) is scheduled to have its "floor" resurfaced. Reserves have been established for this common area work. Some in the community have asked what should be the future of the basketball court and if we should we consider some type of alternate structure or different use of the property. This is a multi-purpose court and it could be configured as a tennis court or something entirely different such as a volleyball court, large tot lot, or pavilion with picnic table area, etc. Of course this area could also remain as a basketball court. Residents with interest about this are asked to contact the Board so a committee can be established to evaluate alternatives and make recommendations. Residents will be surveyed in the future for input.

2008 Board of Directors Meetings

The remaining scheduled 2008 Monroe Manor HOA Board of Directors meetings are:

- ♣ August 20
 - ♣ November 19 (**2008 annual meeting date**)
- Meetings are generally held quarterly, at 7:30 pm on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Residents are welcome to attend. Please contact a Board member to confirm the specific time and location.

Elementary School Boundary Study in Fall 2008 needs Parent-Resident Group!

The attendance boundary for Floris Elementary School may be changing for the 2009-2010 school year. A new school, Coppermine Elementary, is being constructed in part to help reduce overcrowding at Floris ES and McNair ES. A group of parents and residents is needed to engage on this study in the Fall of 2008. See the article in Section IV Local School News on pages 5-6 for more information.

Please Be a Considerate Pet Owner

Neighbors have complained about inconsiderate pet owners who leave pet waste along the trails and sidewalks. Please take a moment to "scoop up" after your pet and leave the pathways a clean and safe place to walk or ride a bike. Pet waste must also be picked up from all fields and common areas too. Thanks!

Washington Dulles Airport (IAD) Update

Did you know that you can now fly non-stop from Washington Dulles Airport to 88 U.S. cities (see http://www.metwashairports.com/File/iad_domestic.pdf)?

You can also fly non-stop (or direct on a single plane) to 42 international destinations from Dulles (see http://www.metwashairports.com/File/iad_inter.pdf).

The detailed Flight Guide for all flights into and out of Dulles (and Reagan National) is available at: http://www.metwashairports.com/dulles/flight_information_3/flight_guide

A lot of growth is happening at Dulles. With 560,000 aircraft take-offs and landings annually, the Washington Metropolitan Airports Authority is expanding from its original three runways in 1962 and adding a 4th north-south runway. The new runway will open in November 2008. It is 9,400 feet long and 150 feet wide, and is located one mile farther west of the existing north-south runway (see http://www.metwashairports.com/dulles/d2_dulles_development_2/d2_home).

Dulles also has approval for a 5th runway, which will run east-west and be located further south on airport property closer to Route 50. However, construction dates have not been established.

Dulles Airport has many other projects including main terminal improvements, new field concourse buildings and gates, a new control tower, and the construction of an underground rail system called AeroTrain that will connect the Main Terminal with Concourses A, B, and C. The rail system will be operational in 2009. For more information on all Dulles Airport projects, link to http://www.metwashairports.com/dulles/d2_dulles_development_2/projects.

Vote in the June 10 Primary Election

The polls are open from 6:00 am – 7:00 pm on Tuesday, June 10 to vote in the primary. Across the County there are primaries involving both parties in contests for Congressional seats. On the local ballot for Monroe Manor residents is a Republican primary election for the 10th District U.S. House of Representatives between Frank Wolf (incumbent) and Vern McKinley. Link to

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb/upcoming.htm> to find out more about the election and to view a sample ballot. Because Virginia does not register by party, any registered voter may vote in the primary election.

Removing More Stoplights on Route 28

Construction has begun on the new interchange for Frying Pan Road and its intersection with Route 28. A “trumpet-style” overpass will carry Frying Pan traffic above Route 28 and eliminate another stoplight. The interchange will be similar to the one at McLearen Road. Construction will be completed on this and four other Route 28 interchanges in the Fall of 2009. Link to <http://www.28freeway.com/projectmap.html> for aerial photos and more information.

Animal Shelter Announces New Hours

The Fairfax County Animal Shelter is open Tuesday thru Friday 12:00 PM to 7:00 PM, and Saturday 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM (closed Sunday and Monday). The Shelter is located at 4500 West Ox Road (near Fair Oaks Mall). You can contact the Shelter at 703-830-1100, or link to <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/animalservices/> to see pictures of the animals available for adoption.

Child Safety Seat Inspection

The Fairfax County Sheriff's Department will provide complimentary car seat inspections on Friday, June 20 from 1-3 pm at the Chantilly Babies R Us on Metrotech Drive. Estimates are that up to 80% of car seats are either installed incorrectly or used improperly. State law requires that all children up to age 8 be secured in a child restraint device or booster seat. Call 703-280-0559 to find out about other inspection dates and locations.

II. ARC NEWS

by Rick Auman

Once again the “outdoor project” season is upon us, and we have noticed several of these projects going on that haven't been submitted through the ARC approval process. So it's worth reminding everyone again what needs to be done before you head off to Lowes'...

Only changes to the outside of your property need to be submitted; stated another way: maintenance/repair projects using the same materials, dimensions, and colors do not require an ARC submission. If in doubt, give your ARC rep a call and talk it over with one of us.

If it is a change/modification, get a copy of the ARC submission form (we can send you a soft copy via e-mail) and fill out the form completely, including all required attachments (plat with setbacks, drawings, materials lists, dimensions, colors, pictures if appropriate, etc.).

Please take the time to talk to all nearby neighbors who may be impacted by the change, whether they are in front, back or sides of your property, and notify them of your intended project. You do not need their approval, just a signature on the form indicating that they have been notified of your intentions.

Then submit the form with all attachments to Zalco (address is on the form) before the 1st of each month. Zalco will forward all submissions to us for review and a decision. We normally meet by mid-month and you will be notified directly by your ARC rep of the decision. A signed copy of your ARC submission will be returned to you for your files.

If this process isn't followed, then you run the risk of having to "un-do" or modify your project later if it doesn't get approved by the ARC. This can really be a problem when it comes time to sell your property, as the ARC must inspect each property and certify that any external modifications have been approved prior to sale. You'll avoid a lot of last-minute running around and expense if you follow the process outlined above before you begin work.

The ARC and the Board would like to thank **Ed Micka** for all his time and efforts over the past couple years of service on the ARC. His new job is going to require him to travel more than in the past and he asked to step down.

The Board has approved the nomination of **Brett Peterson** to take over as the ARC rep for Ed's "eastern" portion of the neighborhood. Brett and his wife have three children and have lived in Monroe

Manor for almost 12 years. Brett is an IT consultant for a large systems integrator. When he is not running the kids to their infinite activities, he enjoys golfing, canoeing, fishing, and photography. Welcome to the ARC, Brett! Brett's contact information is included on page 8 of this newsletter.

III. COMMUNITY/SOCIAL EVENTS

by Jennifer Carson

3rd Annual Monroe Manor Kick off the Summer Event - Come Join the End of School Fun on 6/13!

- Where:** Camberwell Court Cul-de-sac
When: June 13, 6:00 pm - ???
What: Food, Drink, Entertainment - Neighbors and Fun!
Food: Famous Dave's and Drinks - beer, wine and soda, juice and water
Entertainment: Mad Science will be providing the children some fun entertainment from 7:00-8:00 pm
What to Bring: A snack or dessert to share with the group.

If you have any tables, recycling bins, chairs or trash cans, please contact social@monroemanorhoa.org so we can arrange to utilize them for the night.

We will also be looking for set up and clean up help. If interested, please come to the cul-de-sac at 5:30 pm to help set up. If you can help with clean up, please send an e-mail and we'll look for you after the event is almost over. More information about these and future events will be sent via broadcast e-mail (assuming we have one for you – see article on pages 1-2).

From the Social Committee

It's hard to believe it's time to bid farewell to another school year and turn our attention to the lazy days of summer! And there is no better way to kick start the summer than our annual End of the School Year Extravaganza! This year it will be held on Friday, June 13th. BIG THANKS TO JUDY MAY AND LISA FEE FOR RUNNING THIS SHOW YET AGAIN! Please touch base

with Judy or Lisa if you have questions or if you can help out at the party.

Please also Save the Date for our **annual Labor Day Ice Cream Social -- scheduled for Sunday, 9/1**. We are hoping to change things up a bit this year at this event. Be on the lookout for additional details as summer draws to a close... hopefully not too quickly though!

As you are lounging about at the beach or splashing around in the pool... please keep thinking about fun ideas to share with the Social Committee! We would love some fresh faces to help with new ideas and with planning and coordinating events throughout the year. We hope to hear from you with any suggestions for fall events so we can start planning those soon too. Happy Summer!! Be safe and have fun. We look forward to seeing everyone on June 13th!!

May 17 Community Yard Sale and Salvation Army Pick-up were a Huge Success!

The Community-wide Yard Sale was not scheduled to start until 8:00 AM on Saturday May 17, but at 7:00 AM, many buyers were cruising the streets and ready to go! Thanks to **Carolyn Jarratt** for organizing and promoting this annual event using both print and on-line ads. Thanks also to **Janice Micka, Lisa Fee, Barb Krause, Linda Duggan, and many others** who helped with local signage. The weather was perfect, and many neighbors commented that the buyer traffic was much higher than it had been in previous years.

Subsequent to the yard sale, over 30 Monroe Manor homes also participated in the Salvation Army charity pick-up on Saturday afternoon. The truck had to make two runs just to carry all of the donations from our neighborhood!

There were so many benefits during the day. Houses were emptied of unneeded items. Buyers who wanted to purchase items got great deals. Neighbors had a chance to socialize. Residents had a chance to put some dollars back in their pockets. Afterwards many remaining items went to a good cause and charitable deduction receipts were provided for next year's tax returns. What a great day all around!

IV. LOCAL SCHOOL NEWS

by Gordon Jarratt

2007 – 2008 FCPS Calendar

For the most recent public school calendar, link to www.fcps.edu/cal.htm . Below is the current school calendar.

June 13	Last Day of School
September 2	2008-2009 School Begins

Floris Elementary School Boundaries likely will be changed next! Parent-Resident Group Needed to Represent Monroe Manor at Town Hall School Boundary Meetings in the Fall 2008!

The number of students attending Floris Elementary School exceeds its facility enrollment capacity. The same situation exists at McNair ES. To help address this problem, a new elementary school on Coppermine Road (west of the Clocktower shopping center, west of Centreville Road) is scheduled to open in the Fall of 2009. FCPS is expected to officially announce soon that an elementary school boundary study likely affecting Floris ES, McNair ES, and Hutchison ES and possibly others will begin in the Fall of 2008.

Parents and residents are needed to create a School Boundary Committee and to participate in several “town hall” meetings. We need to make sure that we are organized and speaking with one voice (if possible). Residents that want to participate on this committee are asked contact the Board at MonroeManorHOA@cox.net . Your Board will help organize this Committee with a kick-off meeting and share relevant communication via broadcast e-mails and the newsletter. However, the Committee will be leading our community's participation in these FCPS boundary meetings. Among other alternatives, the Committee may decide to join with other neighbors participating in the FairfaxCAPS group.

Here is the overall boundary calendar:

June/July 2008 – FCPS School Board finalizes the specific schools in the boundary study

November/December 2008 – FCPS staff hold several public “town hall” meetings for the elementary school boundary study

January 2009 – FCPS staff send their recommendation about the elementary school boundary change to the School Board

January/February 2009 – FCPS School Board holds public hearings

February/March 2009 – FCPS School Board makes final elementary school boundary change decision.

The FY2009-2013 Capital Improvement Plan has detail about capacity and enrollment projections of all schools, including the elementary schools in this study: <http://www.fcps.edu/news/cip.htm> .

The boundary change regulation and process is provided in Regulation 8130.5 which can be found at: <http://www.fcps.edu/Directives/R8130.pdf>

The associated "policy" is available at:

<http://www.fcps.edu/Directives/P8130.pdf>

High School Boundary

On February 28, 2008, our elected Fairfax County School Board members voted 10-2 to change our high school attendance area from Westfield HS to South Lakes HS. FCPS information about this change is available at

<http://www.fcps.edu/news/boundary2.htm> .

Some families and neighbors support this decision and can go to the South Lakes High School PTSA website to get involved with the school at <http://www.southlakesptsa.org> . Other nearby families and neighbors oppose this boundary decision and working with FairfaxCAPS have filed a legal action to overturn the change (see <http://www.fairfaxcaps.org>). FairfaxCAPS is requesting financial contributions for the legal case from neighbors affected by the redistricting. A judge is scheduled to hear the case on July 3, 2008 and subsequently make a decision.

Summer Reading Program

The Fairfax County Public Library has joined FCPS in the 2008 Summer Reading Program called "Master the Art of Reading." The initiative helps make reading fun so students continue to enjoy books during summer vacation. The program runs from June 13 to August 30 at all 23 library branches. More than 30 businesses and organizations have donated more than \$1 million worth of prizes for kids who finish the program.

As part of the program, students in preschool to sixth

grade read (or have read to them) 15 books, and students entering grades 7 to 12 read eight books. Participants who finish reading the required number of books by August 30 win prizes. Participants can read any books they choose, and reading suggestions can be found in *This Month*, the library's newsletter (available in library branches). Magicians, a BMX stuntman, animal enthusiasts, puppeteers and more will give free performances and presentations at library branches all summer long. In addition, teens can participate in special activities such as film production workshops. The events and activities are free, but advanced registration is required.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Editor's Note: Next is another resident-provided article to "go green" and do something good for the environment and to help others. Monroe Manor neighbor Andrea Pollack submits this great idea about what you can do with your fixtures when you undergo a home remodeling job. Ideas for other articles are welcome!]

Reduce, Re-Use, Recycle: ReStore!

by Andrea Pollack

If you're planning a home improvement project, such as a kitchen or bath remodeling job, consider how you can recycle your materials, fixtures, and appliances. Habitat for Humanity has a second hand store called ReStore which accepts donations of building supplies and sells them to help fund their own building projects. They'll take gently used cabinets, countertops, refrigerators, windows, and more.

When planning a project recently, I was sad to think that after gutting my bathroom, some perfectly good vanities and fixtures were going to lie in a dump. During a quick hunt online, I found out about Habitat for Humanity's ReStore and contacted them. It took a quick phone call to set up a timely appointment to have my items picked up for me. The web site offers a list of items that they will accept, and the telephone representative confirmed for me whether they would take my specific items.

The workers on the truck were friendly, courteous, and happy to take these items out of my garage for

me. They left me with an empty garage and a receipt for tax purposes. When I added up the values of the items we donated, it was no small sum. I found the people at ReStore to be well organized and very easy to deal with.

The following information is taken from their website. Habitat ReStores are retail outlets where quality used and surplus building materials are sold at a fraction of normal prices. Proceeds from ReStores help local affiliates fund the construction of Habitat houses within the community. Many affiliates across the United States and Canada operate successful ReStores some of which raise enough funds to build an additional 10 or more houses per year.

Materials sold by Habitat ReStores are usually donated from building supply stores, contractors, demolition crews or from individuals who wish to show their support for Habitat. In addition to raising funds, ReStores help the environment by re-channeling good, usable materials back into use.

The Northern Virginia ReStore is located in Alexandria. You can contact them to set up a pick-up by calling (703) 360-6700. There is also one located in Winchester. For more information, check out <http://www.habitat.org/cd/frame/frameset.aspx?url=www.restorenova.org>

Consider stopping by to shop or else donating the next time you have the chance.

installers were prompt, courteous and neat. Our contact was Roy Brewer (703-478-6333; capitaldoor1@verizon.net).

Monroe Manor Contractor List -

Please update your Jobs Wanted Postings!

Some of the information about neighborhood teenagers and jobs wanted is outdated. Please review your posting and e-mail Kathy with updates, corrections, and/or removals. Some of these students may have graduated and may not be living at home. In addition, there are probably additional teens out there who would love the opportunity to make some money. Please send Kathy your information to be included in the September newsletter.

Please send any updates to the Monroe Manor Contractor List to **Kathy Lawson** at newsletter@monroemanorhoa.org.

Garage Door Replacement Recommendation

by Janice Micka

At the suggestion of several other neighbors we used Capitol Door Inc. to install new garage doors and openers. They honored a 10% discount off of everything to several Monroe Manor neighbors. The

MONROE MANOR CONTACT INFORMATION (as of June 2008)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board meetings are generally held quarterly on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Contact any member for the date, time and location of the next meeting.

BOD E-mail: MonroeManorHOA@cox.net

Gordon Jarratt, President
703-471-7374

president@monroemanorhoa.org

John Bull, Vice President
703-925-0118

vp@monroemanorhoa.org

Doug Barbee, Treasurer
703-437-9245

treasurer@monroemanorhoa.org

Jerry Chickillo, Secretary
703-318-8230

secretary@monroemanorhoa.org

Rich Schwarzkopf, At Large
703-709-5215

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ZALCO REALTY, INC.

Zalco Realty, Inc.
8701 Georgia Avenue, Suite 300
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Mark Hoage, Community Manager
Phone: 301-495-6619
Fax: 301-495-4169
mhoage@zalco.com

COMMUNITY/SOCIAL EVENTS

Jennifer Carson, Chair
703-766-3527
social@monroemanorhoa.org

NEWSLETTER

Kathy Lawson, Editor
703-796-1570

newsletter@monroemanorhoa.org

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

ARC meetings are generally held the second week of each month. Contact any member for the location, date and time of the next meeting.

Rick Auman, ARC Chairman, 703-733-0752
rauman@monroemanorhoa.org

- ♣ 12827-12907 Monroe Manor Dr.
- ♣ 12901-12913 Locksley Ct.
- ♣ 2526-2530 Fallon Dr. (even numbers)
- ♣ 13000-13009 Monroe Manor Dr.

Mike Nelson, 703-471-5573

mnelson@monroemanorhoa.org
♣ 13011-13030 Monroe Manor Dr.
♣ 13098-13099 Curved Iron Rd.
♣ 2550-2565 Fox Hound Ct.

Brian Roherty, 703-481-6057

broherty@monroemanorhoa.org
♣ 12901-12909 Brafferton Ct.
♣ 2500-2525 Fallon Dr.
♣ 2527-2531 Fallon Dr. (odd numbers)

Gene Murphy, 703-689-0674

gmurphy@monroemanorhoa.org
♣ 12800-12825 Monroe Manor Dr.
♣ 2506-2524 Camberwell Ct. (even numbers)
♣ 12808 New Parkland Dr.

Brian McKenney, 703-742-6017

bmckenney@monroemanorhoa.org
♣ 12684-12726 Fox Woods Dr.

Brett Petersen, 703-925-9155

- ♣ 2500-2507 Tallyrand Ct.
- ♣ 12800-12805 New Parkland Dr.
- ♣ 2506-2509 Tatnuck Ct.
- ♣ 2500 Camberwell Ct.
- ♣ 2501-2521 Camberwell Ct. (odd number)