

WELLINGTON CROSSING NEWSLETTER MARCH 2008

Volume 1, #2

Odds and Ends

It's almost spring and it is time to start thinking about outdoor planting. Herbs and tomatoes are quite easy to grow in containers on the decks. If you have never done container gardening before, all you need to remember is that the plants usually need to be watered a little more often than if they were planted directly in the ground. Tomatoes grow great if you put only one plant in something like a 5 gallon bucket. In fact, they grow so great that you will probably need to provide some staking or some other support before mid summer. Don't forget that they also need drainage. You can kill two birds with one stone if you use the expensive self watering planters but any planter should work. If you enjoy cooking, what could be better than having easy access to freshly picked chives, or parsley, basil, oregano or some other herbs? They all should flourish with a little TLC. Please remember that all the planters on the decks should be white. Also, a good time to plant is anytime between the middle and end of May. By the way, please remember to keep the pots inside the railings. In fact, for safety reasons, it is important that nothing is ever hung on the outside of the rails or placed on the deck outside the rails. Another safety issue regarding our decks concerns barbeques. We really shouldn't have them.

Each new resident who came to Wellington Crossing signed quite a few documents and agreed to comply with a large set of rules including some that may seem impractical. In addition to some very strict legal responsibilities, a Board of Trustees is also responsible for either changing or enforcing these rules. If any owners have a tropical fish tank, don't forget that currently you are not supposed to have more than 2 fish. If they happen to be guppies, you should be very careful to make certain that they are the same sex or soon you will very likely violate the rules. The Board hires а management company but the management company cannot change the rules. When the condo owners select a board of their own, some of the rules will possibly change but we must always remember to comply with the rules in place. Currently, the building representatives are a good vehicle for us to use to help consolidate our thoughts, and concerns. The representatives have the ear of the current board of trustees and the current management company, and it is important to note that the current board and the management company have been verv responsive to our representatives. There have been many improvements recently such as the safety strips on the stairs and the installation of bulletin boards.

Tip of the Month

The following advice was given to a unit owner by a GE service representative while he was replacing a defective control panel on a stove. Try very hard not to use any spray cleaner of any type (including window cleaner) on any of the many GE touch control panels in the units (including the washer and dryer). The panels are expensive to replace and easy to ruin. It is important that neither solvents nor liquids get behind them. Use only a damp cloth to clean them with maybe a tiny bit of mild hand dishwashing liquid.



Tip of the Month #2

If you have been here a year or so already, it's time to think about cleaning the lint out of the inside of your washer/dryer. This is above and beyond cleaning the lint filter in the dryer door. If it is done occasionally, the dryer will actually work a little better because of the improved air flow and possibly will last a little longer. The operating manual gives directions but really all you have to do is disconnect the electricity from the unit, then remove the 2 screws from the slanted front panel between the washer and dryer and then go to it. For safety reasons, it would be wise after you think you disconnected the electricity from the washer/dryer to confirm it by trying to turn the dryer on and being unsuccessful. Also, remember to put the panel back before reconnecting the electricity.

Tip of the Month #3

Feel free to use the Building Representatives as a source of information regarding services that can be provided by some of the talented people living here. Do you need a ride to Logan? How about a dog sitter? Would you like a massage? Need help with your taxes? Do you need the service of a handyman for hanging shades, drapes, pictures, etc? The representatives know who you can contact to arrange for each of these services. If you can provide some other service, let any of the representatives know and maybe they can drum up some additional business for you also. Don't forget, you can also user the bulletin boards for this kind of information. Please remember that the bulletin boards are for advertising services provided by residents only and not outside contractors.

Food for thought

Does anyone have a suggestion for renaming this newsletter? We already thought of The Wellington News and The Residents Write.

Now that warmer weather is again upon us, are any of you walkers interested in getting into a walking group? All you need is for a few of you to establish a common set time and set route. Others will probably join in after they see the pattern. In a neighborhood in Westwood MA, there is a fairly large group and some individuals go around a neighborhood route twice while many only go around once. Usually at certain times in the morning, you can see a scattering of people waiting outside their homes all along the route for the group to come so that they can join in.

Speaking of walking, if you walk past the front of Building 4, at the end of the street before it turns to the left, there is a 20 some odd foot wide grass clearing. It leads toward Trapelo Road but it also leads directly to a large clump of lilac bushes. They will soon be in bloom and it really will be a beautiful site at that time.



Google Good News and Bad News?

Google has implemented a feature which enables anyone to type a telephone number into their search bar when on the Internet and then enter and be given the person's name and address. If you then hit Map, you will get a map of the person's home location. It's a nationwide reverse telephone book! The really great news is that the map is up to date. Our streets here at Wellington Crossing are properly displayed. In fact, the aerial view is fairly recent. Consider telling your computer literate friends when they want to visit for the first time since it is probably easier than giving directions to them. If you want to block Google from divulging your private address information, simply click on your telephone number and then click on the Removal Form. If you have young grandchildren who are able to give out their phone number, you might want to tell their parents about this. There are pros and cons relating to the safety aspects. Removal of your name takes about 48 hours.

Here is a challenge:

Does anyone know a safe way of cleaning the outside top windows in their units and then reliably getting the screens back into their tracks? If you know, please pass the information on to the rest of the residents. There are a few of us who can go outside and then reach our windows but we need a solution that works for everyone.

Final comments

Does anyone want to write a few helpful computer tips to be included into each future issue? If you would like to respond to anything in this newsletter or contribute to future issues of the newsletter, you certainly can speak to one of the representatives. If you have access to email, it is even easier. All you need do is compose your thoughts and send them in an email to <u>CondoNews@comcast.net</u>.

Building Representatives

Town Houses	Dan Blechman #26-3
Building 1	Richard Griffin #1201
Building 2	Jeanne Proia #2203
Town Houses Building 1 Building 2 Building 3	Sydney Hudig #3404