



Summerwind Homeowners Newsletter

www.SummerwindRenton.com

December 2005

Debra Mikolaizik, Editor: 425-226-2926 Home, 425-430-6580 Work, E-Mail dmikolaizik@ci.renton.wa.us or mikol04@comcast.net

2005 is winding down....

Several locking mailboxes have had some security problems in the past few months. The outgoing box had been tampered with and pried open, which means the prowler is trying to get your checks to alter and cash them. Please pay extra attention to your accounts if this has happened to your outgoing mailbox. We all know it's a felony to interfere with the U.S. Mail so let's hope the culprits get caught soon. Think this is probably adults in cars, daytime and nighttime.

A neighbor called to let me know that the Grinch/Grinches were in the neighborhood and to be on the lookout. She had two snowmen (decorations they have had 15 years now) stolen this past weekend. Another neighbor had their decorations slashed and ruined. What a terrible thing! Their kids are exposed to something so ugly.

I know when I was hanging my lights outside and only half would light up, I felt like canceling Christmas altogether. But with a little help from a neighbor, we figured out a strand of lights had a bad plug on one end, so I was able to get everything lit up and feel good about the whole thing (that was BEFORE I got my last utility bill). But having someone vandalize or steal your property is another story. Something like this can put a real damper on the holiday spirit.

My garage door got egged over the Thanksgiving weekend and scrubbing it off a few days later wasn't too much fun—my whole door needs repainting now and winter isn't the best time to be painting.

What kind of people are so mean-spirited? I don't believe they live in Summerwind because everyone I know pays attention to their teens and what they are doing. Who wanders around at night with mischief on their minds? Is their family life so bad that they have to resort to such stupid stuff to feel good? In the grand scheme of things, it's not that terrible, but still, what makes them waste their time in this manner? I won't take it personal, but I personally will spread the word to everyone to pay a bit more attention to the comings and goings in Summerwind. Let's catch them and get them the help they need. And if you want to borrow an engraver to etch your name/cellphone or driver's license number on your property or large decorations, I have one you can borrow.

They are NOT going to get my holiday spirit!!

Calendar

Second Try - Annual Homeowners Meeting Since we didn't make have enough residents show on our November 3rd meeting to reach quorum, a second meeting has been rescheduled for **Wednesday, December 14th, 7 PM**. Again, it's at the Sierra Heights Elementary School cafeteria. It's going to be an interesting meeting (see the President's report). Lots to discuss so PLEASE try to carve a half-hour/hour into your busy schedule to make this important meeting.

Christmas Decorating Contest Get ready, the contest is going to be **Tuesday, December 20th, 7-9 PM**. Prize winners will be winning a different variety of prizes this year, because I retired last year after 18 years of prize gathering, and turned the responsibility over to the board members. Thanks for making Summerwind so beautiful!

LNO (Ladies Night Out) The **second** Wednesday of each month. Carpool gathers at **6:30 PM**, at 2030 Field Avenue NE. Call 271-6406 for more info and to reserve a spot. This is a good way for those of you new to Summerwind to make some new friends close to home.

H.O.A. President (Donald Schultz, 425-277-9187 or don@autolegal.com) As many Summerwind residents may already know, the City of Renton is moving forward with the widening project of Duvall Avenue. This project will impact Summerwind in several ways.

The most important will be access to Duvall Avenue at the NE 21st Street entrance to Summerwind. Duvall Avenue will be widened to five lanes, two North bound, two South bound, and a center turn lane. The speed limit is not expected to change. At peak hours, crossing Duvall to head South will be a challenge. I spoke with the Traffic Department of the City of Renton and learned that currently no signal is planned at the intersection. The decision not to install a signal at the intersection is based on a study of traffic volume on 21st street done seven years ago. When the study was done seven years ago, the traffic volume on 21st was just below the count which would meet one of the requirements for a traffic signal. I requested that the City conduct a new study. You will now notice traffic monitoring devices on the roadway at 21st Street near the intersection with Duvall. I encourage all residents to not avoid this intersection, especially at peak hours, so that an accurate count can be made.

Another important impact of note resulting from the widening of Duvall Avenue will be to a small piece of land owned by the Summerwind HOA known as "Tract D." Tract "D" is a 39-foot wide strip of land that abuts Duvall Avenue. In order to widen Duvall, the City will need to acquire from the HOA 440 square feet of Tract "D". The HOA is currently negotiating with the City the sale of the property. Any sale of property owned by the HOA to the City will require a 2/3rds approval from the homeowners. In the near future, all homeowners will receive a special ballot that must be returned promptly authorizing the HOA to complete the sale. I ask that homeowners respect the time and efforts of the HOA and promptly return the ballot. Failing to meet the 2/3rds approval would force the City to bring an Eminent Domain action against the HOA which would be timely and costly to all parties.

If you have any questions regarding these matters, please email me at president@summerwindrenton.com or bring your questions the Annual meeting on December 14, 7:00 pm at Sierra Heights Elementary School.

Happy holidays !

Committee Reports (Note: Committee chairs will be assigned in early January)

Architectural Control

Landscaping

Membership

Traffic/Safety

WPI (Shaun Davis, WPI, 206-522-8172x129 or shaundavis@wpirealestate.com) Mailing address: 9500 Roosevelt Way, Ste 100, Seattle 98115. Fax: 206-522-0725

Puget Sound Security Patrol (PSSP) (425-454-5011 24-Hour) Report all incidences to them, our hired security company, after calling 911 as necessary.

City of Renton Neighborhood Liaison (Jerry Rerecich, 425-430-6615 or jrerecich@ci.renton.wa.us)

Contact Jerry if you have any questions about the various neighborhood programs available to us or if you have general questions for the City and he can help direct you to the right person or department to assist you. The City's web page tailored to Renton neighborhoods at <http://www.ci.renton.wa.us/attract/neighbor.htm> features a lot of upcoming events that you might be interested in as a Renton resident.

Know Your CC&R's: Rules and Regulations Amendment Number 2, Approved by the HOA Board on March 15, 2005.

Holiday decorations, such as lights, ornaments, etc., and any visible devices used to affix the decorations, shall not be installed more than 45 days prior to date of the holiday and must be removed no more than 45 days following the date of the holiday.

Miscellaneous: Remodeling your kitchen? Buying new appliances? I'm interested in your old electric range/oven if it still works. Call Debra at 425-226-2926.

Finally, a HUGE, ENORMOUS **THANK YOU** to our board members—those renewing their term and those who are not. Summerwind looks so great and the resale value keeps increasing, and you know that some of that is directly because of your efforts. Don Schultz is an excellent Association President and his leadership continues to impress me. Whatever the issue, he tackles it and works through to the solution.

If you have never served on the Board, you should consider volunteering in the future. Over the years, many of the issues keep resurfacing to some degree, but a lot of the quagmires have settled so it's running smoother all the time.

Again, check out the website www.summerwindrenton.com. If you think it needs refining, your feedback is important.

Relax, unwind, de-stress . . . Less is more . . . Cross one thing off your list that's not worth the effort involved and give the gift of time to yourself. Everyone will benefit!