

Pilot Mill Newsletter

June 2011

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HOA Board Info

Linda De Grand, President,
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Chris Yetter, Vice President,
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Gail McDonald, Secretary,
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Marty Aaron, Treasurer,
523-1116 or
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Robert Winchester,
931-5782 or
rwwinchester@gmail.com

The Board meets the third Tuesday of every month at 7pm at the home of a board member on a rotating basis. Any homeowner is welcome to attend – please contact Gail McDonald in advance.

Property Management
Kohn-Ell
Biff Eller, 919.856.1844 or
biffeller@kohnell.com

Public Safety Officer
For non-emergencies to report incidents or concerns, call 996-3855.

HOA Board Happenings

New Member - we are pleased to announce the appointment of Robert Winchester to the HOA Board, effective May 17, 2011. Robert succeeds Jo Sorbi who recently sold her home. Robert is a Raleigh native (a rarity) and has lived in PM for two years now. He is employed by First Citizens Bank and currently serves as the Chairman of the Communications Committee.

Meet & Greet with the HOA Board – we are interested in feedback on how we are doing and your thoughts & ideas for the community. Plus we like to reinforce the wonderful social aspect of Pilot Mill. In that spirit, we will be holding the July 19th Board meeting at PieBird, 618 N. Person Street, starting at 6 p.m. Appetizers and non-alcoholic beverages will be provided; a cash bar will be open. Any official HOA board business will be conducted at 7 p.m. and those who wish to dine with us (Dutch treat) should stick around. Please RSVP to Gail McDonald at gailcmc@aol.com or 755-7939 by July 12th.

Communications Committee Survey

We are interested in your feedback on the Google Group, the Pilot Mill website (www.pilotmillonline.com), and other pertinent communication issues. In turn we will use this feedback to tailor these communications channels to our community.

Please click the following link or paste into your web browser to complete the survey: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GFPKHQG>

You will be entered in a drawing for a prize at the July 19th HOA Board meeting, mentioned above, for those that complete the survey by July 15th! Attendance not required to win - but highly encouraged.

Meet the New Neighbors at 1179 Harp Street

Bijal and Sunita Gami lived in a downtown Raleigh condo and have been enjoying what Raleigh has to offer. Their condo was getting a bit small, but they enjoyed the closeness of their neighbors and were seeking a similar feel and decided Pilot Mill would be a perfect fit. Both are Raleigh natives who have traveled about the country, living in various states, and came to realize that Raleigh is their home. Bija is a financial analyst for a Local Government Credit Union and Sunita is an occupational therapist and has a small pediatric therapy practice called Imagination Therapy. They both enjoy meeting people and have felt very welcomed into the neighborhood to date!

Social Activities

Several neighbors in Pilot Mill have been meeting for a Dutch treat dinner on the 3rd Friday of each month at 6:30 PM. For the next 2 months--June and July-- we will be meeting at Sunflowers, corner of Peace and Halifax, for dinner. They have an excellent new chef that you should check out. Please join us. Just RSVP to Gail McDonald at gailcmc@aol.com or 755-7939 so we can reserve enough places.



Architectural Committee - Call for Volunteers

We currently have two openings on this committee. The Architectural Review Committee reviews all additions/changes to a home. If a homeowner is changing paint color, we approve the new color. Applications for all changes are sent to Kohn-Ell and then forwarded to this committee for review and recommended action. There are no set meetings and some decisions are made by e-mail. Anyone interested in serving may contact Chris Yetter at chris.yetter@allentate.com. Chris serves as the committee chair.

Web design experience wanted!

Based on the survey results feedback, we will embark to overhaul the web site: <http://www.pilotmillonline.com/>. There is a need for some folks with the expertise and interest to assist in this effort in the coming months. Please consider stepping up to help to build a web site that we can all be proud of and promotes Pilot Mill as a place people want to live. Contact any HOA Board member if you are willing!

Landscape Corner

Having trouble keeping your window box looking lively in the summer heat? Try adding some purslane, shown at left. It is sometimes called the "Dolly Parton" flower because its blossoms open "nine to five" - or as long as there is sunlight. It has either bright red or yellow blossoms on trailing, waxy stems and is VERY drought tolerant, even more so than its moss rose cousin. Both are in the portulaca family, and moss rose is often called simply "portulaca" in local nurseries. But ask for purslane. It's a bit more expensive but much more likely to keep blooming when the temperatures head up and the rains decline.

Please be considerate of your mail person! If the plantings around your mailbox, lovely as they all are, are beginning to block ready access for mail delivery, please give them a light trimming. Trimming back is particularly important if the plants are in bloom and hosting energetic bees. It seems that dogs are not the only critters inclined to bite mail carriers!

Hot Topics!

Tips to Prevent Car Break Ins

- If your car is broken into, report the incident to the police. We need your assistance in determining what areas may be experiencing car break-in activity.
- Store your car in a closed and locked garage when possible.
- Before leaving your parked car, take some precautions:
- Always remove the keys, roll up the windows and lock the car. Any valuable items which can be removed should be taken with you. If valuables must be left in the car, keep them out of sight. Mount stereos, CB radios, car phones, etc. inconspicuously. Whenever possible, use mountings that allow you to take the equipment with you. Be sure to remove automatic garage door openers from the car, as these could give thieves easy access to your house.
- If your car is stored in a carport or parked near your house, leave your exterior lights on (front and back) throughout the night. Consider replacing the light fixture closest to your car with a motion detector unit. The light will be off routinely but will come on if the car is approached. Motion detectors can be good psychological deterrents since the normal assumption of a person seeing a light come on is that someone has seen them.
- Consider replacing the door lock knobs with smooth knobs that are more difficult to open from the outside.
- Consider adding a car alarm system, but remember to be neighborly and respond to the alarm promptly should it be set off. If the alarm system has a motion detector, look for a system in which the sensitivity of the motion detector can be adjusted or even switched off when needed.
- The sound of breaking glass may mean a car break-in is occurring. Be sure to look in the direction of the sound and observe as much as you can so that you can provide detailed information to the police when reporting the incident.

Other helpful information can be found at:

http://www.jcsd.org/burglary_prevention.htm

http://articles.cnn.com/2009-04-15/living/aa.avoid.car.break.ins_1_break-ins-car-alarms-thefts?_s=PM:LIVING