

...Forest Lake...

From the Chairman

As the second dues notices have been sent out, we need to remind our non-paying neighbors of their fiscal responsibility. We, the dues paying members, are footing the bill for those who simply choose not to pay. As referenced in newsletters past, soon we may have no choice but to cede our community to an adjoining village so as to assure nothing more than adequate liability coverage.

We are enjoying some of the highest percentages of compliance (about 70+% so far) but that amount of income only allows us to keep up with the necessities. Once we pass the 70% mark we have the funds to move beyond the status quo and make the capital improvements such as last year. Many ideas are in the offing, but without the funding, they cannot take place.

If you have received your second notice and still refuse to pay, you must feel strongly about your decision. I cannot believe that all of the folks that haven't paid find the \$75.00 per year a financial burden. If you have a reason for nonpayment that you feel is justified, come to the next board meeting and share with us how to go about winning you back. It's going to take us all to remain the tranquil, independent community that drew us here to begin with.

Also of note, it appears that development is once again closing in on Forest

Lake. The billboard at Highland and Quentin suggests that the developer of the property on the west side of Quentin wishes to change the area's zoning from R-1 (One acre or more individual home sites) to R-2 (Less than one acre individual home sites). Those homeowners in Forest Lake directly across from the proposed development should have received a formal written notice by mail with specific instructions and details.

A preliminary call to the Village of Hawthorn Woods indicated that their version of R-2 zoning does not allow for anything but single family dwellings. The R-2 designation in Lake County allows for condos, town homes and duplexes.

I think it would be wise to have as many Forest Lake residents as possible attend the zoning meeting to seek with certainty the answers to these as well as many other questions such as when the sewer system we paid a ten year bond to help finance will max out.

The meeting is THURSDAY APRIL 4, 1996 AT 7:30 PM at the HAWTHORN WOODS VILLAGE HALL AT #2 LAGOON DRIVE.

Anyone care to join me?

Steve

**Aufviedersehn,
Adios and
Vioscondios**

Amigo

For all those die-hard volunteers - another board position has opened as Jerry Hermes has resigned his post. Anyone interested in serving their community, please come to the next Board meeting so we can check your prozac dosage. The time needed is minimal and the reward compensatory. Jerry's contributions will be missed but we'll still see him at Forest Lake functions (such as Spring Cleanup). Jerry: Thanks and Good Luck!

Michael Jordan Wanabees

The annual Lions' Lake Zurich Fest is on July 19, 20 and 21st this year at Lion's Park in town. Will Nightingale of our own Forest Lake has offered the community the opportunity to make a little cash as well as help out with the fun. The deal is we run the basketball booth at the fest. We buy the prizes from the Lions' and keep the proceeds for our community. [Ed note: I suggest we split the take with a local charity.] Usually, in a good year, the total amount could be as much as \$1,500.00. Hours are 6-11 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 2-10 p.m. on Sunday. History dictates that it's best run with three people per day. If you might be interested in helping out or for more information, please call Steve Norman at 540-8857.

No Lion About It

Also a Lions' related topic: the Lions' time and monies help many within our community and much is accomplished through the generosity of others. At this time they are in real need of used wheelchairs, walkers and four-legged type canes. If you have such needed devices or know a friend who might, please call Will Nightingale at 438-6781 for details on how to donate.

Senior Taxes

If you're a senior with only Social (in)Security as income, you do not need to file a return. Just don't mention the hoard of gold under your bed.

For anyone 60 and older, check with a senior center for information on the Tax Counseling for the Elderly program nearest Forest Lake. Some Volunteer Income Tax Assistance centers operated by the IRS offer TCE programs (call 800-829-1040 for information). The Suburban Area Agency on Aging (sorry, don't have phone number) can also help. The IRS maintains a TDD line for the hearing impaired (800-829-4059).

Pillar of the Community

The entrance pillar on Old McHenry will cost \$1400 to rebuild, the cost being covered by the driver's insurance company.

A Three Hour Tour...

This Spring \$300 worth of S.S. Minnows will be added to the lake (roughly 100 pounds) as feeder fish. So don't bother mounting any you catch as

they're quite small and difficult to clean.

Diamond in the Rough

As of the last Board meeting the baseball diamond was reserved for local little leaguers every weeknight except Wednesday.

A Bad Sign?

Those of you who didn't blink were treated to the sight of our wonderful new entry signs at Highland and Quentin and Lakeside and Old McHenry. They're quite handsome and the board plans to show them off during parades and special occasions.

Actually, after being up for two days, a gust of wind blew one down and the other was then removed for more resilient hardware. Less than a day after having been replaced, the sign on Highland was taken down by someone anxious to prove the brain dead can walk. It was mysteriously recovered and the signs are now out to have theft resistant fixtures incorporated.

These may or may not be the same miscreants who broke off the Community Center's outside faucet (for what reason we'd need a lobotomy to understand) and smashed the new front door knob attempting to break in. The cost of vandalism does add up so if residents see anything, please call the Sheriff's office (549-5200) - they can be very responsive.

It should also be noted that the two signs cost about \$1500 each (including several attempts at installation) and therefore misappropriating one of them is a felony. The Board WILL prosecute, so, if anyone knows anyone inclined to

shiny those sign posts, you might want to remind them that this state is considering instituting chain gangs.

Please note that replacement/repair costs drain our very limited resources and preclude other improvements so please be alert and don't hesitate to call the Sheriff.

Scuttle Me Bucket

At the Annual Spring Cleanup scheduled for May 4th, ALL boats, ice shanties, etc., found in the parks without 1996 stickers, will be declared public nuisances and, those that are seaworthy, will be sold to the cleanup volunteers. The others will be destroyed.

We are still seeking a volunteer with a masochistic streak to run the ever-popular event. All that's needed is to handle the organizational chores: mostly a matter of assigning tasks at various sites to the volunteers (list of names and tasks provided). Clip board also provided. If interested please call Greg (it's a girl!) Hatz at 540-9427.

Also, if you can volunteer to work that day - it is your home we're talking about here - call Greg and get on the list. Remember, volunteerism is an integral part of keeping the tax collector at bay.

Would anyone be interested in making the event a potluck bar-b-que?

Speaking of Taxes

The 1996 annual dues continue to roll in at a good clip. More than two-thirds of Forest Lake residents have paid their dues thus far - a World's record! However, we'd like to see everyone who's able, no longer sponge off neighbors and begin paying their fair share -

probably 90% of residents have no reason not to pay. Therefore, if we don't hit that number or if volunteerism (i.e.: Spring Cleanup) is poor, we will have no choice but to approach Springfield for a change in law to allow us to incorporate and levy taxes (or cede ourselves to another community and live under their rules and taxes). The choice is being made by each and every one of us.

New residents please note: prior owners may have skipped out on dues and your invoice may reflect their debt. Merely update the information and pay the current year and we'll gladly clean the slate.

Again, if you're unable to pay, call Steve Norman (540-8857) or Pat Lynn (438-0859).

Road Warriors

Due to the abundance of irresponsible motor vehicle operators, especially speeding, the board is requesting Ela Township install more stop signs on Overhill, Lakeside and - for the first time - Highland. Speed bumps were dismissed due to liability concerns.

Individual homeowners witnessing dangerous driving can get the license number and phone the Sheriff's office (549-5200) and report the incident. It may be that Daddy doesn't know where, or that, Junior has the car and when Daddy finds out, Junior could be grounded for life - and off our streets.

By the way - on the left side of the steering column (left is the side of the car on which the driver sits) is a little stick used to indicate turns and lane changes. It's very frustrating to wait needlessly for someone who's turning

anyway and quite dangerous not knowing where other drivers are going so please obey the laws of common sense, common courtesy, and this state by using them properly.

Not to Pick on Nice People, but...

In case anyone else is tempted to call: no, homeowners cannot be prevented from cutting down their old-growth trees for aesthetic purposes. Although moving to a place called Forest Lake and cutting down all your trees because it "looks too much like a forest" is akin to buying a house boat and then draining the lake because the water is too wet.

It's especially a pity in Lake County (motto: if it's green and alive, pour

concrete over it) where trees are becoming Pre-Developer exhibit museum pieces.

CPR Classes Scheduled

The Lake Zurich Fire/Rescue Department has scheduled the following lifesaving classes:

Heartsaver/Pediatric Basic Life Support:

Monday, May 6, 1996

Heartsaver/Pediatric Basic Life Support Renewal:

Monday, May 13, 1996

Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers: