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## Homeowners' Association Newsletter

May 2011

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### *Letter from the President*

Greetings! As with all spring newsletters, the major HOA news comes out of the annual homeowners meeting which is held in February. At the forefront are changes in leadership:

A huge Thank You goes to **Laurie Ortman**, who served for 5 years on the HOA board. Her term as Treasurer expired this past February. She has volunteered countless hours working on various projects and general management responsibilities of our HOA. For those of you who don't know her personally, you may recognize her and her husband for taking plastic bags on their regular walks so that they can pick up trash or from everything from trail clean-up parties to landscaping the front sign. From the entire HOA, we thank you for all of your work!

And welcome to **Lora Grant** who was elected as a Director at the February meeting and will serve as Secretary. Lora and her family have lived in the Highlands for nearly 4 years and she is eager to help with the duties of the HOA in making the Highlands such a wonderful community to live in.

Since our last newsletter we have continued the work outlined on our 10-year reserve study with the painting of mailbox kiosks and removing several large trees along our trail system which were dead or diseased. You may notice that several trees along the Mays Pond trail have recently been marked for removal and those will be taken down soon.

Currently we are in the final stages of updating the Mill Creek Highlands Homeowners' Directory (see below). We hope that homeowners can use this to get to know each other and be good neighbors and look out for one another.

Best wishes for a fun spring and summer!

**Jen Hirman**

[jhirman@gmail.com](mailto:jhirman@gmail.com)

HOA President, Mill Creek Highlands

### *Neighborhood Watch*

When the weather gets warmer we see an increase in vandalism and crime around the neighborhood. Report any activity to the Mill Creek Police Dept by calling 9-1-1 and letting the dispatcher know that you



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have a non-emergency issue. Also, remember to take the regular precautions of not leaving valuables in cars and remembering to close garage doors and lock doors at nighttime.

## ***ACC Inspections: That time of year!***

As the weather improves, the ACC inspections will be more thorough than they have been during the winter. Inspections are done on a monthly basis with courtesy notices sent out by Windermere.

The most cited violations include the following:

- weeds in landscaped beds or in driveways and sidewalks
- lawn not mowed and edged
- trash bins stored in sight of the street.

If you are elderly or are short on time, consider hiring a neighbor's son or daughter to help out as a summer job. Neighbors on your street would probably also be willing to lend a hand if your mower breaks down or you need an edger, or even if you just need some friendly lawn care advice.

Our HOA website has a copy of the ACC Courtesy Notice form which lists the specific rules and regulations that apply to these inspections. Look under the ACC tab and as always, if you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact Charlotte Fitzgerald or Jen Hirman.

## ***Doggie Duty***

There has been an increase in dog waste baggies that are left behind along the trails. We love our four-legged neighbors, but please remember to not only pick up after your dog but also dispose of the dog waste bag in one of the Highland Park trash cans or when you get home.

## ***2011 Homeowner Directory***

We are almost done updating the directory of Mill Creek Highlands HOA residents which was last printed in 2008.

Thank you to all homeowners who sent in their directory update form with their proxy in January. In addition to the homeowner update, we have been calling and knocking on doors to try and get the most accurate information for each residence. In doing so we were able to make corrections or updates to over half of the 192 homeowner lots in the Mill Creek Highlands.

The directory will be sent out via email using our email HOA distribution list but homeowners can contact our property manager, Charlotte Fitzgerald, if they would like a printed copy mailed to them.

## ***Ice Cream Social: July 8th***

Save the date! We are planning an ice cream social at Highlands Park on Friday, July 8<sup>th</sup> at 7pm and will include some fun activities for the whole family! As it gets closer we will send out an email reminder. If you would like to help out with this event, please email Jen Hirman.

