



The Villas at Parkwood: A condominium in Western Pennsylvania

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello everyone,

Now that summer is finally in full swing I hope you are all well.

I received some news about a month ago from one of our neighbors that I need to respond to. This neighbor found a note on their door stating that they should not have chairs outside on the walk by the front door, stating that the area was starting to resemble a patio.

This disturbs me for several reasons, first the patio issue in this community was resolved a while ago, I **WILL NOT** open that can of worms again. Second, there is nothing in our rules that prohibits residents from sitting outside their condo.

However, the thing that disturbs me the most is that the note our neighbor received was not signed, **THIS IS THE ACT OF A COWARD**. This is my opinion and I will be happy to discuss it with anyone face to face.

Regards, Frank Greco

VILLAS SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Villas Annual Summer Picnic

DATE: Sunday, August 28th
PLACE: St. Catherine's Siena Hall, McGovern Boulevard
TIME: 4:00 PM
COST: \$5.00 per person

Look for more details to come soon!

Villas Monthly Luncheons

August 9	11:30	Hostess- Pat Maurer	Patrick's Pub
September 13	11:30	Hostess- Iris Marko	(place to be announced)
October 11	11:30	Hostess-Linda Thompson	(place to be announced)
November 8	11:30	Hostess- Colleen Keller	(place to be announced)
Christmas Luncheon			
December 13	11:30	Hostess- Therese Haan	Jackson's

The Villas List of Recommended Service Providers

We've added a new section to the Villas website (<http://parkwoodvillas.net>), a sort of "Angie's List" if you will. The idea is to list service providers that you had a good experience with so that others can find service providers at a reduced risk.

I am thinking of services such as remodeling, plumbing, heating & cooling, restoration, general purpose "handyman", garage doors, window replacement, painting, etc.; anything that you had to pay for yourself rather than the Association.

We encourage you to submit your good experiences (and perhaps also bad ones) and we will add them to the list. The two samples below (which have been added to the website already at <http://parkwoodvillas.net/services.html>) give you an idea of what we are looking for:

HVAC

Wade Heating & Cooling • 412-489-4745

Website: <http://www.always70wade.com>

We had them come twice. In the winter the furnace stopped working; we called them; they came within hours diagnosed the problem, a broken starter element; the service man replaced it with a unit he had in the truck; they charged us the minimum + a few bucks for the starter element. In late spring the AC stopped working - same thing: They came fast and changed a fuse. What impressed us the most is that there was never an attempt to "upsell" us something additional.

Wolfgang & Faith Bitterolf • 1738

WATER, SMOKE AND FIRE DAMAGE

G. S. Jones Restoration • 412-766-6886

Website: <http://www.gsjonesrestoration.com>

We had a very good experience with this company when we had to get our breakfast bar area repaired after a water leak in our dishwasher caused damage to the surrounding drywall.

Frank & Maureen Greco • 1770

To make a recommendation please use the form at <http://parkwoodvillas.net/services.php> which you can access from the services page.

Wolfgang Bitterolf

Reminder

The annual meeting will be Tuesday, October 4.

Do You Know What Your Neighbors are Into?

Maria Lilla and Giovanni Carrara live at #1746 in a "Rose Covered Cottage." About 6 years Giovanni decided to plant a few roses. He was not familiar with these plants but received advice from neighbor John Centofanti who still advises him. His first roses started a love for those flowers that has increased through the years and produced a beautiful garden that surrounds their house.

Giovanni credits his success with the roses to having an orderly regimen for the care of the plants. Watering, fertilizing, dead-heading are all done on a regular basis that takes about 2 hours a day.

He has a rose that he calls his "welcome rose" because it is located at the beginning of his sidewalk and welcomes people to his house. The deer appreciate it too.

For winter coverage Giovanni cuts the plants back to about 4 feet and provides them with a thick blanket of mulch. If you ask him if he talks to his plants he'll tell you that they talk to him.

Whether from outside or inside the house, the roses are on view because they are tall enough to show through the windows They bring enjoyment to this family and add a pleasant dimension to their lives.



Eagle News



Back in January I reported that our Eagles might try and rebuild their nest in the same area as the one that was destroyed by weather. I am happy to report that the picture above shows that our Eagles did in fact build a new nest not too far from the original one. This picture was taken early spring and it shows one of the adults sitting on a branch to the right of the nest, and the other adult

actually standing on the nest attending to what I believe is a newly hatched eaglet.

Several times throughout the spring I was able to catch both adults at the nest and on a couple of occasions one of the adults would fly into to the nest to drop off a fish for breakfast. Shortly after the breakfast delivery, the other adult would take off and the other adult would stand on the edge of the nest and begin what looked like feeding of a young eaglet. Due to the new location of the nest I was never able to actually see any eaglets. As spring went on and the trees starting filling in with leaves it became harder to see the nest.

As to the location of the new nest, I had contacted the Game Commission to let them know that the nest was in an area that could be affected by the utility companies when they do their right of way trimming and spraying. The Game Commission said that they would make the utility companies aware of the location and remind them that they are not allowed to do anything that would damage the nest or harm the Eagles in any way. The Game Commission also said that even though the Eagles are no longer on the endangered list, they are still federally protected and that anyone who tampers with or is within 300 yards of an active eagle nest can be fined or imprisoned.

Photo and article by Michael Chicora