

# NEWS FROM THE GLEN

Newsletter of Glen Allen

[www.glenallen.org](http://www.glenallen.org)

Bowie, Maryland

Fall 2012

## New Bins, New Problems

The City recently distributed new recycle bins to homeowners in Glen Allen. These 65-gallon bins are huge and difficult to make room for in already-crowded garages. However, please try to find the room for them. Below is from the City of Bowie code concerning trash and recycling containers:

Bags or containers used for household refuse, recycling, or yard waste may not be placed at the curb in front of residential properties prior to 5 p.m. the day before the scheduled pickup and must be at the curb by 7 a.m. the day of scheduled pickup. **All empty containers must be removed from the curb by 10 p.m. the day of pickup. At all other times, containers must be stored out of public view.**

The new recycle bins are huge, ugly and bright blue. They are hard to miss. Bowie's Code Compliance officers regularly ride through the community making sure that all is as it should be.

Please keep your garbage cans and the new recycle bin in your garage, in the back of your house, or somewhere else where they can't be seen.

## Join the Glen Allen Listserve

Recently, the Board wanted to notify the homeowners quickly about an important topic; however, only approximately one third of the homeowners are in the database. Therefore, the Board had to spend funds for the notification.

The listserve is a list of email addresses for the residents of Glen Allen. The addresses are given voluntarily and are not sold or given to third parties (yes, we've turned advertisers down). It provides another avenue of communication both from the Board to you and from you to the Board and other homeowners. In addition to notices from the Board, other information is provided concerning our community and the county (crime reports, current events, etc.).

Let's increase our network participation. To join, send your name and email address to Charles Brown at [cabmdbase@gmail.com](mailto:cabmdbase@gmail.com).

# Community Shredding

There will be a Community Shredding Event on October 20 from 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. at City Hall, located at 15901 Excalibur Road.

Residents may bring up to five boxes or bags of paper to be shredded. Styrofoam will also be collected at this event. Please, no CDs, electronics, hanging file folders or anything plastic.

For more information, contact the Bowie Department of Public Works at 301-809-2344.

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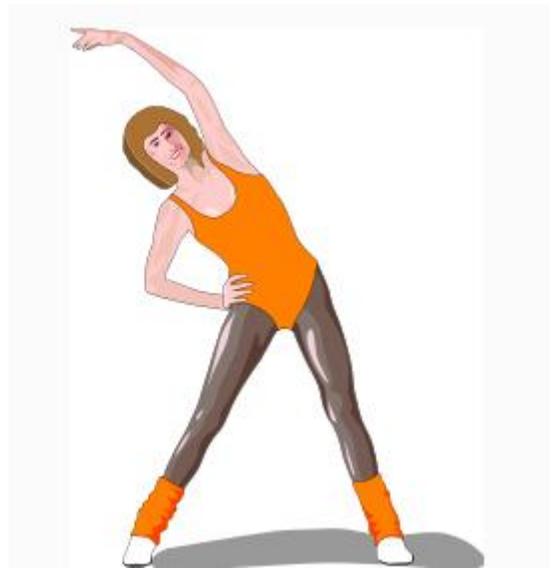
## **Fitness for Life!** by **Brian Eichelberger**

If you were asked the question “Why do you need to exercise?,” most adults would respond, “I need to lose weight”. As a result, weight loss has become a multi-million dollar a year business with different kinds of diets, pills and guaranteed exercise programs that will “help you to reach your weight loss goal”. Stop! Weight loss should not be your sole objective. Now, don’t get me wrong, the desire to lose weight can definitely be a good catalyst for exercise and healthy eating. However, the initial goal for every individual should be striving to live an active and healthy lifestyle in order to achieve an optimal quality of life.

One of the steps toward obtaining an optimal quality of life is to begin to exercise. The American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) recommends 30 minutes of daily, moderate intensity exercise in order to avoid disease and to promote good health. Daily exercise activities can include a brisk paced walk in the neighborhood, a bike ride

on the trails or joining a group exercise program at the community center.

I want to encourage the members of the Glen Allen community to begin an exercise routine that has you moving for 30 minutes a day. This is an obtainable goal for each of us to achieve and can be the start of a healthier and enhanced quality of life. If you have any fitness questions or comments please feel free to contact Brian at [eagleeyeconsultants@verizon.net](mailto:eagleeyeconsultants@verizon.net).



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## **Spread the Word!**

I’m sure that you would agree with me that Glen Allen is a wonderful community. Yet, we know nothing of how wonderful the people are who live here, especially our young people. The Board needs you to help add some character to our newsletter. Whose child is going to college or to the military? Who was recognized for some accomplishment? Who has a story that is unbelievable? Who has a unique hobby? Submit your information or ideas to ProCom at [siones@procomgt.com](mailto:siones@procomgt.com) or to Karen DeFazio at [bobfde@aol.com](mailto:bobfde@aol.com).

## **Plea from the Treasurer**

Last year the Board sent a letter with the payment coupons and budget in part to motivate some to pay their assessments and to ensure it will be read by others who discard suspected junk mail without opening. We just recently sent out the notice for the budget hearing along with the proposed 2013 budget. We do this as an added step to show all homeowners that we're in this together and take no satisfaction in seeing delinquent accounts and feel even worse when we have to turn things over to the attorney.

Unfortunately there isn't much we can do once we've turned accounts over to the attorney (typically two and a half months after the assessments are due). The bottom line, folks, is that we're volunteers and your neighbors, looking out for the best interest of the community and take no delight in some of these unfortunate situations. However we have little sympathy for those who claim they've paid after they get a letter from the attorney. A new resident gets a welcome from the HOA management company, an annual reminder (not required) goes out with HOA budget, and then delinquency notices are sent prior to accounts being turned over to the attorney. We go through this cycle every year, so please understand it's difficult for us take on a financial burden of a few when we felt we've done more than we have to. Additionally it's kind of difficult for the board to listen to people argue that they didn't get the letter or we didn't send something to the correct address. We can only send correspondence to the property owner at the address on file. All correspondence, including newsletters, is sent to that address. So if you're reading this, you're also getting the assessment coupons, budgets, etc.

We are aware of some personal situations so please, if you are experiencing difficulty we encourage you to petition the Board as soon as possible. Each of the past two years we've given those delinquent the opportunity to make payment arrangements before we turn the accounts over to the attorney.

## **My Neighbor and His Cat**

My neighbor has a cat which we'll call "Hunter" because that's his name. Hunter was a stray that my neighbor and his family began feeding quite a few years ago. Hunter eventually decided that he knew a good thing when he saw it and decided to stay vs stray. He's still a very independent cat, however, and does only those things that HE wants.

Our neighbor likes to take a walk after dinner. Not a power walk, just a nice stroll through the community, occasionally stopping to chat. At some point Hunter decided that he could use the exercise too and began to accompany him. Not on a leash, just trotting along behind or beside him. When he stops to chat, Hunter sits down, cleans his paws or just waits patiently, then they continue their walk. If Hunter were a dog, no one would think anything of it. But a CAT! HUNTER! It boggles the mind.

So, if you see a tall, nice-looking man strolling through the community some evening closely followed by a cat, think nothing of it. It's just my neighbor and his cat.

# Measures to Reduce West Nile Virus

The Prince George's County Health Department wants to remind people of the importance of protecting themselves against mosquito bites and potential exposure to West Nile Virus.

West Nile Virus is transmitted by mosquitoes and affects the nervous system. It occasionally causes inflammation of the brain. It cannot be directly transmitted from one person to another.

Everyone should try to avoid being bitten by:

- Staying indoors at dusk and dawn when mosquitoes are most active
- Wearing long-sleeved shirts, long pants, socks and shoes when outdoors
- Using insect repellent
- Using screens on open windows

You can reduce breeding mosquitoes in your yard and neighborhood by eliminating standing water where they lay their eggs. Remember to:

- Remove discarded automobile tires and put drainage holes in playground tires
- Remove or turn over buckets and containers that can collect rain water
- Turn over wheelbarrows, canoes, garbage can lids and children's wading pools
- Clean roof gutters and downspout screens regularly
- Flush bird baths and potted plant drainage trays twice weekly
- Fix dripping outdoor faucets
- Clean and chlorinate swimming pools

- Adjust tarps over pools, boats, etc. so that rain water will not collect

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## Neighborhood Watch

Interested in doing your part in keeping Glen Allen's crime rate low? We are looking to restart a Neighborhood Watch program. What is needed is a few individuals who will serve as block wardens and be contact points for a group of houses in each part of the community. If you are interested in participating, please contact the HOA Board Secretary, Al Curley at 301-218-1239 or via EMail at [curleyax@verizon.net](mailto:curleyax@verizon.net).

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## New Budget Hearing for Homeowners

HOA Boards are now required to hold a meeting for the community to present the 2013 annual budget. This should be a balanced budget that covers all aspects of managing Glen Allen. The proposed budget was mailed at the beginning of October.

The budget hearing is on Tuesday, November 13, 2012 at 7:00 PM at the All Saints Lutheran Church. You are encouraged to attend the meeting if you have any questions or concerns relating to the proposed budget.

# HOA Contacts

**ProCom, Inc.**

Sherry Jones: 301-261-0777

**HOA Board of Directors**

Karen DeFazio, President: 301-249-7463  
 Charles Brown, Vice President: 301-351-1396  
 Cary Hithon, Treasurer: 301-218-1956  
 Al Curley, Secretary 301-218-1239  
 Dorothy Morrison, At-Large: 301-390-2841

**City Council Member, District 4**

Isaac Trough: 301-249-0707

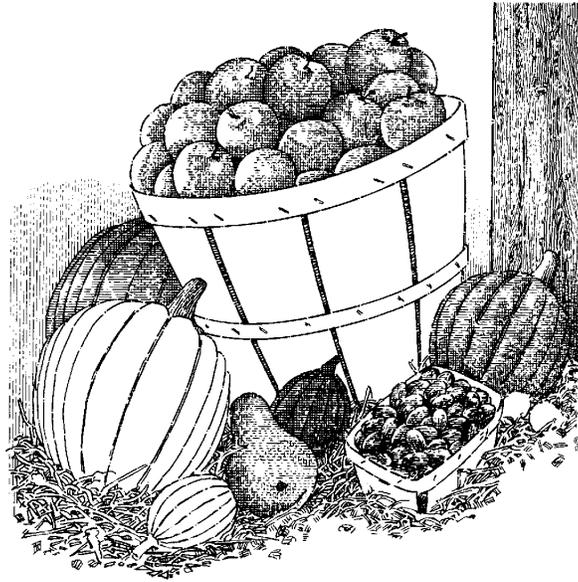
**Committees and Chairs**

**Architectural Review**, Charles Brown  
**Grounds and Maintenance**, Joe Brust  
**Hospitality**, Susan Curley  
**Neighborhood Watch**, Al Curley  
**Newsletter**, Karen and Bob DeFazio  
**Website:** [www.glenallen.org](http://www.glenallen.org)

# Crime Statistics for Glen Allen and Surrounding Area

	July	Aug	Sep	Oct
<b>Homicide</b>	0	1	0	0
<b>Forcible Rape</b>	0	1	0	0
<b>Commercial Robbery</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Residential Robbery</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Citizen Robbery</b>	0	0	2	0
<b>Carjackings</b>	1	0	0	0
<b>Assaults</b>	7	4	5	2
<b>Commercial Burglary</b>	1	0	0	1
<b>Residential Burglary</b>	7	3	2	0
<b>Theft</b>	37	28	20	3
<b>Theft from Auto</b>	11	17	9	2
<b>Stolen Autos</b>	3	3	3	0

Includes both county and Bowie PD data (Beat E1). Oct. data through Oct. 7



**Glen Allen Homeowners Assoc., Inc.  
c/o ProCom, Inc.  
400 Serendipity Drive  
Millersville, MD 21108**

**Dated material; please deliver by October 16th**