



## WE'VE GONE GREEN!

Welcome to our new newsletter! We're electronic now. We aim to publish bi-monthly. If you have news, please send it to [rkobell2002@yahoo.com](mailto:rkobell2002@yahoo.com), or drop it in her mailbox, 404 Carolina Road. Also, please let us know if you have new neighbors so we can welcome them. Thank you!

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The Southland Hills Halloween Haunt is coming up! Bring your pets, your kids, or just yourselves for a fun afternoon on the lawn of the Presbyterian Home. There will be a costume contest, a mummy wrap, a scavenger hunt and much, much more. We'll hope to see you Sat., Oct. 24 from 3:00-4:30. If it rains, we'll do it Sunday, Oct. 25. ***Kids of all ages are welcome!***

## HELPING OUT

One of our neighbors, Susan Proctor, is collecting items for the Ronald McDonald House. The facility, located in Baltimore, offers a haven for families who face serious medical conditions. Many of them grapple with serious financial challenges, and the home is always looking for help. Items needed include cleaning supplies, gas and grocery gift cards, DVD players, pack and play cribs, sheets, snacks, individual sugar packets and video games. For more information, contact Susan at 410-296-2764 or drop the items off for her at 427 Alabama Road.

## SAFETY TIP

Southland Hills is a very safe neighborhood, but it's important to remember that crime can happen anywhere. ***Leave your porch lights on at night and immediately report any suspicious activity to the police by calling 911.***

## PARKING TIP

Some streets in Southland Hills have permit parking signs. Though county enforcement has been sporadic, occasionally they do come around and ticket. If you live on one of these streets, you can get a permit for \$27 a year at county offices. ***Parking permits are free for Senior Citizens.***

## DUES DUE

In the next few weeks, a dues letter will go out, asking your household to contribute \$25 (or more, if you're feeling generous) to the Southland Hills Improvement Association. The funds help support a variety of community activities over the year as well as gardening and maintaining common areas such as the secret steps and the parks. We're pleased to report that more than half of our neighbors do pay their dues. But, of course, we'd like to see everyone participate.

## POOL NEWS

Several of our neighbors have been working hard to make the Towson Swim Club a reality. For those of you who haven't heard, the swim club will sit at the old jail site at the intersection of Towson Town and Bosley. It will include an competition-sized pool, a baby pool, playground, changing rooms, picnic areas, green space and plenty of room for lounge chairs.

Months ago, the county signed off on the plan. But in order to make the pool a reality, the nonprofit Towson Swim Club has to sign up at least 350 families. Otherwise, the group won't be able to get the bank loan that will enable them to break ground.

To date, about 150 families - ***half*** of them in Southland Hills - have signed up for the pool. In the next month, pool organizers need to sign up at least 150 more to make the pool a reality.

The pool backers understand the prospect of joining isn't cheap. It costs \$250 to apply, then another \$275 initiation fee. Then, members pay a \$1975 bond - which they can get back when they leave the pool. There will be an annual fee, which will be comparable with other pools.

BUT...think of how great it will be to have a pool within walking distance, where your children can swim and play with their neighbors. Pools add great value to a community - just ask anyone who lives in Stoneleigh or Wiltondale. They unify a place, and they add to real estate prices.

If you'd like to join, but haven't yet, please consider doing so now, so the community can make the pool a reality. If you know of friends in other communities nearby who want to join a pool, please let them know the Towson Swim Club is open to them.

► In order to encourage neighbors who don't plan to swim to join, the Towson Swim Club has created a "***patron***" category. The patron membership allows residents to purchase a certificate which can be transferred with the sale of their home. It's a great way to increase property values and support the pool without having to pay annual dues. For more information on this, contact info @ towsonswimclub.com.

► **There will be a pool information session Tuesday, November 3rd at 7:30pm at the Sheppard Pratt Conference Center Auditorium. Everyone is welcome to attend.**