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Golf Course View Cluster Association

April 2010

It's Spring-Gotta Love It!

After February, it was certainly great when spring arrived—one of the loveliest times in the neighborhood. The cherry blossoms, magnolias, daffodils and redbuds were particularly nice this year, and the dogwoods are coming into bloom now. We also hope you had a chance to enjoy the little serviceberry (Amalanchier) tree (see photo above), that bloomed right after Easter along the pathway between courtyards B and C, and the wonderful fragrance of the *nearby Korean spice viburnums (Viburnum carlessii)*. Be sure to keep an eye out for the new landscaping due to be installed in Courtyards A and E this week.

While enjoying our common landscapes this spring and summer, please remember that plants are as fragile as they are beautiful. Children's feet and dogs' paws and urine can severely damage the plants in landscaped beds. Some of our most attractive landscape features like the dry creek beds and rock-mulched beds are designed to manage water runoff and protect our turf and landscaped areas. They are not appropriate *or safe* places for children or dogs to play. Parents and dog owners, please don't let your children or pets play in any of our garden areas and dry creek beds.

When spring arrives, we all begin to spend a lot more time out of doors on the sidewalks and streets and in our common areas. Enjoy! And please be sure to:

- Drive slowly and alertly, keeping an eye out for children, pets and pedestrians. The speed limit in the cluster is 15 mph. On Golf Course Square it's 25 mph.
- Clean up after your dogs and keep them out of children's play areas and neighbor's yards, and
- Start now to remove items everywhere on your property that can collect standing water and serve as breeding grounds for mosquitos.

Opportunity to Serve

There will be several positions on the Board of Directors to be filled in June. Service on the board requires only a couple of hours a month and offers you the opportunity to have a positive impact on the quality of life in the neighborhood and the value of our real estate.

If you have any interest in joining the board, please contact any director or send us an email at gcvca@golfcourseview.org.

Attention Runners

Lori Allred is looking for fellow lady runners to team up for early morning (6:00 or 6:15 am) runs two or three times a week. If you're interested, give Lori a call. Her phone number is listed in the left-hand column.

What We Said About Snow Services

About one-third (35%) of our resident and nonresident homeowners responded to last month's snow services preference survey. We thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts on this topic. The percentages shown in the results of the survey presented below are the percentages of the total number of responses we received for each question.

In response to the question, Is the current [snow services] policy adequate? **90% said YES, 10% said NO.**

When asked, How important is having the sidewalks facing the parking lots shoveled? **10% said VERY, 35% said SOMEWHAT and 55% said NOT AT ALL.**

When asked, Should we continue this shoveling service? 32% said YES, 68% said NO.

84% of respondents said **YES** they'd be willing and able to shovel the sidewalks in front of neighbors' homes, **16%** said **NO** they couldn't.

In response to the question of whether we should shovel the sidewalk along Golf Course Dr., **36% said YES**, **64% said NO**.

When asked, Would you be willing to spend more money to obtain a higher level of services, 40% said YES, 33% said NO, and 28% said MAYBE.

Of those who said YES or MAYBE to spending more for a higher level of services, 81% said YES they would be willing to pay for additional snow services costs through an increase in the annual assessment and 71% said NO they would not be willing to reduce the amount we pay for other discretionary budget items like landscape/trees, drainage projects or communications.

About half of the respondents included written comments on their questionnaires, and the board is reviewing this information along with the data presented above.

The board will select a contractor to provide snow services next winter as part of its budget planning process in October. If we have snow in November or December this year, as we did in 2009, snow services will be provided by Eastern Landscaping, Inc. under the contract we signed with them in February.

Finally, you'll be glad to know that the board was able to pay for the extraordinary costs of snow services this year through the contingency fund it maintains in the reserves for replacement funds.

Next Board Meeting

The next board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 11 at 7:30 pm at 2080.

Interested residents are welcome to attend.