

PINE VALLEY NEWS

A Newsletter for the Residents of Pine Valley Mobile Home Park

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Visit us: <https://www.pinevalleymobilehomepark.com>

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To list your home with our Sales Team – Call 413-668-6989

PVP Newsletter Editor- Barbara Kelleher Email: barbara.j.kelleher@gmail.com

Submission for items no later than the 5th of the Month

Office Hours: Mon—Fri - 9:00 am—4:00 pm

PARK EMERGENCY NUMBER 1-413-364-7206

MANOR IS OPEN EVERY DAY FROM 8:00 AM—9:00 PM

BELCHERTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT 413-323-6685 * Spectrum Bulk # 855-326-5115

NATIONAL GRID EMERGENCY # TO REPORT OUTAGE 1-800-322-3223 DIG SAFE: 888-344-7233



President's Message:

Spring is finally here, and things are busier than ever here at Pine Valley. Our new storage building in the Maintenance Area will be completed this week. The guys have started cleaning up the common areas. Three new homes will be coming in as soon as the manufacturer can ship them, and those lots have to be prepped and ready for delivery. One lot is already empty, on the bottom of Avenue B, and two have homes that will be coming out

one on the top of Avenue C and one on G Street. Two are already under contract, and one is in the process.

The water infrastructure project is still in the engineering phase. The Board received the plans, and are reviewing them, before moving to the next step.

With the onset of Spring, the Board has been focusing its attention on rules violations throughout the park. Pine Valley is a very sought-after

and are reviewing them, before moving to the next step.

With the onset of Spring, the Board has been focusing its attention on rules violations throughout the park. Pine Valley is a very sought-after retirement community not just because it's an inexpensive housing option, but because of the beautiful, serene setting and "friendly neighborhood" atmosphere.

A drive through the park reveals a few lots that are not abiding by the rules that we all agreed on when becoming shareholders. In addition to letters we receive each week from concerned shareholders, Board members are tasked with reporting any violations they come across. You may receive a letter, a call, or a visit from a Board member pointing out the infraction. You'll be given 7 days to correct it. According to our rules, fines may be assessed to those residents who take no action. The Board voted to begin issuing fines to shareholders who remain in violation of rules after being notified and given sufficient time to correct it.

As senior adults, we certainly don't like being told what to do -- But a big part of living in a cooperative community such as ours is being "Cooperative". It's not "Us" versus "Them". We're all "Us". These are Our Rules, and for 35 years, they've succeeded in creating a community where people are lining up waiting for a house to come on the market. Those residents who are endangering the values of our homes and our shares will be called on to correct the situation or find another place to live.

If anyone feels a rule is unfair, or outdated, they can ask for a vote at the annual meeting in October. Please don't call and argue or yell at the office staff, or a Board member. If this issue has been going on for years, that's not an excuse to keep doing it. If you didn't know about the rule, it would be a good idea to read through the Park Rules again. If you have a concern, put it in writing, sign it, and drop it at the office. The Board will address it at their next meeting..

Please read the articles in this newsletter regarding many important notices, including Spring Clean-Up.

Thank you, and enjoy this beautiful Spring weather.

Dick Kelleher, President

GET WELL WISHES

Recently hospitalized was Lorraine Tabb (#36), and Chuck Griswold (#239).



Wishing you both a speedy (and complete) recovery!!

With Sympathy

To Tom Kustra lot #369, whose brother passed away recently.

Recent Social Activities:

March 17 was **St. Patrick's Day**. We served up over 200 delicious **Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinners** and still had enough left over for "Leftover Day", which was a big hit. Thanks to all who participated!

National Cheesesteak Day was March 24th. Our Philly Cheesesteak Hoagies were served hot, and once again, we offered leftovers the next day.

My bed is a magical place where I can suddenly remember everything I was supposed to do.

Up-Coming Events

National Cherry Cheesecake Day is April 23rd. Treat yourself to a delicious slice of Cherry Cheesecake (with a graham cracker crust). Not a fan of cherries? Choose our Blueberry Cheesecake instead. Only \$1 a slice!

National Raisin Day is April 30th. Raisin fans will just LOVE our choices! Bread Pudding with Bourbon Sauce, or our "practically famous" Carrot Cake (with raisins, this time). Your choice for just \$1.

National Coconut Cream Pie Day is May 8th. Your choice of coconut cream or chocolate cream pie for just \$1 a slice. Drive-through from 5-6 pm.

National Chocolate Chip Day is **May 13th**. We'll bring dessert to you with a return of our Ice Cream Carts! Enjoy a homemade chocolate chip cookie and/or an ice cream treat, delivered right to your driveway. Just 50¢ each (Drumstick Ice Cream Cones are 75¢). Starting at 6:00 on Avenue A and working our way throughout the park. No need to pre-order, we'll be sure to have plenty! Watch for us!

National Hamburger Day is May 28, but we'll celebrate on **Saturday, May 29th**. Your choice of burgers (\$2) or dogs (\$1) cooked up fresh in our barbecue pit behind the manor. Drive-through from the lower (exit) driveway, and exit out the upper parking lot, from 4:30 - 5:30 pm. We'll fix it your way!

Memorial Day Parade, Monday, May 31st. Last year's parade was a solemn tribute to family members of our residents, who lost their lives in service to their country. We also honored Purple Heart recipients, POW's, and those MIA. If you would like your loved one remembered in our parade, please submit their name(s), branch of the service, which war they served in, their relationship to you, and your name and lot #. Let us know which classification they fall into. Posters will be made up, and displayed on vehicles in the parade.

Last year, we had more names than we had vehicles, so we're looking for residents who would like to participate in the parade. Cars, trucks, motorcycles, golf carts, antiques or collectibles. Invite a non-PVP friend to drive you with their vehicle. Decorations, or US or Military flags are welcome.

Please let us know if you'll be in the parade, and if you'll display a poster on your vehicle, so we can plan ahead. We'll gather at the upper Manor parking lot at 9:30 a.m. The Parade will start at 10:00, and wind throughout the park, starting with Avenue A. Watch from your driveway, or bring lawn chairs to a common area in the park. Let's join together, as a community, to honor our own War Heroes.

I went outside to check on my plants. I felt something cold and wet on my arm. I looked down and saw a mosquito using a wet wipe before he bit me.

PET CORNER

Keeping your Cat Safe

5 Simple Tips:

Submitted by Susan Shea, Pet Committee

1. Keep your cat indoors to prevent any trauma (e.g., being hit by a car, attacked by other dog, attacked by wildlife, or accidentally poisoned, etc.).
2. Cat-Proof Your Home -This one may seem extreme, but they deserve the same considerations you might give a puppy or a baby. The saying "curiosity killed the cat" didn't just come out of nowhere. Cats are naturally cautious and curious creatures.

Avoid a trip to the vet or unnecessary worry by checking each room of your house for hazards to your cat. From cords he might chew to plants he can't eat - you have to make sure you remove and store anything they might get into.
3. Try to keep your cat's weight down – this can help prevent costly problems due to obesity, such as diabetes down the line.
4. Make sure to schedule your annual visit with your veterinarian. This is especially important as they can pick up on physical abnormalities sooner. Even if your cat is indoors, s/he still needs an annual exam. You may be able to skip some of the vaccines or schedule them to every third year instead (talk to your vet and take their advice) but don't skip the exam!
5. Keep the litter box clean. While this sounds simple, frequent and daily cleaning of the box is a must. Not only will this alert you to life-threatening emergencies like feline urethral obstructions, but it'll make you aware if your cat is urinating more or less than usual — and help you pick up medical problems sooner!
6. Seek veterinary attention as soon as you notice any clinical signs – not months after your cat has been urinating and drinking excessively!

Most people don't think I'm as old as I am until they hear me stand up.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Once again, the monthly open meeting was not held. Here are reports that were turned in.

MEMBERSHIP (Andrea Stadnicki for Karen Soderstrom): The committee interviewed the following applicants, and they met all criteria for membership:

Robert & Linda Lauren, lot #330, owned by Karen Bjorklund

Allen & Janis Hebert Parmenter, lot #271, owned by Gail Sasseville

Robert Jorgensen, lot #41, owned by Robert Smith

PETS (Susan Shea, Tilo Schiffer, Gretchen VanEmburch): If you have an issue with a pet in the park, please let the office know, and they will pass it along to the Pet Committee, or call one of the numbers on the front page of the newsletter.

SUNSHINE LADIES (Bonnie Messier & Karen Soderstrom): Get-Well cards were sent to those whose names were given to our Sunshine Ladies. If you know someone in the park who is sick or hospitalized, please let Carolyn, in the office, know, so we can send them our wishes.

GARDEN CLUB (Marilee Hageman) - No report.

NOMINATING: (Andrea Stadnicki): No report.

ACTIVITIES (Barbara Kelleher): Two drive-through events planned for April. Check out the Activities section of this newsletter for May events, and watch the pigeon holes for flyers and order forms.

LIBRARY (Molly Robosson): May is National Military Appreciation Month and we appreciate the past and present members of our military each and every day, especially our neighbors who have served our country. Your PVP library is spotlighting books related to military service and history. There will be a good mix of fiction and non-fiction. You can find them in the wall-mounted rack beside the Reader's Digest collection. Please return them to the blue bin.

Do you have DVD's you no longer watch of movies or television shows? The library is accepting donations of DVDs in good condition (no scratches please!). They can be deposited in the blue return

bin. Thanks in advance! And a reminder: only paperback book donations.

Your library is a great resource for books of all genres and (almost) all interests! Take a few minutes to stop in and browse the shelves. We have something for every reader. The best part is that there is no deadline for returning books--you may keep them for as long as you need to. Speed reading is not a requirement!

"A book is a dream you hold in your hands."--Neil Gaiman. Happy Reading!

CARD GAMES (Lenny LaBarre): Temporarily cancelled.

BINGO (Karen Soderstrom): Temporarily cancelled.

FINANCE COMMITTEE (Jim Dowling): The committee gave just one question to the Treasurer, and received an answer.

POST LIGHTS (Dan & Joan Tourigny): Only 3 lights were out this month.

SALES (Andrea Stadnicki): The Board of Directors interviewed applicants for an additional sales associate. Two new sales associates have been added to the team: Lynn Carney (#569) and Sue Shea (#111).

ARCHITECTURAL (Al Benoit & Chuck Griswold): If you have work you want to do on your home, please call the office for a form to fill out, and Al will get back to you with approval.

NEWSLETTER (Barbara Kelleher): Anything for the newsletter, please get to Barbara by the fifth of the month.

CIVIL DEFENSE (Arvilla Reed): No report.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: No report.

I yelled "COW!!!" at a woman on a bike, and she gave me the finger. Then she plowed her bike straight into the cow. I tried.



Classified Ads

Here are a few items for sale by residents here at Pine Valley:

Plymouth Mantle Clock, approx. 90-100 years old. Works well. Wind each week (have key). Phone 213-0310 (Eileen). Leave message/will call back.

Typewriter/Word Processor, IBM by Lexington, Wheelwriter Series II. Forbes Snyder Product. Ribbons included. \$450 or Best Offer. 213-0310.

Need someone to mow our lawn during the upcoming months. Inquire at 259G, or call 323-4841. Ask for Sharon Sweetman.

If you would like to submit a classified ad for next month's newsletter, just leave in mail slot at office, marked "Classifieds". It's FREE!

WHAT ARE YOU READING?

The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah-

This riveting, historical novel is set in World War II, Nazi-occupied France. The story follows two sisters,

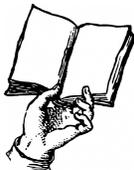
Vianne and Isabelle, and how they each respond in times of great challenge. Their stories are as different as their personalities, but are just as complicated and emotional. These women managed to

confront and deal with their own battles that are no less significant than the men at the front lines.

Although "The Nightingale" is fiction, the character of Isabelle is based on the late Andree de Jongh, an amazing woman who repeatedly risked her life helping British and American servicemen escape on foot

from Nazi-occupied Belgium and France. The story of the sisters, and the heartache each had to go through will keep you guessing until the end as to the outcome and the fate of each sister.

Ann Kuchieski, Head of Circulation, Clapp Memorial Library



From the Desk of ...

James Dowling (Director)

Two senior citizens were discussing their respective husbands over a cup of tea. One said, "I wish I could get Alf to stop biting his nails. It's such a revolting habit!" Her friend said, "My Leonard used to do the same thing, but I managed to cure him of the habit."

"Oh, do tell me, what's your secret?"

"I hid his teeth."

Sayings:

Ability is what you're capable of doing.

Motivation determines what you do.

Attitude determines how well you do it.

Life is either a daring adventure, or nothing.

Thank You!

Many thanks to PVP Maintenance for mowing and also plowing the winding walking trails through the park's upper field and across the bridge.

Much enjoyed and appreciated by the park's walkers year-round.

Catherine Brandon #528

HELP WANTED

Would you like to volunteer your time to help out here at Pine Valley? We have a few jobs that could get done a lot quicker if someone with a little time and a little skill could lend a hand. To apply for any of these positions, please call the office and leave your name, and what you'd like to help with. We'll call you back!

1. **Curtain Rod Hanger.** We just finished painting the community room downstairs in the manor. We purchased beautiful new valances and curtain rods for the windows. If you have experience hanging curtain rods, we'd really appreciate your help!
2. **Campfire Pit Builder.** We have the blocks, just need someone with a good back to clean

out the grassy area and set them, 3-high, in a circle. If you've ever built one before, that would be terrific, but if you're willing to watch a YouTube video and give it a try, that would be great, too.

3. **Corn Hole Game Mover.** This one's easy! Just need someone to bring the Corn Hole Game back across the street to where it was last year. Maybe clean up the branches a bit. You can play the first game of the season!
4. **Water Infrastructure Advisor.** This is a Big One! If you have a Civil Engineering background, or experience with other engineering fields, or in contracting or construction, the Board of Directors could use your help as we proceed with our Water Infrastructure project. An extra set of eyes would be very helpful to go over the blueprints and designs, looking for anything that might present a problem, before it hits the ground.

Pond Maintenance Committeeperson: If you have an interest in the environment, some research skills, and a desire to see our ponds looking beautiful this year (and not covered with green scum), we could use your help. Right now, there is no committee, but we would like to form one. Please let us know if you would like to be part of the solution to clean up our ponds.

ACTIVITIES NOTICES

To save paper, we have started only putting the order forms for activities in the pigeonholes of residents who have ordered in the past. That way, we're not cluttering the boxes of those who aren't interested. A limited number of notices are left on the table.

If you haven't ordered in the past, but would like to get the notices, call Barbara at 262-9499, or leave your name at the office. We'll add you to the list! We're also adding new residents as they move in.

Hopefully, some day soon we'll be able to meet again, in person, for breakfasts, dinners, and good times! Meanwhile, stay safe!!

Recipe Corner



We've had requests for our muffin recipes, so here's the most popular variation we served on Muffin Day.

Blueberry Muffins with Streusel Topping

Preheat oven to 425°. Line muffin cups with paper liners. Let eggs, butter, milk and sour cream get to room temperature.

Streusel topping:

½ cup packed brown sugar Mix together
1 teaspoon cinnamon. and set aside

1 ¾ cups flour
1 tsp baking powder Whisk together & leave
1 tsp baking soda in separate bowl
½ tsp salt

2 large eggs - Beat well, on med. speed

2 tsp vanilla extract Beat into mixture on
½ cup sour cream med. until combined

¼ cup milk

On low, add milk and dry ingredients. Beat until no pockets of flour remain.

Fold in 1½ cups frozen blueberries. Do not thaw.

Scoop batter into muffin tins, filling ¾ full.

Top each with Streusel, gently pressing down into the surface so it sticks.

Bake at 425° for 5 minutes, then reduce to 350° for an additional 18-20 minutes, until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Do Not Overcook!!

Allow to cool in pan 5 minutes before transferring to cooling rack. - Then, Enjoy!!

Apparently we can't visit our relatives homes, but real estate agents can buy and sell houses. So, I've put my house on the market. The kids are coming for a 3:30 showing.



Important Reminders

Water Restriction: Even though this is a new year, the water ban is still in effect. We still can't wash cars or use the hose to water plants or lawns.

The exception is New Lawns. If your lawn was torn up over the winter, and needed to be replanted, you can water, by hand not sprinkler, for up to 15 minutes per day. Please check with the office first. We have to be careful how many new lawns are being watered, and when, so we don't get extremely low pressure and lose water to the park.

If you have flowers and plants that need watering, please consider getting a rain barrel.

Feeding the Birds: This is absolutely not allowed. Attracting bears is dangerous to our residents and our pets. The Environmental Police strongly oppose birdfeeders. If you know of a neighbor who is keeping bird feeders full and out of sight -- for the safety of others, please let us know. Violators will be fined, and face eviction if they don't comply with this policy. We will also report them to the Environmental Police.

"Overweight Trash Bags" - Our Maintenance crew has been informed not to pick up trash bags that are too heavy to be lifted up into the truck without possible injury to shoulders or backs. If your bag gets left behind, please divide it up into 2 bags and put it out again the following week. We don't want an injured worker (or a Workers' Comp claim). If you're not sure, divide them up. If your bag is left, don't call the office. It was left because it was too heavy.

Spring Clean-Up: April 13 to May 6. This is not intended for a full landscape makeover. Leaves, pine needles & cones, branches & twigs will be picked up from those homes with dump stickers. The Town will no longer let us bring yard waste to the dump from non-sticker holders. Please separate stones from branches & sticks. They damage the chipper and can cause serious injury to the workers. Please don't put anything out by the street after 9:00 a.m. on May 6. It will not be picked up.

Driving/Walking behind Maintenance Building:

The signs have faded, but there is still no driving or walking behind the Maintenance Building between 7:00 and 5:00 Monday through Friday. It's extremely dangerous, with vehicles pulling in and out, backing up, and much work going on. New signs have been ordered. The Board has asked to be informed of those who still drive or walk through during business hours, and letters will be sent. Fines will be issued to habitual offenders. After hours, or on weekends, if the workers are there for an emergency, don't drive or walk through. The same safety rules apply.

Dogs in Yards: Dogs cannot be left outdoors if the owner is indoors, or not present. There are long leashes attached to porches, and dogs are out there, barking at passers-by, while the owner is inside. Fences, or invisible fences, do not change this rule. Bring out a lawn chair and enjoy the fresh air with your dog. Don't leave him out there alone.

Overnight Guests/People Moving In: This is an over-55 Community. When we bought at Pine Valley, we understood that our kids wouldn't be able to move back home with us. (For some, that might have been an added bonus.) Visitors can stay up to 14 days, or 30 days total per year. Special circumstances can be brought before the Board for consideration.

If someone over 50 plans to move in with you, they must fill out an application, have a background check, and go before the Membership Committee. If 3 or more people are living in one home, there is a \$50 monthly fee per extra person.

Campfires/Outdoor (Gas) Fireplaces/

Chimineas: Because of the close proximity of homes, and large number of trees, none of these are allowed on any lots in the park. We are in the process of constructing a safe Community Campfire Pit in the field to the left of the Garden area. It will be available soon, for all residents to enjoy. Of course, there will be no burning on high-risk days, as determined by the fire dept.

Speeding: An eternal problem here at Pine Valley. And all it takes to solve (most of) it is for residents to be aware of how fast they are going, and slow down to 15. Tell your visitors and home

health aids. We will continue to work on delivery trucks and trash trucks.

As with our other rules, we will be monitoring this problem more closely, and sending letters (and fines) to those who are found to be in violation on a regular basis. We have a radar gun that is very accurate, and it will be in use. If you know someone who habitually speeds through the park, please notify the office, and we will address the situation with them. There are more walkers than ever on our streets, and we need to keep them safe.

How to Calculate your Net Worth

No, I don't mean adding up your savings accounts, stock portfolios, home and auto values. How do you calculate your True Net Worth?

Close your eyes, take a deep breath, and think about the people in your life. Family, friends, co-workers, neighbors – Those close to you, and those who you encounter briefly in your daily activities. What are you “worth” to them?

What value do you bring to other people's lives? You can provide that which money can't buy. Physical and emotional support. A spiritual boost when someone is struggling through difficult times. A smile, a shared laugh. A helping hand when burdens are too heavy. These are the components of your True Net Worth. Add to that the friendship and love that others hold in their hearts for you. There is untold value in that, and it becomes part of your worthiness. Does your net worth fluctuate? At times when you are struggling, with illness or difficulties of your own, you might think that your Net Worth is diminished by your inability to help and support those around you. However, you may be offering them the opportunity to give of themselves in your time of need. There is value there, as well.

Our material net worth can help us keep a roof over our heads, put food on our tables, and offer us a perceived security for our “golden years”. But, a devastating loss can snatch it from us in an instant. Even if we protect it throughout our lives, when we leave this world, it will not accompany us on our journey home.

Our True Net Worth is an intricate part of who we are. A volatile stock market, catastrophic medical bills, or loss of income cannot diminish it. A clever scammer cannot trick us out of it. The government cannot tax it. It is far more valuable than the sum of everything we may accumulate throughout our lifetimes.

The more of ourselves we spend on others, the more our Net Value grows. It is boundless. It knows no limits. Unlike monetary wealth, we are completely in control of how much (or how little) we grow the value of ourselves. We can decide, each day, to live our lives in a way that increases, or decreases our True Net Worth.

May we choose wisely.

Barbara Kelleher, Treasurer

“For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” – Ephesians 2:10

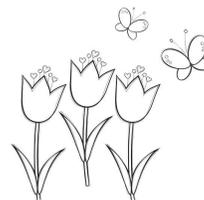
Welcome to our New Residents!

We've had a lot of new Shareholders move in over the Winter months. Now that Spring is (finally) here, we hope to see you “out and about”, and get a chance to say “Hi!” and introduce ourselves. We encourage all residents to welcome your new neighbors, and let them see what makes Pine Valley such a great place to live.

We hope you'll take part in some of our special activities. There are lots of them throughout the year!

If you'd like to get involved, contact the chairperson listed on the front page of the newsletter, or call the office and leave your name, and what you'd like to help out with.

Volunteering is lots of fun, and very much appreciated!



From the Office

April 2021

Camper Space

For those of you that have a camper space the bills will be going out this month and put in the pigeonholes.

Garden Space

If anyone is interested in reserving a garden space, please contact the office no later than May 15th. Any space left after May 15th will be available for those who already have reserved a space.

Office Closed to Visitors

Due to Covid-19 concerns, the office will remain closed to visitors. Please use the drop box on the porch of the Manor, or the gray box on the post in the parking lot to drop off payments or correspondence.

Pedal Boat

Just a reminder that you will have to sign a waiver to use the pedal boat. You will need to sign a new waiver every year. The waivers will be in the card room at the Manor or on the table in the mailroom.

Power Washing

If anyone would like to power wash their home, we are allowing 10 homes per week. Please call the office to reserve your week.

Spring Clean-up

Spring clean-up begins April 13th through May 6th. If you happen to see the maintenance crew go by and not pick up your piles, please be patient, they will be back to get them.



May 2021

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat



1

2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Rubbish Today

9 10 11 12 13 14 15

Rubbish Today

National Chocolate Chip Day



16 17 18 19 20 21 22

Rubbish Today

23 24 25 26 27 28 29

Rubbish Today

National Hamburger Day

30 Office Closed 31

MEMORIAL DAY Parade

Trash will not be picked up on Monday, May 31 st.
Trash pick-up will be on Tuesday June 1st.



MEMORIAL DAY
REMEMBER AND HONOR