



Home Owners Association Newsletter

July 2005

HOA Board Meetings

- * Wednesday, September 7, 7:00pm-9:00pm, Remax Building, 1st Floor Conference Room, Olney
- * Thursday, October 13, 7:00pm-9:00pm, Longwood Community Center
- * Thursday, December 8, 7:00pm-9:00pm, Longwood Community Center

All homeowners are welcome to attend. An open forum for homeowners is scheduled for the last 10 minutes of each meeting. ❖

Welcome Oksana and Karl Jorgensen

Oksana and Karl Jorgensen moved onto Riggs Hill Way in May from James Creek in Olney. Oksana and Karl bring a lovely blend of international warmth to the neighborhood. Oksana, originally from Russia, works from home as a mortgage broker, and Karl, born in Bolivia, is a chef at the Washington Hilton. They have two children — Sonny, 21, and Jessica, 18. They've lived in the Olney area since 2000, so they wanted to stay in this area when they were looking to move into a larger home. "We love Brookeville," says Oksana. "I like the historic feel to it and it's really beautiful." And now that they're getting settled in, they're looking forward to getting to know their new neighborhood. ❖

Neighborhood Watch

The opening of Bordly Drive provides an easy conduit for mischief-makers. The Neighborhood Watch Program is a highly successful effort that has been in existence for more than thirty years across America. Neighborhood watch is one of the most effective ways to prevent crime, attend to home and personal security, address the safety of our children and the elderly, and reduce fear and isolation. Neighborhood watch forges strong bonds among residents, creates a sense of community and pride by forming a unified group of citizens dedicated to safeguarding their neighborhood. Anyone interested in organizing a neighborhood watch program in Brookeville

Farms should contact David Sager (david.sager@jhuapl.edu).

Street Signs

The Board is working with the County Department of Public Works and Transportation to replace the street sign at the intersection of Bordly Drive and Georgia Avenue. The County has been receptive to our request, but said we might not see the new Bordly Drive street sign for several more weeks. At our request, the County recently replaced the Bordly Drive speed limit signs, which had disappeared over the past few months. ❖

Great Service Providers

As homeowners needing to maintain our homes in tip-top shape, we have contracted with some many service providers. These could be handymen, electricians, plumbers, painters, roofers, or others. If you would like to let your neighbors know about any great service provides that you have used, send their contact information to David Sager (david.sager@jhuapl.edu) for inclusion in the newsletter. ❖

Newsletter Articles

If you would like to submit information to appear in the next HOA newsletter, or for any inquiries, please send them to David Sager (david.sager@jhuapl.edu or 2105 Bordly Drive). ❖

HOA Web Site

There is an HOA web site located at <http://www.geocities.com/bfmdhoa/>. This web site includes information pertaining to the HOA such as ARC forms, minutes from previous board meetings, current and previous newsletters, as well as contact information for board members. ❖

A Note from Adam Sachs

This coming August, my sister Pamela Clack and I will be climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro in Tanzania...19,340 feet up the largest free-standing mountain in the world! A once-in-a-lifetime trek up to the roof of Africa. We have dedicated our climb to my 10-year-old son Justin, who suffers from familial dysautonomia (FD), and are asking you to please support our effort by making a donation to benefit the Dysautonomia Foundation (http://www.familialdysautonomia.org/Sachs/sachs_donate.htm).

Justin has been climbing his own mountain all of his life. He has endured more than a dozen hospitalizations, including three surgeries before the age of two, and four life-threatening aspiration pneumonias. Justin didn't speak until the age of six, and he has needed speech, physical, feeding and occupational therapies since he was a baby. He still gets most of his nutrition through a feeding tube, but we are encouraged with his progress and hope that one day he'll be able to eat normally with his friends. These are just some of the issues FD kids have to deal with, one uphill step at a time.

FD is a very rare, degenerative genetic disease that plays havoc with the autonomic and sensory nervous systems. This means that many of the body's functions that you and I take for granted, such as normal body temperature and blood pressure, swallowing properly, and sensitivity to pain, are seriously compromised in FD children and young adults. FD kids like Justin suffer severe swings in blood pressure and body temperature, insensitivity to pain, which can result in serious injury, episodic and excruciating retching so severe that there's even a name for it ("FD crises"), misdirected swallowing which can (and often does) lead to lung infections and pneumonias, and progressive curvature of the spine, usually requiring major spinal fusion surgery (Justin is having his in June). The Dysautonomia Foundation maintains the Dysautonomia Treatment and Evaluation Center at NYU Medical Center and the Israeli Center for FD in Israel, the only dedicated FD treatment centers in the world. Due in large part to the exciting 2001 discovery of the ge-



Justin and Adam Sachs

netic mutation that causes FD (research largely funded by the Foundation), we now have an opportunity to fund research into new possible treatments, as well as public relations campaigns aimed at increasing awareness of the availability of carrier tests so that at-risk couples can be proactively screened, and other critical initiatives aimed at improving an FD child's quality of life. My wife Stacey and I are deeply indebted to our FD researchers; we feel especially grateful and so very lucky when we watch

Justin play around with his two younger brothers (both are FD carriers like their parents, but do not have FD).

Justin is a loving, brave, wonderful child. But not a day goes by that we are not in some way reminded of the tough road he travels. He is my inspiration, and my hero. And Pam and I will be thinking of him as we make our way to Kilimanjaro's summit. With courageous researchers dedicating their careers to battling FD, with potential new therapeutics currently being tested for both safety and efficacy, with every one of Justin's smiles and giggles (and there are lots of those)...hope abounds. Please consider making a pledge in honor of Justin, and all the other brave FD children and young adults, so that our important research and clinical support can continue. ❖

HOA Board Members

The following are the names and contact information for the volunteer board members:

President – Kerry Hemphill - kerry@cbc401k.net

Secretary – John O'Loughlin - john.oloughlin@weil.com

Treasurer – Mike Wiercinski - Mwiercinski@amtengineering.com

At Large:

Lisa Barksdale - lisa.barksdale@comcast.net

Arthur Levine - art@wizard.net

David O'Bryan - dnd.obryan@comcast.net

Tim O'Connell - Toconnell25@yahoo.com

David Sager - david.sager@jhuapl.edu

Mark Wesolowski - markweso@hotmail.com ❖