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Hello neighbors! We are committed to keeping you informed about our meetings and to answer questions from members.

Let's all work to keep our neighborhood a nice, safe place to live and someplace we can be proud to call home!

Your neighbors: Jeri, Heidi, Craig & Susie

Watch your speed!

The *Marysville Journal-Tribune* recently ran an article about speeding. The Mill Valley area was named as one of two locations where extensive speeding occurs. That is not the reputation we want!

Remember, the speed limit is 25 mph on all streets in our neighborhood. Summer is coming and school is out, so it is especially important to watch your speed so your neighbors and their children can enjoy being outdoors.

Volunteer opportunities

Are you looking for a way to get involved with your community? We still need volunteers for these Association committees: Neighborhood Beautification, Family Fun and Neighborhood Watch (Any police officers in the neighborhood who'd help get this started?). Please contact us at WatMVA@columbus.rr.com if you are willing to help.

Design Review Board

The Design Review Board is back in business and has been busy reviewing plans for fences and decks. Their work helps keep our

neighborhood pleasant for all and protects property values.

The board is responsible for reviewing construction, modifications, additions, alterations or improvements to any property covered by the Association. They ensure that construction complies with standards set forth in your homeowner's deed.

Request a review

Before you begin construction, don't forget to submit your plans to the Board. Include specifications that show the nature, kind, shape, color, size, materials and location of improvements or alterations.

Submit your request to our post office box or by email. The Design Review Board meets as needed to review requests.

Design specifications updated

At a recent meeting, the Design Review Board asked Association Officers to amend standards for fence and deck materials. Previously, homeowners were required to use wood, stone or brick. The new standards allow vinyl and decorative wrought iron for fencing and decks. Chain link and other wire fences are still not permitted.

We'll soon have the Special Warranty Deed posted on the Web site. The deed details the Association's rules and restrictions, such as: use of lots and common property, hazardous actions or materials, signs, nuisances, business, storage, vehicles, trash, antennae, utility lines, tanks, street trees, mailboxes, yard lights and lamp posts, fences, and swimming pools.

Neighborhood concerns

Signs are everywhere!

Association members have noticed an abundance of signs in yards and at the neighborhood entrance.

Please keep our neighborhood beautiful. If you post yard sale signs at the main entrance, remove the sign, all tape and posts immediately following the sale. Temporary special occasion yard signs, such as Happy birthday, Congratulations, etc., are also permitted.

According to the Special Warranty Deed, no signs are to be erected, posted or displayed upon the property, except:

- Dominion's marketing signs for lots and residences for sale
- street and identification signs installed by the Association or Dominion
- one temporary real estate sign not to exceed six square feet in area

Parking

We've also received complaints about recreational vehicles and boats parked on the street for extended periods.

Do you know the rules for parking? Trucks, commercial vehicles, boats, trailers of any kind, vans, campers and mobile homes can not be parked on the street or any lot for more than 48 hours in any 30 day period.

The rule excludes passenger vehicles, light pickup trucks and vans. It also excludes vehicles stored in an enclosed structure that shields the vehicle from view.

Pets

When walking your dogs, please make sure to carry bags with you to clean-up after them. Dispose of the bags properly.

What do you want to know?

How are our association fees used?

The Association is responsible for maintaining common areas we own. This includes landscaping, lighting the entrance, the irrigation

system, two fountains, maintenance of three retention ponds (\$13,706), and fences. Other expenses include: administrative costs (\$9,700), insurance (\$2,500), utilities (\$2,000) and property taxes on the common grounds. You can review the entire budget on our Web site.

Who maintains the common areas?

Three local companies are caring for our common areas:

- Aquatico Unlimited maintains our fountains and ponds, treats the ponds for algae and maintains the blue color.
- Garden of Eden Landscaping mows the common areas and maintains the front entrance gardens.
- Springdale Turf and Irrigation takes care of weeds and fertilizer.

Do you have plans for community improvements?

We're getting quotes for a fountain, trees and a seating area for the pond at Deer Crossing.

We're also getting quotes for a seating area at the front pond. We welcome comments about these potential improvements, especially from members who live near the Deer Crossing pond.

What are you going to do about members who don't pay Association dues?

We don't want to file liens in order to collect dues, but we will do whatever is necessary in order to be fair to members who have paid their dues.

According to the Special Warranty Deed (Section V, Item 3): All unpaid Assessments, together with any interest and charges thereon or costs of collection, shall constitute a continuing charge in favor of the Association and a lien on the Lot against which the Assessment was levied. If any Assessment remains unpaid for 10 days after it is due, then the Board may authorize any officer or appointed agent of the Association to file a certificate of lien for all or any part of the unpaid balance of that Assessment, together with interest and collection costs, including attorneys' fees, with the appropriate government office."