

THE PARK BULLETIN

The Community Newsletter for Sudbrook Park, Pikesville, Maryland • www.SudbrookPark.org February, 2014

Happy 125th Anniversary, Sudbrook Park!

2014 has arrived and with it, our community's 125th anniversary. Volunteers are working on special activities and events.

While plans are not yet firm, we may be having:

- A Spring Garden Tour
- "Porch, yard or patio" get-togethers over the summer
- A Fall Guided Walking Tour
- Special logo and possibly commemorative items
- Sale of "name bricks" to be installed at the playground/park again
- Special Memory Book for children** (see details below)
- Painting street poles (need more volunteers)



Memory Book: **Karen Kuebler will head up a project to create a Special Memory Book for children of Sudbrook Park ages 12 and under. Have your child dictate a page or less to you about growing up in Sudbrook Park.

Email the story with a photo of your child as a jpg attachment to Karen Kuebler (kkcdanser@verizon.net). Karen will compile the book and, assuming we can re-produce it economically, each participating family will receive a copy.

Contact **Ed Brady**, Landscaping Committee Chair, if you would like your garden to be considered for the tour or can help on the tour day. (landscaping@sudbrookpark.org)

Contact **Michelle LaPerriere** if you would like to volunteer your porch, patio etc. for the informal summer get-togethers laperrierem@gmail.com

It does not look like a 3/5K run/walk will materialize; that event turned out to involve a monstrous amount of advance work, time and expertise.

We will be having a Fall Celebratory Event and will keep you posted as the committee develops specifics. This will involve a lot of work and we need more volunteers. If you can assist, please contact **Laurie Stroope**, Chair, at stroola@aol.com

We also need an overall "events coordinator." Please email Melanie Anson (melanieanson@comcast.net) if you can do this.

We are considering a house tour of some of the historic homes in the Park, either this spring or fall. If you are interested in volunteering your home or participating in an organizing committee, please contact **Charles Locke** (410-580-0342) or **Jill Savage** (410-486-6290).

INSIDE THE BULLETIN

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Holiday Light Thx..... | 2 |
| Tidbits | 2 |
| Thx to Deanna..... | 2 |
| Nominating | 3 |
| Memorials | 3 |
| Home Improvement | 4 |
| Rental Registration..... | 5 |
| 2014 M'ship Form..... | 6 |
| <i>and so much more</i> | |

Holiday Tree Lighting Thanks

Sudbrook Park enjoyed another festive holiday tree lighting on December 1 with good cheer among neighbors and the beautiful sight of our tree all in lights. Many thanks to **Arbormasters**, which not only strung the lights but returned to make a needed repair. We appreciate their efforts to go above and beyond! Thanks to **Ray Beard**, who cares for the lights and makes sure everything is working throughout the season; to **Darragh and Ed Brady** for offering their porch for refreshments and socializing; and to all of the Sudbrook Park residents who bring treats to share. Many thanks also to **Mark Plogman** for making sure Santa joined the celebration, **Diane Hanna** for ensuring Santa had treats for all the children and to the **Pikesville Volunteer Fire Department** for providing our guest of honor with stylish transportation. Finally, the neighborhood is grateful to **all the people who donated** to the Tree Fund. Without them, this wonderful tradition would not be able to continue.

A Huge Thank You To Deana Karras

For more than 15 of the 17 years that **Deana Karras** has lived in Sudbrook Park, she has been actively involved in the community association and contributed in numerous ways – including:

- putting together (and writing a good deal of) our newsletter for several years starting in April 1999;
- storing, sorting, pricing and moving donated items for our Trash to Treasure sales (and doing it multiple times to raise money for the Park/Playground Committee, of which she was a member);
- serving on the Board and as Secretary for many years; and
- pitching in whenever and wherever help was needed—triangle planting, community clean-up day, delivering newsletters, mailing newsletters, baking, helping at events, etc.

Those who know Deana are well aware that she is multi-talented, extremely organized, and one of the nicest, most thoughtful people in Sudbrook Park. In addition to her demanding job, she is an artist whose paintings range from whimsical to realistic and whose beautiful home has been years in the making, a true labor of love. In addition, she is a skilled landscape and vegetable gardener (assuming she can keep the deer and other critters from eating everything), a jogger, a cat devotee, a generous volunteer, and a dear and thoughtful friend to so many.

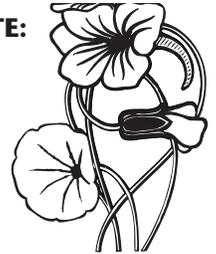
After years of faithfully attending monthly board meetings and taking Minutes, Deana has decided to step down, a rest she most certainly deserves. She will be greatly missed on the board and her shoes will be hard to fill. We send our deepest appreciation for her many years of stellar and generous service to the community.



BULLETIN TIDBITS

SAVE THE DATE:

Our Annual Meeting is tentatively scheduled for **TUESDAY, May 6**. We'll have information about our program and the exact date and location in the April newsletter. We hope you'll mark the date and plan to attend.



Looking for a New Secretary

Board member Darragh Brady has kindly agreed to fill-in temporarily as Secretary while we are looking for someone to fill this position. Won't you please consider volunteering for this community association position? Contact any member of the board if you would like information or to volunteer.

Dumpster Day

On **Saturday, April 26th** Sudbrook Park will again have its annual Dumpster Day from 8:a.m to noon. More details to follow in the next newsletter but it's not too early to root around the basement or garage and free up some much needed storage space.

Did You Know:

After 30 years, the **Pikes Theatre** has re-opened and now has two screens showing first run movies. You can enjoy a good movie close to home while supporting our local businesses – and weather permitting, even walk there.

IN MEMORIAM

On January 4, our community lost **Chris Karras**, a devoted cheer leader and volunteer for Sudbrook Park. Chris and his wife Deana moved to Sudbrook Park in 1997 and they both soon became active in our community.

Chris was first and foremost an accomplished and passionate painter; his works are in many public and private collections. His landscapes, often in oils, were simultaneously powerful, seductive, tranquil and warm. His professional career included positions at the National Gallery of Art, the former National Collection of Fine Art, The Smithsonian Natural History Museum, the American Institute of Architects, and the former Washington Museum of Modern Art. He served in the Army Air Force 1942-45 and earned his MFA in Painting from the University of Illinois.

Chris and Deana discovered Sudbrook Park almost by accident after they decided to move from the increasingly congested Chevy Chase area. They fell in love with Sudbrook's charm and majestic trees and set their sights on a house that, at the time, was occupied and not for sale. Chris let the owner know of their interest and in one of those strange twists, the owners were transferred unexpectedly and Chris and Deana bought the house. They spent years faithfully restoring floors, windows, walls, moldings, and cedar shakes on their circa 1900 home, turning it back into an historic gem.

Chris served on the Sudbrook Park Landmarks Committee for many years and brought his intelligence and personal knowledge of rehabbing historic structures, as well as his considerable artistic and architectural sensibilities, to the group. With his gentle wit and positive nature, Chris was a welcome addition to any group.

Art and painting were Chris's formidable talents, but his great gift may have been his ability to relate to everyone in a kind, caring and uncritical way, making them feel welcome and comfortable, with a sprinkling of his charm thrown in for good measure. His loss will be felt deeply by his wife, family, many friends and our community. Our deepest sympathy to Deana and the family as they grieve his death, while also celebrating his many talents, multiple accomplishments and enduring spirit.



On November 10, 2013, our community lost **Jim English**, an accomplished and eloquent broadcasting professional who had a long career in both radio and television. When Jim and his wife, Debbie, moved to Sudbrook Park in 1987, Jim already had made a name for himself in radio—as a disc-jockey, with a local Hershey PA sports program, and reporting news for NBC radio network, as well as a TV weatherman.

When the family moved to Baltimore, Jim began reporting weather for WBAL-TV, along with other announcing duties. He later worked as WJZ-TV's weatherman and in 1980, became an adjunct professor in the mass communications department and manager of Towson University's student run radio station. Jim also held broadcasting positions at Maryland Public Television. Even if you didn't know Jim personally, chances are you saw or heard him if you viewed or listened to these stations.

Jim was a straight-up guy with a wonderful sense of humor; a person everyone – neighbors, students, professional colleagues – liked, admired and respected. His interests in woodworking and in clocks (and ability to repair them) were well known among Sudbrook Park residents.

Our deepest sympathy to Debbie, their two sons, daughter and grandchildren.

Nominating Committee:

Each May, we elect officers for the following 12-months. The nominating committee must submit at least one candidate name for each board officer position – President, Vice President-Civic, Vice President-Social, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Any member of the Sudbrook Park community association may submit his or her name for one of these offices by March 21, 2014.

If you are interested in submitting your name in nomination, please contact one of the following nominating committee members: Melanie Anson (410-486-6814), Darragh Brady (410-653-6329), or Carolyn Hartloff (410-580-0183). If you are interested in serving on the Board or attending a monthly board meeting, please let us know.

From the Sudbrook Park Landmarks Committee:

Home Improvements: Historic District Requirements & Tax Credits

Spring is coming and if you have plans to work on your house, now is the time to determine if you need County Landmarks approval and/or apply for the historic tax credit.

If you own or live in property within our County Historic District, you must obtain County Landmarks approval before starting ANY exterior changes, additions or modifications (including fences, anything excavated, etc.). Even substantial replacement projects, such as replacing roofs, exterior railings, stairs, etc. require Staff or LPC approval.

Don't know if you are in the County District or if your project requires approval? **Contact Charles Locke, Chair of the Sudbrook Park Landmarks Committee**, at 410-580-0342 or email landmarks@sudbrookpark.org. Go to our website (www.sudbrookpark.org) for a map showing our historic district boundaries and additional information on required approvals. Information also is available on the county's website under Landmarks Preservation Commission or Historic Districts.

Lastly, don't forget that you may qualify for the state (20%) and/or county (20%) historic tax credit, but ONLY if your project qualifies and your application for the credit is approved in advance. Tax credits

cover many facets of home rehab, including HVAC work, replacement roofs and painting. Don't pass up an opportunity to save money when you rehab and restore your historic home.

By way of example, here is how the historic tax credit works:

STATE: if you owe \$3,000 state income tax, and you do a qualifying and approved restoration costing \$30,000, your tax credit would be 20% of the amount of the approved work or \$6,000 and you would pay zero state income tax the year you file for completion, plus get a check for \$3,000 back, adding up to your \$6,000 credit.

COUNTY: you take 20% of the amount of the approved work and again, using the above numbers as an example, if it's a \$6,000 credit, then you apply that directly against any property taxes you owe. If your property taxes are not as high as your credit, you can carry any remaining credit(s) forward for 3 years to apply against your annual property taxes.



Welcoming Committee

Thanks so much to **Alyssa Willis** for the time and energy she put in as Chair of our Welcoming Committee. We appreciate it!

Welcome to **Craig Falk**, who recently joined the Board and volunteered to take over as Chair of the Welcoming Committee. We rely on Block Captains and residents to let us know when new residents move in, so that they can be welcomed. If and when you know of new residents, please let Craig know by emailing: welcoming@sudbrookpark.org

Important County “Rental Registration Program” Info

Since February, 2008, Baltimore County’s Rental Registration Program has required that all buildings/residential homes that contain one to six dwelling units, intended, or designed to be rented, leased or occupied for living purposes be registered and licensed with Baltimore County.

Rental units/homes must be registered and licensed before a tenant moves in; the process requires a home inspection and compliance with county rental codes and safety standards. Although there are limited exemptions, these apply only after an owner files an exemption affidavit and the exemption is granted. ALL RENTAL HOMES/ UNITS THAT HAVE NOT BEEN GRANTED AN EXEMPTION MUST BE REGISTERED AND LICENSED BY THE COUNTY.

Q. What if an owner doesn’t register their rental property?

A. A person who owns and rents a dwelling unit or a portion of a dwelling unit without a license may be subject to the denial, suspension, revocation or non-renewal of the license and/or civil penalties of \$25 per day for each day a violation occurs and \$200 per day for each day a correction notice is not complied with, and there will be a \$1,000 fine for not complying with the Rental Registration Law.

These are steep fines. Yet four years after this law took effect, there are a large number of rentals in Sudbrook Park that have not been registered or licensed and have not been granted an exemption.

Later this year, the Zoning Committee will be providing the county with a list of unregistered rental homes in the community. If you are the owner of one of these homes, you should act NOW to register and license your property in compliance with county law. For additional information, go to: <http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/agencies/permits/rentalregistration/>

SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Board Meetings: Board meetings are held at 7:30 pm on the third Thursday of each month and are hosted by the neighbor listed. *You may want to check with the host to confirm that there has been no change in the meeting schedule or location.* All residents are welcome! Please come and bring a neighbor! Help continue our cherished traditions and create new ones!

Thu. Feb. 20 Carolyn Hartloff 503 Sudbrook Ln.
(410)580-0183

Thu. Mar. 20 Roy Lappalainen 700 Cliveden Rd.
(410)653-6087

Thu. Apr. 17 Steve Shaul 900 Windsor Rd.
(410)484-4064

Sudbrook Park Landmark Committee (SPLC) Meetings: SPLC meetings start promptly at 7:30 pm. Residents are encouraged to attend, but we ask that you call the Chair, Charles Locke (410-580-0342) forty-eight hours in advance for issues to be presented to the committee. *We suggest you check with the host to confirm that there has been no change in the meeting schedule or location.*

Tues. Feb. 18 Darragh Brady 500 Sudbrook Lane
(410)653-6329

Tues. Mar. 18 Steve Brown 701 Cliveden Rd.
(410)653-3362

Tues. Apr. 22 Andy Schaffer 716 Howard Rd.
(410)602-0778

Sudbrook Park

Celebrating 125 Years **AS A COMMUNITY**

Sudbrook Park Inc. January 1 - December 31, 2014 Membership Membership Dues and Registration

Individual or household: \$25

Senior (65+): \$20

Year you moved to Sudbrook Park _____

Check here if you do **not** want your name listed when we publish a member list in the newsletter:

Additional contribution: Triangle Landscaping \$ _____ Holiday Tree: \$ _____

Other (please specify) \$ for _____

Payment options:

Use the **PayPal link on our website**, www.sudbrookpark.org; **or send a check** made out to "Sudbrook Park, inc." to Roy Lappalainen, Treasurer, 700 Cliveden Rd. West, Pikesville, MD 21208

Member(s) Information (please print clearly)

Last Name*(s) _____

Address _____

Email address _____ Phone _____

*To include another household individual with a different surname at the same address, please include it here:

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Email address _____

Volunteer Opportunities

All of the Sudbrook Park traditions, from the Fourth of July and Halloween parades to the Flower & Bake Sale and the Holiday Tree Lighting, are made possible by your donations, and the efforts of volunteers.

To volunteer, please check one of the boxes below:

Refreshments for Bake Sale or Events

Welcoming New Neighbors

Dumpster Day

July 4th or Halloween Parades

Newsletter Distribution

Holiday Tree Lighting

Help keep Sudbrook Park a great place to live