

# Views from Avenel

Winter 2018

## 2018 Annual Meeting Update

This year's Annual Homeowners Meeting took place on Tuesday, November 13, 2018 at the TPC Potomac at Avenel Farm. It was a well-attended and informative meeting followed by hors d'oeuvres and a chance to mingle with fellow Avenel residents. For those residents who were unable to attend the Annual Meeting, DRAFT meeting minutes will be posted to the Avenel webpage at [www.LiveAtAvenel.com](http://www.LiveAtAvenel.com).

The ACA held elections for two vacant Board positions at the Annual Meeting. We are happy to welcome our returning Board members Mr. Tim Bender of Player's Gate and Ms. Maureen Scott of Player's Turning. They will join current Board members Mr. Cliff Ehrlich of Prescott, Mr. Jeff Green of Eagle Ridge and Ms. Jennifer Kitchen of Player's Gate. Please join the ACA in congratulating our returning Board members and in thanking them for their continued service and commitment to Avenel.

## Financial Status (unaudited) As of October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018

### ASSETS

Cash . . . . .	\$ 4,825,378
Accounts Receivables . . . . .	\$ 97,335
Current Assets . . . . .	\$ 32,502
Fixed Assets . . . . .	\$ 1,220,563
TOTAL ASSETS . . . . .	\$ 6,175,777

### LIABILITIES

Current Liabilities . . . . .	\$ 417,816
Note Payable . . . . .	\$ 684,007
TOTAL LIABILITIES . . . . .	\$ 1,101,823

**MEMBERS EQUITY** . . . . . \$ 5,073,954

\*Information provided by Comsource Management, Inc.

## From the desk of Lucy Wilson

*General Manager*

As we approach a new year, and bid farewell to 2018, I'd like to recognize and express my sincere gratitude to the many residents who serve our community in a variety of roles, volunteering their time and lending their expertise to support the greater good of Avenel and its residents. Volunteer participation is essential to community connectivity and preservation and this group of individuals are often the unsung heroes of the Association.

Piggybacking on the sentiments delivered at our annual meeting last month, committee volunteers are the lifeblood of our community. They dedicate many hours, generally behind the scenes, to make our community a better place to live. They do so without fanfare, and I would speculate that most residents have only a small sense of the work that they do throughout the year. To all our committee members, it's a pleasure to work alongside you throughout the year. You are instrumental to the success of Avenel!

I have the distinct honor to work with a Board of Directors who are dedicated, industrious, and complete professionals, making decisions for the betterment of the entire community. This group sets a superior standard for leadership and professionalism and motivates our management team to grow through trust and example. Oh, and did I mention that we really like them a lot too! We are lucky to have them steering us in the right direction.

Finally, I'd like to thank all the management team for their hard work throughout the year. Avenel is our home away from home, and we do our best to serve the needs of the community and do our part to preserve this little slice of heaven right down the street from our nation's capital. I'd like to particularly thank our grounds/maintenance and surveillance staff for their commitment and contribution during evenings, weekends and holidays. We are fortunate to have this loyal group of individuals.

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy New Year.

Avenel Community Association, Inc.  
9501 Beman Woods Way  
Potomac, MD 20854  
Tel: (301) 299-5916 • Fax: (301) 299-7169  
[www.LiveAtAvenel.com](http://www.LiveAtAvenel.com)

## Board of Directors

President .....Cliff Ehrlich  
Vice President/Secretary ..... Jennifer Kitchen  
Vice President/Treasurer ..... Maureen Scott  
Vice President .....Tim Bender  
Vice President ..... Jeff Green

## Homeowners Advisory Committee (HAC)

Abbey Terrace .....Chris Cathcart  
(301) 602-2964 ..... 8913 Abbey Terrace  
Chartwell .....Mark Spivak  
(202) 445-3993 ..... 10035 Avenel Farm Drive  
Eagle Ridge ..... Kathleen Pettitt  
(301) 469-7454 ..... 7105 Natelli Woods Lane  
Oaklyn Woods ..... TBD  
Player's Crossing .....Marsha Schuman  
(301) 299-9598 ..... 8326 Turnberry Court  
Player's Gate ..... Nita Kramer  
(301) 767-0284 ..... 6 Potomac School Court  
Player's Turning ..... Janelle Wright  
(301) 610-2095 ..... 9752 Avenel Farm Drive  
Pleasant Gate .....Eveyln Robles  
(301) 343-4476 ..... 9735 Pleasant Gate Lane  
Prescott .....Nancy Itteilag  
(202) 905-7762 ..... 7911 Sandalfoot Drive  
Rapley Preserve ..... Amy Michaels  
(301) 365-5665 ..... 8519 Rapley Preserve Circle  
Saunders Gate ..... TBD  
The Gates ..... Barbara K. Bloomfield  
(301) 365-0079 ..... 9209 Town Gate Lane  
Willow Gate..... Lori Leasure  
(301) 765-8318 ..... 9134 Willow Gate LaneLane

## ACA OFFICE HOURS

Mon.-Fri. 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.  
(301) 299-5916

General Manager ..... Lucy Wilson  
lucy@liveatavenel.com  
Site Operations Manager..... Tom Ritter  
tom@liveatavenel.com  
Architectural Coordinator ..... Karen Tam  
karen@liveatavenel.com  
Community Manager .....Colby Schlekeway  
colby@liveatavenel.com  
Office Manager ..... Jenna Hnath  
jenna@liveatavenel.com  
Administration ..... Elena Castillo  
elena@liveatavenel.com  
General Inquiries ... customerservice@liveatavenel.com  
McFall & Berry Landscaping ..... Lisa Gabriel  
mcfallandberry@liveatavenel.com  
ACA Surveillance Supervisor .....Ed Caldwell  
(301) 299-1518 ..... ed@liveatavenel.com  
Financial Management (CMI) ..... Tony Martella  
(301) 924-7355 ..... tmartella@comsource.com

# News&Notes

## 2019 Assessments

Assessment coupons for 2019 are being mailed by Comsource to residents as this newsletter goes to print. For those residents who pay via automatic debit, make sure to modify your disbursement amount to reflect the 2019 assessment amount.

For questions regarding your account or assessment coupons, please contact Comsource directly at (301) 924-7355.

## Award for Avenel Landscape

Congratulations to McFall & Berry for receiving the 2018 Decade Award from *The Landscape Contractors Association* for excellence in commercial landscape maintenance in Avenel! This award is given to contractors that have been servicing a community for 10 years or more.



## Welcome, Colby and Elena!

Please join us in welcoming the two newest staff members to the ACA team. Colby joined Avenel in the newly created position of Community Manager. Residents may see Colby in the community managing site projects or meeting with residents and vendors. Elena joined the team as our front desk Office Administrator. Residents who have contacted the ACA office recently may have already enjoyed Elena's friendly, outgoing personality and experienced first hand her dedication to helping residents. Be sure to check out Elena's recipe for Flan on page 8.

We are excited to have Colby and Elena join the ACA team. If you see Elena or Colby, please take a moment to introduce yourself and say hello!

## Volunteers Needed

Are you interested in serving on an Avenel Committee? The Swim and Tennis Advisory Committee and the ad hoc Social Committee are seeking volunteers. Opportunities to volunteer are also available on the following Avenel Committees:

- Homeowners Advisory Committee: There is a vacancy for the villages of Saunders Gate and Oaklyn Woods, and an upcoming opening for the village of Player's Turning.
- Modifications Committee: There are openings for alternate members and upcoming openings for regular members.
- Standards Committee: There are openings for alternate members and an upcoming opening for a regular member.
- Ad Hoc Landscape Committee: Openings are available for regular members.

If you are interested in volunteering for openings on any of the above Committees, or would like more information please contact the ACA offices at your convenience at (301) 299-5916 or by email at [customerservice@LiveAtAvenel.com](mailto:customerservice@LiveAtAvenel.com).

Thank you for considering volunteering to serve your Community!

## Are you hosting a holiday party or other event?

Contact the Association office whenever you are planning a party or other event when guests will be parking on the street. You will be asked to provide a start and end time along with an approximate number of vehicles expected.

Prior to the start of your party/event, Association staff will install temporary no parking signs along one side of the street to avoid double parking and ensure a clear and safe vehicular traffic way for residents and emergency vehicles. This also serves as a deterrent for vehicles parking along grassy roadsides which can result in sod damage. If you are expecting a larger crowd, consider hiring the services of a private valet parking company.

This quick and simple notification is a great way to keep our streets safe and roadsides beautiful, and to provide guidance to your guests.

**continued on next page**



# Welcome to the New and Improved Avenel Website!

The ACA is proud to launch our newly designed website, [LiveAtAvenel.com](http://LiveAtAvenel.com). Over the past few months, with the assistance of a marketing firm, we have redesigned the website, bringing a cleaner, more modern layout, simplifying navigation and adding some exciting new features and content.

We encourage everyone to visit and explore the site, discovering exciting new content, such as drone video of Avenel and the surrounding areas, stunning photos of the community, easy access to important forms and documents, and more.

We will be sharing additional information over the next few months. If you are not on our email list, sign up by sending an email to [customerservice@LiveAtAvenel.com](mailto:customerservice@LiveAtAvenel.com).

## New Email Addresses:

The Association will be changing our email addresses to the [liveatavenel.com](http://liveatavenel.com) domain, effective January 1. Our new email addresses will be as follows:

[customerservice@liveatavenel.com](mailto:customerservice@liveatavenel.com)

[lucy@liveatavenel.com](mailto:lucy@liveatavenel.com)

[tom@liveatavenel.com](mailto:tom@liveatavenel.com)  
[karen@liveatavenel.com](mailto:karen@liveatavenel.com)  
[colby@liveatavenel.com](mailto:colby@liveatavenel.com)  
[jenna@liveatavenel.com](mailto:jenna@liveatavenel.com)  
[elena@liveatavenel.com](mailto:elena@liveatavenel.com)  
[ed@liveatavenel.com](mailto:ed@liveatavenel.com)  
[mcfallandberry@liveatavenel.com](mailto:mcfallandberry@liveatavenel.com)

Emails sent to our old email addresses will automatically forward to our new ones for the foreseeable future. However, the old addresses will be phased out, so it is important for you to update your contacts.

## New Owner Login:

The Association previously sent an email to residents to create login credentials for the new website. Residents are encouraged to visit [www.LiveAtAvenel.com](http://www.LiveAtAvenel.com), click on OWNER at the top of the page, and select the Register link to request access to the website.

If you have any questions, or for assistance, please contact the ACA offices at (301) 299-5916 or by email to [customerservice@LiveAtAvenel.com](mailto:customerservice@LiveAtAvenel.com).

## News&Notes *continued from previous page*

### Holiday Gifts/Tips

For those residents wishing to leave holiday gifts/tips for the Potomac Disposal staff, please DO NOT place gifts/tips in, or around, your garbage bins. There have been reports of holiday gifts/tips being stolen from those homeowners who have left their gifts/tips in their garbage bins in the past. If you wish to leave holiday gifts/tips for the Potomac Disposal staff, please feel free to drop off any gifts/tips to the ACA office. It is advised to give any monetary gifts/tips in the form of a check made payable to Potomac Disposal. Potomac Disposal will divide any tips among the drivers and helpers. For those residents who prefer to make the checks payable directly to the drivers, their names are below:

- William De Leon
- Joseph Tyree
- Dan Cooper

### Signs

Limited signage is permitted within the community subject to certain rules and regulations. The list below summarizes requirements for certain signs found within the Association.

1. Security signs: The Association allows residents to display professional security signs that are provided by the security company without prior approval. Security signs must be located in close proximity to the front or rear door; signs should not exceed 10 x 12 inches; the posts must be metal; and the signs and posts are to be maintained in good condition. A maximum of two signs per property is permitted.
2. For Sale signs: Resale signs are ordered through the Association office for a cost of \$100, payable by check, \$50 of which is refundable when the sign is taken down if found to be in good condition. To request a resale sign, please contact the ACA office. Non-Avenel signage is not permitted. Real estate agents open house or directional signs are not permitted.

3. Contractor Signs: The Association asks homeowners to remind their contractors of our no signage policy and ask that they do not display company advertising signs while working in the community. Residents can review the *Standards for Maintaining Community Aesthetics* for more information regarding signs within the Association. Residents are encouraged to contact the ACA office with any questions or concerns.

### Community Parking / Street Parking

Residents are reminded to please be mindful of keeping the roadways free of congestion and park your vehicles in your garages and/or driveway. When necessary to temporarily park vehicles along the curb/roadside, particularly in the narrow roadways of The Gates and Prescott, please do not park in the designated "No Parking" areas or make the area difficult to pass through for residents and/or emergency vehicles. In addition to safety, it is neighborly and courteous to make sure your neighbor's regular view from the windows does not include your vehicle parked along the curb in front of their home. Further, the ACA would like to remind our residents that commercial vehicles of any kind are not permitted to park or be stored on any of the lots or streets within the community, including your personal driveways.

In the event of snow, residents are reminded to keep vehicles in their driveways to avoid interference with snow plow efforts and so that snow plows can get through streets safely and effectively, particularly in narrow streets and cul de sacs. Any vehicle that is parked illegally, or in a manner causing congestion, will be notified with an Avenel no parking memo under the windshield. Repeat offenders and/or vehicles blocking emergency vehicle access may be towed.

**continued on next page**

# From the desk of Ed Caldwell

*Surveillance Supervisor*

## Holiday Safety Tips

The holiday season is an important time for you to take extra safety and security precautions. Consider following these tips:

- Promptly remove delivered packages from your mailbox and front door steps. Do not leave packages out overnight. During the holiday season deliveries are sometimes made late in the evening so it would be wise to check before you retire for the night. If you become aware of a package delivery when you are out of town, and a neighbor or family member is unavailable, contact Surveillance at (301) 299-1518 and a surveillance officer will pick up the package and temporarily store it at the association office. If you have outgoing packages for pickup, wait until morning to put them out. If you have outgoing mail, do not place it in your personal and mailbox. Instead utilize one of the nearby USPS collection boxes. In the event you must put outgoing mail in your box, do not raise the red flag. Postal personnel will still pick up your outgoing mail even if the flag is not raised.
- Always keep your garage door closed.
- Whenever possible, keep your vehicles in your closed garage overnight. If you park your vehicle in a driveway, overflow parking area, or on the street, remove all valuables and lock your vehicle. Always arm your automobile alarm where available.
- Report suspicious persons, vehicles and situations immediately to the police by calling the police non-emergency number (301) 279-8000, or for emergencies dial 9-1-1. Notify surveillance staff after you have contacted the police.

## Are you curious about who's behind the wheel of the surveillance vehicle patrolling your village?

As a new feature of my newsletter column I will periodically be introducing to the Avenel community, members of our part-time weekend surveillance staff.

In this issue I am pleased to introduce Mohammad Asif who patrols our community each Saturday evening from 5pm until 1am.

Asif, as he prefers to be called, has been a valued member of our team for the past eight years. Born in Pakistan, Asif immigrated to the United States and has lived in the Gaithersburg area of Montgomery County since 2006.

Asif is employed full time by the State of Maryland and has worked at the Motor Vehicle Administration since 2005. Asif is married and is raising two sons, aged 13 and 14. In his free time Asif stays busy with his family and friends but occasionally finds time indulge in his favorite sport, Cricket.

Please extend a friendly appreciatory wave to Asif when you see the surveillance patrol vehicle passing through your village on Saturday evenings.

If you need assistance from Surveillance, please contact us at (301) 299-1518.



## News&Notes *continued from previous page*

## Building Community and Belonging in Swim Team

*By Kim Reed, Swim Team Parent Volunteer*

Do you have a child aged 4-17 who likes to swim or would like to learn to swim? The Avenel Alligators are the Avenel community's summer swim team, and joining us is a perfect way for them to meet other kids and teens in the community while getting exercise and becoming part of a close-knit team that just won its division in the Country Club Swim & Dive League. To join the Swim Team a child must be able to swim the length of the pool (25 meters), but we also have a Pre-team for children who are learning to swim, from true beginners to kids who can stay afloat for a few yards but not for the length of the pool.

The Swim Team not only practices and competes together, we also have social and

team-building events throughout the summer. For the Pre-teams, there is a "Lollipop Meet" where they can show what they have learned in a fun, meet-like environment.

The parents of our Swim Team members are crucial parts of the team, helping run the meets and social activities (no experience necessary!). Being a team parent is a great way to meet other Avenel community members and spend some time with your child as they become part of a team.

Our wonderful pool facility is a terrific benefit of living in Avenel, enhancing community spirit while providing exercise and friendships for your child. Older team members help and mentor younger ones,



and all of our members love the friendships they make and renew every summer. This is a summer experience your child will never forget!

For more information, contact Kim Reed at kimzbish@yahoo.com. Practices will start the day after Memorial Day and the season ends in late July.

**continued on next page**

## From the desk of Colby Schlekeway

### Community Manager

Living in a community like Avenel provides more than maintaining beautiful landscapes, preserving architectural integrity or even sustaining property values. It also offers the opportunity to build lasting relationships with your neighbors, influence positive change and continually strengthen the bond or sense of community that makes Avenel such a unique and desirable place to live.

There are many definitions for the word community. The one I like the best is “a feeling of fellowship with others, as a result of sharing common attitudes, interests, and goals.” That is what we have at Avenel and the stronger the fellowship, the more beneficial living in Avenel can be. The best way to build a stronger community is simply to participate. Enjoy planned events like the 4th of July Bike Parade, Sunday Fundays at the pool or playing Pickleball during open play times. For a greater level of involvement, you can volunteer your time by helping to plan these events or communicating new ideas for events. The ACA and Avenel Social Committee this year has worked towards increasing the number of social community events and, with the continued help of the community, will continue to do so in the years to follow.

To play a larger role and affect positive change within the community, we encourage you to ask about joining one of Avenel's committees or inquire about other volunteer opportunities. If you are passionate about the architectural design of Avenel and maintaining the overall aesthetics and standards of the villages, then ask about the Modifications or Standards Committee. To plan and organize events promoting community involvement, ask about the Social Committee. There are many opportunities to make an impact on the community in which we all live.

### News&Notes *continued from previous page*

## Winter Landscaping Tips

Now is the time to prepare your home and landscape for winter weather. Here are a few reminders designed to assist you in avoiding expensive repair or replacement costs to some of the features located outside your home.



- Irrigation systems should be drained and blown out with compressed air.
- Garden hoses should be disconnected and drained.
- Outdoor hose bib valves should be drained after closing the indoor valve if you do not have a frost-free house bib.
- Outdoor water features such as fountains and ponds should be turned off and drained.
- New trees and shrubs that have been installed within the past 2 years should be thoroughly watered before the ground freezes which is usually in mid to late December.
- Now that the leaves are off the trees, gutters and downspouts should be cleaned and inspected to prevent buildup of excessive water and possible ice damming.
- Prune shrubbery and keep heavy snow accumulations at least 1 foot away from heat pump units and backup generators so that they will run at top efficiency.

- Leaf removal operations will be from October 16th - January 31st (weather permitting). There will be four (4) leaf removals during this period. Please remove any items such as toys, hoses, etc. from your yard area to help eliminate potential damage hazards and to speed the leaf removal process.

## Montgomery County Pesticide Bill- 52-14

As previously reported, the Montgomery County Circuit Court overturned the pesticide ban enacted by the County Council which would have banned the use of certain pesticides on all private property in Montgomery County.

The Court held that the ban is preempted by Maryland law and that the county's ban on the application of certain pesticides on private property conflicted with Maryland law.

The county has appealed the Circuit Court's decision to the Maryland Court of Special Appeals, who heard oral arguments on September 11th. A decision is pending. The Association will continue to monitor the court's decision and keep residents informed.

## Revised Architectural Guidelines

Revisions to the Architectural Guidelines and Architectural Review Process as prepared and approved by the Modifications Committee were disseminated to residents with the community mailing in October. The revised guidelines are also available on the Avenel website at [www.LiveAtAvenel.com](http://www.LiveAtAvenel.com).

Many thanks to the volunteers on the Modifications Committee for their service to the community.

**continued on page 8**



## From the desk of Tom Ritter

Site Operations Manager

### What's So Great About Native Plants?

When planning your next landscape enhancement, you may want to consider incorporating at least a few native plant species into your plan. Native plants provide multiple benefits for both people and wildlife, while contributing greatly to healthier soil and water in urban and rural areas. They require less fertilizer, water and pesticides than most non-native species. They also provide shelter and food for wildlife and support pollinators. The use of native plants promotes biodiversity which is inviting to the birds, butterflies and wildlife in general. Log on to [www.audubon.org/native-plants](http://www.audubon.org/native-plants) and type in your zip code to discover native plants for this area and which types of birds they will attract.



#### ... Avenel References

**Potomac Remodeling, LLC General Contractors**  
**Home Improvements, Remodeling, Handyman**  
Carpentry, Painting, Rotted Wood/PVC, Electric, Plumbing, Drywall, Lighting, Kitchens, Baths, Flagstone, Cement, Brick, Powerwash, Windows, Doors, Wood Floors, Trim, Ceramic Tile, Siding, Interiors/Exteriors, Handyman, Small Jobs  
**[info@potomacremodeling.net](mailto:info@potomacremodeling.net)**  
**301-977-3964 MHIC 91637**

Advertisement\*



## Alan Goldstein Photography

Homes - Commercial - Advertising

240-350-3330 [Alan@Goldsteinphoto.com](mailto:Alan@Goldsteinphoto.com)

[www.Goldsteinphoto.com](http://www.Goldsteinphoto.com)



Advertisement\*

*\*Disclaimer: Advertisements in this newsletter are not endorsements or recommendations by the ACA. Any transactions with vendors found in our newsletter, including payment and delivery of related goods or services, and any other terms, conditions, warranties or representations associated with such dealings, are solely between the individual and vendor.*

## AVENEL DIRECTORY UPDATE DEADLINE JANUARY 15TH

The next update to our Community directory is set for publication in 2019! If you are not currently listed and wish to be included, or if there have been changes to your current information since the last publication, please complete the following information and return to the ACA prior to January 15, 2019. Updates may be mailed to the ACA offices, faxed to (301) 299-7169, or emailed to [customerservice@LiveAtAvenel.com](mailto:customerservice@LiveAtAvenel.com).

All owners who are currently listed in the directory and/or whose information is maintained with the ACA will be automatically included in the directory, **unless you specifically request to be removed/unlisted**. The Avenel directory is for internal Community use only and your information will not be distributed to any third party. The Avenel directory is not to be distributed, or shared, with any source outside of the Community.

## DIRECTORY UPDATE FORM

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Property is Owner-occupied  
☐ Tenant-occupied

Homeowner's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please include title – Dr.; Mr.; Mrs.; Ms.)

Home Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

If tenant-occupied, please complete the following:

Tenant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Tenant's Home Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## JOBS FOR AVENEL TEENS

As a courtesy to our residents, the Association is once again including a "Jobs for Avenel Teens" section in the Avenel Phone Directory of youths and young adults in Avenel who offer babysitting, tutoring, dog walking, house sitting, or other services.

We hope that such a list will help residents who are looking for extra help connect with teens in the community who would like to gain work experience and earn extra money.

Please fill out the Jobs for Avenel Teens form to be included on the list and submit your completed form to the ACA offices no later than January 15, 2019.

## JOBS FOR AVENEL TEENS FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Alt. Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Services Offered (i.e. babysitting, tutoring, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

*Submit your completed form to the ACA by mail, FAX to 301-299-7169, or email to [customerservice@LiveAtAvenel.com](mailto:customerservice@LiveAtAvenel.com).*

## Recipe from Elena

# Puerto Rican Easy Vanilla Flan

### ■ INGREDIENTS:

- 1 cup sugar
- 6 large eggs
- 1 14-oz can sweetened condensed milk
- 1 13-oz can evaporated milk
- 1 tbsp vanilla extract

### ■ EQUIPMENT:

- Blender, wooden spoon, measuring spoon, microwave safe measuring cup, flan pan (or pie dish or cake pan), large deep baking pan

### ■ DIRECTIONS:

1. Preheat oven to 350°.
2. For the caramel, combine 1 cup sugar and ¼ cup water in a microwave safe cup. (I use a glass measuring cup, sprayed with a little PAM cooking spray.) Microwave on high for about 5 minutes, until it reaches a reddish-brown color.
3. Stir with a wooden spoon, then pour the mixture into your flan pan. Tilt to coat the bottom and sides. Set the caramel coated pan aside.
4. For flan, blend all the remaining ingredients until smooth, but be careful not to over mix. Pour flan mixture into the cooled, caramelized flan mold. You will hear the caramel crackle as you gently pour the liquid into the mold. This means the sugar is ready and was done right.



5. Cover with aluminum foil and carefully place into a water bath “Baño de María.” Make this by putting flan pan into a large baking pan. Then pour hot water between the pans up to the halfway point on the flan pan.
6. Bake in preheated oven for 60 minutes. When a toothpick comes out clean, the flan should be done.
7. Take the baking pan out of the oven. Remove the flan mold (carefully, there is still hot water in the baking pan!), then dump out the water.
8. Remove the aluminum foil and allow to cool slightly. Then run a butter knife around the sides of the flan mold. This loosens the flan up and it helps the sugar that has now become liquid. Let cool completely.
9. To serve, put a rimmed plate down over the flan and flip it over. Be careful, the sugar liquid may spill outward. Carefully remove the flan mold and behold- FLAN!

**If you would like to share a picture of the flan you made, please send it to [customerservice@LiveAtAvenel.com](mailto:customerservice@LiveAtAvenel.com).**

## News&Notes *continued from page 5*

### Congratulations to Our Halloween Costume Contest Winner!



The ACA held our first Annual Avenel Kids Halloween Costume Contest this year. Congratulations to our winner, Jerry, for his “Don’t mess with a ninja on Halloween” costume.

Many thanks to all who participated in our first Halloween costume contest. We appreciate all the pictures that were sent in, and hope that you had as much fun participating as we did getting to see everyone.

We look forward to seeing more of your spook-tacular costumes next year!

### Send us your Holiday Photos

Whether it be you decorating the house, your kids putting up holiday lights, your pets dressing up for the season, or your co-workers sporting homemade holiday sweaters, we want to see them all!

Send us your favorite holiday and seasonal photos at [customerservice@LiveAtAvenel.com](mailto:customerservice@LiveAtAvenel.com) and include your name, address and a brief caption. Your photos could be featured in an e-newsletter or print newsletter, or shared on the Avenel web page or social media pages.

Email [customerservice@LiveAtAvenel.com](mailto:customerservice@LiveAtAvenel.com) if you have any questions.



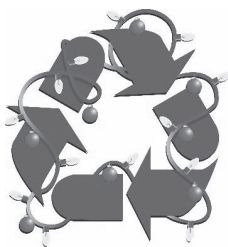
## Happy Holidays!

**continued on next page**



## Holiday Recycling Tips

The holiday season comes with a lot of purchases, wrapping, and decorating that can substantially increase the amount of waste that is generated. Follow these guidelines during the holidays to stay on the Recycling “Nice” list this holiday season.



- Recycle cardboard & gift boxes: Break them down flat before placing them in your bin to ensure space for the higher volume of recyclables during the holidays.
- Bring reusable bags when shopping for the holidays.
- Send E-cards instead of traditional holiday cards. Many websites offer e-card services.
- Unwanted Mail: In the weeks leading up to the holidays, many households receive larger quantities of advertisements, sale flyers and catalogs. Before tossing unwanted mail into the recycling bin, take a moment to remove your name from the company's mailing list. Often, all that is needed is a call to a toll-free number provided in the mailing. Another way to avoid unwanted mail received during any time of the year is to register on a “Do Not Mail” list with any number of organizations offering this type of service. Two such services that are listed on the Montgomery County website are Catalog Choice and the Direct Marketing Association.
- Recycle Christmas trees: Cut Christmas trees are accepted for recycling by Montgomery County year-round, as long as all ornaments and decorations are taken off the tree first. Set your tree out by 7am on your regular recycling day (Tuesday). Also, other holiday natural greenery such as wreaths and roping can be recycled along with other types of yard trim- just remember to remove any wire first.
- Holiday lights: Montgomery County accepts light strings in the electronics recycling drop-off at the Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Stations. Certain retailers also accept string lights.

**The following items do NOT go in your recycling bin and must go in your trash:**

- Tissue paper
- Wrapping paper lined with foil or plastic (it's usually shiny)
- Bows and ribbons
- Padded envelopes/ bubble wrap envelopes

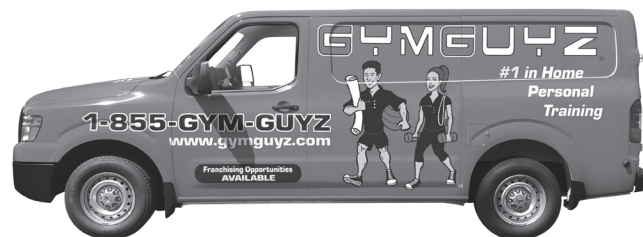
Recyclables are picked up by Montgomery County on Tuesdays. Recycling bins must be placed curbside by 7am on your pick up day. For additional recycling tips, please visit the Montgomery County website at [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/sws/programs/](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/sws/programs/).

## Solicitors

The holiday season tends to be a very active time of year for door to door solicitors and/or charities. We would like to remind our residents that, to the extent permissible by law, soliciting is not permitted in Avenel. In the event that any owner is subjected to door to door solicitation do not engage the solicitor, and please immediately contact our Surveillance department at (301) 299-1518.

**GYMGUYZ®**  
**#1 in Home Personal Training®**

**CALL FOR YOUR  
FREE 1-HOUR  
ASSESSMENT!**



**1-855-GYM-GUYZ**

*\*Disclaimer: Advertisements in this newsletter are not endorsements or recommendations by the ACA. Any transactions with vendors found in our newsletter, including payment and delivery of related goods or services, and any other terms, conditions, warranties or representations associated with such dealings, are solely between the individual and vendor.*

## Contractor Recommendations Book – Avenel's Own Version of “Angie's List”

Come by the ACA office to review our community supported Contractor Recommendations Book to find a contractor for your next project as recommended by fellow residents. In addition to the contractor's name and contact information, the Contractor Recommendations Book allows residents to read a description of the work, as well as other comments and ratings by the referring resident.

**The ACA is particularly in need of recommendations for private snow removal contractors to add to the book.**

If you have engaged the services of a contractor that you would like to recommend to other residents, please fill out a “Contractor Recommendation Form” so that we can add them to our growing list. The form is available on the Avenel website, or contact the Association to request a copy.

**continued on next page**

## Modifications Committee Message

By Mimi Litvak, Chair

Avenel has continually been recognized as one of the best neighborhoods to live in the D.C. Metropolitan area. We must all do our part to maintain this lovely place we call “home.”

As the neighborhood has grown over the past several decades, and our homes continue to age from their new, original condition, there are exterior improvements that need to be made to keep our homes up to the current standard as outlined in Avenel’s Architectural Guidelines and Governing Documents.

Examples of exterior improvements include, but are not limited to the following replacements and modifications:

- Garage doors
- Roofs
- Doors
- Fences
- Windows/Shutters
- Exterior Lighting
- Landscaping (Installation & Removal)
- Hardscapes (i.e. Driveways, Walkways, Patios, etc.)
- Decks
- Screened Porches/Additions
- Pools/Tennis Courts
- Play Equipment

We have unfortunately noticed a trend where homeowners overlook or forget that they agreed to abide by the Governing Documents... and simply proceed with exterior modifications to their homes, landscaping, etc. without first completing an Avenel Modification Application for review and approval by the Modifications Committee. Just because your neighbor has made a change, please do not assume that you can do the same. Applications are reviewed on a case-by-case basis and your neighbor’s change may not have been approved. ALL homeowners must go through the Modifications Application Approval process. The good news is that this year, over 200 applications have been reviewed by the Committee! Many thanks to the majority of owners who comply with our Governing Documents and follow the approved procedures.

Alternatively, if and when a homeowner does not go through this approval process, the system has been “broken,” and rework is often needed to bring the modification into compliance with the Community’s Architectural Guidelines and the Governing Documents. Additional time and resources are needed to address the situation:

- 1) The homeowner has to submit an application after the fact;
- 2) The committee must sometimes make a decision that requires further modifications to existing work, which may cost the owner additional monies;
- 3) In some cases, removal of an unapproved modification may be required, at the owner’s sole expense.

The #1 way to prevent this kind of miscommunication is easy:

- Simply fill out a Modification Application form in *advance* of any proposed modification, alteration, replacement or other exterior improvement to your lot and/or home.
- Specific instructions are included in the Architectural Guidelines and on the Modification Application form. These documents can be found at the ACA Office, or online at [www.LiveAtAvenel.com](http://www.LiveAtAvenel.com) where there is information to help guide you through the process. Please feel free to contact the ACA office at (301) 299-5916 for questions/concerns about your proposed modification or for further assistance.
- The completed application form and attachments can be submitted directly to the Association office, or PDF’d to Karen Tam at [karen@liveatavenel.com](mailto:karen@liveatavenel.com)

Avenel’s Modifications Committee is a homeowner volunteer-based committee whose primary goal is to preserve Avenel’s traditional quality by maintaining the continuity within each Village with the high community-wide aesthetic standards that make Avenel truly unique. It is our hope that by working together with the Modifications Committee, you can obtain the necessary approvals and begin work in a timely manner. Historically, the vast majority of applications gain approval. We really do want to work with you to achieve the best outcome for all involved.

Thank you all in advance for being responsible homeowners and complying with Avenel’s Architectural Guidelines and Governing Documents. Our committee wishes each and every one of you a very happy and safe holiday season!

## News&Notes *continued from page 9*

### Avenel Trivia

The TPC Potomac at Avenel Farm was the fifth Club designed in the TPC network of golf courses around the country. Opened in May 1986, the TPC Potomac at Avenel Farm is one of 19 private TPC venues in the United States and was the third stadium course to be constructed and the first to plant fairways in zoysia grass.

Did  
you  
know?

### Are you Receiving Our Community Updates?

The ACA regularly communicates information and alerts to the community via email. If you are not receiving our emails, please be sure to check your “spam” folder. If you wish to be included in our mailing list, or to add additional email addresses, please contact the ACA offices with your email information at (301) 299-5916 or by email at [customerservice@LiveAtAvenel.com](mailto:customerservice@LiveAtAvenel.com). Residents can also sign up by clicking on “Join Our Email List” at [www.LiveAtAvenel.com](http://www.LiveAtAvenel.com).

**continued on** *next page*



## Welcome to Avenel

The Avenel Community Association would like to welcome the following new residents who recently joined our Community.

### CHARTWELL

- The Chen Family
- The Chou and Huang Family
- The Huang Family
- The Shin and Chin Family

### EAGLE RIDGE

- The Okeke Family
- The Warmuth Family
- The Yuan Family

### PLAYER'S CROSSING

- The Forward Family
- The Jiang and Li Family
- The Manders Family
- The Marchand Family

### •The Olson Family

- The Rambley Family
- The Stotsky Family

### PLAYER'S GATE

- The Drake Family
- The Lange Family
- The Li and Liu Family

### PLAYER'S TURNING

- The Goodwin Family
- The Ruiz and Gomez Family

### PLEASANT GATE

- The Choudhury Family
- The Meduri Family

### PRESCOTT

- The Helfand Family
- The Holland Family
- The Hussey Family
- The Insani and Riotto family
- The Prokos Family
- The Thurlow and Resnick Family
- The Vipulis Family

### RAPLEY PRESERVE

- The Donovan Family
- The Duncan Family
- The Hill Family
- The Warner Family

### SAUNDER'S GATE

- The Cassady Family
- The DeSilva Family
- The Dhar and Imam Family
- The Polis Family
- The Wessely and Grancha family

### THE GATES

- The Lee and Yang Family
- The Tucker Family
- The Wang and Tan Family

### WILLOW GATE

- The McGovern Family
- The Phillips Family

## News&Notes *continued from page 10*

### Winter Weather Plan

In the event of a winter precipitation event, the Association's general policy is that snow removal commences when accumulation reaches two inches (2") or more. Should the snowfall total be less than two inches, it is generally the Association's policy to treat impassible or unsafe areas with ice melting products. Always use extreme caution when driving and walking in cold and icy conditions as even areas that have been treated tend to melt than re-freeze.



### Fire Hydrants / Inclement Weather

In the event of snow, please assist us in keeping the community safe by providing easy access to fire hydrants for emergency personnel. Please do not block, or park in front of a fire hydrant and keep the area clear and easily accessible. If there is a fire hydrant in the vicinity of your home, please clear the area to assure that the fire department and emergency personnel can easily access the fire hydrant if needed.

### Thank You, Advertisers!

The ACA would like to thank all of our advertisers who are currently advertising on Avenel's website, and in the Community Directory and printed newsletter. Income from advertising helps defray the cost of maintaining the Avenel website, and printing and distributing the newsletter and Directory. Be sure to take a look at our new newsletter advertisements, and check out the advertisements at [www.LiveAtAvenel.com](http://www.LiveAtAvenel.com) to learn more about the products and services currently available.

If you are interested in advertising your own business with Avenel, please contact the ACA offices at (301) 299-5916, or email [customerservice@LiveAtAvenel.com](mailto:customerservice@LiveAtAvenel.com) for more information.

### ACA Office Closures

The ACA offices will be closed on 12/24/18 (Monday) and 12/25/18 (Tuesday) in observance of the Christmas Holiday.

The ACA offices will be also be closed on 12/31/18 (Monday) and 1/1/18 (Tuesday) in observance of New Year's Day.

Surveillance staff will be patrolling the community per usual on those days.





## The Nancy Itteilag Team

**My Experience = Your Advantage!**

**Fall 2018 Offerings! The Best of Avenel!**

3201 New Mexico Ave. NW  
Suite 220  
Washington, D.C. 20016  
202-944-5000



**23 Beman Woods Court**  
Sought After Prescott at Avenel  
**OFFERED AT \$1,349,000**



**24 Sandalfoot Court**  
Deck w/ Automatic Awning  
**OFFERED AT \$1,198,000**



**8302 Turnberry Court**  
14<sup>th</sup> Fairway Views  
**OFFERED AT \$1,149,000**



**UNDER CONTRACT**  
**18 Beman Woods Court**  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor Master on 16/17<sup>th</sup> Fairway  
**OFFERED at \$1,525,000**



**UNDER CONTRACT**  
**9728 Beman Woods Way**  
Soaring Views of Golf Course  
**OFFERED AT \$1,425,000**



Nancy Itteilag  
202.905.7762  
nancy.ittailag@wfp.com

Avenel's #1 Agent Since 1988!

*Ranked as one of the Top 10 Agents in the USA by Individual Sales Volume  
by Real Trends, as Advertised in the Wall Street Journal in 2007*



**9301 Crimson Leaf Terrace**  
Mitchell & Best Residence  
**SOLD AT \$1,430,000**



Advertisement\*

Advertisement\*



**Front Row:** Pat Karta, Ilene Gordon, Wendy Banner, Jody Aucamp, Gail Gordon  
**Back Row:** Michelle Teichberg, Brooke Bassin, Julia Fortin

## BANNER TEAM

Faces of Avenel—  
Wendy Banner & The Banner Team  
**#1 Agents in Avenel since 2011!**

Resting at the foundation of Wendy's success in the Avenel real estate market is a strong personal tie to the community—she and her husband raised their family in Avenel and have owned four different homes in their 25 years in the community. Ilene Gordon and Gail Gordon have also been Avenel neighbors. Wendy was directly involved with building the Swim and Tennis Club at Avenel which has been a sought-after amenity for many and an excellent enhancement for resale.



Contact Wendy Banner for more info: (c) 301-370-5076 | (e) Wendy@BannerTeam.com | www.BannerTeam.com

*\*Disclaimer: Advertisements in this newsletter are not endorsements or recommendations by the ACA. Any transactions with vendors found in our newsletter, including payment and delivery of related goods or services, and any other terms, conditions, warranties or representations associated with such dealings, are solely between the individual and vendor.*

## Upcoming Meetings\* / ACA Events:

- ✧ **The Modifications Committee** – The Modifications Committee meets on the 2nd Monday of every month at 6:00pm in the A.M. Natelli Center. Submissions to the Modifications Committee are due by 12:00pm on the 1st Monday of every month.
- ✧ **The Standards Committee** – The Standards Committee generally meets on the 1st Tuesday of every month on an as needed basis at 6:00pm in the A.M. Natelli Center.
- ✧ **The Homeowners Advisory Committee** – The HAC generally meets once per quarter at 6:30pm in the A.M. Natelli Center. The meeting schedule for 2019 is TBD.
- ✧ **The Board of Directors** – The Board of Directors generally meets on the 3rd or 4th Tuesday, every other month, at 8:30am in the A.M. Natelli Center. The next Board meeting is scheduled for January 22, 2019.

*\*Please note that meeting dates and times are subject to change. Be sure to check [www.LiveAtAvenel.com](http://www.LiveAtAvenel.com), or the ACA Bulletin Board, for current meeting dates/times, updates, & important Community alerts, or call the ACA offices at your convenience.*

### Fun Fact!

Avenel was once known as a thousand acre farm and center for local horse trainers and riders. The existing barn and horse grazing fields located at the center of the community were preserved by the Developer. The main barn, dating from the 1940s and reportedly the largest single-story barn in Maryland, is the centerpiece of an active horse riding community that continues to thrive at this location.

Trusted Advisors. Outstanding Outcomes.  
WE CAN DELIVER FOR YOU, TOO.



**Corey Burr**  
cburr@ttrsir.com  
+1 301 346 3345

**Stephanie B. McGovern**  
smcgovern@ttrsir.com  
+1 202 368 7198

TTR | **Sotheby's**  
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

STEPHANIE BURKE MCGOVERN  
Realtor at TTR Sotheby's International Realty  
and proud to be your new neighbor.

COREY BURR  
Senior Vice President at TTR Sotheby's  
International Realty with career sales  
over 31 years in excess of \$600 million.

Contact us today for a confidential discussion of  
your real estate needs, and please let us know if we  
can help you, your friends or family.

WE CAN BRING  
THE SOTHEBY'S BRAND  
TO YOU AND YOUR PROPERTY.

\*Disclaimer: Advertisements in this newsletter are not endorsements or recommendations by the ACA. Any transactions with vendors found in our newsletter, including payment and delivery of related goods or services, and any other terms, conditions, warranties or representations associated with such dealings, are solely between the individual and vendor.



# Views from Avenel

Avenel Community Association  
9501 Beman Woods Way, Potomac, MD 20854  
(301) 299-5916

FIRST CLASS  
US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
SUBURBAN, MD  
PERMIT NO. 3878



HAPPY  
HOLIDAYS!