



Photo by Tony Daniels

Communications Committee

----- SUZANNE WHITE
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In response to community input from the communications survey, various initiatives are underway.

Website Enhancements: We are excited about enhancements to our Countryhouse website, www.countryhousehoa.org, which serves as the central hub for all community-related info. A new documents section organizes board agendas, minutes, newsletter reports, finance reports, and motions passed in one convenient location.

Coming Soon: We're adding a Calendar and a News Blog to the website to keep you updated on events and announcements.

Homeowners' Guide: We are reformatting the Homeowner's Guide to improve its ease of

use. It will be available in both web-based and document formats.

Zoom Meeting Offerings: In response to the evolving needs of our community, we have been exploring the use of Zoom to facilitate meetings and enhance accessibility for residents. While we are still addressing some technical challenges, we aim to provide residents with the option to attend meetings virtually in real-time or access recorded meetings at their convenience.

I welcome your feedback and suggestions so that we may better serve our community.

Maintenance Committee

----- JOHN KING
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Walkway Repairs –The maintenance committee begins their inspection of walkways this month for repairs to be done in the Spring. Several walkways have been repaired because of vole activity and roots pushing up the bricks. If you have a serious problem that needs attention now, please let Mill House know so we can take care of it.

Garage Doors – Several garage door openers were replaced last month. We continue to find originally installed openers that are close to failing. If you have an opener that does not have the sensor on the door, please let Mill House know so we can determine if it needs to be replaced soon. The sensors are on both sides of the track at the bottom.

If you do not have a key to the emergency lock on your garage door, you need to have our garage door company, Open Door, 919-525-4803, install one for you. This will be at your expense.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 16th – Landscaping Community Input & Board Meeting at
The Gathering Place @ 9:30 – 11:30 am

April 20th – Spring Social at Weald Stone @ 3 – 5 pm

April 27th – Founder's Day at The Gathering Place @ 1 – 5 pm

Architecture Committee

----- GLENN ALEXANDER

- ❖ Request to approve a brick extension of the existing patio at 315 Baneberry to include paving of common area was rejected. The requestor has been notified that they need to consult with the Landscaping Committee regarding the need to restore the encroached upon common ground.
- ❖ We approved the replacement garage and patio lights identified by the Maintenance Committee.
- ❖ We approved the replacement shutters recommended by the Maintenance Committee. They closely match the existing shutters that are no longer available.



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Household Waste Collection

----- DIANA SINISI

On April 20th Chatham County will collect household waste from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm across from the Main Facility at 28 County Services Road, Pittsboro, NC 27312. Residents do not need a decal but will be asked to show a NC Driver License or item with the address of where the waste is coming from. The Sheriff's Office will be on-site to conduct a medicine take back. Examples of other hazardous items collected: aerosols, solvents, and motor oil. Learn more details at their [website](#).



Did you know that you may dispose of your AAA to D size batteries at the front door of the Gathering Place?

It is dangerous to our drinking water and illegal to put these batteries into trash ending up in landfills.

Maintenance Cont'd



Garage Lights – The Maintenance Committee replaced several garage lights this month. A reminder if the bulb on your exterior garage light needs replacing, please call Mill House. We will no longer replace the bulb if the screws are too rusty to get loose. The maintenance committee will remove the old light fixture and install a new one. The new ones are open at the bottom so homeowners can replace the bulb.

Porch Lights – Porch lights, both front and back, are the responsibility of homeowners. If your porch light is like the garage light and a bulb burns out and the rusty screws prevent it from opening, you may consider replacing the light fixture.

The Architecture Committee has approved Port Oxford 11" light fixture, model #111832. Price is \$84.97 at Home Depot.

Drainage – The Drainage Committee met this month and toured some examples of drainage issues. The committee would like to map our drainage system so we know where we might have major blockages.



photo curtesy of Tony Daniels

Landscaping Committee

----- CAROL WADE

Bartlett Tree Service and Logout Tree Service Contracts:

- ❖ Annual pruning and tree removal have been completed.
- ❖ GOOD NEWS! Bartlett came in \$3,500 under budget thanks to the cooperation of the residents they were able to get the crane in and out efficiently and that saved money.
- ❖ Trees assessments remain an ongoing activity.

GCU Landscaping:

- ❖ March has been a relatively quiet month with the completion of spraying winter weeds and pruning.
- ❖ Mild weather and rain mean mowing will begin soon.
- ❖ The crew has been busy cleaning up fallen branches and yard debris.

- ❖ A reminder for residents to bundle the branches no more than 5 ft in length, and to put debris in paper bags, not plastic. They will not pick up piles just thrown haphazardly by the side of the road.



- ❖ For those residents wishing no pruning and/or no spraying, please request to be put on the appropriate list. In addition, a strip of black electrical tape should be applied to the house number pole just below the number. If no electrical tape is available, it's not necessary to buy a roll. Contact a member of the Landscaping Committee and we will bring it to you.

Maintenance Committee 2024

We have several projects to oversee in 2024. We will inspect the following:

- ❖ all the walkways for repair in the Spring.
- ❖ all the old garage windows to see which ones need to be replaced or painted.

If your garage window will not stay up, please let Mill House know so it can be put on the replacement list.

- ❖ all the originally installed decks to determine which ones need repair.
- ❖ all the wooden porch railings in Beechmast to check for needed repairs and painting.

Drainage Committee

-----STEVEN BOTBYL & BETTY ROBIE

The Committee is developing a project plan and will have more to report on next month.

Roofing Committee

----- TONY DANIELS
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Roof replacements will continue in the Fall.



photo courtesy of Tony Daniels

President's Message

The sun perched on the horizon, cold moon nodding goodbye
Morning, soon to come our way
Tall trees standing in silence, awaiting the dawning sky
Bracing, for another brand-new day
This day is different, season's turning the page
Life, comes floating in the breeze
As the curtain rises, the spotlight hits the stage
Daybreak, brings a song among the trees
It's been a long and lonely winter
My heart, it's about to change
I, can sense it all around me
Winter's fading away. Hello Spring!

- Hello Spring © 2021 lmh

Spring is signaling its return to our community. New life pushing up from the ground. Daffodils beaming. New leaves on the trees, reaching up to the sun. A renewed sense of life all around us. And of course, pollen - we cannot forget the pollen. It is our Spring ritual.

Coming home to Countryhouse, we wind past pastures and fields, arriving at our own park amongst the trees. A place where we can get to know our neighbors, where we can connect, where we can participate. If we choose to do so. Let us choose to do so. Hello Spring!

----- LARRY HICKS