

A FIRST & FOREMOST FOND FAREWELL to JOHN ATWELL:

We wish to announce that our own John Atwell of Continental Property Management, Inc., will be leaving us as he and his wife, Mary, are moving to Tampa, Florida, to be closer to Mary's 85 year old widowed dad. For the past decade, Longford Community has been fortunate to have benefited from John's extensive experience with property management, as he -- more than anyone except our longest-term residents of 2006 -- has witnessed the evolution of our community and generously provided us with invaluable insights and guidance for the past 10 years. When asked to share one of his more "memorable" moments as he prepares to depart, John recalled "fondly" his very first meeting with our longest-lived HOA Board Member, John Larson, whom "I first met while I was in the process of putting a neon orange sticker on his car advising him that he had parked in one of our property's no-parking spots." While John Larson has remained unavailable for comment, your newsletter editor assumes full responsibility in verifying that Mr. Atwell's recollection is indeed not "fake news" :) In parting, John wishes to express his appreciation for "the professionalism of Longford's HOA [no: he is not receiving a severance bonus for this one.] He added that "Longford residents deserve high praise for their willingness to collaborate as neighbors to help make our community a great place to live." Please join us in wishing John and Mary all the best as they enter this next chapter of their lives. Thank you, John Atwell. You will be missed. And we wish you every happiness with your family in Florida!

PLAYGROUND!

We are pleased to announce that the Board has unanimously agreed to proceed with ***Longford Crossings Community Action Plan - Phase II: the Expansion of Playground Play Area and Replacement of Playground Equipment.*** Resolutions to purchase new play equipment and triple the size of the current Tot Lot to approximately 2400 square feet have been approved. At our next meeting, the focus of our agenda will be to examine several playground proposals. We have three goals: 1) to acquire playground equipment that meets or exceeds the highest industry standards available for both safety and durability; 2) to obtain the professional services of a contracting company of longstanding repute for excellence in playground site preparation, equipment installation, and follow-up maintenance/repair; and 3) to ensure that once installed, our playground will be an area whose aesthetic appeal is consistent with the

landscaping and building aesthetics throughout Longford Crossings Community. Over the past six months, residents have been very helpful in contacting HOA's Board members to share their thoughts and offer suggestions for the new playground. These communiques have happened via letters, e-mails, and participation in six weekly "Ask a Board Member" forum sessions held on our unofficial FB website [*Thank you, website administrator, Steve Swanson!*] Among the most enthusiastically recommended playground items from "parents in the 2017 know" include a web climbing structure, swings, an off-ground sand box, and "anything that twirls." Proposals from several longstanding companies are currently being received, and more specifics on these should be forthcoming shortly. Since this playground has been in the works for 2.5 years, the Board is confident that we --- and you --- have done our due diligence. We are ready to proceed. And we are hoping for a fall installation. We would also like to extend special thanks to residents Maureen O'Neill, Ram Krishna, Opal Smith, Tim O'Connor, Linda Fuschino, and Kim Statler for all your participating in the playground planning process and sharing your insights with us.

.MEET A BOARD MEMBER – JOHN LARSON

[This is the first of what will be a 5 part series entitled "Meet Your HOA Board Members." After all, these are your neighbors whose time and energy and willingness to serve on the board they offer with the hope that their involvement will contribute somethings positive to our community. So, without any further ado, we wish to introduce you all to Mr. John Larson.]

John and his family reside on Hudson Drive from where he is in the middle of completing his third (!) three-year term for Longford's HOA Board. This tenure means that John has already served for twice the amount of time as the next longest serving board member! Such dedication to our community is in itself all the more exceptional as John also operates his own business together with his wife, and they are the proud parents of a little boy aged 5. While we have many finance, technical and pharmaceutical related vocations in our community, John's is far more unique: he is a ballroom dancing instructor, and as a matter of fact at this very moment has spent his summer opening his second studio (in Phoenixville:). A native of Idaho, John has found his home here and continued to serve indefatigably on behalf of our community. Most notably (among other things) Jon has often been the first on the scene during what has of late seemed to be our yearly whopper of a winter storm (or 2!). He has also fielded the lion's share of parking "concerns" and trash bin complaints. Most recently, John has stepped up to volunteer as our HOA Board's go-to person in researching/developing a plan of action that will enable us to implement **Phase II** of our **Longford Community Crossings Development Plan** prepared by McClosky and Faber in spring, 2015.

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**PARKING ISSUES [ok: u knew this was coming so in the spirit of that
aforementioned positive neighborly collaborative thinking. . .]:**

After receiving residents' thoughts via six weekly "Ask a Board Member" forum discussions, several dozen resident phone calls, e-mails, and written letters, we of the Board have decided to put a proposal to hire a security firm to monitor parking issues on hold. Many other "solutions," ---each with its own set of pros and cons --- have been entertained, discussed, researched, debated, and revisited. The bottom line is that we are a small community: parking space is irreconcilably limited. To be specific: efforts to add parking spaces would be costly (approximately \$2,500 - 3,000 per space), and inadequate in number: we have 280 resident units, 175

resident/guest/maintenance/service vehicle spaces, and the maximum potential for additional spaces is fifteen (15). In sharing this with you, we extend our thanks to all who do what you can to utilize your own space for your vehicles. For those of you who make use of our street parking, we strongly urge that you please consider whether/not you are dominating certain spots to the detriment of your neighbors. Everyone likes available parking close to his/her homes, and we all appreciate the need to have parking sufficient to accommodate our guests and visitors. So please! Take a moment and think how you might be that good neighbor. Given all that has been discussed and shared above, the Board has approved the following parking rule

modification: **Any unit with more than two vehicles must use their garage to park one of them.**

Details for this revised rule will be published shortly following our August 24th board meeting. **We reiterate: your neighborly cooperation and collaboration is key.** Color us "confident" as we remain optimistic that you will do your best to utilize your own space as much as possible and to be that good neighbor mentioned above. To this effect, as a board we feel that the time is appropriate for us to advise you that for too many years, the policing, investigation and follow-up efforts to ensure fair and satisfactory resolutions for residents' parking concerns/complaints has for too long fallen exclusively on Board members. None of which is part of our job description, and none of which any one of us is now (and forever again) willing to receive. Therefore. If the status quo of our parking becomes a problem for you and/or

remains a constant thorn for you, the Board is looking for volunteers to come forward and be part of the solution you feel is necessary. Parking volunteers are welcome to come forward (one at a time :) at any time. All you need to do is to send e-mail to DCoye@Yahoo.com

FUNGI & followup (your thoughts/suggestions)

We have been notified of some fungus issues. Investigation is underway. Fungus! And on this note, we thank you for receiving this newsletter -- late as it has been. It's Jean Green's debut as your volunteer newsletter editor so feel free to e-mail her at JGreen1055@Yahoo.com with any comments or suggestions for future newsworthy inclusions. Any/all suggestions will be gratefully received. In closing, Jean dedicates this newsletter to Sethu Nambiar --- because it contains nary a word about Rolling Suds :) Enjoy the rest of your August, Neighbors! And here's to a beautiful Indian summer.