

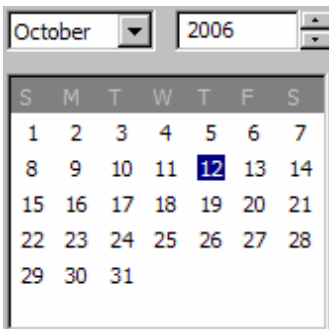
# ASPENWOOD TIMES

Quarterly Newsletter

Summer 2006

## 2006 Annual Meeting and Dinner

Aspenwood's Annual Meeting will be held **Thursday, October 12th**. We will meet at **Patuxent Valley Middle School** at **7:00 PM**. Each year we need to make quorum in order to have the annual meeting. By law, if we do not make quorum, we must mail notices to homeowners and schedule a second meeting. It costs the community several hundred dollars for TMGA to send a second mailing and rent a room for a second meeting. If we make quorum at the first scheduled meeting, we can avoid the added cost.



This year, as incentive for homeowners to attend, dinner will be provided for each owner and their family. With this special treat for owners, the Board hopes to make quorum at the first scheduled meeting. Thus, there is no need to schedule a second meeting. This will be instead of the usual drawing for a 50% discount in the annual assessment for one owner. **Dinner will be available starting at 6:30 PM, and the meeting will begin at 7 PM** (if we have a quorum of homeowners present or their signed proxies). Only those persons present with the homeowner when he/she arrives and signs in will be

entitled to the free meal.

Mark the date on your calendar and be sure to attend!

## BECOME A MEMBER OF TOWER FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

### See the Difference a Credit Union Can Make

As an Aspenwood Homeowner's Association member, you are eligible to become a member of Tower Federal Credit Union. Tower offers all of the benefits of a full-service financial institution, including the convenience of online Home Banking, eStatements, and free Bill Payment. Take advantage of Tower's free checking, debit card, direct deposit, and low-rate auto, mortgage, and home equity loans.



### Become a Member Today

To join Tower, visit [towerfcu.org](http://towerfcu.org) and apply for membership quickly and easily online. You'll then be eligible to sign up for Home Banking. Membership questions? Call the Member Service Center at **301-497-7000** or **800-787-8328**. Visit [towerfcu.org](http://towerfcu.org) for branch and ATM locations near your home or work.

### Board of Directors

#### President

*Delphine Matthews*

#### Vice President

*Michael Maultsby*

#### Treasurer

*Shawn Lamb*

#### Secretary

*Vacant*

#### Members-at-Large

*Olivia Butler*

*Eric Pellak*

*Amit Sharma*

### The Management Group

#### Associates, Inc. (TMGA)

20440 Century Blvd., Ste. 100

Germantown, MD 20874

301-948-6666

Or

800-536-8642

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[www.aspenwoodtownhomes.org](http://www.aspenwoodtownhomes.org)

### Community Tip

The Aspenwood website is back up and finally current. Visit the site to view minutes of Board Meetings, current newsletters, and see details for any upcoming events. You may also get ARC Request Forms there.



You are **NOT** like all the others --  
so why should your website be?

No cookie-cutters, just creative and effective design and development to meet your individualized goals and needs.

info@mtvernonmedia.com



### Roads and Parking Lots

As you have noticed by now, the Aspenwood streets have each been repaved. The county told TMGA to expect the streets would be repaved sometime this Fall. Well how's that for service? A commitment of work in the Fall that ends up being completed well before the end of the summer!

Now for the Aspenwood portion of the work — the parking lots. The Board hired a contractor to crack fill, sealcoat, and repaint each of the parking lots in the community. When the work is scheduled, residents on each street will be notified. The work schedule will also be posted on the Aspenwood website. TMGA and the Board will work with the contractor to minimize parking disruption, though there will be some inconvenience to residents. Stay tuned.



### Activity Corner

**October 28th, 1:00 PM**, Willowwood Way, on the Large Island. What? A Halloween party for the kids! There will be games like apple bobbing, a costume contest, and refreshments. So, for a great time for your children, age 10 and younger, make sure you're there! Any adults and older kids who are available to help on the day of the event should call Emily Wofford at 301-604-1762.



As the General Election will occur this Fall, here is registration information that may be useful. Please note that the deadline for registering to vote in the General Election is Tuesday, October 17th. The General Election will be held on November 7th.

## Voter Registration

### Eligibility

To be a registered voter in Howard County, you must meet the following requirements.

- County resident;
- United States citizen;
- At least 18 years of age on or before the next general election;
- Not have been convicted more than once of a disqualifying crime; and not under guardianship for mental disability.

### How to Register to Vote

You may apply to become a registered voter:

- At a local election board office or at the State Board office;
- At a registration site administered by a local election board;
- By mail
- When applying to the Motor Vehicle Administration for the issuance, renewal or modification of a driver's license or identification card;
- When applying for services at a voter registration agency such as:
  1. Offices in Maryland which provide assistance;
  2. Offices in Maryland which provide State-funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to individuals with disabilities; and
  3. Public institutions of higher education in Maryland
  4. United States Post Office
- With the assistance of a voter registration volunteer.

You may also:

- Call the Election Office at 410-313-5820 and request a voter registration application be mailed to you; or
- Download a voter registration application from one of the following websites:
- [www.electionsmaryland.com](http://www.electionsmaryland.com) or [www.elections.state.md.us](http://www.elections.state.md.us) Click on Frequently Asked Questions & Answers then Voter Registration Application; go to Download and click "in English" or "en sepanol".
- [www.co.ho.md.us/BOE\\_homepage.htm](http://www.co.ho.md.us/BOE_homepage.htm)

The completed Voter Registration Application with an **original signature** must be returned to the Election Office - online registration is **not** available and faxed or emailed applications will not be accepted.

If you have previously registered to vote in Maryland or in any other state, please provide the name and address shown on your last registration.



## TMGA Corner



### More on Parking.....

The Board is currently working on parking rules / policy for the community. Assigned parking is **not a feasible** option in Aspenwood as state law requires that all homeowners be granted the same rights and access to common property.

Once the Board has completed the task of drafting policy, the association's attorney must review prior to being mailed to the community. Residents then have 30 days to give input regarding the proposed policy. As all this takes time, it may still be several months before any new policy can go into effect.

Meanwhile, **please be considerate of your neighbors when parking multiple vehicles in the community or having guests.** When residents are considerate of their neighbors, it goes a long way toward good community relations.

### Proxy Voting

Unable to attend the Annual meeting? To ensure there is a homeowner quorum, simply sign a proxy form and give to a neighbor who will be attending the Annual Meeting. Another option is to mail the signed proxy form to TMGA to the attention of Tom Van Pelt.

Feel free to call TMGA at 301-948-6666 if you have any questions or need a proxy form.

## Annual Assessments

Currently the Association operates with a deficit every January. The reason for this is that assessments are only due in February and July. In an effort to correct this problem, assessments will now be divided into six equal monthly payments, due January thru June of the year. This change will take effect January 2007. More details will be given at the Annual meeting.

This change is necessary to discontinue the practice of borrowing from the Capital Reserve fund each year. This practice was started several years ago. The Board sought to ease the burden of owners paying the full assessment amount every January. Though that Board decision did accomplish the goal, it had a negative impact on the operating fund.

The good news.... we still do not have to make the full payment in January as was once the practice.



### Fall Clean-Up

County dumpsters will be in Aspenwood the weekend of **October 21st**. As usual, there will be one dumpster on Rosewood Way, and one on Birchwood Way.

This county service is free, but will become a cost to the community if trash is placed on the ground after the dumpsters are full. The county will not pay for any clean-up so please do not place additional items outside, or on top, once the dumpsters are full.



[Aspenwoodtownhomes.org](http://Aspenwoodtownhomes.org)

### Aspenwood Townhome Association

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