

Happy Holidays to You! by Mary Koponen

We all have a lot to be thankful for this holiday season: family and friends, health and faith, a home and work. Over 90% of the world's people do not have what most of us take for granted. Summertown & Rockbridge Acres remain a wonderful place to live and raise a family, and SRAA would like to thank you all for making it so!

As I leave the Presidency, I hope more residents will come forward to help with subdivision matters. Please join or donate funds to operate the Association. If you did not send front entrance funds during 2006, you will find a donation form to return to 5306 Deep Springs Dr., Stone Mountain, GA 30087. The SRAA hopes that even if you decided not to join, you will support the front entrance.

SRAA President to Step Down at Year's End

Mary Koponen is resigning after serving 3 years as SRAA President. The Board will continue operations with Vice President April Leflore, Treasurer Joanne Polentz, and Secretary Cindy Dumler. To date, no one has volunteered to be President nor to take over any of the many chair positions currently held by Mrs. Koponen.

During her tenure, Mary did her best to create a strong Association. Her highest priority was to reach out to

more residents. She was instrumental in eliminating the remaining 1998 \$4000 rezoning debt, as well as fighting several other rezoning attempts that would have negatively impacted our community. She was responsible for reviving the Welcoming Committee and creating a Newsletter for all residents. Over the last three years, she has spoken with almost every homeowner to listen to his/her views.

Anyone who has worked with Mary knows that her tireless efforts and

dedication to making Summertown & Rockbridge Acres a safe and happy place to live will be sorely missed.

If you are interested in taking on any job (small or large), please contact Mary or the SRAA board after December. Following is a list of chair positions Mary held as of Dec. 06.

Pool, Rezoning, Membership, Front Entrance, Home Discounts, Grounds Chair, Directory 08 Chair.

County Code Violators Hurt Property Values

If you follow the news, some aging subdivisions in Norcross, Lilburn and Lawrenceville are in decline, manifested by stagnant or declining property values and increasing crime. (AJC, Rick Badie, in the Gwinnett section, Nov. 26-Dec. 3). In those subdivisions, residents' failure to comply with countywide ordinances has taken a toll on property values. One letter to the editor summed it up well: the letter writer's realtor apologized for a no-show because the

buyer became disinterested as soon as he entered the subdivision.

County regulations are for the good of the community, improving safety and protecting property values. The SRAA Board is vigilant for mortgage fraud, which occurred in Mountain Oaks subdivision (N. Deshong near Publix) and other places. A 99% increase in home loan foreclosures in GA is not good for property values, either.

The SRAA has a Rezoning & Code Enforcement committee. If you think a resident is violating a County Ordinance, you may either report it to Gwinnett County's 24 hour hotline (678.518.6032) or you may e-mail Chair Greg Mercer at mercerg1@msu.edu. To date, the most common offense is residents' regularly parking vehicles on the lawn.

Please do not park vehicles on the lawn.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Jan 07 SRAA Board meeting TBA to install new Treasurer

WWW.SUMMERTOWN.ORG

Home Service Discounts

Presently, home service discounts are available on tree cutting, exterminator, lawn & yard care, trash pickup and roof repair & replacement.

Any resident (member or non-member) interested in finding a reputable insured company for driveway/sidewalk replacement or repair should please contact Mary Koponen via e-mail (preferred) or by phone. The cost without discount is approximately \$4000-\$6000 for an average size driveway and 3500 psi concrete. Our discounts are usually 10-30% of the price.

Discounts are only for members or those donating the equivalent of membership dues annually (\$200).

Numerous deer have been spotted roaming our subdivision at night! Please reduce speed when driving, especially on Rockwood Way!



SRAA RESIDENTS DEPLOYED TO IRAQ

JAMIE CURTIS, FORMERLY AT 5296 POUNDS DR. S, 9/05

JOE PETRUCCI OF 2513 ROCKWOOD WAY, ARMY MAJOR, JAN. 07.

WILLIAM ASH (CHIEF LIFEGUARD '03), LANCE CORPORAL IN THE MARINES, 10/06.

ANYONE INTERESTED IN SENDING A CARE PACKAGE TO WILLIAM'S OR MR. PETRUCCI'S UNITS CAN GET THE MAILING ADDRESSES FROM MARY KOPONEN.

(DOMESTIC RATES APPLY FOR ALL SHIPPING).

THE REV. JOHN STEWART OF 5201 CLEARWATER DRIVE DIED UNEXPECTEDLY FROM A SEVERE ASTHMA ATTACK SAT. NOV. 11. JOHN RECEIVED NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR STARTING UP A HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL GWINNETT NAACP CHAPTER, TACKLING DIFFICULT ISSUES SUCH AS TASER GUN DEATHS AND TEEN DROP-OUT RATES. HE LEAVES BEHIND FOUR CHILDREN AND JEJUAN, HIS WIFE. REV. STEWART WAS A WONDERFUL MAN.

Beware: Mail Theft

On Dec. 4, a Deep Springs Dr. resident reported mail had been taken out of the box, opened and tossed into neighbors' yards. Reports have been filed with COPS, Gwinnett Police and the Post Office Inspector. No one knows who did this, but please keep a lookout for any suspicious activity. Remember, residents' vehicles have yellow decals in the rear window. Parents, please make sure children know it is a felony to tamper with mail, and any child over 12 could be prosecuted as an adult.

***To get a sticker for your vehicle(s), contact Tina at 770-498-4980 or nasteinau@yahoo.com. Decals are paid for by SRAA members and donors.**

***If you do not know who your COPS representative is, or to get involved with the COPS program, please contact Allan Taylor at 770-413-0396.**

December Prayer Coffee

Dear prayer coffee friends, the next prayer coffee is Dec. 16th. Go ahead and mark your calendars.

Time: 9:30am

Place: 2553

Rockwood Way

PRES. SRAA MARY KOPONEN 770-879-7338 MJKOPONEN@COMCAST.NET

VP: APRIL LEFLORE 770-469-2673

COPS: ALLAN AND SUSAN TAYLOR 770-413-0396

PRAYER GROUP, WELCOMING: LINDA EVERETT 770-469-9020