June 2023

www.highlandmanorhoa.com



# HIGHLAND HIGHLAND MANOR

# Protect Your Head

### ALWAYS WEAR YOUR HELMET

When playing summer sports, or riding bikes and motorcycles, wearing the appropriate head gear helps protect your brain from serious injury if you are in an accident. Be sure to wear the right helmet for each activitu.



#### WHEN CHOOSING A HELMET:

- · Be sure that it fits properly
  - · Wear it correctly
- · Ensure that it is in good condition

## **City Farmers Market**

every Third Thursday of the month



May through October 3-6pm!

**Hub City Brewery** 25 W Church St. Hagerstown, MD



**OUR MOVIE** NIGHTS ARE HELD ON THE SATURDAY OF THE MONTH STARTING AT **DUSK** 

Check the website/Facebook or the bulletin boards for more info

Summer Happenings in lagerstown

Nednesday, 6/21/23 Miss Maryland & MD Teen Proliminary Pageant - Maryland Theatre - 7:00 pm Friday, 6/23/23 Miss MD Outstanding Teen, Princess & Prince Showcase - Maryland Theatre - 7:00 pm Saturday, 6/24/23 Miss Maryland Pageant Final Night - Maryland Theatre - 7:00 pm Saturday, 7/1/23 Cash Bash Live / Dueling Decades Fest - Hagerstown Aviation Museum - 2:00 pm Tuesday, 7/4/23 Fireworks at the Fairgrounds - 9:30 pm

Friday, 7/7/23 Story Time & Crafts - Pediatric Movement Center - 11:00 am Friday, 7/7/23 Outdoor Movie - Hagerstown City Park Band Shell - 7:00 - 10:00 pm Saturday, 7/8/23 Hagerstown Pride - Doub Woods Park - 12:00 pm

Thursday, 7/13/23 Story Time in the Plaza - University Plaza Downtown - 10:30 am - 12:00 noon Friday, 7/14/23 Outdoor Movie - Hagerstown City Park Band Shell - 7:00 - 10:00 pm

Saturday, 7/15/23 **Roller Fest** - Hub City Vinyl - 5:00 - 9:00 pm Thursday, 7/20/23 **Story Time in the Plaza** - University Plaza Downtown - 10:30 am - 12:00 noon Saturday, 7/22/23 Tik Tok - An Original Pop Musical - Maryland Theatre - 2:00 pm

Thursday, 7/27/23 Story Time in the Plaza - University Plaza Downtown - 10:30 am - 12:00 noon Friday, 8/11/23 Krumpe's Donut Alley Rally 5K - Krumpes Donut Shop - 7:30 pm Saturday, 8/12/23 Seussical Jr. presented by ACT Jr. - Maryland Theatre - 2:00 pm Friday, 8/25/23 Wind Down: End of Summer - South Potomac Street - 6:00 - 8:00 pm for more information and other events, visit www.hagerstownmd.org

September 16 at 11 am

Save The Date & Please attend. We value your vote.

See the attached Board of **Directors/Officers nomination** forms. Please fill out and drop in the box outside the office.

## How your HMCA Board of Directors kept Annual Assessments from Increasing while not cutting Services:

Since the last Annual Meeting, the Board of Directors and Officers have focused intently on ways to NOT raise dues in 2024 despite several contracts being up for renewal and price increases on trash service and HOA software. As of the figures available to date, there is no anticipated increase for 2024. There are several reasons:

#### Trash Service estimates were:

- Republic Services (current provider): \$15.25 per house/\$3141.50 per month
- J&J Trash Service: 13.25 per house/\$2729.50 with a Fuel Surcharge of .15¢ per house and an automatic of 3% (was 5%) every year and for every .50 price increase in diesel, making it difficult to budget for such variability.
- Apple Valley Waste: \$40.00 per house/\$8240.00 per month for one trash can After much negotiation with Republic Services, the current trash provider, an arrangement was reached for a decrease of 6.25%, making it \$13.25 per house/\$ 3,141.50 per month, with NO fuel surcharge or automatic yearly increase.



HOA Software — the current software provider, Buildium, was increasing by 3% and would NOT continue their previous 20% discount making the software approximately \$3,000.00 annually. After several software demo comparisons, Manage Casa was agreed upon as a workable option at an

annual cost of \$1620.00. Signing the two-year deal with an optional two years at the same price allowed for budget



stabilization and lower cost.

Internet – Antietam Broadband Internet discontinued its current service plan increasing the monthly cost to \$110.00 plus taxes. In addition, electricity and internet for cameras to monitor the upper playground against vandalism would have necessitated an additional \$110.00 plus monthly taxes. Telegia Communications now provides service for both locations for \$122.50 plus monthly taxes, locked in for 2023 and 2024.

Approximate savings = \$1200.00 a year.

Playground mulch has been a yearly/bi-yearly budget item to "refresh" it regularly. With the playgrounds being updated this year, that will not need to be completed for several years. In the future, the State mandated Reserve Study Funding (more details later) will now be used for mulch.



In summary, with these and other negations made by the Board (Ex: lawn care costs last year), a 6-8% in dues will not be necessary.

As of the figures available to date, there is no anticipated increase for 2024.