

ST. ASAPH SQUARE Newsletter

May/June 2018

St. Asaph Square Website has lots of news and information! Just go to <http://www.st-asaph-square.com>

Board President's Report

Bev Keane, President



Hello Neighbors,

St. Asaph Square is a great place to be in the warm weather. We are fortunate to have a swimming pool, patios and areas to grill, have a glass of wine and get to know our neighbors. Now is a good time to review the pool rules and regulations as well as information regarding barbecue grills. The City of Alexandria dictates many of the regulations that are in place at Saint Asaph Square for the pool and barbecue grills. You can contact Mr. Serry in the Manager's office or check our new updated website for more information if you have any questions.

Updates related to the building and other announcements can be found at the Saint Asaph Square website at <http://www.st-asaph-square.com>

Please join us at the monthly Board meetings held every the third Tuesday of every month on the third floor solarium, S. Pitt Street side. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Welcome Wagon



Several new residents have moved into Saint Asaph Square during March.

Welcome to the New Residents

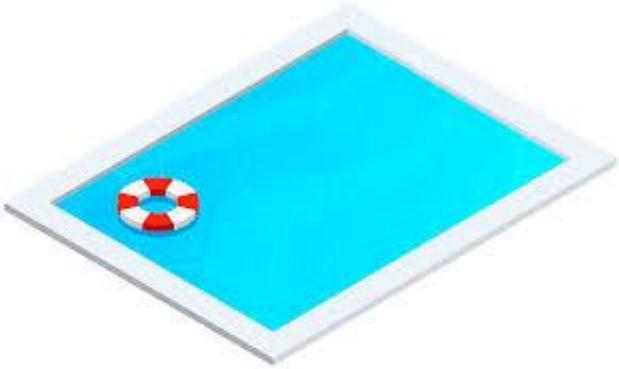
Tony Pandolfi and Kea Glazier	Unit 225
Thelma and Dr. Francisco Tirol	Unit 228
Karen Leydet	Unit 218

Landscape Committee

Bev Keane, Chair



Summer is right around the corner. After so much rain, the landscape looks very green and inviting. The Committee is working on replacing some of the pool plantings that did not survive the winter. Thank you to our resident weeder, Gwen Arnesen, for keeping the planters looking great.



The Pool is OPEN!

Please follow all established regulations for a safe swimming experience.

Remember to bring your pass with you and surrender it to the Lifeguard as you enter. Please also sign the registration book at the guard (table) desk.

Do you have some used items that you would like to sell? Watch for more information about a Fall time yard sale. One is being organized, so dust off that junk because it could be someone else's treasure! Please stay tuned.

So what about the Roof?

The Association has retained, at no cost, an advocacy company, DCS, to fight the Insurance Companies low-ball estimate and payment for roof repairs, and replacement. The process is taking longer than anticipated because the two companies do not agree on the extent of the damages or the replacement scope of work. Hopefully this process will come to closure in the next few weeks.

So what about the surveillance system?

The Association has narrowed and selected two contractors to proceed with a revised scope of work. Their revised proposals will be presented to the Board and decision made no later than the June business meeting.

Heat + Humidity = Irritability!

It seems that we always by-pass the spring season in Washington and go directly into the heat and humidity of the summertime. As we progress through the dog days of summer (and there will be many) and deal with the 90+ degree days sometimes we find ourselves with a lower threshold of patience than at other times of the year. Snapping at people...driving more aggressively...easily irritated at the slightest issues that really, during any other time of the year, are not a big deal. Mea Culpa.

So if you are a person who doesn't do well in the heat, follow the rule of 24. Try to wait 24 seconds, 24 minutes, 24 hours, or 24 days before firing off that nasty email response, or laying on your automobile horn so heavily that you wake up an entire city block,

Management's Corner

*Patrick M. Mazzei, CMCA, AMS
Chief Human Resource Officer
and Community Manager*

*From: The Cardinal Management Group of
Companies!*

or barking at your cable company representative, co-worker or employee. The rule of 24 works for me...it will work for you too.

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As a reminder...**again**...architectural and construction modifications inside your unit may or may not require Board approval, city building permits, or the hiring of a licensed and insured contractor. There are construction rules and regulations that your contractors need to follow. If you are acting as your own contractor (DIY) these rules apply to you as well.

Do I need Board approval to do "X"...a question that comes up more frequently than not. The answer is, when in doubt, ask! But as a guideline and rule of thumb, any cosmetic work performed inside your unit does not need approval; but does require the requestor to follow all construction guidelines as set forth by the Association. (See below) Examples such as wallpaper, painting, window treatments (as long as they meet the rules for the color seen from the exterior of the building), can be completed without approval, while removing walls, changing the footprint of a unit, electrical box relocation, and window replacements all need approval and most likely a permit from the City of Alexandria and approval of the Board of Architectural Review (windows only).

Remember, there are certain guidelines that all contractors must follow when working inside the building. Mr. Serry in the site office has identification badges for your contractors to wear, along with a complete set of rules and regulation for your contractor to follow. Please give him a call at 703-683-5858 or visit him during regular office.

## BICYCLE STORAGE

The Association provides bike racks for the use by all residents. Every year racks become overcrowded with bikes that are in disrepair. The Board would like to remind residents that all bikes must be contained inside the rack space and that no bike should be stored on the common area of the building. Bicycles

that are chained to rails and not in rack space will be removed by the Association.

## SUMMER HOURS

Cardinal Management Group's Corporate Office hours will change beginning June 4, 2018 through Labor Day. The office hours will be from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Monday – Thursday, and from 8:00 am - 12:00 (Noon) on Fridays.

On behalf of all our Cardinal Management Group Team, servicing your Association, we wish you all a very *Happy Spring 2018*

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Management thanks all the residence at St Asaph Square for their support during 2017. If anyone has a particular issue or concern please reach out and contact me by phone (703-565-5011) or by email (p.mazzei@cardinalmanagementgroup.com).

Best regards,
Patrick M. Mazzei

Welcome to the Dog Days of summer!

By Yahya Serry

In a few days, summer will officially be here. But for a couple of wet days, it already feels like we are in the middle of summer. This means, our HVAC systems are already in full gears to give us the comforting cool environment we desire in our homes. Here are few tips to make us get the coolest problem free summer this year.

Your HVAC Systems: If you have not already done so, make sure you have an HVAC technician do

preventive maintenance service on your system before you change to AC. This will not only give you the comfort of running a well maintained system, it will also save you and the condo association some repairs expense from condensate lines back up. If you are a pet owner, please develop the habit of changing your filter a little more frequent. Feel free to contact the site office if you need help changing your filters between your PM Service schedules.

Your air handler closet: Please avoid cluttering this area to avoid restricting the airflow to your system. Air restriction to the air handler may result to it being very inefficient and to costly repairs. Have the habit of frequently checking inside of the HVAC closet for any leaks. Immediately turn off your system and call your technician whenever you find water or any fluid in this area. Make sure you communicate your findings with the site office.

The other frequent question, which also comes during this season, is the use of the barbecue grills on the balconies and patios. Per City ordinance and considering the sizes of the building balconies and patios, no gas and charcoal grills are suited to be used on them. The association has, therefore, designated certain locations of the building for grilling. All of the grills in those areas are owned by residents. You are, therefore, advised to bring your own grill. Please make sure you clean after having a nice grilling.

Have a nice summer and a cool pool season.



Getting to Know You...

By Mary Ann Radebach

Meeting Amy Barrington

Amy Barrington has a wealth of ideas. She is one of those people who can turn ideas into a reality. During her lifetime she has successfully started many businesses and was a fulltime realtor for over 30 years. She believes in hard work and works hard so that her dreams will come true.

Amy was an only child born in Chicago. Her father was a man of many talents. He was the first person to take Japanese Kabuki players around the world for theater entertainment. During her childhood, Amy acted as characters in a little theater play that her father had built in their Washington D.C. neighborhood.

Her dad died when she was 11 years old. Her mother moved them to Fredericksburg, Virginia and worked as a bookkeeper. A relative let them stay in an old mansion that he owned called Mossneck Manor. It had once been the headquarters of Andrew Jackson. The mansion was old, and Amy and her mother would run down the hall to the

bathroom, holding their heads so that the bats would not attack them. Amy attended Stuart Hall School in Staunton, Virginia and then went on to Maryland University.

One of her German cousins came to visit, and her mother decided that it would be good for Amy to go back to Germany with her. Amy had a gift for languages and learned German quickly. She lived in Winterberg. It was during her stay in Germany that she traveled independently and met her husband. Together they had five children and moved back to the United States where Amy was a homemaker and started a Montessori school.

Eventually Amy and the children settled in Old Town Alexandria, Virginia. There was a house that Amy fell in love with on upper King Street. It was a large white house with beautiful pillars and columns. It was huge inside and Amy decided that it was just right for weddings. So, she went into the catering business and rented the house for weddings. She made all the food and supplied the decorations. It was the perfect place for a wedding. She worked in this business for several years.

Her next business was in the funeral industry. Some of her friends came to town for a funeral and could not find any services. Amy decided that there was a need to help people during this difficult time. She called her business "Last Wishes." She supplied babysitters, caterers, food and picked up people at the airport. Whatever was needed, Amy provided. She moved to Maryland and she and her children lived in what she called an Exciting House by the water and rented the "Wedding House". After a few years, she moved back to Alexandria, bought a house on Quaker Lane, and put in a conservatory. Now she is at St Asaph's Square where she plans to stay for a while.

Amy likes to read, especially books about history. She is taking a local flower arrangement course and looks forward to St. Asaph's Happy Hour on Friday nights where she has met many people. Four of her 5 children live in the area and one lives in California. She has 10 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. Her life is busy, but she still gets good ideas. Right

now, she is content to enjoy her stay at St. Asaph's Condominium and meet all her neighbors.

Book Club at the Square

Who would like to gather once a month to share in a good book together?

A great way to get to know your neighbors while entering into a book discussion.

We can decide format details together as well as book selection methods can be discussed.

I thought we could rotate within our homes or use the common area within the "Square".

Let me know if you are interested.

cherylamirabella@gmail.com

703-599-8791



Community Reminders and Notices

- Elevator Emergency protocol: If the elevator gets stuck, use the emergency call button. Press the button only **once**. Pressing it multiple times will interrupt the communication.
- Charitable donations to be picked up should not be left in vestibules or lobbies. Please arrange for pickup outside the manager's office or the loading dock.
- Parquet flooring-If you are pulling up the parquet floor tiles and replacing them with new flooring in your unit, please consider providing usable tiles to St Asaph Square. The tiles can be reused by other owners, which can save the association a lot of money in floor replacements when there are needed repairs.

- A large bulletin board for posting notices, such as 'for sale' items, etc., is located outside Mr. Serry's office. Residents may also forward any items you believe to be of interest for posting in the new Community Bulletin Board.

- Shopping carts in the basement are the property of specific owners and are located at their respective parking spaces. Please return all carts to their original location. They are for the sole use of the individual who owns the parking space unless otherwise authorized.

- Dogs must be kept on leashes in common areas.

- REMINDER: To maintain the trash chutes please refrain from placing loose trash down the shoots. Please ensure that all trash and recycling items are placed in the receptacles in the garage trash rooms and that trash chute rooms are kept free of non-bagged waste. Boxes should be flattened before placing in all receptacles. Note: Single Stream Recycling is in effect.

-  An excellent website with lots of information about recycling in Alexandria is....
<http://alexandria.gov/tes/solidwaste/info/default.aspx>

- Residents are reminded not to park in designated parking spaces unless they have the owner's prior approval. Visitors who use the outdoor visitors' parking spots need to register their vehicles with the office. If the office is closed, please put a sign on the dashboard indicating which unit the car is visiting. The complex reserves the right to tow non-registered vehicles.

- Residents with balconies and patios are reminded that they must be uncluttered and attractive. Please refer to balcony rules on our website.

- There is a 'NO SMOKING' policy in common areas and common patios of St. Asaph Square, including open-air balconies.

- Here's a handy link to the *City of Alexandria* site - you can submit online requests for the city to do something. Click here and let your voice be heard:

<http://request.alexandriava.gov/CCC/#tab=Find>

Upcoming Event Notification: Yard Sale

Date: To be determined

Information forthcoming



Serry's Office Hours

Monday - Wednesday and Friday:

8:30 A.M. – 5:30 P.M.

Thursday: 10:30 A.M. – 7:30 P.M.

For emergencies during office hours,
please contact Cardinal at 703-569-5797.

**For after-hours emergencies,
call 1-866-370-2989**

CARDINAL MANAGEMENT GROUP, INC

4330 Prince William Parkway, Suite 201
Woodbridge, VA 22192

Office Hours: Monday – Friday
8:30 AM – 5:30 PM

Office Phone Number: 703-569-5797

FAX Number: 803-866-3156

EMERGENCY NUMBER: 1-866-370-2989



Our Saint Asaph Square website has all kinds of helpful information. You can find a calendar plus St. Asaph forms & rules on the Owners/Residents tab, links to help you move around the DC metro area on the Neighborhood Links tab, weather, and more. Just go to <http://www.st-asaph-square.com>.

MEET THE TEAM

ST. ASAPH SQUARE BOARD

Bev Keane, President

Deb Bowman, Vice President

Karen Millsagle, Treasurer

Shari Keefer, Secretary

Jack Burton, Member at Large

Board email:

saintasaphsquareboard@gmail.com

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Saint Asaph Square Newsletter team,

Antoinette Hando, Editor

Yahya M. Serry,

Production and Distribution

To minimize printing costs, our goal is to provide the newsletter electronically as much as possible. If you would like to receive a copy of the newsletters via *email*, please submit your email address to Serry at Stasaph801@verizon.net. If you would like to receive the newsletters using our *website*, just log onto <http://www.st-asaph-square.com> and go to the *Owners/Residents*' tab where the newsletters are posted (please see Serry for the password you will need to access that page). Deb Bowman, creator of the website, will be happy to assist you if you have any problems or questions. If you do not have a computer and would like hard copies of the newsletter to be delivered to you, please notify Serry.

Please note that this newsletter is for the purpose of disseminating information that may be useful, important to know, or interesting to residents. The Editor and Board reserve the right to control content of the newsletter. Residents with complaints or dissatisfactions should please direct them to the Board, either in person or in writing. Such issues are then brought up and discussed during the *Community Forum* session of every Board meeting.