



## Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Almost everyone has experienced the need for support during times of illness, disability or aging. While there are various organizations in Montgomery County that provide support services, they are not able to meet all needs.

We have been discussing the possible formation of a volunteer organization to support DuFief residents. The purpose of this group would be to improve awareness and find ways to help one another through difficult times. Another goal would be to make it more possible to age in place safely and comfortably. By pooling our resources we could make more types of assistance available to one another.

Some of the ways we have considered include:

- transportation to medical appointments
- grocery or pharmacy shopping
- meal preparation
- snow shoveling and light yard work
- assistance with accessing services for meeting more long-term needs
- being a friendly visitor
- making calls to check on those who are at risk

Initially we would like to determine if there is any interest in this as a community, either as a volunteer or recipient. Depending on your response, we would proceed with developing a plan to recruit a pool of volunteers and match them with the needs. Please respond by e-mail or phone to Pam Weld or Carolyn Carlson. We will follow up with the results in the next READWOOD. If you have an immediate need, please let us know.

Pam Weld: 301-675-9742 brandyhallpam@gmail.com  
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## Artist in Residence – Musician in DuFief

by Marilyn Candler  
Pebble Hill Lane

Piano lessons started for me at age nine and continued until my sophomore year in college when I switched to organ. I have continued private organ study in college and in seven of the nine cities where we have lived since our marriage. When our two children reached school age, I started lessons on classical and folk guitar, became organist at the church where my husband was choir director, and later, at another church in a nearby Wisconsin city, led conventional services with organ and folk services with guitar. We "discovered" the harpsichord while living in Wisconsin, bought a small used harpsichord, and used it in some of the holiday services at our churches both there and in other cities to which we moved as my husband's profession as an electrical design engineer had required. Six years later, we lived in a university community that had an active interest in early music and I started formal



*Candles being lighted for a Candlelight Concert in Colonial Williamsburg*

harpsichord studies there. Six years after that, we commissioned a two-manual Italian-style harpsichord to be built for us.

I have been very fortunate to have had teachers for organ, for guitar, and

for harpsichord that are recognized for their excellence and even some that are recognized concert artists. The training I received in service playing has been invaluable to me in the ten churches where I have been the service organist during the past forty years. I have also performed in



*Organ in Lübeck's Marienkirche is 3 to 4 stories above the pews where Bach listened to Buxtehude*

public concerts in nine states and seven foreign countries. Our harpsichords have taken us to perform in many famous buildings including Monticello, Burton Parish church in Colonial Williamsburg, the Inn at Mount Vernon, the church where George Washington was married, and the Kennedy Center. Our interest in organs has allowed me to play on more than a hundred famous organs throughout the world including European organs played by organists like Buxtehude and Bach. Playing European organs has been especially exciting for me because they are usually larger, more versatile instruments and are located in larger and more favorable acoustical environments. I have played the oldest continuously played organ in the world (built around 1400 in Sion, Switzerland), and even a small organ in a chapel on an Antarctic island! My organ skills have allowed me to par-

ticipate in more than a dozen public concerts on some of these wonderful organs.

We moved into DuFief twenty-two years ago and started looking for musical opportunities in the area. I started leading a 9:30 A.M. family service from the piano at the Lutheran Church of St. Andrew. I am still on the musical staff there as a substitute organist but serve more regularly to provide special music for the voluntaries during the 8 and 9:30 services, usually working with the piano or harpsichord and with instrumental groups or soloists. Many of the cars parked on the street in front of our house belong to musicians who come here to rehearse with me. Once we had an internationally known harpsichordist make a presentation of the



*15th C Wren's Nest'Organ in Sion,, Switzerland*

concert he was going to present for the Proms in London, England, just for us and a few friends here in our home!

Our house has about a dozen musical instruments, scads of photos and piles of recordings of the instrumental offerings made both here and around the world. But the best music and the most vital is that which we are creating starting right here in DuFief!

# New Board Member—Introduction

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As the newest member of the HOA Board I have been asked to introduce myself. My name is Pamela Weld (Pam, please). I have lived on Brandy Hall Lane since 1978, where my husband Jack is an original owner.

Between us we have four sons, all of whom attended DuFief, Robert Frost and Wootton and graduated between 1984 and 1992, probably before many of you knew where or what DuFief was. Jack was an English professor at Montgomery College before retiring in 2003; he continues to tutor part time at the MC writing center. I retired last year after 50 years as an RN, over 30 of which were spent as a community health nurse in Montgomery County.

One of my goals on the Board is to improve communication among neighbors and promote a closer community. In my many years of visits to homes to provide medical care, I often found just as much, if not more, need for practical and emotional support. Elsewhere in this issue of the Readwood, you will find an article written by Carolyn Carlson and myself regarding ways we can consider being helpful as neighbors in DuFief.

We have been blessed to live in this wonderful neighborhood and I hope I can contribute to maintaining the quality of life it offers. Please feel free to contact me with suggestions, questions or concerns. I will not know all the answers but will do my best to find them.

e-mail : brandyhallpam@gmail.com, cell: 301-675-9742

# Treasurer's Report

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By Brian Frank  
*Dufief HOA Treasurer*

## *Payment of Assessments*

As of June 5, 2013, the Board has collected annual dues from 269 of the 306 homes in our neighborhood (88%). The annual assessments that we use to maintain our common areas in order to keep the DuFief neighborhood a popular area for homebuyers **are not optional**. Every household must pay the annual dues.

The original notice for 2013 dues was sent to all homeowners in December 2012, and we have sent out statements for those who have not paid their 2013 dues. Any homes that have not paid their dues are subject to potential lawsuit which will include a request for interest and attorneys fees and may result in a lien on your property.

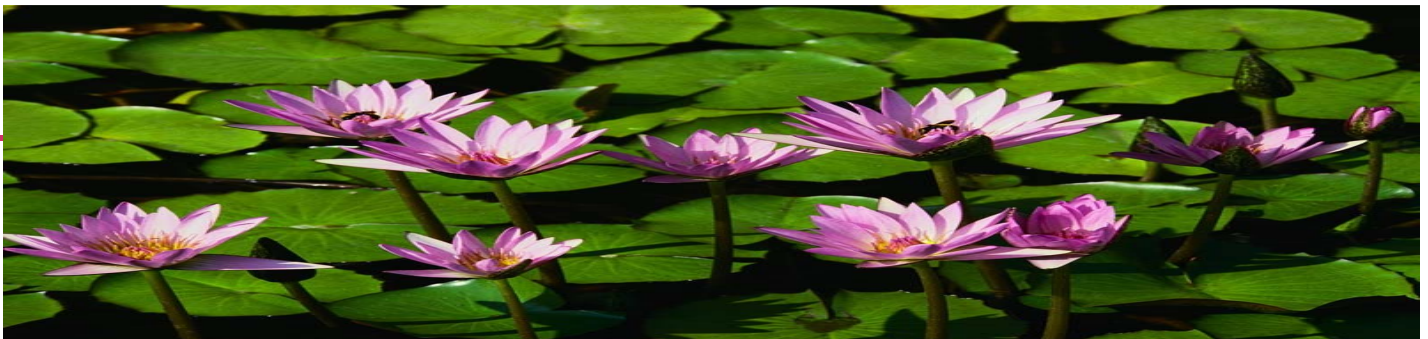
The Board does not enjoy having to take neighbors to court; however, the homeowners assessments are no different than having to pay real estate taxes on your property.

For those of you who have paid your annual assessments in a timely manner, "THANK YOU". For those of you who have not paid the 2013 dues in the amount of \$140.00, please do so.

**We have collected  
88% of dues.**

Brian Frank, Treasurer

If you have questions or would like to discuss your annual assessments, please feel free to contact me at 240-606-5100.





## On the Philosophy of the DuFief Architecture

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At the Annual Homeowners Association Meeting, one of the newcomers to DuFief asked the question: "Why are the houses in DuFief supposed to be brown?" The question should not have to be asked. It should be obvious that the houses in DuFief are brown because of the environment they are in. The various shades of earth-tone brown wood siding are meant to match the tree trunks in the woods behind our houses. That at least was the intention of the builder, Miller & Smith, who built the neighborhood in the early 70's. This is what they say about their approach to creating a community:

*"The first step in the process is to understand the land. We begin by researching, walking, and getting to know the land and the surrounding neighborhood. The community's story and vision gradually emerge and become clear. Who will want to live in this community? What is the right mix of housing? What amenities will make it special? What natural features should be preserved? The land will reveal what is needed to create a vibrant and livable community."*

The style in which the DuFief houses are built is strongly influenced by "mid-century modern" architecture. The dominant features of that architecture are:

- **Integration with nature.** Rooms have multiple outdoor views, or multiple access points, encouraging an appreciation of healthy living.
- **Flat planes.** The geometric lines of the house are regular and rigorous. Flat roofs are common, though modern ranch-style houses (as we have here in DuFief) have gable roofs.
- **Large windows.** Sliding-glass doors and other expansive panes of glass allow light to enter rooms from multiple angles.
- **Changes in elevation.** Small steps going up and down between rooms create split-level spaces. A mid-century modern might have partial walls, or cabinets of varying heights to create different depths in the space..

As Sian Winship, President of the Southern California Chapter of the Society of Architectural Historians, said recently:

*"The birth of mid-century modern was after the war, The houses have open floor plans and giant sliding-glass doors, which encourage people to go outside and be healthy. In a traditional home, the window height is 4 to 5 feet, and you can't see out as a child. With these walls of glass, children become engaged and open-minded because the environment stimulates the senses in a different way."*

She notes that architect Frank Lloyd Wright, who trained mid-century modern architects like Richard Neutra and Rudolph Schindler, was also a huge influence.

*It's nice to see mid-century modernism being appreciated now,"she adds, "as we're entering a period where houses from the 1960s are becoming eligible to be on the National Register of Historic Places."*



The DuFief Community's architectural guidelines for renovations, repairs, and additions are in accordance with this philosophy.

Please go to [www.dufief.org/architectural-review](http://www.dufief.org/architectural-review) before making changes to your home.

# Kids' Page—About my Neighborhood

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by **Jared Su**  
*Dufief Drive*

Note by Linde Fuller: *At the Annual HOA Meeting, I asked Jared whether he would like to write a story about his neighborhood, and he enthusiastically agreed. Jared is 8 years old; he is in second grade at DuFief Elementary School. His teacher is Mrs. Sahn.*



What I like to do in DuFief is walk up to the school with my sister Taryn and my mom and dad and my dog Siggy. Sometimes after school I play soccer or football with my friends. When there is a lot of snow in the winter, my family and my friend and I go to the steep hill beside DuFief Elementary School and go sledding and have snowball fights and make snow angels. If we wanted to we would ride our bikes around our neighborhood. I just don't want this neighborhood to change in any way except get better. I just really don't want to move away because sometimes there is a picnic near DuFief Elementary School. There is food, a moon bounce, music and Italian ice. It's really fun.

Jared

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## 2013 DuFief Community Picnic



**SAVE THE DATE:**            **September 29 2013**  
**1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

**RAIN DATE:**                **October 06, 2013**  
**1:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

***Gather the family, come join your neighbors,  
and celebrate DuFief at our community pond!***

***We need you in order to have a successful picnic!***

### **GET INVOLVED!**

**SET-UP AND CLEAN-UP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

**SSL hours provided.**

Please contact Jeanette Repie at [jmrepie@aol.com](mailto:jmrepie@aol.com)



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Homes  
Association**

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## Announcements

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### Welcome New Board Member

One new member—Pamela Weld (see introduction on page 3) — was elected to the DuFief Board at the Annual Meeting in March. William Washington, President, Brian Frank, Treasurer, and Jeanette Repie, Secretary, agreed to stay on the Board for another term. We thank them all for serving our community.

We would also like to thank Dominic Santopietro for his service on the Architectural Review Committee over these past years. As the owner of a home improvement company, he was especially well suited to serve on the ARC. Jean-Louis Staudenmann, who will continue as an ARC board member, would very much appreciate some assistance. Anyone with an interest in maintaining the architectural integrity of our neighborhood, please come forward!

