

# VALLEY FORGE TOWERS SOUTH NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS



The VFTS Newsletter for News, Reminders, Tidbits and Updates

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### **Open Council Meetings**

The VFTS Condominium Council meetings will be open to all owners beginning with our meeting on September 24, 2023.(28) This will not be the opportunity to complain about a noisy neighbor or stains on the hall rugs. Those and similar issues are the purview of the Management Office.

We hope owners are interested in learning about current and emerging issues, how we reach decisions, budget or prioritize capital improvements. Even better, perhaps someone out there has the expertise in an area with which we are grappling.

There is one caveat. We need you to contact Kathy Neary at <u>kathyn@vftsouth.com</u> or Manager Kelly Cabell at 610-783-0810 to reserve a seat. Why? Because nothing is ever easy, is it?

We usually meet in the Manager's office and two or three additional people just means we shove the desk over and bring in a few chairs. However, if a larger number of owners wish to attend, and we would love that, we would have to make arrangements for another venue.

The last Thursday of the month at 5:30 is our usual schedule, but in extenuating circumstances, things change and we would need to inform expected attendees. Sometimes we meet on Zoom and most meetings last between two and three hours.

We are a friendly and occasionally rowdy group and hope you join us to see how the sausage is made.

#### Leaks...a drip in time saves nine

A policy was formulated many years ago regarding pipe replacement. Our copper pipes are almost 50 years old and leaks occur as part of normal wear and tear. They had a choice... replace all the pipes at once or on an as needed basis. The as needed basis seemed more prudent.

As the source of the leak is detected, we open the bathroom walls and replace the copper pipes with PVC. Of course the access wall is repaired. If you are doing any remodeling in your bathrooms, please let us know so we can replace your pipes at that time. This will save us time, money and the chance that a water leak will damage your condo or your neighbors' below you.

#### **Elevator Moments**

Neighbors often pose questions in the elevator or passing in the lobby. Thought we'd share a few for everyone's benefit.

**HOW ARE CONDO FEES CALCULATED?** Condo fees, sometimes called HOA fees are determined by "Proportional Interest" which is a fancy way to say how much of the whole building you own. There are no other factors, not property values, not what floor you live on, not your view and not your taxes. The Comcast services are based on a flat fee.

WHEN IS THE NEXT BULK PICK UP AND WHAT CAN I PUT OUT? The next bulk pick up is on August 17, 2023. You must call the office to reserve your spot. You will be asked what you are discarding so appropriate space can be allotted and to check that the item is acceptable. The office has copies of the Bulk Pick Up guidelines if you need them.

WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT UNATTENDED CARS PARKED IN FRONT OF HANDICAPPED ACCRESS INCLINES? Contact the guard or office and they will be towed!

WHY DO WE ALL HAVE TO PAY FOR THE NEW ROOF WHEN IT ONLY EFFECTS THE 15<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR? You're kidding, right?

## AC Issues...hot enough for you?

The air conditioning units are located in the storage area off the balconies. **Be aware** that the units need space for ventilation. If you cram items in the closet up against the unit, the mechanism will malfunction and you may lose service! Repairs will be costly and parts are still hard to come by. So move Aunt Bertha's hope chest somewhere else.



Ironically, the more I hang around the house, the more homeless I look... Lily Tomlin



MY KIDS MOCK ME FOR NOT UNDERSTANDING TECHNOLOGY AND THEN HAVE TO GOOGLE HOW TO BOIL AN EGG....