

## **NEW YEAR, NEW BOARD**

The Olney Crossing Homeowners Association Board wishes all residents of our community a happy and healthy New Year!

It was announced at the virtual OCHOA Annual Meeting on November 9, 2023 that the 2024 OCHOA Board is as follows:

**President:** Vacant

**Vice President:** Ann Metayer\*

**Secretary:** Audrey Partington\*

**At-Large Member:** Eric Wenocur\*

**At-Large Member:** Julie Jenkins\*\*

\*Serving a third year of a three-year term

\*\*Serving a second year of a three-year term

Krista Boteler is the OCHOA Treasurer/CPA (a paid position, not a Board member). In the absence of a Board President, the Vice President performs many of the duties performed by the President. These include oversight of the landscaping and snow removal contracts, and other administrative approvals and the conduct of Association Board meetings.

## **HOMEOWNER DUES INCREASE FOR 2024**

Beginning with the January 2024 billing, homeowners will pay \$73 quarterly for dues, payable within 30 days. The increase was approved unanimously by the all-volunteer Board to keep up with landscape maintenance and other operational costs. The National Weather Service's precipitation outlook depicts enhanced probabilities of above-normal precipitation amounts in the Mid-Atlantic states, including Maryland. This would mean increased costs for sidewalk plowing, as required by Montgomery County. The increase is slightly less than the maximum of 5%, which, according to the OCHOA Bylaws, the Board can approve without requiring a vote of HOA members.

Homeowners can learn about the HOA budget in an article from the January 2023 newsletter titled: "Where do my HOA dues go?" found on the OCHOA website: [www.olneycrossingmd.org](http://www.olneycrossingmd.org). The HOA needs to have a positive cash flow for the purpose of bill paying. There have been times in the past year when we had to delay paying a bill because we did not have adequate funds in the account.

**NOTE:** Payments can be made via Zelle. See <http://olneycrossingmd.org/pay-hoa-dues/> or go to [www.zellepay.com](http://www.zellepay.com) to send payments to [treasurer@olneycrossingmd.org](mailto:treasurer@olneycrossingmd.org). If you are a homeowner unable to pay your fees due to financial distress or other hardship, please contact Krista Boteler, Treasurer, 410-353-8923, [treasurer@olneycrossingmd.org](mailto:treasurer@olneycrossingmd.org) or [kristabotelercpa@comcast.net](mailto:kristabotelercpa@comcast.net) to work out a payment plan.

## **WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS!**

This year brought several new families to Olney Crossing. We would like to welcome them to our HOA and wish them many years of happiness here.

Paula Ruiz on Blossom View Drive

Meghan and David Michael Elie on Monitor Court

Madhumati Mukherjee and Jared Wilmoth on Monitor Drive

Nicole Connell on Singers Glen Drive

## **VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED TO GIVE SENIORS A LIFT**

For more than a decade, a local nonprofit has provided area seniors with free transportation to medical and other appointments.

GO Rides (Greater Olney Rides) relies on volunteer drivers to transport seniors (60+) who live in Olney, Brookeville, Ashton, Sandy Spring, and Brinklow. The organization also serves residents in other parts of the county who need transportation to MedStar Montgomery Medical's Cancer Center.

Founded in 2011, the organization formerly known as "Olney Home for Life" changed its name to "GO Rides" in 2023 to highlight its transportation-based mission.

To be able to fulfill all ride requests that come into the Call Center, the organization needs volunteer drivers with valid drivers' licenses. All volunteers receive an orientation to the program.

To learn how to become a volunteer, go to the website <https://gorides.org/> or email [info@gorides.org](mailto:info@gorides.org).

To request transportation (7 business days advance notice preferred), call (301) 446-2512.