

WAKEFIELD CHAPEL WOODS

Newsletter

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September 16, 2020

ANNUAL MEETING

**Annual Meeting Via Zoom will
take place on
Wednesday, Oct 7
7 pm.
All homeowners were mailed a
notice with instructions last
week.**

the upgrades and replacement of the steel I beams, this project requires a critical structure review by the County's Land Development Services. The LDS is in the process of review now. A permit will need to be issued before construction may begin. I will let you know as soon as I have any further information from the County.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Liz Segall

President's Notes

Dear Neighbors-

What a different and sometimes difficult summer! My sympathies and best wishes go out to all you parents who are now dealing with virtual classes. It must be tough for you and your children to have so much screen time and especially tiresome for the teachers and parents trying to keep students engaged in their school work.

I hope many of you will join the Zoom for our annual meeting on October 7. It is certainly not an ideal situation, but what is these days?

I have been in touch with the County regarding the deteriorating retaining wall along the creek. I am told that the final plans were received this summer but due to

Board Meetings

The next regular Board Meeting is **December 7 at 7 pm**. For the time being meetings are being held Via Zoom. All homeowners are welcome to attend. If you wish to attend, please contact a Board member so that you may receive an invitation and password ahead of time.

ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE

Who was it that said, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure"? With time on your hands, you may be going to launch projects large or small to maintain and improve your property. Wonderful! However, everyone needs to remember that the Association's Declaration of Covenants,

Conditions and Restrictions requires that owners coordinate with the Architectural Committee to get approval for almost anything that changes the outside appearance of the home. The broadest exception to this is plantings. Unless line of sight near sidewalks would be affected, no prior approval is required for planting activities. *For projects requiring a county building permit, Architectural Committee approval is also required.* The WCWHA Architectural Guidelines publication provides information on changes that are generally acceptable and those that aren't. The number one cause of hard feelings by WCWHA residents is problems with Architectural Control. It is also one of the easiest types of heartburn to avoid. Check with the Architectural Committee BEFORE you do something. The Committee has 30 days to act on a request to change something (though it tries to accommodate emergencies), so think a little bit ahead. Are you, maybe, thinking of changing something? Go ahead and request approval now and you'll have it in your pocket if and when you decide to move ahead. To increase chances of prompt approval, include details of the changes that you plan to make, to include colors, materials and, if construction is involved, a plat map with the location of the new construction indicated. If you don't have a copy of the Declarations, the Architectural Guidelines, or the application for approval of architectural changes, you can download them at "wcvha.org/documents". Once the application is complete, you can mail it to the Association's post office box or hand deliver to the Architecture Committee Chair, Jim Powers at 8513 Sugarbush Court.

DO YOU NEED A COPY OF "REQUEST FOR ARCHITECTURAL CHANGES"?

This form can be downloaded from the association website at

wcvha.org/Documents

Chair for Architectural Committee Needed

The Architectural Committee (AC) is a crucial group of volunteers that maintain the beauty and cohesiveness of our neighborhood, enhancing not only its attractiveness, but also our homes' values. Jim Powers (Sugarbush Court) graciously agreed to be its chair until someone else came forward. Jim is on our Board of Directors and would like to hand over the AC chair to someone else in our community. *Please think about this opportunity to help.* There are already several members who have been on the committee for many years and will be an invaluable resource for a new Chair.

Parking Permit Information

Due to our location close to the Northern Virginia Community College some of the streets in our neighborhood are part of a restricted parking zone. Students parking their cars in our community is not a problem at the moment, but if you are new to our HOA, you may want to check to see if your house is in the restricted area. If so, you will want to apply for a parking permit to avoid being ticketed once the enforcement begins again. Please go to the Fairfax County website which explains the permitting process and gives you an option to apply online.

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/transportation/parking/residential-permit-parking-district>

Playground Equipment Update

We are thrilled to report that a new and expansive playset will be installed in our existing neighborhood playground sometime between mid and late September! There have been many delays that are Covid related that have impeded the process and timing. Thank you to all neighbors who so generously donated over \$5,000 to make several improvements and additions possible! We have just brought in a new toddler playset to accommodate our smallest neighborhood residents. The larger one that is yet to be brought in will delight children ages 5-12. Another improvement made was that two of the swings on the existing commercial set were replaced with a more durable and safer style of seats with longer chains.

We are looking for individuals to voluntarily serve on a Park Equipment Committee. That committee will be responsible for checking the playground equipment, park benches and picnic tables twice a year to make sure they are properly maintained. That committee will also be responsible to periodically stain the equipment that will soon be installed. *Please let Frances Brayshaw know if you are interested in participating in this important effort. Phone / Text: 202-277-9266 or email: F.Brayshaw@gmail.com*

Community Links

Keep in touch with what is happening in our County by subscribing to the Braddock Beacon, published monthly by our Braddock District Supervisor, John Walkinshaw. We sometimes send you information from the Beacon, but because we don't want to clutter your email box, we try to limit what we send.

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/braddock/braddock-beacon>

You can also check out other community services through links on our website wcwha.org. At the top of the page, click on community links.

WCWHA CARING COMMUNITY

Do you, or someone in our community you know, needs assistance with errands, shopping, or other needs, our Association has several generous volunteers who may be able to help. Please contact Tom Herrmann (tom.e.herrmann@gmail.com) for more information.

Three Ways to Vote in the 2020 Presidential Election

We are fast approaching Election Day. The following is a news release from Fairfax County regarding your options:

Posted on September 2, 2020 in [All News](#), [Elections](#)



There are three ways you can vote in the [general election on Nov. 3](#). Early voting begins on Friday, Sept. 18.

1. Absentee Vote by Mail

Due to a new state law, **you can absentee vote without needing a reason or excuse — but you still have to apply to absentee vote by mail.**

If you plan to vote by mail, you should apply now due to the anticipated large number of applications. Fairfax County election officials strongly recommend you apply well before the Friday, Oct. 23

deadline since mail delivery could be slower, according to the U.S. Postal Service.

The fastest and most secure way to apply is online on the Virginia Department of Elections website.

You'll also be able to track the status of your application, as well as when your ballot is mailed to you. Your Virginia driver's license number is needed to apply online, along with the last four digits of your Social Security number.

Voters should be aware that they won't begin to receive their ballots until after Friday, Sept. 18.

2. Vote Early

Early voting begins on Friday, Sept. 18, and any registered voter may cast their ballot in person.

Early voting will be available at the [Fairfax County Government Center in Conference Rooms 2/3 starting on Sept 18, Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.](#) Saturday hours from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. will be offered beginning Wednesday, Oct. 14.

An additional 14 early voting locations will open on Wednesday, Oct.

14. Currently, the voting hours at these locations will be from 1 to 7 p.m., Mondays to Fridays, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays.

The last day to vote early is Saturday, Oct. 31, at 5 p.m.

3. Vote on Election Day

Every polling place in Fairfax County will be open as usual on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 3.

The polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. You should double check your polling place [online on the state's website](#).

Drop-Off Boxes

It is likely that a new state law will allow the use of ballot drop-off boxes for the first time

in the Nov. 3 election. Assuming the law's passage, the state must then adopt regulations on their use, which could take up to 30 days.

However, Fairfax County is making plans to offer drop-off boxes, and voters will be provided with more information once the state's regulations are promulgated. In the meantime, voters can bring their cast absentee ballots to the Fairfax County [Office of Elections](#) if they choose not to mail them back.

More Information

For questions or more information about voting and deadlines, contact the Fairfax County [Office of Elections](#) at 703-222-0776, TTY 711.

PICTURES OF THE PARK, ANYONE?

I know that many of you, like me, have had the opportunity to spend a bit more time in our parkland in recent days. I'm sure you'll agree it really is lovely. Any chance you have some pictures to share? I'd love to include some in the next newsletter. If you'd like to share your efforts, please email them to me. We'll include them as space allows. I'm at: elainewade@verizon.net.



**Social Distance Shopping in Stunning Location Now
with School of Rock live music!**

Get outside. Get some delicious food. Get some great art. Just Get Going!

The Workhouse Community Market is Open Until October.

WHEN: Every Saturday 9am – 1:00pm

WHERE: Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton
VA on our Beautiful Quad

WHO: Local business, artisans, crafters, and friends

The Workhouse Arts Center understands not everyone is be willing to go back to “normal.” Which is why we the *Workhouse Community Market* to support local Artisans & Makers every Saturday from 9am to 1pm, providing a safe, open-air place for vendor and customers to meet.

Now with live music (by School of Rock), food makers, and a wide range of Artisan vendors, the Workhouse Community Market is more a Mini-Festival than a Market. Stop by to view lovely artwork, pick up lunch or dinner, find that perfect gift, check out our suffragist museum open from noon to 5pm and art exhibits, and enjoy this opportunity to shop and engage in a safe outdoor environment while maintaining social distancing.

The Workhouse Community Market is designed to host artisans impacted by the Covid pandemic, specifically creators who normally participate in Arts and Crafts Festivals in the northern Virginia area. By hosting these vendors, the Workhouse provides economic opportunities for artisans and makers while staying true to our mission as a nonprofit Arts center. Some of the fun in visiting the Workhouse Community Market include:

- ✓ Surrounded by historic buildings
- ✓ Live music
- ✓ Hiking & Biking Trails
- ✓ Art Galleries, Exhibits, and our Lucy Burns Museums open at noon.
- ✓ Your participation will help to keep the arts alive!

Masks are required and unfortunately no dogs are allowed in the market (anywhere else outside is fine).



NIGHTMARE ALLEY

DRIVE-THRU TERROR

**FRIDAYS
SATURDAYS
SUNDAYS**

OCTOBER 2-31

BUY TICKETS NOW AT WWW.WORKHOUSEARTS.ORG

#WORKHOUSEHAUNT