

WAKEFIELD CHAPEL WOODS

Newsletter

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March 15, 2017

President's Notes

Dear Neighbors –

As spring seems to have sprung in my garden, it looks like our snow blower will get a year off. There has been quite a bit of wind during the past few weeks, and that means a lot of tree branches and twigs have accumulated in the parkland and along the creek. Please come out and help us clear up the debris on the morning of April 1. It's a great way to greet your neighbors, for students to add to their service hours, and for our association to avoid the costs of hiring outside help.

Many of you may have noticed a lot of work being done in the Truro parkland and walkways. Over the years the Turkey Run stream bed has eroded and caused lot of problems during heavy rains, including tree fall and further erosion as the rushing waters come through our park. More detailed information about the county's project to alleviate the situation can be found on Truro's website

<http://trurohomes.org/members-only/stream-restoration-2/>. Our hope is that the upstream work will mean less water damage to our park in the future.

Finally, a reminder that our homeowner association dues need to be received by the end of March. Have a wonderful spring. As

always, let us know if you have any concerns or questions.

Liz Segall

WCWHA President

Save the Date
Spring Parkland
Clean Up
Saturday, April 1,
2017
09:00 - 11:00

All members and friends of WCWHA are invited to help in the *spring clean up of our Parkland on April 1, 2017, between 09:00 am and 11:00*. If you have them, please bring gloves, loppers, chainsaws, wheel barrows, elbow grease and enthusiasm. Please contact Allan Meyer [703-978-2559](tel:703-978-2559) or e-mail at allanemeyer@aol.com for assignments and or questions. He will be at the Banff Street Bridge at 09:00 for assignments. This is a great way for Civics students and people required to do Community work to earn service hours. Make this a family affair.

Annual Dues deadline - March 31

Thanks to all of you who have already sent in your annual dues. If you are one of those who tucked the invoice away, now is the time to dig it out and send the completed form with your annual dues to Pura Valdez, 4522 Banff Street by **March 31**. Make sure that you let us know about any changes in your phone number(s) or email address.

Directory Corrections

First, our profuse and shameful apologies are offered to John & Michelle Kalantzis who live at 4520 Fidelity Court and to David and Helen Ton at 4518. The Kalantzis' have been listed incorrectly not once but three times, despite the vigilance of neighbor, Steve Parker, who keeps correcting it. We listed them at 4515 in the newsletter and directory, then erroneously corrected it in the January newsletter to 4518. So, if it's wrong this time, Michelle and John' would you please consider moving into whatever house we have reported you to be living (just kidding)?

Please make the following changes to your Directory:

4520 Fidelity Court –Kalantzis, John and Michelle H. 703 425-1468 M. 757 4786614

4518 Fidelity Court – Ton, David & Helen 703 323-6888
(Correctly listed in Directory, but erroneously replaced by the Kalantzis' in the newsletter)

4508 Fidelity Court – Collins, Jim and Yuhui Deng 571 236-6580

8506 Bromley Court – Byrd, Patrick and Marie 408 781-4820

Consider Insurance for Sewer and Water lines

Phyllis Liner - our block captain on Banff Street – pointed out that since our homes are now more than 40 years old, if you haven't done so already, it might be a good idea to consider buying extra protection against some home infrastructure failures. Two of our neighbors on Sugarbush Court have dealt with broken sewer lines. Neither had insurance at the time and their estimated costs for the repair work was between \$6500 and \$9500. (On a side note, the concrete steps leading down to the park from Sugarbush Court have sunk and separated quite a bit over the years, and erosion from water continued to undermine the step structure. It was determined that these factors contributed to the break in the sewer line that rests directly underneath the steps. For that reason, the WCWHA board voted to cover the cost of repairing and replacing that section of the sidewalk.)

Dominion Power offers insurance coverage for many home utility systems, and you can pick and choose which ones to buy, including water line, sewer line, electric surge protection, heating and cooling systems, in-home plumbing repair, etc. For more information visit <https://www.dominionenergy.com/en/home-protection> or call [1-888-216-3718](tel:1-888-216-3718), M-F 8:30 am - 5 pm

Local Activities and Resources

Looking for family or individual activities that do not involve trekking into D.C.? Our own Fairfax County is rich with fun and educational activities, featuring many “must see” attractions, including a number of beautifully restored historical places located within easy driving distance

Colvin Run Mill

One of those seemingly hidden treasures is Colvin Run Mill Historic site. Located seven miles west of Tyson's Corner, Colvin Run Mill features a restored operational 19th century water-powered gristmill, the miller's house, and the early 20th century Colvin Run General Store, the remains of a once thriving community of Colvin Run.. Education programs, tours of the mill and miller's house, and special programs are conducted on a regular basis. People also enjoy shopping in the old general store, where you can buy a variety of candies, treats and an assortment of flour, corn meal and grits actually ground at the mill. There are even recipes on line for using these. Your family can also enjoy picnicking on the grounds, and feeding the hungry ducks. Visit their website for a list of attractions, classes, events, volunteer opportunities and more. It's also a photographer's dream – a beautiful old brick mill with foliage that is eye-popping in spring and fall.

If you have children ages 2-9 years of age, check out the **Easter Egg Hunts** held at staggered times on Saturday, April 8. You must register in advance and there is a fee.

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvinrunmill/events.htm>

For other historic sites and park activities visit the Fairfax County website.

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/>

Green Spring Gardens

GREEN SPRING GARDENS at the edge of Annandale/Alexandria is a wonderful Fairfax County Park located just off Little River Tpk. It is a "must visit" for everyone in the metropolitan Washington, D.C. area. Not only is it a year-round gold mine of information and inspiration for the home

gardener, but also an [outdoor classroom](#) for children and their families to learn about plants and wildlife, and a [museum](#) and [national historic site](#). If you have not found this beauty spot go visit it. Some of their activities are listed below:

April 8 - Their Plant Shop opens. It specializes in plants that do well in our local growing conditions and offers plants featured in Green Spring's gardens. There are also volunteer master gardeners available to answer your gardening questions at various times.

May 20 -Green Spring has its Big Plant Sale! More than 40 local Garden vendors descend on the gardens with beautiful and unusual plants to fill your spring gardening needs.

Green spring Gardens also offers bus trip getaways such as those listed below:

April 28 - Virginia Garden Week in Richmond

May 23 - Private Springtime at Longwood Gardens

June 6 -Gardens of Annapolis exclusive tour

Check their website for complete listings of activities and offerings,

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring/> or call [703-642-5173](tel:703-642-5173) for more information.

Scheduled Board Meetings

If you would like to become more active in our Home Association or just want to find out what is going on, you are welcome to come to any of the regularly scheduled Board meetings. If you plan to attend, please let us know to make sure there has been no change in date, time or place. Email us at WCWHA.org@gmail.com. The schedule of

meetings can also be found on the website Home Page (www.wcwha.org).

Remaining meetings for this calendar year:

March 20 – Segall, Sugarbush Ct.

May 1 – Desko, Fidelity Ct.

June 19 – Valdez, Banff St.

September 11 – Caruso, Banff St.

October 18 – Annual Meeting

December 4 – Mannion, Sugarbush Ct.

Newsletter and Website

We maintain our website (www.wcwha.org) and send out a regular newsletter to keep you as informed about our neighborhood and other community activities that might be of interest. If you have suggestions about content of either please let us know by emailing us at wcwha.org@gmail.com or contact one of the Board members.

If you have not done so already, please consider subscribing to our WCWHA list-serve. It is through this list-serve that we notify you of important issues or events between newsletters. We try to be selective in how often we send emails and we do not share your emails with anyone outside the WCWHA Board.