

# WAKEFIELD CHAPEL WOODS

## Newsletter

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### President's Notes

Dear Neighbors,

It's been a busy year for WCWHA! So that you might be aware of the activities going on in our association this past year, *we have attached a copy of the "2019 Annual Review Board Activities."*

It's been just a year since our bridges were repaired. I'll admit that, much to the amusement of my family, I held my breath the first time a huge storm came through knowing that in the distant past the bridges would wash away under the deluge of the roaring water. I should have had more confidence! *We can thank engineer Ray Boehling (Ordinary Way) for the effective concrete and steel design of the bridge foundation that was put in place over 30 years ago.* Those underlying structures have withstood the many subsequent storms and served as the frames upon which our new bridges were built.

#### **A Special Thank You to Fred Wright:**

On behalf of the Board of Directors, *I would like to thank Fred Wright for his service on our board for the last few years.* He has been a tremendous help, particularly in his attention to the park, helping Al Meyer when called upon and taking on jobs that need to be done. The good news is that Fred assures us that he will still be around to help out as needed.

I hope to see many of you at our **Annual Homeowners Meeting on October 16.**

As well as the usual summary of the various committees, the presentation of next year's budget, and the election of one new board member, there will be a presentation of the current plans for the erosion abatement along the creek in our park. Bring some water or coffee and I'll bring the cookies.

Liz Segall

### The Architectural Committee - Readying for winter

Although its hard to believe we are already in the fall season, our thoughts must necessarily turn to preparing for winter. As you look around your home to see what repairs or clean-up is necessary at this time, we remind you to:

- *Remember that any changes to the outside of your home must be approved by the Architectural Committee before proceeding.* As usual, for your convenience, we have attached a "Request for Approval of External Changes" form to submit to the Architectural Committee. They are also on our website [wcwha.org](http://wcwha.org) under "**Documents.**" I know we say this in each newsletter, but its so

much easier to get pre-approval than to fix it once done.

- Make sure that you remove all leaves and debris from your property rather than raking them into the parkland. If they are pushed into the parkland, the HOA will have them professionally removed and charge the homeowner for the cost.

### **Parkland**

Al Meyer and his team report that early this month, numerous dead and dangerous trees were removed from the parkland along with dead fall and bamboo debris piles. In addition, selected trees in the parkland were trimmed. The parkland is in great shape. **If we do not have a major storm that brings down trees or dead fall, we may not need to have a spring clean-up!**

### **Erosion Committee Work**

*Thanks to the members of the Erosion Committee, and particularly to Cindy Griffin and Brian Kiviat for their time and attention to formulating a plan to help stem the erosion along the creek in our parkland. In addition, Al and Joy Meyer have been working with Eagle Scout hopeful, Patrick Read (Bromley Ct.) and his dad, Peter to incorporate a tree and bush planting plan with Patrick's boy scout troop.*

Several years ago, **Fairfax ReLeaf** provided tree saplings for a girl scout troop's tree planting in our parkland. Taylor Beach from Fairfax ReLeaf came by to discuss our plans and was very excited to see how beautifully so many of those trees have taken root and become established beauties.

The selected trees and bushes (free from ReLeaf!) will be planted in designated areas in early October.

### **Thinking of Selling Your House?**

We would like to remind you again if you are planning to sell your house, the law requires that the new owners receive an up-to-date Homeowners Disclosure Packet. This is an official packet *provided by the HOA*. You cannot simply pass on the one you received when you bought your house. While most of the documents are on the website, there are several documents specific to your home that must be included in the packet. The packet must have updated documents with information such as current board members, budget, homeowners' annual dues and evidence that there are no unresolved homeowners association issues with your property. If you need a packet, send a request with a \$50 check to **WCWHA at P.O. Box 1151, Annandale, VA 22003**. You can also send a request by email to [wcwha.org@gmail.com](mailto:wcwha.org@gmail.com) and drop off your check to the current treasurer at her home. **Please allow 2 weeks** for processing.

## New Neighbors



We welcome the Gerszewski Family to 4521 Banff Street. Daniel is a program analyst at the National Science Foundation and Selvi is a Genetic Counselor at Kaiser Permanente. They enjoy playing board games, camping, and most of all, spending time with their 1-year-old son, Mohan. They sent us this great picture from their recent hike on the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu!  
Daniel's cell phone is 701 818-8913  
Selvi's cell phone is 757 561-4915

We missed introducing the Thepmontry family's (4525 Banff St.) newest addition, **Ethan, when he arrived 1 year ago**. He celebrated his first birthday August 15. He should enjoy playing with young Mohan, just a few houses away. Ethan has a sister, Taylor who turned 5 on September 5. It is good to see so many young families with children moving into our neighborhood, keeping the mixture of ages that makes for a vibrant community. If you know of new additions to our neighborhood, let us know so we can introduce them.

## Ode to Joan Barry Barrows

It is with sadness that we must say goodbye to a longstanding Wakefield Chapel Woods resident, Joan Barry Barrows who died on July 9 at the age of 91. She was a remarkable woman with many accomplishments and attributes worth noting. We have included only a few of those from her obituary. She is described as "a larger than life personality and accomplished in a variety of ways." In addition to a Bachelor's Degree from George Washington University, she earned a PhD in physical geography from the University of Grenoble, France and later worked overseas in Army Intelligence (the forerunner of CIA) as an expert in petroleum logistics. "Vivacious, beautiful and skilled in foreign languages she was often tapped for covert operations in the Soviet Union, where she had many adventures and close calls." Other accomplishments listed include teaching geography at George Washington University, serving as Public Affairs Officer for the National Endowment of the Humanities, and Congressional Liaison Officer for the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration. "Because of her proficiency in Mandarin, at the request of the Chinese government, she spent 6 months in China teaching technical English to Chinese scientists. She published a book, *Touch Points in China* based on this experience and developed an ingenious system to translate Chinese characters into English," which she patented. She traveled widely and extensively, had an interest in Buddhist philosophy and classical music and was an accomplished classical pianist. She left a son, Norman, nieces and nephews and many friends. Joan will be missed.

## **Don't Forget our Annual Meeting!**

By this time you should have received by mail an official notice of our 2019 Annual Meeting of the Wakefield Chapel Woods Homes Association on October 16<sup>th</sup>, 7 PM at **Wakefield Forest Elementary School, Cafeteria**

*If you are unable to attend, please make sure you send your filled out, signed and witnessed proxy form with a neighbor or one of the WCWHA Board members who plans to attend. This is necessary to ensure that we have a quorum.*

All homeowners and residents are welcome to attend any board meeting. Dates and places of regular meetings are listed on the first page of our website ([wcwha.org](http://wcwha.org)). However, before coming please contact one of the board members in case the time or place has been changed.

**Next regular board meeting is December 9 at 7 PM. Place TBA**

