



# *Lafayette Village Community Association*

## *November/December 2008 Newsletter*

### **LVCA News**

As the end of the year approaches, we would like to inform you of a few changes coming to our community in 2009. First, KPA will again be issuing coupon books starting in December. You will need to send in the appropriate coupon each quarter with your payment. You will only get an invoice if you have an outstanding balance.

In order to meet the requirements of our financial reserves, assessments will increase for 2009. Starting on January 1, 2009 the assessments will be as follows:

Townhomes - \$328/quarter

Detached Homes - \$167/quarter

Assessments for 2009 are due on January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1.

The community is always in need of new volunteers for the committees. Currently we are looking for Chairs for the ACC and the Communications committees.

Please see page 6 for important information regarding the holiday trash schedule.

There have been a few suspicious occurrences in the neighborhood. Please continue to be vigilant in keeping your eyes and ears open and report any and all suspicious behavior. *The Fairfax County Police Department non-emergency telephone number is 703-691-2131.*

Christmas Tree Recycling – Trees will be collected for recycling on the following days only: Wednesday, January 7, 2009 and Wednesday, January 14, 2009. All decorations, tinsel, garland etc. must be removed from trees. Do NOT place trees in plastic bags.

#### ***In this issue...***

- ***LVCA meeting schedules***
- ***Committee updates***
- ***2009 Budget***
- ***Holiday trash schedule***
- ***Community news***

Are you creative? Do you want to get involved? A new Communications Chair is needed in order to continue producing the newsletter. The newsletter is distributed every other month and is a collaborative effort. The Chair is responsible for editing the submissions, writing articles, completing the layout and sending the final to the printer. Training and support are included!

If you are interested in putting together the LVC newsletter, please send an email to [lafayette\\_village@yahoo.com](mailto:lafayette_village@yahoo.com). Volunteer today!

## Our Community Information...

### LVCA Board Members

**Joaquin Tremols - President**

703-876-0313

tremols@lycos.com

**Kathie French – Vice President**

703-207-0070

Kfrench22@cox.net

**Sean Walsh – Treasurer**

im\_sean@msn.com

**Jay Jarvis - Secretary**

703-280-5812

Jay@JCLInsurance.com

**Michele Krahn – Member-at-Large**

703-573-4180

mokrahn@msn.com

### LVCA Committee Chairs

**Architectural Control – Open**

Send requests to KPA

**Grounds – Jay Jarvis**

703-280-5812

Jay@JCLInsurance.com

**Finance – Sean Walsh**

im\_sean@msn.com

**Pool & Recreation – Linda Witham**

703-698-7455

linda.l.witham@verizon.com

**Communications – Kristin Walsh**

lafayette\_village@yahoo.com

**Neighborhood Watch – Fred Saah**

703-641-0446

fred300@gmail.com

### Klingbeil, Powell and Alrutz Inc. (KPA)

Diane Tschirhart

Dtschirhart@kpamgmt.com

Phone: 703-532-5005

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6400 Arlington Boulevard, Suite 700

Falls Church, VA 22042-2336

### REMINDER

**First Quarter Assessments are due January 1, 2009.**  
**You will be receiving a coupon book for 2009. There will be a coupon that needs to be mailed in for each quarter and invoices will not be sent. See page 1 for the new amount due.**

### LAFAYETTE VILLAGE COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR

#### Monthly Meetings (Check Website for Details)

**Board Meetings** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of month at 7:00 PM at the Mason District Government Building, 6507 Columbia Pike. (December 8 and January 12)

**ACC Committee** - 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of month at 7:00 PM at the George Mason Library, 7001 Little River Turnpike (December 15 and January 19)

**Grounds Committee** – 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of month at 7:00 PM at 7828 Ashley Glen Rd. (December 17 and January 27)

**Finance Committee** – 7:00 PM at 3700 Merrimac Trail (January 29)

**Neighborhood Watch** – Tuesday after the Board meeting at 7:30 PM at 3721 Yorktown Village Pass (December 9 and January 13)

**All residents, including renters, are invited to attend scheduled meetings. Please check the website for the most current information:**

**<http://www.lafayettevillage.org/>**



**Visit [www.CakesbyMegan.biz](http://www.CakesbyMegan.biz) and take a peak at our Holiday Treats!**

Check out the Christmas Flyer link on our website. From Traditional Bouche de Noels to Egg Nog Truffles. Place your holiday orders early!

**Christmas is Thursday Dec 25th!  
Pick up your orders by Wednesday!**



**Conveniently located in LVCA for delivery and pick-up**

## *Community Updates and Recap...*

### **Finance Committee**

The budget was approved by the Board during the November meeting. It can be found on the LVCA website and on page 5 and 6. Quarterly assessments will be increasing for 2009. KPA will be issuing coupon booklets and your next assessment will be due January 1, 2009. The 2009 dues will be \$328/quarter for the townhomes and \$167/quarter for the detached homes. You will need to send in a coupon each quarter; invoices will only be sent if you have an outstanding balance.

### **Neighborhood Watch Committee**

The past month we had only had one reported auto break-in. We had the trees on Lafayette Village Dr. trimmed back from the street lights which appears to have helped. If there were any break-ins that were not reported please let the Neighborhood Watch committee know. There have also been reports of trespassing in several vacant homes. If you notice anything suspicious call the Police at 703-691-2131. Officer Courtney Thibault attended the November meeting to give our community tips on how to stay safe. A list of tips can be found on page 4.

### **Architectural Control Committee (ACC)**

Susie Lee has stepped down as chair of the ACC, so please send all requests and concerns related to the ACC directly to our management company, KPA. Thank you, Susie, for your time and effort on the ACC and for helping to maintain our community!

We would like to remind Lafayette Village residents that a written ACC REQUEST FOR EXTERIOR IMPROVEMENT FORM must be submitted for approval for the following:

- Removal of front yard trees without replacement or replacing with trees not on the approved list.
- Removal and/or planting of trees in the common areas.
- Color changes to trim, doors, shutters, etc. if the color is not original or on the approved list.
- Installation of new doors (including the sliding glass doors), windows if they are not the exact same as the original; screen doors if they are not the approved color; sheds.
- Driveway enhancements.
- Patios and decks that do not meet the ACC criteria
- Replacement or other changes to fences and gates.
- Siding replacement.

For further information on ACC guidelines or the Exterior Request form, please visit our website [www.lafayettevillage.org](http://www.lafayettevillage.org) or contact KPA directly.

### **Communications Committee**

The next newsletter will be available February 1, 2009. Please send your articles and other submissions (MS Word, Excel or JPEG format only) for the newsletter to [lafayette\\_village@yahoo.com](mailto:lafayette_village@yahoo.com) by January 20th. If you would like to view the newsletter in *color*, sign up for electronic distribution or access the newsletter on the website! Please send an email if you are interesting in volunteering to produce the newsletter! The current Chair is taking a leave of absence and we need you!

*I'm your expert source for the best in beauty, right here in Lafayette Village. Call me today and ask about makeup tips, skin care and gift ideas.*

Jody Gamber

Independent Beauty Consultant, Mary Kay

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Shop online: [www.marykay.com/jgamber1](http://www.marykay.com/jgamber1)

## Grounds Committee Update

The committee asked our management company to obtain price quotes for the major shrub trimming project for 2009. This will help the committee in planning 2009 work for the common grounds. The committee has yet to meet with a Specialist from Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District. The committee will wait until their recommendations before preparing plans for 2009.

Committee members had one round of spraying of the bamboo behind Byrds Nest Pass and it may require another spraying before winter.

The committee recommended to the Board and the Board has adopted a resolution on tree removal when a tree is on both common property and homeowner property.

***Resolved; it is the policy of LVCA whenever the Architectural Control Committee and the Grounds Committee approves removal of a tree that is on homeowner property and is also partly on common grounds, that the LVCA will pay for a percentage of the cost based on the percentage of the tree trunk that is on common ground; Further; that interpretation of this policy, including the determination of percentages, shall rest with the Management Company; Further; that disputes will be heard by the LVCA Board.***

The committee has received a request from a homeowner to plant shrubs at their expense on common property next to utility boxes. The committee deferred any action until the requirements of the utility companies are known. The Management Company has been asked to contact the utility companies for this information.

Trees around lights along Lafayette Village Drive have been trimmed to allow for more light on our parked cars.

Finally, we have leaf mulch at the end of the pool parking lot. This is available free for use on homeowner property in Lafayette Village.

### Burglary Prevention Tips

1. Lock all your doors. (House and Car)
2. Lock all your windows and patio doors.
3. Be sure your valuables are not visible from the outside.
4. Illuminate your property.
5. Consider placing your lights and TV's on timers.
6. Consider placing alarm monitoring signs in your windows.
7. Have a trusted neighbor check on your home when away on vacation.
8. Make your residence look occupied by turning lights and music on.
9. Immediately report crimes or suspicious activities.
10. Be involved with your Neighborhood Watch.
11. Draw curtains or blinds after dark.
12. Have a home security check conducted by the Crime Prevention Officer in your local police district.

Each year there are more than 5 million burglaries in the U.S. Nine out of ten of these are preventable. The majority of burglaries occur during the daytime when most people are away at work or school and most are crimes of opportunity. Most criminals will choose the easiest target, so be sure to make your house and car unattractive to thieves. Check out these tips!

## 2009 Approved Budget...

### Approved Budget - 1/1/09 - 12/31/09

		FY09	FY08
		Approved	Approved
Acct		Budget	Budget
	Income:		
4010	Assessments – Detached Homes \$167/qtr	14,028	12,764
	Assessments - Townhomes \$328/qtr	385,728	351,628
4030	Late Charges	1,560	1,000
4035	Legal Fees from Owners	0	1,000
4050	Pool Passes	675	100
4060	Interest	3,000	4,000
4075	Tree Planting Donations	0	0
4090	Miscellaneous	<u>200</u>	<u>200</u>
4596	Total Income	405,191	370,692
	Operating Expenses:		
4610	Administrative	64,065	69,500
4620	Pool	40,090	36,550
4630	Maintenance	215,633	211,244
4635	Utility	3,400	2,900
4640	Fixed	7,000	6,400
4650	Replacement Reserves	<u>75,003</u>	<u>44,098</u>
<b>4643</b>	<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>405,191</b>	<b>370,692</b>
4710	Net Surplus (Deficit)	0	0
	Administrative Expenses:		
5020	Office	5,300	0
5035	Dues and Subscriptions	0	0
5040	Legal	5,000	8,000
5045	Audit & Accounting	3,225	1,500
5050	Management Fees	37,440	36,000
5051	Management Reimbursement	0	3,000
5055	Bad Debt	7,500	0
5064	Halloween Parade	0	70
5065	Spring Event for Children	0	70
5066	Spring Yard Sale	0	90
5067	Summer BBQ/Picnic	0	150
5068	Fall Yard Sale	0	90
5069	Community Events	850	330
5070	Communications (Website/Newsletter)	1,800	1,500
5080	Printing	0	5,500
5093	Meetings Support	2,750	2,600
5115	Website	0	400
5120	Reserve Study	0	10,000
new	HOT Lanes Sound Study	0	0
5125	Neighborhood Watch	<u>200</u>	<u>200</u>
	<b>Total Administrative Expenses</b>	<b>64,065</b>	<b>69,500</b>

The budget continues on the next page. If you would like more detail, please go to the LVCA website under Documents > Financial Documents > LVCA Approved FY 2009 Budget.

## 2009 Budget Continued...

	Swimming Pool Expenses:		
5510	Pool Contract	28,965	27,850
5540	Pool Telephone	375	350
5550	Pool Electricity	4,000	2,800
5560	Pool Water	1,450	1,300
5570	Pool Gas	300	250
5580	Pool Supplies	2,000	1,000
5583	Pool Maintenance	3,000	3,000
<b>5696</b>	<b>Total Swimming Pool Expense</b>	<b>40,090</b>	<b>36,550</b>
	Maintenance Expenses:		
6045	Grounds Upkeep Contract	70,680	70,679
6047	Grounds Maintenance/Repair	20,400	3,000
6050	Landscaping Maintenance/Repair	0	2,663
6052	Erosion Control/Retaining Wall	0	13,000
6055	Tree Removal	22,000	22,000
6056	Emergency Tree Fund	5,000	5,000
6058	Tot Lot Maintenance	0	100
6065	General Maintenance	603	0
new	Milky Spore Application	2,200	0
6075	Trash and Recycling Service	70,000	64,802
6095	Snow Removal & Supplies	5,000	5,000
6160	Mailboxes (4)	5,000	5,000
6170	Lights (4)	14,750	20,000
<b>6296</b>	<b>Total Maintenance Expense</b>	<b>215,633</b>	<b>211,244</b>
	Utility Expenses:		
6330	Electricity for Street Lights	3,400	2,900
<b>6336</b>	<b>Total Utility Expense</b>	<b>3,400</b>	<b>2,900</b>
	Fixed Expenses:		
6340	Insurance	4,300	4,700
6365	Income Taxes	2,700	1,700
<b>6596</b>	<b>Total Fixed Expenses</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>6,400</b>
6900-0001	Replacement Reserve	75,003	29,098
6900-0100	Operating Reserve	0	15,000
<b>6920-0000</b>	<b>Total Replacement Reserve</b>	<b>75,003</b>	<b>44,098</b>

### Holiday Trash and Recycling Schedule

Holiday	Date	Next Regularly Scheduled Pick Up Date
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, November 27, 2008	Trash Collection: Next scheduled Service Day Recycling Collection: Thursday, December 5, 2008
Christmas Day	Thursday, December 25, 2008	Trash Collection: Next scheduled Service Day Recycling Collection: Thursday, January 8, 2009
New Year's Day	Thursday, January 1, 2009	Trash Collection: Next scheduled Service Day Recycling Collection: Thursday, January 8, 2009

Refer to Page 1 for more information on Christmas Tree Recycling Dates.

## Community News...

Lafayette Village at the polls:

The Hummer precinct includes all of Lafayette Village plus all the residents between Hummer Road, Gallows Road, the Beltway and Little River Turnpike. For more details, visit the county's website

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb/returns.htm>. Thank you to all who turned out to vote on November 4<sup>th</sup>.

We all know the results of this year's historic Presidential elections. How do we compare here in the Hummer precinct, where all Lafayette Village residents vote?

Turnout: (In 2006, our turnout was 57.3%, representing 1,039 voters. In 2008, county-wide turnout was 78.7%.)

Registered voters	Voting in person	Voting absentee	Total voters	Percent Voting
1,889	1208	274	1,482	78.0

**U. S. President:**

**U.S Senate:**

Candidate	Votes	Percentage	Candidate	Votes	Percentage
Obama/Biden	663	55%	Warner	766	64%
McCain/Palin	527	44%	Gilmore	415	35%
Others	10	1%	Others	7	1%
Total	1200	100%	Total	1188	100%

**U. S. House Congressional District 11:**

**Park Authority Bond Issue:**

Candidate	Votes	Percentage	Position	Votes	Percentage
Connolly	626	54%	Yes	810	70%
Fimian	516	44%	No	339	30%
Other	22	2%	Total	1149	100%
Total	1164	100%			

**New at Hidden Oaks** - Hidden Oaks has a new Nature Playce. This 1/3-acre near the nature center is an area dedicated to getting young children and their parents to play outside. The Nature Playce, built by an Eagle Scout candidate, has several natural features and is cleared of poison ivy. A naturalist teaches parents and children how to play safely in the woods and bestows the honor of being a Nature Snooper, with a large magnifying lens as a gift to explore in Nature Playce and their own backyard.

Richard Louv, author of *Last Child in the Woods*, has named the trend of children to play inside "nature deficit disorder". There is increasing interest in encouraging children to play outside, exploring the natural world and learning their place in it. Proponents of the children's nature movement have documented the mental and physical benefits children receive from outdoor free-play and unstructured, self-directed experiences.

Nature Playce is open dawn to dusk, but if you visit when Hidden Oaks is open (9-5 Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, noon-5 Saturday and Sunday), a naturalist will help provide your children with activities and information to make their experience more rewarding. For more information, call the Nature Center at 703-941-1065 and ask for Suzanne Holland.

## ***Around Town...***

**Supervisor Gross Will Host Mason District's Holiday Town Gathering on December 3** - Bring your family, and join your neighbors and friends at the Mason District Holiday Town Gathering on Wednesday, December 3 at 7 p.m. in the Community Room of the Mason District Governmental Center, 6507 Columbia Pike in Annandale. Enjoy an evening of seasonal music and entertainment, refreshments, and you may even win a door prize!

**Belvedere Craft Fair 2008-** The Belvedere Craft Fair will be held on Saturday, December 6, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Belvedere Elementary School, 6540 Columbia Pike, in Falls Church. The fair will feature more than 70 artisans, crafts, and activities for children, and much more. Admission is free. For more information, contact Patrice Shibuya at 703-992-6012.

### **Backyard Wildlife Habitat Certification**

Since 2005, the Friends of Hidden Oaks Nature Center has promoted the designation of the Greater Mason District Area as a Community Wildlife Habitat. This designation will be granted by the National Wildlife Federation when at least 300 hundred homes in the area have been received Backyard Wildlife Habitat certifications. As of October 2008, 257 homes, 12 schools, 11 parks, businesses and churches have been certified. Our area only needs **43 more homes** to become certified before Mason District receives its certification.

If you are interested in certifying your backyard, it is relatively easy to qualify. Many of our backyards are likely certification-ready with minimal if any changes. If you have trees, shrubs or perennials in your backyard, your yard meets the "cover and places to raise young" requirements. If your plants and trees provide any type of seed, nuts, berries, nectar or the like, your yard may meet the food requirements, even without supplemental feeders. And the water source can be as simple as a birdbath or a clay plant saucer. A number of Lafayette Village residents have already certified their backyard and received a nice plaque to hang on the inside of their fences.

The May-June 2007 Newsletter contains a much more detailed article about backyard wildlife habitat certification – you can find that article on the website at <http://www.lafayettevillage.org/newsletters/Final2May-June2007Newsletter.pdf> if you want more information. Certification costs \$15 and requires you to complete a form that you can find at <http://www.nwf.org/certify>.

Let's certify as many of our Lafayette Village backyards as we can, and help the Greater Mason District Area achieve certification as a Community Wildlife Habitat!

**Upgrading Your Cell Phone This Holiday Season? Recycle the Old One!** - The Fairfax County Division of Solid Waste Collection and Recycling has a program for recycling rechargeable batteries and cell phones. Any cell phone, whether it works or not, can be recycled, as well as rechargeable PDAs. The Office of Supervisor Gross is one of the locations with a collection box for cell phone recycling. Please place each cell phone in a plastic bag and drop it off in the collection box located in the reception area of our office, which is located at 6507 Columbia Pike in Annandale. If you have rechargeable batteries that are made with Ni-Cd, Ni-MH, Li-ion, and sealed lead, they also may be dropped off at our office for recycling. Additional information is available by calling 703-324-5230 (TTY 711), by e-mail at [recycleguy@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:recycleguy@fairfaxcounty.gov), or on-line at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/recycling](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/recycling).