



# *Lafayette Village Community Association*

## *October/November 2009 Newsletter*

### **LVCA Annual Meeting: Rep. Gerry Connolly to attend**

Please join your neighbors and fellow homeowners on **Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup>** for the Lafayette Village Community Association annual meeting. Details of the meeting are found at the bottom of this page. All homeowners should have received a notice of the Annual Meeting, along with an agenda and proxy form. These forms are also available on the Association website.

The Board is pleased to announce that **Congressman Gerry Connolly** has accepted our invitation to meet with us to discuss the issues he's faced during his first nine months in office. We can expect a lively discussion, since this has been an eventful session of Congress. Also, **Delegate Vivian Watts** will attend our LVCA Annual Meeting and update us on various initiatives she is undertaking on our behalf. These initiatives includes HOT lane issues, sound wall barriers, the re-forestation of denuded areas, changes to local law which would protect communities like ours from the harms of foreclosure, and more.



Rep. Gerry Connolly

If you cannot attend, please be sure to fill out your proxy vote and give it to a board member or someone who will be attending the meeting. You will find a copy of the proxy on the last page.

### **RAFFLE RAFFLE RAFFLE - WIN YOUR NEXT ASSOCIATION DUES PAYMENT**

As in prior years, homeowners attending the LVCA Annual Meeting will automatically be entered into a raffle. The next quarterly association dues payment will be waived for the winner. Times are tough, budgets are tight, and this is your chance to get a break. Come to the Annual Meeting and you could be the winner!

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#### **All residents are encouraged to attend the Annual Meeting**

**When:** Monday, October 19, 2009

**Time:** 7:00pm

**Where:** Mason District Government Center  
6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA

The Annual Meeting will be followed by a regular Board meeting.

## 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 – Mary E. Coyle**

703-698-7804

Maryecoyle@cox.net

**Grounds – Jay Jarvis**

703-280-5812

Jay@JCLInsurance.com

**Finance – Sean Walsh**

im\_sean@msn.com

**Pool & Recreation – Linda Witham**

703-698-7455

llwitham@verizon.net

**Communications – Carl Iddings**

lvcawebmaster@lafayettevillage.org

**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:

**Fourth Quarter Assessments were due October 1, 2009.  
Payments received after October 15<sup>th</sup> are late and subject  
to a late fee.**

### 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. (October 19 and November 9)  
Note: The October 19<sup>th</sup> annual meeting/board meeting was moved to the Monday following Columbus Day.

**ACC Committee** - 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of month at 7:00 PM at 7882 Hampton Village Pass (October 26 (moved to avoid Annual Meeting) and November 16). Check website for location of November meeting.

**Grounds Committee** – 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of month at 7:00 PM at 7828 Ashley Glen Rd. (October 27 and November 24)

**Finance Committee** – 7:00 PM Check website for location. (October 22; check website for date of November meeting)

**Neighborhood Watch** – Tuesday after the Board meeting at 7:30 PM at 3721 Yorktown Village Pass (October 13 and November 10)

**All residents, including renters, are invited to attend scheduled meetings.  
Please check the website for the most current information:  
<http://www.lafayettevillage.org/>**

### **Would you like to be a Candidate for the LVCA Board of Directors?**

Two Board seats are up for election this year. If you are interested in participating in the governance of your community, if you have good ideas about how the community should be run, then you should submit your name to the Nominating Committee to be added to this fall's election ballot.

The LVCA Board is responsible for directing the affairs of the Lafayette Village Community Association and enforcing the Covenants and Bylaws of the Association. Board members have a fiduciary responsibility to ensure Association funds are managed properly and expended prudently. The Board meets at least once a month. If you would like to participate in managing our Association, contact Sean Walsh at [im\\_sean@msn.com](mailto:im_sean@msn.com).

## *Community Updates and Recap...*

### **Finance Committee**

Please check page 2 for the next meeting dates. The Finance Committee will be presenting the proposed FY2010 Association budget at the annual meeting on October 19.

### **Neighborhood Watch Committee**

Volunteers are still needed for Neighborhood Watch patrols. There are still many nights of each month that are not covered. While an active patrol has been proven to reduce crime, it is important to understand that it needs to be a community wide effort. Most of Fairfax County's most successful watch programs have people out every night of the week. A neighborhood just down the road from us off Little River Turnpike has enough volunteers that most people do not patrol more than twice a YEAR. If we could get 30 volunteers that would mean once a month, 60 would be once every 2 months, and so on. Everyone needs to do their part to keep this neighborhood crime free. It only takes a couple of hours to patrol the community.

Crime seems to have gone down since an active watch started but criminals see patterns. If the same nights and times of the week are patrolled, then a criminal will begin to see what nights and times are not patrolled and use that time to steal/break into our cars and homes. In fact the last few incidents this neighborhood has had have been nights where no one was patrolling.

To join your Neighborhood Watch, contact Fred Saah ([fred300@gmail.com](mailto:fred300@gmail.com))

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

The Board has appointed original resident Mary Coyle to the ACC and President Tremols has named her the chair of the committee. The editor asked her for her biography:

I am an original LVCA owner, having purchased my home on Hampton Village Pass in 1984.

Shortly after my arrival here, I was appointed to the newly conjoined ACC/Grounds Committee, and elected co-chair where I served as the ACC/Grounds Committee co-chair for over two years. While on this committee, my co-chair and I were tasked by the Board to perform the first comprehensive measurements of LVCA streets, sidewalks, curbs and gutters from both as-built plans and actual measurements, and to develop a forty year engineering model used to establish and to maintain the Grounds Reserves funding. This early model was used to maintain the reserve funds on target for over ten years.

After serving on the ACC, I was elected to the LVCA Board where I ultimately served two terms for a total of six years on the Board. During this time, I served as Member-at-large, Secretary, Vice President, and finally as LVCA President. I also published the LVCA Newsletter for a number of years and originated the first homeowners' packets

My philosophy has been always to involve as many homeowners as possible in the running of the Association, and I continue to maintain that point of view. I will be actively seeking volunteers for the Architectural Control Committee at the next Annual Meeting in October.

The Board thanks Mary for volunteering once again, and looks forward to working with her.

### **Communications Committee**

Please submit articles, letters to the editor, advertisements, and especially contractor recommendations to [lvcawebmaster@lafayettevillage.org](mailto:lvcawebmaster@lafayettevillage.org). If you would like to view the newsletter in *color*, sign up for electronic distribution (send you email address to the webmaster) or access the newsletter on the website! The next newsletter will be available November 28, 2009. Submissions are due by November 25<sup>th</sup>.

## Grounds Committee Update

Committee member Susan Dudley took soil samples from various parts of our community and sent them to Virginia Tech for analysis. The results have come back and we will direct our grounds contractor to apply lime to areas based on the results. We have also requested separate testing for the Community Garden area.



The Community Garden is doing well for those that have tended their plot. The area to the north of the garden has been cleared and planted in grass. Last Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, Pat Fox called about a large tuck that drove over the grounds in front of his home and around the garden area. I went and inspected and it appears to have been a mowing unit contractor working with Dominion Power. They mowed one swath under the power lines all the way to Gallows Road.

In response to a Board directive, the Committee determined that any tree branch overhanging a sidewalk with less than seven feet clearance from the center of the sidewalk should be trimmed. When such a branch is identified, the management company will notify the homeowner that the limb will be cut back and request permission to cut the limb even with the tree rather than with the sidewalk. The contract with Blade Runners has provisions to handle these cases at no additional charge to the Association.

The Committee discussed the tree survey completed by Blade Runners. The Committee is using the survey to develop a plan for tree removal and new plantings. Also, the Committee directed Blade Runners to apply Milky Spore to our common areas, a naturally occurring bacterium that controls grubs which kill grass roots.



The Committee addressed erosion projects in the area around Mt. Airey, Byrds Nest, and Butterfield; the area behind Byrds Nest east, and the area behind Newport Glen. The first two areas are already on the plan to be addressed this year. However, since the original plan for the “rain garden” was not approved by the NOVA Soil & Water Conservation District, the Committee will need to find new approaches to manage erosion in that area. The Committee is looking at an alternative proposal. The bamboo behind Byrds Nest that was removed has started to return. The Committee will re-apply previously purchased chemicals to control the bamboo.

The Committee also discussed plans for reforestation and landscaping along the HOT Lanes construction areas. The state has allocated \$5 million for reforestation of the 221 acres of land affected by the HOL Lanes, and the Committee is working to ensure our area receives some of these funds. In addition, FLOR-Transurban, the HOT Lanes contractor, has grant money of up to \$5,000 for specific projects. The Committee is working on developing a proposal for this grant money.

The Committee discussed the possibility of renting land under the power lines to a nursery. This use, compliant with Dominion Power right-of-way usages, would provide income to the Association. If this option did not work out, the Committee will consider a program by Va. Game and Inland Fishery Department to make the area into a meadow. Dominion has funds to assist with such a project.

## *Grounds Committee Update, Continued*

Chairman Jarvis noted that the three year contact with Blade Runners ends this year. He has asked the Management Company to have proposed contracts for review at the Grounds Committee's September meeting.

The Grounds Committee and the ACC and Neighborhood Watch Committees are recommending that new street lights be added on Newport Glen near the mailboxes and on Butterfield near the mail boxes in the north east corner. In addition, the Grounds Committee is looking into recommending some mail boxes be replaced or painted. – Submitted by Jay Jarvis, Committee Chair

## *A Backyard Habitat in Autumn*

The crickets aren't chirping as much, cooler temperatures are sliding into the weather reports, and some of the leaves are beginning to turn.

Whether you have a Backyard Habitat or not, there are a few simple things you can do to make your yard more hospitable for wildlife. Re-seeding your lawn before the ground freezes up will make it thicker and naturally less susceptible to weeds next year, so you can reduce your use of chemical weed-killers—or cut them out completely. It's also a good time to prune dead growth; remember that small leaves and twigs can be composted or raked into flower beds to serve as a rich, natural mulch. If you're worried about gloomy winter skies, consider planting bulbs for early spring color and try hanging suet cakes for local birds; they'll be more likely to drop by in the colder months.

We've already seen a few Canadian geese moving through the area. We know that the tiny house wrens that hatched in our yard a few months ago won't be back until spring, and all the hummingbirds that swarmed to the feeder we put up this summer will be leaving soon, too. However, we know that cardinals, goldfinches, and blue jays will stay in town through the winter, and other birds like the pudgy gray juncos (who love our suet) are on their way. As for the chipmunks we haven't seen in months, they're everywhere these days, hopping all over the place as they prepare for hibernation.

### **About Backyard Habitats:**

The National Wildlife Federation created the Backyard Habitat program more than 35 years ago to help create healthy and diverse sanctuaries for animals. If you provide food, water, shelter, and a place for raising young, you can get certified and join the network of thousands helping to offset the habitat loss that threatens native wildlife all over the country. It's easier than you might think. To get more ideas and details about the program, log onto:

<https://secure.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife/certify.cfm?campaignid=WH09ASLP>

[http://www.enature.com/backyardwildlife/nwf\\_bwh\\_home.asp](http://www.enature.com/backyardwildlife/nwf_bwh_home.asp)

--submitted by Kim Arnette

### **Parking Space for Rent on Ashley Glen Road**

The Association is offering a parking space for rent on Ashley Glen Road for \$35 per month. This is a month-to-month rental that may be terminated at the end of any month. If you are interested, please contact the management company (KPA, attention Diane Tschirhart; contact information is on page 2) by October 15<sup>th</sup>. If more than one person is interested, there will be a drawing to determine the winner.

### Election Day

...is right around the corner. Be sure to cast your vote on (or before – see below) **November 3, 2009** for the following important offices:

#### **Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, and Delegate**

In addition, there will be a Fairfax County school bond on the ballot.

All Lafayette Village residents vote in the **Hummer Precinct (519)**, located at the Packard Center in Annandale Community Park, **4030 Hummer Road**. The polls are open from 6:00am to 7:00pm.

#### **Important Dates:**

Monday, October 5 – Final day to register to vote. If you are registered at your current address, you do not need to register again. To verify their voter registration status, call the General Registrar's office at 703-222-0776. You will need to mail your application or register in person on Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> to meet the deadline. Details are at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb/vregis.htm>.

Tuesday, October 14 – In-person absentee voting begins: Mason District Governmental Center, 6507 Columbia Pike in Annandale, Monday through Friday, 3 - 7:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Tuesday, October 27 – Final day to apply for an absentee ballot by mail.

Saturday, October 31 – Final day to vote absentee in person. For more information about absentee voting, go to <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb/absentee.htm>.

**Farmers Market at Mason District Park** - Only six weeks are left to join your friends and neighbors at the Farmer's Market on Thursday mornings from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Mason District Park, 6621 Columbia Pike in Annandale. The Farmer's Market will be open until November 5th, and it offers vine-ripe produce, fresh baked goods, herb plants, and much more. For a complete schedule of Farmer's Markets hosted by the Fairfax County Park Authority, go to <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farm-mkt.htm>.

**Happy 40th Birthday to the Fairfax County's First Nature Center!** - Families are invited to join Hidden Oaks Nature Center's 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration on Saturday, October 17, 1 - 4 p.m. Everyone will be in a party mood on Hidden Oaks' big day - the woodland animals will come out to play in the enchanted woodland walk. Talk to costumed characters along the trail about how people affect their life in the forest. Listen to stories of the changes in Annandale during the last 40 years from a small community to a diverse urban center. Enjoy a slice of birthday cake, activities and games as the Center unveils new plans and features for the next decade of environmental stewardship and getting families outdoors to play!

Reservations and advanced payment (\$5/person) required. For more information, visit Hidden Oaks Nature Center at 7701 Royce Street in Annandale or call 703-941-1065.

**Contractor Recommendation:** I've been very satisfied and pleased with the work that Tu Ngo (Pro Home Repair, 703-922-6254) has done for me over the last 5 years – installed new attic fan, did a beautiful job painting all the outside trim including some repairs, and even ceramic tile work.

## *Around Town...*

### **Annandale Fall Festival and Parade: Saturday, October 24th**

#### **It's Bigger and Better than Ever: Now Held in the Heart of Annandale!**

The **Annual Annandale Parade** will be held along Columbia Pike from 10:00AM to Noon.

**Annandale Fall Festival:** On Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, the Annandale Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Club of Annandale will sponsor a spectacular Fall Festival in the Safeway parking lot on Little River Turnpike. From 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM, dozens of merchants with handmade and fashion jewelry, art work, quality giftware from major manufacturers, exquisite crafts and so much more will unveil their treasures.

Costumed international dancers, local bands, a D.J. and "The Taste of Annandale" with food from many culinary cuisines will be featured at this festival. The Kid's Zone will delight and challenge with a Mechanical Bull, 24' Dual Slides, Bungee Basketball, Bungee Run, a Sticky Wall, an Obstacle Course, Moon Bounce, Face Painters, a Nature Exhibit, a Reading Tent with costumed characters, and interactive games for toddlers to teens. Mark your calendars. This will be a day of Family Fun not to be missed.

### **From Supervisor Penny Gross: Flu Season Preparation**

Wash your hands. Cover your cough. Stay home if you are sick. According to the Fairfax County Health Department, these simple practices can help provide protection from H1N1 influenza. Children, teens, and young adults are expected to be affected disproportionately, since they are unlikely to have developed the immunities of older people. In fact, there are few cases of H1N1 expected among the elderly, which is a change from the usual seasonal flu that is more dangerous for senior citizens.

Seasonal flu vaccines will be available this fall through normal distribution channels - doctor's offices, health clinics, drugstore events. The H1N1 vaccines, just approved by the Food and Drug Administration, will be focused on target groups determined by the Center for Communicable Diseases, and will be in two forms: injection and nasal mist. Information about those vaccines will be available through the public media, as well as on-line at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hd](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hd), or [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov).

Health Departments across the region have plans in place if a pandemic hits the Washington area. Fire and Rescue Departments and hospital services are included in the planning, and local governments are well-prepared to respond. Residents must do their part to protect themselves, just like Mom said: wash your hands, cover your cough, and stay home if you are sick.

### **Fairfax County "My Neighborhood" webpage provides a wealth of information**

The Fairfax County "My Neighborhood" web pages uses a technique called "geo-coding mash-up" to present county information mapped to a specific location. On these web pages, for instance, you can call up all crime reports occurring within ½ or ¼ mile of your house. You can also look up demographics, park information, and general information, all geared to a specific location. To start your research, go to <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gisapps/myneighborhood/> and follow the prompts.

**LAFAYETTE VILLAGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

**PROXY/ABSENTEE BALLOT**

KNOW BY ALL BY THOSE PRESENT, that the undersigned Unit Owner(s) of Lafayette Village Community Association does/do hereby constitute and appoint: **(MUST FILL IN NAME OF PERSON WHO WILL ACT AS YOUR PROXY - DO NOT FILL IN YOUR OWN NAME):**

\_\_\_\_\_ as the true and lawful voting representative, proxy and stead of the undersigned and the undersigned's unit in the Lafayette Village Community Association, as further identified below, to act, based upon the ownership standing in the name of the undersigned, at the Annual Meeting of the Association to be held at 7:00 p.m. on October 16, 2008, and any continuances thereof.. My above-named proxy shall have full authority to vote upon any and all matters which may be presented, considered and voted upon at such meeting, pursuant to the ByLaws and in accordance with the instruction set forth below as fully and with the same effects the undersigned could have if personally present at said meeting. The undersigned hereby ratifies and confirms all that the proxy may lawful do or cause to be done by virtue itself.

**(An uninstructed proxy allows the holder of the Proxy to vote in place of the unit owner on all matters that come before the meeting.)**

\*\*\*\*\*

The undersigned has executed this Proxy this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009

\_\_\_\_\_  
Owner's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
On Site (Unit) Address

Expressed Instructions: I/we do expressly direct and instruct my/our proxy to vote as indicated below:

Mark One:     ( )     I/we instruct my/our proxy to be counted for **quorum purposes** only.

                  ( )     I/we instruct my/our proxy to be counted for quorum purposes and to cast my vote for any matters that may be presented at the Annual Meeting.