



# *Lafayette Village Community Association*

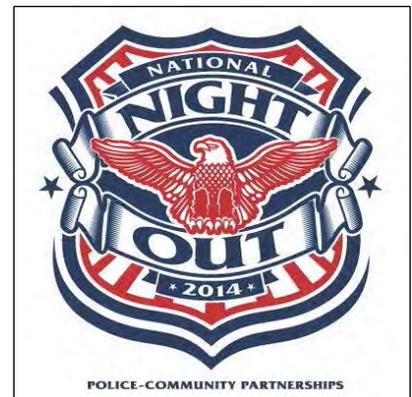
## *August/September 2014 Newsletter*

### **National Night Out – Tuesday, August 5, 2014**

Join us for the 2014 National Night Out on Tuesday, August 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. This year we will gather at Trammell Park to meet those walking up Lafayette Village Drive from the pool house. There will be a moon bounce for the kids to enjoy, and snow cones to take the edge off the heat. We will distribute Child ID kits for parents to take home, and will have glow sticks and wrist bands for kids. We have invited Fairfax County Police to attend as well, to show off their equipment and talk to us about crime prevention. We will be out until dark.

#### **NATIONAL NIGHT OUT is designed to:**

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness;
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs;
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and
- Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.



#### **WHY YOU NEED to participate:**

- You can pick up an ID Kit, allowing you to take and store your child's fingerprints and DNA!
- You can sign up for the Neighborhood Watch. We need volunteers and the statistics are clear – an active community with an active neighborhood watch reduces crime!
- You can sign up for the email news group and get important LVCA notices via email!
- It will be fun! Meet your neighbors, make new friends, and celebrate a crime-free summer!

**Remember to show your support for National Night Out by turning on your porch light at sunset and leave it on all night! Lights on for Safety!**

### **Pool Event – End of Summer Barbecue Saturday August 23 (Rain date August 24)!**

Come celebrate the approaching end of summer, when we will have an end of pool season barbecue and pool party starting at 4:00pm. The Association will supply burgers and hot dogs, condiments, chips, and drinks. Neighbors are asked to bring a side dish to share. The pool will be open to all residents until 8:00pm.

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

- *Committee Reports/Schedule*
- *Water Service Line Leaks*
- *Monarch Waystation News*
- *Annandale Local History*
- *President's Comments*
- *Upcoming community events*

#### **Volunteers needed for Annual Meeting Nominating Committee**

The LVCA Annual Meeting will be held on Monday, October 6, when one Board seat will be up for election. We need volunteers to serve on the Nominating Committee to provide a list of Board candidates for the membership to consider at the Annual meeting.

If you would like to serve on this committee, please email Carl Iddings at [president@lafayettevillage.org](mailto:president@lafayettevillage.org).

## Our Community Information...

### LVCA Board Members

**Carl Iddings – President**

202-957-1194

[President@lafayettevillage.com](mailto:President@lafayettevillage.com)

**John Alexander – Vice President**

703-208-9614

[jmalex14@msn.com](mailto:jmalex14@msn.com)

**J. Gaston – Secretary**

571-262-1207

[lvca.secretary@yahoo.com](mailto:lvca.secretary@yahoo.com)

**Jim Franklin - Treasurer**

703-205-9087

[jim@prodigycapitalconsulting.com](mailto:jim@prodigycapitalconsulting.com)

**Jay Jarvis – Member-at-Large**

571-235-5420

[jay@jarvislandscaping.com](mailto:jay@jarvislandscaping.com)

### LVCA Committee Chairs

**Architectural Control – Angela Cutter**

[aicutter50@gmail.com](mailto:aicutter50@gmail.com)

**Grounds – Jay Jarvis**

571-235-5420

[jay@jarvislandscaping.com](mailto:jay@jarvislandscaping.com)

**Finance – Jim Franklin**

703-205-9087

[jim@prodigycapitalconsulting.com](mailto:jim@prodigycapitalconsulting.com)

**Pool & Recreation – Lisa Conoly**

703-698-7455

[lisac\\_234@hotmail.com](mailto:lisac_234@hotmail.com)

**Communications – Carl Iddings**

[lvcawebmaster@lafayettevillage.org](mailto:lvcawebmaster@lafayettevillage.org)

**Neighborhood Watch – Doug Stewart**

703-965-3242

[stewart8668@cox.net](mailto:stewart8668@cox.net)

### Sequoia Management Company

Dale Edwards

[dedwards@sequoiamgmt.com](mailto:dedwards@sequoiamgmt.com)

Phone: 703-803-9641

Fax: 703-968-0936

**Patriot Disposal Services**

Phone: 703-257-7100

**Dominion Towing**

Phone: 703-339-2400

**EARLY REMINDER: Fourth Quarter Assessments are due October 1, 2014.** Make it easy on yourself by signing up for the Direct Debit program, and have your payments automatically paid from your bank account at the beginning of each quarter! Complete the direct payment form at [http://www.lafayettevillage.org/docs/Sequoia Direct Payment Authorization.pdf](http://www.lafayettevillage.org/docs/Sequoia_Direct_Payment_Authorization.pdf) and send it to Sequoia Management, 13998 Parkeast Circle, Chantilly, VA 20151-2283, attention Dale Edwards.

### LAFAYETTE VILLAGE COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR

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

**Board Meetings** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at 7:00 PM at the Woodburn Elementary School Library, 3401 Hemlock Drive at Gallows Road. (August 11 and September 8)

**ACC Meetings** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of month at 7:00 PM at 3711 Yorktown Village Pass (August 21 and September 18)

**Grounds Meetings** – 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of month at 7:15 PM at 7828 Ashley Glen Road. (Special meeting August 21; regular meeting September 25)

**Finance Committee** – August 19 (Tuesday), September 16 (Tuesday) at 7:00 PM at 3733 Yorktown Village Pass

**Neighborhood Watch** – TBD. Check the website for meeting dates and times.

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

### LVCA Annual Meeting

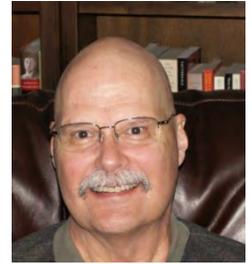
The LVCA Annual meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 6, 2014. We will be meeting at 7:00pm in the large meeting room of the Mason District Government Center, 6507 Columbia Pike.

There will be one board seat up for election. If you are interested in running for a seat on the LVCA Board of Directors, please send an email to Jim Franklin at [jim@prodigycapitalconsulting.com](mailto:jim@prodigycapitalconsulting.com), the chair of the Nominating Committee. We also need volunteers to serve on the Nominating Committee – see the note on page 1 of this newsletter for details.

**Contributors to this edition:** Thanks to Angela Cutter, Anne Sansbury, Doug Stewart, Jay Jarvis, Lisa Conoly, Jim Franklin, Amanda Sansbury, Bill Clark, Linda Boone, Christie Prucker. **Special thanks to the distributors:** Christie Prucker, Larry Dunham, Kathie French, Nathan Garcia, Greg Johnson, DJ Terreri, and Tina Snapp,

## A note from the President:

**Lafayette Village Drive, Merrimac Trail, and Trammell Road:** Now that our community streets have been repaved and are looking great, I have been frequently asked “What about Lafayette Village Drive?” or “What about Merrimac Trail?” These streets and Trammell Road are in bad shape, for sure, but they are state roads, not Association roads, and are VDOT’s responsibility. While Trammell Road had some of its larger potholes repaired recently, all three of these streets need to be milled and paved, just like our community streets. I have asked Supervisor Gross’s office to assist us in getting Lafayette Village Drive and Merrimac Trail assessed for reconstruction in the next few years. Until we hear back from VDOT on this request, I’ve asked that we hold off on pothole filling on Lafayette Village Drive – once a street is repaired, even if the repairs are only temporary (like the pothole filling on Trammell Road), it falls down the priority list for VDOT. I will keep everyone posted on our progress with VDOT.



**Lafayette Village visits the Stars:** Several Lafayette Village residents are amateur astronomers and are members of local astronomy clubs. Working with these residents, we are trying to organize an evening of star- and planet-gazing in the Meadows. We are looking at a Friday or Saturday evening in late September to host this event. We’ll have several telescopes, allowing residents to look up close at Jupiter, Saturn, the moon (hopefully), as well as various stars and nebulae of interest, possibly including the Orion nebula and the Pleiades. This should be a fun evening for adults and children alike. As plans firm up, we will provide details via email (sign up for the email list, if you aren’t already on it – see the bottom of this page) and other community announcements.

**Parking Tickets:** The Association has been actively enforcing the visitor parking spaces. As you know, residents are not allowed to park in visitor parking spaces – these spaces are limited to guests only and then for only two consecutive days. If your vehicle has been ticketed, that ticket is a warning – the next time your vehicle is parked in a visitor spot, it will be towed. If your guest’s vehicle has been ticketed, please call the phone number on the ticket and explain the situation. That way, your guest’s vehicle won’t be towed by accident. You can review the Association’s parking regulations at [http://www.lafayettevillage.org/docs/LVCA Parking Regulations 2012-04-09.pdf](http://www.lafayettevillage.org/docs/LVCA_Parking_Regulations_2012-04-09.pdf). Note that vehicles parked in “No Parking” zones will be towed without a warning!

**Water Line Leaks:** During the past two months, three Lafayette Village homeowners have discovered they had leaks in their water service lines, the water line between their water meters and their home. Such leaks are the homeowner’s responsibility. They waste an enormous amount of water, and are expensive to repair. One homeowner has documented his experience in an article/contractor recommendation on page 7 of this newsletter. You can tell you might have a leak if you notice water or soggy ground in your back yard, or downhill outside your fence. Fairfax Water can also help you determine if you have a leak – see <http://www.fcwa.org/customer/detect.htm> for details. Once you determine you have a leak, call Fairfax Water at 703-698-5600. The agency will also offer a one-time adjustment to high water bills caused by leaks if you meet certain requirements. And it pays to shop around for licensed contractors to do the repair work.

## LVCA Fairfax Federation Representative Needed

The Fairfax Federation of Citizens Associations is a 73 year old volunteer community group that studies and advocates for issues of importance to Fairfax County residents, especially those living in homeowners associations and condominiums. The Federation:

- Actively participates in Fairfax County Government by studying issues and sending resolutions approved by its members to the Board of Supervisors.
- Works closely with Fairfax County staff to study issues about land use, the environment, transportation, and the budget.
- Develops a strong State Legislative Program that is sent to the County’s delegation and other delegates and senators in Richmond about issues of importance to County residents.

Lafayette Village is a member of the Fairfax Federation. Our previous representative to the Federation, Linda Boone, has had to step down, and we are searching for her replacement. If you have an interest in making Fairfax County a better place to live and work, and in learning more about Fairfax County government, you are a prime candidate to serve as LVCA’s representative! If you are interested in this volunteer opportunity, please email Carl Iddings at [carl\\_iddings@hotmail.com](mailto:carl_iddings@hotmail.com).

## Community Updates: Committee Reports....

### Finance Committee – Jim Franklin, chair:

LVCA's financial position remains healthy, and with the final payment for the milling and paving project, our reserves are on schedule to provide continuing funding for infrastructure requirements projected for the next several years. You all will have noticed the improvements in the pool and grounds over the past months, and thanks to conservative planning, the funding was available to support those improvements.

Over the coming months leading up to our annual meeting, the Finance Committee will be preparing a budget and financial projections for the coming year. We look forward to community comments on the budget and our finances at the fall meeting.

Our next committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday evening, August 19<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 pm EDT. We meet at 3733 Yorktown Village Pass, and you are always invited to attend. You can also view the Association's most recent monthly financial statements on the website at [http://www.lafayettevillage.org/lvca\\_MonthlyFinancials.htm](http://www.lafayettevillage.org/lvca_MonthlyFinancials.htm).

### Grounds Committee – Jay Jarvis, chair:

Our streets have been repaved and many of our sidewalk problems corrected. There are still some minor sidewalk problems such as where one sidewalk paver has sunk, leaving a "trip hazard." The community has engaged "Concrete Jack" to correct many of these areas. The biggest of the areas to be corrected is the steps leading down to our basketball court. We also want to give homeowners with uneven or sunken sidewalks the opportunity to have these problems corrected at a reduced rate if done at the same time this fall. If you are interested in this service, send an email to [jarvislandscaping@gmail.com](mailto:jarvislandscaping@gmail.com) with the subject line, "Concrete Jack." The process the company uses is to bore a small hole in the concrete and inject clay or another substance under the concrete, lifting the slab until it is even with the adjacent slab. The average cost per slab is about \$150.

Tree work is beginning in August with the removal of two large poplars behind the homes on Merrimac Trail. The tree crew will also clean out brush piles in the wooded area between Byrds Nest Pass and Merrimac Trail and along Trammel Road. In addition, the crew will remove limbs from several trees in the community; a dead mulberry tree between the two sections of houses on Brunswick Forest Pass will also be removed. The holly trees on the S curve that looked dead have been pruned by Blade Runners and now look much better.

The committee is working on additional erosion projects and reports will be made later on these.

The new street entrance signs (see the June/July 2014 newsletter for details) will be installed in early August and will give our community another freshening up. Appropriate signage is being considered for the pool parking lot once the Board considers changes to the parking rules dealing with this parking area.

The committee purchased 100 Cicada Killer Wasp traps and has started placing them in areas on Butterfield and Byrds Nest. They appear to be working as the number of wasps has been greatly reduced. The biggest problem is that some are pulling cars too far forward in their parking spaces, destroying the traps. If you see a trap in front of your parking space, please park a foot back from the curb.



New dog run in the meadows



Cicada traps on Byrds Nest Pass

The new dog run on top of the hill under the Dominion power lines is complete with entrances at either end. Please make sure the gates are closed when you leave. The rain barrel will provide drinking water for the dogs. Some wild life has made holes in the bottom of the fence, so we will be adding a wire barrier at the bottom. This is an area for friendly dogs. So if your dog is not friendly and there are others about, please do not let your dog in the dog run.

Committee Vice-Committee Chair Mike Nutbrown will chair the committee while Jay Jarvis is traveling for the next few months.

## Community Updates: Committee Reports, cont....

### Pool and Recreation Committee – Lisa Conoly, chair:

The pool season is in full swing and many families have made visiting the pool part of their regular routine.

With just a few weeks of summer left, we have one event remaining before the pool closes for the year. Please join us for a community cookout in the pool parking lot on Saturday, August 23 (rain date Sunday, August 24). We'll fire up the grills from 4:00-6:00pm and the pool will be open until 8:00pm. The Association will provide burgers, hot dogs, condiments, chips and drinks. Neighbors are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share. The furniture for the new eating area has finally arrived, so come check it out!

The pool will remain open through Labor Day, Monday, September 1. If you have not visited the pool yet this year, come to this final event of the season and see what you've been missing. If you have suggestions for future pool activities, email me at [lisac\\_234@hotmail.com](mailto:lisac_234@hotmail.com).



Enjoying a swim under the stars!

### Communications Committee

Did you know that you can submit ads, articles, contractor recommendations, and comments to the newsletter? All submissions will be considered for inclusion. Please submit your entries to [lvcawebmaster@lafayettevillage.org](mailto:lvcawebmaster@lafayettevillage.org). Lafayette Village makes it easy to stay informed through the newsletter, website and monthly Board meetings. The next newsletter will be available October 4, 2014. Articles and submissions are due by September 30th.

If you aren't receiving community announcements from the LVCA Mailing list, maybe you haven't submitted your email address! You can join the mailing list by sending an email to [lvcawebmaster@lafayettevillage.org](mailto:lvcawebmaster@lafayettevillage.org) with a request to be added to the list. Don't miss out on announcements important to Lafayette Village residents and homeowners.

### Neighborhood Watch Committee – Doug Stewart, chair:

Join us Tuesday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, for the National Night Out event at the playground. There will be a moon bounce, snow cones and refreshments. We will also have child ID kits and other goodies for you to pick up. We've invited Fairfax County police to attend, as well, so we expect a police officer to show up, demonstrate his vehicle and equipment, and talk to us about crime prevention. So, come out and meet your neighbors and board members and have some fun.

If you would like to help monitor the moon bounce to ensure all children have an equal time and can enjoy all the fun, please email [stewart8668@cox.net](mailto:stewart8668@cox.net).

**Criminal Activity:** Good news! During the past two months, Fairfax Police report that only a single crime was reported in Lafayette Village. This was an alleged stolen vehicle, which actually turned out to be a vehicle towed from the community because it was parked in a "No Parking" on Colonial Village Row.

### Architectural Control Committee (ACC) – Angela Cutter, chair:

Recent requests from homeowners for approval of new fences, windows, doors and roofs are good signs that people are continuing to maintain and update their homes. All this work increases the value of that property, whilst also improving its appearance, and that benefits the whole community.

I find it interesting that streets seem to have their "cycles". One street may look neglected for a few years then, after a few houses are spruced up and yards are taken care of, that street is rejuvenated. Often this happens when homes are sold. The seller will see things that need to be taken care of to increase the curb appeal, or a new owner will decide to put in some new landscaping or trim a tree and the yard suddenly looks new again.

The landscaping in front yards is really important in an aging community, and especially in the tiny yards of townhomes. Many of the trees planted by the builder are much too large for tiny yards or are reaching the end of their healthy life. While Blade Runners is responsible for cutting the townhome's grass and some trimming of bushes, you are responsible for the rest. Some of the

## Community Updates: Committee Reports, cont....

problems observed are: front yards full of weeds, dying trees, bushes that are hugely overgrown or are more branches than leaves, or bushes that are missing altogether. All homes are required to have shrubs along the foundation and these should be evergreens. If your shrubs have died or been replaced with plants that are not winter hardy, you will be asked to replace them with evergreens. Fall is the time to plant so we'll ask Sequoia to send out letters indicating a late fall deadline for work to be completed. (Late fall is also a great time for good deals at the home improvement stores as they try to clear out their stock.)

If your grass is struggling to survive, sometimes trimming lower tree branches will allow more light to reach the yard. Or seed/sod may be needed to fill in bare patches. Strangely enough, that strip of grass between the sidewalk and the street in front of your house is also yours to maintain. For tips on how to improve your grass, see the article in the April/May 2010 LVCA Newsletter at [http://www.lafayettevillage.org/newsletters/April-May-2010\\_Newsletter\\_final.pdf](http://www.lafayettevillage.org/newsletters/April-May-2010_Newsletter_final.pdf).

If gardening isn't your thing, perhaps a neighbor or one of the garden centers can offer some advice. If anyone knows of someone who does this kind of small scale work (at a reasonable price) please email me the information and we can make it available to all. And, of course, there's always the internet!

Some of the walkways and steps to the houses are also showing their age. With subsidence, paths are now at strange angles or separating from the steps. Unfortunately these are your responsibility too. Check out the Grounds Committee report for news about Concrete Jack, a company that will be doing work on our sidewalks. They have an easy, cost effective system for raising concrete sidewalk pavements and steps, and you may be able to have your work done at the same time, at a more affordable price. For more details, see the Grounds Committee article on page 4 of this newsletter

So much talk of your responsibilities! So I must end by thanking everyone who takes pride in their home and Lafayette Village as a whole. It's a great place to live and well worth taking care of.

If you are planning exterior improvements to your home, you can find the "Request for Exterior Improvement form on page 11 of this newsletter.



These steps have sunk over the years, and now present a trip hazard. Concrete Jack may be able to correct this problem at a very reasonable cost.

## Community Garden update ...

To complement our new deer fence and innovative garden designs, the LVCA garden now has a bench and a little rock garden with birdbath outside the gate. It's a lovely place to sit and contemplate garden issues, with the meadows to the left and the pool activity ahead.

The garden plots are chock full of lush plants – tomatoes, squash, cucumber, corn, peppers, beans, parsnips, beets, potatoes, a wide variety of herbs, and a smattering of flowers. The bottle tree is also doing well this year!

Because of the initial rototilling, a few former crops – notably dill, horseradish, and mint – have spread and cropped up throughout many plots, but weeding is weeding no matter what you're trying to eliminate. Some of us are delighted with the volunteer dill and would much rather pull up horseradish and mint than grass and mile-a-minute weeds any day.

Mid to late August is a good time to start cool weather crops such as peas; second crops of zucchini and squash; and initial plantings of kale, spinach and mustard. Then we can plant more kale, spinach and mustard in mid to late October if we're so inclined.

At this point, we are fully subscribed for next year, but you never know when a plot might open up, so please contact Anne Sansbury at [asansbury@gicgroup.com](mailto:asansbury@gicgroup.com) if you would like to be placed on the garden waiting list.



New garden gate and birdbath

## Water Leak Repair – One Homeowner’s Experience ...

On May 24<sup>th</sup>, Fairfax Water confirmed that I had a water service lateral line leak (water supply line between water meter and townhouse). Due to the potential of wide variation in pricing, availability of the contractor to perform the work, and need to have quick repair (since my water was turned off), I recommend that anyone having this same unfortunate experience get multiple quotes to perform the repair / replacement work. You should be able to get free contractor quotes in a relatively short period of time (I got 3 quotes over a 24 hour period starting on the Saturday afternoon of Memorial Day weekend). Getting multiple quotes can also give you a better understanding of the different methods of restoring water service that contractor’s employ.

You can find multiple contractors who perform this type of work on Washington Consumers’ Checkbook or Angie’s list. Look for plumbers who perform water line or sewer service work; these contractors do excavation work which most plumbers do not do. When you are getting quotes, I recommend you get one from American Plumbing, Inc. located in Lorton Virginia, (703)-550-2566; they performed my water service line replacement. American Plumbing specializes in water service repairs and replacements. They use a moling technique which minimizes the damage to your yard. They provide a ten year guarantee for parts and labor on water service replacements in copper. It’s also American Plumbing’s goal to beat or match any written estimate for water service replacements (it’s a business practice that I took advantage of; they matched my lowest quote from a contractor who was going to dig a trench across my yard). I found American Plumbing to be very responsive, timely, professional, and efficient in their work.

All of the contractors, who provided me with a quote, recommended a new water service line installation versus repair. The new line installation was recommended because of the placement of my existing water service – the existing line enters through the basement floor, so it has an estimated maximum depth of around nine feet below grade. Utilizing the existing water service line for installation of the new line wasn’t feasible and the cost of excavating to find the leak would be overly expensive. Fairfax County’s code requires a water service line to be a least 3 feet below grade which allows for much less excavation work than the existing service line. American Plumbing’s method of installation involved digging a hole next to the water meter at the curbside in front of my townhouse and another hole next to my townhouse for entry into the townhouse through the basement wall, then moling a new copper line between the excavated holes. The actual installation including rerouting of interior piping for the new service line took less than 3 hours.

Final completion of the work (filling of holes) occurred after Fairfax County inspection which was scheduled by American Plumbing. American Plumbing did a good job of leaving my yard neat, replanting a bush that had to be dug up, and lowering the water meter crock / cover to be level with the sidewalk (extra work provided at no cost). I must note that American Plumbing demonstrated flexibility in getting the work completed. They performed the work during the period of milling / paving of Butterfield and Mount Airey Lanes and also worked around a delay caused by a thunderstorm which completely filled the excavated holes with rainwater (the rainwater in the hole next to my townhouse turned out to be an excellent test of the effectiveness of the seal around the new pipe’s entry through the basement wall).

## Community ads ...

**For Sale – Jimmy Buffet Tix:** 2 Jimmy Buffett tickets. Saturday, August 16 at Jiffy Lube Live. Lawn Seats \$80/pair or best offer. Please contact Lisa Conoly 703-560-7667 or lisac\_234@hotmail.com.

**Day Care Provider:** Kids First day care for kids 0-11 years old. Licensed daycare provider, trained in CPR and First Aid. Lafayette Village location. For more information, please call Maha at 703-347-2876 (9am-5pm) or email [Maha\\_tayar@yahoo.com](mailto:Maha_tayar@yahoo.com).

	<b>10376 MAIN ST. FAIRFAX, VA. 22030</b>	LOOSE LEAF TEA	SPICE BLENDS	BBQ RUBS
	<b>(703) 359-2425</b>	SUGARS - NATURALLY FLAVORED		
	<b>TUES-SAT 11AM-7PM</b>	SEA SALTS	PEPPER CORN	GRAIN AND PASTA
	<b>Bring this ad in for 10% off your purchase of \$10 or more!</b>	EXTRACTS	CHOCOLATE	GIFT BOXES
		COOK BOOKS	TEA/SPICE ACCESSORIES	

## *Around Town...*

**Green Spring Gardens' 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Begonia Show and Sale** – Calling all gardeners and begonia aficionados! On **Saturday, August 23**, 9am - 4:30 p.m. and on **Sunday, August 24**, noon - 3:30 p.m., the Potomac Branch of the American Begonia Society will sponsor its popular Begonia Show and Sale. Expand your plant palette, and be tempted with splashes of color and shape for homes and greenhouses that last long after frosts have put our outdoor gardens to bed! The sale offers a wide variety of begonias, including subtropical species. Green Spring Gardens is located at 4603 Green Spring Road in Alexandria. For more information, visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring), or call Green Spring Gardens 703-642-5173.

**Celebrate Grandparents' Day with a Tea Party** – Honor multi-generations on **Sunday, September 7**, from 2 - 3 p.m., at Hidden Oaks Nature Center, 7701 Royce Street in Annandale. Celebrate National Grandparents Day with a multigenerational tea party! Enjoy tea in china cups, old-fashioned tea treats, and learn about extended families in wildlife. Children can create a special gift for their grandparents or other special adult in their life. Children must be accompanied by an adult, who is registered in the program. Preregistration required and can be done by calling 703-222-4664, or online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/hiddenoaks](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/hiddenoaks) (under public programs).

**George Mason Friends Used Book Sale – Thursday, Sept. 25 through Sunday, Sept. 28:** Huge sale in five areas of the library. *Plus* recorded books, music, and DVDs, and books in other languages!

George Mason Regional Library, 7001 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, VA

**Door-to-Door Solicitors** – Is the salesperson at your door properly licensed? Know your rights under the federal "Cooling Off" rule and the Virginia Home Solicitation Sales Act. These laws apply to virtually all purchases made in your home or at any location that is not the seller's permanent place of business. Soliciting is the sale of goods or services door-to-door or from a temporary stand, and is regulated by Fairfax County Code. Fairfax County requires peddlers and solicitors be licensed before they solicit door to door. They may solicit only between 9 a.m. and 8 p.m., and **may not solicit at a residence that posts a "No Peddlers or Solicitors" sign**. A peddler or solicitor must show the license upon request and must leave the premises immediately if asked to leave.

**When solicitors knock:**

1. Ask for his or her license. If he or she does not have a valid license, ask him/her to leave;
2. Close and lock your door; and
3. Immediately call Fairfax County Police (non-emergency) at 703-691-2131 to report the violation.

For more information, visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/consumer/education/solicitors.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/consumer/education/solicitors.htm) or call the Fairfax County Consumer Affairs branch at 703-222-8435.

## *Hidden Oaks Nature Center upcoming programs ...*

**Bat Fest (Saturday, September 13, 7 – 9pm)**

(Ages 2-Adult), 7-9 p.m. Bat World NOVA's Leslie Sturges, wildlife rehabilitator and licensed exhibitor, presents live local bats. Go on an evening bat hike, discover the array of backyard bugs attracting these natural bug zappers and enjoy games with prizes and crafts all highlighting our native bats. \$7/person. Preregistration required at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/hiddenoaks](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/hiddenoaks) under public programs.

**Monarchs and More (Sunday, September 21, 1:30-2:30 p.m. or 3-4 p.m.)**

(Ages 5-Adult) Learn to identify monarch and other butterflies, discover their fascinating life cycle and assist with tagging monarchs when available. Visit a Monarch Waystation and native butterfly garden. Learn about the challenges of the monarch migration phenomenon and how you can make a difference. Due to the dramatic decline in the monarch butterfly population, wild monarchs may not be available for tagging. The nature center raises monarchs annually for tagging and release. If available, at least one monarch will be tagged during the program. \$6/person Preregistration required at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/hiddenoaks](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/hiddenoaks) under public programs.

## Community News: The Monarch Waystation Program...

The first Monarch Waystation has been completed thanks to the hard work of the Grounds Committee members, especially Anne Sansbury. Anne is maintaining the first Waystation. The area has been cleared of all debris and weeds, and plants, including Milkweed, have been planted to attract butterflies. This initial Waystation is approximately 30 feet long and 14 feet wide and is located in the common area down the hill from the community garden.



Two other Waystation are being considered; one in an area under main power lines behind Colonial Village and the other in an area between Byrds Nest Pass and Yorktown Village. The committee is looking for volunteers to maintain the other areas. Each homeowner can help by planting milkweed plants and the committee will donate plants to those who wish to plant them in their backyard.

The milkweed plant is the cornerstone of the Monarch Waystation, since it is the plant on which the butterflies lay their eggs. Also, the resulting larvae sustain themselves by eating the leaves of these plants. A Monarch caterpillar can eat 200 times its birth weight in milkweed leaves. Milkweed is named for the milky juice which the plant produces. This juice contains chemicals that are bitter tasting and poisonous to predators of the Monarch caterpillars. Fortunately, the caterpillars are able to absorb these substances into their body. Therefore, when the caterpillars complete their metamorphosis and turn into Monarch butterflies, they remain poisonous to their predators.

One of the reasons that the Monarch butterfly population is currently decreasing is the decline in the availability of milkweed. This decline in milkweed is due to a number of factors, However, one of the most significant factors is the current widespread use of herbicides in roadside management and agricultural environments. Unfortunately, milkweed plants cannot survive the repeated use of these substances. Scientists are currently concerned that the monarch butterfly population could decline to extremely low levels, without a major effort to restore milkweed throughout the United States.

Creating a Monarch Waystation, or even just planting milkweed in one's yard, are ways in which individuals can take action to assist in preventing the decline of Monarch butterflies. Planting milkweed in herbicide free areas will help the milkweed to flourish, plus adds beauty to any landscape. If you would like to know more about planting milkweed, Green Spring Gardens is offering a seminar on Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, on the benefits of planting milkweed in one's backyard. Information concerning this seminar can be found by calling 703-642-5173.



Also, if you would like to know more about creating a Monarch Waystation, please contact Jay Jarvis at [jay@jarvislandscaping.com](mailto:jay@jarvislandscaping.com) or Carl Iddings at [carl\\_iddings@hotmail.com](mailto:carl_iddings@hotmail.com). Also, note that Hidden Oaks Nature Center presents its "Monarchs and More" program on Saturday, September 21 at the Nature Center. See the Hidden Oaks Upcoming Programs article on page 8 of this newsletter for more details.

**Did you know?** Each issue of the LVCA Newsletter is posted on our community website at <http://www.lafayettevillage.org/newsletter.htm>. You can view each newsletter in color and click on any web URL to go directly to the referenced website.

## *Annandale Village in the 1950s, a Local History...*

I have always been interested in the history of any locale I've lived in, but Annandale's history remained a mystery to me. Fortunately, one of our neighbors, Anne Sansbury, grew up in Annandale, and at my request, has prepared her memoirs of growing up in Annandale in the 50s. This is the first of a multi-part series, with future articles to appear in later issues of the newsletter.

My family moved to Annandale in 1949, before Little River Turnpike was widened to two lanes. My parents had purchased 8 acres of trees on Walton Lane before WWII, but couldn't get building materials until after the war. They cut down a swath of trees, enough to determine the perfect location for their house, and they bought plans for a Better Homes and Gardens model home, an open concept house with the kitchen on one side of a breakfast bar and a recreation room on the other and large windows all the way around. My mother could watch their four kids while working in the galley kitchen that included the laundry area and ironing board. My mother's sorority sister had recommended Walton Lane, and her family built a house there too. Later they recommended another family, so my parents sold off some land so the third family could buy a nice big lot, and they built in between the first two families. All the "girls" from these three families got together for lunch recently and have been swapping memories of our childhoods on Walton Lane. There were a few other houses on Walton Lane before we got there, but mainly there were trees, especially scrub pines that surely must have reminded my father of his hometown of Calais, Maine.



Intersection of Annandale Road, Little River Turnpike, Columbia Pike and Ravensworth Road

Most of Annandale was a forest back then, with a variety store at the center on Columbia Pike and a small general store at Ravensworth and Little River, the site of a trading post many years before. At first, we did our main grocery shopping in Arlington, way down Wilson Boulevard, and had to go into DC to buy clothes. Many residents went to Philadelphia and/or New York to do their shopping for clothes and household items, but we just went to Philadelphia to visit my Russian grandparents and we never went to New York, even though my mother grew up there and adored the city.

We all attended Annandale Elementary School, which was located at 7200 Columbia Pike, where the Annandale Adult Day Health Center is now. There was no fire station next door, and I remember the upset when we learned that it was going to be built. We could appreciate the benefits, but were worried about the noise of sirens so close to home. In fact, I don't think we ever noticed the sirens, and the one time we did have a fire, my father had to put it out by ripping down the burning curtains and throwing them out in the rain while the fire engine ran up and down Walton Lane looking for our house, which was not visible from the road.



Annandale Elementary School



Annandale Volunteer Fire Department

Little by little, buildings popped up around Annandale and every year in school we were challenged to write a theme, "Annandale, the Town with a Future." I was aghast that any adult would try to glean ideas for the future from a bunch of school children; furthermore, I didn't have one idea myself and was somewhat embarrassed that I couldn't join the contest. I would love to read those themes now. I doubt anybody nailed the current Annandale.

**REQUEST FOR EXTERIOR IMPROVEMENT FORM**

To: Chair, Architectural Control ACC  
Lafayette Village Community Association  
c/o Sequoia Management, attn.: Dale Edwards  
13998 Parkeast Circle  
Chantilly, VA 20151-2283

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Pursuant to the By-Laws and A.C.C. regulations of the LVCA the following exterior improvements to my property located at: \_\_\_\_\_ are proposed:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Sketches, pictures, diagrams, color paint chips and further details of my project (as necessary) are attached to help preclude further inquiries that slow the A.C.C. process and delay my work.

I am aware that A.C.C. approval for the project is contingent upon quality workmanship and timeliness of work. I further understand that A.C.C. approval is not a substitute for compliance with applicable Fairfax County building codes, ordinances or any other regulation or restriction (such as easements) and that compliance with the above is the responsibility of the homeowner. Any cost relating to compliance will be borne by the homeowner.

I further understand that it is Association policy that the homeowner is responsible for repairing, to Association satisfaction, any damage done to common properties that might be caused by the homeowner and/or parties contracted by the homeowner during the execution of the project.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Fax # \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**ENDORSEMENT**

Date of ACC action: \_\_\_\_\_

The ACC, having carefully considered the above request, hereby:

- approves as submitted
- approves the proposal as modified below
- regretfully cannot approve the project for the reasons cited below:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

A follow-up inspection will occur after completion to ensure compliance. Thank you for your cooperation.

Chair, Architectural Control Committee (ACC)