

The Lamplighter



THE WOODBRIDGE VALLEY IMPROVEMENT AND CIVIC ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 3197
Catonsville, MD 21228

A covenant-controlled community
Email: wvica@woodbridgevalley.org
Web: www.woodbridgevalley.org

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The President's Message

Happy New Year!

I trust everyone had an enjoyable holiday.

We have already had our fair share of snow. Please make sure all drains near your home and gutters are free of leaves.

The Board has scheduled the **Easter Egg Hunt** for Saturday March 12, 2016. There will be a flyer distributed closer to the date. If you can help with this event, please contact Nicole Smoot @ 443-255-3131. **Hiding close to a 1000 eggs takes some time.**

Several years ago we had a **Murder Mystery Night Dinner** that was well received by the community. We have planned to have another dinner on April 1, 2016 @ Turf Valley. Please see the flyer in this newsletter. You have plenty of time to invite your family, friends and neighbors to join you for a wonderful night out. You can request an entire table for your guests.

There has been some concern from the neighbors who walk their dogs near the school. It appears that some dogs are being allowed to run unleashed on the school grounds while parents are waiting for their children, as well as at other times. Some of the unleashed dogs are large and the walkers feel uncomfortable while walking their pets. **Please know that Baltimore County's number one rule for pets is that they must be on a leash at all times.** The school grounds are not a doggy park. Please be mindful of this concern and govern ourselves accordingly.

We welcome our editor back to work. Myles Carpeneto had some health issues and was out of commission for some time. He is back and ready to go.



PLEASE DO NOT PUT "THE LAMPLIGHTER" IN MAILBOXES!

**WOODBIDGE VALLEY IMPROVEMENT AND CIVIC ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2014-2015**

Tina Brown	President	1002 Pleasant Valley Dr.	410-747-7069
Nicole Smoot	VP & Welcoming	1428 Pleasant Valley Dr.	443-255-3131
Dorothy Habersham	Treasurer	7209 Pinecrest Rd.	410-455-0135
Carla Jones	Secretary	1202 Pleasant Valley Drive	443-691-1088
Manya Archie		502 Crosby Rd.	410-788-6508
Deborah Ball		1238 Pleasant Valley Dr.	410-747-0494
Vernise Burs		22 Stuart Mills Pl.	410-788-0662
Myles Carpeneto	Website	5 Big Stone Ct.	410-455-0277
Rose Marie Hellman		10 Sparrow Hill Ct.	410-747-0041
Sharon Johnson		11 Stuart Mills Pl.	410-788-1120
Ayesha Kahn		1406 King William Drive	443-860-9445
Ted King		14 Brucetown Ct.	410-788-3626
Ben Miller		11 Big Stone Ct.	410-869-9380
Joy Reber		7 Union Hall Ct.	410-869-7499
Charles Springer	Covenants	13 Forest Rock Ct.	410-455-0069
Levone Ward		12 Brucetown Court	410-719-1221

WELCOME!
NEW NEIGHBORS

Rudolph & Sonia Burns	1432 Pleasant Valley Dr.
Turyalai Hashimi	1436 Pleasant Valley Dr.
Prakashbhai & Ramilaben Mistry	1434 Pleasant Valley Dr.
Jerry & Brenda Paulsen	1307 Pleasant Valley Dr.

If you have new neighbors, please call **Nicole Smoot** at **443-255-3131** so that we can welcome them to our community.

FENCES IN WOODBRIDGE VALLEY

Under the Covenants of Woodbridge Valley the highest allowable height for perimeter fences is 48 ". All fences must have prior approved by the Association to avoid violation of the Covenants and the potential of a fence being erected on another property or on Baltimore County easements.

Then why does it seem there are so many perimeter fences that are higher than 48 inches. There are at least four reasons

- Several fences are older than 20 years which was before the WVICA assumed responsibility for the enforcing the Covenants.
- There are three other communities (Westerlee, West Park, & Ellicott Mills) which abut Woodbridge. Several large fences are in these communities. as seen on Crosby Road , Upper Mills Circle, and Johnnycake Road
- The homeowner of one fence in Woodbridge, as a result of a court settlement, can retain his six foot fence as long as he owns the house. The courts placed a lien on the property stipulating the house cannot be sold until the fence is removed.
- Three houses within Woodbridge Valley have recently erected similar high white vinyl fences and have been notified by the Association of their Covenant violations. In previous Court involved covenant cases (which Woodbridge Valley has prevailed), the Association was provided *pro-bono* legal services by the Community Law Center Since the Community Law center will no longer provide *pro bono* assistance for Covenant issues, the Association , using its own funds, is legally pursuing one of these three cases at a time

When the Association becomes aware of a fence violation, steps are taken to work with the homeowner. This past year we have had two owners reduce the height of their fences to 48 inches. The Association is determined to maintain the Covenants but can only succeed with the support of the residents. One form of support comes when a Woodbridge resident becomes aware of a covenant violation and notifies someone on the Woodbridge Valley board. All reports remain anonymous.

DIRECTORY

We need your help updating the Directory. If you have moved into the neighborhood since 2012 and have not been welcomed or have not given your information to your Block Captain, we need to hear from you. We need your name, address, and phone number. Tell us if you do not want your number published in the Directory. We do Robo calls to inform you of happenings in the community from time to time; let us know if you do not want to be contacted. If you know of a neighbor who no longer lives here, let us know the name and or address. If you have any changes since the last Directory was published, let us know. Ex., name or phone number. You can e-mail us at wvica@woodbridgevalley.org or call Tina Brown @410-747-7069 or email tina1002@verizon.net. Thank you for your help.

WOODBRIIDGE VALLEY ELEMENTARY PTA NEWS

Membership dues are \$10 per person and are still being accepted. All families are encouraged to join. General meetings are held on the first Monday of each month. The next General meeting will be held on Monday, February 1st at 6:30 p.m. in the WES library.

The Scholastic Book Fair will be held from February 1st-5th in the Rec Room. Lastly, please come out and support our students for a ONE NIGHT ONLY performance of the Woodbridge Theatrical Company's School play on Thursday, February 18th. The play has been cast and practices are underway. We have a wonderfully talented group of students who will give you a FABULOUS SHOW!

Contact Ms. Phyllis King, PTA President, with any questions at 443-799-5708.

BRRRRR AVOID FROZEN PIPES AND OTHER COLD WEATHER HAZARDS

This kind of cold weather is not just unpleasant, it can be dangerous. Baltimore County's helpful experts have some important tips for protecting your home and family.

DPW says let faucets drip

Baltimore County's Department of Public Works advises homeowners to let water taps drip during this week's extreme cold weather. During single-digit temperatures last year, more than 500 water meters froze. Maintaining the flow with a slow drip, say County engineers, will usually keep water in the pipes from freezing, and save homeowners considerable grief.

Last February Baltimore City (which maintains and repairs the metropolitan water system) was swamped with requests to thaw frozen meters. With the County's help, water service was quickly restored. But an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. (continued on page 6)

We invite you to join the Woodbridge Valley Improvement Association

MURDER MYSTERY PARTY

April 1, 2016 🗡️ Doors Open: 7pm 🗡️ Mystery & Buffet Dinner 8-10pm
Turf Valley Country Club, 2700 Turf Valley Rd, Ellicott City, MD 21042

Price \$60/person

Watch out! You could be accused of the crime.

For tickets call Dorothy Habersham <410-455-0135>

Contact Dorothy Habersham, 410-455-0135, <dpeace@verizon.net>
or Nicole Smoot, 443-255-3131, <nicki705@verizon.net>



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Power outage precautions

Power outages can go side-by-side with winter storms. Lights go out and some lose heat. When this happens some of us turn to generators to keep warm and informed.

Generators produce carbon monoxide, CO, a deadly gas. Keep your generator at least 15 feet from the house or building. Follow the manufacturer's recommendations regarding use and review the Fire Department's [safety tips for portable generators](#). For those who have gas stoves and ovens, **never** use an oven to heat your home!

Ice can be dicey

Cold weather along with snow and ice can be dangerous. The elderly are particularly vulnerable to problems in the winter.

Beware of "black ice" when you leave your home or work. What appears to be a wet surface can be very slick ice. Be cautious and take your time walking on this winter treat. This warning applies to driving too! Many accidents occur when black ice forms.

Ice melting products should be kept near the door along with your shovel. And beware of steps and handrails; they can be treacherous if not wiped down and salted.

Don't overdo with the shoveling

Anyone who has heart disease or chronic lung disease should not shovel snow or scrap ice. Shoveling is hard on the heart muscles and can cause a cardiac event. Ask a friend, neighbor or relative, or hire someone to clear the sidewalk and driveway.

Stay Warm and Dry

When venturing out in the cold, wear a hat or scarf, warm gloves or mittens, and warm, dry socks inside your boots. Wear a heavy coat, jacket or dress in layers. If the wind is blowing then wear a scarf across your face. Wind burn is hard on the skin just like sun burn. Wear sunscreen in the winter.

And last but not least, remember your pets. They feel the cold as much as you do and rely on you to keep them safe and warm.

Louise Rogers-Feher

Public Safety Office of Media and Communications, Baltimore County

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

In the event that you are not contacted about paying your membership dues, please fill out and mail the following form, along with a \$25 check made payable to **WVICA**. The mailing address is: **WVICA, P.O. Box 3197, Catonsville Maryland 21228.**



NAME: _____

Please print the name of each adult as you want it listed in the Directory

STREET ADDRESS: _____

PHONE _____

Please, DO NOT put my phone number in the WVICA directory

Please, DO NOT call me about upcoming events

Even if you do not want your telephone number made public, please let the Association have it so that we can contact you about emergencies and Association business

EMAIL _____

Your email address WILL NOT be made public, but please let the Association have it so that we can contact you about emergencies and Association business

WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO VOLUNTEER SOME TIME HELPING WITH
AT LEAST ONE OF THE ASSOCIATION'S PROJECTS?

YES _____ NO _____

ADS

- **ACUPUNCTURE:** David Paton has been practicing acupuncture for 22 years, having treated adults & children with a variety of conditions including ADD/ADHD, autism, asthma, hypertension, seizures, chronic pain, headaches, arthritis, stop smoking & anxiety/depression. Some insurance accepted. (410) 299-1952
- **AVON:** Buy or become an Avon representative. Call Shannon at 410-655-8309 or email westhoney@verizon.net

ADS (Continued)

- **AVON REPRESENTATIVE:** Woodbridge Valley resident – 50 years experience – Millie Hartley 410-744-3577
- **COMPUTER SERVICES:** Why pay box store prices for in-home computer services? Call your personal Woodbridge Valley PC computer geek. Over 30 years of desktop computer experience. Myles Carpeneto, 410-455-0277
- **DAYCARE:** Small Stars Daycare in Woodbridge Valley, Family Daycare, ages 3 mos. to 4 yrs. Call Betty Holloway, 410-869-3834
- **FAMILY HOME CHILD CARE:** Betty Aviles, 410-747-0552, registration number 1077.
- **FINANCIAL ADVICE:** John Comberiate, local Edward Jones advisor, can help with 401(k) rollovers, inheritance, retirement and education planning. Right in Rolling Crossroads at 4 E Rolling Crossroads Ste. 6, Catonsville, MD 21228 Call 410-455-0148 for free consultation.
- **HAULING, LANDSCAPING, LAWN CARE, SNOW REMOVAL & AUTO DETAILING:** Call Eric Aviles, 301-957-1068 and 410-747-0552
- **LIGHT HAULING:** Same day light hauling and delivery services. Call Woodbridge Valley resident Julian Bennett on 443-831-8975 or send email to julianbennett64@gmail.net.
- **PIANO LESSONS:** Both children and adults. Call 410-788-5175.
- **TUTORING SERVICES:** Professional Educator, MSDE certified, over 15 years classroom experience. ALL academic subjects including German, Latin I, SAT & HSPT Test Prep., Study & Organizational Skills. References available. Proven results at reasonable rates. Call 410-627-5938 or e-mail teacherman68@hotmail.com.
- **WEDDING/PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHER:** Ted King III Photography, 14 Brucetown Court, Catonsville, MD 21228; www.tk3photography.com, email: TK3Foto@photo.net; 443-691-8677 (cell); 410-788-3636 (home)
- **WELCOMING LITURGY:** If you are looking for an inclusive Roman Catholic Community not affiliated with the Archdiocese of Baltimore, you are invited to celebrate with the The Living Water Inclusive Catholic Community in Catonsville. See www.thelivingwatercommunity.org for details, or call Gloria Carpeneto, 410-455-0277.

PLEASE NOTE: The publication of ads is provided as a service to Woodbridge Valley residents and is limited to Woodbridge Valley and surrounding communities. Publication of ads does not imply Board endorsement of advertised goods and services. Ads of up to 320 characters, including spaces, with no graphics are published: Free to paid members of WVICA; for \$5.00 per ad to non-members; and, on a first come first served, space available basis.

ADS IN THIS ISSUE WILL NOT BE REPEATED UNLESS REQUESTED. Mail ads to WVICA, P.O. Box 3197, Catonsville, MD 21228 or email them to wvica@comcast.net. The next issue is scheduled for May 2016. The deadline for the next issue is April 15, 2016.