

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

Volume 44 Number 3
October, 2014

The President's Message

Happy Fall to you all.

As I do every year I am reminding you to clean your gutters and any storm drains near your homes as the leaves begin to fall.

We had a great summer. Everyone who attended the Soul Circus or the Orioles baseball game seems to have had a great time.

The Dumpster Day was greatly appreciated by most of those attending. There were, however, a few glitches such as the lateness of one of the dumpster trucks, which had a flat tire in the tunnel, and some residents not wanting to follow the disposal guidelines set by the County.

The Membership Drive will begin Saturday, Oct. 4th. It saddens me that from over 875 homes only 450 are paid members. Neighboring communities pay much more than we do in Woodbridge Valley, and their dues are mandatory. We use your dues to subsidize such events as Shred-it Day, Children's Parties, the Circus, Movie Night, maintaining the islands, and paying legal fees when necessary to name a few. When your Block Captain comes around, please consider becoming a member. We are considering some ways to make your payment easier. We will give you this info at a later date.

The Community Directory will be published early in 2015. Only paid members and new homeowners will receive a copy. If you are not listed in our 2012 Directory or have updated information, go to our web site listed above or contact your Block Captain or any Board Member with your information.

Have a safe Fall and Happy Holidays.



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
Joy Reber	Secretary	7 Union Hall Ct.	410-869-7499
Syed Ahmad		1300 Pleasant Valley Drive	240-281-0289
Manya Archie		502 Crosby Rd.	410-788-6508
Deborah Ball		1238 Pleasant Valley Dr.	410-747-0494
Vernise Burs	Social	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	Social	11 Stuart Mills Pl.	410-788-1120
Ted King		14 Brucetown Ct.	410-788-3626
Ben Miller		11 Big Stone Ct.	410-869-9380
Chuck Parson		4 Sparrow Hill Ct.	410-747-4127
Charles Springer	Covenants	13 Forest Rock Ct.	410-455-0069
Levone Ward		12 Brucetown Court	410-719-1221

WELCOME!
NEW NEIGHBORS

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

Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz congratulates Dr. Dallas Dance on his appointment to Presidential Commission

Towson, MD August 29, 2014 - Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz issued the following statement in recognition of President Obama's appointment of County School Superintendent Dr. S. Dallas Dance to the President's Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for African Americans:

"I am delighted that President Obama is recognizing Dr. Dance for his outstanding work in leading the Baltimore County Public Schools. The appointment is quite an honor. The people of Baltimore County are well aware of the progress that our school system is making under Dr. Dance's leadership, and it is very gratifying to know that his talents are now being recognized by the President of the United States."

Social Committee News

Shred-It Day

The much anticipated Shred it Day is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 4th between 10AM & 1PM. You should have received a flyer with all of the information.

Fall Yard Sale

Woodbridge Valley residents are invited to hold a sale at their homes or to bring their items to the common area for our Fall Yard Sale. It will be held on Saturday, October 11 (rain date October 18th). The common area will be located at the intersection of Crosby Road and King William Drive. Flyers were distributed via Block Captains; however, for more information, you can visit WVICA's newsletter, our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/WoodbridgeValley> , or our website: <http://woodbridgevalley.org>.

Ideas

We are looking into having a Family Bowling party as our winter activity in January 2015 and a community-wide activity for National Night Out In August 2015. Volunteers are needed to assist with planning. Please contact Sharon Johnson at 410-370-9731 or social@woodbridgevalley.org in order to volunteer or to share ideas for future activities for youth or adults. Thanks for all of our Board members and volunteers for their assistance in planning and carrying out activities.

Candidates Forum

The Woodbridge Valley, Ellicott Mills, Westerlee, and Westview Park communities joined forces to hold a Candidates Forum on May 20, 2014. In attendance were Delegate Shirley Nathan-Pulliam, who is running for Senator, and almost all of the Candidates who were running in our district. The Candidates shared their views on the issues, their experience, and their plans for our District. We hope that everyone will vote in the General Election on November 4, 2014. Early voting will take place Thursday, October 23, 2014 through Thursday, October 30, 2014 from 10 am until 8 pm.

UniverSoul Circus

Seventy-five community members and their families purchased deeply discounted tickets through WVICA and attended the UniverSoul Circus at Security Square Mall on June 21, 2014 for a phenomenal show. In addition to the clowns, we enjoyed exciting acts from all over the world! This circus is celebrating its 20th anniversary. If you have not checked out the UniverSoul Circus, be sure to do so the next time it's in town.

Woodbridge Valley Night at Camden Yards

The Baltimore Orioles are on a roll! They recently clinched the AL Eastern Division for the first time since 1997. Residents of the Woodbridge Valley and Ellicott Mills communities got to share some of the O's excitement at the Baltimore Orioles vs New York Yankees game the evening of August 13, 2014. The weather was lovely and to top things off, the O's won 5-3! Surely our attendance had something to do with their spectacular year! We hope that everyone had a great time and look forward to sponsoring another outing next summer.

Dumpster Day

Our much anticipated annual Dumpster Day was held on Saturday, September 20th. As always, it was well attended and four dumpsters were filled with a myriad of waste items. If you missed Dumpster Day, you can drop off your items as well as hazardous household waste (household chemicals, paints, pesticides, medicines, and automotive fluids) to the Western Acceptance Facility located at 3310 Transway Road, Halethorpe, MD 21227 on 11/9/14 (between 9am – 1pm).

Automated Water Meters Coming to Baltimore County

The Baltimore City Department of Public Works is preparing to install new electronic, wireless water meters in Baltimore County beginning this Fall in a project, known as **BaltiMeter**. Baltimore County has approximate 220,000 water customers who get their water from Baltimore City, and the project will take approximately three years.

The County is reminding citizens to be wary of solicitations from insurance companies telling homeowners that they are not protected against damage during the installation. In July, Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz issued an Executive Order providing residents with low cost County financing options for the rare occasion where a homeowner might otherwise be responsible for damage.

"I am very disappointed that some companies are trying to scare people into purchasing insurance plans that they do not need," said County Executive Kamenetz. "These solicitations have even been sent to homeowners who are on well and septic, and therefore will not be subject to installation of electronic water meters. For those homeowners on public water and sewer, we believe it will be an extremely rare occasion when there might be minimal damage during the installation of these new meters. In the event that homeowners might be responsible for the repair, the County will help them finance the expense of repair."

If a pipe breaks due to contractor error, it is the responsibility of the contractor to make that repair, with no cost to the homeowner. If a water or sewer pipe should break during the installation on the homeowner portion of the line (from the water meter to the house) and it is not related to contractor error, the homeowner is responsible for that repair. In that case, the homeowner has two options:

- (1) He or she may hire an independent plumber and pay for the repair immediately.
- (2) Because the County recognizes that this unexpected expenditure could be very difficult for many individuals, under Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz' Executive Order homeowners can have Baltimore County pay for the repair and add the cost to the annual property tax bill amortized over 40 years at a five percent interest rate. To do so, the homeowner must first contact a licensed plumber and must have the estimate reviewed and approved by Baltimore County's Department of Public Works before commencing the work. This financing option is provided only for the "service" connection portion of private plumbing for residential homes - the portion of pipe from the water meter to the home.

Information regarding the installation of the new meters and consumer protections may be found on the County website at

<http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/publicworks/utilities/automatedmeters.html>

BGE Smart Meters

As you may be aware, BGE is installing smart meters - electric meters that allow two-way communication between the meter and BGE through a wireless network. If you 'opted out' and do not have a meter installed, BGE will bill your account a one time fee of \$75 (in three installments), and an additional monthly fee of \$11. The fees do not apply to customers who 'opted in' and wish to keep their smart meter or who choose to have one installed. To schedule installation, contact Grid One Solutions at 855-470-8800. For more information on smart meters, including details on savings programs and common customer questions, visit bge.com/smartenergy.

If you previously told BGE that you did not want a smart meter, but you have changed your mind, visit BGE's Submit a Comment or Question page, and login using your BGE account information. Select "**Smart Meter Opt In**" from the drop down box. Please complete the form with the requested account information and state that you would like to opt in to smart meters. BGE will contact you shortly by phone to set up an appointment to install your smart meter.

Keeping In Touch

In addition to keeping residents informed via our website, The Lamplighter, signs, flyers, and One Call Now messages, a WVICA Facebook Page was created. Please check out and "like" our page at <https://www.facebook.com/WoodbridgeValley>. It will be used primarily to alert users of Woodbridge Valley events. You do not need to be signed up to Facebook to view the page. We thank Board Member Ted King for creating our Facebook page and serving as its Administrator.

To be added or removed from One Call Now messaging or to update your phone number, please e-mail social@woodbridgevalley.org or call 410-370-9731.

Directory Ads

As mentioned in the President's Message on page 1, the Woodbridge Valley Community Directory will be coming out in a few months. If you or your firm is interested in purchasing a full page (8 x 6 1/2), half page, or quarter page ad, please contact Tina Brown at 410-747-7069 or tina1002@verizon.net for prices and an application.

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
- **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

ADS (Continued)

- **ENERGY SERVICES:** Most people are unhappy with the high cost of their energy bills, and energy costs continue to rise. Would it be okay if you received a 25-50% or more discount on your energy bill? The best part is that it won't cost you anything. Contact Robert E Avery at 443-994-9906 or robert.avery@verizon.net.
- **FAMILY HOME CHILD CARE:** Betty Aviles, 410-747-0552, registration number 1077.
- **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.
- **REAL ESTATE:** Teresa Sullivan Sales Associate with Caldwell Banker. Please call for a consultation. Office:410- 744-4100 Cell: 410-419-9242 or email:teresa.sullivan@cbmove.com
- **ROOFING:** Siding, windows and gutters. Celebrating 20 years of business in Catonsville. Licensed, bonded and insured. Quality workmanship. www.ecroofinginc.com, EC Roofing, 410-455-9880.
- **TUTORING REASONABLE RATES:** K-12 all core subjects. Private school and high school entrance exam prep also. Call Nicole Moore at 443-622-0248.
- **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 January 2015. The deadline for the next issue is December 15, 2014.