March 2007 Volume II, Issue 2 LeewoodTimes@cox.net

To submit an article:

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- Be positive and informative
- Deadline April 15th

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LHOA Annual Meeting – Tuesday, March 13th 8:00 p.m.

Our 2007 annual meeting will be held at 8:00pm on Tuesday, March 13th in Room 412 (*the student union*) of the Immanuel Bible Church. Come as early as 7:30 to avoid the rush at check-in and chat with your neighbors.

In addition to voting on members of the board, we will vote on the tax resolution and by-laws changes. Updates on several projects including lighting, drainage and locking mailboxes will be presented.

A meeting packet was mailed to each homeowner and contains information about your community, the meeting agenda, a proxy/ballot and volunteer forms. If you cannot attend the meeting, we encourage you to mail in your proxy/ballot and your volunteer forms. The proxy/ballot will be used for voting on the tax resolution, a by-law change concerning parking restrictions, and must be received by March 9th to be valid.

The Immanuel Bible Church is located across Backlick Road on the southeast corner of Backlick and Braddock Road. For more information please refer to your meeting packet or send an email to secretary@leewood.us

Neighborhood Watch – A Community Crime Prevention Program

Join the Fairfax County Police Department in preventing crime and become a member of the Fairfax County Neighborhood Watch program. When we band together, we can help each other and effectively reduce crime.

The objective of Neighborhood Watch is to organize communities where residents are trained to be alert to potential crimes in their neighborhoods. Citizens are trained to keep watchful eyes on neighbors' homes and be alert to any suspicious or unusual activity that is occurring close to home.

Police officers will also aid you in developing security measures for your own home. Receiving a free home security inspection and taking property identification measures can help prevent a thief from choosing your home as a target. To designate your active participation in the Neighborhood Watch program, Fairfax County will provide you with decals to be placed on windows in your home to deter would-be criminals.

A qualified, trained Fairfax County Police officer will inspect the locks, doors and windows of your home with you. Exterior lighting, landscaping and other factors affecting the protection of your home from burglary also will be reviewed. The officer will make recommendations for improving your home security. You can arrange for a free inspection at your convenience by calling the Mason District Station at 703-256-8035.

Fairfax County Public Library's Live Homework Help

Got homework? Try the Fairfax County Public Library's Live Homework Help for free one-to-one online tutoring.

The service is available on the library's web site, *www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library* for students in 4th grade through early college from 2 to 10 p.m. seven days a week. It features live tutors who can help students with math, science, social studies and English. Spanish-speaking tutors are also available and can help with math, science and social studies. Tutors include certified teachers, college professors, professional tutors, graduate students and undergraduates from well-known universities.

To contact to a real-time tutor, students click on the Live Homework Help link on the library's web site and select a subject and grade level. They will then be connected to a tutor in the online classroom.

Trout Fishing Returns to Lake Accotink

It's time for fishing enthusiasts to head over to Lake Accotink Park for some excitement along the banks of the creek. The Fairfax County Park Authority has kicked off the spring trout fishing program.

The first stocking of 1,000 pounds of prized rainbow trout took place on Friday, February 9, 2007 at Lake Accotink Park. The trout fishing program runs until April 22nd, from 7 a.m. until dusk.

This unique recreational program is supported entirely through fees paid by trout fishing pass holders. Adult season passes are available for \$35. Reduced fees for season passes are \$30 for children ages 6 to 15 and residents 60 years of age or older. A daily pass can be purchased for \$10 per person (\$9 for children ages 6 to 15 and for residents 60 years of age or older.) Passes may be purchased at the park.

All persons fishing in the park's stocked waters must comply with the rules of the trout fishing program. This includes the requirement to purchase a park fishing pass prior to fishing, a one pole per person rule, and other rules outlined on the pass. For more information call Lake Accotink at 703-569-0285.

Maytag recalls 2.3M dishwashers

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission announced a voluntary recall of about 2.3 million Maytag® and Jenn-Air® brand dishwashers, because of a fire risk. The liquid rinse-aid can leak from its dispenser and come into contact with the dishwasher's internal wiring which can short-circuit and ignite.

Maytag has received 135 reports of dishwasher fires, resulting in product and/or property damage. The recall involves Maytag® and Jenn-Air® under counter or portable plastic tub dishwashers. Consumers should contact Maytag to determine if their dishwasher is included in the recall. For more information, consumers can contact Maytag Corporation at (800) 675-0535 anytime, or visit the firm's Web site at https://repair.maytag.com/repair/default.jsp.







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Lighting in Leewood – Facts about the Capital Expenditure

In order to understand the lighting project in the Leewood common areas, it is important to know how and why the project began. Assessments are charged to each homeowner and are used to pay both regular operating expenses as well as contributions into the repair and replacement reserve. The repair and replacement reserve is used to maintain the common property of the association (*curbs, roads, signs, gutters, etc.*). Over time, the assessments collected have exceeded the amount used for operating expenses and the reserve contribution and the excess assessments have rolled over year to year.

An IRS ruling, Revenue Ruling 70-604, allows homeowner associations to rollover excess assessment income from one year to the following year. The board adopted a standing resolution in February, 1996 to make the assessment rollover possible. This resolution was ratified at our 1996 annual meeting and the membership has ratified the resolution each year.

Many years of rolling over or *deferring* assessment returns has resulted in surplus of funds that concerns our accountants. The deferral of assessments, however, is expected to be sporadic in nature, and not recurring. The accountants, therefore, have recommended that the board consider addressing the situation of the accumulated deferred assessments. As of December 31, 2005, the deferred assessments (*excess assessments*) totaled \$68,075.

After a presentation at the annual meeting in April 2006 by Officer Jim Nida, Crime Prevention Office, Franconia District, Fairfax County Police Department and about a year of research, the board has chosen to use a portion of the excess assessments to fund the installation of common area lighting in the community for safety purposes. The 2007 budget calls for a one-time expenditure of \$32,400 for the new lighting. Another \$8,000 will be spent in 2007 on special projects related to drainage issues in the common areas.

These expenditures will eliminate more than half of the deferred assessments and address the concern of the accountants that too much is being accumulated as deferred assessments. The board chose not to spend all of the deferred assessments, as this would have expended all of the associations accumulated operating funds.

After looking at various options, including solar, it was decided to go with high-pressure sodium vapor lights with automatic dark to dawn operation. These lights with be a traditional colonial light fixture (*see example pictured right*) that will be installed in a way so they do not shine into bedrooms and will only illuminate the darkest of common areas.

Our homeowner fees were raised 11% or \$15.00 per quarter only once from 2000 to 2007. Your LHOA has no plans to raise the assessments to cover this or any future project. The overall goal of the lighting project is to deter crime and make our community safer.



After looking at various options, it was decided to go with high-pressure sodium vapor lights with automatic dark to dawn operation similar to the one pictured here.

LEEWOOD TIMES

English as a Second Language Program

The Fairfax County Public Schools Transitional ESOL High Schools prepare beginning-level ESOL students 18 years and older to earn a high school diploma. Students build a solid foundation in the English language, literacy, and study skills.

Classes are in the evenings and are free to Fairfax County residents who have not previously completed their high school education. Students can register at Annandale High School Room 223A, 4700 Medford Dr., Annandale, VA 22003 or call 703-642-4943 after 2:30 p.m. for more information. Classes are also available at Lee High School in Springfield.

Las Transitional ESOL High Schools de las Escuelas Públicas del Condado de Fairfax les preparan a los hablantes de otros idiomas que son mayores de 18 años a ganar su diploma de high school. Los alumnos desarrollan una base sólida en el idioma inglés, la lectura, y las habilidades de estudio.

Las clases se dan por las tardes y son gratuitas para las personas que vivan en el Condado de Fairfax y que todavía no se hayan graduado de high school. Los alumnos pueden inscribirse acudiendo al Salón 223A de Annandale High School, 4700 Medford Dr., Annandale, VA 22003 o llamar al 703-642-4943 después de las 2:30 p.m. para más detalles. Las clases también se imparten en Lee High School en Springfield.

Local Spotlight – Kilroy's Restaurant

For over 24 years Kilroy's has proudly served its customers their celebrated Prime Rib, not to mention their perfectly marinated baby back ribs. More than just your typical all American Restaurant, here you'll find daily pasta specials as well as seafood delicacies.

This family owned and operated restaurant offers a wide variety of dishes to suit any taste, including succulent whole Maine lobster at an unbeatable price.

If you're looking for a place to recoup after a day's work or a place to start your evening, Kilroy's will make you feel at home. You'll find hearty good food, good drinks, and the perfect environment to socialize & make new friends.

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Leewood Homeowners Association

P.O. Box 1421 Springfield, VA 22151

Our Board

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Secretary – **Rose Weber** secretary@leewood.us

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Entire board email: board@leewood.us

We're on the Web! www.leewood.us

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