



Neighborhood News October 2009

President's Pen

I hope everyone had a great summer and is embracing the new school year. We have been busy distributing the neighborhood directories. A special thanks to Melinda Malico, Amy Olenick, Matt and Sharyn Hrynkow, Michele Johnson, and Barbara Gyomory for all of their hard work and time in putting them together. We are looking to continue the Halloween Spooktacular at the Pool this Halloween but will need volunteers to help coordinate. Please contact myself or Karla Gill when you are interested. Additionally we will have our luminaries in December.

As we turn to the fall, I would ask for your help in assisting us in supporting the Board and the Community to volunteer for various open positions. Since the fluorescent numbers are falling off the curbs and we cannot replace them, we will attempt to paint the address curb numbers this fall. There will be additional costs involved and each home will be billed directly. More details will follow once we finalize the way forward.

Unfortunately, Melinda Malico will no longer be our Newsletter Director. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Melinda Malico for her time and dedication during the last four years in which she wrote our Long Branch Newsletters. Melinda put in a lot of time and effort to ensure the newsletters contained timely and important information about our wonderful Long Branch community and surrounding neighborhood happenings. Thanks Melinda!

Susan Betts is our Newsletter Director and please contact her directly with any neighborhood events, college students doing well, and other pertinent information about our terrific residents.

I look forward to seeing you around the community and please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Mark Wiggins, President
teamwiggins@msn.com
(703) 425-1986



Get Involved With Your Long Branch Community

There are several volunteer opportunities within our Long Branch community.

- The Halloween Spooktacular needs one or two coordinators. Halloween is fast approaching so these coordinators are needed sooner than later.
- Santa would love to return to Long Branch on the night of the luminary. There is an opening for someone to coordinate this visit by Santa. Please contact any of the board members if you would like to coordinate this event.
- Membership/Welcoming Board member would work with street reps to get names of new residents and then deliver packages including membership form, directory, hard copy of the newsletter, school information, and other information about the community, such as bus and train schedules, information about Fairfax County government, library, etc., that can be picked up at our supervisor's office (next to Kings Park library). If you are interested in this position, please contact any of the Board members.
- There are also several Board members who have served for the last several years and would welcome new faces to the Board. Please contact any of the board members if you are interested in helping out in our wonderful Long Branch community.
- The Easter Egg Hunt will be coordinated by the Megan Davenhall and she would welcome support at this event. Please contact Megan if you would like to help out.
- The luminary will be coordinated by Julie Roberts and Mignonette. Please contact Julie if you would like to help out.

A HUGE Thanks to Melinda Malico...

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Melinda Malico for her time and dedication during the last four years in which she wrote our Long Branch Newsletters. Melinda put in a lot of time and effort to ensure the newsletters contained timely and important information about our wonderful Long Branch community and surrounding neighborhood happenings. Thanks Melinda!

New Long Branch Logo

Another huge thank you goes to Amy Oleinick. Amy lent us her creative genius to update our old Long Branch logo with a more contemporary design. The new logo is seen in the master head above and on the front cover of the new Long Branch directories.

Long Branch Community Meeting Notes



On April 23, 2009, we held our last Long Branch community meeting. Approximately 35 members of the Long Branch community attended the meeting. Melinda Malico took notes at the meeting. The following items were discussed:

- Because of a number of burglaries that occurred in recent months, we invited a representative of the Fairfax County Police Department to speak to us. Lt. David Crank was the featured speaker.
- * Lt. Crank said that we live in one of the safest neighborhoods in the West Springfield District.
- * Some of the burglaries were the result of a mentally challenged 18-year-old male who was breaking into houses seeking cough syrup.
- * His primary messages are:
 - Lock your doors
 - Lock your windows
 - Lock your car
 - Noise is a deterrent
 - Cut back foliage from your house
 - Visible security system signs are helpful. However, due to the high number of false alarms, actually having a security system may not be that much of a deterrent
 - Dogs don't hurt
 - Bolt down your safe
 - The prime time for breaking into a home is from 8:30-2, when children are in school therefore the 8:30-2 time period is a good time to step up neighborhood watch!
- * The most common items that are stolen from a home include:
 - Laptops
 - Prescription drugs
 - Computer games
- * Lt. Crank discussed another pervasive problem today—identity theft. To avoid problems with identity theft, he recommended that you do not send your mail from your home mailbox.
- * Lt. Crank mentioned that you can get a free home security survey by contacting the police department. (see <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/oem/citizencorps/nw.htm> for more information)
- * Larceny is on the upswing, particularly of GPS systems in cars. Lt. Crank said that groups of teenagers steal the GPS systems and sell them, and that there have been 500 such thefts in the last eight months.
- * He also mentioned that they see a lot of crimes (42 recently) of destruction, such as the shooting of pellet guns, particularly toward cars.
- * Lt. Crank recommends that you lock the doors on your car and do not leave your garage door open. He mentioned a specific scam, in which residents are working out back in their yards, and leave the front door open. The perpetrators count the cars, and figure out how many people are home. If only one person is home, one of the perpetrators will occupy the person in the back yard while the other perpetrator breaks into the house!
- * You should not leave a ladder outside, doing so invites burglars to climb into your house.
- * Also, Lt. Crank mentioned that those who come around offering tree cutting services often prey on the elderly. They often ask for a deposit and never come back.

- * Finally, you can contact Lt. Crank or the Crime Prevention Unit at (703) 644-7377. The other members of the Crime Prevention Unit are Peter Feigleson at peter.feigleson@fairfaxcounty.gov and J.T. Frey at JT.Frey@fairfaxcounty.gov or by calling 703-644-5026.
 - * Helpful web sites are:
 - West Springfield Shield, a monthly crime prevention newsletter: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/newsletter/>
 - The West Springfield Weekly Incident Report: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/stations/westspringfield/>
 - "My Neighborhood Policy Incident Mapping: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police>
 - * Lt. Crank circulated flyers an upcoming seminar on the growing problem of "sexting" among teenagers. He noted that teenagers may be unwittingly committing this crime, and cautioned parents to understand what the issues are.
- Additional notes from the meeting—
 - * Megan Davenhall kindly offered to be the coordinator for the Easter Egg Hunt.
 - * We still need a volunteer or group of volunteers to take over the Halloween Event.
 - * It was suggested that we launch a new "recommended contractor list" on our Web site.
 - * Someone suggested that we put up a "No Solicitation" sign at the community entrances. President Mark Wiggins said he would do so.
 - * The curb numbers were discussed.



Watch Neighborhood Watch News

Thanks to those families who have kept the Watch moving forward during the summer months: Burke, Heneghan, Edmonds-Everett, Cosby, Owens, Johnson, Gearing, Sik-Chong, Blanford, MacDonald, Wu-Zhang, Calhoun, Douglass, and Orleans-Pobee. Your efforts help to keep visibility high, a good crime prevention measure!!

As a result of our community meeting, several families have stepped up to form a new Daytime Watch program. We learned that burglaries tend to occur during school hours so some families have indicated interest in patrolling the neighborhood specifically during those hours. We hope to be completely organized within a month or so. Stay tuned.

Have you noticed the Neighborhood Watch signs in the community? There are two in place now, one at King David and Braddock, the other at Guinea and King David. We are working with the police to put up newer signs. Keep an eye out for them!

We have also ordered some new neighborhood watch car magnets. The oldies will be retired in the near term!

Final note -- Remember to ask Door-to-Door solicitors to see a Fairfax county permit before you consider buying products from them (with the exceptions of certain schools and religious groups). If you suspect something unusual about a person who has come to your door, feel free

to report this to the non-emergency police number (703-691-2131). You could ask for an officer to be sent to the neighborhood to speak with the solicitor. If you do this, try to recall as much detail about the person's physical description as possible -- you will be asked by the dispatcher. And, if you would like to know the outcome of the police officer's conversation with the person, you can ask the dispatcher to have the officer contact you afterward. Your Neighborhood Watch Coordinator took all these steps recently. Within 15 minutes of a suspected door-to-door scammer's visit, a cruiser was in the neighborhood. Regrettably, however, the police officer was not able to make contact with the suspicious person.

Don't Be Frightened...Help Save Halloween at the Pool



Halloween at the Pool has been a fun and entertaining event that has been handled by the able and generous residents of Colt Lane for many years. The two primary coordinators have been Karla Gill and Patty Edmunds. It is past time to turn this over to new and able hands. Without new volunteers to coordinate (you won't have to do the work all by yourself—just coordinate), this wonderful Long Branch tradition is in jeopardy of being scared off the community calendar. We need your help!

Halloween at the Pool includes lots of games for the young set, and a scary haunted forest (or this year a haunted locker room) for the older, braver set. Of course, no event would be complete without the table full of treats that young and old enjoy. The event will almost run itself, as Patty Edmunds has all the materials, signs and directions needed to set it up. While Patty and Karla have instructions available to ease transition, there's opportunity to add your own creativity and new ideas. From painting scary fingernails, to toss-the-beanbag-in-the-plastic pumpkin, to the fortune-teller, to the find-a-toy-in-a-haystack, the event is a fun-filled visit for any child. This as an opportunity to get our neighborhood kids who need community service hours for school involved. Last year, our teens did an amazing job with the haunted (forced inside by rain) locker room.

We are looking for a group of families to take over management of this event. Those who have arranged it for many years in the past have the management of this event down to a science, and will be happy to share the instructions and materials for whomever takes over. To volunteer, please contact Patty Edmunds at edmondsp@greystoneglobal.com or Karla Gill at Karla.Gill@marriott.com.

Membership Directories Are Here

Last fall's membership drive collected more than \$6,000 and paved the way for the new Long Branch directory. Several resident volunteered to help with neighborhood watch (nearly 50), and a few others signed up to help in other ways.

Special thanks to the following neighbors who contributed countless hours to prepare it:

Amy Oleinick
Michele Johnson

Barbara Gyomory
Sharon and Matt Hrynkow
Melinda Malico

If you joined the Long Branch Civic Association, your new Long Branch directory should already be delivered or will be delivered soon. If you did not join the Civic Association and would like to, please send an email to LongBranchCommunity@verizon.net or call Melinda Malico at (703) 425-6446.

Another Great Year for the Long Branch Dolphins

The Long Branch Dolphins celebrated a fun 2009 swim season. Our Dolphins swim team is a member of the Northern Virginia Swim League (NVSL). This year we were in Division 12. We



ended the season with a 3-2 record! Many meets came down to the last couple of events – you may have heard the screaming on Saturday mornings as we cheered our swimmers on to victory.

Nicholas Margraf, Olivia Browning and Emma Slattery all broke Long Branch pool records this year. Congratulations! We also sent 4 swimmers to NVSL All-Stars – they included Sara Cordia, Nicholas Margraf, Emma Slattery and Peter Slattery! Great work swimmers!

The mission of the NVSL is to develop a love for the sport, advanced aquatic skills and teamwork, and the principles of good sportsmanship. We thank our excellent coaches – Lisa Lockerby and Karen Mermagen for working towards these goals with our team.

We would especially like to thank Kathleen and Byron Browning, Karla Kalb, Julie Roberts, Michelle Johnson and the LBSRC Board for their help and support to make this season a success.

We invite you to join the pool and our team for the 2010 summer!

Julie Wiggins
703-425-1986 (teamwiggins@msn.com)
Swim Team Representative



Fun and Sun at the Long Branch Swim and Racquet Club

There was lots of fun in the sun this summer at our Long Branch Swim and Racquet Club. Thanks to Heather Hartung, our LBSRC Social Event Director, there were several entertaining events throughout the summer.

We kicked off the summer with the annual Polar Bear Swim. The Polar Bear Swim lets more adventuresome swimmers enjoy the first swim of the year. Luckily this year the water temperature didn't quite feel like the arctic.

Everyone enjoyed hot chocolate and s'mores

Next up was the annual 4th of July Cookout. This event is always well-attended. Our Little Long Branchers decked out their bikes, tricycles, wagons, etc. for the decoration contest. The pool party was fun for all ages and included fabulous food and festivities.

There was also an Adult Casino Night to let the adults enjoy an exclusive night at the pool. Back by popular demand was the Casino theme. This event is always a lot of fun and a great way to meet you neighbors and for old neighbors to re-connect.

We closed out the 2009 Long Branch Swim and Racquet Club season with the Labor Day party. Everyone brought sides or a dessert and the grill was open. Although it's always sad to say good-bye to summer, this event is a fun last swim of the season.

DC United Honors BRYC Coach Mitch Peyser

Son Jacob Nominates His Dad for the Honor

Congratulations Coach Mitch Peyser for being selected as July Volkswagen Coach of the Month!

(Copied from the BRYC.org Web site)

July Volkswagen Coach of the Month - Mitch Peyser

"Mitch Peyser coaches house soccer for Braddock Road Youth Club (BRYC) in Virginia. With no prior experience with the game, he began coaching after seeing his kids take up soccer. Mitch has been coaching his son Jacob's team during spring and fall for the last five years. In addition, he has coached BRYC All Star Teams for the four seasons. His team won a championship in each of the last two tournaments. Mitch's focus is always on learning, sportsmanship, and fun. He loves to see the boys have a good time and play their best.



When he's not coaching the boys, he likes to kick the ball around with his daughter Madeline. Mitch was nominated by his son Jacob Peyser."

Formal recognition of Mitch's honor came during halftime of DC United's game against the Colorado Rapids on Saturday, July 18. To make the evening even more special, DC United won the contest 3-1!

Back To School News

Although it seems like just yesterday we were splashing around in the pool, school is back in full-swing.



Canterbury Woods Elementary School

BOXTOPS for EDUCATION

Canterbury Woods Elementary School is collecting box tops for education to earn cash for their school. Families and friends of the school community can participate to help our PTA earn money to purchase items to enhance the curriculum both inside and outside of the classroom. For every box top, CWES will receive 10 cents. "Box tops" is a pink coupon located many products we use every day; Storage bags, food, toiletries, school supplies, beverages, baby and child care products and more. Snip the box top coupon of any product and bring them into school on your collection sheets or drop any box tops in the "box tops" collection box near the school office.

COUGAR DISCOUNT CARD

Support Canterbury Woods by buying the brand new Cougar Discount Card! For only \$10 you can purchase the card that will save you money all year long, AND at the places you already shop! 95% of the profit goes directly to the CWES PTA

Contact Kelly Kovacev at kellykovacev@ymail.com or 703.425.0875 to order your discount card. See the full list of participating vendors at www.cwespta.org

AMAZON.COM PORTAL

Every time you shop Amazon.com, go through our portal at our website (www.cwespta.org) and CWES gets a 4%-6% from Amazon!

No additional charges are added to your bill...just shop through the portal and let your family and neighbors know too!

BONUS BUCKS

It's that time of year again! Every year our school must be designated by the cardholder through Giant and Safeway's bonus card program. Every time you use your Bonus Card, CWES receives cash! It's fast and easy to sign up!

FALL FUN FAIR

This year Canterbury Woods has moved the very popular Fun Fair to the Fall. This year's Fall Fun Fair will be October 17th 10:00 a.m-2:00 p.m.



Frost Middle School

NEW FINANCIAL EDUCATION BUILDING

On June 11, 2009, Junior Achievement of the National Capital Area broke ground at the future site of a 20,000-square-foot financial literacy center that will bring important life skills to more than 14,000 local middle school students each

year.

Junior Achievement Finance Park is scheduled to open in early 2010 on the campus of Frost Middle School in Fairfax County. The financial literacy center is the result of a collaboration among Junior Achievement, Fairfax County Public Schools and Capital One Financial Corporation.

The facility will house an experiential learning center designed to bring to life financial literacy education for all 8th grade students in the Fairfax County Public Schools system as well as to other students from the Greater Washington area.

For more information on the Financial Park please visit the following links:

<http://www.myja.org/financepark/>

<http://www.myja.org/financepark/photos/>

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/juniorachievementdc/sets/72157619835272398/>

STUDENT SAFETY IS AN URGENT ISSUE

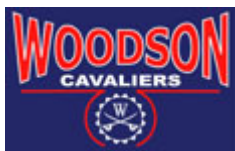
Frost students SHOULD NOT CROSS Rt. 236 on foot when going to and from school unless accompanied by a parent or guardian. Numerous students are seen trying to cross this busy thoroughfare every afternoon and there have been near-fatal encounters with people and automobiles as recently as last Spring. Please talk with your student today about the real risks involved.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORT TEAM:

There is a new program at Frost designed to recognize students. The team - comprised of staff members across multiple departments – is looking for 1-2 volunteers who will be available every two weeks to update a student recognition bulletin board. If you are interested, please contact Ms. Aguilar at RJAguilar1@fcps.edu.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED SOON TO HELP WITH HEALTH SCREENING.

Marie Bertucci, our school Clinic Room Aide, will be holding health screening for hearing and eyesight on Tuesday, October 20. You can volunteer for just a few hours, or all day. Volunteers will be served breakfast and lunch by our own Hospitality Committee! Please contact Susie Morningstar at srscsim@aol.com if you can help out. (If you have already noted your interest on the PTA/Student Directory form, you will be contacted shortly).



Woodson High School

WOODSON IS TOP FAIRFAX SCHOOL ON 2009 NEWSWEEK-WASHINGTON POST LIST

Woodson High School ranked #72 in the 2009 Newsweek-Washington Post list of 1,478 top U.S. high schools. Woodson was one of two Fairfax high schools that appeared in the top 100. For more details, go to <http://www.newsweek.com/id/201160/?q=2009/rank/1>

HOMECOMING FOOTBALL GAME AND DANCE

This year's homecoming football game will be October 9th. The homecoming dance will be the following evening, October 10th.

WOODSON REDEDICATION—NOVEMBER 7

Fifty years after the ground was first broken to build our high school, its first major renovation is complete. The ceremony will be held on November 7th, 10 am-11 am, followed by refreshments. The program will include a ribbon cutting ceremony, performances by the Woodson Performing Arts Department, and a video presentation of Woodson: Then and Now. Tours will be held from 11 am to noon. The tours will be a great time for younger students, and the community in

general, to wander the school see the results of the RENEW efforts, in which the Long Branch community played such a critical role.

CRAFT FAIR RETURNS

After three years on renovation hiatus, the popular Woodson Craft Fair is returning on November 14th. Shoppers will be able to kick-start their holiday shopping while also viewing the new additions and other results of the lengthy renewal first-hand. Shoppers should enter Door 14, off the Whitacre Road entrance.

DRIVER EDUCATION/TEEN TRAFFIC SAFETY PARENT NIGHT

Tuesday October 13th at 7:00 PM in Cavalier Hall

The purpose of this meeting is to provide parents with information on licensing requirements, graduated licensing laws, and overview of driver education and behind-the-wheel classes, and general teen traffic safety information. The meeting will be hosted by driver education instructor, John Duffy and PCPD Officer, Paul Barnes. If you have any questions, please contact John Duffy at John.Duffy@fcps.edu.

Useful Numbers

If you notice burned out street lights, please call Virginia Power at 703 359 3300.

To report downed or damaged street signs, call Fairfax County office at 703-934-2840.

Any inquiries related to the VDOT, including maintenance issues, snow removal and signal problems, can be called in 24 hours a day, seven days a week, at (703) 383-VDOT (8368) or e-mail concerns to NOVAinfo@VDOT.Virginia.gov. This system allows VDOT to track issues more effectively and to maintain a more complete database of issues for funding purposes.

Long Branch Officers

President.....Mark Wiggins (703) 425-1986
Vice President/SocialKarla Gill (703) 764-4919
Secretary/TreasurerMichele Johnson maejohnson@deloitte.com
Membership and Welcoming vacant
Newsletter.....Susan Betts susan@itprojectmanagers.com
Web site.....Melinda Malico m.malico@verizon.net and Steve Alvo
Neighborhood WatchSharon Hrynkow s.hrynkow@verizon.net
Database and DirectoryGlenn Betts glenn@itprojectmanagers.com

There are multiple positions available for those who want to join the board. Some of the officers have been serving for a number of years. If there's interest, there's willingness for multiple positions to swap/step down, etc.

Street Representatives

Alyssum	9218 Joe Fidd	703-323-7841
Bradfield & Burnetta	9201 Katzer	703-978-2352
Bramble	9106 Heather Hartung	703-978-1524
Cascus	9113 Emily Wiggins	703-978-1355
Claytonia	9206 Elliott	703-978-2654
Colt	9117 Jodi Kalantgis	703-764-9669
Gloxinia	4910 MaryEllen Slattery	703-425-0671
King David (4900–5002)	4926 Cheri Jacobs	703-425-0529
King David (5003–5015)	4926 Vacant	
King David (5017–5031)	5024 Kathy Moore	703-764-9485
King David (5032–5126)	5124 Linda Leonard	703-503-8441
King Solomon (4800–4816)...	4815 Bruce	703-323-9211
King Solomon (4817–4838)...	4821 Rabadan	703-425-8927
King Solomon (4900–4920)...	4918 Burns	703-503-5756
King Solomon (4921–5008)...	5002 Vacant	
Loosestrife	4910 Letellier	703-425-0664
Meadow Rue	9111 Herrick	703-978-4004
Mignonette	5002 Banks	703-764-0548
Sabra/ Windflower (9100–9123).....		703-978-1182
Windflower (9000–9026)	9009 Alvo.....	703-323-5336
Steeplebush	9112 Maritza Taylor	703-503-0438
Tabard (4800–4817)	4803 Lisa Spero.....	703-426-5590
Tabard (4819–4838)	4835 Vacant	

We have three vacant Street Representatives positions. If you are interested in becoming a street representative, please email me at susan@itprojectmanagers.com.

Stay Informed!

Don't forget to check the Long Branch Web site at www.longbranchcommunity.net for updates and all our community information! And don't forget to give us information for the Web site!



Please add longbranchcommunity@verizon.net to the "safe list" in your address book. Also, send any change of address to the same address. The newsletter editor will be unable to deliver the newsletter if the e-mail does not go through. Thank you!

Photos Wanted

A picture speaks a thousand words. What better way to celebrate Long Branch than capturing our neighborhood through pictures. If you have photos of neighborhood or school events, sporting events or just neighborhood shots and would like to share them in the next newsletter, please email them to susan@itprojectmanagers.com.

Classified Ads



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Tiny Steps Day Care

Mother of three in Long Branch has opened her home to care for children ages 6 weeks to 5 years old on a full-time or part-time basis. The Fairfax County licensed family home day care offers a happy, caring, and fun environment that fosters individual growth and learning through hands-on activities, developmentally appropriate toys, arts and crafts projects, music and movement, and storytime. Visit <http://www.tinystepsdaycare.zoomshare.com> to learn more or call Nicole at (703) 425-1288. Convenient location on same street as Long Branch pool.

Velasquez Painters

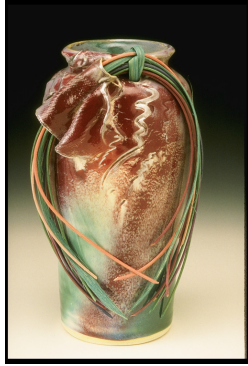
If you need a painter, hire a reputable one who has worked for many Long Branch families. Mr. Velasquez specializes in interior and exterior painting. From drywall, wallpaper removal, expert surface preparation, to door replacement, new mouldings & power washing, Mr. Velasquez and his crews do it all. Please call for a free estimate: Mr. Velasquez at 571-245-9026.



Tutor Available

Former Canterbury Woods teacher, currently at home with children, available to tutor in your home or mine. Certified Pre-K – 6, all subjects and K-12, Reading. Reasonable rates and local references available. Call Jackie Cordiner at 703-978-1928 or e-mail at jcordin@verizon.net.





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Deadlines for Submissions

Please send any newsletter submissions to susan@itprojectmanagers.com in Word or PowerPoint (not PDF files) by the deadline below.

Publication Date	Article Submission Deadline	Classified Submission Deadline
December 2009	November 15	November 15