

S P R I N G 2 0 1 5

LOFT RIDGE LIMELIGHT

Loft Ridge Home Owners Association – Alexandria, VA – www.loftridge.com



Board Seat Vacancies

The business decisions affecting Loft Ridge are made by a Board of Directors. There are no specific requirements to be a member and amount of time devoted depends on your level/areas of interest. Board members must consider the Community as a whole and not have a specific agenda. You will have input in creating a budget, make decisions regarding issues of non-compliance and ACC violations, review contracts and delinquencies, generate resolutions and oversee our committees.

Seven of your neighbors comprise the Board. There will be three seats open this spring. If you would like to be a candidate, consider attending the March, April and/or May Board meetings to see what's involved.

Elections will be held at the **Annual Meeting May 21, 2015.**

News from the Board

Doody Calls was contracted to empty the pet waste stations and tennis court/tot lot trash cans weekly for \$60 a visit. (We pay for the bags so please use your own). **Kelly Campagne**, a new owner on Cheatham, was appointed to fill a vacancy ending May 2016. An independent **auditor** has been engaged. A separate **group email** will be established for the sole purpose of advertising items for sale or give-away. Details will be finalized soon.

Parking at Our "Circles"

Our new police contact has clarified this issue. You can park nose-in at the circles as long as you don't impede access of emergency vehicles (or the snow plow). Better to be safe than sorry, so if you have a long vehicle, try to park at the center of the circle. If you're not comfortable, park on Ridge View Drive or Cannon Lane, remembering that when vehicles are parked on each side of those streets, two travel lanes aren't available.

Loft Ridge Porches

Only chairs or benches made of wood or iron are authorized on the front porches or stoops. Furniture is not allowed on common ground. No toys, children's wagons/cars or strollers are to be left overnight on front walkway or porch.



New Tennis Court Combo May 1

The tennis court combination may be obtained from Management or any Board member. Please see the last page for contact information.

Re-Purpose Winter Sand

Sweep the sand from your parking space. Keep it stored in a container in your trunk in case you need it next winter if your vehicle gets stuck.

Vehicles on Common Ground

It is the time of year to build/replace fences and decks so please remember that wheeled vehicles are not allowed on common ground. We realize that it is an "inconvenience" but you are responsible for damage.



ACC Inspections

ACC inspections are coming in April.

Are you ready?

Grounds Contract Summary

- Ongoing:**
- Mowing early Spring – late Fall every 7-10 days to a height of 3-4"
 - Edging performed every other mowing
 - Pruning of beds and tree saucers
 - Herbicide treatment to walk, curb and hard surface weeds
- Time TBD:**
- Pruning shrubbery, 2-5 times
 - Ground cover pruning, max 5 times
- Spring/Fall:**
- Clean-up (removal of winter debris, prune deadwood) (Spring)
 - Edge and mulch plant beds and tree wells (Spring & Fall)
 - Fertilize trees, shrubs and ground cover (Spring)
 - Pre-emergent weed control (Spring 2x)
 - Cutback of perennials (Spring)
 - Fertilization of grassy areas (Spring 2x, Fall 2x)
 - Post-emergent weed control (Spring & Fall)
 - Seasonal flowers in entrance beds (Spring & Fall)
 - Necessary pruning to a height of 12' of deciduous trees (Fall)
 - Turf aeration, liming, fertilizing and over seeding (Fall)
 - Leaf removal (Fall 2x)



Contact the Board If

- Street lights out/malfunctioning/damaged
- Entrance lights out/malfunctioning/damaged
- Mailbox damaged
- Notices on mailboxes or light poles
- Pet waste stations overflowing
- Unsafe tot lot activity
- Tot lot damaged
- Tennis courts unlocked/damaged
- Commercial vehicles parked overnight
- Long-term parking
- Suspected abandoned vehicles
- PODs in parking spaces

Please remember....when you contact Board members, they are your neighbors with jobs, families and commitments (other than to Loft Ridge) so please be patient if you don't get an immediate response.

It's as Easy as A B C

Are you planning an exterior change?

Ask the Architectural Control Committee (ACC) if your intended change or construction is within guidelines by submitting the request form found at Exhibit A in the Handbook (www.loftridge.com, HOA, governing documents, handbook)

Be approved. The ACC has 30 days after receipt of your request to provide their decision by annotating and signing the request form.

Commence with your project. Please remember construction or material delivery vehicles are not allowed to drive on common ground. Call Miss Utility at 1-800-552-7001 before digging.



Please Care

If you see trash on the common ground, please pick it up. This could be from someone's overflowing can or a walker who discarded an empty water bottle. No matter the source of these "eyesores," this is our neighborhood and its condition reflects on all of us.

Spring Cleaning – Document Dilemma

KEEP IT --- OR ---SHRED IT?

- **Tax Return:** keep for 7 years
- **Investment statements for taxable accounts:** once you receive yearly summary, shred monthly and/or quarterly statements
- **Bank statements:** keep for years when supporting tax returns, if not, shred after balancing account
- **Credit card statements:** keep when major purchase included in case needed for warranty or when charitable contribution is on statement. All others may be shredded once verified.
- **ATM receipts:** shred once verified against bank statement
- **Cancelled checks:** unless needed for tax return or other purpose, shred after 1 year
- **Medical bills:** keep at least 1 year unless supports a tax deduction then save with tax documents
- **Retirement plan contributions:** keep records of contributions to non-deductible individual retirement accounts indefinitely
- **Insurance policies, wills, birth certificates, citizenship papers, and other legal documents:** keep forever in a secure place (safety deposit box at bank or a fireproof box at home)

These guidelines are provided for information purposes only. It is recommended that you check with your insurance company, brokerage firm, government agency, lenders or creditors to find out if you should keep your records longer based on your individual situation.

(Fairfax County publication)

Unwanted Calls on Your Cell Phone?

If so, call the National DO NOT CALL Registry at [888-382-1222](tel:888-382-1222) from your cell phone to block that number for five years.

Smile - - *Spring* is just around the corner -- **March 21st**

Sunday Washington Post now on sale at Rose Hill Dollar Tree

Loft Ridge Reminders

Federal – April 15
VA State – May 1

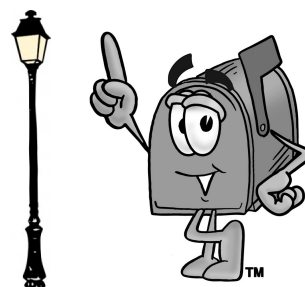


SEC RITY

Only thing missing is

U

No posting of notices on
mailboxes or light poles



Scoop the Poop



Loft Ridge Real Estate Update – It's Time for the Spring Thaw!

Active	TH Type	List Price	List Date	
5664 Ridge View Dr	End	\$464,900	02/06/15	
	TH Type	Sold Price	Seller Subsidy*	Sold Date
5706 Lofthill Ct	Int	\$405,000	\$6,000	02/13/15

Rentals	TH Type	Rental Rate
4407 Cheatham Ct	Int	\$2,100

Rentals	TH Type	Rental Rate	Date Rented
5714 Medallion Ct	Int	\$1,800	02/12/15
5625 Ridge View Dr	Int	\$2,000	02/12/15

* Seller Subsidy is the total seller contributed towards buyer's closing costs. It reduces the net sold price thus affecting future appraisals of other Loft Ridge homes.

Source: Metropolitan Regional Informational Systems, Inc.
Courtesy of Maren Seubert (Neighborhood Realtor)

Handyman's "Heaven on Earth"

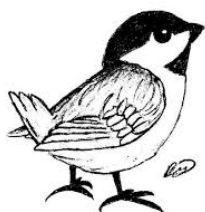
Now that the Holidays are over, most of us are looking forward to spring cleaning and disposing of some of our "unwanted treasures." Habitat for Humanity's **ReStore** is now at 869 Pickett St. From Van Dorn, turn left at TD Bank and it's on the right two blocks down.

Shop 10am-5pm Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm Saturday. You could find cabinets, tools, appliances, sinks, toilets, electrical/plumbing parts, lights, fans, floor/bath tile, and small furniture just to name a few. Some of these are new, all are at huge discounts.

Tax-deductible donations are received at the rear of the store Monday-Saturday 10am-4pm. If you have large items to donate, just call 703-360-6700 or go online at habitatatnova.org to schedule a free weekday pick-up. They accept appliances less than three years old; cannot accept computer items or painted kitchen cabinets.

New Shopping Center Nearby

Hilltop Village Center, at the intersection of Beulah Street and Telegraph Road, will feature a **Wegman's** grocery store (slated to open in June) which will have an inside restaurant and a large take-out department. The site will also include a gym, retail stores, restaurants, banks, and adjacent recreational amenities including two soccer fields, a pavilion, a playground, an open play area as well as lots of parking.



Want to Attract Birds and Butterflies?

Build on the beautiful location Loft Ridge offers us all, and turn your suburban garden into a welcoming space for birds, butterflies, and other native wildlife – help enhance the value of our urban green spaces!

The Audubon at Home Wildlife Sanctuary certification program assists homeowners (no matter how small your yard) in recreating and restoring your home's natural habitat by providing information on sustainable environmental management practices. Through the use of native plants, removal of invasive species, and the reduction of pesticides and fertilizers, you create a space for native flora and fauna. Audubon at Home ambassadors, trained Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists, will visit and consult with you on suitable native plants, landscaping, water retention, or other best practices.

To learn more, contact Betsy Martin at audubonathome@folhc.org or 703-360-0691. A site visit will be arranged. To be more informed, visit <http://www.audubonva.org/index.php/audubon-at-home-audubon-at-home>. Loft Ridge resident Renee Grebe's yard has already been certified – yours can be too! Want to learn about her experience? Email her at grebebird@yahoo.com.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES! Mark your calendar: Tuesday, March 31st from 1pm-4pm (during Spring Break) and Saturday, April 11th and 25th from 9am-12pm for invasive plant and garlic mustard pull. Join us to rack up your volunteer hours! Contact Renee Grebe at 703-960-1741 or send email to grebebird@yahoo.com.

The Memorial Day Poppy

Memorial Day is a day of remembrance for those who have died in service of the United States of America. Originally Decoration Day, it was designated in 1868 for the purpose of decorating the graves of soldiers who had given their lives in the Civil War.

In 1915, inspired by the poem, "In Flanders Field" Moina Michael wrote:



*We cherish too the Poppy red
That grows on fields where valor led
It seems to signal to the skies
That blood of heroes never dies.*



She conceived the idea of wearing a red poppy on Memorial Day and wore the first one. Shortly before Memorial Day in 1922, the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) became the first veterans organization to sell the poppies nationwide.

National Moment of Remembrance

In observance of Memorial Day, a Resolution was passed in December 2000 which asks that at 3pm local time for all Americans *To voluntarily and informally observe in their own way a moment of remembrance and respect, pausing from whatever they are doing for a moment of silence or listening to "Taps."*

150th Anniversaries

Abraham Lincoln was assassinated on April 15, 1865 at Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C. just six days after General Lee ended the Civil War when he surrendered to General Grant at Appomattox, VA. Be on the alert for festivities commemorating these historic events.

LOCAL FARMER'S MARKETS

Smart Market

Parking lot next to Silver Diner
Saturdays 10:00am – 2:00pm

Kingstowne Farmer's Market

May 1 – October 30
Parking lot where Giant is located
Fridays 4:00pm – 7:00pm

Mount Vernon Farmer's Market

May 6– December 16
Parking lot at Sherwood Hall Lane Library
Wednesdays 8:00am – 12:00noon

LOCAL POOLS

Lee District Park

6601 Telegraph Road
703-765-9642

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec/leerec.htm

Free Spray Park

Cameron Run Regional Park

4001 Eisenhower Avenue
703-960-0767

www.nvrpa.org/park/cameron_run

Water slides, wave pool, miniature golf, batting cages, and picnic area



LOCAL FUN EVENTS

March 13-14 – Harlem Globetrotters at The Patriot Center, www.patriotcenter.org

March 27-28 – Cameron UMC Children's Consignment Sale, corner Franconia/Telegraph Rd, Fri 9am-8pm & Sat 9am-noon

April 8-12 & 16-19 – Ringling Bros Circus at The Patriot Center, www.patriotcenter.org

April 25 – Mason Neck Eagle Festival. Games, rides for the kids, live band. www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/masonneck

May 1-2 & 8-9 – Annie Get Your Gun at Edison HS, Friday evenings at 7pm; Saturday matinees at 2pm

LOFT RIDGE BOARD
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Loft Ridge Mom's Group
groups.yahoo.com/group/loftridgemoms

ANNUAL MEETING, Thursday May 21

Board Meetings – 7:30pm
Mark Twain Middle School Lecture Hall
Thursday, March 19
Thursday, April 16
Thursday, May 14

ACC Meetings – 7:30pm
Wednesday, March 18 at 5727 Evergreen Knoll Ct
Wednesday, April 8 at 4334 Gingham Ct
Wednesday, May 13 at 5761 Ridge View Dr

Communications Committee
As needed

LIMELIGHT STAFF

Communications Chair
Louise Whitt
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Contributors

Louise Whitt	Maren Seubert
Lesa Jones	Glenn Levy
Renee Grebe	Gale Deutsch



**REMINDER
DRIVE
TWENTY
FIVE**



IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Emergency	911
Non-Emergency (Police and Fire)	703-691-2131
Animal Control	703-830-1100
Poison Control	202-625-3333
Fairfax Connector	703-339-7200
Fairfax Water	703-698-5600
Dominion Virginia Power	866-366-4357
Fairfax County Trash	703-802-3322
Clermont Elementary School	703-971-2400
Mark Twain Middle School	703-313-3700
Edison High School	703-924-8000
Post Office - Franconia (22310)	703-971-1003
Post Office – Jefferson Manor (22303)	703-317-9286
John Marshall Library	703-971-0010
Voter Registration	703-222-0776
Washington Post	202-334-6100
USA Today	800-872-0001

