

S U M M E R 2 0 1 3

Loft Ridge Limelight

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

THANK YOU LOFT RIDGE BOARD

**For wisely spending and investing our
dues resulting in no increase this year!**



Children at Play

With the arrival of warmer weather, our children will be playing outdoors. Please be extra careful when driving the streets of Loft Ridge to watch your speed and to watch for children and their toys.



Thanks to Outgoing Board Members

Bob Lucas completed his second 3-year term and **Carter Mullen** 2 years. Bob has been President and Vice President performing many tasks over the years and Carter was Communication liaison. We wish you both the best.

Keeping Loft Ridge Attractive is as Easy as 1-2-3

1. Street lights out or malfunctioning?
Call or email Management with the 4-digit character ID on the pole and the nearest address.
2. Trash/yard debris not picked up?
Call 703-803-3322.
3. Debris on common ground/street?
Please pick it up even if it's not yours.

NEWS FROM THE BOARD

Our grounds crews have completed the annual cleanup and mulching of our Community, and are on a 7-10 day mowing schedule from now until November. The mulch at the tot lots will be replenished as well. Also completed in May was the Spring fertilization/weed control treatment of the common areas. The irrigation systems for the common areas have been turned on and set for the Spring season. The TruGreen irrigation crew will monitor the systems and make adjustments to the watering schedule as the weather gets hotter.

The Board is considering proposals to spruce up the landscaping at the entrances due to the fact that some of the shrubs are old, dying and/or diseased and need replacing.

In April, a walk-through of the Community was performed to identify trees that need pruning or removal. The work was completed in May. Another round will take place in the Fall, so if you see any trees that are dead and need pruning, please contact Sequoia Management at management@loftridge.com and ask them to add it to the walk-through list.

Annual Meeting Update

Thanks to all who attended our Annual Meeting held at Mark Twain Middle School on May 22. We had a great turnout! Officer James Reid kicked off the meeting speaking to our homeowners about crime, crime prevention and safety in our Community and surrounding area. Following Officer Reid, a presentation was given by Fred Wilkins from the Storm Water Management Department of Fairfax County regarding the stream stabilization project that is underway on Ridge View Drive as well as a proposed Rain Garden the County would like to install, free of charge, at the end of Gypsy Court. Supervisor Jeff McKay then updated our Community with information regarding the County budget and some projects in the Franconia District, which included the Springfield Mall renovation (to be called Springfield Town Center) which has a projected completion date of late 2014.

Community projects update was given by President Erika Wheeler; Treasurer Kevin Johnson presented an overview of the FY14 budget; ACC committee, Communications committee and Neighborhood Watch committee gave presentations as well. Finally, the meeting finished with voting on candidates for the two open Board seats. Eric Naide and Ned Farquhar were elected to three-year terms on the Board.

Bluebird Nest Boxes Give Life!

Last summer I worked with the HOA and a local boy scout seeking a project to complete his Eagle Award to have a bluebird box next trail installed in the meadow at the end of Cannon Lane. This Spring kicks off our first official year of nest box



monitoring. Each week, a volunteer checks on each box to ensure it's in the best shape to invite in local birds. After 5 weeks of monitoring, I'm happy to report that we currently have 3 of 4 boxes occupied, and 2 with active nests. A Tufted Titmouse was the first to build a leafy-brown nest and lay its eggs. But in the last weekend of April, we also found a confirmed Bluebird nest with 5 eggs. Lastly, a House Wren has partially built its nest – time will tell if it will be an active nest or just a decoy, as House Wrens are known to build.

If you're interested in becoming a nest box monitor, or simply tagging along on the short walk each week (usually on Saturday mornings), contact Renee Grebe at grebebird@yahoo.com. Please remember to respect the nest boxes and do not open them – the less they are disturbed, the more likely it is that we'll have successful nesting. If you see a door open, or otherwise spot damage to the boxes, please be sure to let Renee or the Board know.

No Dumping in Loft Ridge

Loft Ridge homeowners have recently experienced the frustration of seeing debris dumped on HOA property and the number of reports from homeowners about debris being dumped in the various tree lines behind the homes on Loft Ridge HOA property has increased. This includes the building of "lean to" type structures and fire rings in the wooded areas behind and around the homes in Loft Ridge. Please do not use the wooded areas around Loft Ridge as a dumping ground. When homeowners choose to dump their trash on the common areas, it costs all of us. If you have debris that cannot be placed out with the regular trash pick up, please call Fairfax County at 703-802-3322 to schedule a bulk pick-up. If you witness someone dumping or building in the woods, please notify Sequoia Management at management@loftridge.com or call 703-803-9641.



Invasive Plant Pulls in Clermont and Loft Ridge Parks

Work continues with Fairfax County and the Invasive Management Area program to help reduce the number of invasive plants found throughout our adjoining parks. Target species for removal include the tall, white spring-flowering Garlic Mustard, Japanese Honeysuckle, Oriental Bittersweet, and more. Removing aggressive non-native species, such as these, can help the forest thrive, making room for some of our beautiful natives such as Coralberry, Cutleaf Toothwort, and May Apples. Volunteering is a great way to get service hours for school or just give back to our community park. Look for workdays (here and elsewhere) listed online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/resources/ima/ or email Renee Grebe for more information at grebebird@yahoo.com.

Trees Suffer When Temperatures Are High and Rainfall is Low

The grass may be revived after it has turned brown, but shrubs and trees can't! When tree or shrub leaves start to "sag or curl," that's a sign of low water level. Once the leaves are brown, it is just plain dead!!

To save money on tree/shrub replacement, why not take your hose and give a tree a good long drink. Thirty minutes would be great and since the roots stretch as far as the widest branch, if you move the hose every few minutes you can circle the tree. Hose not long enough? Join it with a neighbor's and you can take turns using faucets. Or simply carry the water in a bucket for small shrubs.

Trees can't say thank you but what a wonderful example you're setting for the Loft Ridge youngsters!



2013 Annual Inspection Updates

The Architectural Control Committee (ACC) concluded its annual inspection of Loft Ridge properties in April. As the homes in our neighborhood age, materials will degrade and get dirty/worn. Remember that wooden decks and fences can use fairly consistent TLC. Power washing and treating with a water sealer can make an aging deck or fence look nearly new again. In addition, please check the Loft Ridge website for the approved deck stains. There are decks that are stained the wrong color and older wood may cause a stain to look (much) darker than the sample shows. Opaque stains are **not** allowed, so please read labels carefully. Also, as entering your home becomes routine, you may not notice those front steps getting dirty or a board starting to rot in the corner. Take five minutes before you walk in the front door to really look around and you may catch the start of a problem before it gets too big to repair yourself.

If you received a violation letter, please don't hesitate to contact Management with any questions or concerns that you have. If you don't understand what the violations are, or would like to talk to someone about the timeline to correct your violations, Juliet at Sequoia Management and the ACC members are there to help. You may reach Nicolle at accchair@loftridge.com. The ACC holds meetings once a month, the locations are listed on the Loft Ridge website as well as the back page of this newsletter.

Loft Ridge Reminders

4th of July Fireworks

Please remember
Fireworks are
not to be
discharged or
exploded within
Loft Ridge

Remember to Scoop!



National Night Out

Tuesday, Aug 6
6-8pm at the
Tennis Court area
Moonbounce
Refreshments
Meet local
police officers

R E M E M B E R

E	Trash	E
M	out after	M
I	5pm	I
N	Tuesday	N
D	nights	D
E		E

R E M E M B E R

Loft Ridge Real Estate Update

Under Contract	TH Type	List Price	Contract Date	Rentals	TH Type	Rental Rate	Date Rented
5621 Ridge View Dr	Int	\$415,000	04/19/13	5747 Ridge View Dr	Int	\$2,250	04/17/13
4330 Gingham Ct	Int	\$399,950	04/23/13	5714 Lofthill Ct	Int	\$2,150	04/01/13

Sold	TH Type	Sold Price	Seller Subsidy*	Sold Date
5708 Evergreen Knoll Ct	End	\$406,000	\$0	04/30/13
5719 Evergreen Knoll Ct	Int	\$372,500	\$1,000	04/30/13
5621 Ridge View Dr	Int	\$310,000	\$0	04/03/13
5733 Evergreen Knoll Ct	Int	\$390,000	\$2,500	03/11/13
4331 Marjoram Ct	End	\$435,910	\$0	01/24/13
4320 Caprice Ct	Int	\$343,000	\$9,000	12/21/12
4309 Gypsy Ct	Int	\$395,000	\$0	12/13/12
5706 Ridge View Dr	Int	\$399,000	\$11,765	12/10/12
5729 Evergreen Knoll Ct	End	\$391,000	\$0	11/26/12



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

Source: Metropolitan Regional Informational Systems, Inc.
Courtesy of Lesa Jones (Neighbor and Realtor)

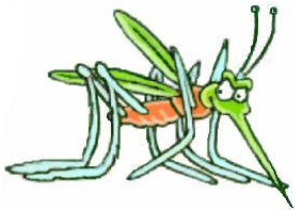
Treat Your Neighbor as You Would Like to be Treated

Our builder complied with the County's requirements on parking (slightly more than two spaces per house). However the builder was not required to have two parking spaces near each unit.

A quick review of parking is that our documents allow for one assigned space. That space is for the sole use of the townhouse with that address. All the unnumbered spaces are on a first-come first-park basis. It has been noted that some owners with a single car consistently park in an unnumbered space. And there are those who move the second car into the unnumbered space when spouse goes to work. Would you like to have company and parking is unavailable because your neighbor is guilty of bad parking habits?

Let's all be courteous. It really doesn't hurt!

Don't Let Mosquitoes Bug You!!



Mosquitoes are poor fliers. If you are being bitten, they are probably breeding around your home. And that's an environment YOU are able to control.

Empty water from toys, wheelbarrows, wagons, empty flowerpots, buckets, bottles, pet water bowls – anything that can hold even a little water!!

Leaves and debris in your gutters and sagging tarps on woodpiles hold more water than you think.

When working in your garden, wear long sleeves and pants.

Helmet & Safety Tips

Have your child use a helmet for riding bicycles, roller blading, skateboarding and riding a scooter.

Any bicycle should be the correct size, have reflectors, and good maintenance.

Teach your children to always stop and look both ways before crossing the road. Never allow a child to ride at night or with headphones on.

Fairfax County Code requires that anyone under the age of 15 riding a bicycle must be wearing a safety helmet!! Check for a sticker inside the helmet indicating compliance with U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) standards.

It's Going to be Another Hot Summer

During a heat wave (prolonged high heat and humidity):

- Slow down. Do strenuous activity in early morning hours
- Stay indoors as much as possible
- Wear lightweight, light-colored clothes
- Drink water regularly and often
- Avoid foods high in protein

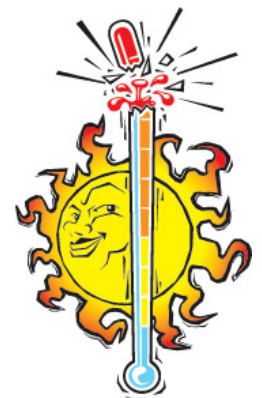
Heat Emergencies:

Heat exhaustion. Cool, moist, pale or flushed skin; heavy sweating; headache; nausea or vomiting; dizziness; and exhaustion. Body temperature will be near normal.

First Aid. Get individual into a cooler place. Remove or loosen tight clothing and apply wet, cool cloth. If individual is conscious, give cool water to drink slowly; half a glass every 15 minutes.

Heat Stroke. Hot, red skin; changes in consciousness; rapid weak pulse; and rapid, shallow breathing. Body temperature can be very high!

First Aid. Call 911 immediately!! Move individual to a cooler place, immerse individual in cool bath or wrap wet sheets around body and fan it. Watch for signals of breathing problems. Keep individual lying down. If individual refuses water, is vomiting, or there are changes in level of consciousness, do not give food or water.



Summer Fun and Frolics

LOCAL POOLS

Lee District Park *4 and 12 month memberships – 15% off thru June 15*
 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, picnic area

LOCAL FARMER'S MARKETS

Alexandria City Farmer's Market
 301 King St, Market Square
 Saturdays 5:30am – 10:30am

Kingstowne Farmer's Market
 Parking lot where Giant is located
 Fridays 4:00pm – 7:00pm

Sherwood Hall Library Farmer's Market
 Parking lot at 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane (just past turn to Inova Mt. Vernon Hospital)
 Wednesdays 8:00am – 12:00noon

FREE CONCERTS

Lee District Park Amphitheater

Wednesdays at 7:30pm
 Inclement weather, call 703-324-7469 after 6pm

June 5 The Pietasters (Ska)
 12 US Air Force Band "Celtic Aire" (Big Band Jazz)
 19 Robin & Linda Williams & Their Fine Group (Traditional Country)
 26 Daryl Davis (Swing)

July 3 Bro Josephus & the Love Revival Revolution Orchestra (New Orleans/Party Music)
 10 Bill Emerson & Sweet Dixie (Bluegrass)
 17 NOVA Annandale Symphony Band (Pop)
 24 Chopteeth (Afrofunk)
 31 US Air Force "Max Impact" (Rock)

Aug 7 The Nighthawks (Blues)
 14 Chaise Lounge Band (Jazz/Lounge/Swing)
 21 US Air Force "Concert Band with the Singing Sergeants" (Light Classics/Pop)
 28 Sock Monkeys (Rock)

4TH OF JULY

Fireworks, parades, and other activities for Virginia, Maryland, and DC may be found at <http://dc.about.com/od/specialevents/a/4thofJuly.htm>

City of Alexandria celebrates USA and Alexandria birthdays on July 13, 2013
<http://www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation>

LOCAL FUN EVENTS

June 7-9 – Celebrate Fairfax Festival at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Pkwy, Fairfax, VA, 703-324-3247. Friday 6pm – 12mid, Saturday 10am – 12mid, and Sunday 11am – 7pm

July 13-14 – Comcast Outdoor Film Festival in Alexandria where gates open at 7:00pm and movie starts at 8:30pm at Waterfront Park, 1A Prince St, Alexandria, VA 22314

August 3-4 – Fairfax County 4H Fair at Frying Pan Park, 2709 W Ox Rd, Herndon, VA, 703-324-5203

August 7-11 – Arlington County Fair at Thomas Jefferson Community Ctr, 3501 S Second St, Arlington, VA, 703-920-4556

August 9-17 – Prince William County Fair at Prince William County Fairgrounds, Route 234, Manassas, VA 703-368-0173

August 31-October 20 – Maryland Renaissance Festival at the intersection of Route 450 and Crownsville Road, Crownsville, MD, 800-296-7304

LOFT RIDGE BOARD
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Sequoia Management
703-803-9641
management@loftridge.com



Board Meetings – 7:30pm
Mark Twain Middle School Lecture Hall
Wednesday, June 26
Wednesday, July 24
Wednesday, August 28

ACC Meetings – 7:30pm
Tuesday, June 11 at 5703 Gladden Ct.
Tuesday, July 9 at 4325 Gypsy Ct.
Wednesday, August 14 at 4334 Gingham Ct.

Communications Committee



In response to a recent survey, the Limelight now includes what you, the homeowners, indicated you wanted. We hope you approve and enjoyed our revamped issue.

LIMELIGHT STAFF

Communications Chair
Louise Whitt
ComChair@loftridge.com

Contributors
Lesa Jones
Adam Marcetich
Carie Rothenbacher
Renee Grebe



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