

NEW LAKEPOINTE UPDATE



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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear neighbors,

Lakepointe has much going on! We are currently evaluating plans for upgraded landscaping and new bus stop. I encourage everyone to discuss and provide suggestions on how to make our community better. A new forum to do so is at www.forum.newlakepointe.net/forum - please sign up and contribute your helpful thoughts! Please help us keep an eye on the community as well - I encourage you to contact Sequoia with issues and concerns - such as illegal dumping and property disrepair.

With school coming to an end soon, we ask all residents to mind their speed in our community, watch out for playing children and be mindful of your neighbors when planning to have a backyard BBQ.

Hope to see everyone at the pool enjoying the summer weather, and congratulations to the graduates in our neighborhood!

Jeremy Seitz
President HOA Lakepointe
seitz@newlakepointe.net

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MANAGEMENT CORNER

Home inspections have been **completed** and letters sent out to homeowners. Sequoia Management would appreciate your cooperation in **responding to these letters in writing** so we have proper documentation when work extensions are needed or the work complete.

We are having a **continuing problem with** homeowners putting items out for **trash pick-up** that are not accepted by the trash company. On the corner, adjacent to 5608 Rapid Run, there are two trash bags with concrete in them. Several months ago, there were a number of trash bags with car parts and broken bottles. If anyone knows who is putting these items at the curb, please contact Jan Fenton at Sequoia Management at 703-803-9641, so the responsible homeowner can be billed for the extra expense required to have these bags hauled away. We will keep your identity confidential.

BOARD NEWS

Annual Homeowner's Meeting

We had a good turnout at this year's homeowner's meeting. **Mary Knowles** and **Kevin Donlea** have been re-elected to serve on the board for another 3 years. Concerns were brought up regarding the age of our community and how we can maintain homes and landscaping to keep home values high.

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One of our residents, **architect Quy Do**, presented a **proposal for the planned bus stop makeover**. In order to accommodate resident's input in this matter, the board created a **bus stop committee**. For more information on how you can participate these committee meetings, check the "Community Connection" section on page 4 of this issue. The **preliminary architectural drawing** can be seen **on the New Lakepointe website**.

Trailer/RV parking

Parking of boats, trailers, campers, snowmobiles, or other non-personal vehicles should be parked in the parking lot near the pool. These **vehicles must be registered with Sequoia, be fully operational and have valid Virginia registration**. If you have a vehicle by the pool that is not registered, please **contact our property manager** at Sequoia (Jan Fenton 703-803-9641) **immediately to avoid towing**.

For **updates on the parking regulations as well as forms for RV parking**, please check the community website at www.newlakepointe.net/bylaws.htm#parking (for parking resolution summary) and at www.newlakepointe.net/forms.htm (for parking forms).

Pool Opening

With plenty of sunshine and anticipation by the children, the **community pool opened** for the 2009 season over the Memorial Day weekend. New stickers for **2009 pool**

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passes were sent out by Sequoia only if residents returned the forms to register all household members with management. Every household receives two guest passes, **additional guests** need to register with the lifeguards for a **\$3 fee, paid by check**. Pool passes must be presented to the lifeguards when entering the pool area. Please contact Sequoia Management if your pool passes were lost or stolen. **Pool hours** are:

May 23 - June 18	Mo-Th 2-8 p.m.
	Fr 2-9 p.m.
	Sa 11 am - 9 p.m.
	Sun 11 am - 8 p.m.
June 19 - Sept 7	Mo-Th 11 am - 8 p.m.
	Fr-Sun 11 am - 9 p.m.
Holidays	11 am - 9 p.m.

Please check the website for more information. If you plan a **birthday party at the pool**, please inform the pool manager of the day/time and number of additional guests. Since our community is popular with our young residents, we ask everyone to **watch their driving speed**. You can direct questions to the pool liaison, Beth Zarfoss at 703-978-8270.

Bus stop Makeover

In order to improve the structure of the bus stop building and the drainage problem around it, a **committee** formed **to provide more community input**. The committee concluded that the existing structure should be

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enlarged, and structurally improved with gutters or some way to ensure better rain run-off. No final decisions were made, and **updates on the progress will be give to residents.**

The board is trying to receive landscaping advice from one of our residents to address the drainage problem with a greener approach (versus more concrete) that might involve sod and a few pavers. Benches might be considered for the interior of the bus stop structure. Due to the drought we had two years ago, it is unfortunately inevitable to cut down the pine trees **No final decisions have been made.** The committee is collecting input data by community members. If you would like to attend a committee meeting or have any suggestions, please contact Mary Knowles at 703-764-5325.

Neighborhood Watch Volunteers Needed

Rob Soles, who has been our community neighborhood watch for many years, is ready to pass the torch to some dedicated and caring residents in our community. As you know, the neighborhoods watch is closely working with the West Springfield police station, which provides meetings and updates. **We need one volunteer who can write up a schedule for neighborhood patrols, as well as residents who are able to patrol. Volunteers always patrol with a partner.**

Please contact Rob Soles or any board member for any questions you might have. E-mail addresses or phone numbers can be found at the end of the newsletter or on

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the Lakepointe website. Your time and commitment would be an essential part in keeping our community safe!

New Lakepointe Forum

At the suggestion of a resident during the last annual homeowner's meeting, the board has initiated an online forum via the community website where residents can post and discuss issues of interest. In particular, there is a place for discussions related to contractors. As we all have our windows and fences replaced, you might want to tell the community who did a great job. You can participate in the forum at www.forum.newlakepointe.net/forum or get linked off directly from our homepage at www.newlakepointe.net.

FRIENDLY REMINDERS

Disposal of Clutter

Spring cleaning is a good opportunity to de-clutter home and garden. Please **remember recycling guidelines** for Fairfax County when disposing of hazardous materials or electronic devices. Also, refrain from placing discarded items behind your fence line or throwing them into the woods surrounding our neighborhood. If items were not picked up on trash days, please dispose of them properly!

You will be held responsible for bills that management receives (see reminder in "Management Corner" on page 1 of this newsletter). There are several

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items next to curbs that need to be removed and recycled accordingly.

Big items, such as broken furniture, should be placed at the curb on Tuesdays. Old carpets should be rolled up, tied and not be longer than 4 feet in order to be picked up. If you have multiple items to be picked up or are not sure if items are exempted from the removal service, please call Maria Bell at CSI at 703-444-3181.

Trash Can at Basketball/Tennis Courts

Please remember to use the trash can at the basketball court when you are using the facilities. It helps keep our common area clean for everyone.

Also, remember this is not a dog poop receptacle. It is emptied by a volunteer resident and it not done every week. The odor can get pretty strong, especially now that the hotter weather is here.

Manhole Covers

In some locations in our community, the water manhole covers between the sidewalk and the parking lot push up and create a trip hazard. If you **contact Fairfax County Water** company, they will come out and repair it promptly.

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COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Thank you for Easter Egg Hunt Organization

The weather allowed for another great turn-out at the annual community Easter Egg Hunt. We would like to thank Craig and Kathy Ross for organizing this fun event for our young residents.

Community Pool Party

Come and join your neighbors at our annual pool party on **July 18th** (rain date July 19th). **The Association supplies the burgers and hot dogs, you just bring a dish to share.** Flyers with more information will arrive soon in the mail.

Update on Traffic Light proposal

As you might know, one of our residents, Haiyun Ratcliff, has put in a lot of effort to improve the safety of the entrance to our neighborhood. Below, you will find an update by Haiyun on her proposals. Please contact her directly if you would like to support her in making our neighborhood safer:

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Dear New Lakepointe neighbors,

I hope most of you have read the news report in the “Burke Connections” newspaper regarding the dangerous intersection of Guinea Rd. and Lakepointe Dr. Reporter Justin Fanizzi wrote a very good article about it and was trying to help us to get more support. Unfortunately, based on a study by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), the traffic volume on Lakepointe Dr. is not high enough to justify the installation of a traffic light at the intersection. However, VDOT did move the location of the stop bar on the east bound approach closer to the roadway, they also cut back foliage along Guinea Rd. to improve the available sight distance. In regard to my request for a pedestrian crosswalk, VDOT will not recommend to do it due to non-existing sidewalk facilities adjacent to the intersection.

Since I don't want to give up on my proposal, I'm working with Fairfax county right now to get the sidewalk facilities done at this intersection. This includes trails /sidewalks on Guinea Rd to Burke Rd. and Zion Dr., sidewalks on Lakepointe Dr. from our school bus stop to metro bus stop and street lights on the Lakepointe Dr. from our school bus stop to metro bus stop. Once the sidewalk is in place, I'm going to readdress crosswalks with VDOT.

It's a long and frustrating process, but I am determined to go for it since I believe my proposal is a very worthy cause. Also, an article was written in a local Chinese newspaper “Asian Gazette” - if you would prefer a copy of the article, please contact me. I thank you for your support and I'll keep you posted.

Haiyun Ratcliff

haiyun20@yahoo.com

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Glen Cove Swim Team is Looking for Swimmers

Our neighboring townhouse community “Glen Cove” (Corner of Zion and Guinea) is looking for new **swimmers ages 5 through 18** for their **Glen Cove Pirates swim team** which is participating in the **Colonial Swim League**. The small developmental swim team consists of swimmers of various levels. As long as your child can swim 25 meters, they qualify to swim on the team in at least one event during a regular swim meet. To find out more, please contact Lori Chapman at 703-323-7462 or at Mamachap@yahoo.net.

Green Tips

In an effort to bring our community together, we will try to publish articles by residents on topics that are important to our community, such as energy saving tips, traffic flow updates, etc.

The Light Control Socket

by Quy Do, Architect

Little problems in our house may keep bothering us for a long time, but we had to put up with them since we found no solution for them. One of these problems is the exterior light fixture that we keep forgetting to turn on at night and off in the morning. Just drive around our community in the daytime, and you will notice several lights still on outside. Fortunately, we can get a useful device at most hardware stores that will **automatically turn on light fixtures at night and turn them off in the morning**. It's called a **Light Control Socket (LCS)**.

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The LCS screws in the light fixture between the existing lamp socket and the existing light bulb. This device has an electronic eye that senses the changing amount of sunlight throughout the day. When sensing that sunlight is disappearing at night or in late afternoon, it will turn the light on. On the contrary, in the morning, sensing that enough sunlight has returned, it will turn the light off. The existing interior light switch controlling the light needs to be in the "on" position at all times, so that the LCS will actually serve as the only switch for the light. Remember to install the LCS according to the manufacturer's instructions. At dawn and dusk, the bulb may flicker slightly or appear partially bright for a few minutes as the LCS switches on and off.

Light fixtures operated by motion detector save more on electricity than the LCS but do not offer the same level of security and safety. You may want to try out the LCS for some time and find out if it is truly a useful and convenient device. The LCS is easily installed, requires no complicated wiring or expensive switches, and at about \$10 a piece, is much less expensive than costly timer systems.



FAMILY CORNER

If you are staying here for the summer months, we might have some tips for outings and activities in the area:

◇ Gargoyle Tour at National Cathedral, Washington D.C.

- You might wonder what Star Wars has in common with the National Cathedral in Washington? The answer is: Darth Vader! In

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1980, when the cathedral west tower was built, the Cathedral in conjunction with *National Geographic World Magazine*, sponsored a children's decorating contest for decorative sculptures added to the structures as grotesques. The third place winner had submitted a futuristic drawing of the villain which was placed on the northwest tower with the other winning designs: a raccoon, a girl with pigtails and braces and a man with large teeth and an umbrella!

If you want to see more interesting gargoyles and grotesques, the **Cathedral offers guided tours on the following dates:**

- **Thursdays:** June 25th or July 23, 6:30 p.m.
- **Sundays:** June 28th, July 26th, August 23rd, September 27th and October 25th, 2 p.m.

Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children (12 and under) or \$30 for a family ticket. No reservations required, binoculars highly recommended!

◇ Library of Congress

With more than 142 million items in its collection, the Library of Congress is the world's largest repository of knowledge and creativity. Not only is walking the halls and the view of the Great Reading Hall a magnificent experience, but it also ties together the history of the United States and

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the Americas in a beautiful exhibit. Older students might enjoy the **virtual tour kiosks** throughout the exhibit, where they can download subjects of interests onto their personal “passport” which can be taken home. A **scavenger hunt** is geared towards the younger history buffs. No entrance fees required.

◇ **Fairfax Corner Market Square**

Maybe the garden sprinkler are not so exciting anymore... a nice hangout for families with young children is provided at the central courtyard at Fairfax Corner: a **fountain** placed into the ground provides ample opportunities for children to run through and get wet, while adults can sit at the shaded tables and watch their offsprings enjoy some summer fun.

Fairfax Corner also has a nice **movie theater**, some nice **shops** and **restaurants**. Parking can be limited, so you might want to avoid the evening crowds.

◇ **Weekend Getaway for Train Lovers, Heavenly Acres Camping, Cabins and Caboose**

If you look for a getaway of a different kind and enjoy the outdoors, then this Campground might be for you! At Heavenly Acres Camping, Cabins and Caboose, you can choose to pitch a tent, rent a

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cabin or even sleep in one of the two cabooses! The small family-run campground offers various amenities, such as a small pool, fishing pond and full hook-ups. For more information, visit www.virginia.org or send inquiries to heavenlyacres@firstva.com.

Summer Activities

◇ **Kings Park Public Library**

- “LunchBunnies” (every second Friday of the month at 12 p.m.). Bring lunch and enjoy some story time. For babies and children until 5 years with adult.
- “Books! The Magic is Real”, June 13th, 1:30 p.m. Magician Joe Romano brings your favorite books to life through the art of magic and illusion. All ages.
- Rocknoceros, July 11th, 2:30 p.m. Music fun with rock stars Coach Cotton, Williebob and Boogie Woogie Bennie. All ages.

◇ **Pohick Regional Library**

- “Tiny Tots” (every first Tuesday of the month at 10:15 am). Very short stories, finger plays and activities. Age 13-17 months with adult.
- “Drum Circle”, July 1st, 10:30 a.m. The Cultural Foundation for Children presents a

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glimpse of African traditions, chants and celebrations. All ages.

· “Create Cool Clips”, July 7th, 4:00 p.m. This workshop shows you how to make films for the library’s Cool Clips contest or just for fun. Age 12-18.

◇ **Burke Center Library**

· “Spectacular Science”, June 26th, 10:30 a.m.

Mad Science presents indoor fireworks, bubbling potions and more. Age 6-12.

· “Yo Yo Fun and The Science of Spin”, July 2nd, 10:30 a.m. You’re not going in circles, it’s the Yo Yo guy, Dick Stohr! Ages 6-12

· “The Wright Stuff”, July 20th, 10:30 a.m.

Discover the science of flight with the Maryland Science Center. Age 6-12

· “Read Yourself Silly with Flow Circus”, July 21st, 10:30 a.m. Take a trip to the circus with juggling, magic and more. Age 6-12

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Board Members:

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Kevin Donlea, VP	703-764-0192
Craig Ross, Director	703-764-5374
Mary Knowles, Secr.	703-764-5325
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Property Manager:

Jan Fenton, Community Manager, Sequoia Management Company, Inc. 13998 Parkeast Circle Chantilly, VA 20151 JANFENTON@aol.com	703-803-9641
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Architectural Control Committee (ACC):

Sabrina Kummerfeldt	703-323-1040
Shelley Baxter	703-201-3863
Chris Petro	571-218-5413
Kevin Donlea, BOD Liaison	703-764-0192

Neighborhood Watch:

Rob Soles

Pool Liaison:

Beth Zarfoss

Newsletter:

Elke Trick

Online Connections:

Website: www.newlakepointe.net

Listserv: www.newlakepointe.net/news

Forum: www.forum.newlakepointe.net/forum