

NEW LAKEPOINTE UPDATE



NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Happy Holidays!

Well, winter is just around the corner. I certainly hope the weather is much better than last year. Snow removal was a strain on everyone last year.

The Board is winding down it's duties for the year 2010, and we are busy planning for 2011.

In 2010, some of the items we handled along with the regular monthly responsibilities were:

discussion of numerous plans and options for the bus stop. More design options will be reviewed early next year. We improved the lighting for both inside and outside the pool to help deter late night unwanted loiterers in the parking lot. Major tree trimming throughout common areas of Lakepointe was also completed.

In 2011, some major focuses will include:

continued beautification of Lakepointe, planting more trees, shrubs and flowers throughout the property, repainting the yellow curbs throughout Lakepointe and reviewing the condition of our streets as well as continued determination to renovate the bus stop.

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Please Participate in Lakepointe's Annual Holiday Decorating Contest:

It's a great way to show your Holiday Spirit on the evening of **Monday, December 20th**, the Lakepointe Board of Directors will complete one of their favorite annual duties to pick the winners of the holiday decorating contest. If you would like to participate all you need to do is put out your holiday decorations and turn on the lights. Have fun with this, I know the Board does!

A Few Cold Weather Suggestions for Lakepointe Homeowners:

Make sure your **gutters** are cleaned out so freezing rain & snow does not back up into your roof this winter. If you are not using your **outside faucets** this winter you may want to turn off the water from inside the house and drain them for the winter.

Please **do not use salt on your sidewalks**. There are better ice melts available that will not damage cement. Check with your local home center for products.

Please turn your **front outside lights** on in the evening. The light will make it safer for people trying to navigate sidewalks in the dark.

Remember: according to Fairfax County Code, **snow and ice are to be removed from homeowner's sidewalks within 24 hours of accumulation.**

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Wishing everyone a safe and enjoyable holiday season!

Kevin Donlea
President HOA Lakepointe

MANAGEMENT CORNER

Please Drive Carefully

Now that the clocks have turned and it is getting dark around 5 p.m., I would like to remind everyone to please drive carefully throughout the neighborhood as children will be out early in the morning and afternoons coming to and from school. Also, be on the lookout for children playing around the neighborhood in the evenings and on weekends.

Snow Removal

Shenandoah Landscapes will again be handling the snow removal this winter at Lakepointe. They are the same company that currently takes care of landscaping throughout the community, so they are very familiar with the property. Please understand that if we receive as much snow as last year, Shenandoah will do the best they can so please be patient with the snow removal.

Holiday and Christmas Tree Pickup

With Christmas Day and New Years Day both falling on a Saturday this year, trash service will not be interrupted. Christmas tree pickup will take

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place on January 5th and January 12th (the two first Wednesdays of the month). Please remember to take off all decorations and lights prior to placing trees on the curb for pickup. Residents are reminded to not place trash out on the street until the night before scheduled pickup days. Trash pickup is on Tuesday's and Friday's, and recycling pickup is on Tuesday's. Homeowners should contact CSI Disposal at 703-444-3181 to schedule a bulk pickup (items weighing more than 50 lbs.).

Pet Waste

Dog owners are reminded to clean up after their canine. Pet waste is not only unsightly, but also unhygienic and attracts unwanted rodents, such as rats.

Brian Heisler,
Portfolio Manager,
GHA Community Management

BOARD NEWS

New Board Member

Please join us in welcoming back **Craig Ross** to the Board of Directors. His time and dedication to the neighborhood is much appreciated.

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Landscaping

Unfortunately, we lost a lot of pine trees in our neighborhood due to age or disease. New trees will be planted in the spring to replace the pines. Tree trimming in the neighborhood is finished to ensure proper growth for our mature trees.

Fire Lanes/Cross walks

Fire lanes and cross walks will be **repainted** throughout the community in the **spring of 2011**.

As a reminder, please **refrain from parking in the fire lanes** (yellow curb) designated for emergency vehicles. Owners violating the parking rule, may risk having their vehicle towed at their own expense.



COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Annual Holiday Decorating Contest, December 20th

With the holidays in full swing, we are looking forward to seeing our community decked for the season. As in the years past, judges will select

winners of the decorating contest on December 20th after 7:30 pm. **Winners will receive a small prize** and be announced in the next edition of the newsletter.

So, get out the boxes from the attic, let our community shine and have an evening walk spark your holiday spirit.

Childrens' Art Classes in Your neighborhood!

One of our residents, **Marcie Concepcion**, offers **art classes for children on Monday afternoons** in her townhouse. A specific curriculum is designed for students respectively in K-2nd, 3rd-5th, and 6th-8th grade.

Contact Marcie Concepcion for more details at Marcie@Artistart.com.

Babysitting Services in Your Neighborhood!

Casey Mattis, a Lakepointe resident of 12 years and Lake Braddock High School student is available for babysitting on weeknights and weekends, plus weekdays during school vacations. References are available. For questions, please call Casey at 571-882-0625 or 703-307-6578.

Pet Sitting Services in Your Neighborhood!

Rachel Ross is a great help to many of our families who own pets. Rachel likes to take dogs for a walk,

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feed fish and take care of cats. If you need to be away from home and are looking for a reliable pet sitter, please call Kathy or Craig Ross at 703-764-5374.



FAMILY CORNER

The Holiday Season offers many fun events in the Northern Virginia and Washington D.C. area for families. If you are new to the neighborhood, you might find the list of some suggested holiday outings to be helpful this year.

Bull Run Festival of Lights, Centreville, VA

Every year, the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority sets up more than 100,000 lights to create a **holiday-themed display along a 2.5 mile drive** through Centreville's Bull Run Regional Park. The festival runs through January 9th. Tickets are \$15 per car Mondays through Thursdays and weekends and holidays \$20 per car.

ZooLights at the National Zoo, Washington, D.C.

For the first time, the event is **FREE** this year! The National Zoo at Rock Creek Park presents **seasonal**

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displays of thousands of sparkling animated lights, winter-themed crafts, ice-sculpting demonstrations, choral groups, and storytellers.

The zoo's winter wonderland can be visited December 3-5, 10-12, 17-23, 26-30, and January 1 from 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

National Harbor

Nestled along the Potomac River, National Harbor offers a variety of holiday events, such as a **Holiday Market** (offering crafts, decorations and holiday treats), a nightly **Tree Lighting and Holiday Light Show** (runs nightly every half hour from sunset until 10 p.m.), a **"Wheels to Africa" bike collection** on December 11th from 10 am - 3 pm, the Gaylord's Northern Lights, Potomac Express train ride for kids, **Dr. Seuss Sculpture Garden** and much more. For a complete list of events, go to www.nationalharbor.com/consumer/harborholidays.

Candlelight tours

Some of the historic sites organize candlelight tours through estates:

- **Mount Vernon:** Learn about Christmas traditions of George Washington's family, meet historic characters and attend a candlelight tour through the Mount Vernon home. Tours are offered December 4-5, 11-12 and 18-19 from 5pm - 8 pm. Admission is \$20 for adults and \$14 for children under 12.

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- **Historic Alexandria:** Candlelight tours are offered at 5 historic sites in Old Town on December 11 and 12. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors, and \$5 for children ages 6-17.
- **Sully Historic Site:** Discover the historic home of Richard Bland Lee in Chantilly during a candlelight tour, warm yourself by the fire with warm cider and join in caroling on December 11 and 12 from 5 pm - 7 pm. Prepaid reservations are required, \$10 for adults and \$7 for seniors and children.

National Christmas Tree and Menorah

The National Christmas Tree and the Pathway of Peace is illuminated each evening from dusk until 11 pm through January 1st. The Seasonal Display includes the **Nation's Christmas Tree surrounded by 56 smaller trees** representing all 50 states, 5 territories and the District of Columbia, a Yule log, a large-scale model train, a Christmas manger, Santa's Workshop and the National Hanukkah Menorah.

Bethlehem Walk

A free tour of a re-creation of a street in Bethlehem at the time of Christ's birth can be visited at **Parkwood Baptist Church in Annandale** on

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December 11th and 12th from 4 pm - 8 pm. Visitors enjoy live performances, animals, music and refreshments.

Iceskating arenas and rinks

If you are a winter sport lover, you might get a treat at one of the area's ice skating rinks. For an all-year round ice skating experience, visit the indoor **Fairfax Ice Arena** in Fairfax. During the holiday Season, the Reston Town Center's **Reston Ice Skating Pavillion** offers winter fun until March.

For outdoor ice skating fun, the **Sculpture Garden Ice Rink** in Washington D.C. provides the perfect setting for downtown skating among sculptures by renowned modern and contemporary artists.

Holiday Performances

With young audiences in mind, we picked a few family friendly performances for the holiday season:

◇ **George Mason University, Center for the Arts:**

- Vienna Boys Choir: Christmas in Vienna, December 18th and 19th, 8 pm
- The Waverly Consort: The Christmas Story, december 10th, 8 pm

◇ **Smithsonian's Discovery Theater at S. Dillon Ripley Center, Washington**

- Seasons of Light, November 30 - December 22. The children's theater celebrates the

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warmth of many holidays filled with light.

Learn the history and customs of Devali, Ramadan, Sankta Lucia, Hannukah, Kwanzaa, Las Posadas, Christmas, and the First Nations traditions of Winter Solstice. Shows are Mondays through Fridays, 10 am - 11:30 am.

◇ **The Ernst Community Cultural Center at Northern Virginia Community College, Annandale**

· Nutcracker: Virginia Ballet Company and School present the magical holiday experience on december 27, 28 and 29 at 2 pm and 7 pm .

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