



July 2017 Edition

July 2017 Edition

Dear Neighbors,

I hope you are enjoying the beginning of summer vacation.

The days are getting longer and the weather is getting hotter. I have just begun my tenure as the new LCA President. We were so lucky to have Abbe Milstein as president of the LCA for the past two years, and I am happy that she will be remaining on the executive board as a three-year trustee. She will be a very hard act to follow, but I will do my best to inform the community of events and meetings as well as help you with any problems that you may have. In this Luxline, you will learn about many different developments that are happening in our neighborhood, as well as nearby, that may affect you and your family. First of all, we will update you on the sidewalks that will be added to Tuckerman Lane. Next, we will tell you about the future plans for adding school sites to the new residential developments in our area. In addition, we will inform you about an exciting new program that will be starting this summer and will help you with any stormwater issues you may have on your property. In fact, there is a community meeting on Sunday, July 9th at the Windermere Clubhouse from 6-7:30pm for those residents that are interested in learning more about the program. Finally, we will review events that took place recently in our community. This will be the only Luxline this summer, but we will return in September with monthly issues. Please send your advertisements over the summer, and they will be printed from September through next March.

QUICKLINK

[Stormwater Meeting](#)

[Should I join LCA](#)

[Development and School Impact](#)

[Tuckerman Pedestrian and Bike Path Update](#)

[Guest Speaker @Board Meeting](#)

[Recent Events](#)

Timeshare units at Streamside in Vail from 12/16-12/30.

Sleeping 6-10. Contact me directly for more information, Steve Miller, (301) 896-0430, steve@sbmiller.com.

Sincerely,
Sharon Plotnick
LCA President

Luxmanor Citizens Association.
PO Box 34306 Bethesda, MD 20827 info@luxmanor.org

Board of Directors

Officers

Sharon Plotnick, President
Sheri Steisel-Weiss, Vice President
Burman Berger, Treasurer
Edward Farber, Corresponding Secretary
Rachel Manchester, Recording Secretary

Copyright 2017 Luxmanor Citizens Association
Luxmanor.org

LuxLine Ads Link

**[Stormwater Community Meeting July 9th
6-7:30pm](#)**

Stormwater Issues in Luxmanor?

When it rains, stormwater runs off our properties and roads and Cabin John Creek and its tributaries. As it flows downstream, stormwater can affect the creek, the Potomac River, and even the Chesapeake Bay. What about your property? Are you having any stormwater issues, such as ponding, erosion, or flooding? What have you done about it? What have you thought about doing? [Friends of Cabin John Creek](#) (FoCJC), a local environmental group focused on promoting and protecting the health of the creek and its tributaries, is partnering with the Luxmanor Citizens Association in a new Stormwater Solutions Program. As the frequency and intensity of heavy storm events increases, we know that many of you are dealing with the impacts to your yard, street, and neighborhood. Join us in our Stormwater Solutions program, so we can work together to protect our properties and the local environment!

survey to gauge public awareness about stormwater and environmental issues affecting the Cabin John Creek Watershed. The first stage of the survey is intended to evaluate public awareness **before** FoCJC has conducted any public education activities for the program. The anonymous responses will be used to help FoCJC fine-tune the program to support Luxmanor, Windermere, and The Oaks homeowners, specifically.

We invite all Luxmanor community residents to

[Take the 5-Minute Survey.](#)

At the end of the program, we will conduct a second survey, using the same questions as in the first. We will compare the results of the initial and closing surveys to help determine the effectiveness of our outreach program.

Step #2: Stormwater Community Meeting

We invite you to attend our **Stormwater Solutions Community Meeting** on the afternoon of **this Sunday, July 9**, for the residents of broader Luxmanor community. You'll have the opportunity to meet with RainScapes Program staff from the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection (MCDEP), sign up for a free professional site assessment, and learn how to get expert advice and support from MCDEP and FoCJC. The meeting will be at the Windermere Clubhouse from **6-7:30pm**. We will be in touch with the exact time as soon as possible.

We hope to see you there.

Funding for this Watershed Restoration and Outreach grant project was provided by the Montgomery County, MD Water Quality Protection Charge and managed by the Chesapeake Bay Trust.

[Why Should I join the LCA?](#)

Recently your Luxmanor Citizens Association mailed the 2017/2018 invoice to all residents of our Luxmanor, Windermere and the Oaks neighborhoods. While membership in the Association is voluntary, most households choose to belong. Your new board is planning an exciting year of community activities, social events, community advocacy and community forums.

LCA serves our community with events like Books and Brunch, Outdoor movie night, Halloween activities and,

Board of Education candidats forum. Our public safety focus includes providing an off duty police presence in our neighborhood. LCA sponsors opportunities to learn critical skills like our recent popular CPR trainings. Our monthly Board meetings and our General meetings in May and October feature interesting speakers from public, private and not-for-profit leaders. Topics have included training on active shooter situations ("run hide or fight"), briefings on the impact of County Council and Board of Education activities on our neighborhood to protecting our creek and our properties from erosion.

LCA keeps our neighborhoods informed by using four different platforms for community online communication -- Luxmanor Listerv, Next Door, Facebook and Google Groups. We produce the Luxletter, an online monthly magazine, and the Greensheet, our neighborhood newsletter which has been published for more that 60 years. Our publications keep you up to date on neighborhood news, zoning and its immediate and long range effects on our neighborhood, new neighbors who've moved in near you, school news.. and so much more.

LCA volunteers serve as liaisons to the schools, police, transportation, planning board, Josiah Henson House, WSSC, Friends of Cabin John Creek, various development projects and government entities. Our LCA brings your feedback to a diverse range of public entities such as the MCPS on the renovation and expansion of Luxmanor Elementary School, the soon to be built Tilden Middle School/Rock Terrace School and the reopening of Woodward High School. We bring concerns to the planning board on the impact of development projects. Our volunteers work on community concerns like traffic enforcement, school overcrowding and infrastructure. LCA is a respected 'voice' in state and county government offices.

When you pay your dues you receive the LCA directory, a valuable tool, which lists not just residents and phone numbers, but also email and street addresses. Montgomery County resources and helplines for a variety of purposes, Committee chairs and neighborhood history, and more. And, for those who don't

joins has a vote in our General Meetings and our yearly elections.

We hope you agree it is important to support your community association. We're here for you. Please send your \$40.00 dues payment check, payable to the Luxmanor Citizens Association, to Marilyn Hammerman, Membership Chair, at 11509 West Hill Drive, Rockville, MD 20852. She will mail your LCA Directory to you.

LCA is as strong as our community volunteers. Please consider volunteering.

Thank you,
Sheri Steisel Weiss
Marilyn Hammerman

Actions on Development and School Facilities Will Impact Our Community

The student population of our area is growing by leaps and bounds. Some of that growth is due to neighborhood turnover; some is due to a wave of development in our area. Local school facilities are being renovated and expanded. The Board of Education has supported the reopening of Woodward High School. However, current elementary and middle school facilities will not be able to keep pace with all the development. The likely result is either overcrowded or much-too-large schools.

There are three nearby development plans being considered by the planning board and County Council which could impact our schools. Increased density in upcoming plans for Rock Spring, White Flint 2 and the WMAL property could add more than 1300 students to our schools in addition to students arriving in our area from previously approved development. However, these actions also present an opportunity to reserve land for new schools to alleviate school overcrowding. Additionally, the planning board is reviewing development plans for the area around Governor-Strathmore Metro and Pooks Hill Road which, while smaller, will also contribute to the growing student population. It will be critical for the

pace with growth.

At LCA's June Board Meeting, the LCA Board agreed to sign on alongside eight other community associations to a statement at the request of the Walter Johnson Cluster of Parent Teacher and Student Associations to urge the planning board and county council to address the need for new schools. The Walter Johnson Cluster includes the PTA's of Luxmanor Elementary School, Tilden Middle School and Walter Johnson High School. The statement supports postponing the approval of pending development plans until there is sufficient space reserved for two new elementary schools and a new middle school and school athletic fields.

The Rock Spring plan currently being considered by the County Council sets aside no land for a school. The property should include land for a potential school. At a recent June hearing before the Council, community members held up Green Signs to "Pause the Plans" until school issue can be resolved. County Council members will soon be called upon to approve the Rock Spring Plan. This is an excellent time to contact County Council members to ask them to pause the plan and delay approval until there is land reserved or dedicated for a school.

There has been some success in this effort. After a great deal of discussion about the WMAL property site, it was announced at a recent planning board hearing that that there will be a donation of land by the developer for an elementary school.

The White Flint 2 plan does not require a dedication or reservation of land for a school, although it previously did. The sector covered by this plan could provide an opportunity for a new school.

education. Overcrowded schools will also impact our community's reputation and property values. LCA will be following this issue and advocating along side our school communities to pause the development plans until land is set aside for schools

Sheri Steisel Weiss
LCA Vice President

[Tuckerman Lane Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements](#)

I, along with several fellow neighbors, attended a June 15, 2017 workshop on the planning progress of the pedestrian and bicycle improvements to Tuckerman Lane. Below is a link to many of the related documents. Pay particular attention to the June 15th handouts and displays documents as they essentially supersede the other documents.

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-dte/projects/tuckermanlane/index.html>

A few highlights:

- The scope of the project covers Tuckerman Lane from Falls Road to Old Georgetown Road

- The project has a short term and long term phases. The best guess for completion of the short term phase is about 5 years, and the best guess for the long term phase is about 10 years.

- If completed as planned, Tuckerman will have 1 through lane in each direction, a center turn lane from Arroyo Drive to Rosemont Drive, a buffer separating the through lanes from bike lanes on each side, and a sidewalk adjacent to the bike lanes.

- The project intends to use current right-of-ways, but may eat up a small part of the front yards of the homes located on Tuckerman.

- The current chokepoint under the I-270 bridge will be resolved by excavating a 6 ft area on the outside of the bridge piers for a sidewalk, and shoring up the excavated

I specifically asked the planners about crosswalks, especially those connecting to and from Marcliff (with the 2 new schools coming in at the Tilden site) and Rosemont (a direct route to and from Luxmanor ES and new Tilden MS, as well as the new Alef Bet preschool). The planners responded that they do not generally install crosswalks where there is no traffic control device, but they would consider a median island or similar device. They do want to hear from us about suggestions. So feel free to use the contact link to express your ideas and concerns.

When, and if, completed there will be a dramatically safer through way for pedestrians and cyclists, making it easier for children to walk to neighborhood schools, and making walks and/or short bike rides to Cabin John Park and the adjacent shopping center a practical reality.

Burman Berger
LCA Treasurer

[Guest Speaker at June Board Meeting](#)

Dr. Nancy Beller-Simms spoke at the June 5th meeting about the impacts of a changing climate. She is a program manager within the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Climate Program Office where she manages several programs and efforts to both work with decision makers to incorporate weather and climate data and tools into their short and long-term planning and scientists to better understand the needs of the public to produce more timely and relevant data.

Dr. Beller-Simms discussed the impacts that scientists are forecasting for parts of the US, and specifically for our region. Those in attendance talked about changes that they have seen in their lifetimes, including changes in sea levels, disappearance of several islands in the Chesapeake Bay, more intense rain and snow storms, fewer colder days and more hotter days. There was also a discussion of changes to the growing season with earlier dates for spring planting and plants blooming earlier. She

regions across the country.

Dr. Nathalie Valette-Silver, PhD
Environmental Chair

[Recent Events in our Community](#)

Recent Events in our Community

The Paul and Celine Silver Memorial 5K Walk/Run took place on June 11, 2017. It was a beautiful day, but hot even at 8:00 AM. Thanks to the Tilden Woods Swim team we were able to get their tents to provide some welcome shade!

Many family members coming from NC or NJ, friends and neighbors joined us to remember Paul and Celine, and raise funds for the Scholarships and Awards given in their names at Walter Johnson High School, and at Mote Marine Laboratory in Sarasota, FL.

We had a good turn out and we want to thank all who participated to the event, as well as those who sponsored or donated to the Scholarship fund.

The event was festive and it was a good way to start the summer season (a preferred time of the year for Paul and Celine). We had a wonderful group of young musicians from the WJ HS Jazz Combo to serenade us, food and drinks provided by our generous sponsors, and many volunteers to help us with the setup of the event and cleaning after the walk.

New this year was a drawing for wonderful items given by our friends ranging from a Fiitbit to dry flower artwork.

We are in the process of evaluating the financial success of the event (we still have bills coming in) and of informing drawing winners. We will send a message with the final results soon.

As it stands now, we are happy to report that we will be able to give the scholarships for another year thanks to all of you.

This year, the WJ HS 2017 Paul G. Silver Award for "Excellence in Jazz" was given to Jacob Tycko and the WH HS 2017 Celine M. Silver Award for "Excellence in

[Subscribe](#)

[Past Issues](#)

A big thank you to you, our friends and neighbors, for your constant support. We greatly appreciate it.

Dr. Nathalie Valette-Silver, PhD
Environmental Chair

Copyright © Luxmanor Citizens Association, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:

Luxmanor Citizens Association
PO Box 34306 • Bethesda, MD 20827

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list

MailChimp