

The Luxmanor Greensheet

Growing a sense of community

Spring 2016

Letter from the President

Dear Neighbors;

Spring in our treasure of a neighborhood never fails to amaze and delight. For 16 years my family and I have had the privilege of watching the trees bud, hearing the birds sing and observing the wonder of new baby woodland animals taking their fledgling steps. This year as your association president, it has been a great pleasure to continue some longstanding Luxmanor traditions while incorporating many new ideas. From our new LCA community movie night last fall complete with popcorn and hot cocoa, to the launch of the LuxLine, our Board of Education Candidates Forum, and, after more than 15 years, the rollout of our very own ListServ, this has been an eventful and exciting year for our community. I wish everyone in our community a warm and joyous spring and I look forward to seeing everyone at our Luxmanor Citizens Association Spring General Meeting on Thursday, May, 19th at 7:15 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church.

Abbe Milstein

President

Luxmanor Citizens Association

Nominating Committee Selects Officers for the 2016-2017 Board

The Nominating Committee presents the following slate of Officers for the Luxmanor Citizens Association Board for 2016-2017:

President: Abbe Milstein

Vice President: Sheri Steisel Weiss

Treasurer: Burman Berger

Recording Secretary: Carin Cooper

Corresponding Secretary:

Edward Farber

Three year term Trustee:

Jerome Ostrov

Two additional Trustees are currently serving their terms and were previously elected.

Two year term Trustee: Ken Hurdle

One year term Trustee: Judy Morenoff

The slate will be considered at the May General Membership Meeting on May 19, 2016. Statements of candidates can be found starting on page 3.

This slate was respectfully submitted by Deborah Berger, Keith Rudich, and Sheri Steisel Weiss, Chair.

Welcome to the Luxmanor Community

Over the last year many new families have moved into the neighborhood. While we would like to welcome every new family, the LCA is not always aware of moves that occur. Please let us know of any new neighbors so that we can welcome them!

The Betz Family on Buckwood Lane

Laura Byer on Huntover Drive

Christine Hawthorne on Buckwood Lane

The Cunningham Family on Rosemont Drive

The Sherman Family on Luxmanor Road

Silvana Valencia on Neilwood Drive

Melissa Wagar on Roundtable Court

The Young Family on West Hill Drive

Improving Communications

By Abbe Milestein, President and Lis Herer, Chair, Electronic Communications

Since May 26, 2000, the LCA Board has used Yahoo! Groups as our neighborhood listserv. With only 3 messages posted in the month of May, 2000, our listserv has grown to host, on average, more than 2,000 emails per year. As technology changes, so do our demands on technology. With nearly 600 members registered to the Yahoo! Groups listserv, our needs as a community have outweighed the performance abilities of Yahoo! Groups. In response to this need, the LCA Board approved the creation and transfer of our listserv from Yahoo! to our own website.

Initially, our new listserv will be open for registration to all LCA residents. There will be no initial dues requirement to join the new Luxmanor ListServ. The current Board's goal is to move all Yahoo! listserv users onto the new Luxmanor ListServ. We want to encourage new community members and community residents who have never joined the listserv to register. Once this initial registration period is complete, the 2016-2017 LCA Board will determine the requirements for joining the Luxmanor ListServ. The new Luxmanor ListServ will have a brand new look. Once the transition is complete, the former Yahoo! Groups listserv will be permanently removed. If you have any information you would like to save from Yahoo!, kindly do so at your earliest convenience.

Please sign up for the new Luxmanor ListServ following the instructions below. If you have any questions or thoughts, please do not hesitate to contact Lis Herer, LCA Electronic Communications Chair at listserv@luxmanor.org or Abbe Milstein at info@luxmanor.org

Welcome to Luxmanor's New ListServ!

Step One: Go to our association website at: www.luxmanor.org.

Please click the "ListServ" button at the top of the screen along the green bar. The next screen will be the **Welcome to Luxmanor ListServ** screen page where you can register to use the listserv.

Step Two: Please register for the Luxmanor ListServ by clicking the brown "Register" button on this screen.

Step Three: This will take you to the "Register" page where you will need to fill out all mandatory fields as marked (First Name, Last Name, Email Address, Re-enter Email Address, Street Address, Phone Number).

Step Four: Enter your registration code, which is:

Henson1700

Below the Registration Code, you will see a combination of letters, numbers, and/or characters. If you find the characters difficult to read, click on the "Not Readable? Change Text..." line, and you will be given another code you can use. You can keep clicking the "Not Readable? Change Text..." line until you see a readable code option. Then, **type the**

characters you see into the field beneath. Click the Registration button. You will receive an email in your inbox from "greetings@luxmanorlistserv.org" with your distinct password. Copy and paste only the password characters and no extra spaces from this email. If you cannot find the email, check your Spam and/or Junk folders. Please contact info@luxmanor.org with any registration issues.

Step Five: Once you have registered, you will be directed to the "Thank You for Registering" screen. To sign in, use your first name and last name, then enter the password you just copied that was sent via email. Finally, click the brown "Sign In" button. Once you are registered, you are free to change your password.

Step Six: Congratulations, and Welcome to the Luxmanor ListServ! Our listserv has Etiquette Guidelines available for review, which you will find located on the green bar to the left. Please review *before* you begin posting and use these etiquette rules to guide all future postings.

Step Seven: If you would like to edit any of the information under your Profile including Personal Info, Password, or Privacy Settings, click on the "Your Profile" button located on the left-hand side of the screen along the green bar.

On our new listserv, you can opt to see messages in two different ways. If you click on the gray "privacy" button, you will see two available options. If you click the box next to the first option "Receive only your

listserv activity”, your inbox will ONLY show the messages that you post and the messages you respond to. If you click the box next to the second option “Receive all email notifications for listserv activity”, all messages posted to the Luxmanor ListServ will appear in your email inbox.

Remember to sign in each time using your password. This is a security measure to safeguard the Luxmanor Listserv. Thank you so much for your time and cooperation. Please let us know if you need assistance.

Statements of Candidates for the 2016-2017 LCA Board

Statement of Abbe Milstein, Candidate for President

After serving as your President of the LCA for the 2015-2016 year, accomplishments achieved in conjunction with the LCA Board include implementation of new programs such as the first LCA Community Movie Night, creation of our community online magazine LuxLine, bringing community news and revenue production to the LCA, our first neighborhood “dumpster day” and the establishment of a brand new exclusive listserv. Light moderation of the listserv, reinstatement of the LCA in good standing with the SDAT and hiring MCPD enforcement are additional accomplishments. I would appreciate the opportunity to serve as your president for the 2016 -2017 year.

Statement of Sheri Steisel Weiss, Candidate for Vice President

As LCA Public Safety Chair, I have sought to inform our community and

to keep all of the communities inside our neighborhood -- Windermere, the Oaks and Luxmanor-- safe. We established a strong relationship with the MCPD. We created a selective enforcement strategy when school started and added off-duty police officers to enforce traffic laws for a trial period at locations throughout our community. Luxmanor has been our home for 18 years. My husband Andrew and I have two children who attend Luxmanor Elementary School. In seeking the office of Vice President I will continue my commitment to the betterment of our community. I hope I have earned your support and vote.

Statement of Burman Berger, Candidate for Treasurer

I have lived in the Oaks with my wife Debbie and four children for nearly 6 years. I am a lifelong Montgomery County resident. I work as a CPA with Toone & Associates in Gaithersburg. Having just assumed the reins of LCA Treasurer in April, I am looking forward to helping the LCA maintain its healthy financial footing. The Luxmanor community is a wonderful place to live and raise a family. The goal of the LCA should be to keep it that way in the face of challenges to our schools, roads and infrastructure from surrounding new development.

Statement of Carin Cooper, Candidate for Recording Secretary

My name is Carin Cooper and I have been a Windermere resident in Luxmanor for 29.5 years. We have raised 2 children here who attended our WJ cluster schools.

We have enjoyed the privilege of calling Luxmanor our home and I have been engaged with our community in various leadership

capacities. I served as the WJ Cluster Representative in MCPS. I am seeking the office of Recording Secretary on the LCA Board and ask for your support and vote. Currently, I am on the LCA Board serving as the Editor of The Luxmanor Greensheet. I want to retain a voting voice on the LCA Board for Windermere. Moreover, many changes in the schools and in development are timely issues facing our area. With integrity, community engagement and a deep commitment to preserving the strengths of our community, I again seek to lead with responsiveness and transparency as a part of the LCA Board helping this beautiful neighborhood navigate our way facing these issues with strident advocacy and embracing responsible change. I've enjoyed being a "go-to" resource person here in Luxmanor. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Statement of Edward Farber, Candidate for Corresponding Secretary

It has been a pleasure this past year serving as corresponding secretary with the other dedicated volunteer members of the LCA Board. Abbe Milstein has dedicated herself to professionalizing our organization and giving us a voice in the greater community. From repairing our lapsed standing with the state to upgrading our list serve and website to hosting an outdoor family movie night, the Board has worked to enhance the neighborly quality of life in our community. This past year I helped keep the Tilden collocation process as a community focus and coordinated the first Board of Education Candidates Debate last month. It

would be a honor to serve again on the LCA Board.

Statement of Jerome Ostrov, Candidate for Trustee

I have enjoyed serving as LCA vice president this past year. Early on, a number of pressing transition issues arose and it was my privilege to advise LCA president, Abbe Milstein, in addressing them. Among these: reinstating LCA's status as a legal entity and resolving issues with the Association's bank account. I also filed several *pro bono* briefs at the state level challenging the BOE decision on collocation.

Under our bylaws, the role of trustee is to provide advice. Informally, that is what I have done this year as vice president. I would relish continuing such a role, formally, as trustee.

Reports from our Committees

Directory is on Its Way Sharon Plotnick,

Directory Chair

The LCA directory distribution was delayed this year. If you paid your dues for 2015-16, you will receive your directory by the first week in May. Please let Sharon know if you have not received one by May 10th, and she will gladly put one in your mailbox.

Membership Renewal Marilyn Hammerman, Membership Chair

By now your LCA invoice should be in your mailbox. If you are a new homeowner the invoice may have the name of the former resident. This is the printer's mistake. The envelope

should be addressed to "Neighbor" at your current address. Please do not discard but open, read and please consider joining or renewing your membership in the LCA for \$40 a year. Be sure to include the tear-off at the bottom of the invoice, include all the necessary information for the new directory and mail it in the enclosed envelope.

Please submit your dues by May 31st for the 2016-2017 membership year.

*Congratulations
to all
graduates!*

Police Enforcement Coming to Our Neighborhood Sheri Steisel Weiss, Public Safety Chair and Jon Simon, Roads and Traffic Chair

There has been a dramatic upturn in the amount of neighborhood complaints about speeding, erratic driving and failure to obey stop signs and signs with restricted turns. These complaints have been coming from all three communities inside our neighborhood -- the Oaks, Windermere and Luxmanor. Neighbors fear that this reckless driving could lead to accidents, injuries or worse.

To increase safety and increase compliance with traffic laws, the Luxmanor Citizens Association Board voted to hire off-duty police officers for a trial period to supplement the Montgomery County Police

Department's efforts in our neighborhood. Off-duty officers will be in place at selected times throughout the three communities in our neighborhood enforcing speed limits and compliance with traffic signs. The off-duty police will be moving around locations in our community.

After the trial period, the LCA Board will assess whether this effort was successful and if it might continue during other peak periods. The off-duty police will also contribute their observations and suggest countermeasures that we might consider. Information will be used to help advocate for our community.

Our volume of complaints to the police does not trigger the level of enforcement that many of our neighbors are requesting for safety. This seems to especially be the case during the morning and afternoon commuting hours. Our community is trying to cut down on the dangerous driving and avoid a tragedy.

2015-2016 Board Members

President - Abbe Milstein,
info@luxmanor.org

Vice-President - Jerome Ostrov,
jostrov@comcast.net

Treasurer - Burman Berger,
beneli_md@yahoo.com

Corresponding **Secretary** -
Edward Farber,
edfarber@comcast.net

Recording Secretary -
Constance Walker,
clwalker@aol.com

The off-duty police officers employed by the LCA are able to write warnings and issue tickets that include financial penalties and points off your license. Warnings are also entered in the police computer system. Sometimes the police will be visible, sometimes not.

Road improvement is also part of our traffic safety strategy. We have added Tilden Lane to a Montgomery County list of streets to be considered for speed cameras. We are also looking into the legal and technical issues involved in acquiring automated stop sign cameras at key intersections.

We recently received approval for the installation of new speed limit signs on Marcliff Road. We are about to begin polling Marcliff homeowners about the option to have sidewalks installed between Tuckerman and the Tilden Holding School. If you live on Marcliff and would like to get more involved in this discussion, please contact traffic@luxmanor.org. MCDOT has agreed to send a representative to discuss all the aspects and implications of adding a pedestrian sidewalk.

Given the warming weather, please compile a list of any specific pothole locations (preferably by street, intersection and/or nearest house number) and forward them to traffic@luxmanor.org. Our efforts to get potholes filled have been successful throughout the community.

We strongly encourage you to call the police non-emergency line 301-279-8000 to report traffic violations. Please include license

Committee Chairs

Co-location - Rebecca Rudich, collocation@luxmanor.org
 Directory - Sharon Plotnick, lcadirectory@luxmanor.org
 Environment - Nathalie Valette-Silver, environment@luxmanor.org
 Greensheet - Carin Cooper, greensheet@luxmanor.org
 Listserv/Website - Lis Herer, listserv@luxmanor.org
 Membership - Marilyn Hammermann, membership@luxmanor.org
 Planning and Zoning - Chris Koegel, development@luxmanor.org
 Roads and Traffic - Jonathan Simon, traffic@luxmanor.org
 Safety - Sheri and Andrew Weiss, safety@luxmanor.org
 Schools - Nancy Delasos, schools@luxmanor.org
 Special Events/ Welcome - Nurit Coombe, welcome@luxmanor.org

plates and make and model of cars, if you have them. If at all possible, agree to meet with the police. This creates a groundswell of complaints and gets us higher priority for enforcement and other structural changes. Please continue to also post specific incidents to the Luxmanor Listserv. Your listserv postings inform the community and are helpful to parents who might not otherwise know that their children have violated traffic laws. However, these posts cannot replace police reports. We cannot report the offenses for you.

Some of the violators clearly come from outside our community. Cut-through traffic is definitely a problem. We are working with the public and private schools in our community, the Department of Transportation, the County Council and our MCPD Community Liaison, Officer Oliver Janney on strategies to improve safety in our neighborhood.

However, enforcement begins at home. Please slow down and obey traffic signs. Please talk with your high school children, who are driving, about obeying the traffic laws and stopping at stop signs. We look forward to your help to keep Luxmanor, Windermere and the Oaks a safer community for the children and adults who live here. Whether

you are a driver, a walker, a dog walker, a biker or a child waiting at the bus stop, this issue impacts you. Please contact us at safety@luxmanor.org and traffic@luxmanor.org and let us know about additional problem intersections and other road concerns.

Spring Reminders

- Be mindful and considerate when using overhead, high intensity outdoor lights. Consider angling them down so the light does not shine into neighbors' yards
- Winter takes its toll on properties. Consider repairing broken and unsightly mailboxes, shutters and other outdoor items.
- When walking you pet in our neighborhood, please not only pick up after your animal, but throw your trash in your own trash receptacle, not one you pass on your walk.

Neighborhood Improvements

The Greater Farmland Civic Association (GFCA) recently worked with the Montgomery County Parks Department (MCPD) to see if the Department would be amenable to making improvements to the Recreation Center on Tilden Lane, which has had few improvements

since the building was constructed in the 1960s.

Once the work is completed, the building will, for the first time, be air conditioned, allowing for comfortable use year round. MCPD is installing a new drop ceiling with LED lighting to reduce echoing and improve the interior lighting, renovating the bathrooms with new ADA compliant fixtures, renovating the kitchen area with new appliances and countertops, refinishing the floors and installing a new keyless front door. On the outside, they plan to install brighter and more energy efficient LED lighting, improving access for persons with disabilities, re-landscaping the front of the building, and installing new LED tennis court lighting.

The LCA thanks the GFCFA for taking the lead on improving this community asset. We look forward to celebrating the grand re-opening next month with GFCFA.

Condolences

The LCA would like to extend our condolences to Steve Miller and family on the passing of Marie-Claire Jeanne (Baudin) Miller on December 20th. She was a devoted wife, mother, sister, grandmother and friend and “a true lady” that will be missed.

The LCA would like to extend our condolences to the family of Asako "Susie" Ichiuji, long time member of Windermere/Luxmanor. Susie passed away peacefully at her home, on February 10th, after a long battle with cancer.

The LCA would like to extend our condolences to Nancy Schatz and

family on the death of her husband, Clarence, who passed away September 17th. We will mourn the loss of this neighbor of Poindexter Drive.

Celebrating Successes

Congratulations to Hal and Martha Quayle on their diamond anniversary! 48 of those 60 years have been spent right here in Luxmanor. May you have many more years of sparkling joy.

Shoshana Berger, daughter of Deborah and Burman Berger, placed 6th overall in the USA Maryland State gymnastics competition in April. Eighteen gyms from across Maryland were represented. Great job Shoshana!

Congratulations to Michelle Caskey (formerly of Sedgwick Lane) and Trey Fore (of Savannah, GA and Greenville, SC) on their marriage in Bluffton, SC on October 17, 2015. The wedding was officiated by Beth Williams, Shelly's childhood Sunday School teacher and former Director of Christian Education at St. Mark Presbyterian Church in Rockville. Trey, a financial analyst with Fidelity Investments, graduated with an MBA from Clemson University in December. Shelly graduated among the charter class of 50 doctors from the University of South Carolina School of Medicine - Greenville and was promoted to Lt., USN on May 5th. She'll be deployed to the Portsmouth Naval Hospital for her residency starting in July.

“Neighbors in Our Spotlight”

SOUPERGIRL: Sara Polon

By Carin Y. H. Cooper

What do you get when you add a Windermere woman with dreams, a stand-up comic, a childhood filled with homemade healthy soups courtesy of

Mom (Marilyn Polon), and drive and ambition for a start-up biz of her own? SOUPERGIRL Sara Polon!

After a stint as a stand up comedian in New York, and rent coming due in Maryland, Sara dove right into the deep end of the entrepreneurial pot paddling with bilateral ladles. In 2008, Sara launched SouperGirl, her start-up business by renting kitchen space, tapping into the local farm community and delivering the goods. Soon, Soupergirl Soups had a presence at Farmers' Markets and catered as well. Today, Soupergirl Soups has grown and expanded to include two stores: Headquarters and restaurant in Takoma Park, Washington, D.C., and a Grab and Go storefront on M St. between 18th and 19th St., Washington, D.C. Soupergirl Soups has a wholesale business that supplies stores with healthy, delicious and convenient soups at WholeFoods, Costco (Gaithersburg/Wheaton), Grosvenor Market and Dawsons' Market (Rockville Town Center). On-line ordering, delivery and pick-up arrangements are easy, and soupscriptions are available as well.

Ultimately, Sara found an entrepreneurial way to extend “comfort” to others via the quintessential comfort food, SOUP, the signature dish shared by mother-daughter. Sara, the SOUPERGIRL, describes her “niche” product, her super soup, as being low salt, locally sourced, hand-crafted, healthy and fresh (read: no preservatives or chemicals), and certified Kosher (according to Conservative Judaism certification standards).

Sara began her start-up business prior to the many incubator kitchens in

today's market. She was inspired by Michael Pollon's book (Editor's Note: Name is merely a coincidence; but isn't it ironic?), Omnivorous Dilemma, and she sprang into action.

Soupergirl, Sara Polon sharpens her comic-chops on her website, Soupergirl.com, where she rhapsodizes about her soups du jour/week. Sara has found her intended audience for her comic repartee, and she continues to serve it up a la encores every week.

When asked what advice she would offer to new entrepreneurs or wannabe start-ups, she advises checking fear at the door. "Face the seemingly unsurmountable and surmount!" she says from experience. She adds, "If you are not afraid of your dream, then your goal is NOT BIG and challenging enough!" Believe in yourself, even when others doubt you. Find mentors: listen and learn.

Stir it all together in one big pot, and you've got SOUPERGIRL SOUPS a la Sara Polon!

Isn't that a good story? SO GET YOUR SOUP ON LUXMANOR !!!!!

"Compassion in the Community"

The 6th Annual Paul and Celine Silver Memorial 5K is **Sunday June 5, 2016**
@ 9:30 AM at
Tilden Woods Park

The Paul and Celine Silver Scholarship Fund was set up to honor and remember two special neighbors.

The Fund provides financial support to students who are interested in and excel in the fields of science, fine arts, music, and athletics (from the high school to the post-doctorate level). It supports awards and scholarships given to students at Walter Johnson High School, as well as the Mote Marine Laboratory in Sarasota, FL.

To volunteer at the event, please contact Karen M. Stone at: silver.karen@gmail.com or at info@paulandcelinesilver.org. For general information on the walk, visit the website: <http://paulandcelinesilver.org>

I Walk Because I Can

By Rachel Manchester

I grew up hearing about distant relatives dying from the "c" word. Then, I lost a college friend and a neighbor to glioblastomas. Both were parents in their early 40s, who left behind young children and devastated spouses. I felt so helpless. That year I helped start a team for Relay for Life, a program thru the American Cancer Society. (ACS) Outside of the US government, ACS provides the most financial support for cancer research of any organization. I liked the idea of supporting ACS because money raised in our community stays in our community and they support every type of cancer.

Team M.O.N.K.E.Y. (Making Oncology Needs Known Every Year) made its debut 5 years ago at Rockville HS. Our second year, the walk was held at Tilden MS on Old Georgetown Road where we helped coordinate a team from Luxmanor ES and Tilden MS. This year we are really looking forward to raising funds, honoring family and friends,

having fun at the event and knowing that we are making a difference.

During the Relay For Life Luminaria Ceremony, votive candles are lit inside of personalized bags to shine a light on the fight against cancer. At Relay for Life, Southern Montgomery County we also show a slide show of people who have been touched by cancer. It is a very emotional ceremony; the power lies in providing an opportunity for people to share their grief, to honor caregivers, and to remember those who have fought cancer, and won.

Relay for Life, Southern Montgomery will be held at John Hopkins University Montgomery County this year. There are currently 29 teams and 229 participants who have raised over \$49,000 towards the goal of \$100,000. Our Relay runs a full 12 hours and has many family friendly activities such as games, music, and a silent auction. We hold a survivor luncheon that is free to survivors and caregivers in addition to our powerful Luminaria Ceremony.

If you would like to join our team, or start one of your own, visit <http://relay.acsevents.org>. Then search by our zip code. Or email rlmanchester@aol.com.

Relay for Life, Southern Montgomery County is
Saturday June 4th
from 12pm to 12am

The Greensheet Staff
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The Luxmanor Citizens Association
Serving Luxmanor, Windermere and the Oaks
North Bethesda, MD 20852

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L U X M A N O R C I T I Z E N S A S S O C I A T I O N

LCA Board Meeting(s):

Monday, June 6, 2016

**All meetings start at 7:15pm with a call to order at 7:30pm at
Trinity Lutheran Church**

**Spring General Membership Meeting and Voting:
Thursday, May 19, 2016 at 7:15pm**