



The Luxmanor Greensheet

Growing a sense of community!

Letter from the President

Dear Neighbors,

As I write this, there are predictions of snowstorms but I know that soon enough we will be enjoying spring and the return of blooming plants and trees. The current challenge for our beautiful community is development, including construction projects in and surrounding the community. From White Flint I & II, to the Rock Spring Master Plan to Executive Boulevard, future development around Luxmanor will have long-term impacts on our roads, traffic, the environment, utilities and our schools.

- The Luxmanor Elementary School and Tilden Middle School/The Rock Terrace School construction projects are well underway. More information can be found on page 2 from the School Committee.
- Roads and traffic remain a perpetual concern. Please read the article on page 3 from the Traffic and Safety Committee.
- Information about Josiah Henson Visitor Center construction can be found on page 4.
- Be sure to read the article on page 5 by Abbe Milstein, our White Flint Implementation Committee Representative.

We have not forgotten or given up on our concerns about the Old Farm Creek. This impacts the homeowners who live near the creek and all of us who enjoy the part of the Creek in the Tilden Woods Park. As you may recall, former County Executive Ike Leggett line item vetoed the project to repair the Creek off the list and DEP dropped the creek project. We have a new county executive, Marc Elrich, and our new Councilman Andrew Friedson has said he is aware of our concerns about the health and safety of the creek. It remains on our priority list.

We were so pleased to see so many neighbors come to our LCA Board Meeting with special guest council member Andrew Friedson. Thank you to Joe and Ariana Tipograph for their assistance with the council member.

Congratulations again to our Snowmen Contest winners. We have a number of wonderful social events planned including a potluck event and scavenger hunt as well as our annual Books and Brunch get together. Please join the Luxmanor Listserv for more information.

We are bringing back the Luxline, our community online magazine next month. If you are interested in advertising in the Luxline, please contact me.

I want to thank our hardworking LCA Officers, Trustees and Committee Chairs. These outstanding volunteers take time out of their busy schedules to help serve our community. It is a privilege to serve as your president.

We are a community that is known for its passionate debates on issues. Please keep our conversations in writing and in public civil.

I look forward to seeing you at one of our events or at the May general meeting. If you have any ideas, suggestions or other comments, please feel free to send me an email at president@luxmanor.org.

Sheri Steisel Weiss
President

THE LUXMANOR CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

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Reports from our Committees

Environmental

Sandy Ladden- Rappaport, Chair

Over the last two years, LCA has been partnering with Friends of Cabin John Creek (FoCJC) in a Stormwater Solutions program to allow residents with stormwater issues get priority attention from the Montgomery County's RainScapes program. There were more than 50 attendees at the three informational meetings, and 25 homeowners have requested a free site assessment to help them identify opportunities to manage stormwater in their yard. FoCJC is continuing to work with Luxmanor homeowners to get RainScapes projects installed and qualify for the RainScapes Rewards Rebate – now up to \$7500 per property! Eligible projects include Rain Gardens, Conservation Landscaping, Water Harvesting (rain barrels and cisterns) and Permeable Pavement installations.

Stormwater issues of great concern to Luxmanor homeowners include basement flooding, ponding of water on property, destruction of landscaping, and long periods of standing water which increase mosquito populations. Excessive stormwater runoff that flows down the

stormwater drains impacts local waterways, by causing progressive erosion of stream banks, adding pollution to the water, depositing silt which damages aquatic wildlife habitats, and increasing water salinity when road salt is washed into the creeks.

One way you can help us right now is to take our brief (less than 5 minutes) survey about *your* experiences with stormwater. This anonymous survey is similar, but not identical, to the one FoCJC sent out at the beginning of the Luxmanor partnership, and is essential to document stormwater issues and awareness. You are invited to take the survey, whether or not you took the initial survey, and your input will be invaluable to planning FoCJC's future programs and activities. Go to www.cabinjohncreek.org to take the survey or find out more about Friends of Cabin John Creek.

For more information on the county's Rainscapes program check out this site: -
<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/water/rainscapes/about.html>

Schools

Deborah Kornbluth Berger, Chair

Our community has several school projects in progress, which is very exciting! Luxmanor Elementary School (LES) is currently still on target for its 18 month project, ending December 2019. The goal is for the students to return from winter break in January 2020 to a new LES. The new school will be able to accommodate 740 students. The revitalization will have many new and improved features including a lot of natural daylight for students and staff. For those of you who do not know, LES was selected as a 2018 National Blue Ribbon School.

A new Tilden Middle School (TMS) is being built at the site of the original middle school. The site of the current TMS will become the future high school, Woodward High School targeted to open in 2022 or 2023. TMS relocated from the

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original site to the former Charles W. Woodward High School in 1991 and the original Tilden became the middle school holding center. TMS is still planning to move into the new space during the summer of 2020. The new facility will increase the capacity of the students to 1215 students with a core capacity for 1,500 students. TMS will share the site with Rock Terrace School (RTS). RTS is a special education school currently located on Martins Lane in Rockville. RTS will have approximately 100 students.

In addition, there is some other news regarding overcrowding in the schools and local development. The Rockville City Council voted to allow an exception for BF Saul to develop an area in Rockville that should be on a building moratorium due to its status on overcrowded schools. As of now, once the capacity hits 120%, there should be a building moratorium, but Rockville was granted an exception to allow it to reach 150%. The exemption allows the Adequate Public Facilities Standards to increase by 30% over what is currently recommended. Due to the MCPS boundary, a majority of the children in these areas that will be developed will attend Walter Johnson HS. The Twinbrook Quarter Project includes 11 buildings of residences, offices and shops which are granted the exception. The exemption applies to areas of Rockville Town Center and South Pike. This new project will be four times larger than Rockville Town Center. In my opinion, the overcrowded schools and traffic are a concern, but most importantly the exception to allow Rockville to build to 150% of the school's capacity could have severe consequences for our community.

Social & Welcome

Nurit Coombe, Chair

Thank you to all who attended the New Neighbor Meet and Greet as well as to those who took part in the Snowman contest, especially first place winners Willow and Ellis Stone on Stephalee Lane.

Information about other winners and photos can be found on page 6.

Some upcoming exciting neighborhood events:

April: Books N Brunch - a morning of fun with a potluck brunch and book exchange

May: Treasure Hunt - a family neighborhood event for all ages

Be sure to sign up for the Luxmanor ListServe to be notified of event times and locations. Don't miss out on the excitement! Please contact me with any other fun neighborhood suggestions. We are so lucky to live in such a special community!

Traffic & Safety

Nikki Korson, Chair

Many of the Traffic & Roads long term projects are coming to a close, which makes way for new projects - just in time for paving and striping season!

Sidewalk Project - This proposed project has reached a close. Based on community feedback, the entirety of the sidewalk project has been closed due to lack of substantial interest in installation. The Department of Transportation is currently exploring options for the lower section of Marcliff Road, from Cushman Road to Tuckerman Lane on Marcliff. Once they decide, notifications will be mailed requesting impacted household comments.

Rosemont Drive/Lux Lane Stop Sign - The county has determined after a year of traffic studies, discussions about patterns, accidents, and neighborhood interest, that the upgrade to a four way stop is not warranted by the traffic code.

Old Georgetown /Tuckerman Light Improvements - The LCA made a formal recommendation for the State to review the pattern and signage at this traffic light, specifically the "No Right Turn on Red" sign, which is pushing non-local cut through traffic into the four feeder streets connecting Tuckerman to Wayside/Lux. The State has determined that the improvements they attempted were

detrimental to the light, and the sign is separately warranted due to sight and speed combinations of oncoming traffic. The light will not be modified at present.

Projects to Come:

With bandwidth having opened up with the closure of the above projects, the below projects will become the immediate focus of the Traffic & Roads efforts:

1. Resurfacing campaigning with the county for deteriorating roadways in Windermere and Luxmanor.
2. Traffic Study on Danville Drive to evaluate the reported speeding issue.
3. No Access Restriction consideration for Rosemont Drive to prohibit non-local cut thru traffic.

In Our Community

Paul and Celine Silver Memorial 5K Silent Auction

By Nathalie Valette-Silver

This year the Paul and Celine Silver Memorial 5K walk/run will take place on June 9, 2019 starting at the Tilden Woods Park. Like last year, we need your help with donated items for the silent auction that helps us raise funds for the Scholarships given in Paul's and Celine's Names. We are looking for art and craft items and any other home items but we are also looking for restaurant, cinema or theater, other stores gift certificates or tickets or anything that our community would like to get during the auction. Please contact me as soon as possible with your donations We need your assistance. Thank you in advance.

Josiah Henson Update

By Sheri Steisl Weiss

Construction has begun on the Josiah Henson House Park, Museum and Visitors Center and is scheduled to be completed in 2020. They have worked closely with the LCA to minimize the impact on the neighborhood including having construction vehicles park in Wall Local Park and making it clear that no one is to go through the neighborhood.

Welcome to the LCA!

Over the last few years 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 Bailey Family on Roseland Drive
- The Baxley Family on Rosemont Court
- The Derwin Family on Tilden Lane
- The Dropkin Family on Cameo Court
- The Fahey Family on Quaker Ridge Rd.
- The Fulop Family on Calwood Way
- The Homayouni & Toyserkani Family on Stephalee Lane
- The Jacobson Family on Paxton Road
- The Kaplan Family on Paxton Road
- The Lee-Zucker Family on Luxmanor Road
- The Masica Family on Neilwood Drive
- The Nysenbaum Family on Cameo Ct.
- The Pelicane Family on Quaker Ridge Road
- The Pratt Family on Cushman Road
- The Raynal and Ward Family on Arroyo Drive
- The Warnsman Family on Mazwood Road
- The Zavareei Family on Danville Drive

Montgomery Parks Senior Historian, Jamie Fergusin's presentation at our fall General Meeting was very well received and LCA is working to put together a book talk event for the community later this year. Her newly published in depth biography, *Sharp Flashes of Lightning Come from Black Clouds: The Life of Josiah Henson details the*

life of Reverend Josiah Henson. The book can be ordered from the Josiah Henson website.

**District 1 Montgomery County, MD
Council Member Andrew Friedson**
By Connie Walker

Luxmanor neighbors recently had a chance to meet Andrew Friedson, our newly elected District 1 member on the Montgomery County Council when he attended a meeting specifically set up to introduce himself to the community and to hear the concerns of area residents.

Friedson, a life-long resident of the county and graduate of local public schools, gave a brief wrap-up of his experience including serving as Senior Policy Advisor and Deputy Chief of Staff for the Comptroller of Maryland, Chair of the Montgomery County Collaboration Council for Children, Youth and Families, and on the Steering Committee of MARYLAND MATTERS, a non-profit news venture focused on state and local issues.

LCA residents spoke of school overcrowding, local storm water management,

the environmental and health risks associated with the Luxmanor Creek, traffic road patterns and congestions, and other problems specific to the area. The councilman was familiar with these subjects and asked that residents contact him or his Legislative Aide, Aaron Kraut, about other concerns of the area.

Aaron Kraut, Legislative Aide,
Office of Councilman Andrew
Friedson.
Montgomery County Council
District 1
100 Maryland Avenue.
Rockville, MD 20852
240-777-7962

New Neighbor Meet and Greet
By Sharon Plotnick

In mid-December, the LCA Membership Committee sponsored its first New Member Meet and Greet at the Windermere Clubhouse. We invited all neighbors who have lived in Luxmanor, Windermere, or The Oaks for three years or less to our event. We were so happy to see over 50 people come to the clubhouse with their families in tow. We provided coloring books and plenty of sweets for the toddlers and school-aged children to keep them busy. We met with many couples who were eager to learn all about the LCA and its mission. It was nice to see so many young families excited about what we do to improve the community. We will continue to sponsor community-building events and activities as well as advocate for the needs of our neighborhood in our schools, county, and beyond.

White Flint I and II
By Abbe Milstein

The White Flint Implementation Committee meets monthly to discuss development within both White Flint I & II. LCA has a seat on this committee which is open to all members of the community. The last few meetings focused on the development of the VOB Nissan property,

Committee Chairs

- Directory - Rachel Manchester
lcadirectory@luxmanor.org
- Environment -
Sandy Laden Rappaport &
Nathalie Valette-Silver
environment@luxmanor.org
- Electronic Communication - Abbe Milstein &
Eric Manchester
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- Membership - Marilyn Hammermann &
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- Social/ Welcome - Nurit Coombe
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- Traffic & Safety - Nikki Korson
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located at the intersection of Old Georgetown Rd and Executive Blvd. Current plans for this development will consist of three towers and an additional road. The development will sit directly across Old Georgetown Rd. from Pike and Rose.

The Gables project, located next to Wall Park/ The Shriver Center is beginning in 2020. This project is planned to consist of 3 residential towers and will have a parking garage on site. The connecting bridge to the conference center should be completed by year end.

The Montgomery County Department of Transportation, Capital Projects Manager, Bikeways Coordinator Patricia D. Shepherd, presented the county's latest plan for the Marinelli Separated Bike Lanes project. This project will create separated bike lanes on the stretch of Marinelli Rd. from Nebel St. to Rockville Pike. Other improvements would include a new bus island platform at the NRC building, a proposed median separation at the NRC security entrance, a revised median along Marinelli just east of MD 355 (Rockville Pike) and protected intersection design at Citadel Ave. Funding for this project exists and construction is slated to begin in late spring or early summer of this year.

At February's White Flint Implementation meeting, Andrew Friedson, spoke with the group about the need for pedestrian friendly communities and walkable sidewalks. He also addressed questions about pedestrian safety in White Flint and stormwater management issues. He is aware the Old Farm Creek restoration project was cut from the prior County Executive's priority list and is willing to address this issue with our community. Finally, former county councilmember candidate for District 1, Peter Fosselman has replaced Dee Metz as the Planning Coordinator for the Office of the County Executive.

Read Abbe's full article, including links to many more details about these developments in the Luxline.

Snowman Contest

By Nurit Coombe

What a wonderful community we have! There were so many great entries into the snowman competition that it was difficult to pick a winner! Congratulations to everyone who participated!

3rd Runner up - Ratner family on Poindexter lane with their "Skiing snowman"

2nd Runner up - Charlotte McDonough of Tall Tree Terrace with her perfectly tall "Snowman"

1st Runner up - "West Hill Crew" of West Hill Dr with their "Pool Party Snowman"

And this years.....**First prize winners.....**

"Upside-Down Snowman" by Willow and Ellis Stone at Stephalee Lane



Celebrating Successes

A huge congratulations to neighbors, Jillian and Scott Copeland on their perseverance and dedication to helping individuals with special needs. In October, ground was broken on an apartment complex across from the Rockville Metro, that will have more than 10 units reserved for adults with disabilities. In addition, the complex will become "a hub, it's a community center, it's a gathering space," for those who live in the complex and the surrounding area. This is true community building at its finest. For more information about the project, see the February 12th

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article in the *Washington Post*, Local Section under Social Issues.

On Tuesday December 12, 2018 a special American Geophysical Union (AGU) session was organized by the Tectonophysics Section to celebrate the AGU's 100th Anniversary. The session featured the achievements of preeminent scientists that allowed for important advances, over the past century, in the fields of geophysics, seismology, geodesy and tectonophysics. Paul G. Silver's work (Dr. Nathalie Valette-Silver's husband) was highlighted in an anchor talk given by Dr. Sean Solomon (Lamont Doherty-Columbia University). On December 12th, as an introduction to the Francis Birch Tectonophysics Lecture, Dr. Nathalie Valette-Silver gave a short presentation about Paul G. Silver's character and scientific achievements and bestowed the Paul G. Silver Award for "Outstanding Scientific Service" to Harold Tobin (U of Washington). The Birch lecture was given by Dr. Carolina Lithgow-Bertelloni (UCLA), one of Paul's many successful post-doctoral fellow.

Congratulations to Dr. Cheryl Hoofnagle whose Portuguese Water Dog achieved his championship at Barrington Kennel Club at only one year of age. He is now Champion Blue Run's Riverwood Khumbu.

Congrats to Walter Johnson HS! In December, the Maryland State Department of Education released a new school accountability model and only four high schools in MCPS received a five-star rating. Walter Johnson, Poolesville, Winston Churchill and Thomas S. Wootton received a five-star rating, each scoring at least 74 percent of available points, based

on five categories: school quality and student success, academic achievement, graduation rate, English language and proficiency and readiness for postsecondary success.

Congrats to Jordan Cooper, who published "Perspectives on the Public Interest," a 300 page hardcover coffee table book featuring adapted *Public Interest Podcast* interviews on public service. More information, including how to obtain a copy, can be found at: <http://www.publicinterestpodcast.com/p/book.html>

Danielle Cooper will be completing her PhD in clinical psychology this coming summer from Ohio University and will then begin her post-doc position at UPenn treating patients with anxiety-related disorders. Congrats on all your hard work.

Congratulations to Pamela Nadell for her new book, "America's Jewish Women: A History from Colonial Times to Today." Her book will be released by Norton Books on March 5th. Pamela will also be speaking about her book at Politics and Prose on Sunday, March 10th at 5pm.

Condolences

Our neighborhood has had an extreme loss. Martha Zimmerman Quayle, wife of Hal Quayle passed away, on December 26, 2018. Martha and Hal lived 50 of their 62 years of marriage here in Luxmanor!

There will be a Celebration of Life for her on Saturday, March 16 at 2 pm at Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church, 9601 Cedar Lane in Bethesda. Our community extends its sincere condolences to the entire Zimmerman and Quayle families.

Are you missing something? Are you "Out of Touch" with the LCA? Email Luxlistserv@gmail.com for help joining our Listserve, our NextDoor community, or our Google and Facebook Groups.

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LCA Board Meeting(s):

Monday, March 4, 2019

Monday, April 29, 2019

All meetings start at 7:15pm at Trinity Lutheran Church

Spring General Membership Meeting:

Thursday, May 9, 2019 at 7:15 pm

Meeting will be called to order at 7:30pm.

Note: All LCA Board meetings are open to the public. The General Meeting features updates as well as an opportunity for all paid up members to vote on issues including the budget and officers.



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

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