

THE KNOLLS NEWS

Sharing News of Common Interest

September 2018

Winston Knolls Civic Association

P.O. Box 2893
Springfield, Virginia 22152

Message from Winston Knolls President – September 2018

Tom Blume

Dear Neighbors and Friends – Summer is officially over and we at WKCA are starting our fall activities. The spring and summer were busy months for our Association and hopefully you had a chance to enjoy one or more of our sponsored events. I would like to welcome some new families that have moved into the neighborhood over the past month. Tony and Cheryl Bell at 9160 Rockefeller Lane, Matthew and Jessica Irish at 9101 Shotgun Court and Barry and Kelly Roche, at 7125 Hamor Lane. I am sure that there may be others and I encourage you to let myself or one of the Board members know of any new residents in order for us to welcome and inform them about the civic association. We have a lot of residents who can benefit from our kindness and help. WKCA has an active Board, Newsletter, Bi-annual Directory with community information/resources, Website, access to local county and government officials, a Neighborhood Watch Program and special events annually. Please encourage your neighbor and new residents to join. For only \$20.00, WKCA is a real deal! You can obtain the membership form on our website (wknolls.net) or call me at 703-569-2368.

As we approach the fall, I must “shout out” a big thank you to our Board members and the many volunteers, who have helped us maintain an active civic association. Let me take a moment to recap our spring and summer activities. Thanks to everyone who joined or renewed their membership over the past year. Our membership drive resulted in **302**

homes joining the association, but we have 489 homes in the community, so we do have a way to go. More than 15 of our neighbors graciously volunteered their time to knock on doors on their street to collect membership, directory forms and dues. We had our usual spring Cleanup and Dumpster Day at the corner of Spur and Huntsman. To include **Cub Scout Pack 685** picking up trash in the woods off of Hanks Place and behind our sign. By the way, Alan and Terri Perry have been responsible for keeping the sign area weeded and planting flowers for over 9 years. Dumpster Day was a success, as we were full and had the dumpster towed away in two hours. In other events, we had over 20 families participate in the WKCA/Orange Hunt Yard Sale, and over 150 families turn out for our WKCA & Orange Hunt Community Large Item Pick-up and shredding at OHES. And lastly we had our annual picnic in June to thank our members. Inside the newsletter are a few photos of the events

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED! *The WKCA board is in need of new volunteers to fill positions of long-serving committee chairs who would like to turn over their role to someone new or who are reaching their 5 year service limit according to our bylaws. We have an urgent need for a President, Database and Directory Chairman, Newspaper Chairman and a welcome Wagon Chairman, Please contact me to learn more about the board and the role you could fill as a volunteer for the community. No prior experience is necessary! This is a great way to give back and stay in the know about our community. Call me!*

Mark Your Calendar and Plan to attend the WKCA's 2018 Fall Events

WKCA Board meeting (open to all) – 28 Aug at 7PM, Tom Blume's house (8908 Arley Drive)

Deadline for articles to WKCA Newsletter – Aug 31

Newsletter Distributed – Sep 8/9

WKCA and Orange Hunt Yard Sale Day – Saturday Sep 22

WKCA and Orange Hunt Community Large Item Pick-Up/Shredding at OHES – Saturday Sep 29

Board meeting – Oct 3 at 7PM, Tom Blume's house (8908 Arley Drive)

Halloween Parade & Party – Saturday Oct 27 (Moon bounce/face painting/games/free hotdogs & chips)

WKCA Nominating Committee formed for 2014 WKCA Officers - Nov 5

WKCA Board meeting/preparation for General meeting – Nov 6 at 7PM, Tom Blume's house (8908 Arley Drive)

Deadline for articles to WKCA Newsletter – Nov 15

Newsletter Distributed – Dec 1/2

***WKCA General meeting – December 11 at 7PM, place and Guest Speaker (TBD)**

September 2018 Fall Community Yard Sale and Big-Item Drop-Off / Shredding Events

Winston Knolls

Winston Knolls Civic Association membership is voluntary and offered to each of our 489 homes. We sponsor civic-minded events and promote and protect the well-being of our neighborhood!

Website Resource for WKCA
www.winstonknolls.net

The Knolls News is a periodic publication of the Winston Knolls Civic Association, and is distributed free to all 489 homes in the community. Classified advertisements are free to members of the Civic Association. Business advertisements are also available for a fee. We encourage you to use our advertisers, and expect that you will do your own research before employing persons to work on your home or property. For information on any article or on WK advertising rates, please contact Tom Blume at kathandtomblume@gmail.com

Advertising Rates: Business card size: \$20.00
One-fourth page: \$35.00
One-third page: \$45.00
One-half page: \$60.00
Full page: \$100.00

Winston Knolls Civic Association and OHECA are teaming up again for the fall community yard sale on **September 22**. OHECA will post signs on main streets in our area to help advertise the event in the community. Residents can also post signs one day before on September 21 to direct people to their yard sales. The fall big-item drop-off and shredding event will be held the following Saturday on **September 29** at Orange Hunt Elementary School (6820 Sydenstricker Road). These services are for residents in our community and provide a great opportunity to get rid of unwanted items for free. The big item drop off begins at 8:00 am and ends at noon. Fairfax County will have their heavy equipment onsite to takeaway unwanted items. The following items will not be collected as part of the community cleanup: normal household refuse, brush, yard waste, rocks, bricks, concrete, stone, dirt, motor oil, car batteries, paint, roofing shingles, drywall, asbestos, glass, hazardous chemicals and pesticides, toxic waste, animal waste and explosives. Televisions, computers and other electronics can be dropped off. This program is designed to collect large appliances, furniture, toilets, exercise equipment, wheels and car part including old tires off rims, BBQ grills, lawn mowers, etc. Remove all fuel from gas tanks and no propane tanks are accepted. The free shredding event will be held at the same site on September 29 and will be for 2 hours. The drop off begins at 9:00 am and ends at 11:00 am. So please drop off any items to be shredded during these times. The following items WILL BE accepted for shredding: office paper (any color), manila folders, staples, paper clips, rubber bands, binder clips, spiral notebooks, hanging file folders and receipts. The following items WILL NOT be accepted: 3-ring binders, garbage of any kind, newspapers, credit cards, CDs, cardboard, magazines, telephone books and hard cover books. Last year several-hundred residents took advantage of these free community services organized by your civic associations -- Your membership dues help sponsor and support these events.



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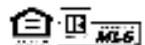
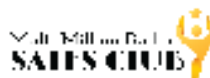
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If you, or anyone you know is considering buying or selling a home now or in the future,
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Education Chair Report By Ed Linz

Earlier this summer I spoke with Mike Mukai, the Principal at West Springfield High School for his semi-annual report to our community. Mr. Mukai has been Principal at WSHS for several years, and throughout the current renovation. He was happy to report that the 4 year long renovation of the facilities is in its final phase, and should be completed on schedule by next summer. The really good news is that there will be no more classroom trailers this year; all students will be in classrooms within the building. As with all Fairfax County Public schools, there will be increased security this year, so do not expect to simply walk into the building through any entrance. Enrollment continues to increase (projected to be over 2300 this fall), driven both by demographics, and also a surprising number of transfers from private schools. Mr. Mukai suggested that this may be due to many private school parents deciding that they can get a better education with less outlay of money by having their children in public schools (at least at the high school level). The class of 1978 will have a major reunion here this fall, along with the 4th annual WSHS Sports Hall of Fame ceremony. Standardized test scores, including Advanced Placement results, continue to be excellent, according to Mr. Mukai.

I would encourage everyone who has a student in Fairfax County Public Schools to be actively involved. PTA membership seems to decline as students progress out of elementary schools, but your involvement is just as important through grades 7-12. I would also encourage you to become informed and vote in the School Board elections this fall. It really does matter who our School Board members are!

September is National Preparedness Month



Each year, September is recognized as National Preparedness Month, which serves as a call to action to prepare, now and throughout the year, for the types of emergencies that could affect us where we live, work and visit. This September, National Preparedness Month (NPM) will focus on planning, with an overarching theme “Disasters Don’t Plan Ahead, You Can.” We should all take action to prepare! We are all able to help first responders in our community by training how to respond during an emergency and what to do when disaster strikes — where we live, work, and visit. The goal of NPM is to increase the overall number of individuals, families, and communities that engage in

preparedness actions at home, work, business, school, and place of worship. More information can be found at, vaemergency.gov/national-preparedness

WKII HOA vs WKCA

During our membership drive in the spring I had conversations with several individuals about the HOA and the Civic Association and in order to clear up the confusion please see below:

The WKCA was established in 1975 as a non-profit organization to promote the common interests of the Winston Knolls community (approximately 489 homes). The civic association WKCA sponsors Cub Scout Pack 685, the Knolls News, Neighborhood Directory, Social Events, Dumpster Day/Community Yard Sale, planting scrubs/flowers, funding over \$2,200.00 dollars annually for the mowing of Huntsman median sidewalks, and sign area to keep up property values in the community. We also provide updates and offer access to neighborhood resources and information, plus working with local authorities and looking out for each other. Membership for the WKCA is purely voluntary. Annual dues are a modest \$20.00 per year - website is www.wknolls.net. The establishment of the WKII HOA, a total of 191 homes constituting Winston Knolls II, was mandated by Virginia law because WKII owns three parcels of common land. A description and detailed map can be found at www.winstonknolls.org, identifying the 191 homes and the parcels of common land. Membership in the HOA is mandatory for these homes with the annual dues voted on by the HOA Board of Directors. The current HOA President is Jonathan Clough. Please visit the website for the HOA Officers, Board members and other information. The primary expenditures of the HOA are liability insurance, mowing portions of the common land, and periodic removal of trees identified by professionals as an unacceptable risk for falling on neighboring homes. The HOA is also responsible for declarations and covenants enforcement and home re-sale/disclosure documents. The HOA and the WKCA continually explore opportunities for joint sponsorship of activities that are consistent with their respective missions. For example, the HOA and the WKCA sponsor a yearly Dumpster Day, providing Winston Knoll resident’s disposal of trash and debris for spring clean-up and maintains an active dialogue between the WKCA and HOA Board members for the betterment of the community. *If you live in Winston Knolls II, the HOA Board is seeking volunteers to fill positions of long serving officers who would like to turn over their role to new individuals. Please contact Jonathan Clough or the board members themselves to learn more about the board and the role you could fill as a volunteer for the HOA, go to the website at www.winstonknolls.org and check it out today!*

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All non-business ads (For Sale, Garage Sales, Wanted, Babysitters, etc.) are free to WKCA residents – as long as membership fees are up to date. Please submit your request to kjsherman3@gmail.com

TUTOR:

Ed Linz (Adult) call 703-577-5175; edwinrlinz@gmail.com **Physics, all levels including AP**; retired Fairfax teacher

Heike Hines (Adult) call: 571-230-2657 - **German**

Joe Hoenscheid (Adult) call: (703) 569-3826 - **ESL, German, French, Spanish**

Angie Chang (Adult) call: 571-319-9175 - **ESL**

OTHER:

Photography: Lynse Schmidt (Adult) call: 608-397-6254, LynseMichaelPhotography.com

Seamstress/Sewing: Carol Cluff (Adult) call: 610-505-0440

Entertainment/Singing/Instrumental: Jessica Newell (15) call: 412-295-4411

Pictures/Screen Savers: Melissa Newell (12) call: 412-295-4411

BABYSITTING:

Kailynne Landry (teen) call: 571-222-5634

Sydney Schaffer (teen) call: 703 303-6824

Grace O'Grady (teen) call: 703-913-3464

Audrey Valentine (teen) call: 703-625-7299

Amy Peterson (teen) call: 703-912-6363

Reed Gray (teen) call: 757-705-8835

TJ Brantley (teen) call: 703-451-0077

Marie Cluff (teen) call: 610-704-6087

Katharina Hines (teen) call: 571-230-2804

Teresa Hines (teen) call: 571-230-2804

PET WALKERS/SITTERS:

Kailynne Landry (teen) call: 571-222-5634

Sydney Schaffer (teen) call: 703 303-6824

Joey MacDonald (teen) call: 571-533-0003

Reed Gray (teen) call: 757-705-8835

Lauren Cluff (teen) call: 610-505-0440

Erin Burns (teen) call: 703-455-1820

Joseph Harris (teen) 202-255-3068

Sam Harris (teen) 202-255-3068

John Hines (teen) 571-230-2804

LAWNCARE/MOWING:

TJ Brantley (teen) call: 703-451-0077

Joe Burns (teen) call: 703-455-1820

Andrew Burns (teen) call: 703-455-1820

Ian Elkins (teen) call: 937-903-9441

SNOW SHOVELING:

Melissa Newell (12) call: 412-295-4411

Respecting and Helping Each Other

A few words on what community is and how we are bound by a sense of doing what is right and expected of us. No matter what your race, religion, politics and etc., all must be treated with respect and listen to what each individual has to offer. It is OK to agree to disagree in a civil manner. In fact I enjoy conversations with individuals whom differ in opinion, as I want to understand how they formed their opinion. The bottom line is that we are a diverse community and we need to ensure we look after each other. If you know of a neighbor that needs help in getting their lawn or house chores completed, a ride to the store or looking after their property when they are on vacation and etc., please jump in and help, especially for our "older" residents. **The Civic Association is not qualified, nor set up to deal with personal situations, but we do want to let the community know that we care and if we can assist in getting you to the correct individual, let us or a neighbor know.** After living in Winston Knolls for several years I can honestly say that I am proud to call you my friends and neighbors -- Thank you!

CIRCUIT BREAKER

STILL IN USE DESPITE SAFETY CONCERNS Washington Post, Local Living, submitted by a Washington Post Article in May 10, 2018, Local Living, page 8, Elizabeth Leamy

The title speaks for itself. In summary, Federal Pacific Electric (FPE) Circuit Breakers panels and "Stab-Lok" type circuit breakers were widely used, and particularly so during the construction of Winston Knolls homes. Their safety is questionable. An expert in the field estimates, "FPE Stab-Lok breakers may be responsible for as many as 2,800 fires, 13 deaths, and \$40 million in property damage every year". Other firms also distributed Stab-Lok type breakers under a variety of names. Identifying FPE, etc., Stab-Lok breakers may be as easy as Federal Pacific Electric or FPE, or "Stab-Lok" labelled on the breaker box door or on the visible portion of the individual circuit breakers. We most emphatically DO NOT recommend pulling a circuit breaker out to examine it! A website, "Inspect APedia" is suggested for identifying FPE or other Stab-Lok breakers. We DO recommend you read the full Washington Post article. Where Stab-Lok breakers are present or suspected, the Consumer Product Safety Commission advises an inspection by a qualified electrician. One expert cited says a visual inspection isn't enough; each Stab-Lok breaker should be removed and tested. That, however could cost more than replacing the panel, box, and breakers (\$500 to \$1700). Many of our residents have done so. (And, a lot of our homes could benefit from a general electrical system analysis and upgrade.) We've heard some home inspectors have recommended FPE panel/breaker replacement as a condition of sale.

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