

LakeWalker

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
SPRING 2018 NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By JIM PICKETT

Lake Walker Elections

An exciting new year in Lake Walker began with the election of new and returning officers. Having performed their duties most proficiently over the past year, **Secretary Cindi D'Angelo** and **Treasurer Tom Piccin** were willing, and reelected, to serve another year. Our new **Vice President, Ian Anson** who, with his wife Lucy, moved here just a year ago, has been actively involved, as reflected in his article in this newsletter. **Cy Govers** will continue in her pivotal role of Communications Chair. And to everyone's relief, we now have a new **Block Party Coordinator, Melissa Colimore**. She and her husband Eric just moved here last September... during the Block Party! This year, we plan to hold open Board meetings. So if you would like to attend the next one, which will take place on Tuesday, April 10th, simply email one of the officers.

The elections were followed recently by our annual Winter Fiesta at Zen West. If you missed this fun neighborhood gathering, do try to make it next year.

Lake Walker's Got Talent!

In an effort to lighten and liven up our General Meetings this year, we are inviting willing residents to open the meeting with a song, poem, skit, dance, or any other brief entertainment of 10-15 minutes.

The upcoming meeting on March 27th will feature Maggie Burnham and Minna Knight opening with a song or two. We are looking for a performer for the June meeting.

We recently received a very nice letter from Helene Perry of the York Road Partnership expressing their sincere thanks for LWCA's donation of \$200 to their CARES program which gives assistance to the needy.

Keeping Lake Walker Desirable

You have probably already heard the sad news of Ryan's Daughter's closing, and the proposed Urgent Care facility which will replace it. I attended a meeting with Councilman Bill Henry, the developers, U of M/St. Joseph's, and representatives from all the surrounding community associations. Details of this meeting will be published on the Lake Walker Forum, and discussed at the next meeting.

Finally, I would like to urge everyone in Lake Walker to be especially mindful of the general appearance of our neighborhood. It has a direct effect on our property values. Let's all try to keep our curbs clear, our trash and recycling containers put away after pickup, and our properties as well maintained as possible.

Thank you.

calendar
OF events

MARCH 27

LWCA General Meeting

LWCA General Meeting –
7:30 p.m., Arbor Oaks Meeting Room.
Please see page 3 for the agenda and
location. Please bring a non-perishable
food item for CARES. Meetings occur
quarterly; upcoming meetings on 6/27,
10/25

APRIL

4/4 York Road Partnership Meeting – 7:15
p.m. @ St. Mary's Church Hall, 5502 York
Road, parking and entrance in the rear of the
church. Recurring mtg. on first Wed. of every
month: 5/2, 6/6, 7/11

4/28 Baltimore City Mayor's Spring
Cleanup in Lake Walker

MAY

5/12 Spring Plant Exchange

5/16 Northern Police District Meeting – 7
p.m. @ the Northern District Police Headquar-
ters, 2201 W. Cold Spring Lane (just west of
I-83 on your left). For questions, call Officer
Doug Gibson @ 410 367-8491. Recurring mtg
on third Wed. of every OTHER month: 7/18,
9/19, 11/21

JUNE

6/9 Lake Walker Community Yard Sale –
(rain date 6/10)

Check in at
lakewalker.org
for the full 2018 schedule!



WINTER FIESTA RECAP

Nearly 100 Lake Walker residents gathered at Zen West to catch up and eat good food. Kids drew their hearts out—we'll display their work at this year's block party. It was especially great to see new residents who stopped by to meet new neighbors!

Partygoers pause for a moment to pose for a picture.

PUBLIC SAFETY IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

By IAN G. ANSON

In recent months, our community has experienced a number of uncharacteristic public safety incidents. At our most recent Community Meeting, many questions were raised by citizens about what the Association and our neighbors can do to help keep the community safe. While the Northern District of Baltimore City P.D. has since adopted a new deployment strategy which increases coverage of the York Road corridor and the surrounding neighborhoods (including ours), we thought it prudent to share some helpful strategies with residents of Lake Walker that might also help to ease our collective worries. Safety is a public good, meaning that it takes active participation from all of us in order to ensure our community is as safe as it can possibly be. In addition to the tips below, we have also compiled a complete list of resources at <http://tinyurl.com/LWCASafety>.

Lights on!

One simple way to greatly increase the safety of our neighborhood is to illuminate our properties at night. Police have informed us time and time again that Lake Walker is often too dark at night due to heavy vegetation and inadequate lighting. Proper illumination can be achieved very cheaply with the installation of light-sensor bulbs or motion-sensor floodlights. According to Jeff Jerome of BGE's Energy Efficiency Group, leaving outdoor lights on at night for the average household would cost roughly \$3.60 per month (\$0.12 per day). While some neighbors might feel that illuminating their houses makes them an attractive target for robbery relative to other houses, this notion is flatly incorrect. Research clearly supports the idea that proper nighttime illumination reduces crime (see the link above for citations). And illumination is a public good: only when every neighbor's house is properly illuminated at night will we enjoy

continuously-lit streets that effectively deter criminals.

When to call 9-1-1

9-1-1 is an important resource for our community, and much like the issue of illumination, it is the subject of many rumors and falsehoods. Northern District police instruct residents to call 9-1-1 anytime they spot a suspicious person, if they believe there is a threat, or if they observe criminal activity of any kind. 9-1-1 operators will prioritize dispatches using their own knowledge, so you need not hesitate even if you think your call is "small potatoes" relative to major crimes or health emergencies. These calls are important data for the police, who will prioritize their patrols and activities in light of the frequency of calls. Thus, letting suspicious activity or petty crimes go unreported to 9-1-1 can serve to reduce the visibility of our neighborhood's issues at police headquarters. 3-1-1, the line for

city maintenance, repairs, and requests, is NOT a valid alternative to 9-1-1 in these circumstances.

Exterior Cameras

Many neighbors have recently installed affordable, exterior-mounted, closed-circuit camera systems on their properties. These cameras are a strong deterrent to criminals because they can record and save high-definition video. Police can use this footage to quickly apprehend would-be perpetrators of crime. We strongly encourage neighbors to consider installing such systems; they are also a public good, because they can often capture the goings-on along entire streets. A higher density of cameras in the area sends the signal to would-be criminals that our neighborhood is vigilant in deterring crime.

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Participate & Communicate!

A final critical tip is to take action by attending community meetings and by communicating with community association leaders and block captains. The Community Association has many forthcoming plans regarding public safety initiatives, and we need your input and participation to make them successful. We also possess resources you may not have

known about, like an engraving tool that can be used by any dues-paying member to permanently mark their belongings. If another incident were to occur, neighbors should not forget to reach out to the community association after contacting police, so we can work to assist and alert the community. Together we can continue to ensure that Lake Walker is a safe and verdant place to live and play.



**Lake Walker
Community Association**
PO Box 11391
Baltimore, MD 21239-1391

OFFICERS

President – Jim Pickett
president@lakewalker.org

Vice President – Ian G. Anson
vicepresident@lakewalker.org

Secretary – Cindi D’Angelo
secretary@lakewalker.org

Treasurer – Tom Piccin
treasurer@lakewalker.org

COMMITTEES

Block Captain Chair – Jim Pickett
blockcaptain@lakewalker.org

Block Party Chair – Mellisa Colimore
blockparty@lakewalker.org

Communications Committee Chair – Cy Governs
communications@lakewalker.org

Newsletter Submissions – newsletter@lakewalker.org

LWCA GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

Please join the March 27th General Meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Arbor Oaks Meeting Room (813 Lenton Ave., south of Lake Ave.; Lenton is opposite where Highwood ends at Lake. Bear left on Lenton.). The meeting room is at the far end of the apartments where there is a small parking area. We’re introducing a new segment to kick off the meeting—Lake Walker talent! Come and find out about your neighbors’ talents. Baltimore City Police and Councilman Bill Henry will also give updates.

Donations:

Each year we contribute to local organizations that benefit Lake Walker residents. Examples include York Road Partnership, Blue Water Baltimore, GEDCO Cares, and the Baltimore City Police’s Northern District holiday drive. Dues also pay for miscellaneous supplies related to annual events like our community yard sale and our twice-yearly community cleanup efforts (and to beautify the community garden located near Walgreens). ☺



New LWCA Directory This Year

We’ll publish a new LW directory this year. Don’t wait to update your info! Email updates TODAY to directory@lakewalker.org. Feel free to send updates about neighbors, (e.g., “The Smiths at XXX Cedarcroft moved.”). If you send contact info for new neighbors, we will assume you’ve obtained their approval to publish that information. You may also encourage them to submit it directly via the email above. ☺



Mark Your Calendars Now!

Take a few minutes now to record dates for important LWCA events this year:

✓ **GENERAL MEETINGS:**
March 27,
June 27, Oct. 25

✓ **PLANT EXCHANGE:**
May 12

✓ **BLOCK PARTY:**
Sept. 8
If you’d like to join the block party committee, email blockparty@lakewalker.org!

Want to get email alerts about these and other important events (like Dumpster Days)? Email communications@lakewalker.org. You can also find an updated calendar on the website. ☺

Lake Walker Stickers for Sale



Show your community spirit with a Lake Walker sticker on your car, bike or wherever you would like to stick one!

Only \$3 each or two for \$5.

Get yours now while supplies last! Contact a member of the LWCA board or email: treasurer@lakewalker.org.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION DUES?

Want to pay your dues? Fill out the slip below and mail it to the Lake Walker PO box. You can also pay with Paypal on lakewalker.org.

What are my dues used for? The Lake Walker Community Association (LWCA) asks residents to pay yearly dues (\$10 per household; \$5 for seniors). But LWCA's biggest event, the annual block party, typically pays for itself through the raffle and a neighborhood grant. So, what are dues used for?

Communications:

- This newsletter (produced four times a year) is the main way we reach all residents, some of whom may not be interested in using technology.
- The lakewalker.org website educates existing and potential residents about our wonderful neighborhood. It includes a residents' only forum you can use to discuss neighborhood issues.

Please send payments to Lake Walker Community Assn, PO Box 11391, Baltimore, MD 21239-1391. **Please make sure checks are made out to LWCA.** \$10 per household, \$5 for seniors.

Name: _____

Address: _____

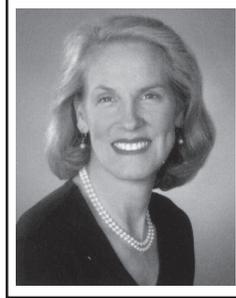
Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Reach more than 700 households

ADVERTISE IN THE LAKEWALKER NEWSLETTER

Ads are \$35/issue (\$140 year).
contact: newsletter@lakewalker.org



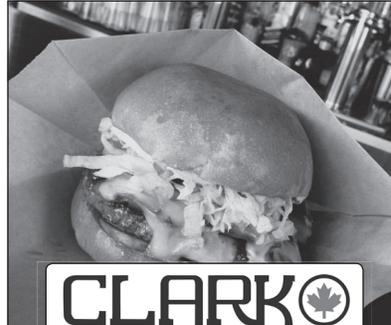
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STARTS: March 21, 2018

FROM: 1:15pm - 3:15pm

Location: Keswick, 700 W. 40th St. Baltimore MD 21211

RSVP: CommunityHealth@ChooseKeswick.org
or 410-662-4363

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