

LakeWalker

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
SPRING 2011 NEWSLETTER



WINTER FIESTA!

Dozens of Lake Walker residents gathered at Zen West for the second annual Winter Fiesta (formerly, the volunteer celebration). Folks enjoyed good food and the opportunity to meet friends — new and old. Former LWCA VP, Jim Aber, was recognized for his years of service on the board.

2010 VOLUNTEERS WERE RECOGNIZED FOR DOING THEIR PART TO KEEP LAKE WALKER

SAFE — through COP efforts, attendance of the Northern District police meetings — notes are published on the Crimewatch forum of the Lake Walker website.

CLEAN — through participation in the spring and fall clean-ups and dumpster days...our first dumpster day is **March 26** and the spring clean-up is on **April 16!**

INFORMED — through publication/distribution of this newsletter and the LWCA directory, participation in the York Road Partnership, and communications on/maintenance of www.lakewalker.org.

FUN — through events like the plant exchanges, the community yard sale and the annual block party — the Block Party chairman is already recruiting volunteers, e-mail blockparty@lakewalker.org if interested.

If you're interested in volunteering this year, please contact a board member or committee chair...both are listed under the LWCA tab on our website. Also, sign up for the forum (sign-up functionality has been restored) to stay up-to-date on what's happening around the 'hood: www.lakewalker.org/forum.



calendar OF events

MARCH

LWCA General Meeting

Wednesday
March 30, 2011 – 7:30 pm
Arbor Oaks Meeting Room
See Page 2 for the location and agenda.
Please bring non-perishable canned food for the CARES food pantry.

3/26 Dumpster Day, 9:00 am-noon at corner of Hollen and Clearspring; also on 6/18, 8/27, and 10/22. Details of what's allowed in the dumpster are on www.lakewalker.org.

APRIL

4/2 Greater Homewood Community Corporation's 4th Annual Neighborhood Institute — 10:00 am to 4:30 pm at Govans Presbyterian Church. Workshops will include a leaders' forum, block captain training, healthy neighborhoods loan program, code enforcement, the new zoning code, visioning public spaces, and social media marketing for your community association or business. Go to www.GreaterHomewood.org for more information.

4/16 Mayor's Spring Clean-up — 10 am Jim Pickett is heading up the team of volunteers. This clean-up, we're focusing on the stream at the foot of Hollen (the east end, past Wiedner). Meet there at 10; bring work gloves and, if you have them, waders.

MAY

5/1 Spring Plant Exchange — 10 am at 801 Cedarcroft Rd. All are welcome. For questions, call Deb or Jim Pickett at 410-433-5257.

Lake Walker Community Association

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4th District District-Wide Community Meeting

BY BARB DENT

Councilman Bill Henry convened a district-wide meeting on February 26, at the Senator Theatre. After welcoming the attendees, he introduced the members of the 4th District Community Advisory Commission. Appointed last year, members review and discuss issues affecting their neighborhoods and provide related policy suggestions or reactions to the Councilman on behalf of their neighbors. They may also review and discuss the City's annual budget and tax proposals, interview potential replacement candidates in the event of a vacancy, and advise the Councilman on the setting and topics for district-wide community meetings. [EDITOR'S NOTE: Barb Dent is the commission member from Lake Walker.]

311 & CitiStat

The first presentation was by Spencer Nichols from the Baltimore CitiStat program. He explained how 311 information is fed into the CitiStat effort to improve City services. The CitiStat panel — managers from the relevant agencies and the administration — meets weekly to scrutinize the data. They utilize agency reports and fieldwork to identify problems and find ways of improving services.

Mr. Nichols strongly encouraged citizens to utilize this system:

- DIAL 311 or 443-263-2220 (use this number if 311 doesn't work from your cell)
- GO ONLINE to www.baltimorecity.gov, click on Online Service Request

He suggested that a telephone report is preferable because the operator can make sure that the information is accurately and completely reported.



→ Be precise about location of the problem — this is crucial. (This can be especially important when reporting a problem on a street that has a “duplicate” within the City — such as Gittings or Lake.)

→ Record the Service Request Number.

→ Ask the operator for the timeframe for resolution of the problem — it may be hours, days, or even weeks. If the situation is not remedied by that time, call back and reference the original report by Service Request Number.

→ If you call frequently and would like to be able to check on the status of your various reports, it is important that you give your name in the same way each time.

→ You may use 311 to report Police non-emergency issues by selecting Option 2 during the recorded message.

Neighborhood Nuisance Law

The second speaker of the morning was Mr. Rob Durocher, an attorney from the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). He discussed the new Neighborhood Nuisance law recently passed by the Council and signed by the Mayor. This law targets irresponsible homeowners, operators, tenants, or occupants who act in a disorderly manner that disturbs the public peace or who let others act in this way.

The law is not intended as the first step in resolving a problem of this sort. In the Northern Police District, Neighborhood Services Officers Jon Walters and Doug Gibson have a long-standing program of trying to resolve these issues by informal contact with the owners or tenants. But if they, or community groups, are not successful at resolving issues through informal means, the law may be utilized. In these cases, a police report of disturbing the peace is *prima facie* evidence of the nuisance. The report is forwarded to HCD for investigation and an environmental citation may be issued to the parties. On the first offense, they will be fined \$500 each and on the second offense they will be fined \$1,000 each. (An owner or operator of a leased property will not have to pay the fine if they show that they have regained possession of the property or have taken steps to evict the tenants.)

Councilman Henry closed the meeting by announcing that he is planning the next district-wide meeting for the spring with featured speakers Police Commissioner Frederick Bealefeld and States' Attorney Gregg Bernstein. Look for a meeting notice in the future.

MARCH 30

Lake Walker Community Association

GENERAL MEETING

Please attend the spring meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 30, in the Arbor Oaks Meeting Room. The address is 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.

THE TENTATIVE AGENDA INCLUDES:

- LWCA election process
- Proposed bus route for Towson University Students
- Proposed City Council redistricting
- Discuss Baltimore City Council Bill 10-0618

Green Events In & Around Lake Walker



BY JANET ABRAMOVITZ

This spring brings a number of opportunities to be green. The mayor's spring clean-up is on April 16 and May 1 is the spring plant exchange at 801 Cedarcroft. (It's a great opportunity to share plants, as well as troubleshoot shoot troubles with your neighbors!)

In addition, Blue Water Baltimore (formerly the Herring Run Watershed Assn/ Baltimore Watershed Assn) is hosting three events on May 15 to demonstrate ways to reduce runoff, protect streams... and build a beautiful garden on your property. The first of these events takes place right in here Lake Walker!

RESIDENTIAL RAIN GARDEN OPEN HOUSE

6313 Weidner Ave / MAY 15, 2-3:30 pm

Wondering what a rain garden might look like at your home? Join Blue Water Baltimore staff at the home of Janet Abramovitz and Tim Pelton to learn about residential rain gardens. BWB staff, Janet, and Tim will be available to answer questions about how the gardens were designed and installed, and the many benefits of conservation landscaping.

OVERBROOK PARK RAIN GARDEN OPEN HOUSE

1300 Overbrook Rd, 21239 / MAY 15, 2-3:30 pm

Curious about the new rain garden at Overbrook Park? Come by the park and talk with BWB staff about how the garden was designed and installed and how it helps Herring Run.

RAIN BARREL CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOPS

6301 Sherwood Road / May 15, 3-4 pm and 4-5 pm (Idlewyld Community Center)

After the open houses, come and build your own rain barrel. Cost \$65. To register for the workshop call Stuart Campbell at Blue Water Baltimore, 410-254-1577 x106. (Ask if you qualify for \$25 discount or free installation.)

For more info about these events and others visit www.bluewaterbaltimore.org or call Dana Puzey at Blue Water Baltimore, 410-254-1577 x106. ☺

Neighbors in the NEWS

Laura Lynn Wesley, 1961-2011

It is with great sadness that we include the following item. This section is intended to share celebrations, but this time we are featuring a fond remembrance of a wonderful friend.



On January 23, Lake Walker resident Laura Lynn Wesley [Ford] passed away at GBMC following a 4-year battle with cancer. Her friend, Laura Mades, was at her side.

Laura was born on May 24, 1961. She got a bachelor's in fine arts from UM-College Park and obtained her master's in fine arts from Cornell University. She worked at the National Endowment for the Arts, the BMA, MICA and Montgomery College, where she taught design.

She was a gifted artist and her vibrant abstract paintings, inspired by landscapes, were exhibited in galleries throughout the Baltimore area, including Galerie Francoise and Schiavone Fine Art. The rich colors and bold patterns depicted in Laura's work reflect the joyful energy with which she lived her life.

Laura moved to Lake Walker in 1999. Many Lake Walker friends attended her memorial mass held at the Immaculate Heart of Mary on February 19, co-officiated by Father Louis Micca who counseled and supported Laura.

Laura was a dear friend to many and a loving mother to her two children. She will be remembered for her kindness and thoughtfulness, which she gave willingly even at the most difficult times of her life. Laura readily reached out to others and offered friendship. She will be deeply missed.

Laura's dearly loved children, Evan and Aerin Ford, continue to reside in Lake Walker under the care of Laura's brother, Brian Wesley. ☺

GET to KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS:

An Interview with DAVE KLOID

Dave Kloid and his two sisters grew up at 700 Hollen Road. 27 years ago, he ventured down the road, moving to his aunt's former home at 503 Hollen. Dave notes that 503 was the first house built before development of the surrounding area.

Dave has been married for 35 years to his wife Lillian (better known as Pickle). She has run a daycare business out of their home for many years. They have two grown children: Alex, who lives at home, and Tiffany, who is married with a two-year-old daughter.

Dave started his career as a patrolman with the Baltimore City Police Department in 1979 and after three years moved to the MTA as a first officer, later becoming a detective. In his 24 years there, he moved up the ranks to lieutenant and served four years as commander of the investigative unit.

After his career with the MTA, he retired and almost bought a house in Clearwater, Florida. The deal fell through, which turned out to be a

blessing in disguise. A short time later, a position in the area of Dave's expertise became available with the Homeland Security and he was hired. For the last three years, Dave has been coordinator of operations; he trains MTA (specifically rail) law enforcement to react in emergency situations. He also trains local law and federal law enforcement officers on the MARC first responder and anti-terrorism training program which he developed.

The Kloids love to cruise and travel and have visited such places as Africa, Europe, Hawaii and many different islands. Dave is a football fan and holds season tickets to the Ravens games. In the summer, he is into water activities such as boating and scuba diving, which he is certified to teach. Spending time with his granddaughter, Emma, tops the list of favorite pastimes.

David has done major remodeling to his home. He and a neighbor friend do home improvements; Dave considers this more fun than work.

When asked what he likes about living in Lake Walker, Dave says good neighbors and a nice mix of people. And he also remarked that the neighborhood hasn't really changed that much. After living here about fifty years, he would know! ☺

Pick up your POOP!

Well, pick up your pup's poop. Besides being gross, dog poop attracts rodents because it contains high levels of vitamin K—an antidote to rat poison!

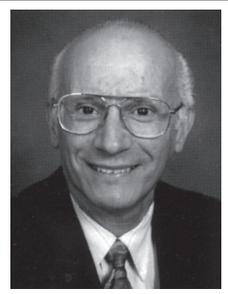


Making the Block Party a ROCK PARTY

Some may know that Brad Price of Clearspring is a former front man, singing and playing guitar in bars throughout Ocean City for years. He's decided to put his equipment — and experience — to good use at Block Party 2011.

Brad hopes other LW musicians will join him in forming a supergroup to entertain block party attendees. All are welcome, so bust out your triangle, drumsticks, flute, xylophone... whatever! If you're interested, contact Brad at bprice1977@aol.com.

He'll be compiling a set list based on the requests of LW residents! If you're not signed up for the forums, sign up now at www.lakewalker.org/forum/. Stay tuned... because being out of tune is just terrible. 🎵



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