

# LakeWalker

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION  
SPRING 2012 NEWSLETTER

**RSVP NOW  
for Our 3rd Annual**

## **WINTER FIESTA**

Wake up from your winter siesta and join our annual fiesta! Vámanos (Come with us) to Zen West on Sunday, **MARCH 25, AT 4 PM** to enjoy two hours of food, fun and camaraderie with everyone who makes Lake Walker special: its residents.

Admission is \$5 per person (free for kids 8 and under). Five bucks gets you:

chips/salsa; quesadillas; chicken wings; veggies (is your mouth watering yet?) as well as a chance to win one of several door prizes from the Senator Theater, Wells Liquors, other Belvedere Square vendors and Cards by Diana. We're also holding a 50/50 raffle, so bring money for that! Most importantly, this is an opportunity to recognize 2011 community volunteers and thank them for their generosity.

Plan to pay your dues at the door if you aren't current (or you can pay them right now — see the back of this newsletter), bring a few extra bucks for drinks and raffle tickets and have a great time!

If you're going, please contact LWCA vice president **Elaine Dietz** no later than **March 11** at either: [vicepresident@lakewalker.org](mailto:vicepresident@lakewalker.org) or 410-435-4113. Please include your name and the number of people coming with you. Olé! 🌿



**MARCH**

**LWCA  
General Meeting**

**Tuesday,  
March 27 – 7:30pm  
Arbor Oaks Meeting Room**

See Page 2 for the location and agenda.

Please bring non-perishable canned food for the CARES food pantry.

**3/21 LWCA COP Walk**, also on 4/1, 4/25, 5/6, 5/23.  
See article on page 2

**3/21 Northern Police District Meeting** – 7 pm at the Northern District Police Headquarters, 2201 W. Cold Spring Lane (just west of I-83 on your left). Questions? Call Officers Jon Walter or Doug Gibson at 410 367-8491. *Recurring mtg on third Wed. of every OTHER month: 5/16*

**calendar  
OF events**

**3/25 Lake Walker's Third Annual Winter Fiesta** –  
See details above!

**APRIL**

**4/4 York Road Partnership Meeting** – 7:15pm at 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*

**4/19 Traffic Calming Meeting** – Read about proposed changes on page 3

**4/21 Mayor's Spring Cleanup** – 10am at intersection of Walker/York; read more on page 2

**MAY**

**5/6 Spring Plant Exchange** – 10am-12 noon at the Picketts', 801 Cedarcroft; see article on page 3

**5/12 Dumpster Day** – see website for details

**SAVE THE DATE** for the Lake Walker Yard Sale on **June 9**



# Citizens On Patrol

Be one of the "Lake Walkers" by participating in an upcoming Citizens on Patrol (COP) walk:

- March 21 at 7pm
- April 1 at 3:30pm
- April 25 at 7pm
- May 6 at 3:30pm
- May 23 at 7pm

Walks take approximately 30 minutes; meeting locations and paths will vary. For details, please go to [www.lakewalker.org](http://www.lakewalker.org) or email Brian Dietz (COP chair) at [COP@lakewalker.org](mailto:COP@lakewalker.org). Remember: a neighborhood that shows its pride and presence is a neighborhood that continues to be peaceful.

## FROM THE FORUM

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAKE WALKER FORUM, ACCESSIBLE AT [WWW.LAKEWALKER.ORG](http://WWW.LAKEWALKER.ORG).

**Homestead tax credit:** The Homestead Tax Credit law limits the amount of assessment increase on which eligible resident homeowners actually pay property taxes. Even if you are ALREADY receiving this credit, you still need to confirm your eligibility before the end of the year, or you WILL NOT continue to receive this tax credit!

For already eligible owners, the deadline for filing is 12/31/12. For new owners, an application must be submitted within 180 days following settlement for a consideration.

See the forum post for a link to the state website or call (410) 767-2165 for more info.

**Housing inspector issues:** Our new housing inspector did a drive-through of Lake Walker and reported her findings to LWCA president Kathy Brohawn:

➤ Inoperable vehicles/vehicles with either no or expired tags may not be parked anywhere (including in a driveway) and parking fully on a lawn is never acceptable.

➤ Bags of trash (not including yard waste) must be placed in a can with a tight-fitting lid to avoid attracting unwanted critters. Bags of trash set out on the curb may incur a \$50 fine, per bag.

Report violations via 311 (phone, mobile app or online).

**Problems accessing or working within the forum?** Contact Cy Govers at either [communications@lakewalker.org](mailto:communications@lakewalker.org) or 410-433-1309. ☺

## Spring Work Party

By JIM PICKETT



We will once again join in on the Mayor's Spring Cleanup on **Saturday, April 21**. We will clear debris from the parkland on both sides of Walker Ave. at York Rd., and weed the community garden. Bring work gloves and plan to start at 10am. We always finish well before noon. You will forget to come, however, unless you **write it on your calendar NOW!** For more information, call Jim Pickett at 410-433-5257. ☺

## General Meeting Location & Agenda



**P**lease attend the spring meeting at 7:30pm on Tues., March 27, 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:

- Clean-up the community contest (contact Kathy Brohawn to learn more now)
- Proposed traffic changes on Hollen/Cedarcroft/Clearspring
- Baltimore Orchard project, Ann Fleshman
- Blue Water Baltimore (*tentative*)
- Dept. of Public Works (*water bills, tentative*)
- City Councilman Bill Henry update



# Lake Walker Plant Exchange

By JIM PICKETT

This year's event will take place on **Sunday, May 6**, at the Picketts', 801 Cedarcroft Rd. from 10am until 12 noon. It's a great opportunity to thin crowded flowerbeds and share what you have with your neighbors. There's always plenty for all and usually some interesting varieties for the taking. Or you're welcome to just come, have a cup of coffee, some cake, and socialize. For more information, call Debbie at 410-433-5257. 🐦

## Traffic Calming

The following changes, proposed by LW residents, will be discussed on **Thurs. April 19 at 7pm** in the Arbor oaks meeting room; directions included with the general meeting agenda [page 2].

### Hollen/Cedarcroft

- Adding a stop sign at Hollen/Clearspring to slow traffic on Hollen
- Changing Cedarcroft to two-way between York/Ready

### Clearspring

- Speed bumps on Clearspring Rd. (btwn Hollen/Walker): Based on general consensus at the Jan. general meeting, Clearspring residents are pursuing this solution.

If you cannot attend the meeting, but feel strongly for/against these measures, PLEASE contact **Kathy Brohawn** at [president@lakewalker.org](mailto:president@lakewalker.org) or 410-433-9169. 🐦

## Spring Into Action: Conquer Paper Clutter in 10 Easy Steps

1. Get a large box or laundry basket and gather ALL papers around the house and in drawers (mail, financial statements, clippings, lists, product manuals, etc.).
2. Clear off your dining room table and position a recycle bin close by.
3. Sort all papers into five categories:
  - To Do • To Read • To File • Undecided • To Recycle and/or Shred
4. Review and reduce your "To Do" pile by deleting, delaying, diminishing or delegating. Yes, you can do this. Often, not everything we think we need to do actually needs to be done!
5. Follow the same procedure to reduce your "To Read" pile.
6. Set up a "To Do" tray for the remaining "To Do" pile.
7. Designate a tray, basket or decorative platter for your "To Read" pile and place it in the area where you plan to read it.
8. Review your "To File" pile — only saving papers that you truly need! Then create folders and file them alphabetically in a file cabinet or box.
9. Take one look at your "Undecided" pile and gently and lovingly place in the recycle bin, reminding yourself that most printed materials can be found online.
10. Going forward, set up an inbox (decorative bowl, platter or basket) in a convenient place (near the entrance you come and go, in the kitchen or in your office if that's close by) for depositing ALL incoming paper (that isn't automatically identified for recycling). Then make a commitment to weed through your inbox once every two weeks, using the same procedure above. 🐦

Submitted by longtime Lake Walker resident Mary Landen, The Home Coach. For more information, visit her at [www.marythehomecoach.com](http://www.marythehomecoach.com).



## LWCA Block Party On September 8

By Jim Pickett

It seems a bit early to be talking about a September activity, but preparations are already underway. We are working on an application to the Mayor and the Baltimore Office of Promotion and the Arts for a \$500 neighborhood grant. We were turned down last year; however we have been awarded this grant, though for lesser amounts, several times over the past two decades. Let's keep our fingers crossed for a favorable decision... even though the final outcome will not make or break our party.

As the Block Party approaches its 20th year, it is with mixed feelings that I have decided to step aside after the upcoming one and let someone else assume its chairmanship, although I will continue to work closely with the committee. Any takers?

In the next newsletter, we'll be making a fervent appeal for new volunteers for this year's committee. Please consider getting involved for the benefit of our great community. For more information, or to volunteer, contact **Jim or Deb Pickett**, 410-433-5257. 🐦

Want to submit a service request for a pesky pot hole, graffiti, or streetlight to Baltimore City? It's easier than ever; just snap a photo with Baltimore City's new 311 app (for iPhone or Android smartphone) and send. The app will pinpoint the location where the photo was taken and give City workers a good idea of what equipment they will need when responding to the request. There are more than 50 service requests to choose from, all submissions are anonymous, and you can even track the status of the request. The City will also send notice when the problem has been fixed. A web version is also available at <http://311.baltimorecity.gov>. 🐦

# LakeWalker

## Lake Walker Community Association

PO Box 11391  
Baltimore, MD 21239-1391

### OFFICERS

**President – Kathy Brohawn**  
410-433-9169  
president@lakewalker.org

**Vice President – Elaine Dietz**  
410-435-4113  
vicepresident@lakewalker.org

**Treasurer – Kelly Gilmartin**  
410-693-9279  
treasurer@lakewalker.org

**Secretary – Rachel Smitheman**  
secretary@lakewalker.org

### COMMITTEES

**Block Captain Chair – Jim Pickett**  
410-433-5257  
blockcaptain@lakewalker.org

**Block Party Chair – Jim Pickett**  
blockparty@lakewalker.org

**Communications Committee Chair –  
Cy Governs**  
communications@lakewalker.org

**Citizens on Patrol Chair –  
Brian Dietz**  
COP@lakewalker.org

**Newsletter Submissions –**  
newsletter@lakewalker.org

**Newsletter Design – Darby Lassiter**  
darby.lassiter@verizon.net

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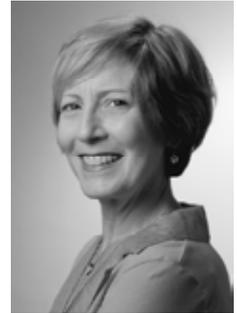
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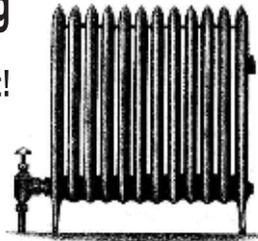
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## Have YOU paid your COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION DUES?

- | LWCA dues cover the cost of printing this newsletter four times
- | each year, which is written, designed and distributed by volunteers.
- | Dues cover the maintenance costs associated with the lakewalker.org website. Dues also help cover the costs associated with the
- | Annual Block Party (only if raffle revenues *do not* exceed cost), the
- | Winter Fiesta, administrative costs associated with other events
- | (e.g., signage for the community yard sale) and organizational
- | donations as voted upon by LWCA members.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send payments to Lake Walker Community Assn, PO Box 11391,  
Baltimore, MD 21239-1391 or drop off to Kelly Gilmartin at 817 Cedarcroft.  
**Please make sure checks are made out to LWCA.** \$10 per household,  
\$5 for seniors.