



The Luxmanor

# Greensheet

Serving Luxmanor, Windermere, and The Oaks

North Bethesda, Maryland

December, 2009

[www.luxmanor.org](http://www.luxmanor.org)

## Time for a Different Clamor

Contributed by April Chang

We seem to spend many editions encouraging all members of the LCA neighborhoods to reach out to the larger community—specifically to County Council, to planners, to developers, to different County Departments— with our complaints. We have provided nice long lists of the things that *are* wrong with current conditions and the things that are *likely* to be wrong with future plans. We have discussed and provided testimony on these wrongs. We have written and read about these wrongs.

And now, it is the season to refocus. It is the season to remember how very good we have it. The worst of our houses would be the envy of the vast majority of the worlds' people. After dinner, we throw away more delicious food than some people get in a day. Our closets would clothe entire communities. We consider appointments with the doctor to be inconveniences—not luxuries. Our schools are among the best in the world and they are free, warm, and well-equipped. We listen to music; we do not hear guns or bombs. We expect to be alive in the morning. Most of us are fortunate enough to have jobs. Even our pets are not being poached and are not in danger of extinction.

Let us celebrate all of these good things. Where we can, we should give of our bounty. Many of us have children we need to care for and want to save our money. But, it is also necessary to teach those children about caring for those in want. Imagine what a good clamor we could send up if we each gave to charity in the name of our family! Imagine how good we would feel!

There are many fine charities for people, animals, and the environment. There are two that we have especially supported in this community. One is **Child Welfare Services** that we know from Cindy Menditch's great work with school supplies. They are in particular need of generic gift certificates for teens who may not get any other gifts this year. Alternatively, you can email Kathy Simmons at [kathy.simmons@walterjohnson.com](mailto:kathy.simmons@walterjohnson.com), who can match you with a child and tell you his/her particular needs. The deadline is December 9. The second charity is the **Manna Food Center** that provides food and hope to a growing number of families in Montgomery County. They need food and they need funds to continue to support families and children in great need. You can drop off food at Karen Goldberg's front porch, 6513 Danville Court or check the internet at [www.mannafood.org](http://www.mannafood.org).

**Time to make a joyful noise.**

## President's Letter

### 'Tis the Season...

As we head into the holiday season, we are all undoubtedly both receiving lots of solicitations AND considering ways in which we can express gratitude and help others. As you consider ways in which you can make your community (or the world) a better place, I ask that you strongly consider your own community and neighbors.

The term "volunteerism" has somewhat fallen out of favor in recent years – the new terminology is "civic engagement". I used to think this was simply a matter of semantics, but I have come to realize that this is actually a meaningful change. The public interest and greater good is as dependent upon the active involvement of community members as it is on more traditional "helping" roles.

Our community is, and will continue to be, in the midst of changes that will affect us all for decades to come. Likewise, the amenities that we all enjoy (and often take for granted) are entirely dependent upon active citizen involvement. Your Luxmanor Community Association is ENTIRELY volunteer-driven and simply cannot exist without your participation and support.

We all have busy lives, active schedules and far too many demands upon our time. However, EVERYONE can contribute to making this community the wonderful place that we all treasure. Whether it is writing a letter to an elected official, attending a meeting, being involved a committee or simply researching a cause close to your own heart – there IS a place AND a need for everyone and we welcome and embrace your interests. Quite simply, there are too many important issue and exciting avenues that are overlooked because the current volunteers are stretched too thin.

One small thing you can do is to help us gather more information about ways to make the LCA more responsive and useful to its members. We are working on a resident survey to be mailed to households in the New Year. Please look for this survey, fill it out, and return it to us.

Please, if you have any time to spare – however limited – let us know. We can find a place for you and TOGETHER, we can make this an even more wonderful place.

Della Stolsworth

## Luxmanor Citizens Association

(Serving Luxmanor, Windermere, and The Oaks)

### Officers

<b>President</b>	Della Stolsworth	984-4475
<b>Vice Pres.</b>	Harris Leonard	897-8588
<b>Rec. Sec.</b>	Sander Davidson	493-4810
<b>Corr. Sec.</b>	Barbara Gold	571-0173
<b>Treas.</b>	Judy Morenoff	881-3132

### Trustees

Paula Bienenfeld	984-2944
Lynn Waters	530-3620
John Beamer	881-7174

### Committee Chairs

<b>Directory</b>	Robert Wilkinson	881-4321
<b>Environment</b>	Nathalie Silver	881-0861
<b>Greensheet</b>	April Chang	881-3021
<b>Incorporation</b>	Steve Sorett	770-0040
<b>Membership</b>	Marilyn Hammerman	881-0011
<b>Planning/Dev.</b>	Paula Bienenfeld	984-2944
<b>Roads/Traffic</b>	Bill King	881-2199
<b>Schools</b>	Ellen Paul	897-0022
<b>Signs</b>	Hilary Lavine	530-7616
<b>Special Events</b>	Judy Abramson	255-0035
<b>Website/Yahoo</b>	Todd Berman	468-6707
<b>Welcome</b>	Anna Stokes	571-1979

### Highlights of LCA Board minutes of November 2, 2009

Paperwork filed to get Student Service Learning Credit for LCA-related effort

Discussion of Listserve and related policies. It was decided that:

- Prospective Listserve *members* must provide name, address, and phone number;
- Listserve *posters* must provide their name and street;
- A digest of school notices will be provided on Fridays;
- Current Listserve membership will be reviewed by Lynn Waters to develop a profile of membership; and
- We will consider future specific limitations on the number of times notices of a "commercial" nature may be placed.

## **Neighbors' News**

Please welcome Nergish and Rob Weisberg of the 6000 block of Tilden Lane. The Weisberg's moved here from New Delhi, India, and thought the former Powell home was the "right house in the right neighborhood". They are proud parents of a son, Cyrus, a recent graduate of the Univ. of Pennsylvania, Wharton School of Business, living in Los Angeles as an investment banker.

Please welcome the Weisberg's!! They can be reached at 301-881-3851 or e-mail: nergishweisberg@yahoo.com

### **In Memoriam**

With great sadness we have learned that Allan Baker, one of the original owners on Whisperwood Lane, and an active Luxmanor community and Tilden Woods Pool member since the early 1960s, died suddenly at his home.

Swim team families of "a certain age" will remember Allan with his trademark handlebar mustache, sure to be at the starting line as official pistol-shooting "Starter" at swim meets on summer Saturdays. His enormous, glorious, award-winning gardens bordering Fernwood Road at Bethesda United Church of Christ were a single-handed testament to his love of gardening and his countless hours of volunteer work as a Master Gardener. Allan will be very much missed.

In lieu of flowers, the family is suggesting that donations may be made in Allan's name to The ALS Therapy Development Institute, at 215 First Street, Cambridge, MA 02142 or through <https://www.als.net/GetInvolved/Donate.aspx>. Shirley, Kathy, and the family thank you for your support.

## **Good Words**

Contributed by Marilyn Reside at the Davis Library

With several holidays just around the corner, people start thinking about family...and food. Whether feasting to celebrate or eating to reduce family-induced stress, the holidays always seem to center around food.

Many magazines feature holiday recipes and entire meal plans. Take a look at the Library's current issues of *Bon Appétit*, *Cooking Light*, *Gourmet* or *Martha Stewart Living*. You can also find some recipes on their websites.

Also, 'tis the season for holiday cookbooks, and there is one to suit every taste. Those who want to marry the traditional and the modern should try *Jewish Holiday Cooking: a Food Lover's Treasury of Classics and Improvisations*. Those who strive to be disciplined over the holidays should check out *The South Beach Diet Parties & Holidays Cookbook*. Those who always get together with others to bake around this time of year should look at *The Great Christmas Cookie Swap Cookbook*.

If all the cooking and baking is just too tiring, enjoy other people while they cook and bake. In David Lebovitz's *The Sweet Life in Paris*, the author shares his journey from Californian pastry chef to Parisian food blogger. With humor and recipes, the reader enjoys French life and food. Also watch episodes online of the PBS series *Julia and Jacques Cooking at Home*. Just search for "MyLibraryDV" and "MCPL." To truly get away from it all, try a culinary mystery such as the White House chef mystery series by Julie Hyzy or Goldy Bear, caterer, mysteries by Diane Mott Davidson.

As everyone can admit, expectations, culinary or not, can be high during the holidays, and these expectations weigh heavily on those struggling in such difficult economic times. Visit [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/volunteer](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/volunteer) to see how to help others celebrate the season.



The Luxmanor Greensheet  
Luxmanor Citizens Association  
Serving Luxmanor, Windermere and The Oaks  
11400 Hollow Tree Lane  
Rockville, Md 20852

PRSR-T-Std  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
SUB. MD  
PERMIT NO. 5878

Or current resident

Less tsuris, more  
mitzvot!  
Less conflict, more  
mindfulness!

Less lamenting,  
more counting of  
blessings!