



**WOODLAKE COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

George Rogerson, President
tombesscatherine@aol.com

Sharon Markowski, Vice President
gjm185@yahoo.com

Mark Riblett, Treasurer
riblettfamily@mac.com

Del Rio Walkey, Secretary
dwalkey@comcast.net

David Faulkner, Director
belize@comcast.net

Ray Turcan, Director
RNTURCAN@comcast.net

Brian Krezel, Director
krezelbk@gmail.com

WCA OFFICE & STAFF

Woodlake Community Association, Inc.
14900 Lake Bluff Parkway
Midlothian, VA 23112
TEL: (804) 739-4344
FAX: (804) 739-5157
OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Friday
8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Julie Joyner
Community Manager
communitymanager@woodlakeonline.com

Lyn Hornick
Accounting Manager
accounting@woodlakeonline.com

Cindy McVey
Community Services Manager
services@woodlakeonline.com

Brian Hoyle
Community Standards Manager
communitystandards@woodlakeonline.com

Gail Fenske
Volunteer & Special Projects Coordinator
asstofficecmgr@woodlakeonline.com

Dawn Desper
Administrative Assistant
admin@woodlakeonline.com

John Russell, Maintenance Manager

Life on the Lake is published 11 times per year by the Woodlake Community Association. The WCA welcomes information, stories and photos about life in Woodlake. Please submit by the 10th of each month. services@woodlakeonline.com

Future Of WSRC

from page 1

loss of non-resident memberships.

When Woodlake was first developed, the membership base largely consisted of Woodlake residents (approximately 85%). Over the years, the non-resident membership base increased significantly, resulting in a dependence on that revenue stream. While the club remains solvent and earns sufficient income for operations, debt service and regular maintenance costs, it is not generating additional income for capital projects or reserve fund expenditures to improve or expand the amenity. If membership levels continue to decline and investments do not take place in the amenity, we can expect our investment in the club to lose value. Our actions in the short term will ensure the long-term success of our community and are vital to protect Woodlake property values.

Thus, the Long Range Planning Team identified priorities for 2013 that the BOD must evaluate in order to ensure the success of our valuable community amenity, protecting the club investment, as well as residential property values.

The WSRC Long Range Planning Team has identified priorities for 2013 that the BOD must evaluate in order to ensure the success of our valuable community amenity, protecting the club investment, as well as residential property values.

2013 Priorities

- Award and complete the WSRC facilities improvement study in order to plan for physical needs and wants.
- Restore Resident Membership.
- Stabilize the financial wellbeing of the club.
- Position the club to fund necessary improvements and maintenance.

The BOD must then move forward, establishing expectations and making them a reality. The WCA Board of Directors now begins the challenging task of determining the best course of action to preserve, protect and enhance property



values, while remaining mindful of the current economic climate, various interests present within the community, and most importantly, continuing to look out for the best interest of the residents of the Woodlake community.

Candidates For Woodlake Board

from page 1

of the month), and the meetings usually begin at 6:30 p.m. and last three to four hours. Throughout the year, directors will be asked to attend county meetings to represent the interests of the Association or to participate in meetings to maintain relationships with County officials.

Election of Board members will be a part of the annual meeting to be held in April. Voting materials will be sent out in March; therefore, applications for nomination must be received by February 28, 2013. All candidates are required to attend an orientation session, date TBA. Please fill out the application on page 9, and provide a color photo suitable for printing (or come by the office and we'll take one for you). Photos can be e-mailed to services@woodlakeonline.com.

Volunteering on the Board of Directors is a challenging, meaningful, and invigorating community service. With the dedication of our volunteer leaders, Woodlake remains a wonderful place to live and play.

Embrace the Woodlake lifestyle, **Engage** in its leadership, and **Imagine** a fantastic future! Fill out the application on page 9 today!

ATTENTION BOAT OWNERS:

CHANGES TO BOAT REGISTRATION

The WCA is making some exciting changes to the boat storage and registration program this year; therefore, billing will be delayed for 30 days while we get everything in order.

- We're rearranging a few things at Shelter Cove to accommodate twelve new pontoon mooring slips that will provide electricity, EPDs (Erosion Prevention Devices), and new lighting. You'll see lots of construction activity in coming weeks, and we anticipate completion sometime in April.
- We're introducing the **Infinity Sticker!** When you pay your annual boat registration fee this year, we'll send you a new sticker with **NO EXPIRATION DATE!** After this year, you'll never have to replace the sticker or worry about it expiring for as long as you own the boat.
- Look for your boat storage invoices to arrive during the first week of March. You'll have until March 31 (instead of March 1) to make your payment.

With these changes, we are happy to provide you with a more efficient, effective, and pleasant customer experience!



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Lucky Clover 5K

Attention runners and walkers!

On Saturday March 9, 2013, come out and support Clover Hill Elementary School by running the trails of Woodlake in the first annual Lucky Clover 5k!

The purpose of this event is to promote and model healthy living for our children. In addition, it is a fundraiser with a specific goal of increasing the hands-on technology within our school. Our school is determined to ensure our children are prepared for their future within the amazing world of technology.

Kids are encouraged to take part in the Kids Fun Run and the post-race festivities on school grounds. Nutzy the Flying Squirrel and the Chick-fil A cow will be present, as well as Jonathan Austin, juggler/magician. Everyone is welcome to run/walk the 5k. Prizes will be awarded to the top finishers as well as top finishers for each age group. Those who register are automatically included in a raffle to win some great prizes, courtesy of local businesses.

Register online at
<http://luckyclover5k.weebly.com>

Registration fees are as follows:

Kids Run-\$10

Pre-Race Day: 5k & no shirt-\$17.50

Pre-Race Day: 5k & shirt*-\$20

(*Note: Shirts are only guaranteed if you register prior to February 15.

After February 15,

there will be a limited supply.)

Race Day: 5k- \$25 (shirts limited)

We hope to have a wonderful turnout!

Please register and tell your friends!

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us through our website. See you there!



739-3709

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NEW! Woodlake Bargain Board on Facebook

Buy, Sell and Trade With Your Woodlake Neighbors!



The Woodlake Bargain Board (WBB) is a Buy, Sell, Trade (BST) page on Facebook that is maintained and monitored by the Woodlake Community Association. The WBB is exclusively for Woodlake residents to connect with each other for buying and selling right here at home! The Board is user-driven, and members create their own terms, pricing, etc., and carry out all exchanges of goods and services. Only Woodlake Community Association residents/members may post items for sale, but anyone can see the group page, so feel free to send your friends and family there to shop!

Membership requires a Facebook account. To request membership, sign in to your Facebook account and search for *Woodlake Bargain Board*. You will see a button near the top right of the page to request membership. Once your submission has administrator approval, you'll be ready to get started!

NOTE: Approvals are processed Monday-Friday during regular business hours.



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C. Randolph Hinson, Jr., M.D.
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James F. Bampton, M.D.
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Tues. - Fri.: 8 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.
Sat.: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

WANTED: Contributing Feature Writers

Do you love to write?
Do you love to meet new people?
Discover your inner journalist by
writing for *Life on the Lake!*

The WCA is looking for residents to
write articles for the monthly newsletter.

Topics may include:

- Neighborhood Knockout
(exterior home improvements, landscaping, etc.)
- Community & Special Events
- Resident Spotlight
- Safety Articles





BOARDbriefs

December 19, 2012 Meeting of the Board of Directors

Members of the Board of Directors of the Woodlake Community Association, Inc. receive a packet of information every month before the regular Board meeting. This packet contains the agenda, financial statement, reports from staff, and other information that relates to the business that will be addressed by the Board during the meeting.

The regular monthly meeting is held at the Woodlake Community Association office at 14900 Lake Bluff Parkway. It typically starts at 6:30 p.m. and concludes with a motion to adjourn after two and a half to four hours. Owners are welcome to visit the Woodlake Community Association office to get a copy of the minutes of a meeting; however, we think you will find this column convenient and informative. It was created in response to input from members to provide an executive summary of the most important decisions and actions taken by the Board, and it will appear in each monthly newsletter.

President George Rogerson called the meeting to order and confirmed that a quorum was present. Officers and Directors present were President George Rogerson, Secretary Del Rio Walkey, Treasurer Mark Riblett, Director David Faulkner, Director Brian Krezel, and Director Ray Turcan. Also present was Community Manager Julie Joyner. Vice President Sharon Markowski was absent.

Member Voice

It was noted that the pet waste dispensers need refills. The BOD reviewed comments provided via e-mail regarding customer service concerns at WSRC. The BOD reviewed correspondence from a Shelter Cove resident regarding the care of the common property adjacent to her lot. CM Joyner will provide the resident with documentation to clearly outline the responsibilities of WCA and clear up any miscommunication.

During the business portion of the meeting the BOD took the following actions:

- Motion to approve minutes from the November 14, 2012 Regular Board meeting. The vote was six in favor, one abstention.
- Review of staff reports and project list.
- Motion to extend the sign-up deadline for slips along Shelter Cove causeway through January 15, 2013. The vote was unanimous.
- Members of the WSRC Long Range Planning Committee presented the recommendations of the committee. Committee members in attendance included Alan Renkin, Tom Hoekstra, and Linda Sleeth along with BOD liaison Ray Turcan, WSRC

Manager Beckner, and CM Joyner. The committee reviewed challenges facing WSRC in the short and long term and recommended taking a multi-step approach to stabilize the membership base, move toward a stronger resident membership presence and invest in the facilities for the continued viability and success of the amenity. The BOD requested additional information for further discussion at the January meeting and deferred the conversation until that time. President Rogerson thanked the committee for their time and hard work on the project.

Next meeting. The next regular Board meeting will be held on Wednesday January 16, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. at the WCA office.

Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

January 16, 2013 Meeting of the Board of Directors

President George Rogerson called the meeting to order and confirmed that a quorum was present. Officers and Directors present were President George Rogerson, Vice President Sharon Markowski, Secretary Del Rio Walkey, Treasurer Mark Riblett, Director David Faulkner, Director Brian Krezel, and Director Ray Turcan. Also present were Community Manager Julie Joyner, Community Standards Manager Brian Hoyle and Recorder Gail Fenske. Woodlake attorney Cassie Craze was also present.

Member Voice

A Beechwood Point resident attended the meeting to express her concerns regarding proposed zoning and proffer changes requested by local developers. A Shelter Cove resident attended the meeting to encourage the BOD to take action to preserve the WSRC through short-term and long-term planning. Director Faulkner reported positive feedback from a resident who appreciated clarification from WCA regarding the maintenance of common property adjacent to her property.

During the business portion of the meeting the Board took the following actions:

- Motion to approve minutes from the December 19, 2012 Regular Board meeting. The vote was six in favor, one abstention.
- Motion to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussion related to violations of the Woodlake Covenants. The vote was unanimous.

- Motion to reconvene the regular meeting, affirm the decisions made in executive session and affirm that no other discussion took place in the meeting. The vote was unanimous.
- Review of staff reports and project list.
- Motion to move forward with causeway improvement and electrification project and authorize CM Joyner to sign contracts for the proposed work. The vote was unanimous.
- Review and discussion of the WSRC Long Range Planning Committee recommendations and evaluation of various options available for future reserve and capital improvement funding, membership options available, budget and funding issues at hand, and legal questions regarding each option.
- Consensus to schedule a special Board meeting on February 6, 2013 for the purpose of discussion related to WSRC planning.

Next meeting. A special meeting of the Board will be held on February 6, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. at the WCA office for the purpose of discussion related to the WSRC Plan. The next regular Board meeting will be held on Wednesday February 20, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. at the WCA office.

Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.



**Stay In
Touch!**

**Have you changed your phone number?
Do we have your e-mail address?
If not, you may be missing important
WCA information.**

Send your updated information to us at
admin@woodlakeonline.com, or call us at 739-4344.

Trash Company Soliciting In Woodlake, Making False Claims

In January, the WCA received several calls about a trash collection service that was going door to door to drum up business and claiming to have a contract with the WCA. They were also claiming that the WCA had changed its policy and was now allowing trashcans to be placed at the curb. This claim is NOT true. Any such change would have been well publicized to residents.

The WCA has NO CONTRACT with any trash service, and the covenants regarding garbage pickup remain in effect:


According to the General Covenants, Part V, Item 8;

(a) Each Residential Property Owner shall provide a screened area to serve as a service yard and an area in which garbage receptacles, fuel tanks, or similar storage receptacles...must be placed or stored in order to conceal them from view from the road and adjacent Properties.

(b) There shall be no curbside garbage pickup. Garbage pickup shall only take place at the garbage receptacle approved by the company (WCA) in paragraph 8 (a) above.

RECYCLING ONLY

Green bins issued by Central Virginia Waste Management Authority (CVWMA) may be placed at the curbside. All material shall be in the recycling bins. Loose materials, bags, etc. may not be set out. The container(s) may be placed at the curbside no earlier than 7 p.m. on the day before pickup. The container(s) shall be removed from the curbside no later than 9 p.m. on collection day. When not at the curbside, recycling bins shall be stored where they are not generally visible from the street or adjacent properties.



**Woodlake
Warriors
Athletic
Association
(Clover Hill &
Winterpock
Elementary District)**

Softball

Chesterfield Youth Softball Association
Fast Pitch (ages 9-18)
Slow Pitch (ages 5-18)
(Must be 5 by September 1)
Fees \$110

Family discount: \$10 less for each additional child playing.
First-time players will need to present birth certificate.
Regular season begins in April and ends in July.

Athletic Association Annual Capitalization Fee - \$25.00 per household

Registration Dates:

Friday, Feb 8, 6-8PM, Clover Hill Elementary School
(½ off registration fee at Feb 8 registration ONLY - save \$55.00!)
Tuesday, Feb 12, 6-8 PM, Winterpock Elementary School
Saturday, Feb 16, 10 AM - 12:30PM, Oasis Sports Park

For more softball information,
e-mail Timmie Blystone at softballgrls@verizon.net
Download registration forms at woodlakewarriors.com

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Woodlake Community Association

BOARD APPLICATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

FAMILY (Spouse, children) _____

OCCUPATION _____

EDUCATION _____

PHONE Home _____ Office _____ Cell _____

E-MAIL _____

How long have you lived in Woodlake? Where did you move from?

Have you had any previous experience serving on a board, especially in another community association?

Are you involved in other activities or groups within Woodlake? Outside of Woodlake?

Why would you like to serve on the Woodlake Community Association Board of Directors?

The more we can tell Woodlake about you, the better, so please don't hesitate to write more about your interests, your experience and what you'd like to do for Woodlake on the back of this sheet.

All nominees must attend our Board membership orientation meeting, Date & Location, TBA.

Return this completed form to Woodlake Community Association, 14900 Lake Bluff Parkway, no later than Thursday, February 28, 2013.

We will also need a photo of you. Please do one of the following:

- E-mail a digital shot to: admin@woodlakeonline.com
- Bring us a print photo and we will scan it.
- Phone us at 739-4344 to set up an appointment for us to take your picture.

Colonial Honda



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WOODLAKE WEDNESDAYS

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**Wednesdays- Woodlake Residents Receive
10% OFF Services**

No other discounts apply. Must present coupon at time of service.

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ARB Approvals December & January

Beechwood Point – Color change (2)
Beechwood Point – Deck replacement
Beechwood Point – Roof
Clipper Cove – Color change
Gates Mill – Roof
Hickory Grove – Door replacement
Laurel Trail – Roof
Moss Creek – Addition
Moss Creek – Roof
Orchard Grove – Fence
Powell Grove – Roof
Rock Harbour – Color change
Rock Harbour – Fence
Rosebay Forest – Roof
Rosebay Forest – Siding
Standing Oak – Color change
Standing Oak – Window replacement
West Branch – Fence
West Shore – Roof
West Shore – Steps
Willow Glen – Roof
Woods Walk – Vinyl siding

The ARB meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month. Applications for approval must be received in the WCA office no later than noon on the Friday preceding the meeting.

Applications can be found at woodlakeonline.com under “Forms” at the top of the page.

For more information, call 739-4344.



BEACON HILL

Joy Rawes & Martin Hudgins

CHESTNUT BLUFF

Brenton Bregan

ORCHARD GROVE

Kan & Wal-Sum Kong

SADDLE HILL

Muhammad Kodvawala

SEDFIELD COMMONS

Claudia Eckels

STANDING OAK

Leslie & Steve Dodson

WEST BRANCH

Loreley & Brian L'Hommedieu

WOODS WALK

Ruth & Robert Tutton

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Facebook
to get all the
latest news in
Woodlake!**



WOODLAKE COMMUNITY LIAISONS

ACORN RIDGE: JAMIE & MICHAEL DEWITT
BEACON HILL I: Nancy McBee
BEACON HILL II: Kelly Cantrell & Mary Richeson
BEECHWOOD POINT: Matt Donlon
BENT CREEK: Sunshine Irvine & Steve Siegert
BOYCE'S COVE: Ellin & Bob McCulloch
CANDLEWICK: Phil Villiott
CHESTNUT BLUFF: *Needs Liaison!*
CLIPPER COVE: Ellen Lucado
COUNTRY WALK: Pat Herman
DUCK COVE: *Needs Liaison!*
FIDDLERS RIDGE: Bill Halligan
FOREST WOOD: Carmen Allred
GARDEN FLATS: *Needs Liaison!*
GATES MILL: Ed Brown
GLEN RIDGE: Marty & Ed Peterson
GROVE FOREST: *Needs Liaison!*
HEATHER GLEN: Joyce Gumm
HICKORY GROVE: Wallace Robertson
HIGHBERRY WOODS: Elaine Innis & John Paramore
LANGGATE: Brian King
LAUREL TRAIL: Bess Rogerson
LONG COVE: Brian Harkins
MANOR GATE: Dianne Mann & Joe Strolla
MAPLE BROOK: Ron Kessler
MEADOW CHASE: Jim Rosie
MARTIN GLEN: Linda Chapman
MILL SPRING: Heather Clark, Gale Hickling
MOSS CREEK: Cary Murrell
NORTH CHASE: Jim Waggoner
OAK KNOLL: Frank Blankenship
ORCHARD GROVE: Everett Bosselait & Del Carrell
PLEASANT GROVE: Olga Kelly
POWELL GROVE: Karen Pavlik
RED FERN: Adam Parker
RIDGE POINT: Cyndi Rymer
ROCK HARBOUR: *Needs Liaison!*
ROSEBAY FOREST: *Needs Liaison!*
SADDLE HILL: *Needs Liaison!*
SANDSTONE RIDGE: Lori Collins
SEDFIELD COMMONS: *Needs Liaison!*
SHELTER COVE: Tom Hoekstra & Diane Boyle
SILVER BIRCH: Sue Johnson
STANDING OAK: *Needs Liaison!*
SUNRISE BLUFF: Joelle Hawkins & Skip Mischke
WALNUT BEND: Jerry Horton
WATER POINTE I: Edna Webster
WATER POINTE II: Carol Crick
WATERPOINTE APTS: *Needs Liaison!*
WATERCREST: Lois Strukl
WATERS EDGE: Stacye Meeley & Christina Arena
WEST BAY: Christine & Lee Hogate
WEST BRANCH: Linda Sleeth
WEST SHORE: Eve Tschantz
WILLOW GLEN: Miro & Jackie Spirk
WINDY RIDGE: Michael Marcotte
WOODLAKE VILLAGE APTS: *Needs Liaison!*
WOODS WALK: Bethany Wolfe

WCA CALENDAR

February 2013

- Feb 6 Special Meeting of the Board of Directors**
Re: WSRC Long Range Plan
WCA Office, 6:30 PM
- Feb 8 WCA Office Closed for Staff Training**
- Feb 11 Architectural Review Board Meeting**
WCA Office, 8:30 AM
- Feb 12 Environmental Committee Meeting**
WCA Office, 7:00 PM
- Feb 20 Board of Directors Meeting**
WCA Office, 6:30 PM
- Feb 25 Architectural Review Board Meeting**
WCA Office, 8:30 AM

March 2013

- Mar 11 Architectural Review Board Meeting**
WCA Office, 8:30 AM
- Mar 12 Environmental Committee Meeting**
WCA Office, 7:00 PM
- Mar 20 Board of Directors Meeting**
WCA Office, 6:30 PM
- Mar 25 Architectural Review Board Meeting**
WCA Office, 8:30 AM

For up-to-the-minute information about Woodlake meetings and events, go to woodlakeonline.com and look for “Upcoming Events” on the bottom left of the homepage.



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Woodlake Community Association 2013 Fee Schedule

Assessment (Residential)	\$492.60/year
	\$123.15/quarter
Capitalization Fee (one-time)	\$492.60
Hand Billing Fee	\$10.00/quarter
 Signs	
Yard Sale Sign	\$20.00 refundable
Lost Pet Sign	\$20.00 refundable
FSBO/FLBO Sign	\$65.00 (\$45 refundable)
FSBO/FLBO Lead-In Sign	\$20.00 refundable
 Publications	
Phone Directory	\$6.00
Covenants, Design Guidelines	\$6.00 each or \$10 for both

Boating & Facilities

Day Sailor	\$15.00/year
Mooring Post	\$70.00/year
T-Rack	\$45.00/year
RV/Dry Storage Lot	\$720.00/year
Pontoon Marina Slip	\$850.00/year

Pontoon Boat Rental

Fri-Sun	1 ½ Hours	\$45.00
	2 Hours	\$60.00
Mon-Thur	1 ½ Hours	\$35.00
	2 Hours	\$60.00

Pavilion Rental

Resident Functions / Outside Functions, rented by a resident		
1-25 People		\$20/\$30 per hour
26-50 People		\$30/\$45 per hour
51-100 People		\$50/\$75 per hour
101-200 People		\$80/\$120 per hour
Over 200 People		\$120/\$180 per hour
Weddings Only		\$700/\$1400 per day

See Mailbox Prices on page 3



2013 Mailbox Prices

Box only (pick up at WCA, you install)	\$30
Nameplate only (use existing box and post)	\$41
Number Plate only (use existing box and post)	\$46
Full Unit With Name (includes post, nameplate and box)	\$159
Post and Nameplate (use existing box)	\$139
Box and Installation	\$48
Blank Nameplate only (use existing post and box)	\$29
Full Unit with no name (includes post, blank nameplate and box)	\$150
Post with Blank Nameplate (use existing box)	\$130
For options not listed, call WCA at 739-4344	

ATTENTION BOAT OWNERS:

Please see page 3 for
information about this year's
boat registration and
billing schedule.



Woodlake Mom Uses Journalism Career As Fodder For Novels

by Julie Hallberg

LynDee Walker of Walnut Bend traded her career as an award-winning journalist for being a stay at home mom when her oldest child was born in 2004. She started writing fiction after her family moved to Woodlake in 2006. Her debut mystery novel, *Front Page Fatality*, released January 29th from Henery Press. *Life on the Lake* caught up with LynDee this month to talk with her about the book, the writing process, and how life in the community played a role in both.

JH: When did you first realize you wanted to write as a career?

LW: When I was about three or four, I think. I was an early reader, and I've wanted to be a reporter since forever. I can't remember a time when my dreams didn't involve writing.

JH: Where is your favorite place to write?

LW: My very favorite place to write is the beach. I love sitting under an umbrella with my laptop, my toes buried in sand, and waves crashing just a couple of yards away. I only get to do that about once a year, though. The rest of the time, my favorite place to write is the old sofa in my sunroom, or outside. A good bit of *Front Page Fatality* was written on the pool deck at the Woodlake Swim and Racquet Club.

JH: Tell us about your book.

LW: It's a funny mystery in the same vein as Laura Levine's *Jaine Austen* novels (I was actually bowled over when Laura herself, who is one of my very favorite authors, agreed to read *Front Page Fatality* and offer a quote for the cover. And getting the email with her lovely comments was a highlight of my 2012). Here's the back cover copy: *Crime reporter*

Nichelle Clarke's days can flip from macabre to comical with a beep of her police scanner. Then an ordinary accident story turns extraordinary when evidence goes missing, a prosecutor vanishes, and a sexy Mafia boss shows up with the headline tip of a lifetime. As Nichelle gets closer to the truth, her story gets more dangerous. Armed with a notebook, a hunch, and her favorite stilettos, Nichelle races to splash these shady dealings across the front page before this deadline becomes her last.

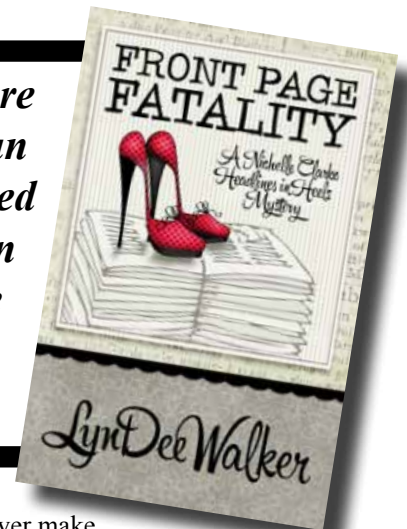
JH: How was the idea for the book born?

LW: It started with a scene that's in the middle of the book, which popped into my head in the summer of 2009. I had never thought seriously about writing fiction, and then there was this reporter in my head who had gotten herself into quite a pickle chasing a story. I sat down and wrote that scene thinking that would be the end of it. Instead, more of the story came, and after five weeks of fiction fever, I had a very long, very messy rough draft.

JH: You have a background in journalism. How did this help you to develop your story?

LW: In the sense of "writing what you know," I wasn't trying to write a medical thriller, which would require so much research on my part I wouldn't make it through a chapter. I know how the news business works (or at least, how it works in some places) and so it was easier for me to build Nichelle's world. Some of the funny stories she covers have their origins in things I actually did write about, once upon a time.

LynDee Walker has been a regular feature writer for Life on the Lake for more than 2 years. Her debut mystery novel launched January 29. Pick up a signed copy when LynDee appears at the Barnes & Noble at Chesterfield Towne Center on Saturday, February 16, 2-4 PM.



JH: The publishing process can be difficult, and some (most) never make it to this point. How long did it take you to get a book deal? Were you ever tempted to self publish?

LW: Well, off and on, it took more than three years from when I finished the rough draft of this book to when I got to hold a finished copy of it. In the middle of that, I took a year off from querying it because I had a new baby and then lost my mom. The traditional fiction publishing industry is an extremely difficult one to break into. Having worked in a place where something I wrote was published nearly every day, I was pretty cavalier about publishing, until I learned how the book publishing business works. Good literary agents and publishing house editors get an average of a few thousand letters from aspiring authors every month. Of those, they might choose

one or two to represent or publish. It requires thick skin. My numbers were actually pretty low, as far as the industry goes: I sent 31 query letters and got requests to see the manuscript from 18 of them before *Front Page Fatality* sold. I have friends who got hundreds of rejections before selling a novel!

As for self-publishing, it is a great option for some folks, but it's all about what you want for your book and your career. People who want simply to have something their friends and family can read, or who don't want to go through the rejection that is a sure-fire part of getting an industry deal (*Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* was rejected 12 times before a small London house picked it up), or who can and want to do their own formatting, marketing, etc. are great candidates for that. I want to reach as wide an audience as possible, and to do that with a self-published novel, you have to spend an awful lot of time doing marketing and promotion. First, I'm not very good at that. Second, I have three small children, a household to run, a husband, a dog, and a part-time job. I'd like the majority of the time I do have to spend on novels to be spent writing. So I wanted a marketing team who would get the word out about my book.

Do I still have to spend some time on promotion? Absolutely. But the fantastic marketing team at my publishing house does the majority of the work. They also have amazingly talented artists, and four months after I first saw it, I am still in love with my cover. And my editor! I can't say enough good things about her. It is a much better book because of her hard work. On a personal level, I also wanted the validation of having someone love and believe in my novel enough to put money into publishing it. Not everyone needs that, but I did.

JH: *Front Page Fatality* is set in Richmond. Will Woodlake residents see anything in the book they recognize?

LW: They should! I did fictionalize some things (like a major-league baseball team, for instance), but Richmond folks will



LynDee Walker is an award-winning journalist who became a stay-at-home-mom when her oldest child was born. She has one in elementary school, one in preschool and one toddler. She is often awed that her definition of an accomplishment has gone from producing a policy-changing investigative story to making "The Wheels on the Bus" or the "Shake

It Up" theme, but she wouldn't really trade a minute of her time with her babies for anything, though some days a glass or two of wine helps her to remember that. LynDee and her family live in Walnut Bend.

surely recognize some restaurants, and probably also the neighborhood where Nichelle's best friend lives.

JH: Do you ever struggle with writer's block? How do you get past it?

LW: I walk. Moving seems to be the key to shaking things loose in my brain. I also have to talk through it, so if you happen to see me walking around the lake talking to myself, I'm not crazy. I'm just trying to work out a stubborn plot point.

JH: How do you find time to write with three young children?

LW: I drink a lot of coffee! That's my fun answer. But seriously, I have a wonderful, supportive husband who takes the children a lot of evenings and weekends so I can have time to work, and has the sort of unshakeable faith in me that makes me believe in myself. I also work during the baby's naps, and sometimes after everyone goes to sleep at night, too.

JH: How can we get a copy of the book?


LW: You can order it from any of the usual online retailers or get it at Barnes and Noble. And if you want it for your e-reader, it's available for Kindle, Nook, kobo, and all apple devices through those respective retailers. My publisher also offers something really cool for people who want an electronic copy and a signed momento: email me at lyndee@lyndeewalker.com for info on how to get an e-card.

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Trash Collection Services



The WCA does not endorse or recommend any service; however, we have put together the following list of companies that work in our area and offer back-door service, as required by the Woodlake Covenants.

County Waste	378-3080
Virginia Waste Serv.	778-7900
Waste Management	233-5052

WOODLAKE RECYCLING

Place bins at curbside no earlier than 7 p.m. on the day prior and no later than 7 a.m. on collection day. Remove bins from the curbside no later than 9 p.m. on collection day.




Woodlake Swim & Racquet Club

Woodlake Warriors Running Group is gearing up for another great running year!



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Contact the Front Desk for more details & fees (739-3454).



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Bright Ideas

Enhance Your Home's Curb Appeal With Outdoor Lighting

By Karen Kern

Do you ever drive up to a dark home and wish you could snap your fingers to light up your surroundings? Exterior lighting is an important part of our homes, but home lighting is often limited to a front porch light, and perhaps a few flood lights. When a flood light burns out, the homeowner often doesn't replace it because the fixtures are too high to reach easily. The good news is, there are many new lighting products that make life simpler, safer, economical and brighter!

FRONT, GARAGE, SIDE, AND PATH LIGHTING

The light at the front door is critical for safety and security. A front light shows people where to enter, prevents tripping, and helps locate the doorbell and keyhole. If you have a single wall-mounted light, make sure that the light is mounted on the keyhole side of the door. Since the front light is part of your home's architectural detail, make sure that the style fits your house, and that the color complements the house. For example, a bronze fixture goes well with dark brown trim. Remember that front lights will be seen from approximately 50 feet away.

Lighting professionals recommend that a single lantern should be one-third the height of the front door; double lights can be one-quarter the height. They should be mounted slightly above eye level, or at approximately 66 inches high (at bulb level), around a standard door threshold. Fixtures should be installed so that the top is lower than the top of the door. Recessed, hanging, and close-to-ceiling mounted lights can also be used for porches with overhangs, but make sure that the steps and door are well illuminated. Use the recommended amount or less of wattage, and avoid a glaring light effect or overload. Generally a 4- or 5-watt LED, a 20-watt CFL (compact fluorescent) or 60-watt incandescent is sufficient. A dusk-to-dawn photocell fixture or attachment is a great idea for a front light, so you will always have light when you need it.

Garage door lighting should be smaller than the front door light and complement its style. Dusk-to-dawn or motion lights work well for this application. Generally, garages have a lantern on each side or centered over the top, depending on style and space.

Standard high-wattage flood lights waste a great deal of energy and are often intrusive and annoying to next-door neighbors,

so be considerate when planning the type and location of flood lights. The best bulb to use in a flood light is an LED bulb. Although expensive to buy, most last at least 20 years and will save you money on your electric bill. You'll also be safer not having to climb the ladder to replace the bulb so often! Pointing the floodlights down and using lower wattage bulbs will prevent dark shadows from forming next to the house, and it will keep your neighbors happier. A motion detector for intermittent light or dusk-to-dawn for all-night light works great for this type of lighting. Remember to check the Woodlake Design Guidelines for placement.

If a fixture is exposed to open weather, use a bead of matching or clear caulk around the back plate where the fixture attaches to the wall. Leave a little opening at the bottom to allow any moisture to escape. If your current fixture needs an economical update, it may be easy to disassemble and clean it, or sand and spray paint it for a new look. There are many paint choices in black and metallic tones.

PATH LIGHTING

Solar lights are low cost, easy for the homeowner to install, and are often seen lining walkways. They need direct sun, so they may not work well every day. They should be placed where they will receive the most sun. Solar lights have improved over time, but they are not ideal lighting in terms of reliability and light output. Traditional low-voltage lighting may be a better choice for consistent lighting and safe passage. Place solar or low-voltage lights 5 to 8 feet apart, and be sure to bury a low voltage wire so it is not a tripping hazard.

LOW VOLTAGE LANDSCAPING

If you leave for work early and come home late, you often don't get to see your yard at all except in the dark. Why enjoy those gorgeous plants you spent time and money on only in daylight, when lighting your yard can add useable evening entertainment and enjoyment spaces? In addition, it is widely agreed that light



Small lights along a sidewalk are an inexpensive way to add safety, security and beauty to your home.

deters crime, so you'll enjoy a beautiful nighttime landscape while increasing your safety. Low-voltage lighting does not require an electrician (unless a ground fault interrupter is needed) and can be used for down-lighting, up-lighting, target lighting and moonlighting. Walk around your yard at night with a flashlight, and see what areas could benefit from lighting. You want your eye to be drawn to specific elements or areas of the landscape and home. Lighting everything can lead to either a flat appearance or a startling ballpark effect. Instead, light with the focus of adding dimension to the space.

According to Steve Bloom, a Woodlake resident and owner of Bloom Beams, landscape lighting is 10% technical knowledge and 90% artistry, adding security, value and enjoyment to a home's exterior. Steve does an assessment with his client, and then he identifies the type and placement of lighting to achieve the desired result for the lowest cost. He installs all lighting according to the design plan, from lighting tree specimens, to making walkways safe, to highlighting details of the home. He says that, with today's technology, he can achieve a beautiful, soft, moonlit look instead of traditional harsh home lighting. He is very excited about the second generation LED lighting. As with every new product, LEDs have evolved, and the second generation of LEDs come in a variety of color hues and are dimmable, programmable, and multi-directional. Prices have also dropped, and the downward trend is expected to continue. LED bulbs turn on immediately, work well in cold weather, emit far less heat, and are more durable than other bulbs. LEDs cost quite a bit more initially, but they will save money over time due to a much longer life and lower energy use. This is not only good for users, but is also good for our environment.

Halogen lights put out a beautiful color, but they can get very hot, and they have a much higher energy cost than LED. Fluorescents are also used in exterior settings, but they contain mercury and require special disposal. Many consumers complain that they do not stand up to cold weather, have a less desirable hue, and are delayed in reaching full brightness. They are second to LEDs in energy cost.

According to Phillips Company, if an LED fixture is illuminated an average of 8 hours per day, it will last more than 20 years before needing to be replaced (a great feature for those hard to reach places). Comparison charts show a life of 50,000 hours for LED, 10,000 hours for halogen, and 1,200 hours for incandescent bulbs. Not only do the LEDs last years longer, their use will result in a lower electric bill. For example, a 6-watt LED bulb gives the same intensity of light as a 50- or 60-watt incandescent bulb at a lower cost. The breakeven point of recouping initial cost occurs over time, but it is a significant savings – often hundreds of dollars. Realtors often see sellers removing and taking their LED light bulbs with them when they move due to the initial investment!

Steve Bloom also offers hints for homeowners wanting to install low-voltage lighting systems themselves. He recommends

simply covering wires in flower beds with mulch so that wires can be moved around and lights easily added as plantings change or grow. Make sure there are enough transformers to handle the number of lights, as lights get dimmer the further they are from the transformer. Home improvement stores can assist with this. Steve recommends the use of programmable timers, one-switch controls for specific areas, dusk to dawn, and motion lighting as good ways to save money, simply life, and have reliable lighting when you need it.

As a Realtor, I have seen how landscape lighting adds to the appeal of a property, and I am always amazed at the change. As a homeowner, I plan to add it to my own yard!



Karen Kern has been a Shelter Cove resident for 10 years, and a Long & Foster Realtor® 13 years. Her free time passions include long distance bicycling, barbershop harmony singing, and skiing. She can often be seen on the Woodlake bike trails, walking her yellow Lab.

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The Brandermill Region Men's Club

The Brandermill Region Men's Club (BRMC) holds its monthly meetings at 10:00 a.m., on the first Thursday of each month, September through June, in the Brandermill Church. The meetings are preceded by a refreshment and fellowship period at 9:15 a.m.

The club offers a wide range of activities and programs, including a golf program for members of the Brandermill Country Club, a bowling league, twice weekly bridge and cribbage sessions, social events including picnics, occasional excursions, and a periodic dine around town program known as ROMEO -- Retired Outstanding Men Eating Out (with their ladies and guests.)

Area retirees (Brandermill residence is not a requirement) age 50 or "better" who are interested in learning more about the club are encouraged to visit the web site -- www.BRMConline.org -- and to attend one of the monthly meetings as a guest of the club. All are welcome.

Those interested in learning more about the Brandermill Region Men's Club are encouraged to visit the website, BRMConline.org, or simply attend a meetig as a guest of the club.



Paul Levengood Describes 1863, The Civil War Turning Point

As Virginia continues the *Civil War Sesquicentennial Commemoration*, The Brandermill Region Men's Club welcomes the return of Paul Levengood, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Virginia Historical Society (VHS).

Dr. Levengood will be the special guest speaker during the February 7 meeting of the Brandermill Region Men's Club at the Brandermill Church. He will discuss the events of 1863, considered to be the turning point of the conflict that changed Virginia and the nation.

Levengood earned a Bachelor's degree from Davidson College and Masters and Ph.D degrees from Rice University. Arriving at VHS a dozen years ago, he assumed the duties of associate editor of the "Virginia Magazine of History and Biography." In 2002, he was promoted to managing editor, and in 2005, he added program coordinator of the Reynolds Business History Center to his responsibilities.

In May 2008, Levengood became president-elect and CEO-

elect of the VHS -- succeeding Charles F. Bryan, Jr. upon his retirement.

Founded as a private institution in 1831, the society has developed a vast collection of books, manuscripts, photographs, artwork and museum objects that support the study and interpretation of Virginia history

Levengood has served as the executive producer of "Witness to a Century," a television documentary of the 20th century. The documentary aired on WCVE IN Richmond. He also has presented a series of evening film courses at the VHS that examined how the South, the Civil War, and southern musicians were portrayed on the silver screen.

While many historians agree that the Union's victory in the Battle of Gettysburg and General U. S. Grant's win in the Battle of Vicksburg during July mark the major turning points in the war, 1863 included other significant events. President Lincoln had issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, freeing all slaves in territories held by the Confederates and emphasizing the enlisting of black soldiers in the Union Army. The war to preserve the Union thereby becomes a revolutionary struggle for the abolishment of slavery.

Additional significant events during 1863 include the move of General Grant to command the Army of the West, with orders to capture Vicksburg, where his victory assured the Union's control of the Mississippi River. The ensuing capture of Port Hudson, Louisiana placed the entire Mississippi River under Union control, thus splitting the Confederacy in two.

During March, recruiting difficulties in the north prompted enactment of conscription of men between ages 20 to 45 for military service. The South soon thereafter adopted a similar act.

The foregoing is but a brief highlighting of the events during that pivotal year. Dr. Levengood's presentation will expand on these and other key events of the time. Audience participation in the discussion will be welcomed.



Woodlake Resident Wendy McCaig To Discuss *Embrace Richmond*

Chesterfield County, often cited as being among the top ten most desirable American locations in which to live, like all communities is the product of its surroundings. The economic, cultural, demographic, and other such factors of Henrico and Hanover counties and Richmond, with their collective features -- both positive and negative -- make our county what it is.

It is, therefore, in our best interest to reach out, where we can, to better that environment.

The *Embrace Richmond* story: The organization .. "was started when a group of suburbanites began to dream of ways of helping their urban neighbors."

"One of these women, Wendy McCaig, met a homeless woman (she identifies as Stephanie) through a CARITAS shelter. When Stephanie and her baby exited the shelter, they found themselves sleeping on the floor. Wendy recruited her suburban friends to help collect furniture for the family. In just two days, these women collected enough furniture to completely furnish the family's home."

When asked, "What do you want to do with your life?" Stephanie replied, "I want to help others the way so many people have helped me." Thus, *Embrace Richmond* was organized, with a "pay-it-forward" philosophy that is part of everything the organization does.

Wendy McCaig, special guest speaker for the March 7 meeting of the Brandermill Region Men's Club, is the founding Executive Director of *Embrace Richmond*. The organization is a faith-based 501(c)3 non-profit, founded on Christian principles and dedicated to strengthening communities through an Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) approach. Drawing on local residents' skills, the power of local associations, and the supportive functions of local institutions within an urban neighborhood, ABCD builds a more sustainable community.

While this community revitalization program largely employs local skills, talents, associations and institutions, the contributions - monetary, material, and hands-on - by suburban groups have enhanced the success of the program. These included the "Brandermill Dream Team" which focused on strengthening families in the Hillside and Northside communities, and the Northside Dream Team," co-sponsored by the Northminster Church and serving the needs of communities along the Brookland Park Boulevard Corridor.

The Brandermill Region Men's Club contributed to the setup of the Hillside Community's first computer lab, covering the cost of internet access so that residents may job search as well as seek employment/educational assistance.

It can truly be said that *Embrace Richmond* and its good work not only enhances the lives of many in the communities it serves, but also has a positive impact on the surrounding counties.

Wendy's discussion will include the opportunity for questions and suggestions. The meeting begins at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 7. All are welcome.



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By Lyn Hornick, Accounting Manager
739-4344, Ext 12

It is my job to handle all of the finances for the Woodlake Community Association. That includes accounts payable and some 3,000 accounts receivable for Woodlake property owners.

The Association's operating budget is supported by assessments on every property in the community. We bill owners on the first day of each quarter, and we try to provide as much flexibility in payment as possible. About two-thirds of the owners pay assessments with a credit card, which

makes it possible for only one person to manage these accounts. At the beginning of each quarter, we electronically bill the credit cards for the regular quarterly assessment. There are no additional fees.

Paying your quarterly assessments by credit card will save you a quarterly service fee.

Property owners may also pay the entire year's assessments by check in January with no additional fees, but for those who prefer to be billed on a quarterly basis directly from the WCA, there is a quarterly service charge added to the bill. We strongly encourage those who wish to pay quarterly to use a credit card.

The required form to set up a credit card account is below. If you pay by check, the total is due on or before the 25th of the

billing month. After that, finance charges will begin to accrue. As a not-for-profit organization, timely receipt of assessments is critical to our operation.

Sign up for credit card payments to simplify your bill paying!



APPLICATION FOR CREDIT CARD ASSESSMENT BILLING

To charge your Woodlake Association assessments to a credit card of your choice, please fill out this form, sign it, and return to the Woodlake Community Association at 14900 Lake Bluff Parkway, Midlothian, VA 23112. Applications cannot be accepted over the phone or without a signature. PLEASE PRINT.

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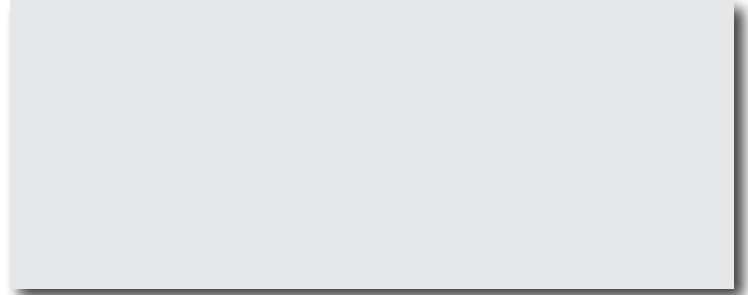
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Life on the Lake

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- NEW! Robin Run - 10K/6 miles**

*Special thanks to Niels Petersen,
Walnut Bend, for creating and marking
our new measured trail!*