

LAKE ARBOR



NEWSLETTER

www.lakearborcivic.org Spring 2009

LACA COMMUNITY MEETING

Tuesday, April 7, 2009



7:00 p.m - 9:00 p.m.
Arbor Room
1399 Golf Course Drive
Mitchellville, Maryland 20721

UPCOMING ELECTION OF LACA OFFICERS



The election of LACA Officers for the two year term July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2011 will be held on Wednesday, May 6, 2009, during the LACA general meeting, 7:00 p.m., at the Arbor Room. Current LACA members must submit the nomination forms by April 13, 2009. Visit www.lakearborcivic.org and click on Committees, then Elections to print out the election schedule and nomination forms. Your continued community support makes Lake Arbor a great place to live.

Elections Committee

UPCOMING COMMUNITY MEETING AGENDA

Join us at our next community general meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 7, 2009. All residents will have an opportunity to learn more about events and activities in and around Lake Arbor. Some of the highlights of the agenda are:

Representatives from Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission will explain the process and procedure of zoning development in and around our Lake Arbor community. Representatives from the The Boulevard at the Capital Centre, Prince George's County Revenue Authority, and the Prince George's County Police Department will be on hand to address issues and concerns that affect us as a community.

You don't want to miss our next community meeting.

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY ANNUAL COUNTYWIDE SPRING CLEANUP DAY

To volunteer or for more information, see page 8.



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A Message from the President of Lake Arbor Civic Association



Greetings, Fellow Homeowners:

I hope this letter finds you all in good health and spirits. As we embark upon a new year, I wanted to take this opportunity to reach out to you as it has been quite some time since we have published a newsletter.

A major change has occurred since our last publication. Our long-standing President, Richard Day, has relocated out of the Lake Arbor community. Mr. Day served our community proudly and I am honored to have served under his leadership. My task is to continue to work as hard and strive to achieve the same level of excellence for the Lake Arbor Community and the surrounding areas as Mr. Day did so well.

First, I would like to remind you that the Lake Arbor Civic Association (LACA) meets the first Wednesday of every month from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in the Arbor Room. *Please note that the general meeting in April is scheduled for Tuesday, April 7, 2009, at 7:00 p.m.* As your schedule permits, I strongly encourage all HOA representatives and homeowners to take part in our meetings. We welcome any suggestions, recommendations, and information you feel would be relevant to our community. Please come out and support the Board that supports you!

At the first General meeting for 2009, we will update you on the latest information concerning our community. In addition, we will discuss the upcoming LACA election. In this newsletter you will find a copy of the membership drive application. Becoming a member of LACA allows you to cast your vote for office in the upcoming election and also gives you the opportunity to run for office yourself! We need Board members. We cannot continue as a Board without the support and talent of our homeowners. Our schedules are very busy; however, it only takes a few hours a month to make a difference where you live. If you want to serve, but are reluctant because you have never done this type of thing before, let me assure you that many of the Board members have never served on a board before either. Please get involved in your own community. If you don't want to serve on the LACA Board, consider serving on your community HOA so that our community can remain strong.

Many of you have asked for more frequent newsletters, but please know that our entire LACA Board wishes the same thing. Unfortunately, our Board doesn't have the time nor resources to publish a newsletter as often as we would like. That's where you can come in. We need volunteers and more LACA members to do the work we desire to do.

Lake Arbor is a great community to live in and raise our families. If we all commit to work together and volunteer where needed, we can keep it that way.

Lake Arbor Civic Association

Elected Officers & Committee Chairs

President

T. J. Epps

Vice President

Thelma Murray-Fisher

Recording Secretary, Tomika Thornton

Corresponding Secretary (Vacant)

Treasurer, Willie Graves

Appointed Positions

Historian, Elaine Murrell

Newsletter Editor/Webmistress, Elaine Wright

LAFI Liaison, L. Diane Savoy

Parliamentarian, Maurice Jefferson

Asst. Recording Secretary, (Vacant)

Assistant Corresponding Secretary (Vacant)

Standing Committee Chairs

Adopt-A-Road, William Frazier

Beautification, Thomas McKay

Benevolence, (Vacant)

Bylaws - (Vacant)

Communications, (Vacant)

Education, Jacob Andoh

Education Vice-Chair, Andrea Toney

Membership, Sigrid Samuel

Safety, Greg Loftin

Special Events, (Vacant)

Assistant for Special Events, Jacqueline Carr

Zoning, Thomas McKay/Sigrid Samuel



Searching for Volunteers

Please note that there are many vacant positions on the roster of LACA Board

members and committee chairs. Your help is needed to fill these positions. Each Homeowners Association has a voting position on the LACA Board. If your HOA is not represented on the Board, this means your HOA is missing an important opportunity to give input and help make decisions on zoning, safety, education, traffic, and other critical issues that impact directly on you and all of Lake Arbor. To help fill any of these vacant slots, please contact Elaine Murrell at 301-336-6964 or ebmurrell@yahoo.com.

Upcoming Election of Officers



Have you been wondering how you can become active in the community? An opportunity for you to do so is becoming available with the upcoming election of Lake Arbor Civic Association (LACA) Officers. Is your next thought how do you qualify? First, you must be a member of LACA and then you only need to have an interest in maintaining the quality of our community and the dedication and commitment to serve. We know this must describe you! If you are not a member of LACA, please quickly send your annual membership dues of \$20 to the Membership Committee. (You can find the membership form on page 6 of this newsletter.) At this point, you must now be thinking what Officer positions are available and what you need to do to run for office? The officer positions available are president, vice president,

recording secretary, corresponding secretary, and treasurer. You need to complete the Candidate Nomination and Information Form and indicate the position in which you are interested. *LACA members must submit the Form(s) by Monday, April 13, 2009.* The election of LACA Officers for the two year term of July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2011, will be held on May 6, 2009, during the LACA General Meeting. Visit www.lakearborcivic.org and click Committees, then Elections, to print out the election schedule and all forms needed for the election process.

Your continued community support makes Lake Arbor a great place to live.

Elections Committee

Lake Arbor Civic Association Election of Officers for 2009 - 2011 Election Schedule Form

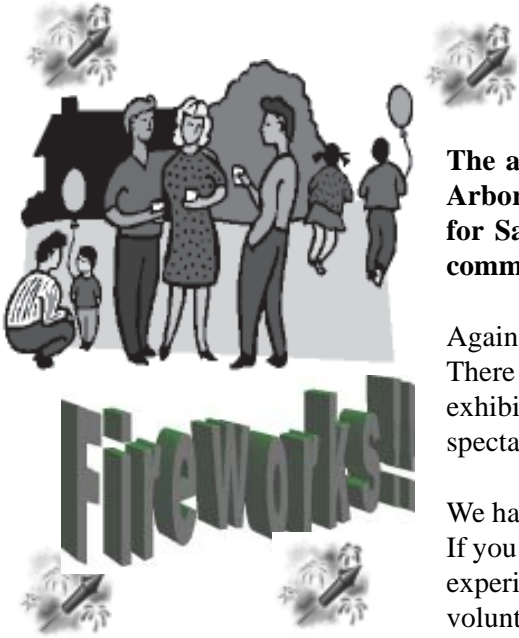
April 13, 2009	Candidate Nomination and Information Form
April 16, 2009	Nomination Report to President from Elections Committee
April 22, 2009	Petition Nomination Form and Candidate Nomination and Information Form (2007 - 2009 LACA members only)
April 29, 2009	Final Election Notice to Membership regarding Elections Absentee Ballot Written Request to Elections Committee (2007 - 2009) LACA members only)
May 6, 2009	Elections Held Must be an active 2007 - 2009 LACA member to vote (If you are not a current member, you may pay \$20 cash to become a 2007 - 2009 member)



LACA Website

To find out information around our community including a calendar of events, visit our website: www.lakearborcivic.org

The Lake Arbor Civic Association thanks everyone who has supported LACA by paying the annual membership fee. Membership entitles each household to a vote on all LACA issues during the fiscal year. Visit our website at www.lakearborcivic.org to download the membership form.



**Save the Date - Annual Lake Arbor Community Day
June 27, 2009**

The annual fun-filled Lake Arbor Community Day, sponsored by the Lake Arbor Foundation, Inc. and the Lake Arbor Civic Association, is scheduled for Saturday, June 27, 2009. This free event is open to everyone in the community, so mark this date on your calendars now!

Again this year, we will have many events and activities for enjoyment by all ages. There will be adult and children’s activities, sporting events, food vendors, exhibitors, entertainment and many more activities. The day will end with a spectacular fireworks show at dusk!!

We have started our planning activities and we welcome everyone’s participation. If you have volunteered for this activity before, we look forward you bringing your experience and expertise to assist us again. If you have been thinking of volunteering within the community but have been waiting on the right opportunity, this is it . . . join us. Whatever amount of time you can give will be greatly appreciated. We welcome our teenagers and young adults to assist with the planning as well. Please contact us by e-mail at LAFIBoard@comcast.net to let us know of your interest. We are looking forward to hearing from you. Send that e-mail today.

As in the past, a special newsletter edition for Lake Arbor Community Day will be issued in early June 2009. That newsletter edition will have all of the specific details on the activities for the day. Plan to come out and enjoy another great Lake Arbor Community Day.

Summer Enrichment Camp



The Lake Arbor Foundation, Inc. (LAFI) will provide the seventh year of its *Summer Enrichment Camp* program.

The camp is sponsored by LAFI in collaboration with the Prince George’s Tennis and Education Foundation, the Mitchellville Community School of the Arts, and the Eagle Chess Academy. The purpose of the camp is to offer experiences in sports, arts, and academic enrichment.

Classes include piano keyboard instruction, creative writing, computers, science projects, tennis, and swimming instruction for children ages 6 to 12.



The hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Early drop-off and late pick-up options are available.

Registration begins on Saturday, April 18th, at the Arbor Room, 1399 Golf Course Drive, Mitchellville, MD, from 9:00 am until noon.

For more information, call 301-333-1961 or e-mail, arbor_room@verizon.net.

Crime Statistics for District II Show an Overall Decrease from 2007



According to information available in the February 19th edition of The Gazette newspaper, violent crimes in the county continue to decrease, but crimes against property are on the rise. This includes property crimes such as larceny and theft. Unofficial combined statistics for CSA 22, Beats D6, E2 and E3 (Lake Arbor is located in Beat E3) show that crime was down by 7.6% between 2007 and 2008. Overall, crime in District II was down by just over 12%. Mirroring statistics for the county, crime categories for District II showing increases from 2007 to 2008 include:

- Commercial, Residential and Citizen Robbery, and
- Residential Burglaries.

There has been some discussion recently about the accuracy of crime statistics released by the county. Concerns have been expressed that statistics for one of our neighboring communities may not include all reported crimes. Subsequent inquiry determined that not all crimes in that community had been reported to the police. LACA supports accurate reporting and disclosure, but the police cannot address what they do not know.

Statistics aside, LACA encourages all Lake Arbor residents to stay vigilant, to report all suspicious activities and to file police reports if you have been the victim of a crime. Once a report has been filed, if you are not satisfied with the response, you should not hesitate to elevate the matter within the Department. We also encourage you to document your communications with the police so that specific concerns can be discussed in open community forums where police representatives can be given the opportunity to respond.

Our responsibility as community members is to work with the police to keep Lake Arbor and surrounding neighborhoods safe. This partnership is at the center of Chief Roberto Hylton's recommitment to community policing, recognizing that community safety is everybody's responsibility.



Homeowners Survey

Hello Homeowners,

Do you want to know about the Lake Arbor Civic Association (LACA)? There's so much that goes on behind the scenes that's not realized by the LACA members and homeowners.

Do you want to know where your dues go?

Do you want to know what we do as LACA Board members?

Do you have concerns you want to share?

Do you want to know how much time the Board members spend representing you and the community?

What are your suggestions and concerns?



Well, all you have to do is ask. Feel free to clip and return this survey by mail to the LACA Board at 1399 Golf Course Drive, the Arbor Room. We look forward to receiving any questions, concerns, comments, or suggestions you may have.

LAKE ARBOR CIVIC ASSOCIATION LACA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

For Office use only:
Amount: _____
Check Date: _____
Check No: _____
Initials: _____



MEMBERSHIP FORM -- **July 1, 2008 thru June 30, 2009** -- ANNUAL FEE PER HOUSEHOLD = \$20.00
(A reproduced copy of this form is acceptable.)

Please type or print.

Date: _____

Last Name First Name
[] Check if you do not wish to be included in the Lake Arbor Directory.



Address

Telephone Number (optional):
[] Check if you do not want your telephone number listed in the directory.

E-mail Address
[] Check if you do not wish to be part of LACA E-mail Group. The e-mail group transmits information about safety alerts and other issues impacting the Lake Arbor Community.



Please place an (X) on the line(s) before the name(s) of the committee(s) you wish to join.

- Adopt-A-Road**
 Lake Arbor Community Day
 Education
 Newsletter
 Zoning
 Safety
 Communications
 Membership
 Beautification
 Special Events

WHAT CONCERNS WOULD YOU LIKE TO ADDRESS TO THE LAKE ARBOR CIVIC ASSOCIATION?

Are you a new resident? _____



MAKE YOUR CHECKS PAYABLE TO LAKE ARBOR CIVIC ASSOCIATION AND MAIL TO:

LAKE ARBOR CIVIC ASSOCIATION
12138 CENTRAL AVENUE, #504
MITCHELLVILLE, MD 20721-1932

You can download the membership form from the web:
www.lakearborcivic.org

T. J. Epps
President



Associations in Lake Arbor

As a resident of Lake Arbor you are mostly likely aware that there are many associations and organizations in the Lake Arbor community. They include your Homeowners Association, the Masters Association, the Lake Arbor Civic Association, and the Lake Arbor Foundation, Inc.

All homeowners are members of their specific Homeowners Association and must pay annual mandatory dues. Five of the eleven Homeowners Associations and the Towers apartment rental property which surround the lake are mandatory members of the Masters Association and must pay annual mandatory dues separate from the dues paid to their individual Homeowners Associations. The Lake Arbor Civic Association represents all residents in the Lake Arbor community, regardless of location, on a wide variety of areas of significance and common concern. The annual membership fees to the Civic Association are for the entire household and are voluntary. The Lake Arbor Foundation, Inc. owns, operates and manage the Lake Arbor Foundation Center property and programs. There are no annual fees or dues paid by any Homeowners Association to the Lake Arbor foundation, Inc. However, as a 501 (c)(3) organization, tax deductible donations can be made to the Foundation. The chart below provides more details regarding each of these entities.

Homeowners Associations	Masters Association	Lake Arbor Civic Associations	Lake Arbor Foundation, Inc.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ There are eleven (11) individual Homeowners Associations (HOA) in the Lake Arbor community ✓ Each Association includes all homeowners within its covered section of Lake Arbor ✓ Responsible for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managing and maintaining the common property grounds within their area • Enforcing the requirements of the Association's Covenants, Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Declarations, Resolutions, and Architectural Guidelines • Overseeing and monitoring the management company and other service contracts ✓ HOA membership is mandatory with mandatory annual dues assessments determined by the Board of Directors ✓ Volunteer Board of Directors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Comprised of five HOAs and the Towers high-rise rental property surrounding the lake ✓ Included are Southlake, Westlake, Northlake, Arbor Park, the Vistas, and the Towers (Eastlake) ✓ Responsible for maintaining the common areas, such as the jogging/bike path, and traffic circles on Lake Arbor Way, and cleaning the lake, bridges, etc. ✓ For the above identified HOAs, Masters Association membership is mandatory with mandatory annual dues assessments determined by the Board of Directors ✓ Volunteer Board of Directors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Represents all homeowners and residents of the 3,000+ homes in Lake Arbor ✓ Serves as a non-partisan advocate for the community by involvement in matters such as zoning and development, safety, police protection and services, beautification, and education advocacy ✓ Voluntary annual membership dues of \$20 per household ✓ Volunteer Board of Directors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A private non-profit 501 (c)(3) entity that owns and manages the Lake Arbor Foundation Center comprised of the Arbor Room, Herman L. Murrell Pavilion, tennis courts, basketball courts, swimming pool, bathhouse, and parking area on 6.8 acres of land. ✓ Provides educational and social development programs for the members of Lake Arbor and its neighboring communities ✓ No annual payments for operations provided by any Lake Arbor Homeowners Association ✓ Operates and sponsors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake Arbor Swimming Pool • Lake Arbor Annual Community Day • Lake Arbor Annual Scholarship Program • Lake Arbor Summer Day Camp • Volunteer Board of Directors



**PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
ANNUAL COUNTYWIDE SPRING CLEANUP
A LIVABLE COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE**

Saturday, April 18, 2009, 8:30 AM - 12:00 Noon
(Deadline to register - April 17, 2009)



After the Cleanup, join County Executive Jack Johnson and all the volunteers for a huge **Thank You Celebration!**

Great Food, Prizes, Games & Music
Watkins Park (Ball Field Pavilion - behind the Administrative Building)
12:30 PM - 2:30 PM
To volunteer or for more information
call 301-883-6510 or 301-883-5600 or
e-mail NOBLIGHT@co.pg.md.us

Sponsors include:

Department of Public Works & Transportation, Department of Environmental Resources, Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, Keep Prince George's County Beautiful, Department of Corrections/Community Service Program, Maryland State Highway Administration, Prince George's County Litter Free Schools

"Happiness cannot come from without. It must come from within. It is not what we see and touch or that which others do for us which makes us happy; it is that which we think and feel and do, first for the other fellow and then for ourselves." Helen Keller

Arbor Room Rental - The Arbor Room is available for rentals and must be reserved through our clubhouse manager, Carolyn White, who can be reached on 301-599-7376. Please contact her for availability of the date and time you are interested in and the process for renting. The Arbor Room is not available for rentals for teen events.



Civic Association

12138 Central Avenue, #504
Mitchellville, MD 20721-1932



Mark Your Calendars!

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Mitchellville, MD
Permit No. 2948



LACA Community Meeting

Upcoming Election of Officers

Zoning Update

On Tuesday, April 7, 2009 the Lake Arbor Civic Association will host its next General Meeting at the Arbor Room, 1399 Golf Course Drive, Mitchellville, MD 20721 at 7:00 p.m.

ALL RESIDENTS ARE WELCOME!