

W I N T E R 2 0 1 7

Loft Ridge Limelight

Loft Ridge Home Owners Association – Alexandria, VA – www.loftridge.com



Warmest Greetings of the Season

Christmas Tree Pickup

UNDECORATED Christmas trees will be picked up with the trash **ONLY** January 3 and 10. Please do **NOT** dispose of the trees in the woods.



Snow Plowing & Sand

Snow plowing will occur at 3” and sand will be spread as needed.

Keep It Cleared

Don't block the mailbox area with your garbage/recycle cans.

Wet Shoes?

Stuff crumbled newspapers into them to absorb moisture. Or put a charcoal briquette into a sock inside the shoe overnight to absorb the wetness and eliminate odor.

When It Snows....

Keep the snow cleared in front of your **storm door** to make sure you are able to open it.

Snow Shovel Storage

Please do not store your snow shovel on the front porch. Sometimes it “grows legs and walks off.” Then what do you do the next time it snows? And it's so out of place in the Spring when it doesn't get put away.



Board News

Management, grounds maintenance and snow plowing and sanding contracts were renewed. **Minimal tree work** was done. **Irrigation systems** were winterized.

Aeration, overseeding and mulching were done in October. November saw the first **leaf removal**, second is scheduled for December. The **audit** was completed with no issues.

New Tennis Court Combination

To obtain the combination, contact management@loftridge.com or call Sequoia. They are generating a spreadsheet of those to contact with any combination changes.

Fly? Need New Driver's License

In 2018, Virginia will begin to comply with the Real ID Act designed to help prevent terrorist attacks and reduce the number of licenses granted to undocumented immigrants. Beginning in Fall of 2020, the only driver's licenses that will be accepted for purposes such as boarding commercial flights, will be those that meet the Real ID Requirements.

But beginning **January 20, 2018** TSA agents will begin enforcing the air travel provision at security checkpoints, accepting licenses only from compliant states or those that have been granted extensions (**like Virginia until October 2018**).

The Real ID card will have a one-time \$10 fee that will help pay for implementation. To obtain one, current license holders will be required to present two proofs of residency, and will have to present their **Social Security Card** instead of just proving the number. The process will require an **in-person visit to a DMV office**.

2017 Bluebird Box Wrap-Up

Our 5th season of monitoring bluebird nest boxes as part of the Virginia Bluebird Trail has come to a close. Early in the season, we added 2 final nest boxes to our trail in the field across from the Ridge View Drive tot lot, a location known to have attracted bluebirds in the past. These new boxes netted our first successful bluebird nest since 2013 – 4 bluebird babies were raised! Across Loft Ridge’s nine total boxes, the native House Wren continues to dominate the nests with 17 total babies raised this year. Because House Wrens compete aggressively with Eastern Bluebirds for these boxes (i.e. throwing bluebird eggs out of the nest), we will be considering ways to minimize wren disturbance in 2018 to help give bluebirds the best chance for nesting success.

Clean-Up Station Installed

The cleanup station mentioned in last issue has been installed next to the tennis courts. Please help keep Loft Ridge litter-free! Just grab a bag, pick up trash, report back how much trash you collected, empty the bag into the nearby trash can, and return the bag to the cleanup station (if clean enough to re-use).



For more information, go to www.lofridge.com/litter.

Thanks for your support!

Medicare Card Reissue

Since Medicare cards show social security number, all will be reissued starting in March 2018 using a unique identification related to the recipient. Finally a smart move by the Government!

Local Senior Discounts

On Tuesdays, anyone over 60 can get a 5% discount on purchases at Giant and at Ross those over 55 get a 10% discount. Be sure to tell the cashier because your age may not be obvious.

Vietnam Memorial 35th Anniversary

This Memorial was dedicated November 13, 1982 to honor service members who fought and died in the Vietnam War or are missing in action (MIA). As part of a 2-acre complex, the *Memorial Wall* is comprised of two 246'9" gabbro panels and 140 black granite panels displaying 58,318 engraved names. Approximately 3 million visitors view this annually many of whom perform "rubbing" by placing a piece of paper over a name on the wall and rubbing a pencil over it as a memento of their loved one.

The *Three Servicemen* is a bronze statue purposely identified as European American, African American and Hispanic American. *In Memory* plaque was added in November 2004 to honor veterans who died after the war as a direct result of injuries suffered in Vietnam.

The *Women's Memorial* is dedicated to the women who served in the Vietnam War, most of whom were nurses. It depicts three uniformed women with a wounded soldier.

Thank You!

- *Thank you Kari Buttera for a good job organizing the Halloween events for our children.
- *Thanks to all who participated in the planting behind the tennis courts of trees and shrubs provided by Fairfax ReLeaf.
- *Thanks to all who shovel snow from the mailbox areas.

Winter Celebrations

December 26 is National Candy Cane Day. Red-and-white-striped candy canes are one of the most iconic candies. They are sweet to eat, great for dipping and stirring a cup of hot chocolate and have been used as Christmas tree decorations since the 1800s.

February 25 is National Chili Day. Great for after shoveling snow!! The recipes are as varied as the number of beans in the pot - - from spicy to vegetarian to con carne.

Dr. Seuss Magic Begins

On December 21, 1937 the first Dr. Seuss book, *And to Think That I Saw It on Mulberry Street*, was published.

Loft Ridge Reminders

Daylight Savings Time
March 11



Where is your snow shovel?



VIRGINIA LAW



On Residential Streets

Keep pets inside in cold weather



Loft Ridge Real Estate Update – Start to Prep for the Spring Selling Season!

Under Contract	TH Type	List Price	List Date	
5717 Ridge View Dr	Int	\$439,900	11/15/17	
5704 Lofthill Ct	Int	\$479,950	10/20/17	
Sold	TH Type	Sold Price	Seller Subsidy*	Sold Date
5763 Ridge View Dr	Int	\$453,000	\$6,300	08/21/17
5738 Evergreen Knoll Ct	Int	\$379,500	\$2,500	08/22/17
5660 Ridge View Dr	Int	\$448,000	\$6,000	09/29/17
5684 Medallion Ct	Int	\$395,000	\$5,000	10/18/17
5715 Ridge View Dr	End	\$479,900	\$ 0	11/17/17

Rentals	TH Type	Rental Rate	
5625 Ridge View Dr	Int	\$2,600	
Rentals	TH Type	Rental Rate	Date Rented
5616 Ridge View Dr	End	\$2,595	09/01/17
4405 Churchman Ct	Int	\$2,400	10/01/17
5706 Gladden Ct	Int	\$2,400	10/20/17

* Seller Subsidy is the total seller contributed towards buyer's closing cost. It reduces the net sold price thus affecting future appraisals of other Loft Ridge homes.

Source: Metropolitan Regional Informational Systems, Inc. Courtesy of Maren Seubert (Realtor)

Last Winter's Weather

January

- 7th temperature of 73 broke record from 2012
- 8th temperature of 74 was highest since records have been kept
- 30th we saw our 1st inch of snow (2013 1st inch arrived March 21)
- 19 straight days of 32 degrees+ surpassing an 1872 record

February was warmest since record-keeping started in 1871, record previously held in 1976. And, no surprise, it had the meteorological distinction for being dry - - only a trace of snow fell.

2017-2018 Weather Predictions

NOAA and local weather channels predict a warmer than normal winter with less than average snowfall (maybe 10-19" total). Early January could be colder and maybe deliver a snowstorm.



Farmer's Almanac has Virginia in the wintry chill, wet and white zone. It is red-flagging January 20-23, February 4-7 and 16-19, March 1-3 and 20-23 for heavy precipitation along the Atlantic seaboard. If that turns out to be true, better have your snow shovel and salt-free ice melt or non-clumping kitty litter handy.

? Rain = Inch of Snow?

In the U.S. on average, an inch of rain produces about 13 inches of snow. But the actual ratio depends on the wetness of the snowfall. An inch of rain may result in only six inches of heavy, wet snow - - the hard to shovel stuff that kids delight in for snowmen. Or you can get three feet of the dry, powdery kind that won't hold together for snowballs but skiers and snowboarders like it and so do kids since school usually closes.



And When It Snows

You are responsible for shoveling your porch/stoop, walkway and the sidewalk in front of your home as well as your numbered parking space. Shoveling snow from an unnumbered space doesn't mean you staked a claim but common courtesy is if you didn't clear the space, don't park in it.

Winter Hydration

In the summer, it's easy to remember to drink plenty of liquids but it's also important in winter. Drinking water can give your immune system a boost and help prevent you from getting sick during cold and flu season. Signs of dehydration can be headaches, dizziness, drowsiness, muscle cramping, nausea and vomiting. In the wintertime especially you may notice dry skin, chapped lips and a dry mouth.

BE VIGILANT FOR NEIGHBORS WHO NEED ASSISTANCE DURING BAD WEATHER

Winter Tidbits

- When removing snow from shrubs, use a broom and sweep in an upward motion to avoid breaking branches.
- Spraying your shovel with cooking spray will ensure snow won't stick to it.
- Gently rub a small, moistened cloth bag of iodized salt on the outside of windshield to prevent ice and snow from sticking.
- Stuck on ice without sand or kitty litter? Use your car mats to get traction.
- Have hanging icicles? Tap them with a broom, from a window if possible.

Shoveling Courtesy

Don't throw snow into the street or push it in front of islands. It will freeze, turn to ice and when the plow returns, the snow will end up behind vehicles again.

Ensure the mailman can get safely to the mailboxes, storm drains are open to allow faster exit of melting snow and fire hydrants need to be exposed. Don't forget access to the pet waste stations. And if those are full, please take your doggie bags home - - when the lid won't close due to overload, a health hazard is created and an attraction for some wild animals will exist.

National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day

Second Friday in January has been designated as a day to show appreciation for those in blue. Every day 1 million men and women put their lives in jeopardy dealing with domestic violence, substance abuse, mental illness, post-traumatic stress disorder and facing those with lethal weapons.



To say "thank you" say something nice on Facebook or have your child design a card or write a letter and deliver it to your local police station - - ours is at 6121 Franconia Road across from Paradiso restaurant.

FREE Tax Preparation

AARP's Tax Aide Program is available February 1 – April 15. IRS-certified counselors prepare and eFile Federal and Virginia returns. Bring picture ID and social security cards for taxpayer(s) and dependents. Don't have to be an AARP member.

Sherwood Regional Library
2501 Sherwood Hall Ln
Alexandria 22306

Mon – Sat: 10:15-2:00 Mon – Thurs: 5:00-8:00

Christmas Seals

In 1907 Emily Bissell designed the first Christmas Seal in a fundraising effort in support of tuberculosis. The effort expanded and today millions observe the tradition of sealing holiday cards and packages with that year's special seal distributed by the American Lung Association.

Local Anniversary

Burke and Herbert, the oldest bank in Virginia, is celebrating its 165th year in business. The family-owned and operated bank vows to never be bought out.



Winter starts December 21

Happy Valentine's Day!



Local Fun Events

Year Round Weekly – Bingo on Wednesday and Saturday, Franconia Fire Dept 703-922-5858

Year Round – Franconia Museum, at Lee District Govt Center (www.franconiamuseum.org)

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 15-16 – Christmas Illuminations (fireworks) at Mt Vernon 5:30-9:00pm (www.mountvernon.org)

Thru December 23 – Christmas Tree Sales at Edison High School

New Year's Eve – First Night is a non-alcoholic, family-oriented celebration in Old Town Alexandria from 7pm-midnight (www.firstnightalexandria.org) or call 703-838-5005

February 3-4 – PAW Patrol Live at Eagle Bank Arena (www.eaglebankarena.com)

February 17-19 – Celebrate George Washington's Birthday on President's Day (www.mountvernon.org)

February 25 – Disney Live! Mickey and Minnie's Doorway to Magic (www.eaglebankarena.com)

March 17-18 – Harlem Globetrotters at Eaglebank Arena (www.eaglebankarena.com)

LOFT RIDGE BOARD
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Loft Ridge Group Email
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Loft Ridge Classifieds Email
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 (for sale, for free, or wanted)

Archived Newsletters
www.lofridge.com/news/newsletter

Loft Ridge Mom's Group
groups.yahoo.com/group/lofridgemoms

Sequoia Management
 703-803-9641
management@lofridge.com

New Year's Resolution



New Year's Resolution –
 Do not squander time, for
 that's the stuff life is made
 of - - Ben Franklin

Board Meetings – 7:00pm
 Mark Twain Middle School Library
 Thursday, January 18
 Thursday, February 15
 Thursday, March 15

ACC Meetings – 7:30pm
 Clermont Elementary School Library
 Wednesday, January 10
 Wednesday, February 14
 Wednesday, March 14
ACCChair@lofridge.com

LIMELIGHT STAFF

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Contributors – Louise Whitt

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Free Notary Service

Kelly Campagne – 202-607-6331 Cheatham Court
 Louise Whitt – 703-960-0428 Ridge View Drive

No charge to Loft Ridge owners and residents



IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Emergency	911
Non-Emergency (Police and Fire)	703-691-2131
Animal Control	703-830-1100
Poison Control	202-625-3333
Fairfax Connector	703-339-7200
Fairfax Water	703-698-5600
Dominion Virginia Power	866-366-4357
Fairfax County Trash	703-802-3322
Clermont Elementary School	703-971-2400
Mark Twain Middle School	703-313-3700
Edison High School	703-924-8000
Post Office - Franconia (22310)	703-971-1003
Post Office – Jefferson Manor (22303)	703-317-9286
John Marshall Library	703-971-0010
Voter Registration	703-222-0776
Washington Post	202-334-6100
USA Today	800-872-0001