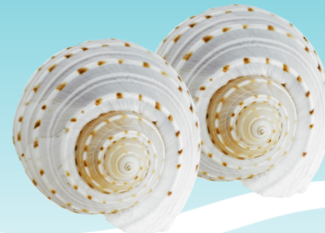


S U M M E R 2 0 1 6

Loft Ridge Limelight

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



HOA DUES INCREASE

Effective July 1, HOA dues will be \$226 a quarter. If you have direct debit, make a note.

Thank You to Outgoing Board Member

*Thank
you*

Thank you **Eric Naide** for your service on the Board of Directors. He will be taking a rest before his return. Eric will be missed.

Welcome New Board Member

Congratulation to Patrick Sullivan for election to the Board and to Kelly Campagne who was re-elected.

Grounds Contractor

The contractor is being evaluated after each visit. If you have compliments or complaints, contact the Board.

Congratulations Grads!!

ES grads, say hello to lockers!

MS grads, say hello to more activities/events!

HS grads, best of luck in college, trade school, or the workforce!



College grads, welcome to the 9-5 world!

News from the Board

Bids were obtained and are being evaluated for **parking space numbering and tic marks, fire lane painting, erosion control and asphalt/concrete work**. A contract was awarded to Shenandoah Landscape to replace the **timber retaining wall** at Cheatham and Ridge View. Spring **dead tree removal** was accomplished and **invasive vines** were cut back in two large areas. The County toured the big field on Cannon Lane in processing our application for a money-matching **grant using native plants**. **Mulching and Spring clean-up** were done and **annuals** planted at entrances.



Irrigation System

The stations all have rain gauges and are set to turn on, when necessary, while you sleep. If you see sprinklers running during the day, excessive water on the street or damage, please contact the Board.

Loft Ridge Website

We had a major redesign two years ago which we hope you are enjoying. In addition to seeing seasonal pictures taken by residents, you will find **Community** (information on life here and our area history), **Events**, **HOA** (Board, governing documents), **Committees**, **News**(letters), and **Contact** information. Board and Committee meeting dates and locations are on each page.



Got Snakes?

Please don't hurt them! Although snakes are beneficial to the environment (they eat those nasty rodents) and, in this area, are completely harmless, some folks just don't want to see these guys sunning on their back steps. If they give you the creeps and you just don't want them around, did you know that Loft Ridge has a resident trained herpetologist who can safely relocate them for you? Just give Angelo Miranda a call at 202-270-2076 and he'll come get the critter and relocate it to a more suitable environment.

Loftridge Park Trail

This is a walking trail!! It is **not intended for motorized vehicles** of any kind. If you see ATVs or motorcycles on the path, report this illegal activity to the police at 703-691-3121.

Tennis Court Usage

The courts are designed for playing tennis. If you see any other activity inside the court, please contact the Board. Inappropriate activity damages the court's surface and costs us all when repairs are needed.

Loft Ridge's Bluebird Boxes

This spring, three additional bluebird nest boxes were installed around the tennis courts, complimenting the four already in the Cannon Lane field. While bluebirds were spotted in our community throughout the winter, none chose to nest in our boxes.

However, as of May 2016, two families of Carolina Chickadee have successfully raised 5+ eggs each. As spring progresses House Wrens are beginning to build their nests and have already laid eggs in at least one box.



At the end of each season, (this is our 4th), the species and nesting successes, complete with counts of successful fledglings, are reported to the Virginia Bluebird Society to help with overall tracking of trends of native bird populations.



Continued Watershed Conservation

In 2015, Loft Ridge HOA received a grant from the Northern Virginia Soil & Water Conservation District (NVSWCD) to install a rain garden in the common area behind the homes on Gypsy Court. The garden is working wonderfully to retain roof run-off and NVSWCD has been using photos of this rain garden on their website and in their print materials as an example of a successful project.

The HOA has received a second grant from NVSWCD to plant native plants in a frequently wet area of the Cannon Lane field in the fall of 2016. These seasonably wet areas can provide habitat for amphibians if surrounded by a richer ecosystem than simply grass. This will be an exciting addition to Loft Ridge's growing native habitat restorations.

Updated Noise Ordinance

The law prohibits:

- Using a loudspeaker or amplifier between 7pm and 7am
- Making noise that can be plainly heard in another person's home with the doors and windows closed between 10pm and 7am Sunday through Thursday and between 11pm and 7am on Friday, Saturday and the day before a Federal holiday
- Barking, howling, meowing, squawking or quacking animals between 10pm and 7am when it can be heard inside a home with doors and windows closed, or if these sounds can be heard between 7am and 10pm for more than five minutes consecutively or non-consecutively within a 10 minute period.

To file a complaint:

- During daytime hours (Mon-Thurs 8am-4pm and Friday 9:15am-4pm) contact the Department of Code Compliance at 703-324-1300.
- At night, call the police non-emergency number at 703-691-2131. You don't have to give your name or address unless you want to be contacted.

Civil penalties start at \$250, rising to \$500 for subsequent offenses. Criminal convictions would be misdemeanor.

Dumping

The woods we enjoy are part of the appeal of Loft Ridge but that area wasn't meant to be a dumping ground. Water can't get to tree roots when grass clippings, yard waste, leaves, etc. are piled atop the ground. Cutting and removing a dead or dying tree costs about \$600 of your Association dues. Unnatural items in the woods provide a habitat for raccoons, snakes, rats, etc.

Branches will be taken by the County on trash day, simply tie them in bundles or put in bags. A special bulk pick-up (i.e. fence/deck wood) can be arranged by calling 703-802-3322. Root balls, stumps, dirt, cement, etc need to be taken to the County dump.



Happy Anniversary

* Smokey the Bear turned **70**

* Declaration of Independence was signed **240** years ago on July 4, 1776

*Star Spangled Banner was named our National Anthem in 1931 (**85** years ago)

*Washington-area Metro turned **40**

*M & M's turned **75**

*First pictures of earth from the moon were taken **50** years ago

*The metric system was established **150** years ago

Real Estate Taxes

They are going up to \$1.13 per \$100 of assessment so that \$.04 increase will be about \$300 per household. County trash service will remain at \$345 a year.



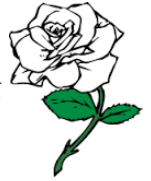
FREE Slurpee

For their 89th anniversary, on **July 11** your local 7-11 will be giving away a free Slurpee to each customer from 11am -7pm.

Happy Father's Day



Rose is the official flower to mark Father's Day celebrated on the third Sunday in June. Wear a red rose if your Father is living, a white one if he is not.



Thanks

To Kelly Campagne, Angelo Miranda and Don Wheeler for repairing some of the damage done by the snow plows....saved us a few bucks! New (donated) bluebird boxes were installed in tennis court area and repairs made to existing ones in Cannon field by Renee Grebe, Kelly Campagne and Angelo Miranda.

Free Bus for Edison HS

If your child attends Edison HS, a free Fairfax Connector bus pass is available for use from 6am to 8pm.

Loft Ridge Reminders

4th of July Kids Festivities on EGK

Check Loft Ridge Group email for details on neighborhood 4th of July parade

Trash/Recycle Cans

Move back to rear yard Wednesday night



National Night Out

Tuesday, Aug 2
6pm – 8pm
Tennis Court area
Moonbounce
Refreshments
Meet policemen and maybe firemen

Pet Care in the Summer

Don't leave your pets outside without shade and water



Loft Ridge Real Estate Update

Under Contract	TH Type	List Price	Contract Date	Rentals	TH Type	Rental Rate	Date Rented
5627 Ridge View Dr	Int	\$435,000	05/02/16	5716 Ridge View Dr	Int	\$2,150	05/18/16
5678 Ridge View Dr	End	\$416,000	05/15/14				
Sold	TH Type	Sold Price	Seller Subsidy*	Sold Date			
5742 Evergreen Knoll	Int	\$380,000	\$1,000	03/31/16			
5702 Medallion Ct	Int	\$389,000	\$5,000	03/16/16			
4323 Gypsy Ct	Int	\$453,632	\$2,000	04/05/16			
5728 Evergreen Knoll	Int	\$367,500	\$2,000	04/08/16			
4337 Marjoram Ct	Int	\$440,000	\$0	04/22/16			
4327 Marjoram Ct	Int	\$435,000	\$0	04/20/16			
5601 Ridge View Dr	End	\$495,000	\$0	05/11/16			
5735 Evergreen Knoll	Int	\$375,000	\$0	05/24/16			



* 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 Lesa Jones (Neighbor and Realtor)

Summer Weather



2015 summer's weather beat the previous record set in 2014. Those 11.94" of rain in June fell short of the record of 14.02" in 2006. The heat continued with 40% of the days above 90 and 50% above 80 with high humidity making it seem much warmer. That made June the 6th hottest on record. And July into August saw a string of 13 90+ days.

Accuweather is predicting 46 days over 90, far above our average of 31 days.

Summer Plant Tips

Plants have different water needs. Plants with large leaves (hydrangea, rhododendron) or with shallow root systems (azalea, dogwood) are usually the first to suffer during drought periods. Shrubs under large trees are especially susceptible because of the large volume of water taken up by tree roots. Plants are more prone to suffer from drought during their first two years especially if planted in late spring or summer due to a shorter time to establish roots.

Fertilization also affects the tolerance of plants to dry weather. Recently or heavily fertilized plants can easily suffer root damage. Severe pruning results in vigorous tender growth that is more dependent on uniform moisture. Weeds rob plants of needed moisture. And low humidity, wind, or bright, sunny days signal a call for the hose.

Poison Ivy

This condition is due to an allergic reaction to an oily black substance found in the leaves, stems and roots of poison ivy, poison oak or poison sumac. A mild case will clear up in a couple of weeks. If rash is widespread, on face, near eyes or genitals, you may need a prescription drug. Cool baths and showers can provide some relief. Calamine lotion also helps relieve the itching. Don't scratch the rash.

The best medicine is to avoid contact with the plants!! "Leaves of three, let it be" "hairy vines no friends of mine" and "longer middle stem, stay away from them" don't make good poetry but might be useful in helping to identify poison ivy.

Wearing long sleeves and pants and gloves while doing yard work helps. If you get exposed, wash the exposed skin with rubbing alcohol, then with cold water and finally shower with soap and water.

Thunderstorms

Thunderstorms produce lightning and have potential for danger.

- Keep an eye on the sky. Look for darkening skies, flashes of light or increasing wind
- Listen for the sound of thunder. When it roars, go indoors and stay there until 30 minutes after the last clap of thunder
- Don't wait for the rain to start before seeking shelter

Thunderstorms can also bring flooding. Do not drive on flooded roads – "turn around don't drown." Two feet of swift water can move or float most vehicles, including SUVs and pickup trucks.



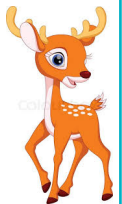
Dear Kids and Parents

STREETS are for CARS. **Kids** can't be seen if you dart out from between cars and cars shouldn't have to stop so you can play in their space.

Show respect when you play on the common grounds. Recently there have been toys left out, play areas constructed and trash left around. Residents care how our community looks and children learn young. **Parents** please set a good example and teach your children to clean up items from areas that aren't your private

Yard Critter Control

Squirrels won't dig plants from your yard or flowerpots if you sprinkle crushed red pepper on top of the soil. And deer will go elsewhere if you fertilize your plants with blood meal since they don't like the smell of this organic fertilizer.



Free National Park Tickets

National Park Service celebrates its centennial August 25, the day Yellowstone Park was established. Entrance fees are being waived for everyone August 25 – 28. You might want to plan a visit to one of our 127 national parks.

For a list of local parks and to learn more about the fee-free days and other birthday plans, go to <http://www.nps.gov/findapark/feefreeparks.htm>

Summer Fun and Frolics

LOCAL FARMER'S MARKETS

Springfield Towne Center Farmer's Market

May 7 – October 29
Corner Spring Mall &
Loisdale Rds
Saturdays 10am – 2pm

Kingstowne Farmer's Market

May 6 – October 28
Parking lot / Giant Grocery
Fridays 4pm – 7pm

Farm Stand

Opened in May
Bush Hill Presbyterian Church
(Across from Rose Hill
Safeway)
Saturdays 8am – 1pm

Huntington Market

Opened May 5
Red Brick House next to
Metro
Thursdays 3pm – 7pm

FREE CONCERTS

Lee District Park Amphitheater

Wednesdays at 7:30pm

Inclement weather, call 703-324-7469 after 6pm

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances

June 1 David Bach Consort (Jazz)
8 The Revelers (Swamp Pop)
15 Natty Beaux (Swing)
22 The Pietasters (Ska)
29 Patsy's Honky Tonk Torch & Twang
(Country/Honky Tonk)

July 6 The David Kitchen Band (Pop/Rock)
13 City of Fairfax "Concert Band" (Concert Band)
20 East of Monroe (Bluegrass)
27 Squeeze Bayou (Cajun)

Aug 3 The United States Navy "Sea Chanters" (Chorale)
10 Hard Swimmin' Fish (Blues/Jazz/Funk)
17 Patty Reese Band (Blues/Roots Rock)
24 Swing Shift (Big Band/Swing)
31 The Nighthawks (Blues)

LOCAL POOLS

Lee District Park

6601 Telegraph Road
703-922-9841
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec/leerec.htm
Free Spray Park

Cameron Run Regional Park

4001 Eisenhower Avenue
703-960-0767
www.nvrpa.org/park/cameron_run
Water slides, wave pool, miniature golf, batting cages

4TH OF JULY

Fireworks, parades, and other activities for Virginia, Maryland, and DC may be found at <http://dc.about.com/od/specialevents/a/4thofJuly.htm>

City of Alexandria celebrates USA and Alexandria birthdays on July 9, 2014
<http://www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation>

LOCAL FUN EVENTS

June 25 – Vine on the Waterfront Wine Festival at Oronoco Bay Park, 12noon-6pm, www.vineonthewaterfront.com, 703-746-5592

July 15-16 – Comcast Outdoor Film Festival at Waterfront Park, 5:30pm, 703-746-5592
www.facebook.com/AlexandriaComcastOutdoorFilmFestival

July 23 – Del Ray Music Festival at Mt. Vernon Recreation Center, 3pm-8pm, www.delraymusicfestival.com

July 30-31 – Harry Potter Birthday at the Apothecary, at Stabler-Leadbetter Apothecary Museum,
www.alexandria.gov/Apothecary, 703-746-3852
July 30, Adult Tour 7-10pm, then special midnight release of *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child Parts I & II*
July 31, Family-friendly Tour 1:30-6pm

August 12-20 – Prince William County Fair at Prince William County Fairgrounds, www.pwcfair.com, 703-368-0173

August 17-21 – Arlington County Fair at Thomas Jefferson Community Center, arlingtoncountyfair.us, 703-920-4556

August 27-October 23 – Maryland Renaissance Festival in Crownsville, MD, www.rennfest.com, 800-296-7304

LOFT RIDGE BOARD
board@lofridge.com

President
Jonathan Heisey-Grove ('17)
617-905-6494 (cell) - president@lofridge.com

Vice President
Carter Mullen ('18)
571-218-9881 (cell) - carter58@gmail.com

Secretary
Richard Everett ('18)
703-350-5685 (cell) - rick.lofridge@gmail.com

Treasurer
Vacant

Member at Large
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703-960-0858 - patrick.lofridge@gmail.com

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202-246-3585 (cell) - cwm.lofridge@gmail.com

Landscaping/ Grounds
Louise Whitt ('18)
703-960-0428 - louise.lofridge@gmail.com

Facilities
Kelly Campagne ('19)
202-607-6331 (cell) - kelly.lofridge@gmail.com

Loft Ridge Group Email
group@lofridge.com

Loft Ridge Classifieds Email
classified@lofridge.com
(For Sale, For Free or Wanted)

Archived Newsletters
<http://www.lofridge.com/news/newsletter>

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

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

Board Meetings – 7:00pm
Mark Twain Middle School Lecture Hall
Thursday, June 16
Thursday, July 21
Thursday, August 18

ACC Meetings – 7:30pm
Wednesday, June 8 at 5631 Ridge View Dr
Wednesday, July 13 at 5761 Ridge View Dr
ACCChair@lofridge.com

LIMELIGHT STAFF

Communications Chair - Louise Whitt
ComChair@lofridge.com

Contributors
Louise Whitt

Renee Grebe
Maren Seubert

Kelly Campagne
Lesia Jones



Keep Kids Alive

Drive Twenty-Five



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