

F A L L 2 0 1 7

# Loft Ridge Limelight

Loft Ridge Home Owners Association – Alexandria, VA – [www.loftridge.com](http://www.loftridge.com)



## Deer Management in Clermont Park

In 2016, Fairfax County conducted surveys (by camera and in person) which quantified the number of deer in Clermont and Loftridge Parks and the impact they were having on native vegetation needed for a healthy ecosystem. Based on this data and broad support from residents in our HOA, the County will be conducting nighttime sharpshooting operations in Clermont Park this fall and winter to reduce the population of deer. Different from the archery program proposed in 2015, the sharpshooting operation is operated by the police department, done only at night when the park is closed, and will occur on no more than 4 nights between Nov. and March. All venison harvested through this program is donated to Hunters for the Hungry. More information can be found online:  
<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/living/wildlife/sharpshooting.htm>

## Loft Ridge Wins a Litter-Free Grant – You Can Help!

Coming soon in Fall 2017: Picking up trash to help keep our community and parkland clean and safe just got easier. And you can help!

The Loft Ridge HOA applied for and won a \$750 grant from Keep Virginia Beautiful to install a cleanup station by the tennis courts. Inspired by All One Ocean's beach cleanup stations, this station has information about the impacts of trash and also provides the opportunity to put litter in its place. The box holds repurposed bags you can use to collect trash! Just grab a bag, pick up trash, report back how much trash you collected, empty the bag into the adjacent trash can, and return the bag to the cleanup station (if clean enough to re-use).

Thank you to Renee Grebe for the idea, grant, and project leadership, Gary Iden for building the wooden box, Avery Conklin, Claire & Pauline Maletz, and Harlow Wheeler for illustrating local animals for use on the station panels, Jonathan Heisey-Grove for the design of the station panels, and Don Wheeler for installing the station! For more info, go to [www.loftridge.com/litter](http://www.loftridge.com/litter).

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Nature Walks – 8am

Neighbors Angelo Miranda & Renee Grebe have partnered to offer free, informal, 1 hour-long nature walks once a month in Loftridge Park. If you're interested in nature, want to learn more about our area's ecology, or just want to meet neighbors, put on some sturdy shoes and join the fun. The walk meets at the tennis courts at 8am on the 2nd Sunday of each month. No RSVP needed, just show up. All ages are welcome, but please, no dogs. For kids under 13, please be sure they are accompanied by an adult. Canceled only in case of particularly bad weather. For last minute updates, search for "Loft Ridge Nature Walks" on Facebook!

**Board News**

For the Fall, irrigation systems will be winterized, flowers planted at the entrances and any needed tree work will be completed. The tennis court surface was pressure washed.

**2017 Bluebird Box Wrap-Up**

Our 5<sup>th</sup> 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 us 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.

**Approved Stain Colors**

Approved stain colors for your deck and fence can be found at [www.loftridge.com](http://www.loftridge.com) under “Community” then select “Handbook.” Recommended application temperatures are between 50-80 degrees so Fall is perfect weather for this project.



**Free Home Security Inspection**

A specially trained Fairfax County Police Officer or Auxiliary Officer will inspect your home with you and provide recommendations on locks, doors, windows, interior and exterior lighting, landscaping and other factors affecting the protection of your home.

To schedule an inspection or get more information, contact the Franconia District Crime Prevention Officer, MPO Alice Eggers (703) 922-0889 or email her at [alice.eggers@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:alice.eggers@fairfaxcounty.gov).

**Loft Ridge Partners with Fairfax ReLeaf**

Fairfax ReLeaf (<http://www.fairfaxreleaf.org/>), a non-profit organization which supplies free, native seedlings to help organizations improve their ecology, is excited for the opportunity to offer Loft Ridge trees for our common property. In our HOA’s first project with them this coming fall, Fairfax ReLeaf will supply and plant 50 native trees and shrubs in the low (and often wet) area east of the tennis courts. The species have been selected to provide a wonderful array of flowers through multiple seasons (e.g. redbud, serviceberry, witchhazel) as well as food for residents and wildlife alike (e.g. hazelnut, persimmon, chickasaw plum). Residents will have to be patient, as the seedlings provided are small and will take a few years to become larger and established. We look forward to many years of enjoying this free addition to our property.

**Thank You!**

Thank you to Karine Wills and Louise Whitt for organizing this year’s National Night Out cook-out and Chris Maltez and Carter Mullen for grilling. Everyone enjoyed the food and the kids definitely enjoyed the MoonBounce.



**New Tennis Gate Combination**

Call Management and give your name and address to obtain. Per sign, court is for residents only.

**Tree Work Needed?**



Trees need trimmed or dead branches removed? Email the Board. Members are observant but can’t see everything.

**Fall Leaf Pick-Up**

Please place all the leaves you remove in clear or paper bags and set them out after 5pm on Tuesday away from regular trash/recycle cans for collection by the “leaf truck.” Please do not place them in our wooded areas.

### Vietnam Veterans Memorial's 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

This Memorial began construction in March 1982 and was formally dedicated November 13, 1982. It honors U.S. services member of the armed forces who fought in the Vietnam War, those who died in Vietnam/South East Asia and those unaccounted for (Missing in Action) during the War, totaling 58,318.

When any of the three million annual visitors looks upon the wall, his or her reflection can be seen simultaneously with the engraved names, which is meant to symbolically bring the past and present together.

If you haven't visited it, might be a good addition to your list of activities this Veterans Day, November 11.

### Wreaths at Arlington Cemetery

Ever wonder where those come from? It's thanks to Wreaths Across America which ten years ago established the practice of laying wreaths on graves of fallen service members and saying each name aloud. This year's wreath laying will occur on December 16. More information can be found at [wreathsacrossamerica.com](http://wreathsacrossamerica.com).

### Loft Ridge Reminders

**Daylight Savings Time  
Fall Back on November 5**



**Scoop the Poop**  
Can Full?  
Take baggie home



**No Flyers on Mailboxes  
or Light Poles**



**Trash out after 5pm  
Tuesday nights**



### Loft Ridge Real Estate Update

Active	TH Type	List Price		List Date
5706 Gladden Ct	Int	\$442,500		07/12/17
5717 Ridge View Dr	Int	\$459,900		07/27/17
5684 Medallion Ct	Int	\$400,000		08/10/17
Under Contract		List Price		Date
5660 Ridge View Dr	Int	\$449,950		08/18/17
Sold		Sold Price	Seller Subsidy*	Sold Date
5763 Ridge View Dr	Int	\$453,000	\$6,300	08/21/17
5775 Ridge View Dr	End	\$490,000	\$0	07/20/17
5654 Ridge View Dr	Int	\$450,000	\$0	07/30/17
5716 Lofthill Ct	End	\$505,000	\$ 850	07/18/17
5738 Evergreen Knoll	Int	\$379,500	\$2,500	08/22/17
5702 Ridge View Dr	Int	\$458,000	\$5,100	08/01/17
5743 Ridge View Dr	Int	\$443,000	\$0	07/31/17
5733 Evergreen Knoll	Int	\$399,950	\$3,885	07/27/17

Active Rentals	TH Type	Rental Rate	List Date
4405 Churchman Ct	Int	\$2,400	08/10/17
Rented		Rented Rate	Date Rented
5698 Medallion Ct	End	\$2,250	06/16/17
4318 Gypsy Ct	Int	\$2,400	07/22/17
5616 Ridge View Dr	End	\$2,595	09/01/17
4334 Marjoram Ct	Int	\$2,400	08/01/17



\* 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)

### Cleaning Deck Crevices

One easy method is to insert a “screw-in” hook into the end of a broom and drag the hook through the cracks. The hook will pick up the debris which can be swept into a dustpan. And it can be done standing up!!

### Change Furnace Filter

If you don't replace your filter as recommended, it becomes overwhelmed with dust and creates a strain on your system. This might increase your electric bill or worse, cause irreparable damage to your system.

### Smoke Detectors

You might consider a model with a battery back-up for your wired-in smoke detector in case of loss of power.

Some models come with a 10-year lithium battery and are highly reliable, tamper-resistant and require little maintenance.

### Fireplace Damper Safety

Keep your damper closed year-round except when using the fireplace. To help prevent heat loss, consider installing glass doors.



*If you're handing out treats, please turn on your porch light!!*

*May you and yours have a safe and happy Thanksgiving holiday!!*



### Special Fun Holidays

October 29 is National Cat Day. There are approximately 500 million pet cats in the world. House cats can run up to 30 mph. Ludo, a Main Coon cat in the U.K. is the longest cat in the world, measuring 46.6” nose to tail.

November 8 is Tongue Twister Day. Try saying a twister 10 times fast like “Smelly shoes and socks shock sisters.”

December 15 is Ugly Sweater Day. You've seen those sweaters with tinsel and ribbons and snowflakes stuck on with a glue gun. Get in the holiday spirit by challenging friends to wear the most hideous one they can find.

### Pumpkin Pies

In the early days of our country, Native Americans and colonists sliced off the pumpkins' tops, removed the seeds and filled the insides with milk, spices and honey then baked them in hot ash – the origin of pumpkin pies. They probably liked those pies as much as we still do!

Did you know – pumpkins are classified as a fruit and are 90% water. Pumpkins are grown all over the world on six of the seven continents, with Antarctica being the exception. They are even grown in Alaska. The heaviest pumpkin on record was weighed in 2012 at 2,009 pounds – that would make a lot of pies!!

### Constitution's 230<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

On September 17, 1787 the delegates of the Congressional Convention in Philadelphia signed the document which had taken less than four months to finalize.

By the 20<sup>th</sup>, the Constitution, a resolution and a letter from George Washington went to Congress. In less than a week Congress considered it and sent it to the states for ratification. James Madison is known as the father of our Constitution.



### Franconia History

2017 Franconia Museum History Day is scheduled for Sunday, November 5, noon-4pm at the Franconia Volunteer Fire Department, 6300 Beulah St. If you want to hear about the history of this “old” area, plan to attend. Free entrance and parking in the rear. [www.franconiamuseum@yahoo.com](mailto:www.franconiamuseum@yahoo.com)

### Full Harvest Moon

Many birds migrate after sunset. Watch the big Harvest Moon on October 5 and you might see some of these migrants as they fly across it.

### LOCAL FARMER'S MARKETS

#### Springfield Towne Center Farmer's Market

May 6 – October 28  
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 6  
Red Brick House next to  
Metro  
Thursdays 3pm – 7pm

**Franconia Fire Station** has an open house Saturday, October 7, 10am to 4pm. Kids can board and examine the fire trucks!!

On Wednesday and Saturday nights **Bingo at the Fire Station**, 6300 Beulah St. Early birds at 7pm and regular bingo at 8pm.



*This fire station is a not-for-profit station and is self-supporting. Repairs and equipment maintenance are costly. Since they cover Loft Ridge, consider a donation this Fall during their annual fund drive.*



### Local Fun Events

**Air and Scare** – In October discover the spooky side of air and space at the Udvar-Hazy Center's annual Air and Scare! Participate in creepy crafts, spooky science experiments and other Halloween-themed activities. <http://Airandspace.si.edu/events>

**Mt. Vernon by Candlelight** – Historic Mount Vernon sparkles with holiday cheer during candlelight tours. Late November through mid-December, “Mrs. Washington” hosts a tour featuring characters from the Washingtons’ world guiding you through the home and adding ambiance and authenticity to a traditional Christmas evening. [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org)

**Winter Walk of Lights** – Vienna’s Meadowlark Garden’s Walk of Lights from November through January features 500,000 LED lights including an animated fountain and a Gingerbread village. [www.winterwalkoflights.com](http://www.winterwalkoflights.com) for details and tickets.

**September 23** – Calvary Road Baptist Children’s Consignment Sale, 6811 Beulah, 8am-2pm

**September 29-30** – Cameron UMC Children’s Consignment Sale, corner of Franconia Rd/Telegraph Rd, Fri 9am-8pm and Sat 9am-noon

**October 28** – Craft Show, Kingstowne Center for Active Adults, 6488 Landsdowne Ctr (south of Beulah on Telegraph), 8am-4pm, 703-339-7676

**October 31** – Mercy Mystery: Spy Scavenger Hunt, [www.visitalexandriava.com](http://www.visitalexandriava.com)

**November 4** – Craft Show, Edison High School, 9am-4pm

**November 11** – Craft and Bake Sale, St John’s Lutheran Church, 5952 Franconia Rd, 9am-3pm

**December 1-23** – Christmas Tree Sale at Edison H.S.

**December 5** – Alexandria Scottish Christmas Walk Parade at [www.ScottishChristmasWalk.com](http://www.ScottishChristmasWalk.com)

# LOFT RIDGE LIMELIGHT

F A L L 2 0 1 7

**LOFT RIDGE BOARD**  
board@loftridge.com

*President*

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*Loft Ridge Group Email*  
group@loftridge.com

*Loft Ridge Classifieds Email*  
[classified@loftridge.com](mailto:classified@loftridge.com)  
(for sale, for free, or wanted)

*Archived Newsletters*

[www.loftridge.com/news/newsletter](http://www.loftridge.com/news/newsletter)

*Loft Ridge Mom's Group*  
[groups.yahoo.com/group/loftridgemoms](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/loftridgemoms)

*Sequoia Management*  
703-803-9641  
[management@loftridge.com](mailto:management@loftridge.com)

## 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

Board Meetings – 7:00pm  
Mark Twain Middle School  
Thursday, September 21  
Thursday, October 19  
Thursday, November 16  
Thursday, December 21

ACC Meetings – 7:30pm  
Clermont Elementary School  
Wednesday, September 20  
Wednesday, October 11  
Wednesday, November 8  
Wednesday, December 13  
ACCChair@loftridge.com

### LIMELIGHT STAFF

Communications Chair - Louise Whitt  
ComChair@loftridge.com

### Contributors

Louise Whitt  
Maren Seubert

Renee Grebe  
Lesa 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

