



March 2016

# THE CWCA GAZETTE

A Newsletter for the Residents of Canterbury Woods

## CWCA President's Letter

**Dale Johnson, President**

Hello Canterbury Woods Residents, my name is Dale Johnson and I have had the honor to be the Canterbury Woods Civic Association President since May of 2015. My family and I have been living in Canterbury Woods since July of 2011 and are active on the Civic Association, the Canterbury Woods swim team, and in the Fairfax County School System. I have a wonderful wife, Monica Johnson, and two children who are attending CWES and Frost Middle School. I am a retired United States Navy Officer and work full-time for a Defense contractor.

One of the hardest things to do within the Canterbury Woods community is to maintain good communication and transparency of information about how the CW Civic Association works on your behalf. We have several ways in which we try to get information to everyone. This includes the following:

1. The Canterbury Woods Civic Association website at: <http://cwcivic.org/> The website contains information about the board, community activities, a youth work list, archived newsletters, and a link to pay your dues through PayPal among other things. Please check out the website and check it often!

2. The Canterbury Woods Yahoo Group at: <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/canterburywoodsca/info> The Yahoo Group has about 232 members, allowing members to share information and have group discussions about issues and concerns in our community. We also post important information about upcoming events. Please join the group and get alerts when there is a new post to the group.

3. The Canterbury Woods Facebook Page at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/CanterburyWoodsCivicAssociation>

If you have a Facebook account please request to join the Civic Association Group. We currently have over 100 members on this page and it is only open to Canterbury Woods residents. It works like a regular Facebook page and therefore it is very easy to share information and photos and can notify you when new information is posted. Please request to join the page.

4. We are still developing a Google+ Communities website. You do not need a Gmail account to signup for this group. Go to the link: <https://plus.google.com/communities> Type in Canterbury Woods Civic Association and request access.

5. We have started an emergency notification application that can alert everyone who wants to be notified during an emergency or when important information needs to be communicated. Go to the following link: <https://rainedout.net/> and type in Canterbury Woods. Click on Canterbury Woods Civic Association and type in your cell phone numbers and e-mail addresses. Board members have the ability to type in a single message and it will be delivered immediately and simultaneously to all registered e-mail addresses, cell phones, and be posted on the Canterbury Woods Facebook page.

6. The Canterbury Woods Gazette. A newsletter that we try to publish at least 3 times per year and mail to your home. You are reading it now!

7. The "Sandwich Board" signs. Every once in a while we will post important information at the entrances to Canterbury Woods on letter board signs. If you see the signs out, but didn't get a chance to read the sign or understand what it was saying. (cont. pg. 4)

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**  
**ANNUAL MEETING MAY 11**  
**CWES 7-9PM**

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE OF THE GAZETTE

CW Spring Activities.....2

Fun in CWCA.....3

School/Pool Information.....5

# Neighborhood News

## Mark Your Calendars for the Annual Meeting

Join the CWCA Board for their Annual Meeting on May 11th at 7pm. It will be held at Canterbury Woods Elementary School in the cafeteria. Looking forward to seeing you there!

## Annual Yard Sale May 14th

Join your neighbors for the Annual Neighborhood Yard Sale on May 14th. Gather all your items and have them out in your driveway by 8am on the 14th—the board will do the advertising!  
Prefer to donate your items? Your neighbors at 8503 Queen Elizabeth Blvd. are going to continue their tradition of donating the proceeds from their yard sale to the American Cancer Society. If you have items you would like to donate, please call Tammy or Kathy SOON at (703) 425-1249. They will give you a tax deductible receipt for your donated items.

## Treasurer Needed

The Canterbury Woods Civic Association is looking for a volunteer to be treasurer. Dan Keary has been the treasurer for the last 3 years and is ready to move on to his next great adventure. If you would like to hear more about the treasurer position, call Dan at (571) 334-6576.

YOUR COMPLETE LONG BRANCH REMODELING COMPANY

## Spring Marker Maintenance Clean Up

This year's Marker Maintenance will be held on Saturday, April 9, 2015. We will meet at 9 a.m. at the Southhampton markers. Please bring your rakes, shovels, and work gloves since we will cut and trim, fertilize the lawn, and put down a load of mulch. We will also pick up the trash on Braddock Road from Wakefield Chapel to Stonehaven Drive. Refreshments - coffee, water, juice and donuts will be available.

Come meet your neighbors and invest some time in your community! The markers are a good indication to both visitors and residents that we care about Canterbury Woods. Any questions please contact Kerry Hartley at 703 425 2521. We hope to see you on the 9th!  
- Kerry Hartley and Paul Coughlin

## Join the FLBSV for Spring Clean Up

FRIENDS OF  
LONG BRANCH



Join the Friends of Long Branch Stream Valley for Spring Clean Up Day!

**Saturday April 2**  
**9am—12pm**

Meet us at the Canterbury Woods Swim Club

Come early and get donuts and coffee, and if you stick around until noon, have some pizza too! All ages are welcome, and it's a great opportunity for service hours.

Any questions, please contact Chris Bauernshub at 703-597-1701 or [chrisbauernshub@gmail.com](mailto:chrisbauernshub@gmail.com).

<http://longbranchstream.weebly.com> or find us on Facebook by searching Friends of Long Branch Stream Valley

## Neighborhood News, con't.

### Fall Festival Fun 2015



The 2015 Fall Festival was a spectacular event that was held in the Canterbury Woods Swim and Racquet Club parking lot on the 25<sup>th</sup> of October 2015. There were two different inflatable bounce houses and play areas, an outside Laser Tag arena, a face painter, a DJ, and of course food and refreshments. New activities this year we included a "Cornhole" tournament and a Chili Cook-Off contest.

Volunteers from Canterbury Woods, Stonehaven, and Red Fox were instrumental in setup, monitoring the activities, volunteering their time, and cleanup. More than 78 families and 228 people attended the event. Special thanks to Mihee Corey and Monica Johnson for organizing the event and coordinating the volunteer duties.



### Holiday Party Hoopla 2015



On Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Canterbury Woods, Red Fox, and the Stone Haven civic associations hosted a holiday party at Canterbury Woods Elementary School. It was great to have the party back at Canterbury Woods School after a few years at other locations. It was a terrific turnout this year with almost 200 community members from Canterbury Woods, Red Fox, and Stone Haven in attendance. We had a fabulous DJ who played holiday cheer and held the children captive with fun dancing and contests. There were several activity tables where children could play games and create arts and crafts projects. There was plenty of refreshments and food to go around to make this a truly special event. Of course, when Santa crashed the party, he was the highlight and ensured that he stayed long enough to hear the wish list of each and every child, and maybe even a few of the adults. The evening ended with door

prizes for children and adults. Thanks to all who came and celebrated and special thanks to Teryl Pomeroy and her staff of volunteers who helped in the planning, set up, and clean up of the event.



**Have an article or information you'd like to share in the next newsletter? From past memories, to neighborhood fun now, to future events, feel free to share articles, information, and/or pictures for publication in future newsletters. We'd love to hear from you! Email Liz Brocato at [editorcwca@gmail.com](mailto:editorcwca@gmail.com).**



## It's Time to Pay Your Dues

Our 2016 membership dues campaign is starting! The envelope is included in this newsletter and can be used for payment. You can also pay online using paypal. Go to [www.cwcivic.org](http://www.cwcivic.org) for more information. Thank you for supporting your civic association!

## How to Report Potholes

It's that time of year... potholes are here! You can report potholes at 1-800-FOR-ROAD (1-800-367-7623) or online at [www.virginiadot.org/travel/citizen.asp](http://www.virginiadot.org/travel/citizen.asp).



## President's Letter (cont. from pg. 1)

then all you have to do is to go to the website <http://cwcivic.org> and all of the information will be there about the upcoming event. So, at the very least it is a visual cue to check the website!

We have accomplished many things as a board since the last meeting. I will list a few highlights here, but these are only the highlights.

We negotiated group discount rates for trash collection. We have negotiated a yearly group discount with American and Republic disposal services. One of the benefits of paying your homeowners dues is a continued group discount rate. The current rate is \$18-\$22 per month depending upon the service that you select and the providers that you choose. The providers will verify with the board that your dues have been paid. I am looking for a volunteer to take this on as their primary duty to negotiate the rates annually.

We held a National Night Out on August 4<sup>th</sup> 2015, and I have included an article inside the Gazette about this years' coming event on August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016. Please read the article on National Night Out. It is one of the more important community events that we conduct within Canterbury Woods.

The board established a flat rate for dues instead of the old tiered rates. The new rate is \$30 per year. We would like to collect dues by May, however since we have a PayPal link on the website, we can accept any amount of money that you would like to donate anytime throughout the year. We have 520 homes in Canterbury Woods and typically we receive only about 50% of homeowners and renters dues. Our ability to do work within Canterbury Woods depends upon the dues that are paid.

We organized and held the annual Fall Festival and it was highly successful. There is a separate article within the newsletter that describes the event.

We organized and held the highly anticipated Christmas Party at Canterbury Woods Elementary School. Likewise, there is separate article describing this event in the newsletter.

We contracted a painter to paint all of the house numbers on the curbs throughout the Canterbury Woods community.

As a civic association one of our primary long-term goals is to maintain a safe neighborhood for our families to live, ensuring that property values can continue to rise. There are currently two events the county is working on that can impact our neighborhood and school system to a great extent. This includes a major project that is being undertaken to expand the Braddock Road corridor, which will have lasting implications on the safety and value of our neighborhood. Please educate yourself on the road expansion project at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/braddock/braddockroad.htm> . In addition, the Fairfax County proposed budget could increase our Property Tax rate by 4 cents per one hundred dollars. Please check out the budget details at: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news2/county-executive-proposes-3-99-billion-budget-fiscal-year-begins-july-1-2016/>

I look forward to meeting you and serving any needs that may potentially arise within our fine community.

Sincerely, Dale Johnson



# What's Happening in our Schools and at the Pool

## Spring Goings On at CWES

Canterbury Woods ES has some fun community events planned for this spring!  
50th Anniversary Celebration—April 7th. All Canterbury Woods Alumni are invited to attend the evening celebration!

Annual Fun Fair—April 30th 11am—3pm. Come join neighbors and friends for games, bounce houses, food trucks, a bake sale and more!

More information on these upcoming events can be found at [www.cwespta.org](http://www.cwespta.org).



## W.T. Woodson Students Win Big at Scholastic Bowl



Our very own neighborhood W.T. Woodson student Jake Nicastro helped lead the Woodson Academic Team to big wins this year! They made it to the quarter finals in the NBC TV Tournament, “It’s Academic”, and placed second in the state high school league (also known as the “Scholastic Bowl” or “Academic Team”). The VHSL (the high school league) competition is harder than the TV tournament. Questions are usually more difficult, so getting as far as they did in the competition is very exciting! Woodson has won districts in the past (this year included) but this is the first year they won regionals and placed second in the state. Congratulations to Mr. Gee, their sponsor, Jake and the rest of the Academic Team for their fantastic achievements!

## FCPS Budget Shortage Information

As you may have heard in the news, Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) could have a significant budget shortfall depending on how the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors votes on the county budget in April. The budget shortfall threatens the excellence of our schools. This is an issue for all Fairfax County residents, regardless of whether they have school aged children. On average, homes in a highly rated school zone sell for \$50 more per square foot than homes in an average rated school zone, according to research conducted by Redfin in 2014 and cited in the official magazine of the National Association of Realtors. For more details about the budget shortfall, check out the FCPS website at [www.fcps.edu/news/fy2017.shtml](http://www.fcps.edu/news/fy2017.shtml).

## Join Us at Canterbury Woods Swim Club

We are looking forward to summer 2016 at the pool! We will open membership registration in April. We are doing things a little differently this year—we are retooling our website to increase it’s functionality. We shifted web hosts and are incorporating a web management tool that will enable us to run registration (including paying dues and sign ups for pool and swim team events) through the website. Ultimately our website will remain [www.cwpool.org](http://www.cwpool.org), but for the next month, while the website is being built our web address is [www.cwpool.wildapricot.org](http://www.cwpool.wildapricot.org).



The site will be fully functional no later than the end of March. In the mean time, if you have any questions about pool membership, please don’t hesitate to contact Brian McSorley at [cwscpool@gmail.com](mailto:cwscpool@gmail.com). And mark your calendar for these important dates coming up:

**May 14—Spring Clean Up and Swim Team Sign Up!**  
**May 28—THE POOL OPENS at 11:30am**

## CWCA Officers

President:	Dale Johnson 757-572-3469, 757-410-7372
Vice President:	Susan DiMaina 703-323-6098
Secretary:	John Chastain 703-978-6670
Treasurer:	Dan Keary 703-323-8825
Members-at-Large:	Mihee Corey 703-978-1409
	Brian Jones 703-323-3662

## CWCA Committee Leaders

### Architectural Control

Paul Wenner, 703-978-2069

### CERT

VACANT

### CWCA Gazette

Liz Brocato, 703-323-0587,  
editorcwca@gmail.com

### Block Captain Coordinator

Beth Byron, 703-323-1677

### Directory

Liz Brocato, 703-323-0587  
editorcwca@gmail.com

### Entrance Marker Maintenance

Kerry Hartley, 703-425-2521  
Paul Coughlin, 703-426-4503

### Fall Picnic

Mihee Corey, 703-978-1409

### Holiday Party

Teryl Pomeroy, 703-503-9192

### Neighborhood Watch

John Chastain, 703-978-6670

### Nominations

VACANT

### Roads/Transportation

Liz d'Alelio, 703-425-0618

### Trails

Tony Cotter, 703-323-1658

### Website

Susan DiMaina, 703-323-6098

*Visit our website at [www.cwcivic.org](http://www.cwcivic.org)*

The CWCA Gazette is a publication of the Canterbury Woods Civic Association, published periodically throughout the year to inform residents on topics of common interest. The CWCA and The Canterbury Woods Gazette Editorial Board are not responsible for the opinions expressed by contributors. The Editor reserves the right to edit contributions in the interest of clarity and brevity, and welcomes comments on content. Editorial Board: Editor - Liz Brocato; President - Dale Johnson.



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