

# WESTERLEE COMMUNITY NEWS

Westerlee: A Proud Covenant Controlled Community

[www.westerleenews.com](http://www.westerleenews.com)

Spring 2018



Editor: Pam Jarrell

## President's Letter

Dear Neighbors

In the last meeting the Westerlee Board heard from two consultants representing a liquor store owner, who wants to rent a vacant store next door to *Lotte* in the *Mile One West Shopping Center*, which many still remember as the location of Toys R Us. To obtain a new class A liquor license, the consultant explained, licenses are approved if the applicant is in good standing, if they accommodate a public desire and if they are not detrimental to the community. There is an upper limit of how many licenses can be obtained in each Council District based on the population of the District.

Communities have no veto power over the issuance of liquor licenses, but consideration of public desire gives community organizations a certain amount of influence. The Westerlee Board deliberated the question not so much under moral questions (should people drink alcohol or be enticed to do so etc.) as under the question: Is there a need for a liquor store and will the addition of a liquor store make the shopping center more attractive. The board had asked the consultants some questions about how exactly the store was imagined, referencing examples of a few inviting wine and beer stores in Howard County and Baltimore City. In response the consultant mentioned that the wife of the applicant is currently operating the *Catonsville Wine and Spirits* liquor store on Frederick Avenue near the beltway and that the store here would probably be similar.

A review of the Frederick Ave store indicates that the store is not "upscale" as the consultant had called it and that a store like this would cheapen the shopping center. There are three existing liquor stores available to the community all located within a few hundred feet of the intersection of Rolling Road and Route 40. The board voted against the issuance of a license for this store with 5 votes and two abstentions. Tara Gary of the Drexel Woods HOA indicated that her association sees the matter in the same way and is opposing it also. States and jurisdictions across the United States handle the sale of alcohol in different ways. In California all kinds of beer, wine and liquor is sold in regular grocery stores resulting in a usually less stigmatized setting in which the quality of the grocery store determines the quality and display of the alcohol offerings as well. In Virginia grocery stores can sell beer and wine in regular grocery stores.

I drive sometimes to the Woodholme Shopping Center on Reisterstown Road to buy groceries at Trader Joe's and regret that our area doesn't offer a Trader Joe's, a Barnes & Noble bookstore or a liquor store of the quality as the

### WESTERLEE COMMUNITY, INC.

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Klaus Philipson

[kphilipson@archplan.com](mailto:kphilipson@archplan.com) 410-685-2002 (W)

Vice President: Wanda Richardson

Secretary: Fred Hickok

Treasurer: Rizwan Mahmoodi, send checks to: 2126 Fernglen Way

Directors: Chris Goatee - Jacqueline Johnson - Fred Kirk - Joe Reid

one next to Trader Joe's. The debate about the quality and service level of the shopping center sheds a light on a concern that is widespread in Southwest Baltimore County, namely that better shopping options are lacking forcing residents to drive longer distances for quality stores in Howard County or in the Pikesville or Towson areas of the County. The lack of quality retail was brought up by several residents in a recent "candidates for office" forum held at the Woodlawn Library.

The recent wind storm in its unusual intensity left a few of our neighbors without power for four days due to deferred line maintenance by BGE, which had marked a few trees at the County forest buffer to be removed but never got around to do it. These BGE trees fell onto the lines creating the outage. Some neighbors may once again have second thoughts about their tall trees around the house. Please keep things in perspective. Our tall trees have withstood winds for over 50 years. If you consider how few trees fell, even in this unusual storm, in a region with hundreds of thousands of homes with large trees, the risks are relatively slim compared to the amazing benefits that trees give us.

On another matter: The Board of Westerlee would kindly request residents to not park their vehicles on their lawns. While this practice is not illegal in Baltimore County (it is, for example in Prince George's County) but it is unsightly, destroys the grass and doesn't convey a good image of our community.

To discuss this matter or any other issue on your mind, please attend the Annual Meeting at 7pm on April 17th. The meeting will provide opportunities to meet some of our local candidates for office and offer broader discussion about local issues in Westerlee, Woodlawn, Catonsville or the County.

Klaus Philipson,

President Westerlee Inc.



# Get Connected!

Join Nextdoor, our neighborhood blog. Neighbors keep neighbors informed. *News, referrals, events, and much much more!*

To join, email Klaus  
kphilipsen@archplan.com



## 2017– Year End Treasurer’s Report January 1, 2017 - December 31, 2017

Beginning Balance \$8,528.26

### Income:

Other Income-Interest 0.96

Dues 5,175.00

**Total Income + \$5,175.96**

### Expenditures:

Community Party 1,171.37

Newsletters/flyers 612.43

Flags 150.41

HOA Insurance 100.00

Office Supplies 79.07

Christmas Contest 60.00

Annual Meeting 34.67

Bank fees 33.00

**Total Expenses - \$2,240.95**

**Ending Balance = \$11,463.27**

(Beginning Balance + Total income - Total Expenditures)

## Meeting Minutes Westerlee Community Association, Inc. February 15, 2018

The board meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

Present were officers Klaus Philipsen (President), Wanda Richardson (Vice President), Fred Hickok (Secretary) and Rizwan Mahmoodi (Treasurer), board members Jacqui Johnson, Fred Kirk and Joe Reid and newsletter editor Pam Jarrell. Absent was board member Chris Goatee. Wanda conducted the meeting for conclusion of agenda item 1 and for items 2, 3 and 4 due to Klaus’ temporary absence for an urgent phone call.

**Liquor Store:** Martin Johnson and Hea Park, business license consultants, presented a case for Steve Kim to open a liquor store in the Mile One Shopping Center two stores to the left of the Lotte supermarket. Martin stated that he had retired after serving as a liquor inspector detective for Howard County. He said that Mr. Kim had owned a liquor store called Andy’s in Montgomery County and his wife owns one in the Paradise section of Catonsville. Martin remarked that over 20 years Mr. Kim incurred no violations and that he wants to open a class A store selling beer, wine and liquor. Martin said that Mr. Kim feels that he satisfies the three criteria for a new license: 1) accommodation of a public desire, 2) a fit and proper owner and 3) no detriment to the community. The store would occupy about 2000 square feet, would have no check cashing facility and would add lottery and tobacco sales only if enough customers desire. Martin said that there will be a hearing on March 26. Klaus asked to see the floor plan and said that he prefers an upscale design. Fred H. noted that there are three liquor stores near to the intersection of Route 40 and Rolling Road. Jacqui stated that she does not see the need for another nearby liquor store. Rizwan said that a liquor store might have a negative effect on the shopping center. He moved that the board oppose the issuing of a liquor license. His motion was approved by a vote of 5 in favor and 2 abstaining.

**Newsletter:** Pam asked that items be submitted by March 3 so that the newsletter could be delivered the week of March 12.

**Yard Sale:** Wanda said that she will confer with Chris about a date for the yard sale. Jacqui volunteered to prepare signs.

**Annual Meeting:** Jacqui reported that Chris had found that Woodbridge Valley elementary School would be available on March 20, April 10 and April 17. The board preferred the April 10 date. **(April 17 will be the actual date)** Wanda listed the following agenda items: police report, treasurer’s report, announcements of yard sale and possible dumpster day, remarks by politicians, recognition of leaders of neighboring homeowners associations. Klaus wondered about inviting both District 1 Councilperson Tom Quirk and his two opponents, one Democrat and one Republican. He remarked that inviting other candidates beyond our district would leave too little time for other business.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Rizwan reported that the work session with Chris and Jacqui to prepare reminders about paying dues was very useful because it resulted in payments of about \$1800. He said that \$5255 was paid in 2017 and some of that included payments for previous years, including a \$340 payment going back to 2012. He said that he waived late fees if all yearly fees were paid. He also reported that 18 have paid so far for 2018. He stated that the accounts are now in QuickBooks and suggested that reminders be sent out after the annual meeting and after the April 30 deadline.

**Web Page:** Klaus suggested showing sales and a comparison of sale prices to those in the Southwest Baltimore County area. Pam volunteered to try to make a list or map of home sales with prices. Fred K. remarked that vehicles parked in front of houses on the grass and walkways are unsightly and should be considered code violations.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, March 22, 2018.  
The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Fred Hickok



# Westerlee Holiday Decoration Contest

2017 Proved to be the most spirited year yet for the holiday decorations contest! The judges really had their work cut out for them as they drove the neighborhood a dozen times to narrow down the list. When the last 4 were chosen, the judges couldn't agree on which to eliminate, so they decided to have 4 winners! And winners are...drumroll please... Congratulations!

2022 Cedar Circle Drive  
1907 Cedar Circle Drive  
2103 Fernglen Way  
2127 Fernglen Way



## 2018 Annual Meeting

April 17, 2018 from 7pm-9pm  
Woodbridge Elementary School

- ◆ Pay your \$25 annual dues.
- ◆ Come and find out what's been going on in Westerlee and surrounding neighborhoods.
- ◆ Have your voice heard! Have an issue or idea? Feel free to share.

*See attached flyer*



## Yard Sale Day May 5, 8am-2pm

Nothing says spring like joining in on the fun of cleaning out and selling off stuff. Declutter and make a little dough. Call Wanda Richardson, 410.206.2418 or Jacqui Johnson, 443.629.4593 for details. Balloons will be provided to participants.

# CELESTIAL SIGHTS

By Fred Hickok, Professor Emeritus of  
Astronomy, Community College  
of Baltimore County

**April 22, 23 - Lyrids Meteor Shower.** The Lyrids is an average shower, usually producing about 20 meteors per hour at its peak. It is produced by dust particles left behind by comet C/1861 G1 Thatcher, which was discovered in 1861. Best viewing will be from a dark location after midnight. Meteors will radiate from the constellation Lyra, but can appear anywhere in the sky.

**March 31 - Full Moon, Blue Moon.** Since this is the second full moon in the same month, referred to as a blue moon. This year is particularly unique in that January and March both contain two full moons while February has no full moon.

**April 30 - Full Moon.** This full moon was known by early Native American tribes as the Full Pink Moon because it marked the appearance of the moss pink, or wild ground phlox, which is one of the first spring flowers. This moon has also been known as the Sprouting Grass Moon, the Growing Moon, and the Egg Moon. Many coastal tribes called it the Full Fish Moon because this was the time that the shad swam upstream to spawn.

**May 29 - Full Moon.** This full moon was known by early Native American tribes as the Full Flower Moon because this was the time of year when spring flowers appeared in abundance. This moon has also been known as the Full Corn Planting Moon and the Milk Moon.

**June 28 - Full Moon.** This full moon was known by early Native American tribes as the Full Strawberry Moon because it signaled the time of year to gather ripening fruit. It also coincides with the peak of the strawberry harvesting season. This moon has also been known as the Full Rose Moon and the Full Honey Moon.

**July 27 - Full Moon.** This full moon was known by early Native American tribes as the Full Buck Moon because the male buck deer would begin to grow their new antlers at this time of year. This moon has also been known as the Full Thunder Moon and the Full Hay Moon.

Source: <http://www.seasky.org/astronomy/astronomy-calendar-2018.html>

## Free Benjamin Banneker Planetarium Shows:

CCBC Catonsville, Mathematics and Science Hall,  
Room 030A, 800 S. Rolling Road.

**Friday April 20, 2018: 8:00 and "Reading the Night Sky Like a Boy Scout"** Outside observing afterwards, weather permitting

Ever wonder how scouts can read the night sky, tell time, and figure out where they are? Learn how to tell time and read the night sky. Show qualifies for the Boy Scout astronomy

merit badge. Practice and outside observing after second show, weather permitting

**Saturday April 21, 2018: 10:00 AM "Space Bunny"** (kids show) Journey with a rabbit named Boynton and his friend Jocelyn as they take a trip into space.

**Friday May 11, 2018: 8:00 PM 60 Years in Space**

**Saturday May 12, 2017: 10:00 AM Riding a Comet** (kids show)

## Life is Great in 21228! *Free Things to do in Catonsville*

### Lurman Woodland Theater

FREE Musical entertainment every weekend **June 2 through August 26**. Check their calendar, pack a picnic and enjoy everything from rock to reggae and big band to bluegrass. <http://www.lurman.com>

### Frederick Road Fridays Concert Season

FREE Every Friday • June 1 to August 31. 15 Mellor Avenue 6:30 to 8:30 pm <http://catonsville.org/events/frederickroad-fridays.php>

### Catonsville Farmers Market

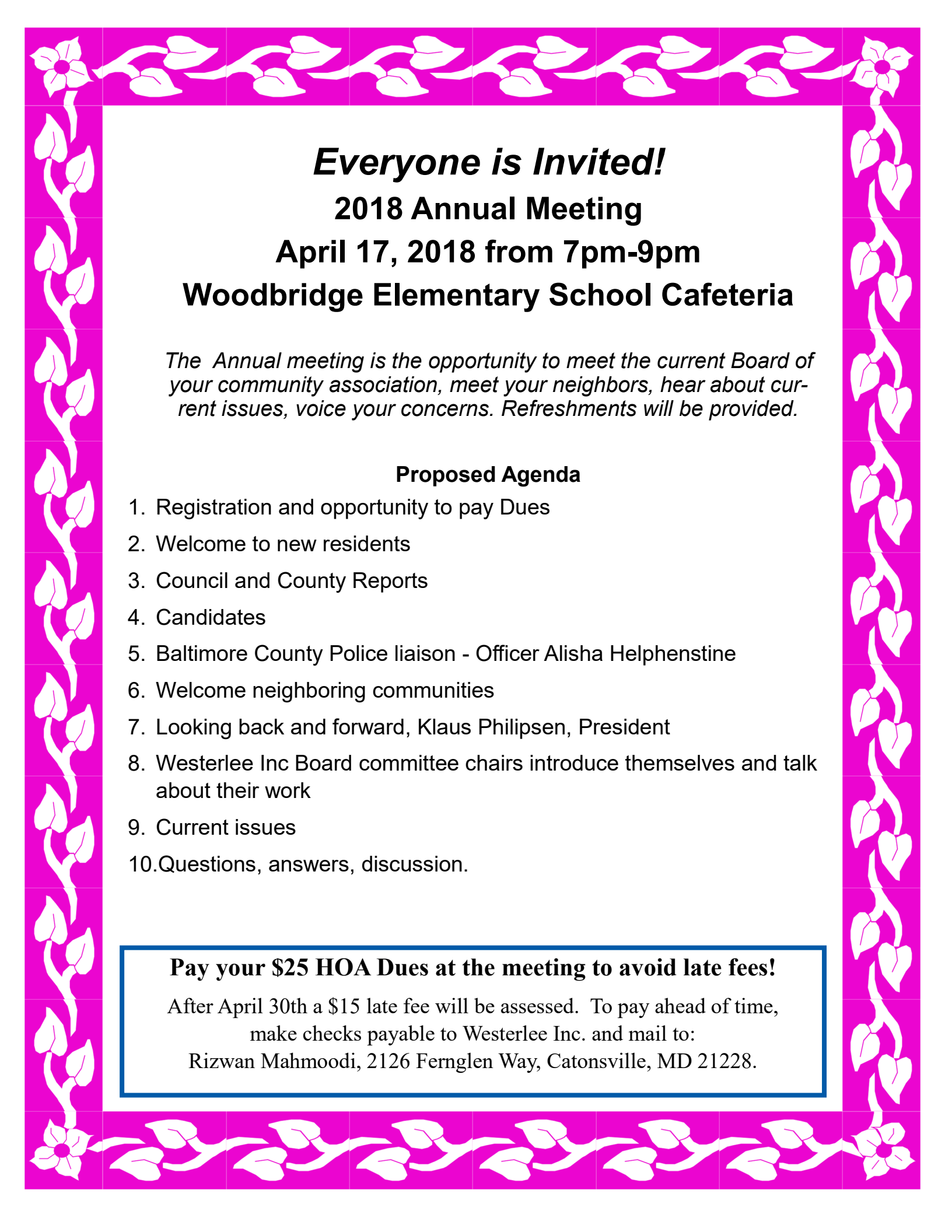
**Opening Day on Sunday, May 6** and runs, **RAIN OR SHINE**, through **November 18, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** <http://catonsville.org/events/farmersmarket.php>

### Age Gracefully

Baltimore County Department of Aging has released the "Community Resources 2018. Available at libraries and Senior Centers or can be ordered from the County at 410-887-0296.

### Flamingos Rock New Antlers!





***Everyone is Invited!***  
**2018 Annual Meeting**  
**April 17, 2018 from 7pm-9pm**  
**Woodbridge Elementary School Cafeteria**

*The Annual meeting is the opportunity to meet the current Board of your community association, meet your neighbors, hear about current issues, voice your concerns. Refreshments will be provided.*

**Proposed Agenda**

1. Registration and opportunity to pay Dues
2. Welcome to new residents
3. Council and County Reports
4. Candidates
5. Baltimore County Police liaison - Officer Alisha Helphenstine
6. Welcome neighboring communities
7. Looking back and forward, Klaus Philipsen, President
8. Westerlee Inc Board committee chairs introduce themselves and talk about their work
9. Current issues
10. Questions, answers, discussion.

**Pay your \$25 HOA Dues at the meeting to avoid late fees!**

After April 30th a \$15 late fee will be assessed. To pay ahead of time, make checks payable to Westerlee Inc. and mail to:

Rizwan Mahmoodi, 2126 Fernglen Way, Catonsville, MD 21228.