

WESTERLEE COMMUNITY NEWS

Westerlee: A Proud Covenant Controlled Community

www.westerleenews.com

August 2018



Editor: Pam Jarrell

President's Letter

Klaus Philipson

Dear Neighbors,

Life in Westerlee is usually a peaceful affair. Except when the large share of nature which we luckily have in our community, reminds us of who is boss. The usual disruption from severe weather comes from falling trees and the toll they take on our above ground powerlines. This year already saw its share of power outages thanks to heavy rains, soggy grounds and hefty winds. A few years back, BGE had done a pretty good job with line maintenance and clearing, but by now branches and trees have grown back and tangle with the lines yet again.

Water is another problem many neighbors have come to fear. Thanks to the high groundwater level, the poor drainage and the hilly terrain, water easily finds its way into Westerlee's basements. Power outages, failing sump pumps and downpours present a treacherous combination which easily wreck lower level club-rooms, storage spaces or in-home offices.

If it isn't the weather it is traffic and trash which get neighbors upset. Westerlee's traffic is certainly comparatively benign. I haven't heard of any serious crashes on our roads since I moved here in 1992, but smaller issues can become a nuisance, too. One of those are the large car transporter trucks that come from Mile One auto businesses through our neighborhood, clanging their metal trailers on our speed bumps. Westerlee Inc. ,your friendly homeowners association, has filed a request with the county to install signs prohibiting large trucks. However, success of such a petition is not guaranteed. Before traffic engineers install anything, they like to study it. If their observations don't find enough trucks, we won't get a sign, just like Fernglan Way doesn't get any speed humps.

Our Board expanded when additional members were elected at the last Annual Meeting in April. New board members are John Fox, John Herron, Pam Jarrell and Michele Snowden. Ms. Snowden has already petitioned for the installation of accessible curb ramps in the Chantilla area and Baltimore County promised her to install them. I tried to add curb ramps at Cedar Circle at Rolling Road, but haven't yet received the same green light for those. The

WESTERLEE COMMUNITY, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Klaus Philipson

kphilipson@archplan.com 410-685-2002 (W)

Vice President: Wanda Richardson

Secretary: Fred Hickok

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

Directors: John Fox, Chris Goatee, John Herron, Pam Jarrell

Jacquiline Johnson, Joe Reid, Michele Snowden

Contact the board by emailing westerleehoa@gmail.com

initiative shows that engagement pays off.

Westerlee Inc. would like to welcome all our new neighbors and hope that they will love living here as much as we do! Many years back some retired members had formed a welcome committee and handed out a basket of information. Recently, the Board resolved to start up a new committee to welcome new residents and keep up with sales statistics in the community. To some extent we will always rely on "crowd sourcing" tips for where new neighbors have moved in or even better, neighbors who take the newcomers under their wings, inform them about the community, how to become a member of Nextdoor and when to expect a newsletter with additional information and Westerlee's website www.westerleenews.com.

In short, your Westerlee HOA Board are just volunteers and residents like everybody else. The more folks get involved, informed and engaged, the better the entire community will become. See you all in September at the Community Picnic!

Klaus Philipson, President, Westerlee Inc.



2018 Community Picnic

Date: Saturday, September 22

Time: 3pm to 7pm

Where: The Philipsen's Yard

2018 Cedar Circle Drive

(Corner of Cedar Circle & Fernglen)

Bring: A dessert to share

**Enjoy a catered meal, chat with neighbors
and have lots of fun!**

(See attached flyer to post on your fridge)

Westerlee Community Association

Treasurers Report for January 1, 2018 to June 30, 2018

Income:

Beginning Balance	\$11,463.27
Other Income	0.62
Dues	2,187.00

Total Income	\$2,187.62
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Expenditures:

Newsletter/Flyers	223.93
Website:	99.00
Annual Meeting	30.63
Bank Fees	21.00

Total expenses:	\$374.56
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Ending Balance:	\$13,276.33
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(Beginning Balance + Total Income - Total Expenditures)

Summary of Westerlee Board Meeting Minutes - July 18, 2018

The board meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m.

Present were officers Klaus Philipsen (President), Wanda Richardson (Vice President), Fred Hickok (Secretary) and Rizwan Mahmoodi (Treasurer), board members John Fox, Chris Goatee, John Herron, Pam Jarrell, Jacqui Johnson, Joe Reid and Michelle Snowden.

Introductions: Board members introduce themselves for the benefit of new members. There was a general discussion about the duties of the HOA, its legal standing and what services it provides.

Dues: In an effort to achieve better collection rates in fairness to all payment reminders will be mailed to all who have not yet paid. A group was formed to achieve this labor intensive task.

Community Party: Chris confirmed that the party will be on Saturday, September 22, from 3 to 7. Jacqui said that we are using the same caterer as last year, that set-up is at 12 and that residents are to bring desserts. Rizwan said that \$1500 has been budgeted for the party.

Dumpster Day: Klaus said that it will be from 8 to 12 on Saturday, October 20, and that Fred will transport paint and electronics to the acceptance site.

Newsletter: Pam asked that newsletter items be submitted by July 23. Rizwan suggested including the decision on the Mile West liquor store license and election results. Wanda said she will send the menu for the picnic. John F. said he will help with uploading newsletters to the web site. John H. suggested an article on home sales and purchases. Klaus said that a yearly

report about that should be presented at the annual meeting.

Code Violations: The board discussed recent code action through notifying residents via letter or via filing a code violation notice on the County website. Most common violations are unlicensed vehicles on the street or on private property, commercial vehicles parked on private property (excluding those called for repairs or services).

Flags: Klaus suggested that the spring newsletter should inform residents that block captains will set out flags before July Fourth and pick them up afterward.

Issues and Candidates: Klaus asked whether we should invite candidates to discuss our major agenda items such as a walking trail above Cedar Circle Drive, speed humps on Fernglen Way and Rolling Road traffic. It was decided to deal with this after the general election when the officials are definite.

Next Meeting: Monday, October 15, 2018.

Respectfully submitted, Fred Hickok

Update from previous meeting:

An application for a liquor store in the Mile One shopping center (next to Lotte's) was approved by the County Liquor board *against* testimony from community associations including Westerlee.





Dumpster Day

Saturday, October 20, 2018
from 8am-12pm

No time to go to the dump? On Saturday October 20th Baltimore County Dept. of Solid Waste will supply Westerlee with a roll-off dumpster. The dumpster will be located on Nuwood Drive, where is dead-ends by Cedar Circle from 8am-12pm.

Most household trash is acceptable as long as it is **not** normal recyclables or caustic. For a full list of what they will not take, go to westerleenews.com and we will have a link to the list.

Additionally, Fred Hickok, board secretary, volunteered to use his pickup for paint cans and electronics disposal. Please be sure to keep these separated from the other items you are bringing.

Baltimore County Political Update By Klaus Philipsen

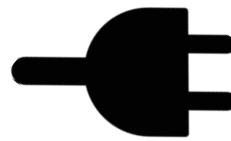
With the primaries under our belt, we will know with certainty that an era of Baltimore County government has come to an end. Both, the Republican candidate Al Redmer and the Democratic candidate Johnny Olszewski promise a very different way of governing. Both emphasize transparency. The unexpected death of former Executive Kevin Kamenetz and the narrow loss of Vicky Almond as a candidate promising the most continuity make the shift more accentuated. As for our Council district 1, Tom Quirk, the incumbent could keep his challenger Sheila Ruth at bay. However, the fact that she received over 40% of the vote and that the Baltimore Sun endorsed her and not him in spite of his solid work in our district and beyond, proves that the electorate has a soft spot for those who challenge the current way of doing business and that whoever was seen as refreshing challenger the last time around, can quickly become seen as the status quo.

The shock which the sudden death of Kevin Kamenetz who ran a respectable campaign for Governor also showed that, in the smoke of daily political battles, the larger accomplishments are often overlooked. At Kamenetz' memorial service members of all parties and factions came together to see a person who had worked hard to make the County better. The bruised egos calmed down in the face of the Executive's passing and began to express what they had liked in the man and his legacy. Sometimes one wishes it wouldn't take death to achieve the bigger view. Politics on all levels would benefit from it.

CURB RAMPS COMING TO CHANTILLA

By Michele Snowden

The Baltimore County Bureau of Traffic Engineering and Transportation Planning completed their inspection for accessibility curb ramps on Chantilla Rd. Michele Snowden and Carol Brown collaborated on this initiative earlier this month. The department wasted no time sending their crew to assess the area of interest and take photos. The project will include the installation of 8 ramps at the crosswalks at Chantilla Rd and Westerlee Place and Chantilla and Marathon Ct. If there are any other requirements for these ramps in the Westerlee Community, please submit them to Ms. Brown at 410.887.3554.



Plug Into Westerlee!

Become a member of Nextdoor, the online communication platform tailored to our community. Go to: <https://westerlee.nextdoor.com>.

It's a great way to connect with neighbors for everything from finding a babysitter to selling a sofa. You can ask neighbors if their street has a power outage or let others know about upcoming local events.

Participation requires an invitation. Please e-mail Klaus a request to kphilipsen@archplan.com



CELESTIAL SIGHTS

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

- **August 12, 13 - Perseids Meteor Shower.** The Perseids is one of the best meteor showers to observe, producing up to 60 meteors per hour at its peak. It is produced by comet Swift-Tuttle, which was discovered in 1862. Best viewing will be from a dark location after midnight. Meteors will radiate from the constellation Perseus, but can appear anywhere in the sky.
- **August 26 - Full Moon.** This full moon was known by early Native American tribes as the Full Sturgeon Moon because the large sturgeon fish of the Great Lakes and other major lakes were more easily caught at this time of year. This moon has also been known as the Green Corn Moon and the Grain Moon.
- **September 25 - Full Moon.** This full moon was known by early Native American tribes as the Full Corn Moon because the corn is harvested around this time of year. This moon is also known as the Harvest Moon. The Harvest Moon is the full moon that occurs closest to the September equinox each year.
- **October 24 - Full Moon.** This full moon was known by early Native American tribes as the Full Hunters Moon because at this time of year the leaves are falling and the game is fat and ready to hunt. This moon has also been known as the Travel Moon and the Blood Moon.
- **November 17, 18 - Leonids Meteor Shower.** The Leonids is an average shower, producing up to 15 meteors per hour at its peak. The Leonids is produced by dust grains left behind by comet Tempel-Tuttle, which was discovered in 1865.
- **November 23 - Full Moon.** This full moon was known by early Native American tribes as the Full Beaver Moon because this was the time of year to set the beaver traps before the swamps and rivers froze. It has also been known as the Frosty Moon and the Hunter's Moon.

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

Free Benjamin Banneker Planetarium Shows CCBC 800 S.Rolling Rd., Rm 030A

- Friday, August 17, 8pm: Try This on for Size
Saturday, August 18, 10am: Perseid Meteor Shower (Children's show)
Friday, Sept. 21, 8pm: Seasonal Equality
Saturday, Sept. 22, 10am: Earth, Moon and Sun (Children's show)
Friday, Oct. 19, 8pm: Legends in the Heavens
Saturday, Oct. 20, 10am: Space Witch (Children's show)
Friday, Nov. 9, 8pm: Happy Birthday, Benjamin Banneker
Saturday, Nov. 10, 10am: Dudley the Curious Duckling (Children's show)

Our HOA is A-OK!

The Westerlee Homeowners Association strives to keep our wonderful neighborhood the best it can be. These are just a few examples of what does do:

- Keep on top of the local development news that may impact our quiet neighborhood and routinely communicate with local officials on our behalf.
- Organize annual events such as the yard sale day, dumpster day, annual meeting, holiday light contest and our upcoming picnic.
- Support of this community newsletter and website.

It's never too late to catch up on paying your Westerlee Community Association dues. If you have not paid for 2018, send \$40 (\$25 yearly + \$15 late fee) to our Treasurer Rizwan Mahmoodi at 2126 Fernglen Way.

Life is Great in 21228!

Free Things to do in Catonsville

45th Annual Catonsville Arts & Crafts Festival

September 9, 2018 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Featuring artisans from Maine to Florida showcasing the finest one-of-a-kind paintings, pottery, photography, jewelry, fabric creations and more. Live music on two stages, a tremendous variety of food and unique beverages, and a KidZone with children's activities.

Catonsville Farmers Market

Sundays, May 6 through November 18, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. RAIN OR SHINE. 15 Mellor Ave.

Benjamin Banneker Historical Park & Museum

300 Oella Ave. (410) 887-1081 Beautiful museum, and park has lots to offer!



WESTERLEE COMMUNITY

Tasty food! Great Neighbors! Lots of fun fun! Bring the kids!

**2018
ANNUAL
PICNIC
Sept 22
3-7pm**



**Located at the Philippsen's Yard
2018 Cedar Circle Drive
(Corner of Cedar Circle & Fernglen)**

RSVP TO JACQI BY SEPT 10TH, WUNMIND@HOTMAIL.COM

Please bring a dessert to share!

