

WESTERLEE COMMUNITY NEWS

Westerlee: A Proud Covenant Controlled Community

www.westerleenews.com



Fall 2020



Editor: Pam Jarrell

President's Letter

2020: Lessons Learned in Westerlee

Dear Neighbors,

I've recently been reflecting on 2020 -- unfortunately thinking of the many reasons I had to be disappointed or felt limited to make all the choices to which I am accustomed. I believe this year will be a milestone to which future challenges will be measured for a long time. It has been such a challenge for all of us and our families experiencing a wide range of challenge and loss. Heading into 2020 I never guessed that my home would be my everything: refuge/safe space, my office, my gym, my entertainment, and where I spend most of the 24 hours in a day. It is convenient, saves time, and drives me crazy sometimes; but personally, I am thankful for what I do have and taking greater appreciation in simple pleasures. One of the pleasures I have found is the connection with all of you and I've come to realize something about this fantastic community in which we all live.

As I walk and run within our beautiful community several times a week, it has helped me to appreciate Westerlee even more than I did before. Seeing neighbors (you), the pride placed on how you keep your homes and yards, the friendly waves driving by in your cars, and the desire to participate in community events. Those things have really helped to sustain me through this difficult year. I hope that you've also been able to connect with your neighbors a little more during this pandemic. We need one another and positive human contact, with physical distance, more than ever.

Speaking of community contact, we had a very successful Dumpster Day on October 31. We saw many of you and thank you for your strong support --- You filled up the dumpster by 11:15am and as a board, we know this is a really convenient, practical need for all of us as we clean up and clean out. Huge thank you to Klaus Philipsen, Past President, for coordinating the event logistics; Jacqui Johnson created the amazing, reusable signs you saw in the community; John Herron and Fred Hickok for providing pickup assistance and shuttling sensitive items like paint and electronics to the Western Receiving Station. This was a perfect event during this time of physical distance. I do look forward to 2021 and greater ability to gather.

Lastly, as we watch COVID numbers rise and the Governor help our state minimize further infections, I hope you find meaningful ways to celebrate the many upcoming holidays. I am very proud to serve Westerlee and in the spirit of Thanksgiving, I am thankful for the place where we live. Please communicate with us about improvements and ideas you have for the Westerlee community.

Sincerely,
John Fox



WESTERLEE COMMUNITY, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: John Fox

Email: john.fox.phd@gmail.com Cell: (410)756-0543

Vice President: Wanda Richardson

Secretary: Fred Hickok

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

Directors: Chris Goatee, John Herron, Pam Jarrell,

Jacquiline Johnson, Klaus Philipsen (Past President)

Contact the board by emailing westerleehoa@gmail.com

Did You Miss Dumpster Day ?

Baltimore County's Western Acceptance Facility, the dump, is only 15 minutes south of us, off of 695. The address is: 3310 Transway Rd. in Halethorpe. They are open Monday-Saturday from 7am-4pm.

Questions? (410)887-2000

Or search *Baltimore County dump* for more info.

Westerlee Love!

2020 has been crazy to say the least. The Westerlee HOA wanted to do something to let everyone know that we are thinking of you and missing you! We hope that you'll enjoy the shopping bags and flashlights, which hopefully, you will find both useful and enjoyable showing off your neighborhood pride.



Please note: a few homes on Cedar Circle received their bags/flashlights on dumpster day, before we decided to wait and deliver with the newsletters.

Meeting Minutes Westerlee Community Association, Inc. September 14, 2020

The board meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m.

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

Remembrance of Board Member Joe Reid: Wanda said she will be ordering a plant from the board and several board members said that they will attend a celebration of his life at the funeral home. John F. added that he will miss Joe's positive outlook. Joe will be missed by all.

Reusable Tote Bags: Pam said that the bags will be delivered around the end of September. Several board members volunteered to assist block captains in delivering them to all the households. Rizwan suggested putting care package items, such as flashlights or hand warmers, into the bags.

Dumpster Day: John F. said it would be from 8 to 12 on Saturday, October 31. Klaus suggested we tie it into a community cleanup of the buffer strip between Westerlee and Woodbridge Valley. Jacqui said that she will soon be ordering new posters to use to alert residents to our events.

Holiday Decorating Contest: Jacqui, Pam, Chris and Wanda agreed to do the judging on Wednesday, December 16 and Pam said she will get \$20 gift cards for the winners.

2021 Annual Meeting: Klaus doubted that the pandemic will have disappeared enough for it to be held next spring and John F. suggested reconsidering the matter at the December board meeting.

Newsletter: Pam said that the deadline for submitting items is November 2. Suggestions for entries, writing historical snippets and listing dates of 2021 activities.

Trail: Klaus said the officials at the Mews have given their approval but that he also needs to contact the Department of Public Works law department. He estimates about \$5,000 for mulch but said we also need to get a contractor to spread the mulch and he hopes for us to get a \$2,000 grant.

Architectural Committee: Klaus reported on a new fence in the neighborhood and a run down house. Klaus said that he filled out a County form about a rundown property on Cedar Circle Drive.

Welcoming Committee: John H. noted that he took welcoming material to new residents at the corner of Cedar Circle & Nuwood. On dumpster day Pam & John F. welcomed the new neighbors at 2008 Cedar Circle.

Recycling Bins: Chris passed along a request from a resident about obtaining a recycle bin. John F. said that he would be willing to make arrangements if there is enough demand and Klaus suggested doing that during the next yard sale day.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Note: We have 9 board members including the past president. According to the Association Bylaws the board may add up to 4 more members. If interested in joining the board, let us know.



Respectfully submitted,
Fred Hickok

Westerlee Community Association CY 2020- Quarter 3 Treasurer's Report July 1, 2020 - September 30, 2020

Beginning Balance \$16,412.83

Income:

Other Income-Interest 0.41

Dues 705.00

Total Income + \$245.32

Expenditures:

Flower Arrangements 59.78

HOA Insurance 100.00

Welcoming Gifts 35.62

Total Expenses - \$195.40

Ending Balance = \$16,922.84

(Beginning Balance + Total Income - Total Expenditures)

westerleenews.com?

Have you ever visited westerleenews.com? Answer riveting questions such as "Who's on the board?", "What are rules for building an addition?", "Can I find an old newsletter?" What events are coming up?". Site is updated quarterly.



Westerlee Holiday Home Decoration Contest

The most festively
decorated homes will
receive a \$20 gift card
courtesy of Westerlee
Homeowners Association.

Judging Date: 12/16

(date may change do to inclement weather)



Dumpster Day

There are lots of clean basements in the neighborhood!



Brrr, Need more coffee:)



We pick up, In a pickup



Paint and electronics off to the dump



I will make it fit.



Even doggies like Dumpster Day



This dumpster is officially full!



Another successful Dumpster Day in the Westerlee books! By 11:15 the dumpster was filled and volunteers had to sadly turn neighbors away. Thanks to Fred for making the long journey to Cockeysville with our old paint and oil. New this year, thanks to John H. for renting a pickup truck that many homes were able to take advantage. Much appreciation to Sue Vazakas for supplying coffee & donuts. Thanks to Klaus for setting all of this up with Baltimore County and Thanks to the rest of the board...Jacqui, Wanda, Chris, and John for staffing the event.

CELESTIAL SIGHTS

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

December 21 - Rare Conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn. A conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn will take place on December 21. This rare conjunction of these two planets is known as a great conjunction. The last great conjunction occurred in the year 2000. The two bright planets will appear only 7 arc minutes of each other in the night sky. They will be so close that they will appear to make a bright double planet. Look to the west just after sunset for this impressive and rare planetary pair.

January 2, 3 - Quadrantids Meteor Shower. The Quadrantids is an above average shower, with up to 40 meteors per hour at its peak. It is thought to be produced by dust grains left behind by an extinct comet known as 2003 EH1, which was discovered in 2003. Best viewing will be from a dark location after midnight. Meteors will radiate from the constellation Bootes, but can appear anywhere in the sky.

January 24 - Mercury at Greatest Eastern Elongation. The planet Mercury reaches greatest eastern elongation of 18.6 degrees from the Sun. This is the best time to view Mercury since it will be at its highest point above the horizon in the evening sky. Look for the planet low in the western sky just after sunset.

CCBC Benjamin Banneker Planetarium Virtual Shows

You may view virtual shows online in place of live shows on campus. Go to <https://www.cbcmd.edu/Programs-and-Courses/Schools-and-Academic-Departments/School-of-Mathematics-and-Science/Astronomy/Banneker-Planetarium.aspx>.

Now until Dec. 31: *Two Small Pieces of Glass; Earth, Moon & Sun; Dynamic Earth; Solar Superstorms;* Nov. 17-Jan. 3: *Christmas Star;* Dec. 1-Jan 31: *Piano Under the Stars*

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

Happy Holidays
From the Westerlee Board!



Holiday Word Search Challenge

Solve each clue to reveal the holiday-related words to find in the puzzle going across, down, and diagonal.



- December 25th holiday: _____
- Jolly man in red suit: _____
- Hung by the chimney: _____
- December holiday celebrating African-American heritage: _____
- Family customs passed down to next generation: _____
- Kwanzaa candle holder: _____
- Hung on a door at Christmas: _____
- Jewish Festival of Lights: _____
- Special Jewish candelabra: _____
- Red and white striped Christmas sweet: _____
- A wax light that is used as a ceremonial symbol of many holidays: _____
- Number of days of Hanukkah: _____
- Santa's vehicle: _____
- Kwanzaa feast: _____
- Gifts given on the last day of Kwanzaa: _____
- Christmas songs: _____
- Potato pancakes: _____
- They pull Santa's sleigh: _____

N	Z	R	D	C	C	J	Y	H	C	H	R	I	S	T	M	A	S
T	L	C	X	U	C	A	N	D	L	E	L	L	L	S	T	I	J
H	F	D	Z	N	N	O	Z	H	R	J	E	C	E	Q	R	G	R
V	O	G	R	C	L	U	A	C	E	W	M	N	R	J	A	Q	R
G	M	O	B	N	O	K	W	H	K	V	A	E	P	O	D	J	K
G	C	E	W	Q	K	O	A	N	R	C	E	W	X	K	I	I	A
S	A	F	N	U	C	G	D	E	Y	D	K	Q	S	V	T	L	R
B	T	S	N	O	O	Z	I	D	N	R	N	E	W	K	I	X	A
D	G	A	T	E	R	E	N	I	L	O	K	N	R	W	O	Q	M
O	H	N	R	O	K	A	E	F	S	T	T	T	E	A	N	L	U
N	G	T	R	H	C	R	H	L	A	K	N	H	A	N	S	F	W
W	Q	A	Q	Q	O	K	O	L	W	N	G	J	T	Z	G	G	G
S	R	C	B	X	I	R	I	H	K	I	C	F	H	A	W	I	P
R	M	L	W	A	A	F	F	N	E	I	W	Y	S	A	G	F	N
P	E	A	Y	C	T	X	P	L	G	I	N	X	T	R	X	T	F
O	Z	U	G	Q	G	U	S	O	D	S	G	A	C	R	D	S	U
S	G	S	V	Z	N	W	V	F	C	D	X	H	R	U	N	E	L
V	W	V	C	E	L	E	B	R	A	T	E	F	T	A	W	M	I

Bonus: Find 5 more holiday words hidden in the word search grid

