

L.R.C.A. LINK



SPRINGBROOK FOREST • WILLOW WOODS • WOODS OF ILDA

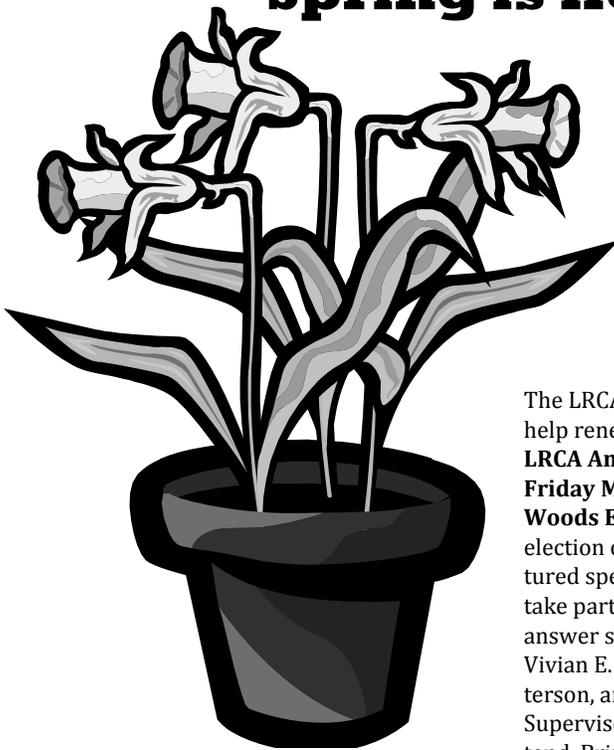
April/May 2009

lrcaonline.org

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Spring is Here



The flowers are blooming, trees are budding and it's time to get out of the house, walk around the neighborhood and reconnect with all those you only see when it is warm outside.

The LRCA has several events planned to help renew those connections. First the **LRCA Annual Meeting will be held on Friday May 15, 7:00 PM at Canterbury Woods Elementary School.** We'll have election of LRCA board members, a featured speaker and several politicians will take part in our community question and answer session. So far we have Delegate Vivian E. Watts, State Senator Chap Peterson, and our new Braddock District Supervisor John Cook confirmed to attend. Bring your questions, concerns and ideas about neighborhood or national

issues for the panel. It should be a lively forum. If you are interested in helping with an LRCA event or running for the board please send me an email at dchamlee@verizon.net. We have several openings on the board and need writers, photographers, organizers, etc. You probably have a skill or passion the entire community could benefit from. Whether it is helping with an event or serving on the board both are great ways to meet new people, stay connected to the community at large and make our neighborhood a better place to live.

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LRCA Annual Meeting
Friday May 15, 7:00 PM
Canterbury Woods Elementary School

LRCA Dumpster Day
Saturday May 16, 8:00 AM

Adults Only Ilda/LRCA Pot Luck
Friday May 23 from 6 to 9 PM

Ilda/LRCA Dip & Dive
Saturday May 23

Fourth of July Parade & Carnival
July 4
Start at the corner of Willet & Maurice
ends at Ilda Pool.

LRCA Annual Meeting

Friday May 15
Canterbury Woods
Elementary School
7:00 — 9:00 Meeting

Orangeburg Pipe Insurance

Defective sewers made of Orangeburg pipe continue to collapse at great expense to LRCA homeowners. Three have come to my attention this year alone, and there have probably been more.

Luckily, two of the three homes were covered by an insurance program run by your electric company, Dominion Virginia Power. The homeowners did not recover the total cost of the repairs, but saved considerably. One insured homeowner paid only \$2,869, while the other paid \$3400. The amount paid depended on how long the policy was in effect.

Long Construction Company, a reliable contractor, handles all sewer problems under the Dominion policy. As soon as you experience a problem they come out immediately. They run a snake and, where necessary, take an X-ray of the blockage. If they fix the problem, they leave. If the sewer has collapsed, they call Dominion to determine the cost to replace the sewer using a metal pipe similar to cast iron. Once you give them the go-ahead, your new sewer is installed in less than 8 hours.

Long Construction is one of the high-end

companies and their rates are high. Without insurance, they can charge as much as \$6569, and that does not include an additional \$1800 to replace the sidewalk, if needed. The two other companies that have been replacing sewers in the neighborhood are Roy's Sewer and Water Service and Kaplan and Son. Total charges from them have been around \$4500. You must use Long Construction if you have the insurance from Dominion.

The rate for insurance coverage is \$5.25/month and an additional .75/month if you want your lawn or shrubbery replaced.

I would strongly recommend that all homes with Orangeburg pipe immediately sign up for this coverage. If you call a plumber they will charge you almost \$500 just for running a snake and taking an X-ray.

For new residents not aware of our defective sewers in Willow Woods and Springbrook Forest, the first step should be to determine if your sewer has been replaced already. If there is a cleanout

pipe (white PVC) in the front yard, it probably has been replaced. You can also check with Fairfax County.

The Dominion Sewer Line Repair Program can be reached at 1-866-535-9519. They also have septic line coverage for \$5.50/month.

I will be glad to respond to any questions concerning Orangeburg pipe. Call the above number for further details of the Dominion policy.

Edwal Jones
8908 Braeburn
703-9768-6359

The W. J. Woodson Theatre Department

requests the honour of your presence at the

Wedding From Hell

An Audience Participation Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre

April 25th and May 2nd at 12 Noon

April 24th 25th May 1st and 2nd at 7 o'clock

Main Street Marketplace

3950 University Drive, Fairfax, Virginia

Brought to you by Wacky Jackie's House of Gags



Washington Gas Construction

The Washington Gas Company is in the process of upgrading and replacing gas lines that have deteriorated after a period of forty-five years, since the neighborhood was new. They have contracted with the Northern Pipeline Corp. of Manassas. Working hours, monitored by VDOT, are from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. All construction personnel are employees of NPL, with the exception of traffic control, who are hired on a day-by-day basis.

NPL Supervisor is Mr. Billy Forbes, (703) 551-2261, and Safety Officer is James Randy Carey, (703) 551-2261. If you have any concerns with regard to the construction in the vicinity of your home, you can call them. Sidewalks that have been removed or broken, including curbs and driveways, will be repaired or replaced. The streets will also be improved where openings were cut.

There are three phases to this current construction. The main natural gas line located four feet down in the middle of both Braeburn Drive and Stark Road is not being replaced. This line is 4-6" in diameter. The feeder lines that run from it to your home are being replaced with a 1/2" yellow plastic tube. This tube runs through your existing 3/4" iron pipe. They are usually successful pushing this through from the street and your lawn need not be disturbed. If they encounter an obstacle, they may have to dig up a portion of your grass. In every case, they dig a deep hole near your gas meter in order to hook up. For almost every feeder line from Braeburn and Stark they have to dig a hole in the street. In some cases one feeder line comes from the street and feeds two houses.

The second phase of construction is on the side streets. This is a bit more extensive. A new gas main is being installed in the grass area near the curb. A 2" yellow plastic tube, called a mainline gas pipe, is being forced under the grass and driveways. It is diverted around your water meter. Homes on the main side of the street will feed off this plastic pipe several feet underground.

The third phase is to hook up feeder lines to the homes on the opposite side of the street from the new main. This is done by cutting a hole in the pavement and running a tube to the new main. This will involve quite a bit of road-cutting.

NPL believes it will take at least two more months to complete their work. Thereafter, Washington Gas will come in to repair sidewalks and streets.

This message was not authorized or requested by Washington Gas or NPL. I prepared it myself as a community service so residents will better understand what is going on in our community. I will be glad to try and answer your questions, if you have them. Call or email me.

Edwal Jones
703 978-6359
Samhelj@Starpower.net

Neighborhood News (Continued from page 1)

Nothing says the beginning of spring like a big dumpster full of trash, or maybe not. Anyway, **May 16 is the LRCA Dumpster Day.** The dumpster will be in the Ilda Pool parking lot ready to receive unwanted items at 8:00 AM. Remember, you have to be an LRCA member, and you can't throw just anything into the dumpster. There's the obvious things we can't accept like chemicals, or paints. Then there's the less obvious like mattresses, tires and sleazy Ponzi scheme operators. We'll post a full list of items we can't accept on the website at www.lrcaonline.org. Remember, the dumpster fills up FAST, usually in an hour and a half. First come first served or in this case dumped.

Dumpster diving not your thing? How about the **Adults Only Ilda/LRCA Pot Luck. On Friday May 23 from 6 to 9 PM.** You bring the food we'll supply the paper goods and beverages.

This annual event is free and open to everyone in the neighborhood regardless of pool membership and kicks off the summer season. It's a great way to spend some time outside and catch up with friends. All you have to do is bring a dish to share, an appetizer, main dish, salad or dessert, whatever your specialty is. You can wear your bathing suit if you want but swimming doesn't start until Saturday.

Last, but certainly not least, something for the kids. It's the third annual **Ilda/LRCA Dip & Dive on Saturday May 23.** Hey, it's another chance to spend some time at the pool but this time you get to swim and eat ice cream. Here's the scoop. This event is free and open to all who live in the neighborhood. Even if you

are not a member of the pool you can still enjoy a day of swimming and free ice cream courtesy of the LRCA and Ilda pool.

July 4th is when we'll hold the annual **Fourth of July Parade & Carnival.** This event requires many volunteers to help make a wonderful afternoon for the children, please consider helping in some way. We'll have more details in an upcoming LINK.

Derrick Chamlee
LRCA President

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SQUIRRELS

by Ivan Dietrich

**Squirrels are a funny bunch.
They always seem to be at lunch,
or digging scratching in the ground,
scattering seeds and stuff around.**

**They wear their Sunday very best,
grey fur coat, and clean white vest.
Their brushy tails flit to and fro,
say "Hello," and balance as they go.**

**Digging, scratching, and at play,
always tomorrow another day.
There is no fox or hawk to fear,
nor are there automobiles near.**

**Three such, fresh from a leafy nest,
played on the street one day;
now there are two; you know the
rest.**

(Continued from page 3)

Community Corner

2009 will be GREAT at Ilda Pool!

by Tim Poole
Ilda President



Are you ready for the summer?

I know my family and I are ready. And what better way to enjoy the summer, taking a dip in the pool or enjoying the Friday Night Socials at ILDA.

Feel free to visit our website www.ildapool.org as we are updating the calendar regularly with new events like Raft Nights and even a scavenger hunt. Our site will be getting a new look so expect the announcement. You can fill out a membership form and either print and mail or remit online in a few easy steps.

Add to your calendars our Open House scheduled for May 2nd, 1-4pm. Plan on seeing your Ilda Newsletter in your inbox, mailbox or online with more events very soon.

I'm sure you have seen a lot of traffic and equipment down at the pool. Well the company working to upgrade the gas, water lines, etc. contracted with us to use Ilda as a staging and storage area for their equipment, keeping it off the streets. They have also helped us with prepping the holes for the footings of the new Pavilion. We should have the cement slab and support beams completed soon. Can you help us with this project? We need your help if you can spare some time. Please contact Jim Albertson to volunteer, 703-426-9837 or jim.albertson@verizon.net.

If you have any questions about membership please contact David Janoff, (703) 503-5642 or david.janoff@verizon.net.

Hope to see you at the pool!

THERE'S STILL TIME

If you haven't already joined the LRCA now is the time. It's easy, you know you want to, so why not do it.

Look, visit our website,

www.lrcaonline.org
click on the Become An LRCA Member link

on the left hand side and follow the directions. Support the neighborhood we all share in. Become a member today.

LRCA YAHOO GROUP

What is the LRCA Yahoo Group? Only the best darn Yahoo group in the entire neighborhood. Want the latest on a lost cat? Want to know who to hire to paint your house, fix your plumbing or mow your lawn? Rely on the collective wisdom of the LRCA community. The LRCA Yahoo Group is an online forum only open to those who belong to the LRCA. If you have a question, post it to the group and you'll get answers. Have a community event you want to promote, the LRCA Yahoo Group is the place. To join send an email to LRCA@yahoogroups.com you'll get an email invite. Follow the instructions in the email and you are in.

LRCA COMMUNITY CARE NETWORK

The LRCA sponsors and helps organize the Community Care Network, a group of volunteers who provide support to others throughout the neighborhood in times of need, such as the birth of a baby, death in the family, accident or illness, military deployment, or fire or storm damage to a home. The group provides support in the form of meals, transportation, errands, odd jobs, and foreign language translation. This is an invaluable service that helps make LRCA a more cohesive and close-knit community. Our biggest challenge is finding neighbors in need. Often, those most in need are in some way a bit isolated from the community and rarely will they ask for help. So, if you know someone who might need help please contact me at CommunityCareGroup@lrcaonline.org and we'll see what assistance the group can provide.

The Community Care Network is run, other than contact with the recipient, by sending out notices of need through

email. Once the group is notified those that have the time, means, and desire to help do so. By lending a helping hand our community is a kinder place to live. I'll be sending out an email contacting all of the individuals who indicated a desire to serve as part of the Community Care Network on their LRCA Membership forms to ensure I have an effective means of communication to the group.

If you wish to join the group or know someone who needs assistance please contact me at CommunityCareGroup@lrcaonline.org.

Derrick Chamlee

Classifieds



Dog Walking and Pet Sitting

Experienced, animal-loving and responsible. \$10/day includes walking, companionship, playtime, medication, meals, clean-up, trash, plants, and mail. Contact me at: (703) 336-2180, ashley.strobridge@gmail.com

For Sale

Ilda Pool Membership & Canterbury Woods Pool Membership. Both available at a substantial discount. Call (703) 978-2239.

For Sale

Dark pine bar and two stools. drawer and cabinet in back, 6' long when extended, 3'9" tall, \$150.00. Dot Brafford, (703) 978-2673.

