The Fight Continues…
Introducing Mr. Fred Blanchard
By Georgina Toro-Lugo

Seldom are the roads towards reaching our goals trouble free. In times when the bumps appear too big to elude many lose their way and quit. Not Fred Blanchard.

Perseverance and dedication to the cause is a trait Fred Blanchard has applied in everything he has done. The soft spoken Vietnam Veteran and cancer survivor relates how, early in his military career, he was one of only three African Americans selected to attend OCS (Officer Candidate School); a leadership course that involves great physical and mental challenges. He successfully graduated and earned his lieutenant bars.

“You have to be better than them” said Mr. Blanchard about the obstacles and hostility he faced due to the mentality of the days.

When asked about what encouraged him through the rigorous course, he said that “you can do anything if you are prepared” and added “it all depends how bad you want to do this.” He recalls how after his graduation his mother whispered to him to “stand up and let them know you can do this.”

But while some goals pertain to the professional arena, there are others that require a surviving attitude.

Community Movie Night –
Finale of the Summer!
Showing
“Mirror Mirror” in Blu-Ray
On
August 11
Rain Date on August 18

The Neighborhood Watch

August 7
is
National Night Out
Come to the community pool from 7-9 p.m. to meet your neighbors and have a slice of pizza and a soda. And don’t forget Maid Brigade will once again provide complimentary ORGANIC snow cones.
Since being diagnosed with Prostate Cancer, Mr. Blanchard made it his mission to inform and raise awareness of this dire disease. He conducted workshops for the American Cancer Society focusing on the need to understand what it is, how it attacks the body, and that it can kill. His information would ease up worries, and clarify any confusion on information provided by the Doctors. “They tell you things that you do not want to hear but need to know” and stated that “Cancer does not make sense any way.”

Stressing the importance of emotional support, he credits his wife, Katrina Blanchard, with helping him withstand the ordeal; “she understands the medications better than I do” he said.

Though unable to stay actively involved with the American Cancer Society, he continues to participate by handing out literature and making himself available to others on a one to one basis. With his tranquil but determined ways, he prepares them for what they are about to face, never laying down his sword and reminding us all of a Peaceful Warrior.

Splish! Splash!
By Delna Clark on behalf of Pool Committee

Come take a refreshing dip in the Pinewood Lake pool. It’s the best way to survive the 100 degree weather we have been having. **But don’t forget your 2012 pool pass when you come to the pool. No residents will be let into the pool without a current pass.** The pool is open every day from 11:00 AM to 8:00 PM until two weeks prior to its closing on Labor Day, then 3:00 to 8:00 PM weekdays and 11:00 AM to 8:00 PM weekends the final two weeks.

**Editor’s Note**

Instead of “Side-Chat” or the most recent “Quick Highlights”, I felt it would be more appropriate to title this column **simply “Editor’s Note”,** especially in light of all that’s occurred in recent weeks.

July brought in some record-breaking heat wave conditions and outages due to stormy winds, not to say the least-fatalities. There was a long, heated debate online between neighbors arguing over **simply how our HOA dues are being managed.** July hadn’t even come to an end then tragedy struck again in one of the most awful ways, though many miles apart but felt with pain; 12 persons lost their lives because they **simply were out to enjoy a moment of recreation**—the very thing our community has been arguing about. Then sad news came to us that one of our own, Antonia (Toni) Woodlin, wife of Gary Woodlin and mother, passed away.

I shared all this to say, life is short—it may sound cliché’ but it’s true. “…It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.”

Let’s take the time to re-evaluate our priorities; what’s most important. **Let’s continue to focus our energy into helping others.** Try to be thankful for the moments you have…now.

In conclusion, as much as I enjoyed this fulfilling task, I will be stepping down as Editor in one month due to a shift in priorities during this season of my life. One of our committee members, Georgina Toro-Lugo, has accepted this rewarding opportunity to become our new Editor. We will work together on the Back-to-School themed issue for September as part of the transition.

To continue the idea from last year, I invite our Pinewood Lake children, tots to teens, to contribute their art work or writings about the following topic “**What does Community Mean?**” Be creative 😊. Please submit your work to plha@verizon.net or drop off at the office during business hours by **August 17.**

**Your neighbor,**

*S.J.*
Pinewood Porpoises Celebrate a Splashing 2012 Season
By Melinda Caldwell

The swim season for the Pinewood Lake Porpoises has been that of demonstrating a love for swimming, strengthening their aquatic skills, magnificent team building, and of course, a splashing tough competition. I have been involved with the Pinewood Porpoises since 2008 when my daughter, Reani and my son, Joshua, participated for the first time. Each year gets better and this season was spectacular, to say the least.

The Porpoises began their swim season with exuberant energy which grew with each swim meet. With record-breaking membership, the porpoises entered each meet with pride and determination.

Congratulations to the following Porpoises for their success at the Divisional Competition on Saturday, July 28th at Pinewood Lake:

1st Place Winners
John Faulkner, 50m Freestyle
Joshua Caldwell, 50m Breastroke
Lena Singletary, 50m Butterfly
Cameron Blanchard-Taylor 100 Individual Medley
Ethan Singletary, 50m Freestyle and 50m Butterfly

2nd Place Winners
William Faulkner, 25m Freestyle
Joshua Caldwell, 50m Freestyle
Jared Diallo, 50m Butterfly
Lena Singletary, 50m Freestyle
Cameron Blanchard-Taylor 50m Freestyle

3rd Place Winners
Lauren Faulkner, 25m Backstroke
Jovay Wright, 50m Breastroke
Julian Lewis, 50m Butterfly
Anne-Elise Lewis 50m Butterfly
Nancy Giron 50m Breaststroke and 50m Freestyle
Gerson Cortes 50m Backstroke
Ryan Sin 50m Breastroke

Who gets the credit for this success? The children! They willingly entered the pool each day as early as 7 a.m. and some evenings to embrace the challenge of not only strengthening their skills and being competitive, but also learning how to demonstrate teamwork. It was also an added bonus to see the older swimmers serve as mentors to the younger swimmers. They made excellent coaches and were a great addition to the team.

We also thank our team representatives, Walter and Donna Wright, Head Coach Dani, and assistant coaches Gerson and Nancy! They instituted some incentives that created an internal competition. For example, the “Biggest Loser” incentive rewarded swimmers who were able to “shave” time off their previous races. I couldn't help but smile when each child (from the youngest to the oldest) asked the question “What was my time?” at the end of each race. The porpoises were rewarded for their accomplishments individually as well as within their age group.

Key to success - the Parents! There is a great deal of responsibility involved in providing a successful swim meet. Parents were eager volunteers who assisted with at least 10 different tasks involved in running a meet.

Lastly, congratulations to Pinewood’s high school graduates, Kiara Upshaw and Ethan Singletary. Kiara will continue her education at Northern Virginia Community College and Ethan will continue his swimming career at Mary Washington University. Best wishes to you both!

It is because of this commitment that my son has developed a love for swimming. I am proud to say that I'm a resident of Pinewood Lake.

Special Thanks to the Pinewood Lake Community for all your support!

If you’re interested in participating with the Pinewood Lake Swim Team, please contact the team representative, Walter Wright at walter@pinewoodporpoises.net or 571-237-7737.
GOOD SHEPHERD HOUSING & FAMILY SERVICES
8305 Richmond Highway  Alexandria, VA 22309
are accepting the following items until AUGUST 24:

- Backpacks - bigger size for teens
- 1 ½, 3 and 5 inch ring binders
- Subject divider tabs
- Highlighters
- Glue sticks
- Erasers
- Pencils
- Pocket folders
- Handheld pencil sharpeners
- Scissors
- Zippered pencil pouches
- 1, 3 and 5 subject notebooks
- Loose leaf notebook paper
- Kleenex
- Hand sanitizer
- Ziploc bags
- Clorox Antibacterial Wipes

BACK TO SCHOOL DRIVE
ORGANIZED BY
UNITED COMMUNITY MINISTRIES (UCM)

DUE AUGUST 3!

Donate $10 online
or mail check to:
Back to School Program, UCM,
7511 Fordson Rd., Alexandria, VA 22306

OR

Donate backpacks (thru early August) at
UCM Fordson Rd. office, Monday-Friday, 9:00 am to 5:30 pm

Contact: Marcos Castillo at (703) 768-7106 ext. 328
BOARD HAPPENINGS
At its July 12 meeting, the Board took the following actions and discussed the following items:

- Commended Shana Johnson for her work as Needle editor over the past year.
- Deferred discussion of a community complaint process procedure to the August 9 meeting. Virginia law is requiring that all HOAs adopt a written complaint process procedure by September 28, 2012, and the ad hoc committee to draft the procedure was unable to meet this past month. A link showing required components of the procedure is provided in the "What's New" section of our website at www.pinewood-lake.com.
- Approved using AtHomeNet to provide a new website for the Association. The URL will stay the same but the website will provide greater flexibility and use for the Association and its members. In addition, the website will allow the possibility of online payments. The Association looked for the best deal for Association members and was able to negotiate a convenience fee of $4.95 for each credit card or e-check transaction up to $500. Recurring e-checks should have a convenience charge of $2.00 per month.
- Accepted the resignation of Brian Palazzolo from the Board. Brian has been hired as Community Support Liaison, a new staff position.
- Asked that the listserv, website, and Needle advertise requests for candidates to fill the vacant Board seat until the next regular election in December contact the office with their interest and/or come to the August 9 Board meeting to answer a few questions before the Board appoints a candidate to fill the vacancy in accordance with the original PLHA By-Laws, Article V, Section 3.
- Approved the purchase and installation of No Trespassing signs for the perimeter fence behind 7926 Central Park Circle and near the gate to Fielding Street.
- Approved the installation of a storage door under the Gramercy style stairs of 8139 Lakepark Drive. The door will not be visible from the common area.
- Interpreted the By-Laws such that 50% of the ACC members constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting an ACC meeting.
- Approved removing references to specific paint colors in the general paint standard and allowing specific colors to be mentioned only in the Paint Standard Appendix.
- Approved entering into a contract with National Paving and Repair Company in an amount not to exceed $10,000 to repave the paths through Scarborough Square and between Scarborough Square and Longworth Square and Scarborough Square and Central Park Circle. The old paths will be removed prior to the new installation. We anticipate this work will take place in September around the same time that the roadwork on Lakepark Drive, Squiredale Square, and Longworth Square will be done.
- Discussed the duties of the Community Support Liaison and the purchase of needed hardware to support the new position.
- Discussed the practicality of the Homeowner Bill of Rights at length with the homeowners in attendance. At the end of the discussion, the Board asked that the Pinewood Rights group submit to the Board a written proposed Bill of Rights for the Board to review to better understand what exactly the intended Bill of Rights would be.
- Approved the purchase of a vending machine for the pool in an amount not to exceed $4,200 on the basis that while the proceeds from the machine support the swim team, all pool patrons benefit from the option to purchase cold drinks and snacks.
- Approved a payment plan and voted to refer an account for collection if necessary.
- Approved the purchase of a vending machine to support the swim team, all pool patrons benefit from the option to purchase cold drinks and snacks.

At its August 9 meeting, the Board anticipates appointing an interim Board member and discussing the newly drafted complaint process procedure. As always, all homeowners and residents are invited to attend the meeting. Please feel free to contact the office at plha@verizon.net or 703-360-6212 with any questions or comments about Board Happenings.

Ways to stay “community connected”:
- Like us on Facebook!
- Join the Pinewood Lake Email Group via Google
  - email katyparente@yahoo.com

PLHA Calendar for August
Regular meetings in PLHA office @ 7:30 PM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 1</td>
<td>Garden Club</td>
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<td>August 7</td>
<td>ACC</td>
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<td>August 9</td>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
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<td>August 13</td>
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<td>August 15</td>
<td>Pool Committee</td>
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<td>August 16</td>
<td>Publications Committee</td>
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<td>August 17</td>
<td>Needle Deadline</td>
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<td>August 21</td>
<td>ACC</td>
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<td>August 28</td>
<td>Maintenance Committee</td>
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<td>August 30</td>
<td>Marketing Committee</td>
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This Month’s and Future Community Events and Announcements

Every Friday Night is BBQ Night @ The Pool!
From 5:30-7 PM - Pinewood Porpoises.

Doggie Day Swim – Saturday, September 8, 3-7 pm
The Old Town Pool located at 1609 Cameron Street, will host its annual Doggie Day Swim. Handlers must be 16 years old or older, dog must be up to date with all his vaccinations, and bring your own water dish.
For more information please call 703-746-5435

Series of FREE public music concerts for the remainder of the summer. Below is this month’s schedule:

Mt. Vernon Nights @ Grist Mill Park
Every Friday Evening from 7:30-8:30 PM
6-Incendio (Latin)
10-Guy Mendilow Band (World Music)
17-Sierra Hull and Highway 111 (Country)
24-MAHALA (Township Jive)
31-Slightly Something (Pop)

Lee District Park Amphitheater
Every Wednesday Evening from 7:30-8:30 PM
1-LARRY SPARKS and the Lonesome Ramblers (Bluegrass)
8-The Nighthawks (Blues)
15-The United States Navy Band “Commodores” (Jazz)
22-David Gerald Band (Blues/R&B)
29-Sock Monkeys (Rock)

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances
703-324-SHOW (7469)

Cinema Nights at Pinewood Lake
featuring “MIRROR MIRROR” IN BLU-RAY
Presented by the Cinema Committee
Date: Saturday, August 11
*Rain Date is August 18*
Time: 8:30 PM
Place: Pool Parking Lot
Free admission and popcorn!

One of the most beloved stories of all time is coming to life in the motion picture event for the whole family, ‘Mirror Mirror’. This movie is rated PG and is a fresh and funny retelling of the Snow White legend, ‘Mirror Mirror’ features breakout star Lily Collins (‘The Blind Side’) as Snow White, a princess in exile, and Oscar-winner Julia Roberts as the evil Queen who ruthlessly rules her captured kingdom. Seven courageous rebel dwarfs join forces with Snow White as she fights to reclaim her birthright and win her Prince in this magical comedy filled with jealousy, romance, and betrayal that will capture the hearts and imaginations of audiences the world over.
The film also stars Armie Hammer (‘The Social Network’) as the Prince, and Nathan Lane (‘The Birdcage’) as the hapless and bungling servant to the Queen.

The PWL swim team will be selling hot dogs, drinks and candy at the showing. Please support our swim team!

Do Unto Others (Another friendly reminder – this time…about parking spaces)

To the residents on Saint Annes Court: Each resident is assigned 2 parking spaces. Please be courteous to kindly inform (or remind) your guests to park in legal street parking on Saint Annes Court or along Lawrence Street or Lakepark Drive where permissible unless one of your assigned spaces is available. Please do not park in other assigned parking spaces even if it appears the person is away for a long period of time.

Parking Issues – Pinewood Lake has a contract with Dominion Towing to tow without notice from private streets in Pinewood Lake. If you experience any issues, you may contact them directly at 703-339-2400.

Scoop up the poop! – A friendly reminder to dog owners to please pick up after your furry friend’s mess😊. Thanks to those who continue to do so.

Please be aware that school is out for the summer and watch for children playing while you are driving.
Support Pinewood Lake’s children by attending their swim team events, Woodlawn Baseball games, and if you would like to mentor or tutor a child, please call Vicki McLeod for information.
Update from our Community Support Liaison
By Brian Palazzolo

We have at least two Pinewood residents, including myself, who have seen dead wildlife at the lake caused by abuse. One resident actually witnessed children in the act of smashing baby turtles on the rocks by the dam. They were disrespectful when told to stop.

I found a dead snake with a hook in its mouth and have stopped children in the act of trying to tempt snakes with a baited hook. As a fisherman, I try to convince them that we need to take care of our wildlife, but I guess a 30 second sound bite is not always enough, and that’s about as long as you get.

Encouraging kids to fish and enjoy our lake and wildlife is a treasure that can last a lifetime, but parents also need to need to let kids know that torturing or killing wildlife is totally unacceptable, and may result in both them and their parents having to answer for it.

As an adult who spent a good deal of time prowling creeks and lakes as a youngster, I know that an occasional kind word from an authority figure can go a long way toward nudging a kid in the right direction.

Please talk to your kids and keep your eyes open when you walk around the lake, and please be a “good cop”, or “bad cop” if the situation demands it. Years from now, the kids will thank you!

If I’m in the neighborhood, I will be glad to respond to any calls to the office if you see this happening.

Board Member Resigns
By Kirsten Davis

At July 12 Board meeting, the Board formally accepted Brian Palazzolo’s resignation from the Board due to his acceptance of the position of Community Support Liaison. As a result, the Board has an open seat and intends to appoint someone to fill the seat at its August 9 Board meeting. It will only be vacant until the election in December.

If you are interested in being considered for the position, please submit your name and address to the office prior to 7:30 PM on August 9 or come to the meeting at 7:30 PM on August 9 to declare your candidacy.

Health and Human Services Committee:

At the July meeting at the Mt. Vernon Hospital, Barbara Doyle, the CEO gave the committee an update on the expansion of the Hospital now in progress. The renovation will include 80 new private rooms.

Stats have shown that patients who have private rooms get more rest, recover faster and go home sooner. In the new Tower being built patients will enjoy greater confort and privacy. The Tower already has three floors. The third floor will enhance medical-facilities and surgical needs. The fourth floor will align with the existing Joint Replacement adding private rooms.

The Fifth floor will align with existing Inova Rehab Center Plus Joint replacement new operating rooms. Patients around the country will be patients of this unit.

The Hospital has had major donors for the above improvements. For more information call Mary Myers at 703-664-7102.

At ground breaking Mrs. Doyle said that “Today is a day about commitment.”

More on the Lorton Healthplex at a later date as they have begun construction also.

Land Use Committee:

During the summer, Land Use is discussing the Annual Plan Review (APR) for Lee District which is a progress set once a year to plan what might be available in this year.

LDACO

Will not hold a meeting until September because of vacations. We now have web Site LDACOVA.com if anyone is interested. I am beginning to make plans for the Holiday Banquet.

Until Next Time, Vicki McLeod
Quick Crime Stats
Provided on behalf of Fairfax County Police Department

Pinewood Lake has had a quiet year. Community members should continue being vigilant and call the police when any suspicious activity is seen or heard. Do not investigate on your own, call the police. The Fairfax County Police Non-Emergency number is 703-691-2131.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pinewood Lakes Incidents - YTD 2012 - 07/18/12</th>
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<tr>
<td>ANIMAL - ANIMAL BITE - DOMESTIC</td>
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<td>ANIMAL - LICENSE VIOLATION</td>
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<td>ANIMAL - RUNNING AT LARGE/UNRESTRICTED</td>
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<td>ANIMAL - SERVICE - WILD</td>
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<td>ASSAULT - SIMPLE, NOT AGGRAVATED</td>
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<td>BURGLARY - ATTEMPTED FORCIBLE ENTRY</td>
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<td>DRUGS - MARIJUANA POSSESSION</td>
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<td>DRUNK - DRUNK/PROFANE IN PUBLIC</td>
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<td>DWI - DWI ALCOHOL</td>
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<td>LARCENY - THEFT FROM BUILDING</td>
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<td>LARCENY - THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE</td>
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<td>LARCENY - THEFT OF BICYCLES</td>
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<td>SERVICE - ANIMAL DESTROYED BY CHEMICAL</td>
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<td>SERVICE - DOMESTIC DISPUTE</td>
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<td>SUSPICIOUS - EVENT</td>
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<td>TRAFFIC - HIT AND RUN ACCIDENT</td>
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<td>TRESPASSING - UNLAWFUL ENTRY</td>
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<td>Grand Total</td>
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Thanks to Tricia Gosby for coordinating this effort.

Your Community Your Call
By Georgina Toro-Lugo

Subject: Legislative Review and Complaint Procedure Process. 7/17/2012

Average citizens can take part in the Legislative Process by contacting their legislator. They can also keep track of a specific issue, testify before committees, or view the session on the General Assembly website.

The Board of Directors of any association is required to follow the same laws and regulations whether its members are volunteers or paid employees. It is also required to provide copies of books and records within five business days of a request with the requester assuming the cost of production.

Effective July 1, 2012, Associations are required to establish and adopt an Internal Complaint Procedures. Members may submit complaints related to violations of Common Interest Laws and regulations only.

In brief, the requirements for the Complaint Procedures are:
1. Must be written.
2. Should inform where to submit the form.
3. Provide receipt of complaint within seven days.
4. Maintain files of all complaints submitted for a period of one year.
5. Provide Final Adverse Decision within reasonable time and include pertaining citations of laws or regulations that led to the final determination.
6. Inform complainants of their right to file a Notice of Final Adverse Decision, within 30 days, to the Ombudsman with the Common Interest Community Board, and provide contact information.

The responsibility of the Ombudsman is not to review documents, bylaws, or declarations but to accept final adverse decisions. Cost of filing is $25.00. If the conflict cannot be resolved, an Alternative Dispute Resolution is possible only if both parties agree to participate.

For more information on the Office of Common Interest Community Ombudsman visit http://www.dpor.virginia.gov/Homeowners-Associations/ or call (804)367-8500. To sign up for notifications and actions of the Common Interest Community Board login at www.townhall.virginia.gov. You can also visit the Pinewood Lake web site and view the Ombudsman Regulations link under “What’s New.”
Energy Burners for School Age Children
By Georgina Toro-Lugo

What better way to find out where your child is and what he/she is doing?

The Hideaway Teen Center, located in room 309 of the South County Government Center, promotes socialization, educational achievement, leadership skills, and a variety of activities in a safe environment. Some activities offered for August are Field Trips to Miniature Golf in Kingstown Park, Theatrical Arts at Gum Springs Community Center, and various Community Service opportunities. Most trips are free of charge and breakfast and lunch are provided daily.

The Youth Sports Scholarship Program from Fairfax County offers scholarships to cover registration fees and vouchers for equipment to eligible families. For more information on these activities and after school programs please call (703) 704-6234.

Kids Serve Too
Submitted by Georgina Toro-Lugo on behalf of Katina Matthews, Fairfax County Staff Contact

The Kids Serve Too program provides recreational vouchers to military children for programs and camps based on what is available by the three county sponsored organizations (Park Authority, FFX sports leagues, and Neighborhood and Community Services) If you see a program or camp that you are interested in you would need to complete and send by mail, fax, email, the following documents:

1. Kids Serve Too application for each child
2. Copy of the deployment papers
3. Copy of the completed registration form of the sponsoring organization (we do not provide reimbursement, we will supply the payment and we do not cover equipment expenses)

For more information please contact: Katina Matthews at (703) 326-6564, or fax documents to (703) 467-7464

Upcoming Board Election
By Nancy Razzino on behalf of the Nominations Committee

The Nominating Committee for the Pinewood Lake HOA is seeking candidates to run for the 2012 election of the Board of Directors. There will be three seats open in this upcoming election. For homeowners who are new to the community, here is a little background. Each year, 3 directors’ terms expire. Directors are elected for three year terms. There are no time restrictions as to how long you may serve as a director, so any director whose term is expiring may choose to run again for another three year term. When a vacancy occurs on the Board during the year, the Board is charged with selecting someone to finish out that year of the vacating director. When the election is held for the next three year terms, the community is asked to vote to fill the vacated seat for the remainder of the term. This year a director resigned but it is also the last year of his three year term.

Many homeowners do not think they are qualified to be on the Board of Directors. There are no qualifications. It is helpful if you have been or are on a committee in the community. You should have knowledge of the community governing documents (which all homeowners should have this just by living here). And a small amount of time to attend meetings and a few other functions in the community.

Take some time to consider whether or not you would be able to run for a term on the board. If you cannot, please consider your neighbors. If you know of someone who you think would be good on the board, approach them and encourage them to run for the board. Sometimes it just takes a little encouragement to make them step up. You can also pass their name onto the nominating committee and we will call them.

In closing, if you are interested or know someone who you think would make a good board member, please contact myself, another member of the committee, or the PLHA office. The numbers and emails are listed below.

Thank you,
Nancy Razzino, Committee Chair, 703-360-3642, nrazzino@cox.net
PLHA Office, 703-360-6212, plha@verizon.net
Bev Card 703-360-2528
Dick Knapp 703-360-1941
Follow-up from Board Leadership

The recent flurry of emails and flyers across the Pinewood Lake listserv prompts us to write everyone in the community with some words of clarification. To begin with, let us remember that Pinewood Lake is undergoing a unique process now – the amendment of our basic governing document hereafter referred to as the DCCR. This is an extended process, but it has never happened before (unless one wishes to include the initial framing of the document) and therefore, in a sense, we are all pioneers. And, as pioneers are wanted to do, there are questions, concerns, disagreements, and the list goes on and on.

For the most part the exchange is healthy and open, a sign that Pinewood Lake is alive and well. But sometimes, inevitably perhaps, inaccuracies occur and it is this point that prompts this letter. Three points come to mind.

First of all, a word about the board itself; all members of the board are voting along with you because they are homeowners just like you. This cannot be overemphasized. The board is made up of diverse individuals with many different points of view, often in contention and disagreement. This is the way it should be, not some monolithic steam roller that a few seem to believe. All board members are volunteers who serve freely. All are elected in open voting, with elections held annually. In any given election, at least one third of the board can be changed or replaced – even more, should there be an interim resignation.

Secondly, we turn to the board-staff relationship. The board makes all policy decisions, including the current one to offer to amend the DCCR. Neither the community manager nor the ACC administrator makes rules/standards within the community. The board does. The community manager and all employees work under the direction of the board. Any complaints concerning Association employees, including complaints about the handling of the vote on the DCCR amendments, should be directed to the president of the board, who will bring these complaints to other board members to take appropriate action. No purpose whatsoever us served by browbeating staff employees for actions that are not under their purview, but, rather, under the jurisdiction of the board.

Finally, some comments about the amendment process currently in motion. The ballot everyone is urged to vote on – and that everyone received in the mail – is a summary of the proposed changes for the DCCR. The entire DCCR that is up for amendment is published on the website and available in the Pinewood Lake office. A year ago everyone received the specific language of the proposed DCCR in a separate mailing. This ballot, we believe, is an easier, more simplified and categorized way to understand and vote for or against specific proposed changes to the DCCR.

Most of the DCCR remains as before, with the original document. The board felt that certain changes were needed largely because existing provisions are out of date and do not apply to current conditions – for example, having 6% interest on unpaid monthly dues is in fact 59 cents. This is hardly a penalty for not paying dues. Hence it was removed.

Moreover, and this is particularly important, voting for amendments to the DCCR is not at all comparable to voting for members of the board. Board elections take place over a particular period of time and there is a deadline. There is no deadline here. There is no formal election. There is no direction for counting the votes. In other words, this story is not like the annual director election. It is more like getting a petition signed. We hope this is clear and that no further confusion exists.

As for the ACC standards, most of these were written some time ago, when the community was built to keep a certain design standard and general overall maintenance of the properties. The standards are a document that can be changed and has been changed. The key, however, is enforcement and right now the only enforcement is to take a homeowner to court, an outcome that would not be prudent in most cases. In the end, no homeowner association can long exist – or at least in very good financial condition – unless its rule are enforceable and enforced. We hope this is also clear upon examination of the DCCR and the ballot.

Bill Gleason, President PLHA
Nancy Razzino, Vice President PLHA

Attention Veterans!
By Georgina Toro-Lugo

The Department of Motor Vehicles is now issuing Veterans ID Cards. The identification card confirms your veteran status to retailers and restaurants that offer discounts to Active Duty, Retirees, and veterans of the Armed Forces.

The cost is $10.00 and required documents are a valid Virginia driver’s license, and DD214. Application is also available on line. For more information please call DMV at (804) 497-7100.

For information about participating retailers and restaurants log in at Military and Veterans Discount Center http://www.militaryandveteransdiscounts.com/
Letter to the Editor

This is an OPEN letter to the community in response to the two letters placed at my home recently. My name is Jeanne Crowley. I live at 8076 Central Park Drive. I have the large yard on the corner by the bus stop and across from the gazebo. I have lived in this home for 15 years. I lived on Pinelake Court 25 years ago. My in-laws were original, long-time owners of that home. I love Pinewood Lake.

I have been so PROUD of Pinewood's efforts to bring the community together through the Saturday movies. I think it is a wonderful idea, and I applaud the people who spend countless hours setting up, testing, running, and breaking down the equipment each time (sometimes in the middle of an unexpected storm). I see people from the entire community coming together. If there are a few folks from the peripheral homes, the more the merrier! I think we need to have a sense of family and friendship among all the Pinewood residents, and I appreciate that there is an effort to try to vary the selection of movies so that everyone can be interested in at least one of them. My only suggestion is that the music that is played during the gathering time before it is dark enough to show the movie be made a little "younger"--even though I am old enough to enjoy German polkas and show tunes, our youngsters probably would enjoy a little hip hop, salsa, merengue, and maybe something from another culture we have living here as well. That really makes people feel as though they belong.

I resent the fact that someone feels the movies are a waste of money. I am thrilled that my dues are going towards something that I find crucial to the success of a neighborhood--people caring about each other. If we don't know our neighbors, we won't help them. This is a terrific opportunity to change that, and additionally giving the swim team a chance to earn some much needed funds. The swim team is another great neighborhood-builder, but for children who don't know how to swim yet- the movies bring them and us together.

Thanks for listening,
Jeanne Crowley

The DCCR revision process is broken
By Tom McElfresh

Last fall the Board presented a draft DCCR that was soundly rejected by those in attendance at the community meeting. It was rejected because many homeowners feared that the revised document would give the Board and the ACC even more power to micromanage our lives. The Board promised to produce a revised document for consideration at a later meeting. This was never done. Instead, we get a ballot that contains general statements instead of explicit text. And we are asked to vote using a ballot procedure that is wide open for abuse. And apparently there is no intention of allowing us to vote on the final document. How should we interpret this situation? Are these the actions of well-meaning individuals who only have our best interest at heart? Or should we be greatly concerned that our freedom is being further eroded? Our community is deeply divided along philosophic lines. The issues are authoritarianism vs. freedom, and group action vs. individual initiative. I believe that the DCCR should be revised to mitigate this division. I call upon the Board to reopen the community input phase and to work with all interested homeowners to produce an actual document for our consideration -- a document that will restore a sense of neighborliness to our community.

For further discussion, send email to PinewoodRights@gmail.com

Response to McElfres's Letter
By Nancy Razzino

This letter is in reply to Mr. McElfresh’s letter above. In late 2010, it came to the attention of the Board that recent court rulings meant our DCCR would no longer properly serve the community and would need to be amended. In January 2011, an ad hoc committee began reviewing the current DCCR and making suggestions for amendments in order to keep the Association functional and effective. This committee was open to any member of the community and held a series of meetings that were all announced to the community over the next year. The committee presented its recommendation to the board and the Association mailed the draft to all homeowners last year before holding another community-wide meeting. Approximately 75 people attended and shared a lot of negative comments as well as some positive. A heated discussion made it hard to determine exactly what the attending members wanted, so the board asked the homeowners to put their comments in writing for the ad hoc committee’s consideration. I believe we received possibly one written comment. The board asked the ad hoc committee to meet and discuss the document by section with interested homeowners, but only 5 or 6 homeowners attended. The board decided it was time to move forward with a vote and summarized the various sections of proposed amendments to the DCCR for the community to adopt, in part because many homeowners who attended the large meeting stated that they found it difficult to know what was being amended.

At no time have we intended to deceive the community or try to pass amendments that the community had not reviewed. This current ballot is the vote on the specific language given to all owners last year. That same language is still available on our website and in the office if any homeowner would like to view it again before voting on the summary ballot.

Nancy Razzino
Homeowner
Vice President, PLHA Board
PLHA TREASURER’S REPORT
PREPARED FOR THE July 12, 2012 BOARD MEETING
BY JACK KAUFMAN

The following information was derived from the data included in the PLHA general ledger accounts and related accounting records and reports.

JUNE 2012
The total cash balance at the end of the month was $2,382,054. An analysis of this balance and comparisons with prior periods follows.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Jun 2012</th>
<th>May 2012</th>
<th>Jun 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In transit</td>
<td>$2,056</td>
<td>$2,695</td>
<td>$1,495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operations</td>
<td>$161,218</td>
<td>$209,199</td>
<td>$153,606</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reserve</td>
<td>$2,218,780</td>
<td>$2,147,124</td>
<td>$2,031,573</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$2,382,054</td>
<td>$2,359,018</td>
<td>$2,186,674</td>
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DELIBUENT ACCOUNTS
The balance for the delinquent accounts on June 30, 2012 was $76,483, all except $283 for dues. The current balance and comparisons with prior periods follows.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Jun 2012</th>
<th>May 2012</th>
<th>Jun 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance</td>
<td>$76,483</td>
<td>$78,624</td>
<td>$100,249</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90 days or more</td>
<td>$60,889</td>
<td>$61,343</td>
<td>$83,856</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of accounts over $1,000 in 90 day or older category</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**I’M JILL DURANTE**
A Former Pinewood Lake Resident

I’d like to help you
sell your house
Or
Buy that smaller or bigger home
you’re looking for! Give me a call
and let’s talk!

For every purchase or sale in/from Pinewood, I will make a
donation to the Garden Club in your name.