

# Manor Lake Civic Association

April 2011



## **Illumination of the Manor Lake Entranceway Signs**

There is renewed interest on the part of Manor Lake residents in illuminating both of our entranceway signs! At the March 16, 2011 General Meeting, a motion was seconded and approved to update prior estimates for power grid quality professional grade photovoltaic (solar)/battery illumination systems for both Manor Lake signs located on the median islands at the Bauer and Rocking Spring entrances to our neighborhood. We hope you have noticed the current low cost solar powered fixture that is in place at the Rocking Spring entranceway sign (photo above) that was installed by a concerned and interested resident, whose identity remains a mystery. This community member's effort is much appreciated! (continued on page 2)

## **Street Lights for Norbeck Service Road**

On April 1, we received word that preliminary approval for lighting along the Norbeck service road across from the shopping center has been granted. Montgomery County has agreed to pay the cost and has requested a quote for the installation. It is not known when final approval and installation will take place. We think this will significantly improve visibility and safety on the service road.

- Rae Kordell

## **Letter from the President**

This has been a very fast but productive year! It was productive for me as I have learned to appreciate all the work of the past presidents. Much has been accomplished over the many years since this civic association was created. We have a beautiful and safe community and members who are proud of what we have. We have an executive board and volunteers who work many hours to perform their duties. There are many opportunities for members of the community to participate. We need your help to keep this a safe and valued community. As you may have seen last October, Manor Lake had a very favorable write-up in the Washington Post. It was refreshing to sit back and see us as others see us.

This board has accomplished much over the past year. These accomplishments are listed in a separate article but I would like to thank the executive board and all the active committees for their service. Without them we could not exist!  
(continued on page 2)

## **Planning Board Recommendations to the County Council on Housing and Zoning**

At the March 16 general meeting of the MLCA, Meredith Wellington, president of Montgomery Women, spoke with us about the Montgomery County Planning Board's intention to rewrite the zoning code and the County Council's work to rewrite the housing element of the General Plan. She provided background, explanation and analysis of the planned changes and distributed a fact sheet that summarized her talk and the most important impacts the zoning code rewrite and other changes could have on our neighborhood. It also included website addresses for the latest information and email address for the chair of the Planning Board and president of the County Council. Meredith stressed the need for residents to be informed and to take part in the planning process by expressing their views. Since this was an important topic and there were  
(continued on page 8)

MANOR LAKE CIVIC ASSOCIATION  
Box 768  
Rockville, MD 20853  
[www.manorlake.org](http://www.manorlake.org)

## **Entranceway Signs** (cont. from page 1)

Separate from this admirable individual effort, extensive research on the various means available for delivering power to illuminate these walls during the nighttime hours has been conducted by interested Manor Lake residents since 2006. This research points to professionally sized integrated photovoltaic/battery systems as offering the most practical and cost effective means to provide the necessary power for the delivery of grid quality lighting. A traditional grid connected wired system, whether from a county street lamp post or from a PEPCO utility pole to either wall, has been determined to be cost prohibitive, as well as unnecessary. Professional grade photovoltaic/battery illumination systems have successfully delivered grid quality lighting for numerous applications at other sites such as this for many years. They have also proved to be the most economical and sustainable method for delivering power to sites which are not serviced by grid connected power.

Details of these cost comparisons will be discussed at our next General Meeting on May 18, 2011, along with the budget to be considered for implementation of this project. Through prior MLCA meetings and discussions regarding the concern for aesthetics at our entranceways, the majority of residents have expressed a preference for a low profile ground mounted solar panel to be positioned behind each wall, instead of higher pole mounted panels. The updated estimates will reflect this preference. We hope you will attend this meeting to learn all about this opportunity, and to vote on the expenditure of MLCA funds for these highly visible and valued beautification projects to be located at the face of our community. Installation of professional lighting will be an exciting next step for improving Manor Lake!  
- Bret Lyhus

*Bret Lyhus is a Manor Lake resident and former MLCA officer and board member. Bret has worked in the energy industry for 20 years. He currently works on energy and process efficiency solutions, as well as sustainability initiatives, for a large federal contractor.*

## **CALLING ALL LEADERS!**

Were you a high school/college class officer? A sorority or fraternity officer? Church or synagogue group officer? If yes, then that experience would be highly useful in the Manor Lake Civic Association! Commitment is not strenuous: several board meetings, two general meetings plus election meeting each year.

We're looking for two board members. Be sure to note by-law changes about membership requirements in the president's letter below.

Benefits: your voice in maintaining the values of this community, opportunity to meet members of the community and to learn first-hand about issues affecting the community, especially zoning and traffic being considered by the County Council and Planning Commission.

Interested? Contact –

Vivienne Burke, Nominations Chair  
[301-460-4016](tel:301-460-4016), [vcburke@comcast.net](mailto:vcburke@comcast.net)

## **President's Letter** (cont. from page 1)

I understand that not everyone is in favor of the change in By-Law, Article 8-Section B. This change states that a nominee for office need only be a "paid member," where previously it read "a paid member for 90 days." The board had recommended "60 days" but due to the discussion at the last General Meeting it was proposed, seconded and voted upon for the above change. This by-law was in need of a change as it has been difficult to get nominees over the past few years. We will find out soon enough if this was the best decision. It is important to have a complete board and this past year we have been lacking three members. This puts an added burden on those who are already doing so much.

Last year I accepted this office as no one else would volunteer. I would like you to know it has been a lot of work but a pleasure to serve you. Thank you for your support.

-Rae Kordell

## **MLCA Accomplishments May 2010 to March 2011**

These following accomplishments could not have been achieved without the work of all the board members and the committees. Our sincere thanks to all!

- 1- Our National Night Out ice cream social in August -- Michelle Bean and committee
- 2- The Milenky Memorial, planning and completion -- Vivienne Burke and committee
- 3- Reflectors purchased and delivered to all homes with fire hydrants so they may be seen in the snow
- 4- Sign repaired (letters removed and bolted into the limestone) on the Bauer Drive entrance wall after the "n" fell off. This was done free of charge by a past member of the community.
- 5- Directory completed -- many thanks to Lorraine and Stan Lorek.
- 6- Board meeting held with Flower Valley -- hope to have a few community socials with them, some being a yard sale, August ice-cream National Night Out, and pool get-together
- 7- Meet and Greet social—Michelle Bean and committee
- 8- Newsletters, flyers, and electronic communication improvements -Tom Austin and Don Seifert and committee
- 9- Work with SHA for street lights on the Norbeck service road that is adjacent to the park entrance
- 10- Neighborhood Watch volunteers - Officer Prather said our community is the one with the least calls or problems.
- 11- Ongoing work with Traffic Engineering regarding the speed limit changes on MD 28
- 12- By-Law changes

In addition to these, it was agreed upon by the members at the March General Meeting to pursue solar lighting information - this is to be presented and hopefully approved at the next general meeting in May.

## **Georgia Avenue and Norbeck Road Intersection Changes Due to ICC**

We recently received a letter from Carla M. Julian, community liaison, Inter-County Connector Contract A, in response to concerns about the signal and lane changes at the intersection of MD routes 97 and 28. She mentioned the ongoing challenge to balance the delays from all approaches and to optimize traffic flows. Also, the forecasted northbound MD 97 left turn volume onto MD 28 after the ICC opened was projected to be less than half of the pre-ICC volume. This necessitated only one left turn lane and allowed the addition of a third northbound through lane on MD 97.

She said, "The State Highway Administration (SHA) will continue to monitor this intersection and work with Montgomery County to adjust signal timing and address capacity and operational issues as they arise in the future". They have developed a contingency plan should the anticipated improvements not materialize. The SHA team has volunteered to meet with communities to discuss the traffic analysis, hear our feedback and address any concerns we may have.

A copy of the full letter is available on our website, [www.ManorLake.org](http://www.ManorLake.org), should you wish to review it.

### **How has the ICC Affected You?**

Here is what Andy Kraus of Clavel Terrace told us recently.

"I believe, that even with the limited utility of the road currently (it doesn't really help get south on 270, but sure helps get across to 270N as well as to 370 and the biotech buildings near Shady Grove), that our property values *have been enhanced by the opening of the road*. The ICC is a time saver for certain people, and there has also been the benefit for us of reducing traffic on Norbeck Road. I don't have numbers or traffic counts, but I can tell you there are a lot more times when Norbeck is quieter than it has been in years than not. Heck, I can even make a left turn out of Rocking Spring from time to time - something I stopped doing completely in the past two years because of increased traffic flow."

## 2012 County Operating Budget

Ike Leggett, Montgomery County executive, has released his recommended FY 2012 operating budget. In order to close a \$300 million budget gap, he has made a number of proposals for the Council to consider, including:

- THE ABOLISHMENT OF OVER 200 POSITIONS;
- CHANGES TO EMPLOYEES' HEALTH AND RETIREMENT BENEFITS;
- CUTS TO COUNTY PROGRAMS, INCLUDING LIBRARIES, RECREATION AND HHS; AND
- RAISING THE PRICE OF RIDE-ON MONTHLY PASSES

“Given our current fiscal and economic

circumstances, I know that we must again make some very difficult decisions. However, before the Council votes on a final budget in May, we need to understand the needs and priorities of Montgomery County's students, families, seniors, business owners and non-profit service providers,” said Nancy Navarro, council-member, District 4 (which includes Manor Lake). You may send your comments to the county executive and the council by entering [montgomerycountymd.gov/budgetcomments](http://montgomerycountymd.gov/budgetcomments) in your browser address bar or by sending email to [County.Council@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov](mailto:County.Council@MontgomeryCountyMD.gov) The Council is scheduled to approve the budget by the end of May. Please see the county website for complete details about the budget.

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## Update on the Search for a New Superintendent of Schools

In March, the County Board of Education reviewed applications from 30 candidates that applied for the position of the superintendent of Montgomery County Public Schools. The applicants came from 15 states. There were 18 current superintendents among them plus central office administrators, principals and people from business and private sector organizations that focus on education. This month the board will select and interview a limited group of candidates and identify three finalists to be interviewed by a broad-based Community Committee. The board will then conduct a second interview with each finalist and identify the preferred candidate based on the input from the Community Committee and the information gathered by the board. All finalists will have gone through comprehensive background check conducted by an independent third party company. The above information has been condensed from the MCPS website [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org). Our thanks to Delois Jones of Rocking Spring Dr. for informing us of this issue and web address. See also the “Get Involved” tab on the Board of Education page at [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/boe](http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/boe).

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## Second Annual Meet and Greet

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Manor Lake second annual Meet and Greet which was held at the Bauer Recreation Center on March 5. This year's turnout was great and the following local supporters and vendors were present to spend some time with our community: State Delegate Samir Arora's representative Amit Mistry; State Delegate Bonnie L. Cullison; U.S. Senator Benjamin L. Cardin's representative Ken Richard; Long & Foster Realtor Jane Dobridge; Llewellyn Realtors, Real Estate Agent Patrick Rutledge; Montgomery County's County Executive Isiah Leggett; Gabriel Albornoz, Montgomery County

Department of Recreation and Parks Director; Montgomery County Chief of Police, J. Thomas Manger and his colleagues; Vivienne Burke & Joan Kramer with Master Gardeners; Bozena Skraban with Shady Grove Hospital; Joe Sullivan of Sully's Pool Service; Sunrise Assisted Living; Urban Burger; Village Beer and Wine Deli. Thanks also to Villa Maya which provided delicious appetizer snacks throughout the afternoon and to Safeway which provided a monetary donation. Special thanks to the Manor Lake Social Committee for putting this together. The community looks forward to next year's successful event!

**Manor Lake Website:  
Your Source for  
Neighborhood Information,  
Email Updates and  
Discussions**

Check out our community website, [www.ManorLake.org](http://www.ManorLake.org). Our website is not just an information source, but also a place for all neighbors to connect. Want to tell people about an upcoming meeting, garage sale, or lost pet? Then post a notice in the "Community Calendar". Want your own personal web page? Then create one in the "Meet Your Neighbors" section - tell people about yourself, your family, your hobbies, or your interests. Concerned about a neighborhood issue? Talk to your neighbors - solicit new viewpoints. Go to the "Discussions" board and create a new discussion.

This is our website - anyone can use it - and it's easy to use! You don't need any special computer skills to post information to the site - simply fill out the forms and the information is posted! All you need is Internet access - everything is in an extremely user-friendly format.

So check it out! Register on the website to receive email updates from the civic association, view MLCA pages that are not available to the general public and take advantage of all the features described above. Our new website can be found at: [www.ManorLake.org](http://www.ManorLake.org). In the "Welcome, Visitor!" box, Click "Sign in," then "Register Now!"

**Manor Lake Email**

In March we began to send important information by email to approximately 215 residents who had furnished their email address to the association. About 40 were rejected as being invalid, suspended or mailbox full. If you furnished your email address, but did not receive any messages from [ManorLakeCivicA@aol.com](mailto:ManorLakeCivicA@aol.com) in March or April, we may have your address incorrect. If you would like to receive future mailings from us, please send an email to that address and request that we add or correct your address for future mailings.

**Welcome New Residents**

If you have recently moved into the Manor Lake community we welcome you and invite you to join our civic association by submitting the membership application found on page 7 of this newsletter or our website, [www.ManorLake.org](http://www.ManorLake.org).

**DOG OWNER ALERT**

There are many walkers and children going to our lake. If your doggie uses the walkway (asphalt) for a bathroom please be a "good neighbor" and clear it from the walkway. It is bad enough when it is on your shoes but worse on a child's shoes. Also, please remember that unleashed dogs are illegal and are very frightening to some people. Please help keep our park "user friendly" for all.

- Thank you!

**Board Members, Current**

President - Rae Kordell  
Vice President - Linda Hansen  
Treasurer - John Collich  
Secretary - Lori Austin  
**At Large Members**  
Michelle Bean  
Phil Broadbent  
Vacant (3)

**Board Members, Candidates**

President - Rae Kordell  
Vice President - Linda Hansen  
Treasurer - John Collich  
Secretary - Michelle Bean  
**At Large Members**  
Lori Austin  
Phil Broadbent  
Pat Wallace  
Vacant (2)

**Neighborhood  
Montgomery to Focus on  
Zoning**

Because of so much community interest and the increasing number of issues, Meredith Wellington has formed Neighborhood Montgomery, a neighborhood network for sensible growth. Its mission is to keep communities informed of what is happening in the world of zoning. It expects to be sending materials via a listserv and planning work groups in the near future. Its first big push is for May 17 — when the Council holds its hearing on the Commercial Residential (CR) Zones amendment. We will pass on any new information as it is received. In the meantime, please refer to the county website for additional details on the CR Zones.

Not sure if you have paid your dues for this fiscal year (2010-2011)? Please check the list below of paid members as of March 31. Others wishing to join or pay now please use the appropriate lines on the enclosed membership application.

Tim and Kim Allman  
Lew and Margo Amick  
Alan and Susan Apter  
Thomas and Lori Austin  
Bill and Jean Bancroft  
Paul and Susan Barrett  
Bill and Kari Barrett  
Billy and Francis Bass  
Alice and Howard Baum  
Michael and Michelle Bean  
David and Roberta Benor  
Mohandas Bhat  
Philip Broadbent  
Terry and Mary Bryan  
Katherine and Tom Bugenhagen  
Vivienne Burke  
Paul Burke  
Frank and Andrea Burns  
Kathleen Carroll  
Lilian and Reinaldo Cerdeira  
Chien-Chung Chao  
William Choi  
Sam and Barbara Clark  
Michael and Karen Cohen  
John and Susan Collich  
Melvin and Esta Cooperman  
Joan and Brian Crowe  
Tom and Mimi Cudderback  
Robert and Constance Elliott  
Wendy Faxon and Jim Shemro  
Irwin and Ira Feigenbaum  
Ann Ferriter and George Sigal  
Bill and Ann Fitzpatrick  
Mike Ford  
Bruce and Wendy Fraser  
Chris and Beth Frentrup  
Larry and Evelyn Fritz  
Patricia Gibson  
Robert and Judith Goley  
Tamah Graber  
Bernard and Mary Grenier

Steve and Phyllis Gross  
Diane Hancock  
Gregory and Irene Hangemanole  
Rodney and Reba Hanson  
James and Phyllis Head  
Edna Hill  
Beth Hintz and Bill Marsteller  
Madeleine and Loc Ba Hoang  
Sis and Wendy Hoffman  
Layne and Nicole Hoppman  
Ann Jerse  
Johnny Johnson  
Bob and Patty Kane  
Robert and Ruthe Kaplan  
Anjum (M.D.) Khan  
Geun Sung Kim  
Karen and Blair Kincer  
Walter and Andrea Kirsch  
Andrea Kirsch  
Greg Klein and Leslie Mazzocco  
Al and Rae Kordell  
Cha Un Ku and Yang Su  
Janaki and Ronald Kuruppu  
Stephanie and Jose Laguna  
Cynthia Lakas  
Charles Lawrence and Sandra Honda  
George and Margaret Lefelar  
David Leibow  
Allen and Barbara Lerman  
Joe and Sheila Levine  
Rob and Maria Levy  
Joseph and Sarah Link  
James Liverman and Mary Jane  
Stan and Lorraine Lorek  
France Maca  
Nancy Mann  
James and Paula Marple  
Jeff Martin  
Patrick and Jill McPhillips  
Peggy and Sayeed Mohammed  
Robert and Ann Mudd  
Maida and Ed Nussbaum  
Herbert and Ida Owens  
Gerald and Jeannette Parshall  
Paul and Wendy Picciotta  
Robert and Patricia Plitt  
William and Anna Powell  
John and Eileen Powell

Lee Prouty and Michael Marstaller  
Robert and Estela Randle  
Bob and Suzie Rice  
Gregory and Jennifer Robertson  
Alan Roecklein and Rubeca Rose  
Terrie and Gene Rosengarden  
Robert Rowe  
Rosalie Dinicola Sanchez  
Kenneth and Melinda Sauders  
Mark Schilling and Dr. Sahar Dawisha  
Pricilla and Eugene Schmitt  
Joan and Jim Wilson Schneider  
Conrad and Marge Schwalm  
Donald and Janet Sean  
Seymoor and Roslyn Seidman  
Don and Bobbie Seifert  
Leonard and Elda Shanto  
Ada and Ron Sheinbaum  
Ed and Holly Shropshire  
Kenneth and Elaine Sigman  
Herb and Betty Silbert  
Stanley Smigel  
Anna Smith  
David and Janet Snavely  
Matthew and Miriam Snyder  
Sharon Spanier  
Judith Spencer  
Michael and Afife Springer  
Monette Staab  
Janice and Jim Strahl  
John and Liz Strassburger  
Fred and Elaine Taylor  
Bob and Phillis Taylor  
Sarah Tidd  
Marcia and Francis Torpey  
Juliette Trevino  
Charlotte Twombly and Paul Lim  
Jerry and Marilyn Udell  
Paul and Mary Jo Webster  
Marvin and Gertrude Wehking  
Jeff and Jennifer Whitman  
James Wilson and Joan Schneider  
David and Karen Woodend  
John and Norene Yuska  
Daniel and Nancy Zaharko  
Jose Zelaya  
Sharon and Gary Zimmers

**2010 - 2011**  
**Manor Lake Civic Association Membership Application**  
**Directory Information and Dues Form**

MLCA Membership dues are collected on a fiscal year schedule (October 1 – September 30). As prescribed in the Manor Lake Civic Association By-Laws, dues payment is required for full participation in the Civic Association, including voting privileges. Checks should be made payable to the Manor Lake Civic Association. Please complete the form below and mail it with your payment to the address below:

Manor Lake Civic Association  
P.O. Box 768  
Rockville, MD 20851

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Indicate whether New, Changed or Add'l: \_\_\_\_\_

**\* Note: Your e-mail address will not be included in the directory and will be only used for e-mail news and information from MLCA.**

Please exclude my name from future directories: \_\_\_\_\_

Please exclude my phone number from future directories: \_\_\_\_\_

**I am interested in volunteering for:**

- |  |  |                                      |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Watch              | <input type="checkbox"/> Block Captains/Membership   | <input type="checkbox"/> Social      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic/Roads/Pedestrian Safety | <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental/Zoning/Health | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscaping |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter/Communications       | <input type="checkbox"/> Distribution Team           | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

**I would like to advise on:**  Information Technology  Political Liaison

**I am interested in the following club(s):**

- Book  Card/Bridge  Gardening  Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
(please describe)

**My family can offer these services:**

Family Member's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Service: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Examples: babysitting, pet sitting, lawn mowing, snow shoveling, tutoring, etc.)

**Payment**

**Annual Dues**.....\$ 35.00  
**Additional Contribution**.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Total Remittance**.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your support

## **Housing & Zoning** (continued from page 1)

less than two weeks before the County Council was scheduled to vote to accept the changes recommended by the Planning, Housing and Economic Development (PHED) committee, we distributed her fact sheet via email to residents who had furnished their email addresses to the civic association. Subsequent emails to residents provided updates including a copy of the full documentation provided by the PHED committee to the County Council as well as a post vote summary provided by Meredith expressing her opinion of the council's vote to approve the Housing Element recommendation. In short, she believes the version approved is a big improvement over the Housing Element that the planning board recommended to the council in 2009. However, the overall message of the new Housing Element is not as supportive of our neighborhoods as was the old one. She pointed out that the improvements are the result of concerned citizens who have made their views known and taken the time to send email or have attended any of the public forums and/or meetings. Complete copies of the three documents previously emailed are posted on our website [www.ManorLake.org](http://www.ManorLake.org) under the Documents and Pages heading.

*Meredith Wellington is an attorney who had been in private practice and with the Federal Government. She is a former member of the Montgomery County Planning Board who served from 1999-2007. The planning board is the principal advisor to the county council on land use and community planning.*

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# *Jane Dobridge*



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