



# Manor Lake Civic Association

## February 2015

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### General Meeting February 25

The next General Meeting of the Manor Lake Civic Association will be held on Wednesday, February 25th at the Flower Valley Elementary School, 4615 Sunflower Drive, Rockville, Md. beginning at 7:30 p.m. Your participation in the meeting is important even if you are not a paid member. Please try to attend. Also, we hope to have speakers here to update you and take questions regarding the Blair Ewing Center.

### Volunteer

Help make a difference in our community and volunteer on one of our many committees. We are currently looking for a few more volunteers to help with the production of the community directory. The more volunteers we have the quicker our directory will be done! Please contact Michelle Miller Bean at [mbeanx44@verizon.net](mailto:mbeanx44@verizon.net)

### Save the Dates!

April 18th - Bulk Item Pick Up  
May? - Annual community yard sale (Date TBD)  
August 4th - National Night Out

*Suggest another event for the community you would to see!*

Send them To: [ManorLakeCivicA@aol.com](mailto:ManorLakeCivicA@aol.com),  
Cc: [mbeanx44@verizon.net](mailto:mbeanx44@verizon.net)

### County Leaf Collection - Interested?

Is there any interest in the community to have a Leaf Vacuuming Program for Manor Lake? The County estimates that the fee is currently around \$88 which is based on the previous year's actual collection cost. It includes two fall collections (November and December). The program would require 80% participation in the community. If interested please contact Michelle Miller Bean at [mbeanx44@verizon.net](mailto:mbeanx44@verizon.net)

### Letter from the President

Greeting Friends and Neighbors,

I hope this edition of the MLCA newsletter finds you well after all this cold weather and snow we have been dealing with!



I am going to keep this short and sweet as we have many great articles to share with all of you in this newsletter.

As many of you may have heard, our community has come together over the past several weeks with our neighboring communities on the recent impending move of the Blair Ewing School and the Bus Depot issue located on Avery Road. We will be having a brief update at our next general meeting regarding this issue so I hope that you will be able to attend and hear the most up to date information from local community members.

In May we will again be having our Board member elections. Please begin thinking about how you can help serve your community. We are looking for a few volunteers to help serve the terrific neighborhood that we live in.

I look forward to seeing you at the next General meeting which will take place on Wednesday, February 25th at Flower Valley Elementary beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Best wishes,

*Michelle*

Michelle Miller Bean

## **Manor Lake Civic Association Annual Election**

The Manor Lake Civic Association will hold its annual election for the Executive Board at the General Meeting in May. The Executive Board consists of nine members – four Officers and five At-Large members. The Nominating Committee will be putting together a ballot for this election as well as candidate's statements which will be posted on our website prior to our May meeting.

All Board members are expected to attend regularly scheduled Board Meetings (8), all General Meetings (3) and any emergency ad hoc meetings. In addition, Board members assist with community projects and participate in all MLCA events. The overarching obligation of all Executive Board members is to advocate for the social and economic welfare of the entire community.

Each Executive Board member or resident voting in the election must be a paid member of the MLCA. Any MLCA member wishing to vote will receive a ballot at the check-in desk at the May General meeting. If you have not already become a paid MLCA member, an application form is included in this newsletter and can also be found online at **www.**

**ManorLake.org**

If you are interested in assisting on the nominating committee or becoming a member of the Executive Board please contact us via email at ManorLakeCivicA@aol.com.

### **Blair Ewing Center - Increased School Bus Traffic?**

In mid-January we learned of a Board of Education plan to turn their Avery Road site, located at the corner of Avery and Norbeck Roads and currently occupied by the Blair Ewing alternative school, into a bus depot that would serve about 400 Montgomery County school buses and provide daily parking for approximately 700 staff and driver cars. The present Shady Grove bus depot site is planned to be vacated no later than January 2017 and turned over to private developers. We notified all Manor Lake resident's, whose email

addresses we have, of those plans and our concerns should this plan proceed and asked that they contact Montgomery County Council members, the County Executive and others to express their opinions regarding the plan.

Many of us have reacted strongly to the prospect of the traffic nightmare along Norbeck Road that this would present with buses running back and forth up to four times a day, in addition to the increased noise and fumes that would be generated. Another major concern expressed by members of our community is the serious environmental impact on Rock Creek Park: the potential soil loss and erosion, the possible oil contaminated run-off storm waters racing off the paved parking lot and down into Rock Creek, plus possible leakage from buried fuel tanks. Forest land would be lost as well as the athletic fields that our youth groups, among others, presently enjoy.

And what would all this cost to repurpose this land for a bus depot? We're all concerned about that. Another serious consideration is what will happen to the Blair Ewing school which in 2013 was deemed to be located in an ideal setting. The school board seems to have settled on demolishing it and renovating a former neighborhood elementary school on Bestor Drive, a small side street off Arctic Avenue surrounded by single family homes increasingly occupied by families with young children who could be served by reverting the site to its original elementary school purpose. Since the alternative education students are bused from all over Montgomery County, bus traffic would also be a problem on that small street and the streets along their route (Bauer Drive, Arctic Avenue, BelPre Road).

We haven't had many solid answers to our questions and concerns which we've expressed along with neighbors from Manor Woods, Aspen Hill, and Flower Valley at 2 neighborhood meetings held at the Melvyn Berman Hebrew Academy, each attended by about 100 neighbors; a County Council meeting and a question and answer meeting with County Executive Isiah Leggett; and lots of "we think's" and "we believe's" from MCPS Department of Facilities Management Director James Song.

But we have had some success after all our phone calls, emails, and a rally before the January 29th Council education committee meeting, when the Council members who serve on the committee recommended that 2 feasibility studies be approved by the full County Council -- one for renovating the current Blair Ewing Center (for the purpose of keeping the alternative program there) and the other for determining another location (for the purpose of moving the program elsewhere). The studies are expected to be completed by the end of the year. On February 10th, the full council approved the committee's recommendation. However, Mr. Leggett, issued an executive order, effective January 26th, which states that the current bus depot site that is part of the Jeremiah Park property "... is no longer needed for public use." Please call or email Mr. Leggett's office and let him know not to dispose of the property yet; that the site is still needed for MCPS's buses, and will be needed until such time as a proper replacement site or sites have been secured for MCPS's buses. Mr. Leggett can be reached 240-777-2550 or oemail@montgomerycountymd.gov.

A copy of the order is posted in the Documents section of our website.

Also, please contact members of the County Council to thank them for taking action to approve funding for the feasibility studies, and the MCPS to request that they carefully investigate alternative locations for the school bus depot and not to demolish the Blair Ewing Center so that it may be made suitable for use as part of their new program for alternative education.

A web site has been set up that provides more information and fully describes the issues and concerns as well as provides email addresses and phone numbers for County and MCPS officials -- **[www.SaveBlairEwing.org](http://www.SaveBlairEwing.org)**. We suggest that any of you who have not visited that site recently, do so to keep up with the current situation and see how you can help.

Also, if you have not registered on the MLCA website or otherwise joined the MLCA email list, please join now so that we may quickly notify you of happenings in the neighborhood and important issues for your consideration. Go to **[www.manorlake.org/register](http://www.manorlake.org/register)**. It's free and separate from membership in the association.

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## **Advertise in Our Newsletter** **Rates As Low As 4 Cents Per Household**

*Reach people in your target radius*

*391 households receive at least 3 editions per year*

That equals 1,173 opportunities for your advertisement to be saved on someone's refrigerator!

Community residents regularly seek good value from locally owned businesses

Announce a new service, offer a discount/coupon, cultivate repeat business

Examples include: Professional services (real estate, accounting, legal, financial), Medical, Hair/personal care, Veterinary, Auto service, Restaurants, Home repair, Landscaping, Tutoring, Music lessons, etc.

**Contact us regarding our new greatly reduced rates** -- as low as \$15 for a single issue (only 4 cents per household), free web ad when you buy a newsletter ad; discounts up to 22% if you buy ads in three or more newsletters (each issue may have a different ad).

**Email your inquiry or request to us at [ManorLakeCivicA@aol.com](mailto:ManorLakeCivicA@aol.com)** and include your name and phone number and a convenient time that we may call you.

*Jane Dobridge*

"Your Neighbor, Your Realtor!"



***Manor Lake/Rockville Specialist***

***Leisure World/Adult Community Specialist***

- ◆ Providing Manor Lake homeowners with expert representation from pre-listing through settlement
- ◆ Call me for my Listing Book and Comparative Market Analysis
- ◆ Providing you with the vital information you need for that Competitive Edge
- ◆ No one has more expertise selling homes than Jane Dobridge and Long & Foster...because of my unrivaled professional experience, exclusive local knowledge and a world class approach to service

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Websites: [www.janedobridge.com](http://www.janedobridge.com)

[www.flowervalleynews.com](http://www.flowervalleynews.com)

## Surrounded by Paper?

The Manor Lake Civic Association is considering holding a community shredding event sometime during 2015 fiscal year. In order to access the feasibility of the event, we need to gauge interest. Due to the costs of bringing a shredding truck into the community, this would NOT be a free event for MLCA members, but if there is enough interest from our community, there could be special pricing for members, and we could extend the service to surrounding neighborhoods, with a sliding price scale. This event was announced in September with only 2 households expressing interest – obviously not enough to proceed. But there is plenty of time.



If you are interested in participating, please respond via email or phone **NO LATER THAN MARCH 27**. Send an email with “Shredding” in the subject line to [ptmlboard@gmail.com](mailto:ptmlboard@gmail.com) (or call 301-460-5581 and leave a message) with the information that you are interested in participating, and approximately how many “average” sized boxes of papers you believe you need shredded (an “average” sized box is approximately the size of a carton of paper – 10 reams – or about 20-25 pounds). If there is enough interest, we will try to time this event for after tax season in 2015. We need a minimum of three weeks to

organize this event so responses by March 27 are mandatory and essential.



It's Time to THING SPRING!

While you're cleaning your closets and doing your spring cleaning, it's time to start thinking about planning your spring/summer garden. Last winter, the MLCA newsletter included tips on getting your garden ready for spring that were so well received, we are re-publishing those ideas, which come from Pat Wainwright, Landscape Consultant and Designer for Johnson's Nursery.

This is the perfect time to assess what you might want to do in the spring, and the end of February is the ideal time to prune most shrubs or trees EXCEPT those that will be blooming in the spring.

- On warm days, clean up the beds and old weeds.
- Spread corn gluten to prevent weed seeds from emerging (must be applied every month to be effective)
- If you have a slug problem, sprinkle “Sluggo” (iron pellets) near cracks and crevices and along the house walls to kill them before they lay eggs. Do it now to control them for the rest of the season.

These are a few organic methods. For more information, or garden “training” consultation, contact Pat directly at [patwainwright24@gmail.com](mailto:patwainwright24@gmail.com).

BIENVENIDOS

# Villa Maya

FINE MEXICAN CUISINE

**TUESDAY SPECIALS**  
Buy a **FAJITA**  
and get the 2nd one  
**1/2 PRICE**  
Dine In Only

**THURSDAY SPECIALS**  
**TEQUILA SHOTS**  
**1/2 PRICE**

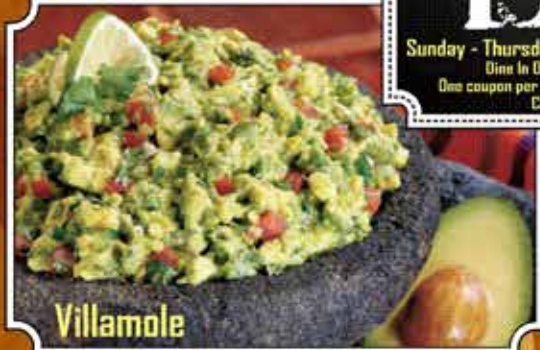


Fajitas



Tacos

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Paella

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## Member Event: Free Curbside Bulk Item Collection

### 2014-2015 BENEFIT FOR MANOR LAKE CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERS ONLY

April 18, 2015

This event will be scheduled twice during this dues this year (Oct. 1, 2014 – Sept. 30, 2015), with each MLCA member household eligible to **use the service only one time during the membership year.**

The first collection was scheduled for December 13, 2014 – just in time to clear out your home to make room for holiday parties and guests. The second collection will be held April 18, 2015 – just after spring cleaning.

If you would like to participate in the Curbside Bulk Item Collection, **pay your dues** and **sign up for the collection** by sending your name and street address, and your preferred participation date, with the subject: Bulk Item Collection to Phyllis Taylor (email: [ptmlboard@gmail.com](mailto:ptmlboard@gmail.com)) or call 301-460-5581. This is a **members' only** benefit. NOTE: Paying your dues does NOT AUTOMATICALLY sign you up for the bulk collection; **you MUST SIGN UP** for this service – it is not automatically done through your Manor Lake dues payment. Please use one of the above-referenced methods.

#### Details:

##### Dates

- Deadline: join or renew by November 29, 2014 (checks should be postmarked by November 28)
- Saturday, April 18, 2015
  - Deadline: join or renew by April 4, 2015 (checks postmarked by April 3, 2015)

##### Conditions

- Collection will begin at 10:00am on the designated day.
- Items must be placed at the end of the driveway or at the edge of the road for pickup.
- Collection items must **NOT** include regular household trash.

##### Acceptable Items

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Furniture</li><li>● Appliances</li><li>● Potted plants</li><li>● Televisions</li><li>● Computer monitors or CPUs</li><li>● Mattresses</li><li>● Mowers (<b>MUST be drained of oil/gas</b>)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Doors</li><li>● Sinks/toilets/tubs</li><li>● Clothing items (preferably bagged or boxed)</li><li>● Car batteries</li><li>● Carpeting (cut into manageable pieces &amp; rolled up)</li></ul>
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##### Unacceptable Items

- Tires
- Liquid paint (cans must be opened and dried out with sawdust or kitty litter)
- Any item containing gasoline, oil, or antifreeze
- Dead animal carcasses
- Human or medical waste

This is a benefit for Manor Lake Civic Association **members ONLY**; member households may use this service only one time during the membership year (October 1 – September 30).

### Haven't paid your MLCA 2014-2015 dues yet?

Go to [www.manorlake.org](http://www.manorlake.org), click on "[Pay MLCA Dues Online](#)" now! or click on "Pages & Links" and download the Membership Application/Dues Form.

# October 2014 – September 2015 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 and certain other benefits. 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: \_\_\_\_\_

**By default, your e-mail address will NOT be included in the directory and will be only used for e-mail news and information from MLCA. Initial here if it is OK to include your email address in the directory.** \_\_\_\_\_

Please exclude from future directories: My name \_\_\_\_\_ My phone number \_\_\_\_\_

How do you prefer the quarterly or semi-annual newsletters be delivered? E-mail \_\_\_\_ U.S. Mail \_\_\_\_ Both \_\_\_\_

**Members only benefit - Free Curbside Bulk Item Collection:** Planned for December 13, 2014 & April 18, 2015. Members may participate in one. To participate, pay your 2014-2015 dues and send your name, street address and desired date with subject: Bulk Item Collection, to Phyllis Taylor, email: [ptmlboard@gmail.com](mailto:ptmlboard@gmail.com), or call 301-460-5581

**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"/> Garden Tour |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter/Communications       | <input type="checkbox"/> New Directory Committee     | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

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

**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.)

## Dues Payment

**Annual Dues**.....\$ **40.00** + additional contribution..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_ = **Total Remitted \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Checks should be made payable to Manor Lake Civic Association. Or, to use our secure online payment service, click [here](#), or go to [www.ManorLake.org](http://www.ManorLake.org) and click "[Pay Your MLCA Membership Dues Online.](#)"

**Not yet registered on [www.manorlake.org](http://www.manorlake.org)? Registration is free and separate from MLCA membership.**

Thank you for your support



## Puddle Precautions

Rats are a huge problem however, many wild species come into contact with rats and mice. If they become contaminated then they pass it along in areas they frequent or drink from.

I have seen a majority of the dog walkers in Lake Frank area let their dogs drink from the puddles that sometimes occur on the pathway. But, also allowing them to swim in the Lake. I have seen many of the dogs off leash drinking from the more shallow areas along the shoreline which is where the wildlife drinks from and often urinate. All the water in Lake Frank comes from rainwater and run-off from communities all around the watershed for the lake - that being the roads, drive-ways, lawns many filled with pesticides and chemicals, oil and antifreeze. County officials monitor the lake for algae blooms but do not monitor for contaminants or diseases.

You may want to visit <http://speakingforspot.com/blog/2015/02/15/puddle-precautions/> for the full article titled Puddle Precautions by Nancy Kay, DVM

Another site that I trust is:

<http://healthypets.mercola.com/sites/healthypets/archive/2013/02/25/canine-leptospirosis.aspx>

*Lee Prouty*



## FIRE HYDRANT REFLECTORS

Per the email that went out in December, residents that have fire hydrants in front of their homes were issued reflectors to place on the hydrants to indicate to fire/rescue personnel the location of these devices in case there is a need for their use during snowy weather. Residents: please be sure to attach the reflectors to the hydrant in front of your house. If you can't find the reflector that was issued to you, or if it is damaged, please contact Don Siefert at [ManorLakeCivicA@aol.com](mailto:ManorLakeCivicA@aol.com). On behalf of all the residents of Manor Lake, many thanks for the participation of those households with fire hydrants in their yard.

## It's A New Year – Time to Join YOUR Manor Lake Civic Association

If you have not already done so, now is the perfect time to join the Manor Lake Civic Association for 2015.

### BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP:

Your Civic Association Board makes dues dollars stretch a long way, but resident participation is necessary. For less than the cost of filling up your gas tank, you can help your neighbors keep the Manor Lake community one of the most sought after addresses in the area. Your \$40 membership is the best buy around!

### Civic Association dues cover a myriad of things:

- Neighborhood Watch
- Seasonal landscaping of the two entrances
- Insurance for our entrances and common areas
- Solar lighting costs at each entrance
- Free Bulk Item Pick-Up
- Capital improvements
- Facility rental costs for general meetings
- Newsletter printing and mailing costs
- Manor Lake Social Activities
  - o National Night Out Activities & Ice Cream Social
  - o Bi-Annual Meet 'n Greet
  - o Neighborhood Yard Sale
  - o Manor Lake Garden Tour
- Signage for meetings and social events
- New resident welcome
- And more

Our thanks to new first time members and old members who have already renewed and paid their dues. However, some long standing members have not yet renewed, we ask that you please do it today while it is fresh on your mind. Please complete the application at the end of this newsletter or make a secure payment on our website  
**[www.ManorLake.org](http://www.ManorLake.org)**