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# Leewood Times

## Notes from the Leewood Board

### The New Year

2017 flew by quickly. We have said good bye to old neighbors and welcomed new ones, endured strange weather in the form of wind storms with some trees dying and others shedding their leaves early. We welcomed 2018 to our community, with early winter bringing very cold weather along with a little snow and ice. Luckily, our tree work in the fall paid off; we had no trees come down or damage any homes or cars.

Spring and better weather will soon be here. Now is the time to think about what needs to be done on the exterior of your home to properly maintain it. The Design Standards, located at [www.Leewood.us](http://www.Leewood.us), provide useful information on maintaining the exterior of your home.

### Annual Meeting

The annual homeowners meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. Additional information will be mailed to homeowners in February. We invite you all to come to meet your neighbors, exchange your ideas, and discuss upcoming community news. We hope to see you there!

One Board member resigned at the end of 2017, and two other Board members term will expire at the Annual Meeting. So we will have three open Board seats. If you are interested in serving on the Board or know someone who may be able to serve, please contact Nathan Parsons-Schwarz, who is heading up the Nominating Committee, or any member of the Board.

### 1st Quarter Assessments

Assessments for the first quarter were due on January 1. The Board approved an increase to \$250 per quarter so that the association can continue to fund reserves and have sufficient funds for operating needs. Payment coupons were sent out at the end of December. If you have not yet paid, please remit your payment as soon as possible.

## Fireplace Safety

Winter has arrived, and the billowing smoke from chimneys and smell of burning wood fills the air. Many Leewood homes have wood burning brick or factory-built metal fireplaces. According to the National Fire Protection Association, fireplaces should be inspected each year for "soundness, freedom from deposits, and correct clearances". The Chimney Safety Institute of America (CSIA) also recommends that open masonry fireplaces should be swept at 1/8" of sooty buildup. A carbon monoxide detector can be placed near the fireplace to alert homeowners if this harmful gas is present. You can find more information, as well as local certified professionals at the CSIA's website (<http://www.csia.org>). As we retreat to our warm cozy fireplaces in this cold weather, stay warm and stay safe!

## Inclement Weather

We have been fortunate so far this year in that we have not had a bad snow storm. In the event of inclement weather, Leewood contracts for the streets to be sanded and plowed. Parking spaces and common areas are not plowed. If we receive more snow, please shovel the sidewalk in front of your home to provide access and increase safety for yourself and your neighbors.

## Parking Survey

The Board conducted a survey of parking in the community last fall. Congratulations to Marie Kwak for participating and winning the \$50 Visa gift certificate!

The survey results are summarized in the table below. Almost 100 responses were received –almost 50% participation. Of those responding, about 70% indicated having no difficulty in parking during the prior thirty days.

This does not mean that we do not have parking issues within our community. Be mindful that the community averages only one guest space per house. If your household has more than two cars, you should be considerate of your neighbors and find alternate parking arrangements. Each house has one reserved parking space; you should not be regularly using more than one or two spaces in Leewood.

Street	Responses			Parking Difficulty		
	owner	tenant	Total	None	Occasional	Frequent
LEEBRAD STREET	22	2	24	14	9	2
LEESTONE COURT	13	3	16	12	3	1
LEESTONE STREET	32	0	32	28	2	2
BRADGEN COURT	11	0	11	8	2	1
BRADWOOD COURT	12	0	12	7	4	1
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>7</b>

## **Trash**

Please be mindful of when you put your trash and recyclables out for collection. Some of you continue to place your trash and recyclables out early. Remember trash and recyclables may only be set out at dusk the night before pickup or before 6 AM the morning of pickup.

In the case of inclement weather, we may not have trash or recycle pickup if the roads are unsafe. Again, please be mindful of weather conditions and do not put out your trash or recyclables if the roads are not passable.

If you are putting your trash or recyclables out after 6:00 AM, look to verify that the trash and recyclables have not already been collected. If they have been collected, please hold your trash and recyclables in your back yard until the next pickup day. Your front porch, per our governing documents, should not be used to store trash or recyclables. Trash pickup is Tuesday and Friday; recycle pickup is Tuesday ONLY.

New recycle bins will be delivered on February 15, 2018.

## **Community Safety**

Coming home in mid-December, there was a police helicopter circling in the air not far from our community. On a Saturday night on Larrlyn Drive, a pizza man was robbed at gun point. For all of our safety, we must be more diligent about turning on our back and front lights at night. There are a number of homes that are regularly unlit at night.

Outside lighting has been shown to help deter crime. However, remembering to turn on your porch lights or getting home before dark to do so may not be so easy. Here is a simple solution. Home Depot sells a dusk-to-dawn sensor with an attached light bulb. It is not too pricey, and now you don't have to remember to turn your lights on and off. Please give thought to doing this for your, as well as the community's, safety.

And remember, if you see something that just doesn't seem right; call the non-emergency number at **703-691-2231**. You do not have to give your name, just the location of your concern and some particulars of the situation. If it is a true emergency situation, call **911**.

## **Pet Waste**

For the health and safety of our community, it is important to remember that Fairfax County requires ALL pet owners to pick up after their pets. For dog owners, this means cleaning up what your dog leaves behind. Please be law-abiding and considerate of your neighbors.

**Leewood  
Homeowners  
Association**

P.O. Box 1421  
Springfield, VA 22151

**Our Board**

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**Pat Willingham**  
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**Vacant**

ARC Chair –  
**Dayna Roy**

Grounds & Maintenance –  
**Vacant**

Entire board email:  
[board@leewood.us](mailto:board@leewood.us)

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Leewood's Official  
Website  
**[www.leewood.us](http://www.leewood.us)**

## FOCUS FEATURE: THE BLOCK

There's a hot new food hall in Annandale, Virginia, but you probably won't find it unless you're looking for it. **The Block** doesn't seem like much from the outside: The tiny storefront is nestled in a sparse strip mall, dwarfed by a giant parking lot and a towering Kmart next door. Inside, it's a different story.

The 5,000 sq. ft. space houses six individual food, dessert, and beverage concepts, a spacious seating area, and a casual lounge. As its name suggests, the venue is meant to emulate the atmosphere of a neighborhood block party.

The Block soft-opened in December 2016. Plans are already brewing for outdoor block parties, Asian-inspired street markets, and warm weather festivals. But before all that happens, acquaint yourself with the vendors who have currently set up shop.

The Block is located at 4221 John Marr Drive. Hours are 11:00 AM to midnight.

