Thank you to all of the homeowners of Forest Ridge for your support of the HOA. The HOA runs on volunteers and we really appreciate the contributions of many in our community. As you can see by the content of this newsletter we have accomplished quite a lot since our last newsletter. I am happy to serve another term and look forward to our continuing partnership to enhance the enjoyment of living in Forest Ridge.

FRHOA Reserve Study Successfully Completed

As mentioned in our Fall 2016 newsletter, HOAs are required to maintain a reserve to handle the repair/replacement cost of their Capital Components which for us include our community entrance signs; some fencing; and an asphalt path from our community to the W&OD bike path. Homeowner, Bill Bien, researched and designed our Capital Reserve program at no cost which saved us over $1,500. At our December meeting the Board approved the establishment of a Capital Reserve fund to cover the repair or replacement of any HOA Capital Components. Our FRHOA is now in compliance with Virginia state law. Thanks to Bill Bien for his outstanding contribution! A recent storm destroyed our FRHOA entrance sign at S. Dickenson and Almey Ct. Funds from our Capital reserve will be used to replace that sign with no impact on our annual assessments.

Architecture Control Committee (ACC) Regulation Revisions

Thanks to the ACC working group for putting in long hours and to the Board members for thoroughly going line by line through the new proposed ACC regulations revisions. The resulting document is clearer and provides a better understanding of HOA regulations for homeowners to use when requesting changes to their homes and lots. The document is still in review.

FRHOA Information on the Web

The Board has posted on the Web information about our HOA including: meeting agendas; Board of Directors listing; the last two newsletters; HOA documents; ACC information; and Minutes of recent Board meetings. Visit our page at: www.forest-ridge.org/home.html.

Volunteer to be a Part of Your HOA

The FRHOA is volunteer driven. We are always looking for interested homeowners to volunteer to help with the HOA. Areas currently in need of volunteers are the ACC, Secretary, and Neighborhood Watch. The Secretary duties include taking meeting minutes, picking up the U.S. Mail, and arranging meeting rooms. ACC tasks include applications processing, resale packet inspections, and violations communications.

FRHOA Loudoun County Water Vault

The Loudoun County Department of Water used a section of our FRHOA common area at the end of Tamarack Court to install an underground water control system. FRHOA homeowners adjacent to the construction site were concerned about the resulting appearance of the common area near their homes. As compensation, the Water Department provided funding for us to restore the appearance of the disturbed area. The Board used the funding to procure and plant decorative shrubbery to beautify the construction area (see picture). During the winter months some of the shrubs died. We are covered by a warranty for the replacement of damaged shrubs.
REMINDER – Please do not use ANY of the common ground area as a personal dumping area. The HOA keeps the grounds well maintained and it is so disappointing when grass clippings, branches and leaves dumped are found there.

If you see someone dumping or loitering please contact the Fairfax County Police at (703) 691-2131 and/or the Loudoun County Sheriff’s Department at (703) 777-1021.

If at all possible get the make/model/tag of vehicle(s).

MILDEW HAPPENS! If you notice it creeping up around your house it's time to get out the power washer or call someone to remove it for you. Consider getting together with your neighbors and looking for a deal to save everyone some money. If the mildew becomes too noticeable the ACC will be contacting you to have it removed.

ACC approval is needed for changes to the exterior of your house. This includes paint on trim, porch or shutters and replacement or updating shutters.

If you are proposing a different type or color than what is currently on your home it must be approved.

2016 Holiday Decoration Contest

Congratulations to the Winners!
First Place ($100): 102 Deerwood Ct
Second Place ($75): 204 Pin Oak Ct
Third Place ($50): 208 Pin Oak Ct
Honorable mentions: 110 Tamarack Ct
408 Tamarack Ln

The Commonwealth of Virginia mandates Loudoun County to require all dogs four months of age and older to be licensed. In Loudoun County, dog licenses are issued concurrently with the rabies vaccination effective period for each individual dog. The county issues permanent tags to remain with the dog for its lifetime (replacement tags are available if needed). All dogs must have a license tag securely attached to a collar and worn whenever the dog is off of the owner’s property.

Dog licenses may be purchased at the Animal Shelter, the Office of the Treasurer in Leesburg and Sterling, by mail or online.

Recycle your plastic bags into benches

Did you know...that it takes 500 lbs of plastic bags to make a bench? That’s right! The Elks Lodge has already collected enough bags to make their first bench which will be placed somewhere in the Sterling community. They want to make more benches so they are inviting the community to join them by collecting plastic bags (grocery, product wraps, newspaper sleeves, etc). Donations can be dropped off in the bins under the stairs at the back of the building on West Holly.
Above and Beyond the Call of Duty

In late February FRHOA Board members personally scrambled to clean up a large section of our neighborhood common grounds where a lot of trash had collected over the winter months. They cleaned up a stretch of common grounds bordered by South Dickenson, East Maple, and South Fillmore.

This block along the border of Forest Ridge and busy East Maple quickly collects trash blown in from the other side of East Maple, thrown from cars and left by those using the common area. Our Board members filled a dozen large trash bags from the items entangled in the underbrush, drainage ditch, and scattered over the ground. Much of the trash collected was from well-known fast food shops in our area, beer bottles, soft drink cans, and shopping bags. Other items included a badly damaged skate board, several pairs of shoes, a hubcap, and four metal folding chairs.

Forest Ridge benefits from having large areas of open common grounds and forested areas, unlike many surrounding neighborhoods. This creates a burden on our community. Even though a percentage of our annual dues are spent to keep the open areas mowed, collect trash from receptacles on our common grounds, and cut down dangerous trees from our wooded areas, the small HOA budget does not allow for full-time trash collection throughout the common grounds. Our HOA Board members performed this cleanup as residents, not elected officials. We all need to pitch in to keep our neighborhood looking good.

The FRHOA Board asks all residents to help pick up the trash left in our common grounds by less-thoughtful area residents.

DID YOU KNOW...

Do you have concerns or need a question answered about our County and Community? Then check out for LOUDOUN RESIDENTS: LEx. Loudoun County, VA - Official Website - Loudoun Express Request. https://www.loudoun.gov/servicerequests

LEx is available as a mobile app for iOS and Android users! ... Loudoun Express Request (LEx) is a citizen request system for members of the public to submit requests for service and report concerns to the county government via the internet and a mobile application.

Fairfax Residents:- The Department of Code Compliance (DCC) investigates most county neighborhood complaints, consisting of issues affecting safety and quality of life. Compliance is achieved through the enforcement of the Zoning Ordinance, Virginia Maintenance Code, Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code (Residential), Grass Ordinance, Noise Ordinance and the Uniform Statewide Building Code (unpermitted construction).
The Loudoun County Crime Solvers Committee is asking for the public's continued assistance to keep Loudoun County a safe place to live and work by helping solve crimes.

The mission of Loudoun County Crime Solvers is to promote community participation by assisting local law enforcement agencies, through a partnership with the community and the media, to apprehend and convict criminals through a system of cash rewards.

Loudoun County Crime Solvers allows those with knowledge of a crime who want to remain anonymous to call a dedicated local phone number. That number, 703-777-1919, allows all callers to remain anonymous with no pressure to reveal their identities. When a call is received, a fact sheet is filled out which includes a brief summary of the caller's information. The call taker then assigns the caller a number which is used in any subsequent calls to Crime Solvers and when a reward is paid to the caller. If the information results in an arrest and indictment, a reward of up to $1000 is paid to the caller.

For information about this nonprofit organization visit www.facebook.com/loudouncrimesolvers/

Emergency information, news releases, traffic information, weather alerts

Alert Loudoun is the notification system Loudoun County uses to send citizens the sheriff's daily incident report, emergency information, news releases, traffic information, weather alerts, and more. The system will send you information you need wherever you are. Alert Loudoun also gives subscribers the ability to customize how they receive information – by text, email, cell phone and/or mobile app.

Visit sheriff.loudoun.gov to sign up and stay informed.

Sterling District News

Sterling District Supervisor Koran Saines created a GoFundMe page to raise funds to restore the Sterling Veteran's Memorial located on Sterling Boulevard. In just 17 days, the fundraising goal of $4000 was surpassed. Restoration work is set to begin soon and estimated timeline for completion is mid-May in time for Memorial Day.

Sterling District News

Supervisor Saines has championed a project to improve safety at the busy crossing on the W&OD Trail across Sterling Boulevard. During the past three years, there have been 17 crashes at the trail intersection, according to the county staff. Most were described as rear-end collisions caused by motorists stopping unexpectedly for crossing pedestrians or bikes.

If you would like to receive news and information from Sterling District Supervisor Koran Saines sign up for the Sterling District Newsletter at: www.loudoun.gov/index.aspx?nid=3711
The Architectural Control Committee (ACC)  
Thanks Homeowners

The volunteers on the Forest Ridge Home Owners Association Architectural Control Committee (ACC) want to thank all of our homeowners for doing a great job keeping their property and the neighborhood looking well-maintained and nice. The evidence is not only from the neighborhood looking nice this past year but also the fact that the Architectural Control Committee only needed to process 34 violations during all of 2016.

As homeowners in Forest Ridge, the Committee well understands it is not easy keeping up with lawn and yard maintenance needs and keeping the exterior of our homes looking attractive. So as warmer weather rolls in, make sure to not let the neighborhood’s appearance decline this year. Please take the time to tackle such common maintenance projects as power washing areas of homes and decks that have molded, repairing driveways that have cracked or crumbled over the winter, repair and/or repaint weathered areas of the home, and re-hang or replace shutters damaged by all the high winds the region has been hit with this winter.

The ACC is hoping with your help it will not have to send out many violation letters this coming year and the neighborhood will continue to look its best. As a reminder, all changes to the exterior of the home, including driveways, windows, decks, fences, and roofs, need ACC approval prior to the start of the project. Thank you in advance for your help and cooperation to keep the neighborhood looking nice and the values of our properties on the increase.

Trees and Common Areas

Last year the FRHOA spent a total of $14,225.00 for tree removal and upkeep of the common areas within our neighborhood. We cut a total of almost 50 dead trees, a couple of which were broken and leaning into other trees. These are what we call “widow-makers”. In addition to the tree cutting, we picked up and disposed of a mattress and a Christmas tree that was discarded along South Lincoln.

Repairs were made to the three Forest Ridge HOA signs and the trees were trimmed along Crestview behind the Whitewood Lane homes. Also, money was transferred into the Common Areas account for the planting of shrubbery around the new water vault at the end of Tamarack Court.

So far this year, we have spent or authorized to spend $3,210.00 to cut 13 trees and remove a mattress, box spring, and tire that were discarded at Tamarack Lane and Pepperidge.

As we can probably all agree that the beauty of the common wooded areas is a major attraction for the neighborhood I’d like to ask everyone to please help keep it clean by picking up the trash that you can find in the woods behind your homes. This is a good time to do this as the poison ivy is down and leaves are off so visibility is good. It really is pretty amazing how much trash blows into the woods. If you're helping with this and see a dangerous tree, please let us know so we can address it. Basically the policy is that if it's a widow-maker or it could reach private property we take it down. If it's standing dead and away from private property we leave it for the woodpeckers.
### MEETING INFORMATION

Meetings are held at Eastern Loudoun Sheriff’s Station

ACC Meetings: First Thursday of every month @ 7:00 PM
Board Meetings: First Thursday of every month @ 7:30 PM

(Meeting dates, locations and times are subject to change.)

All homeowners are invited to attend.

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*"And Spring arose on the garden fair, Like the Spirit of Love felt everywhere"* ~Percy Bysshe Shelley

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**Forest Ridge Neighborhood Contact Information**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FOREST RIDGE HOMEOWNER’S ASSOC. CONTACTS</th>
<th>IMPORTANT NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH CONTACT NUMBERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(703) 481-0283</td>
<td>FAIRFAX COUNTY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Option 1 General</td>
<td>Report an Emergency</td>
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<tr>
<td>Option 2 Trees</td>
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<td>Option 3 Architectural Control</td>
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<td>Option 4 Resale Packets Request</td>
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<td>Option 5 Annual Assessments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Option 6 Common Lawn Care</td>
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<tr>
<td>(703) 777-1021 Neighborhood Watch</td>
<td>To Report Traffic Violations</td>
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**Homeowners Association’s Website**

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<th>Website</th>
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<td><a href="mailto:acc@forest-ridge.org">acc@forest-ridge.org</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:news@forest-ridge.org">news@forest-ridge.org</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:resale@forest-ridge.org">resale@forest-ridge.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Homeowners Association’s Website</td>
<td>Architectural Control Committee (ACC) Email</td>
<td>Newsletter Submissions</td>
<td>Resale Packets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:trees@forest-ridge.org">trees@forest-ridge.org</a></td>
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**Resale Packets**

To Report Parking Violations and Expired Decals

To Report an Overcrowding Housing Situation

Zoning Enforcement

To Report Noise Complaints

To Report EPA Violations and Non-Emergency Fire Hazards

Fire Marshal

To Report Sidewalks/Roads in Need of Repair

Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Transportation

(703) 383-VDOT (8368)

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The FRHOA Newsletter is printed and mailed out twice per year, in the Spring and the Fall. To place an ad, submit an article or comment, send an email to news@forest-ridge.org or call the FRHOA hotline at 703-481-0283

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**Business Advertisements:**

- Full Page - $100
- Half Page - $50
- Quarter Page - $25
- Business Card - $15

Homeowner FOR SALE classifieds are free. The newsletter is distributed to all owners within the Forest Ridge development.

The FRHOA Board reserves the right to reject any ad, article, or classified.

Editor: Juanita Easton