

West Lanham Hills Citizen

NOVEMBER 2025

Next WLHCA Meeting:
Thursday, Nov 6 at 7pm
Park Building (7700 Decatur Road)

Don't miss the November 6 Association meeting! We're providing food for all attendees and neighbors in need can pick up free canned food donations.

FALL MEMORIES IN THE HILLS

This October, neighbors came together for a festive **Halloween Fun Walk/Run** and our annual **Green-Up Clean-Up**. Participants showed off their costumes for the walk/run and rolled up their sleeves to help keep our community looking its best for the clean-up. We also saw so many great spooky house decorations for the season. Thank you to everyone who joined in to make it a great month!



1972 - West Lanham Hills Elementary School students getting ready for Halloween Parade. Photo Credit: Charlotte Harris

"I have on tape the West Lanham Hills Elementary students dressed in their Halloween costumes. The kids paraded proudly around the neighborhood. Neighbors handed out candy as the children passed by — a true community celebration."

Story by Kay Rager. Submitted by Sarah Tsubata, Archive and Preserving Project.

Tues, Nov 18

Game Night

Park Building
7-8:30 PM

Games & Snacks Provided

Join us at the park building for a relaxed evening of board games, card games, and friendly fun with neighbors of all ages. Bring your favorite game and enjoy laughter, snacks, and good company!

Dec 12-13

Holiday Lights Competition & Neighborhood Event

Seeking volunteers!

The holidays are almost here, and our neighborhood is ready to shine! On **Friday, Dec 12**, join the **Christmas Lights Competition** — show off your display, stroll with family and friends, or help judge. On **Saturday, Dec 13**, come to the **Community Holiday Event**, where we'll celebrate the season and announce the winners! Volunteers to help organize are welcome.

Contact westlanhamhillsnews@gmail.com

Join the Effort!

Volunteer Service Opportunities

Did you know?

High school students are required to complete service hours in order to graduate. Our neighborhood offer plenty of opportunities to get involved and earn those hours!

See Page 2 for more information.

Nov 22: Clear the clutter! **Dumpsters** will be available near the Park Building for residents to drop off bulky household items and other large waste. It's a great time to tidy up before the holidays!

Giving Thanks, Lending Hands: Volunteer Opportunities & Neighbor Shout-Outs

Help Fill Our Food Pantry!

We're collecting donations to help neighbors in need this season. Non-perishable items like canned goods, pasta, rice, and toiletries are especially appreciated.

Volunteer for Thanksgiving with Seniors

Join us on **Thursday, November 6 at 11:00 AM** at Spellman House, College Park (4711 Berwyn House Rd) to help make the holiday special for seniors who may not have family nearby. Volunteers can assist with setting up, decorating, serving food, or joining in activities to bring joy and companionship. Your time and kindness can make a big difference this Thanksgiving!

Seeking Book Donations

Neighbor, Mani Shortte, is collecting new or gently used for the National Library of St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Your donations will help restock their shelves. If you would to donate, email withmaniwe@gmail.com to coordinate drop off.

Contact Sarah Tsubata at westlanhamhillsnews@gmail.com if interested in these opportunities

Neighborhood Shout-Outs

At our October meeting, we closed by sharing stories of neighborly kindness — a wonderful reminder of the caring spirit in our community. Highlights included **Elmer Ray** who mowed a neighbor's lawn, **Juana Gonzalez**, who volunteered to edge a neighbor's lawn and thoughtfully placed dog waste bags on signs for those who needed them, and **Kelli Thomas** who shared a home-cooked meal with neighbors. These small acts of generosity show just how much we look out for one another in West Lanham Hills!

If you have a neighbor you'd like to give a shout-out to, please send us their name and story, and we'll feature them in future editions!

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By: Michael Chodos, WLHCA President

This autumn, we've seen so many **small acts of kindness that make our neighborhood special** — like those stories shared at our October meeting, brightening everyone's day. Let's keep looking out for one another, sharing smiles, and lending a hand — it's what makes West Lanham Hills shine!

This year, I'm heading up our annual **Community Holiday Event on December 13th**. I plan to combine our festive lights competition winner announcement with an opportunity for us to reflect on the past year and share our hopes for 2026.

Interested in volunteering? If you'd like to help organize, decorate, or lead any part of this event, don't hesitate to reach out to me via phone or email: michael.w.chodos@gmail.com or 810-813-7224

On the Agenda: Nov 6, 2025

- **Food will be provided for all attendees!**
- Canned goods available for those in need
- A representative from CASA (marylandcasa.org) will attend to provide an **informational session for immigrants**

WLHCA Membership Drive



Our West Lanham Hills Citizens Association membership drive is still underway! Use the QR code to renew or begin your membership for 2025-2026.

Additional Information Available at:

Website: www.westlanhamhills.com | **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/westlanhamhillsmd

Email: westlanhamnews@gmail.com