

West Lanham Hills Citizen

April 2016 | Next Meeting Wednesday, April 6, 2016 8 p.m.

A good neighbor passes



Albert Burke Hitt age 68, passed away at his sister's home in Picayune, Mississippi, on March 9, 2016. Al's family bought their house in West Lanham Hills in 1941; his late mother, Frances, served on the board, which was officially incorporated in 1946, as Secretary. In the 1980s, Al bought the house from his mother to allow her to move to live with family.

Al worked as a Building Engineer for NBC of Washington, D.C. where he received an award for being an outstanding employee. He was a former Vice President of Bellman Fuel Co. A Methodist, he was a member of the Almas Shriners of Washington D.C, a 32nd degree Master Mason, the

American Legion of Cheverly, MD and the West Lanham Hills Citizens' Association.

Al, a Vietnam veteran, greatly enjoyed clay pigeon shooting; he tried out for the Olympic shooting team and was a member of various Gun Clubs in Maryland and Virginia.

Mr. Hitt is survived by a sister; Deanna Spillman of Picayune, Mississippi; four nieces, (Lisa Ruble(George), Linda White and Velma Spillman all of Slidell, Louisiana, Julie Behre of Maryland), one nephew (Heinz Werner of East Millsboro, Pennsylvania), and a great-niece, Amber Spillman.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Albert B. Hitt and Frances H. Hitt, and sister Agnes Werner. Our neighbors will remember Al for warm and encouraging demeanor, and his incredible kindness. If a neighbor was in trouble, Al would quietly help. He was generous to the youth of the area, employing them and paying them for yard

work, and was a wonderful neighbor.

Al received a diagnosis of late stage lung and liver cancer in late December and was undergoing treatment at Anne Arundel Medical Center. He was quiet about his illness, but expected to live another year. His family had just flown him to Mississippi to stay with them when he began hemorrhaging, and passed away very quickly.

Al will be sorely missed by all those who knew him. We didn't get a chance to honor him, while he was alive, but in his passing, we can testify to the way he blessed everyone he met.

May he rest in peace.



Community Clean Up

by Lan Tsubata

The weather is warmer, the grass is greener and the flowers are blooming. Spring is here!

Though the weather is beautiful we now see all the trash littering our streets, yards and parks. It is time to take care of our neighborhood and clean it up! Let's make it a safe and beautiful place for our children to play, for our pets to walk and for all of us to enjoy!

On Saturday, April 30th from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, we will have our Community Clean Up. Meet at the West Lanham Hills Park to get your bags and gloves. For all school students this is the perfect way to receive your community service hours for school!

We will have pizza and beverages for all to enjoy after the Clean Up. Come be a part of making this neighborhood beautiful! See you all then!!

National Night Out

Calling all neighbors if there is anybody that is interested in organizing our National Night Out please let Greg McNair at 301-731-7888.

Neighbors know your neighbors

If you are interested in be educated about the Neighborhood Watch. Officer Hammond, our community police officer, will be our next meeting, April 6.

West Lanham Hills is 75!

You may remember that our neighborhood was first established in 1941. That means we turn 75 this year!

To celebrate, we are planning to combine the "Family Fun Day" on Saturday, May 14 with a 75th Anniversary Celebration.

So...we need you!

Here are some of the fun and exciting ideas we have for this day:

A Parade! We would like to invite all neighbors to get involved. If you have a cool vehicle, bike, baby carriage, skateboard or scooter, you can enter it in this parade, to take place before the events at the park! Prizes will be given for the best parade entries! (More on this later)

Games! This year, we will invite coaches and specialists to help us hold competitions in various sports and game skills.

Cooking! Bring your family's special dish to be judged by your neighbors.

Dance/Fitness! We are seeking a Zumba instructor to hold a demonstration for all to join in.

Art! A special area for residents to show their artworks, crafts, sculpture, sewing, knitting, wood working, videos, or any other creative pursuit.

Public Service! We will be inviting representatives from the Fire, Police, Medic and other public agencies to hold demonstrations and bring services.

These are just the basic ideas, but we want to create a wonderful day, with everyone's involvement and contributions.

Please contact the organizers, Mie Smith at miesmithdc@gmail.com, if you would like to participate!

Election for Neighborhood Officers:

In May, we will be having our annually election for new officers. So far, the officer candidates we have are:

President: Greg McNair or Will Nathan

Vice President: Lan Tsubata

Secretary: Sarah Tsubata

Treasurer, Parliamentarian: Both posts still need candidates.

Elections will be May 4.

Nominations can be made to Lucinda Toliver and Maxsean Brooks, our Election Committee;

Lucinda Toliver
Email: HardworkingLU@yahoo.com
Phone: 301-237-8888

Maxsean Brooks
Phone: 240-843-8447

Also, all current officers should bring all documents and books related to their position to the Election Day meeting on May 4, to ensure that the new officers can receive these immediately upon being elected.



PG County Spring CleanUp

As you may have received your door hanger of more details and dates, we wanted to remind of an opportunity to help our neighborhood to be cleaner.

The county will be organizing a week long of cleanification:

March 28 –Environment Day
The county will be taking any

abandon cars that are not tag or have been there for a long time.

March 29-31 – Surveys for Road-side Litter, Storm Drain Maintenance & Tree Trimming on County Property.

April 6 – Cleaning storm drains& water quality testing

April 7 – House Code / Zoning Ordinance violation check

Pot Holes

Are tired of pot holes? Do you not feel safe to avoid them? You can report any pot holes that you see. They will be filled within 72 hours.

Please call Sabrina Mason to report pot holes at 410-260-7684 or 301-513-7142.

How to build Garden Beds

by Roberto Gato

Here's how you build the garden beds you see in our front lawn. They are super easy and work great. We got everything at Lowes and Hampton Nursery on 450, right near our neighborhood. Ideally, the bed should be placed on a part of your property that gets full sun all day. A southern-facing side is best.

IMPORTANT: DO NOT use pressure treated wood. The chemicals are bad for your garden and you.

This is to build a 4ft x 8ft raised bed.

You will need:

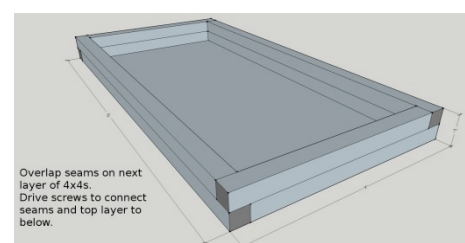
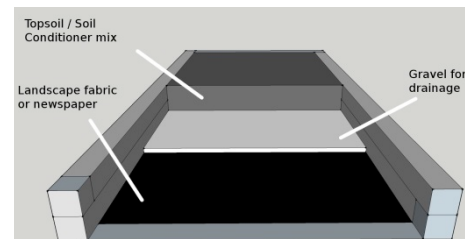
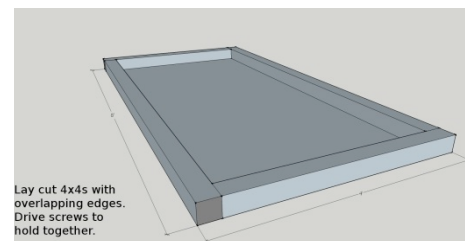
6- 4in x 4in x 8ft boards
4 bags .5 cu ft bags gravel
8 bags top soil
4 bags soil conditioner
3 bags shredded mulch
Enough newspaper to make a good layer across the bottom or 4ft x 8ft of landscape fabric.
3 inch nails and hammer or
3 inch screws and power drill with 1/8" pilot bit and driver bit (recommended).
Tape measure and saw.
Friends to help and cool drinks.

Make your bed:

- 1) Safely cut four of the 4x4x8 boards to 7ft 5in.
- 2) Safely cut the remaining two boards in to four- 3ft 5in lengths. You should have 8 pieces total.
- 3) Arrange the first ring of boards in a spiral with overlapping ends (See drawing). Nail/screw them together.
- 4) Arrange the top ring of boards in a spiral the opposite way so all seams overlap. Nail/screw them together and then nail/screw the top ring to the bottom. This is your bed! Easy!

Fill your bed:

- 1) Place a layer of newspaper or landscape fabric all the way across the bottom of your bed.
- 2) Spread the gravel out in a layer across the paper/fabric. It helps hold it down and helps drainage.
- 3) Starting at one end dump in 2 bags of soil and 1 bag soil conditioner. Mix thoroughly with your hands (this is the best part). Repeat.
- 4) Spread mulch out evenly across the top.
- 5) Have a cool drink and high five your friend!



NEXT LESSON: Planting and care of your garden beds!

Events

Tune up your finances and get a FREE bag of groceries!

SEED (Sowing Empowerment & Economic Development) is hosting a program to help you organize your finances.

You can receive a free bag of groceries for attending the workshops!

The workshops happen once a month at 9:00-10:30am on February 27, March 26, April 23, May 21, June 25, July 23.

For more information call 301- 458-9808

Minutes for March 2

West Lanham Hills Citizens' Association - March 2, 2016

Officers present:

Lan Tsubata, Sarah Tsubata, Will Nathan

Invocation was given by Wanda Brooks

Minutes were read. Wanda Brooks moved to accept the minutes; seconded by Kay Rager.

Passed by voice vote.

Financial report was read. Ken-sei Tsubata moved to accept the report; second by David Cole. Passed by voice vote.

New Business:

Lucinda Toliver & Maxsean Brooks volunteered to be on the Election Committee.

Will Nathan moved to adjourn; seconded by Ollie Hewick.