

# WEST LANHAM HILLS CITIZEN

February 2020

Next Meeting: Wed. Feb. 5, 2019 7:30 PM

Monday: Yard Waste Pick Up | Thursday: Recycling & Trash Pick Up | Call 311 to schedule bulk trash pickup

## President's Corner: Lan Tsubata

### Watch Out!

On January 8<sup>th</sup> at our neighborhood association meeting we were lucky enough to have Kim Lugo present about Neighborhood Watch. Ms. Lugo, a Neighborhood Watch instructor for the last 25 years, has helped countless neighborhoods start a Neighborhood Watch program within their own communities. Neighborhood Watch is a program that trains neighbors in observation and communication between neighbors and community police officers to report safety concerns and crimes in our communities. It is the practical application of how to be a "good neighbor," Being observant of our surroundings, knowing one's neighbors and communicating to the authorities helps reduce and deter crime.

Neighborhood Watch has nothing to do with monitoring immigration/residency status or issues. It is a tool we as a neighborhood can use to prevent crime in our community. A few basic tips Ms. Lugo shared with us are: keeping porch lights on, closing curtains in your home and locking your home and car doors. If we would like to receive training to start our own Neighborhood Watch then all we need to start is a few volunteers from each street. This is perfect for Stay-at-home parents, retired individuals, those that work night shifts, those that work early shifts, Spanish speakers, renters, homeowners--basically everyone and anyone. You are needed and an important asset to creating a Neighborhood Watch. Training is only one hour, and you don't have to take time out of your normal day to be a part of the program--just be alert, aware, and know how to respond if there is a problem.

If you are interested in being a part of the Neighborhood Watch, please email Lan Tsubata at [Lansubata@yahoo.com](mailto:Lansubata@yahoo.com).

## Correction from previous newsletter:

The speed radar trailers were provided by the Department of Public Works & Transportation (DPW &T) and staff not Sergeant Chabla and the PG Police Department. Thank you, DPW & T!

## Who Let The Dogs Out?

Our neighborhood is a great place to live and raise children and pets. Recently however there have been a few issues concerning dogs. One of the issues talked about regularly at the Association meetings is that dog's waste (poop) is found regularly in neighbors' yards, sidewalks and other public areas. There are many instances of people finding and stepping into little "presents" from dogs. It is the law that Dog owners must pick up their dog's waste and dispose of it into a plastic bag and place it in the trash. Please be respectful of your neighbors and friends and clean up after your Dog.

A much more serious issue that has been reported multiple times are dogs roaming the neighborhood un-leashed. It is the law for all dogs to be leashed. A few residents, including young children, have been chased, barked at and threatened by dogs in our neighborhood. These dogs may have been let out or have escaped from their homes/yards. We love the dogs in our neighborhood and many dogs can be sweet and docile, but some can act aggressively in unfamiliar situations. If you encounter an unfamiliar dog don't approach him, if the dog approaches you don't run, don't look them in the eyes, stay still till the dog loses interest or give a strong firm "no!" or "stop!". If you encounter an aggressive dog or animal, please report the incident to animal control at 301-708 7200. For the safety of our dogs, neighbors and children please keep your dogs on a leash or safely in your fenced-in yard. Thank you!

## West Lanham Hills Citizens' Association Board

President: Lan Tsubata ([lansubata@yahoo.com](mailto:lansubata@yahoo.com))  
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Parliamentarian position open due to work relocation. If you would like offer your name for election, please contact Lan Tsubata, ([lansubata@yahoo.com](mailto:lansubata@yahoo.com)).