

WEST LANHAM HILLS CITIZEN

January 2020

Next Meeting: Wed. Jan. 8, 2020 7:30 PM

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

Santa's Workshop Report

Volunteers were the stars of this year's Santa's Workshop. In the previous week, they had helped clean out the shed and organize the various craft materials that had been left over from 20 years of Santa's workshops.

Then, on Friday night, they set up the room and loaded in the materials. Several helped set up the new, stronger shelves for the shed, which helped us load and unload the many bins and boxes. The hard work was rewarded with plenty of pizza and sodas!

Saturday morning, these "elves" were there, bright and early, to prepare the give-away craft materials. Also, many neighbors donated clothes, toys and housewares for other neighbors to pick up. Cheery music from many nations played, as neighbors arrived to receive their bags, browse the tables, and take the craft project items that they wished to work on at home.

For food, the great Greg McNair prepared grilled hotdogs, which was augmented by the special dishes contributed by neighbors like Charlotte Harris, Kay Rager, Juana Gonzales, Jan Brock, Fulvia Guerra, Kate Tsubata, and others.

Sergeant Chabla contributed new toys, on behalf of our police department which were happily received. Many neighbors enjoyed picking out housewares, toys and clothes. The leftover items were brought to the thrift store by Sarah Tsubata.

Santa arrived and heard from numerous children about their Christmas wishes, taking photos with the families.

Mr. Saturnino Reyes was presented with the wood chipper that Mrs. Getz donated to him.

It was great to see everyone helping out, in the true spirit of Christmas, to make a lovely experience for everyone in the community!



Top, Volunteers organize craft materials. Middle, Santa poses with Sgt. Chabla and Fulvia. Bottom, Mr. Reyes receives the wood chipper donated by a grateful neighbor.

Happy New Year! Let's make 2020 a great year in West Lanham Hills!

ESL Classes News

Our regular Thursday night English as a Second Language class held a Potluck on Thursday, Dec. 19, attended by about 15 neighbors. Specialty dishes were shared, and a raffle was held for a nice gift.



Christmas Tree Disposal

Natural Christmas Trees (not artificial) can be left for yard waste pick up on Mondays until January 27th. Remove all decorations before putting it out that morning. Other yard waste: bagged leaves, grass cuttings, yard trim.

Thefts from Vehicles

A number of neighbors have experienced thefts from their vehicles in the past several months, and the trend seems to be increasing. Thanks to several owning security cameras, footage of the thieves is becoming available, but in the meantime, please be aware of your own vehicle’s safety, and also, look out for your neighbors. If you see something suspicious happening, call 911. If someone broke into your car, call 301-351-1200.

West Lanham Hills Citizens’ Association Board

- President: Lan Tsubata (lantsubata@yahoo.com)
- Vice President: Fulvia Guerra (fulviaguerra11@gmail.com)
- Secretary: Sarah Tsubata (sarahtsubata@gmail.com)
- Treasurer: Mike Driggers (driggers.michael@gmail.com)
- Parliamentarian:

Neighborhood Watch

One of the best deterrents to crime is alert neighbors. A neighborhood watch program is a simple way to improve security in a community.

To do such a program, we need at least one neighbor from each street block, to be a captain. The volunteers will be trained by a Neighborhood Watch representative. Ms. Kim Lugo will be at our next community meeting on Wednesday, January 8, to explain how the program works. If you might be interested in being someone who watches out for the community, please attend.

We will hold a training at a later date, once we have sufficient volunteers.

Also, please report any crime or dangerous circumstance to the police. The Non-Emergency Number is 301-352-1200. Each report creates a case number, which our community police officers can track and act on. By reporting, you help the police be aware of trends such as thefts from sheds, houses or cars, in a certain area, or other crimes.

This has nothing to do with immigration or documentation; police are only looking for actual criminal activity.

Also, be aware that phone or email scams are taking place, sometimes pretending to have your relative in jail or kidnapped. If you receive any such phone call, call 911 immediately, and check with other family and friends if the person is actually missing.

Signs of the Times!

You may have noticed: our iconic “Welcome to West Lanham Hills” sign has been upgraded, with new lettering, new paint, and a new apron of river rock and concrete. Also, the historic plaques honoring those who gave outstanding service to the community were replaced with newly minted versions, allowing Mr. Walter Harris’s name to be added. We owe this to the Neighborhood Design Center’s Allie O’Neil, with County support.

Also, Sgt. Chabla and the Community Police officers arranged for two mobile signs to be set on Garrison Road to show motorists how fast they are going. This was in response to community requests. Thank you!