

## Mail in GFCA Dues Today—See Inside



FALL 2016

News

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### *Come to a **Party on Saturday Dec. 10***

#### **Tilden Woods Park Recreation Center Renovation Ribbon-Cutting!!**

Have you seen the newly renovated Tilden Park Recreation Center? No? Then please come to the grand opening/ribbon cutting on **Saturday, December 10**, from 2-5 pm. We will be thanking representatives from the Parks Department for updating our neighborhood recreation center, having some fun and eating cake and drinks. *Did I mention cake?*

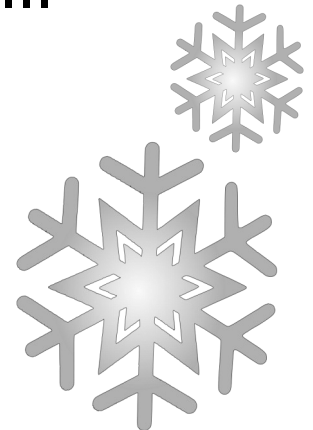


### Then we have ANOTHER PARTY...

#### **Winter on the Farm(land)—2<sup>ND</sup> Edition**

Just when you're getting the Winter blues, the GFCA will be holding its 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Winter on the Farm(land) party on **Saturday, January 28, 2017**. There will be food, crafts, shows and fun galore for every age. If you want to help with this event, drop a line to Kathy Hoffman, Social committee chair, [kathhoff@comcast.net](mailto:kathhoff@comcast.net).

Details will be posted on the listserv, Facebook, and GreaterFarmland.org



#### **...And a Spring General Meeting**

Pencil in mid-March for interesting speakers and our annual election of officers. The Nominations committee will be forming soon. To volunteer, contact Toby Levin, [tobylevin@comcast.net](mailto:tobylevin@comcast.net).

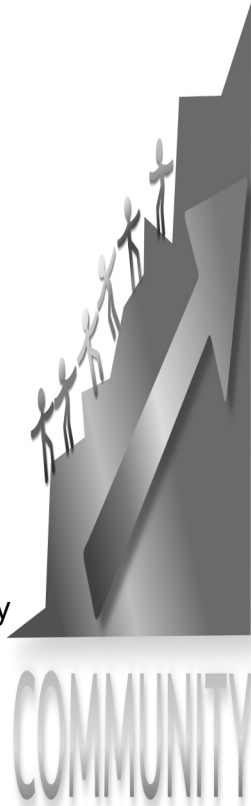
#### **Welcome to our Community**

We are happy to announce a new GFCA initiative to welcome residents to our community. Starting in 2017, the Welcome committee will deliver a welcome package to our new neighbors, which will include our latest community directory and information about our neighborhood and local resources. We hope to include welcome offers from local retailers and services. Do you have something to offer you think would be of value to our new neighbors? Please contact Rick at [communications@greaterfarmland.org](mailto:communications@greaterfarmland.org).

## Welcome to the Neighborhood!

Please join us in welcoming our new neighbors

The Lanham Family  
The Coval Family  
The Amlin Family  
The Stasheff Family  
The Wells Family  
The Russell Family  
The Xu Family  
The Keohane Family  
The Sagar Family  
The Jalazo Family  
The Pollard Family  
The Lindner Family  
The Weissman Family  
The Keren Family  
The Miller/Yuen Family  
The Barthelemy Family  
The Card Family  
The Friedman Family  
The Dolan/Giancarla Family  
The Shachar Family  
The Yoshida Family  
The Clark Family  
The Vanrooyen Family



## Schools

MCPS Superintendent Jack Smith has released a report on overcrowding in our schools and has made recommendations to the Board of Education. The full report can be found at [montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/cipmaster.aspx](http://montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/planning/cipmaster.aspx).

Here is a summary of the actions taken by the Board of Ed early in November. Administrators, staff, PTAs, and GFCA community members have worked tirelessly for the current set of solutions. We thank all of those active in this process.

For our community, three key points emerge:

1. The Tilden renovation is now a full go at the Tilden Lane/Marcliff Road intersection, with the middle school population to be relocated to the new facility.
2. The BOE will re-open Woodward as a high school once Tilden Middle School has moved out. The purpose will be to reduce overcrowding at Walter Johnson High School and to keep the cluster intact.
3. Farmland Elementary School will be monitored for enrollment numbers with some re-assignment possible after Luxmanor Elementary has been renovated in 2020.

## GFCA Beautification Projects in the Works

The Beautification committee is obtaining estimates to replace missing lettering on Tilden Woods and Old Farm (brick) community entrance walls. Locations: Montrose Road/Tildenwood Lane (east & west walls), near the corners of Old Stage Road/Tildenwood Drive, and Tilden Lane/Stonewood Lane

We are also seeking bids to rebuild the failing brick entrance wall by Tilden Lane/Stonewood Lane (near 6901).

The Dept. of Transportation has our request to remove ten dead trees bordering streets/sidewalks within the GFCA community.

Consultations are underway with a potential new contractor to provide scheduled annual maintenance for approximately 17, currently landscaped, common areas (circles, medians, entrances). More to follow, after January.

In the future, we hope to establish a Garden Club.

Contact Pamela Levine, [pamelalevine@verizon.net](mailto:pamelalevine@verizon.net).





## Jobs Board

Did you know that the GFCFA has a Jobs Board for teenagers in the neighborhood? If you need a babysitter, someone to do yard work, tutoring, moving large items around, pet sitting, musical instrument instruction, etc., contact Wendy Perry at [wwperry1@verizon.net](mailto:wwperry1@verizon.net)

## Highlights of October GFCFA Community Meeting

The GFCFA held an informative community meeting on October 18<sup>th</sup>. The 80 folks who attended received timely information and advice from Officer Oliver Janey, Montgomery County Police, District 2 Community Relations, WSSC Old Farm Creek Stormwater Restoration Project Team representatives, and Tim LaCoste of State Farm Insurance.

**Officer Janey** addressed community members on the topics of community awareness and traffic safety. If you see something in progress, you should only call 911 to report a true emergency. Other concerns should be reported via the Police Non-Emergency number (301) 279-8000. Officer Janey said that neighbors who see a crime or suspicious activity should request an officer visit them and take a report, not simply phone it in. Residents should not attempt to stop the actions underway without police assistance. On traffic issues, Officer Janey told the community that when they witness traffic violations, such as speeding and failure of drivers to come to a complete stop at stop signs, cell phone videos and/or a description of the car, including make, model and tag number are very helpful to police in following up on such concerns. He encouraged community members to call the Non-Emergency number to report all concerns and to follow the rule, "If you see something, say something."

**The WSSC Old Farm Creek Stormwater Restoration Project Team** reported on the Storm Restoration Project for Old Farm Creek from the end of Old Club Road northward along the creek toward Tilden Woods Park. The purpose of the project is to restore and stabilize Old Farm Creek, reducing erosion of the creek beds, removal of debris from the creek, protection of mature trees in the area, stabilization of the outflow tributaries from the creek and protection of existing infrastructure. The project will take place over a 10 week period from December 2016 through March 2017. Work on the project will take place Monday through Friday from 7 AM to 7 PM. Access to the staging site will be at the end of Old Club Road. Truck traffic through the neighborhood should be expected during the project during such times that it does not conflict with local school traffic. Roads in the community will be evaluated pre and post project and any necessary repairs to roads which might be damaged during the project will be made by WSSC.

**Tim LaCoste, with the State Farm Insurance Company**, addressed the community on matters related to homeowners insurance and roof replacement claims in light of the hail storm in May. Mr. LaCoste advised community members who had questions about whether specific situations were suitable as homeowner's insurance claims to consult with their insurance agent. Mr. LaCoste indicated that homeowners make sure that their policies include a special endorsement to cover situations such as water intrusion from backed-up sewers and drains. He explained that damage from falling water is covered but damage from rising water is not without a separate flood insurance policy. As for insurance costs, because the hail storm was considered a catastrophic event, a claim for roof damage would most likely not be considered a claim against an individual's policy but may affect everyone's rates down the road.

## Free or Subsidized Transportation Services

Did you know that many of us can use the Ride-On buses for free? **Riders who are 65 and older and persons with disabilities** with ID's can ride free between 9:30 AM and 3:00 PM Monday through Saturday. **Students in grades K-12** can ride free from 2:00 – 8:00 PM weekdays with a Youth Cruiser SmarTrip card or a valid school ID. We have two routes that run along Montrose Road: Route 81, which runs during AM and PM rush hours Monday-Friday, and Route 42, which runs all day Monday-Saturday. For schedules, go to [montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-transit/routesandschedules/rideonroutes.html](http://montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-transit/routesandschedules/rideonroutes.html) or call 240-777-5800. .

The County has also a Call-n-Ride Program that provides subsidized taxi trips for **seniors and low-income persons with disabilities**. To be eligible for the Call-n-Ride Program, you must either be low income and at least 65 years of age or low income, or 18 years of age or over with a disability. For more information, go to [montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-transit/seniors.html](http://montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-transit/seniors.html) or call 301-948-5409 (Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.)

There are many other free or reduced price transportation options available to seniors and persons with disabilities. Go to [montgomerycountymd.gov/DOT-Transit/Resources/Files/seniors/Transportation%20Options%20in%20Montgomery%20County.pdf](http://montgomerycountymd.gov/DOT-Transit/Resources/Files/seniors/Transportation%20Options%20in%20Montgomery%20County.pdf) for a brochure on what's available.



### Metro Service Under Attack

Many of us depend on Metro to get to and from work or for other trips around our region. As part of the proposed Metro budget, service cuts have been proposed for the White Flint Station and others north of White Flint. During peak hours, trains would serve the station every 8 minutes, rather than the current 6 minutes. During non-peak hours, trains would come every 15 minutes, rather than the current 6-10 minutes. Your association is working with Friends of White Flint to ensure that service gets better, not worse. Here is an excerpt from a letter we sent to Metro:

“As residents, property owners, government employees, and businesses, we are strong supporters of Metro. We use Metro to get to jobs, homes, and entertainment, and we believe Metro is an indispensable part of our community. It is because we believe in Metro that we are convinced that service cutbacks as described in WMATA's proposed budget would be extraordinarily damaging to not just the White Flint/Pike District area but also the entire metropolitan area. Quite simply, headways at the WMATA White Flint Station must remain every six minutes during peak times, and headways must be far more frequent than the proposed fifteen minutes during non-peak hours. Diminished service during both peak and non-peak times would decimate the White Flint/Pike District area.”

### Safety Tips from the Transportation Committee

Here are a few reminders related to road safety on our neighborhood (and other) streets, for drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians alike.

We have gotten requests in the past for info about school bus stop times. Middle and high school students are waiting at bus stops all over the neighborhood between about 7:00 and 8:00 in the morning and walking home from bus stops between about 2:30 and 3:30. Additionally, many students and families are traveling on foot, bicycle, or scooter to and from elementary schools -- and safety patrols and crossing guards are stepping into some intersections -- between about 8:30 and 9:45 am and about 3:00 and 4:15 pm. Please be mindful of kids walking to/from bus stops and school and waiting for the bus, particularly as winter approaches, it's dark earlier, and some bus routes do not have sidewalks.

Montgomery County is ramping up enforcement of the law that school buses with red lights flashing cannot be passed. See a video from MCPS at [montgomeryschools.md.org/mainstory/story.aspx?id=498923](http://montgomeryschools.md.org/mainstory/story.aspx?id=498923).

The Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration has some helpful tips and info on road safety at [mva.maryland.gov/safety/](http://mva.maryland.gov/safety/) with specific reminders on bicycle safety, pedestrian safety, distracted driving, and other topics.

Thanks so much for reading and for helping make our neighborhood streets and sidewalks safe for everyone!

## Annual Membership Drive for 2017 Renew – Join NOW

Membership in Greater Farmland Civic Association is handled through the online directory system. Payment online at the directory site automatically renews your membership.

### You Can Join or Renew Your Membership the Following Ways:

**Online**...Log into the GFCFA directory using your directory ID and password at **AtoZdirectories.com/home** on a computer (membership dues cannot be paid on a mobile device). Click the Purchases tab, follow the prompts to purchase the 2017 membership using your credit card or PayPal. *Please be sure to reference your payment to your home address so that the payment can be definitively directed to your household.*

**By Mail**...Use the enclosed pre-addressed envelope to mail a check, made payable to GFCFA for \$25, to Emily Mintz, GFCFA Membership/Directory chair, 6712 Sulky Lane

When you are an active member, you can have online access to the entries of all households in the community. You can also download the mobile app, HOAAPP, available at the Apple Store or Google Play, so your community directory is at your fingertips.



- If you are a new member, email [directory@GreaterFarmland.org](mailto:directory@GreaterFarmland.org), and we will respond with an introductory email with your login and instructions.
- If you have misplaced your password, click Forgot Password on login page, and a reset email will be sent to you.

**Take this opportunity to update your household info in the directory.**

**Return the postcard *ONLY* if you have *UPDATED* or *NEW* information for the directory.**

If at all possible, please provide an email address so that you can receive a login and password for the online directory and we can email notices and announcements to you.

Households that have provided no information may have names inserted in the GFCFA directory, derived from public property tax records. If you *do not* want this information included, you must “opt out” by checking the Opt Out box on the enclosed postcard and mailing it in the enclosed return envelope.

**GreaterFarmland.org**

**Directory@GreaterFarmland.org**

Join Us!

# Do You Know Your Block Captain?

Our block captains are the heart and soul of the community and are your direct contact with GFCA.

## PLEASE VOLUNTEER

The blocks listed below do not have a block captain:

Old Cabin Lane  
 Plantation Lane and Court  
 Rolling House Road 11400 block  
 Stonewood Lane 11900-11924  
 Tilden Lane 6801-6822  
 Tilden Lane 7011-7025  
 Wolfree Lane 7104-7128

If you live on one of these streets, please consider becoming the captain for your block.  
 Contact Marta Vogel, [marta@limelightdrama.com](mailto:marta@limelightdrama.com)

## Thank Your Block Captain

Most block captains are listed in your directory.

Don't have a print directory in your home? We have a few extras.

Email [directory@greaterfarmland.org](mailto:directory@greaterfarmland.org) or call Emily Mintz, 301-704-2913

Breezewood Terrace	Marta Vogel	Old Stage Road 6504-6717	Wendy Perry
Dinwiddie Drive	Eileen McGuckian	Old Stage Road 6811-6834	Renate Neumann
Farmland Drive 11200-11315	Robin Brannan	Old Stage Road 6835-6941	Deede Lofft
Farmland Drive 11400-11713	Karen Lipsy	Old Stage Road 7001-7308	Pamela Levine
Farmland Drive 11714-11848	Karen McKay	Old Stage Court	
Hitching Post Lane 11500-11514	Lisa Bonato	Race Horse Lane	Ilene Reid
Hitching Post Lane 11600-11621	Kevin Novak	Renwood Lane	Mike Teller
Hitching Post Place		Rolling House Road 11300-11327	Steve Galloway
Hitching Post Lane 11701-11819	Paige Connelly	Split Rail Court	Barry Loper
Hitching Post Lane 11900-12011	Kate McQueen & Inger Margulies	Stonewood Court	Faye Bresler
Hitching Post Lane 12012-12111	Mark Lieber	Stonewood Lane 11400-11410	Suzanne Keller
Hitching Post Court		Stonewood Terrace	
Hounds Way	Larry Zimmerman	Stonewood Lane 11501-11512	Mary Snodderly
Magruder Lane	Tom Biggs	Stonewood Lane 11703-11805	Peggy Ellett
Old Gate Lane		Sulky Lane 6600-6705	Callie Zuppas
Oden Court	Ellen Cohen	Sulky Lane 6707-6730	Emily Mintz
Old Bridge Road	Connie Jacobson	Sulky Lane 6804-7041	Barbara Boehne
Old Club Road 11200-11206	Joan Butler	Tilden Lane 6900-7010	Kristen Worch
Old Club Court		Tildenwood Lane	Craig Whitaker
Old Club Road 11207-11317	Kathy Hoffman	Tildenwood Drive	
Old Gate Court	Mary Woytek	Whippoorwill Lane	Terry & Gingie Glover
Old Gate Place	Robyn Strauss	Whippoorwill Court	
Old Gate Road	Allan Schwartz	Wolfree Lane 7001-7072	Andrea Goldensohn & Anne Willoughby

## Rock Your Block

As winter approaches, wouldn't it be nice to start planning a spring get-together? Connect with neighbors by organizing a block party! It's simple to do. Just pick a date and location (your home, your yard, a common area near your block, or the newly renovated recreation center. You can even get a permit to block off part of your street ([montgomerycountymd.gov/311/Solutions.aspx?SolutionId=1-3FQC36](http://montgomerycountymd.gov/311/Solutions.aspx?SolutionId=1-3FQC36)) and invite all the folks on your block. Keep it low key and make it a potluck – you can even use Sign Up Genius ([signupgenius.com](http://signupgenius.com)) to coordinate what each family will bring. Kevin Novak, Tom Walsh, and Marta Vogel have organized block parties and have lots of great ideas. GFCFA wants to encourage neighbors connecting with neighbors, so the GFCFA will give you up to \$100 toward food & fun. Contact Tom Biggs, [treasurer@GreaterFarmland.org](mailto:treasurer@GreaterFarmland.org).



## Fall Leaf Collection

Fall is upon us, which means that our neighborhood of tall, mature trees has lots of leaves to deal with. Some of you have county collection, while others do not. For those of you who do, leaf collection is underway, and you are billed approx. \$160 on your annual property tax bill for leaf collection and weekly trash collection. For those who don't, or who didn't get their leaves raked in time, the County collects bagged leaves and yard waste weekly on recycling day. An easy way to deal with leaves is to have a mulching lawn mower cut up the leaves where they fall so that they provide nutrition for the grass and soil during the fall and winter months, which lessens the need for chemicals and other fertilizers.

### Let's Enhance our Communications

Connect with neighbors and the civic association via GreaterFarmland listserv, like our FaceBook page ([facebook.com/greaterfarmland](http://facebook.com/greaterfarmland)), visit [GreaterFarmland.org](http://GreaterFarmland.org), become a block captain, come to parties & meetings, or host a block party.

## What's Happening Around Pike and Rose?

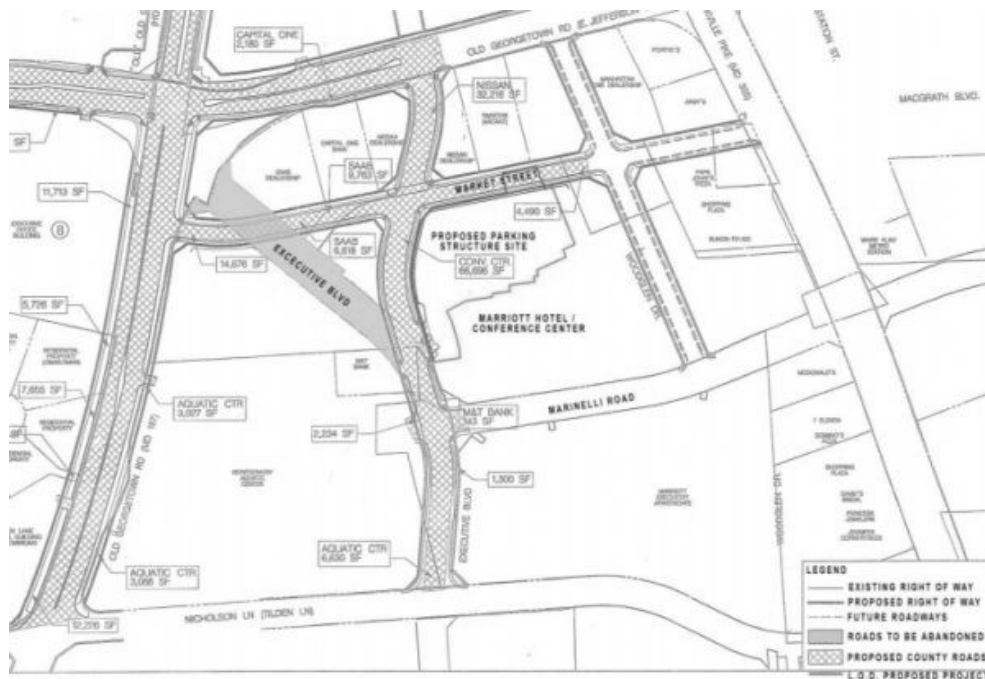
As many of you know, the areas surrounding Rockville Pike from Montrose Road south to Edson Lane are in the process of being redeveloped from strip shopping centers with acres of parking into a more urban district with shops, restaurants, apartment-type housing and office space. Over time, the area will become more pedestrian and bicycle friendly, with wide sidewalks, shorter blocks, on-street retail and bike-jog lanes.

Pike and Rose, at the intersection of Rockville Pike and Old Georgetown Road, has finished its Phase I development and is now working on Phase II, which will, when it opens at the end of next year, include more retail (REI, Pinstripes, H&M, Sur la Table, Taylor Gourmet, Red Door Salon), a new Canopy by Hilton Hotel, apartments/condominiums, a public library, and gathering spaces.

2017 will also herald the construction of a new high-rise apartment building where McDonalds now sits, which will mean the demolition of half of the adjacent shopping center. There will be restaurants/retail on the ground floor and a newly created gathering space in front of the new apartment building.

The reconfiguration of Old Georgetown Road and Executive Boulevard is underway. Named the "Western Workaround," it will realign Executive Boulevard where it meets Old Georgetown Road, and creates a new street, Market Street, behind the Marriott Hotel and Conference Center. The realignment creates a rectangular parcel that will become an apartment community call The Gables, located behind the Shriver Aquatic Center. The road behind Pike and Rose will open to Old Georgetown Road at a newly-configured intersection. More information is available at [pikedistrict.org/future](http://pikedistrict.org/future).

Here's what the road network will look like after the work is done:



## What are the Next Plans? White Flint Phase 2

The Montgomery County Planning Board has released a draft plan for the second phase of revisions to the current plans for the White Flint area. This one involves the areas surrounding the existing White Flint sector and includes the Executive Boulevard office buildings, the areas on Rockville Pike north of Montrose Road between Executive Boulevard and Nebel Street (including the shopping center where the Giant is) and areas east of Nebel Street south of Randolph Road. The Plan envisions the future of the area between the White Flint Sector Plan area and the City of Rockville by recommending opportunities for infill and transitional development at key locations. Commercial properties, especially shopping centers along Rockville Pike, are likely to change into mixed-use urban places. GFCA is a member of the White Flint Implementation Committee and is actively monitoring the plan. For more information, go to [montgomeryplanning.org/planning/communities/area-2/white-flint-2-sector-plan/](http://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/communities/area-2/white-flint-2-sector-plan/). A public hearing is scheduled for January 12<sup>th</sup> at the Planning Board, 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring.