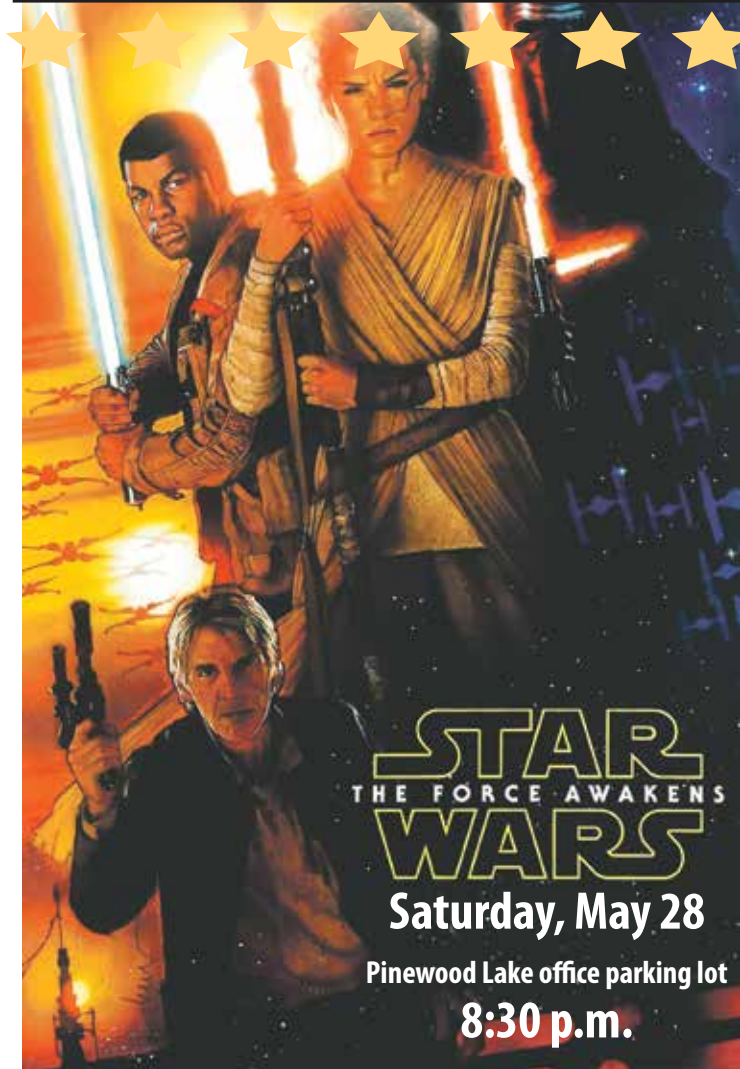




Pool pass application inside!

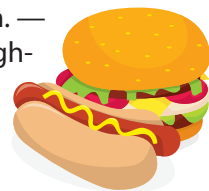
CINEMA



Kicking off summer in Pinewood Lake!

Memorial Day weekend is the unofficial beginning of summer, and Pinewood Lake has a lot going on. All Pinewood Lake residents are invited to join the fun on Saturday, May 28. Everything is FREE for residents:

- **Pool opening** — Get a pool pass and start swimming. The pool opens Saturday, May 28 at 11 a.m., and will be open 11 a.m. – 8 p.m. weekends, 3 p.m. – 8 p.m. weekdays, until Fairfax County schools close for the summer. Summer hours will be 11 a.m. – 8 p.m. every day until Labor Day, September 5.
- **Pinewood Porpoises Torch Run, 3 p.m.** — The swim team will carry a torch throughout the neighborhood, and end at the pool. Cheer on your swim team!
- **Memorial Day barbecue at the pool, 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.** — The PLHA provides hotdogs, hamburgers and iced tea. Residents are encouraged to bring side dishes and desserts to share.
- Come to the first **movie night** of the year, at 8:30 p.m. — *Star Wars VII: The Force Awakens*. It will be shown in the PLHA office parking lot, free to all residents, and popcorn will be served.



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Important volunteer opportunity

We need you! The Board has formed an Ad Hoc Committee to discuss revising the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions (DCCR, one of the major governing documents of the community) and is looking for any interested homeowners.

Please contact the office at 703-360-6212 or via email at plha@verizon.net to join the committee.

...

Memorial Day, May 30

The office is closed, but there will be regular trash and recycling collection.

Pinewood Porpoises swim team

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Board happenings

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Better roads are on the way.

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Around our community

Easter Egg Hunt.

Page 8

Registration is now open for the Pinewood Porpoises swim team!

Make this your year to join the Pinewood Porpoises! Beginners or skilled, there is a place for you! We are members of the Northern Virginia Swim League.

Register kids between 4 and 18 years old today at the PLHA office, or download our form online at www.pinewoodporpoises.org. The season runs Tuesday, May 31 through Sunday, July 31.

For more information, contact:

Walter K. Wright (571) 237-7737

Donna M. Wright (571) 237-7738

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Niños y niñas de 4 a 18 años de edad!

Las inscripciones ya están abiertas para participar en el equipo de natación de Pinewood Lake!

Principiantes o avanzados, cualquiera puede participar. Nuestro equipo es miembro de la Liga de Natación del Norte de Virginia.

Puede registrar a los niños en la oficina o encuentre la forma en el sitio web: www.pinewoodporpoises.org.

La temporada va del martes 31 de mayo hasta domingo, 31 de julio.

Para más información llame a:

Walter K. Wright (571) 237-7737

Donna M. Wright (571) 237-7738

O en español:

Gina/John Toro-Lugo (703) 619-6503

...



Pinewood Porpoises Torch Run

Saturday, May 28, 3 p.m.

Torch bearers — members of the Pinewood Porpoises swim team — will visit all 15 areas of our neighborhood before concluding their run at the annual barbecue, kicking off our pool season.

The route will begin at the Central Park Circle gazebo and end at the Pinewood Lake swimming pool. Note that our torch will be a safe adaptation for our torch bearers.

Let the summer games begin!

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Help us raise funds for the Porpoises!

We are working with a fundraising website where you can make custom apparel. Consider us for Mother's Day, graduation, Father's Day, family reunions, or any other occasion.

Visit www.shop.mylocker.net and enter locker number **HZ004**. Save \$10 at checkout using code **fTbQwBK3**.

You can customize T-shirts, sweatshirts, polo shirts, shorts, caps, duffel bags, backpacks, beach towels, robes, blankets, jackets, laptop covers, etc.

The Pinewood Porpoises will earn a commission on each item you purchase. We also have sponsorship opportunities. For more information visit pinewoodporpoises.org.

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We got spirit, yes we do; we got spirit, how 'bout you?

Pinewood Pool Opens May 28

Residents need to complete the annual pool pass application found in this issue of *The Needle* and on the PLHA website, pinewoodlake.net.

Every resident needs to renew their current pool pass. (There is a \$5 processing fee to replace lost pool passes.) New residents need to have their picture taken for a pool pass to be issued. There is no charge for new residents to obtain a pool pass.

Applications can be processed during Pinewood office hours. In addition, the Pool Committee will process applications on Wednesday, May 18 from 6–7 p.m. and on Thursday, May 26 from 6–7 p.m.

Pool rules and private pool party resolutions are the same as last year. Residents and their guests are reminded to follow the guidelines at all times. The resolutions are posted on the Pinewood Lake website, under Documents and Policy Resolutions.

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Thank you, cleanup volunteers!

Thank you so much to all who participated in the Community Cleanup on Saturday, April 16. Our community is more beautiful thanks to those of you who gave your time and energy.

- Tricia Gosby
- Lisa Keyser, Adrian and Carmen
- Mark Pilling
- Brian Palazzolo
- Diana Bishop
- Edna Burns
- Ethan, Emilie, Mike and Lisa Hoban
- Gina Toro
- Fil Martinez
- Mary Helen Martinez
- Larry Dickenson
- Ellen Dickenson
- Lone Knapp



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Ask the CSL

by Karen Mestemaker



Dear Community Support Liaison (CSL),

We just moved into the community and we couldn't be happier. But, we are new to living with a homeowner association. could you point out some of the advantages to us?

Response: Residing in a neighborhood with a Homeowners Association (HOA) offers significant advantages. Here are a few:

1. Neighborhood Curb Appeal. HOAs maintain things that would otherwise be your responsibility. This includes landscaping of the common grounds. However, you are responsible for your front/side/rear yards. If you are making changes to your yard, be sure to call the office to see if you need to fill out an Architectural Control Committee (ACC) request form.

2. Landscaped Entrance and Amenities. PLHA provides a well-maintained and attractive entrance to your neighborhood and provides residents with a pool, playgrounds, and walking paths throughout the community, all of which are utilized year round. These amenities result in an increase of your property value.

3. Pool and Swim Team. The pool will be opening in May, details are outlined here in the newsletter.

Thanks for contacting the CSL with your question!

Ask your question of the Community Support Liaison by email at csl@pinewoodlake.net, or call the office at 703-360-6212.

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Important trash reminders

Trash cans and recycling bins should be kept in rear yards out of sight from the sidewalk until dark the night before collection. Cans should be moved back to the rear yard by midnight after collection.

Trash should be secured at all times (preferably in a can with a tight-fitting lid).

As the weather gets warmer and birds (including vultures!) and other wildlife start scrounging for food, it is important for all residents to properly secure all trash and put trash out as close as possible to the collection time.

Thank you for your help in making Pinewood Lake a cleaner place to live!

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Save the date: Community yard sale

Start setting aside sales items now!

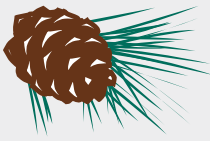
Our community yard sale will be Saturday, June 11, from 8 a.m. — 1 p.m. The rain date is Sunday, June 12. Residents may use their own yards only; the community center and common grounds are not authorized sales areas.

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PLHA Calendar

Meetings are held at the PLHA office at 7:30 p.m., unless otherwise stated.

- May 3 ACC meeting
- May 8..... Mother's Day
- May 12 PLHA Board meeting
- May 18 Pool Committee, 7 p.m.
- May 18 *The Needle* deadline
- May 19 Publications Committee
- May 24 Maintenance Committee
- May 26 Marketing Committee
- May 28 PLHA pool opens, 11 a.m.
- Pinewood Porpoises torch run, 3 p.m.
- Memorial Day barbecue, 5 p.m.
- Movie Night: *Star Wars VII*, 8:30 p.m.
- May 30 Memorial Day holiday
- June 11..... Community Yard Sale



The Needle

is published by the

Pinewood Lake Homeowners Association

www.pinewoodlake.net

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Alexandria, Virginia 22309-1209

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Email: plha@verizon.net

Office Hours

Monday – Friday: 12 noon – 3 p.m. • Saturday: 9 a.m. – 12 noon

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 Vice President..... Richard Hall
 Secretary..... Salvatore P. Simonetta
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 Jack Kaufman, Maggie Srivastav

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703-203-4506 • acc@pinewoodlake.net

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The Needle is the official publication of the Pinewood Lake Homeowners Association (PLHA). Advertising in *The Needle* does not imply approval or sanction of products or services by PLHA. Noncommercial classified ads for goods are free to residents. Contact Kirsten Davis at the PLHA office.

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Autism Awareness

Part II — Know the Signs

By Gary E. Woodlin

This month I would like to briefly highlight some of the signs in children with autism, continuing with my theme from last issue.

The Centers for Disease Control describes Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs) as “developmental disabilities that cause substantial impairments in social interaction and communication and the presence of unusual behaviors and interests.” An ASD begins before the age of 3 and lasts throughout a person’s life.

The term *spectrum* denotes the span of the condition, which can be mild, moderate, severe, or profound. Autism often will not impact two individuals alike. For instance, in twins or siblings who have autism, one can be totally verbal, where the other one may not speak at all.

There are a number of early warning signs, of which parents need to be aware. In many cases, the child does not talk or babble. There is a lack of eye contact; they don’t respond to their name and there is an inappropriate use of toys. Again, every child is different, and they must be diagnosed by a licensed psychologist.

Please visit autismsciencefoundation.org/what-is-autism/early-signs-of-autism for the early warning signs of autism as it relates to certain milestones a child should meet.

The earlier a child is diagnosed and receives intervention, the greater the chance they will overcome some of the impacts of autism. Early intervention is the key!

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Don’t be mosquito meat!

Mosquito control is important. Not only are mosquitoes a nuisance, they have the potential to spread very dangerous diseases. Do your part to control mosquitoes, and protect yourself and your family:



1. Eliminate standing water, or treat it with larvicides to prevent mosquito breeding.
2. Spray your yard carefully, with appropriate insecticides.
3. Wear insect repellent. Look for the ingredient DEET, which is most effective against mosquitoes.
4. Avoid being outside at peak mosquito hours: Dawn and early evening.

You can learn more at the Fairfax County website: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hd/westnile/mosquito.htm.

...

Board Happenings

Board happenings

At its April 14, 2016 meeting, the Board:

Met with its attorney.

Denied an ACC Request to remove grass and install mulch in the front yard and to keep a glider and patio chairs in the front yard, as these items are not in compliance with the Yard Standard.

Approved an ACC request for a sliding-glass door in place of the rear first-floor window and door.

Denied an ACC request to repair, rather than replace, an unapproved fence.

Heard committee reports from Board liaisons. The Pool Committee is working on opening the pool. There were no other reports.

Deferred review of the security article to the May meeting.

Deferred discussion of the collections resolution to the May meeting to consider new information and options from the attorney.

Approved the drafted position descriptions for all five current PLHA positions.

Adopted a new contract process for all committees to follow.

Approved the purchase of the MPLC license for 2016 to allow PLHA to show movies. The cost is \$1,366.01.

Approved renting a PODS for use by the Cinema Committee and PLHA, from April through October, for an amount not to exceed \$1,800. The PODS will be set under the street light closer to the lower end of the pool parking lot (approximately 30' farther back than in previous years). PLHA will also purchase a tarp to cover the sides of the unit.

Set up an Ad Hoc Committee to strategize how to amend the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions (DCCR), one of PLHA's governing documents. When the DCCR was written over 40 years ago, current issues were not provided for, and the document should be amended to permit better execution of the homeowner association's duties. Interested residents should contact the office to join the committee.

Approved the Maintenance Committee's recommendation to resurface the Central Park Circle, Longworthe Square, Saint Annes Court, and Gramercy Circle playgrounds and complete the border for the front of the Fernlake Court playground for an amount not to exceed \$12,000.

Referred the Maintenance Committee's (MC) request to clear the area by the lower pool parking lot back to the MC to state the purpose, allow the grounds contractor to bid if he is interested, and present all received bids for Board consideration.

Discussed a contractual issue.

At its May 12 meeting, the Board anticipates discussing security and the collections resolution.

If you have any questions about the Board happenings, please contact Kirsten Davis at 703-360-6212 or plha@verizon.net.

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Treasurer report

Period ending March 31, 2016

Prepared by Nancy Razzino

Below is a chart outlining the total cash balance in the PLHA accounts as of March 31, 2016. The total cash balances for the prior month and for March 2015 are included for comparison.

TOTAL BALANCE	March 31, 2016	February 29, 2016	March 2015
Operations	\$181,128.19	\$190,092.14	\$199,217.22
Reserve	\$2,228,212.55	\$2,207,874.90	\$2,298,451.99
Total	\$2,409,340.74	\$2,397,967.19	\$2,497,669.21
DELINQUENT	March 31, 2016	February 29, 2016	March 2015
Total balance	*\$59,879.33	\$63,604.57	\$68,127.97
90 days or more	\$32,049.59	\$39,473.99	\$37,997.24

*21 accounts over \$1,000, six of which are over \$1,500.

Delinquent Accounts

The total balance in the delinquent accounts on March 31, 2016, was \$59,879.33. The chart above shows the current balance compared to the prior month and one year ago.

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New to Pinewood Lake?

Stop by our office to get acquainted with the community and ask any questions you might have.

We are open at 8159 Fernlake Court, noon – 3 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. – noon on Saturday.

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Towing policy in effect

Since 2007, Pinewood Lake has had an active towing policy. Violations for which vehicles may be towed from private streets and service roads without prior notice include:

- Expired license plate or safety inspection sticker.
- Parking in a fire lane.
- Parking on, across, or overhanging a sidewalk (including the sidewalk between parking pads and the street).
- Illegally parking in a handicapped space.
- Double-parking.
- Inoperable vehicle (including a flat tire).
- Major maintenance on a vehicle.
- Trailers, buses, commercial vehicles, etc. parked on private streets and service roads.



For the full policy, please view Policy Resolution 2012-01 at www.pinewoodlake.net or stop by the PLHA office for a copy. Remember the policy applies to residents and guests, so please keep your guests informed.

...

Advertise in The Needle!

Paid advertising is available at reasonable rates.

Recommend us to your favorite neighborhood businesses or services.

Contact Lois Passman for details: 703.781.7626



Sign up for odd jobs in Pinewood Lake

Would you like to help your neighbors with spring yard work, washing cars, computer help, pet services, or caregiving?

If you would like to be placed on the Pinewood Lake Odd Jobbers list, send this information to your Community Support Liaison (CSL) at csl@pinewoodlake.net, or call 703-360-6212.

- Name, phone number, and email
- What odd job(s) do you do?
- What is your availability?

Need an odd jobber? Call the office at 703-360-6212.

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Volunteers are needed!

Every PLHA committee needs more volunteers. Make your voice heard, and help improve Pinewood Lake.



Our committees include: Architectural Control Committee, Cinema, Hospitality, Maintenance, Marketing, Neighborhood Watch, Pool, and Publications. Homeowners and residents are welcome at all committee meetings, most of which take place at the office, 8159 Fernlake Court.

If you have questions, call the office at 703-360-6212, or send an email to plha@verizon.net.

...

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Community Voices

Paving the way to better roads

by Supervisor Jeff McKay

As you know, the state is facing a major challenge repaving and repairing roads that for years have been neglected. This year's winter, which brought us several feet of snow and icy conditions, left our roads in even worse condition.



You don't have to drive far to see the numerous potholes popping up on our streets. Potholes are created when roads freeze and then expand, weakening the surface. This is exacerbated by especially bad winters, such as the one we just experienced.

Most roads in Fairfax County are owned by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), a state, not county, agency. Although VDOT has been out filling potholes as they become a nuisance, those repairs are often only a temporary fix until paving can be done later in the spring.

The most permanent solution is repaving — which we'll soon see in full force.

VDOT has made a real effort to improve the condition of our roads, committing nearly \$300 million of maintenance funds in the last two years to Northern Virginia. Every year, VDOT rates statewide pavement conditions and determines the best treatment to extend pavement life. Pavement condition, ride quality, and traffic volume are all taken into account when they create their paving schedule.

VDOT will be releasing the list of roads that will be on the 2016 paving schedule in the coming weeks. Additionally, Delegate Mark Sickles and I met with representatives from VDOT last month to push for more paving in our community and more attention to our roads.

To make a request to VDOT for road paving, or to report a pothole, you may contact them directly by visiting www.virginiadot.org or calling them at 1-800-FOR-ROAD. Of course, you can also contact my office at 703-971-6262, and we'll be glad to contact VDOT on your behalf.

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Voting is your right

Registering to vote is as easy as visiting elections.virginia.gov. You can also find out on that website if you have a valid registration in effect. Voter registration is also available at the DMV, libraries and many government offices. You must be sure you have a valid registration 22 days before an election.

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The Handyman's Tip

By Jose Castro

I was recently asked about the best shingles to use for the roof. I recommend Timberline and Landmark. These are good quality brands, and have a warranty of 35 years.



But don't stop there, request that all the plywood be replaced, even if only a small area appears to be damaged. Otherwise, within a couple of years, the roof will begin to sink in, and you will need to replace it again.

A fan in the attic helps to maintain the temperatures during both summer and winter. It will save you some money.

Remember, when the roof is in good condition, you will always have a good night's rest. Let's do it!

Mr. Castro is a professional contractor with more than 20 years of experience and is a resident of Pinewood Lake.

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If you see something, say something!

Fairfax County Police: 703-691-2131

Real Estate update March 15 – April 15

by Maggie Srivastav



An end unit on Fernlake closed for about \$325,000. When two more pending units close we will have more pricing information. Two homes were taken off the market without selling. Inventory is very very low.

Sold

- 8160 Fernlake Ct (end unit): \$330,000 (\$5,550 seller subsidy)

On the Market:

- 8144 Lakepark Dr. \$339,900

Pending

- 4427 Scarborough Sq. (asking \$350,000)
- 4311 Cedarlake Ct. (asking \$327,900)

Off the Market

- 8120 Pinelake Court \$346k (delisted)
- 8141 Lakepark \$330k (delisted)

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Around our community

Finding some fun at the egg hunt

Thanks to everyone who came out to hunt for the eggs hidden by our very own Pinewood Lake Easter Bunny. There were candy-filled eggs and some prizes, too.

The Easter Egg Hunt volunteers were Geri Goode, the Hosek Family and Gina Toro.

... Photos by Melissa Hosek and Gina Toro

