

# Walnut Ridge

## Community Newsletter



Spring 2016



Walnut Ridge Community Association

Newsletters are also available online at [www.walnutridgeonline.org](http://www.walnutridgeonline.org)



### News from the Board of Directors

- At the reconvened Annual Meeting on January 20, 2016, by unanimous vote, all members of the Board were re-elected to serve Walnut Ridge for another year.
- Level Green Landscaping has been contracted to care for our grounds (common area mowing, fertilizing, etc.) for 2016.
- Striping of parking spaces and curbs were painted in December.
- The Board met with representatives from Level Green to discuss its snow removal performance during the January blizzard and ways to improve their performance.
- BGE was made aware of several light poles in the community which were out.
- Proposals are being solicited for sidewalk concrete repair and tree work.
- The Board continues to review A&E applications received from homeowners for contemplated exterior changes to their homes.



### Does Your Household Have 3 or More Vehicles?



The Walnut Ridge Parking Space Guidelines (available on the Walnut Ridge website) say:

“There are a limited number of parking spaces throughout the Community which are designated as “Visitor.”. These parking spaces are for Visitors. Residents should not park in these spaces.”

Our community has parking spaces for 2 vehicles per unit. If you have more than 2 vehicles associated with your residence, you cannot park any additional vehicles at any time in a parking space designated for visitors. A vehicle registered to an owner or resi-

(Continued on page 2)

### Spring Trivia Question

True or False: You can balance an egg on its end on the spring equinox (the first day of Spring - this year it is on March 20th). See page 6 for the answer.

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### Reminder to Homeowners!

Your next quarterly association assessment payment is due April 1st

(Three or More Vehicles continued from page 1)

dent of Walnut Ridge cannot park in a visitor space. You cannot rotate one of your vehicles and exchange it for another of your vehicles in a visitor space. Visitor spaces are strictly for visitors. No resident should park in a visitor space.

Our Parking Space Guidelines also say that a vehicle may be towed if it is

“ . . . parked longer than three (3) days or 72 hours in a parking space designated “Visitor.”

This applies to **any vehicle** parked in a visitor space. If the vehicle happens to be registered to a homeowner and that vehicle is habitually parking in a visitor space, **it will be towed.**

### ELECTION DAY IS APRIL 26, 2016!

Primary Election Day is Tuesday, April 26, 2016. Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. The voting location on election day for all of Walnut Ridge is Broadneck Senior High School, 1265 Green Holly Drive. Visit [www.aacounty.org/elections](http://www.aacounty.org/elections) for more information.



### Peep Fact

Did you know that it would take 1.7 trillion Peep Chicks to fill the Astrodome?



### Upcoming Holidays to Remember

Easter - March 27th

April Fools Day - April 1st

Administrative Professionals Day - April 27th

Mother's Day - May 8th

Memorial Day - May 30th

Flag Day - June 14th

Father's Day - June 19th

### Association Assessments are due on:

- January 1st
- April 1st
- July 1st
- October 1st



### New Maryland Resident Vehicle Registration



If you are a new resident of Maryland you must register your out-of-state vehicle within 60 days of moving to Maryland. If you delay beyond 60 days, you may be subject to a citation for an out-of-state registration and you will not be eligible for a tax credit for any titling tax paid in another state.

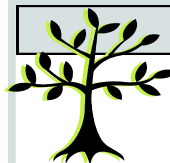
### About Fire Lanes

Vehicles parked in a fire lane in Walnut Ridge will be towed - no warning and no questions asked.



### Early Voting for Anne Arundel !

Did you know that early voting is available in Anne Arundel County? Turn to page 3 to find out dates, times and locations.



## Contact Us

If you have a request, idea or an issue you'd like to bring before the Board of Directors, please put it in writing. Send email to [board@walnutridgeonline.org](mailto:board@walnutridgeonline.org) or send by snail mail to Walnut Ridge Community Association, Inc., c/o Professional Community Management, Inc., 400 Serendipity Drive, Millersville, MD 21108.



## Early Voting



Early Voting begins on Thursday, April 14, 2016 and continues through Thursday, April 21, 2016. All Early Voting Centers will be open from 10 a.m. to 8:00 pm. You can go to any early voting center in the county where you reside.

### Early Voting Center locations in Anne Arundel County are:

Severna Park Community Library  
45 McKinsey Road  
Severna Park, MD 21146

Annapolis Senior Activity Center  
119 South Villa Avenue  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Odenton Regional Library  
1325 Annapolis Road  
Odenton, MD 21113

Edgewater Community Library  
25 Stepneys Lane  
Edgewater, MD 21037

Glen Burnie Regional Library  
1010 Eastway  
Glen Burnie, MD 21060

Note: Early Voting Centers **will not** be open on election day. For more information please visit

<http://www.aacounty.org/elections> or  
<http://www.elections.state.md.us>

## Campaign Sign Reminder

Posting campaign signs on **your own** property is fine, however, campaign signs are not to be posted on the community's open/public space. If a sign has been posted on the community's public space, it will be removed.



## Spring Walk-Through

Exterior inspections of all homes is fast approaching!  
Begin now to get your home in tip-top shape!

## Maryland Day is Friday, March 25, 2016

Do you know these Maryland state symbols?

State Bird: Baltimore Oriole  
State Dog: Chesapeake Bay Retriever  
State Cat: Calico  
State Horse: Thoroughbred  
State Flower: Black-Eyed Susan  
State Boat: Skipjack  
State Drink: Milk  
State Song: *Maryland, My Maryland*  
State Tree: White Oak  
State Dessert: Smith Island Cake  
State Fish: Rockfish  
State Exercise: Walking  
State Folk Dance: Square Dance  
State Crustacean: Blue Crab



## Curbside Collection Holiday Schedule for Memorial Day Weekend



Pick up will be  
Wednesday, June 1st  
(not Tuesday, May 31st)

*Walnut Ridge*  
*A Great Place to Call Home!*

**A Pain In the Drain**

Homeowners are responsible for the maintenance of their sewer pipes to the County's main sewer pipe (usually in front of your house under the street.) Because these pipes are buried and not visible, homeowners usually are not aware of the potential problems that tree roots can have on these pipes. One sign that your sewer pipe might be having a problem is hearing gurgling noises from the toilet bowl or slow flowing drains. A complete blockage can occur if no action is taken to remove the roots/blockage. If this happens, you're looking at some very costly repairs.

Be proactive and consult a local plumbing company to schedule an assessment of your sewer pipe. Routine cleaning of your sewer pipe could prevent these costly repairs. Most plumbers are familiar with these procedures and might even offer a sewer pipe maintenance policy. And just a reminder - it's always wise to get at least 3 quotes on any service.

**Making Any Architectural Changes?  
Don't Forget To Obtain Approval First!**

Our governing documents require all proposed architectural changes require approval before any work is started. The importance of this requirement cannot be overstated when you consider the reason for such a restriction. Membership in a community association requires compliance to pre-existing conditions and regulations. One of the biggest advantages of these conditions is the protection of our property values. The value of your home is directly related to the condition, appearances and aesthetics of our community as a whole. By regulating the kind and types of architectural changes that can be done, our Association is better able to maintain our property values. Getting approval for all proposed architectural changes is not just a good idea to protect your investment, it is a requirement! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Board or our Association Manager.

Visit [www.walnutridgeonline.org](http://www.walnutridgeonline.org) to obtain an A&E Application.

**HOW TO REMOVE AND CLEAN YOUR ORIGINAL WINDOWS AND SCREENS**

If your home has the original windows and screens which were installed by the builder, follow these directions to remove the sliding portion of your window and your window screen easy cleaning.

Note before you start: Windows and Screens must be removed from the **inside** of your home. The sliding window must be removed **first** before removing the screen.

Remove the Sliding Window: \*Unlock the window and slide the window almost all the way and grab the sides of the panel with your hands. Lift up on the window, pushing the entire panel up into the top track. Swing the bottom of the panel out over the bottom track and then pull the panel down to remove it.

Now, Remove the Screen: Once the window is out, use the tabs on the screen to gently push to one side. A hidden spring-like mechanism on the side of the screen will compress allowing the screen to loosen. Pull the screen in toward you and remove. If your screen no longer has the rubber tab, carefully grasp the screen frame and push gently to one side.

Always remove screens from inside your home. Trying to remove them any other way will surely bend the screen's frame!

\*The window panel is a bit heavy, may be difficult to grasp and can be awkward for just one person to remove safely. So, use extra care and caution (and maybe someone to help you). When removing this panel, leather or rubber gloves can give you a better grip on the window frame and help to make the job easier.





## FURRY FRIENDS PAGE

## Walk and Run For the Animals

The 25th Annual SPCA of Anne Arundel County's Walk & Run For the Animals will be held on Sunday, May 1, 2016 (rain or shine) at Quiet Waters Park, Annapolis. The Tail & Trails 5K Run is a dog-friendly event so feel free to bring your favorite 4-legged running partner (dogs are not required to participate in the 5K). The festivities include scenic trails, fun-filled doggie activities, face painting for the kids, a Food Bowl for your culinary delights and array of vendor booths. Funds raised enables the SPCA to continue its life-saving programs and improve the lives of companion animals. Visit the [Anne Arundel County SPCA](#) for more information.



## Interesting Pet Facts

- Dogs can donate blood to other dogs and cats can donate blood to other cats.
- Cats, not dogs, are the most common pets in America. 
- Studies have shown that people who own pets live longer, have less stress, and have fewer heart attacks.
- Over 50% of all pet owners would rather be stranded on a desert island with their pet, not another person.
- Human painkillers such as acetaminophen (Tylenol) are toxic to cats.
- An estimated 1 million dogs in the United States have been named the primary beneficiary in their owner's will. 
- A cat will almost never meow at another cat. Cats use this sound for humans.
- The heaviest dog ever weighed 319 pounds.
- A cat can be either right-pawed or left-pawed.

## Anne Arundel County Dog Parks

## Broadneck Park

611 Broadneck Road, Arnold  
(410-222-7317)



## Bell Branch Park

2400 Davidsonville Road, Gambrills  
(410-222-7317)

## Downs Park (Dog Beach Only)

8311 John Downs Loop, Pasadena  
(410-222-6230)

## Maryland City Dog Park

565 Brock Bridge Road, Laurel  
(877-411-FIDO)

## Quiet Waters Park (Dog Park Only)

600 Quiet Waters Park Road, Annapolis  
(410-222-1777)

## Leash Laws Reminder

A reminder once again that all pets (this includes cats) must always be leashed while in our community, no matter what time of day or night, no matter for how long, regardless of whether you believe you have control over your unleashed pet or not. Not only is it the law, but if your unleashed pet attacks a person or another pet you could be liable. And what's more - if your unleashed pet does get away from you. i.e. takes off chasing another animal (which you swear it would never do), you and no one else, is responsible for placing your pet in danger (like in the unfortunate circumstance, being hit by a car.) Protect your pet! Keep it leashed while in the community. Your pet will thank you!





## Broadneck Community Library Happenings!

1275 Green Holly Road, Annapolis, Maryland 21409 (410.222.1905)

**Hours:** Monday through Thursday: 9 am to 9 pm, Friday and Saturday: 9 am to 5 pm.



**Birds of Maryland.** *Wednesday, March 30 at 7 PM.* Jackie Pemberton from the Wild Bird Center of Annapolis will share her expertise and knowledge of wild birds. Come learn about local birds and how to attract them.



**Income Tax Assistance.** AARP Income Tax Assistance for Seniors and Low-and Middle-Income Residents. *Tuesdays through April 12, 2016 from 1 to 3 pm.* Drop-in service requires no registration and is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Self-service electronic filing is available using the library computers.

### Create an Effective Profile on LinkedIn.

*Monday, April 11 at 7 PM.* LinkedIn expert Paula Brand will show you how to create an effective profile and presence. Bring a laptop or tablet to enhance your learning experience. Call the Library starting March 23 to register.



### Hug Your Cat Day Storytime!

*Tuesday, May 3 at 9:30 and 10:30 AM.* This Storytime includes cat stories and crafts - a "purrfect" way to celebrate National Hug Your Cat Day! **For Pre-schoolers.**



**Make Something Special for Mom for Mother's Day!** *Saturday, May 7 from 10 AM - 4 PM.* Homemade is the best! Make a card for Mom, Grandma or someone special.

**Science the Banneker Way.** *Thursday, May 26 at 6:30 PM.* Discover the life and accomplishments of Benjamin Banneker and how he used science to change the world.

Visit <http://www.aacpl.net> or call call the Broadneck Branch at 410-222-1905 for lots more exciting events.

## Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of Walnut Ridge Community Association consists of homeowners who volunteer their time to serve Walnut Ridge.

Contact the Board by email at:  
**[board@walnutridgeonline.org](mailto:board@walnutridgeonline.org)**

## Officers

President: Ed Rose  
Vice President: Laura Richardson  
Secretary: Joey Schneider  
Treasurer: Peter Giguere

## Members at Large

Michelle Henderson  
Ziggi Nickel  
Gloria Petit-Clair

## Property Management

Leslie Ochs, Association Manager  
Professional Community Management, Inc.  
400 Serendipity Drive  
Millersville, MD 21108  
410-721-0777 ext. 146  
[LOchs@procomgt.com](mailto:LOchs@procomgt.com)  
[www.procomgt.com](http://www.procomgt.com)

## Missed an issue of the Walnut Ridge Community Newsletter?

Newsletters are available in color online at  
**[www.walnutridgeonline.org](http://www.walnutridgeonline.org)**

## Spring Trivia Answer

The Answer is **False**. Trying to balance an oval-shaped object on its end is no easier on the spring equinox than on any other day.



## A Word From The Walnut Ridge Wanderer

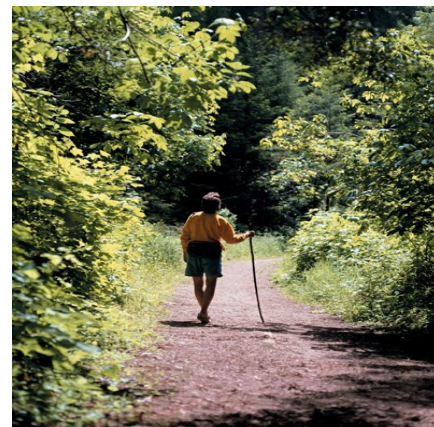
*The Walnut Ridge Wanderer reports on various observations around the community. To preserve anonymity, the identity and gender of the Wanderer will not be revealed. (However, I will say that this Editor is not the Wanderer.)*

Dang, it happened again! The newsletter comes out each season. This spring issue, just like the winter issue, is straddling the seasons. So as I sit down to write about SNOWMEGEDDON, the sound of birds, the feel of a soft breeze and the warmth of the sun distract me. Actually, that makes me very happy.

There's something about weather forcing us indoors for long periods of time that makes us all a little crazy. You know the drill. Load up on way more things than you'll ever need for the duration of the storm. Believe me, I did it too! Seeing the first sign of rescue by a snowplow brings a sense of relief.

Before our parking areas can be cleared, Walnut Ridge Drive has to be cleared by the county. Guess what? We're not a priority road. Needing to do something, we start shoveling out our cars. But, where to put the snow? Here's the answer: anywhere but the street!

Here's a suggestion. Before the storm, back your car into your spot leaving a few feet of space behind the car to pile up the snow that you'll be shoveling. Clear a path from your door to your car. Clear the car so it could be driven as soon as the road was plowed. Go inside to wait for the snowplows to come. When the plows come, clear the area in front of the car and drive off. Gradually, the pile of snow behind your car will melt. Many neighbors worked together to clear the snow. Here's a shout out to the resident who had a friend with a plow who cleared part of Peach Court. Okay, enough about snow!



Let's skip to spring. When the weather warms, doors and windows are opened, and our community looks friendly and welcoming. Each day I notice something new as neighbors start the spring spruce-up.

The micro-garden on Peach Court is back. Kids, both big and small are out on the playground. The long winter silence is over! Enjoy the warm weather and the spring holidays. Put away that shovel and get out lawn mower.

Happy Spring!

*Walnut Ridge Wanderer*

### WALNUT RIDGE REAL ESTATE

#### Active Listings:

1342 Almond - \$224,900  
1335 Hazelnut - \$199,990  
1356 Hazelnut - \$195,000

Average List Price - \$206,630



#### Recent Home Sales:

408 Peach - \$189,000  
417 Peach - \$266,500

Average Sale Price - \$227,750



Statistics courtesy of: Ziggi Nickel  
and taken from MRIS (Metropolitan Regional Information Services)

### IMPORTANT NUMBERS

AA County—Main Number.....	410-222-7000
AA County <b>FIRE—EMERGENCY</b> .....	911
AA County <b>Fire</b> —Non-Emergency.....	410-222-8300
AA County <b>POLICE—EMERGENCY</b> .....	911
AA County <b>Police</b> —Non-Emergency .....	410-222-8050
AA County Health Nuisance Complaints .....	410-222-7364
AA County Department of Public Works.....	410-222-7940
AA County Department of Public Works/Waste Management .....	410-222-6100
Animal Control ( <b>Animal Complaints</b> : Strays, Barking, etc.).....	410-222-8900
Annapolis City <b>POLICE</b> .....	410-268-9000
Anne Arundel Medical Center ( <b>HOSPITAL</b> ).....	443-481-1000
BGE—All Calls .....	800-685-0123
<b>BGE—Report Power Outage</b> .....	877-778-2222
Broadneck Library .....	410-222-1905
Broadstripe Cable (formerly Millennium) .....	410-987-9300
Bulk Item/Waste Removal .....	410-222-6104
Cable—Broadstripe (formerly Millennium) .....	410-987-9300
Cable—Comcast Cable .....	800-266-2278
Cape St. Claire Volunteer <b>Fire</b> Department .....	410-757-3434
Comcast Cable .....	800-266-2278
CT Utilities (see Old Line Utility or Rudder Management)	
Department of Public Works.....	410-222-7940
Department of Public Works/Waste Management.....	410-222-6100
Environmental Health .....	410-222-7364
<b>Health Nuisance Complaints</b> .....	410-222-7364
<b>J&amp;W Utilities</b> .....	410-827-8516
Management Company .....	410-721-0777
<b>Maryland State Police</b> Headquarters .....	410-653-4200
<b>North County Towing</b> .....	410-573-1682
	or 410-674-4221
Old Line Utility c/o Rudder Management .....	410-647-7929
Post Office—Legion Avenue.....	410-573-0953
<b>Poison Control</b> .....	800-492-2414
Professional Community Management (ProCom).....	410-721-0777
Recycling & Yard Waste .....	410-222-6100
<b>Rudder Management, Inc.</b> .....	410-647-7929
Salvation Army (Donated Items Pickup).....	410-263-4019
<b>Towing—North County Towing</b> .....	410-573-1682
	or 410-674-4221
Trash Pickup Problems .....	410-222-6104
Water and Sewer Bills.....	410-222-1144
<b>Water &amp; Sewer Emergencies</b> (no water).....	410-222-8400

The Walnut Ridge Community Newsletter is published quarterly and is a volunteer effort by residents of Walnut Ridge. If you would like to submit an idea for an article, please send an email to the Editor at [editor@walnutridgeonline.org](mailto:editor@walnutridgeonline.org). The Editor reserves the right to print and/or edit all text. Articles are published on a space-available basis, and will be edited for relevancy and appropriateness.