



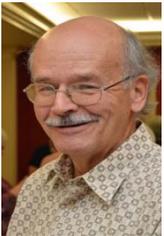
# AROUND THE BEND



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## **President's Corner** **May, 2015**

With the arrival of spring and all the beautiful flowering trees and plants, pollen included, we are starting to prepare our building to meet the heat of summer. The Board of directors has awarded the HVAC maintenance contract to ME Flow. They will soon be arriving to perform spring maintenance on your HVAC systems. The actual dates will be posted ahead of time to allow you to plan for them.

Reserve Advisors will be on site in early June to start the process of performing a full review of the condition of our building and the anticipated remaining life of our building components. This information will be used to determine the amount of money that will be required to assure that the Association has the funds available to meet the needs for keeping our home in good running condition in the future.

I am pleased to announce that Deborah Merriman, our new Assistant Manager, has started work in the office. When you get a chance, stop by and introduce yourself to her. I expect that she will be a great asset to our office and that she will easily master the job that Betty Ragozine did for us for the last seven years.

The final tally for the By-Law revisions are as follows: a total of 71.04% of the eligible votes were cast. When all votes were tallied and the "no votes" were removed from the percentages, all nine suggested changes were approved. Item # 3, which now restricts the Board of Directors from taking us back to self- management, passed with a vote of

66.84%. All the other changes passed with a higher percentage. I want to thank all who took the time to read and vote on these important changes to your governing documents.

*Terry Wilford*  
*President, Riverbend BOD*

## **Welcome Debbie!**



Debbie Merriman began work as the Assistant Manager of Riverbend on April 20. A long-time resident of Brunswick, MD, she is married with four grown children. She describes herself as a private person who spends as much time as possible with her grandchildren, some of whom live nearby. Debbie has an accounting background and most recently worked as a billings account manager for a small firm. She is interested in a change and a place to grow professionally. She is looking forward to getting to know the residents and doing a good job at Riverbend.

*--- Maria Kelly*



**Management Corner  
Monica Mizerek**

As you all know by now, Debbie Merriman has become part of the management team. Betty has been coming in to assist her with learning the different accounting programs and daily activities and duties of the day, week and month.

The office has recently started to digitize the unit owners' files. The engineers have prepared the storage rooms for archiving our older files.

Bryan is reviving the schedules for caulking of balconies. If you want to confirm that you are on the list, please email us at:

[www.riverbendmanager@comcast.net](mailto:www.riverbendmanager@comcast.net).

I'm sure you have noticed a lot of move-in/move-out traffic. We have four new resident/owners coming in.

HVAC service is scheduled for May 18 through May 22.

Carpet cleaning and power washing are also being coordinated for late May.

Window washing will be scheduled in mid-June.

There is an OPEN HOUSE at Station 22  
Ashburn Volunteer Fire Station:  
Date: Sunday, May 17, 2015  
Time: Noon to 3:45 p.m.  
Location: Lansdowne Station 22 on  
Sandridge Way  
Price: There is no charge to attend, but  
donations are greatly appreciated

Remember to visit our web site:  
<http://riverbend-lwva.org>

**From The Engineer  
Bryan Crosley**



The "Watch Dog" water alarms are still available if anyone needs them.

A reminder for those wanting to change out a faucet or have a countertop replaced: notify the office first so we can check the water supply valves before you schedule the work to be done. If the valves are bad, we will give three days notice to the residents in your tier for water shut off, replace the valves, and then you can schedule the work with your contractor through the office.



**Take a Walk in the Woods**

Some little elves planted daffodils in the woods behind Riverbend and they are now in full bloom. Early wild flowers are also beginning to show up. Use this webpage to help identify them:

<http://riverbend-lwva.org/wildlife/trees-flowers.htm>.

***We truly do live in a unique and beautiful place!***

--- Sue Merk

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

## Activities



Does anybody recognize the photo of the “Fan with flowers” centerpiece for the High Tea event? It was a beautiful work of art and talent by Lois Plouffe, Judy Phillips and Sue Wiggins. What a wonderful and enjoyable event with all the delicious tea sandwiches prepared by Britt Wilford, Sucheta (Sue) Joglekar, and Lupe Nabavi. The party was enjoyed by all the attendees. Thanks to all the volunteers of the Activities Committee who put this event together.

“Parents Day” will be celebrated on Sunday, May 17, with a potluck dinner starting at 5:00 p.m. in the Riverbend party room. Bring a dish of your choice serving 8 people. Dessert will be a *special treat* from the Activities Committee. Jane Numbers will entertain us with her musical talents. Come one, come all, and enjoy the evening together. More details will be posted soon. Remember to sign-up at that time.

I am always overjoyed to see the happiness and beautiful smiles from the Riverbend residents.

*Tehmi Jamaspian, Co-Chair*

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### Dates to Remember

- Monday, May 4 ---- BOD Meeting, 2:30 p.m.
- Saturday, May 9 --- Riverbend Dinner Club,  
La Pergola, 6:30 p.m.
- Sunday, May 10 --- Mother’s Day
- Saturday, May 16 --- Armed Forces Day
- Sunday, May 17 --- Parents Day Pot Luck, 5 p.m.
- Monday, May 18 – Friday, May 22 ,  
HVAC inspections
- Thursday, May 21 --- Deadline for  
*Around the Bend*
- Monday, May 25 --- Memorial Day, Office closed
- Thursday, May 28 --- BOD Meeting 2:30 p.m.

## Fitness Challenge 2015

I am delighted to see that so many participants have signed up for this year’s challenge. I encourage new residents to join us. Not only will you find renewed energy from the exercise, you will help Riverbend in this friendly competition among LWVA buildings, and you may also have a chance of winning a prize.

Some points to remember:

Tally slips for the previous week are due on **MONDAY**.

Please record the total time only in minutes, not hours and minutes.

Completed tally slips may be placed in a well-marked basket across from the elevators on the lobby floor between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. on **MONDAY**, turned into the management office, or left at unit 106.

A separate tally slip should be filled out for each individual participant.

If you decide to drop out before the end of the challenge, please let me know because lack of times recorded for a participant will have a negative effect on our weekly totals.

Please don't hesitate to call me at 703 729-6276

--- Jackie Lev Dahl





**The Adventurous Eater**

Judy Kory

Newly opened Punjabi by Nature is at the corner of Diamond Lake Drive and Promenade Drive in Lansdowne Town Center, where Kraze Burger used to be. The place has been redecorated with gorgeous multicolored glasswork at the entrance and brightly colored abstract tabletops. As soon as you enter, you come face-to-face with two cases full of exquisite hand-made sweets, and a third case of crispy snacks, all sold by the pound. A word to the wise: some of the sweets are more expensive than others. If you mix them in one box, you are likely to be charged the higher per-pound price for all.



Punjabi is partially self-serve. The menu is up on the wall, but the paper menu is easier to navigate. Vegetarian dishes are printed in green, non-veg in red. After placing your order and paying at the counter, you are given a pager, and you can help yourself to water and sit down. When the pager goes off, the food is brought to your table, served on beautiful silver plates and trays. Water cups are hammered metal, flatware is heavy stainless, but tea is served in small paper cups (\$2). Soft drinks come in a can with a paper cup. There are no refills for tea or soda. No wine or beer is available. Tandoor Chicken Tikka included six chunks of chicken, a dish of hari (green) chutney, some onion, a lime wedge and comes with either rice or naan for \$12.99. We paid an extra \$1.50 for garlic naan. The bread is large and good.

If you prefer your own beverages, you might consider carryout. I ordered a vegetarian Paneer roll and a Chicken Tikka roll, both \$8, to go. "Medium" spice was zippy enough to cause a runny nose. Next time I'll try mild. Starters run from \$8 to \$10; platters are \$11; wraps \$8 to \$10; tandoor \$10 to \$18; vegetarian main dishes \$10 to \$14; meat



dishes from \$12 to \$15. Breads, rice dishes, salads, party platters, and various extras are also offered.

Although the pay station looks like an iPad, it cannot add two orders together. A request for more tea took too long, could not be added to our bill, and had to be paid for separately. The two wraps were charged separately from the container of snacks, and had to be manually added to determine my bill. Warnings are printed on the menu: "Order taken once – non-refundable / no exchange." "Last Order 30 Minutes Prior Closing." And "Taste Always You Looking For and You Deserve!" --- whatever that means.



In general, the food is tasty, portions (except for bread) are small, and "Upgrades" abound with extra charges. Most of the menu items do not have their English names, but food descriptions are understandable. Payment is inconvenient, and paper cups are jarringly inconsistent with the food and décor. Punjabi is open 5 days a week from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., Friday and Saturday until 11 p.m. Phone [571-333-3300](tel:571-333-3300) or check out the web: [www.punjabibynature.us](http://www.punjabibynature.us)



**Music, Music, Music**



*Performers from Riverbend in the recent Encore Chorale production were: Phyllis Payne, Beth Schlabach, Gini Laughlin, Alan McMaster, Sue Wiggins and Bert Schlabach.*

## COMMUNITY SERVICES

### Senior Citizen Learning Opportunities:

Learning opportunities for Loudoun County senior citizens include the following:

1. Northern Virginia Community College: Senior citizens are allowed to audit classes at NOVA at no charge, as class space permits. Its Loudoun County campus, located at 21200 Campus Drive, Sterling, offers a wide variety of academic programs and continuing education classes. In addition, private lessons in voice and piano are offered to senior citizens, at no charge. (For music lessons, call: 703-450-2624.) For additional information and to view or request a course catalogue, go to its website: [www.nvcc.edu](http://www.nvcc.edu) or call: 703-323-3000.

2. George Mason University: Senior citizens are allowed to enroll in up to 3 non-credit courses per year at George Mason University (and at all VA state supported institutions of higher learning) at no charge, as class space permits. Its classes meet in the evening. Its Loudoun County campus is located at 21335 Signal Hill Plaza, Sterling. For additional information and to view or request a course catalogue, go to its website: [www.loudoun.gmu.edu](http://www.loudoun.gmu.edu) or call: 703-993-1000.

3. Osher Lifelong Learning Institute: OLLI offers a wide variety of short-term non-credit classes in intellectual and cultural subject areas designed for senior citizens. George Mason University hosts three OLLI sites in northern Virginia. The Loudoun County site is at 21335 Signal Hill Plaza, Sterling. Its annual fee of \$375 covers unlimited class enrollment, as class space permits, during 4 terms of up to 8 weeks each, at its Sterling, Fairfax, and Reston sites. An introductory rate of \$150 is available for one term, only. For additional information and to view or request a course catalogue, go to its website: [www.olligmu.edu](http://www.olligmu.edu) or call: 703-503-3384.

4. Loudoun County Public Schools Adult Education: Senior citizens are allowed to register for classes offered by Loudoun County Public Schools, at a 50% reduction in tuition for most

classes, if minimum class enrollment has been met. Full tuition ranges from \$20 to \$200 per class. Classes are held at many locations throughout Loudoun County, including high schools in Sterling, Leesburg, and Ashburn. The majority of classes meet in the evening. Its numerous options include classes in arts, handicrafts, baking, music, photography, computer software, financial awareness, and horticulture. For additional information and to view or request a class schedule, go to its website: [www.lcps.org/adulted](http://www.lcps.org/adulted) or call: 571-252-2119.

#### 5. On-line/distance learning:

The following were among free online learning options listed in a recent issue of the "The Washington Post Magazine" under the headline "Universities of the Future - Now."

a. edX: This non-profit Harvard-MIT program offers free online courses from some of the world's best universities. For additional information, go to its website: [www.edx.org](http://www.edx.org).

b. Oli: This free Open Learning Initiative, launched by Carnegie Mellon University, offers online courses to anyone who wants to learn or teach. For additional information, go to its website: [www.oli.cmu.edu](http://www.oli.cmu.edu).

c. Coursera: This site, founded by two Stanford University professors, offers free online courses from top universities and organizations. For additional information, go to its website: [www.coursera.org](http://www.coursera.org).

— Anita Zatz

**New time for Scrabble  
Beginning in May, Scrabble will  
start at the same time as the  
other games in the party room  
on Wednesday evenings,  
6:30 PM. Come join us !**



## Patriotic Celebrations and Events This Month

May is a month when we observe two important national

holidays.

Armed Forces Day came into being in 1950, when President Truman signed a proclamation that the third Saturday in May would be designated as a single day to honor currently serving members of all branches of the military for their patriotic service in support of our country.

Memorial Day is a U.S. holiday to honor and remember those who have died while serving in the military. There are many variations on the story of its beginning, but in 1971, Congress decreed it a national holiday to be observed on the final Monday of May.

Please take a moment to reflect and remember our brave members of the military who now serve, who have served in the past and those who paid the ultimate sacrifice to protect this great nation. Go to a parade, display the flag or send a care package to a member of the military to honor these heroes.

## Flyover Part of VE Day Tribute



May 8, 2015, is Victory in Europe Day which is an annual commemoration of the day during World War II, when the Nazis surrendered to Allied forces in Europe. This year, on

the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day, a parade of vintage fighter planes will fly over the National Mall in DC as part of the capitol's memorial tribute. The parade of planes from about noon to 1:30 p.m., will consist of historically sequenced formations representing the war's major battles. Organized by the Arsenal of Democracy Flyover, the fifteen flying formations will form up near Leesburg and follow the Potomac River southeast toward DC and overfly the National World War II Memorial, and head east past the Washington Monument along

Independence Avenue and south over the U.S. Capitol.

Twenty planes, including a P-51 Mustang and the Boeing B-29 Superfortress bomber, will be on public display just outside the main hanger at the National Air and Space Museum's Steven Udvar-Hazy Center in Chantilly on May 9 from 10 – 2:30 p.m. Both the flyover and the next day's museum event are subject to weather and aircraft maintenance.



## Riverbend Performers

Some of you already know that our own, Britt Wilford made a surprise appearance in The Entertainers of Lansdowne Woods annual spring musical comedy, "It's Gershwin, By George." Pictured in this photo are the actors, tappers, and musicians from Riverbend who performed in the play: Bert Schlabach, Judy Philips, Judy Martinowsky, Alan McMaster, Roland Dionne, Britt and Terry Wilford, Beth Schlabach, Sharon Schuble, Mena McGrosky, and Carol Cutrona.



**Highlights of BOD Meeting  
March 26, 2015**

**LWVA Reports:**

- Our name will be legally changed to Lansdowne Woods. (This is on the agenda for the April LWVA meeting.)
- Spring landscaping will include trimming shrubs and summer flower rotation in May.
- La Pergola Happy Hours are now Tuesday through Saturday, with accompanying snack packs being sold.
- After the restaurant’s August break a new operator will be in charge if things proceed as planned.

**Riverbend Reports:**

- Activities Committee would like to include more educational presentations and would welcome suggestions. If you could be a presenter, let them know.
- Work is being done to finalize our new control access system.
- ETC inspected the 11<sup>th</sup> floor unit ceilings and will recommend needed roof repairs.
- Our annual HVAC cleaning schedule will be out shortly.
- Units which require balcony caulking are being scheduled. Let the office know if you have not reported needing this done.
- All nine of the Amendments to our by-laws passed.
- Reserve Advisors will begin the reserve study in three weeks.
- George Viener was recognized for his service on the board, receiving a certificate and a gift card.
- Betty Ragozine was recognized for her years of service as Assistant Manager of Riverbend. We wish her the best in her retirement!
- A motion to invest \$100,000 in short term CDs (9 months) was unanimously approved.

- A motion to require a written report from Otis saying elevator #1 is safe to operate passed unanimously.

At 3:00 p.m., the BOD went into Executive Session.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

The next BOD meeting is May 4, 2015 at 2:30 p.m.

--- Shirley Thorpe, Secretary

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