



## Neighborhood News July 2010

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### President's Pen

Hello Long Branch Neighbors! Hopefully, you are making time to enjoy this summer with a visit to the neighborhood pool, a walk along the shady trail, or a trip to a local ice cream shop. Our pool has been buzzing with many families & kids swimming, socializing, and taking a break from the heat. The swim team is wrapping up another exciting season of swim meets, pep rallies, and social activities. The tennis enthusiasts enjoy the courts & offer tennis lessons. Grills are fired up for evening cookouts, walkers fill the sidewalks, and many enjoy bike riding through the neighborhood.

The Long Branch Civic Association Board continues to expand with neighbors stepping up to fill open positions. We appreciate Melinda Malico who is now our Vice President after having served in other roles and Martha Bernardi who now leads Membership & Welcoming. Our board members have teamed up in recent months to coordinate our June Yard Sale, optimize rates for our August Curb Painting, organize our Membership Drive, and plan for our next neighborhood meeting. Your participation in the membership drive is respectfully requested & strongly encouraged so we can continue to provide value at a low cost for each household.

Special thanks goes to Stuart Pregnall who proactively volunteered to coordinate & manage the June entryway clean-up and to our younger neighbors Hunter Hartung, Julia Malico, and Garret Stoll for their random acts of kindness to further beautify Long Branch. For future newsletters, please help put the spotlight on neighbors performing random acts of kindness with information emailed to [longbranchcommunity@verizon.net](mailto:longbranchcommunity@verizon.net). Adults & teens are needed to organize an October Halloween Event with materials readily available from prior years. This event is a fun way for several families to work together to serve our community and for teens to earn community service hours.

This time of year is an ideal time to check on neighbors who may have needs in the extreme heat or coordinate watching over each others houses as vacations are underway. Thank you for all you do to help make Long Branch a great neighborhood.

Karla Gill, President  
(703) 764-4919

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## Welcome Martha Bernardi—Our New Membership/Welcoming Board Member

Welcome Martha Bernardi to the Long Branch Civic Association Board as the Membership/Welcoming Officer. In this position Martha will work with the street representatives to promote membership in the Long Branch Civic Association as well as provide welcome packets for new residents.

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## Welcome Luce Tejano, Marla Peyser and Martha Bernardi—Our New Street Representatives

Welcome Luce Tejano, Marla Peyser and Martha Bernardi as our new street representatives. Luce will be the street representative for Alyssum. Marla will be the street representative for 4819–4838 Tabard. Martha will be the street representative for 4900-5002 King David.

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## Curb Numbers Painting

The Long Branch Civic Association has contracted with Caballero Painting to paint house numbers on the curbs in our neighborhood. The curb painting is scheduled to begin August 1<sup>st</sup> and is *scheduled* to be complete by August 20<sup>th</sup>.

Caballero Painting will soon begin marking all curbs to be painted with a yellow streak of paint prior to painting them. Residents are advised to avoid parking where their number will be painted after the yellow streak is painted.

Our goal is to provide curb painting every 2-3 years, as needed. For residents who have already hired someone to paint the curb numbers on their curbs we will reduce your Fall 2010 membership fee by \$10 or you can opt to donate to the Long Branch Civic Association. Going forward, efforts will be made to communicate curb painting in advance to promote consistency of curb painting across our Long Branch neighborhood.

Thank you to everyone for your patience as we researched vendor options and negotiated to keep the price per house low and within our budget. We appreciate your continued support to help keep our neighborhood looking good.

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## Long Branch Civic Association Fall Membership Drive

We will be holding our Long Branch Civic Association membership drive this Fall. The membership fee will be \$30 for two years. These rates assume at least 90% neighborhood participation in our association as our board works to provide needed services & optimize costs.

Your membership will cover the cost of our annual events, like the Holiday Luminaries and Easter Egg Hunt, as well as the publication of the Long Branch directory and curb painting. We will provide more information as the drive approaches.

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### **Watch** Neighborhood Watch News

Hello Neighbors! As the new Neighborhood Watch coordinator, I would like to take a minute to introduce myself. My name is Megan Davenhall, and I have lived in Long Branch for three years with my husband Jon and two boys Rob (7) and Quinn (5). We feel very lucky to be part of such a wonderful community, and so I was happy to take over the Neighborhood Watch Coordinator position when the opportunity was presented to me.

I would like to thank Sharon Hrynkow who has done a wonderful job with the Neighborhood Watch, and has made it very easy to step into this role. She organized the schedule for the year before she handed over the reigns, and helped make the transition seamless. Thank you for doing an outstanding job as Neighborhood Watch Coordinator!

I also need to thank all the neighbors who volunteer their time and sign up for a week on the watch rotation. I have had some of our neighbors comment that they see the cars with the watch sign patrolling the neighborhood. I have also had any concerns brought to my attention quickly, which means the system is working thanks to you! Keep up the great work! I will always be sure to alert the neighborhood of any safety issues as soon as they are brought to my attention.

One concern that many of us in the neighborhood have is the presence of unlicensed door-to-door solicitors. At certain times of the year, this seems to be a bigger problem than others, but there are steps that we as a community can take to keep unlicensed solicitors out of our neighborhood. Below are the Fairfax County rules that solicitors must follow.

#### **The solicitor:**

- May not solicit in any area that is clearly posted "No Peddlers or Solicitors"
- May operate only between the hours of 9:00 am and 8:00 pm

- Must present solicitor's license to any customer who asks to see it (this includes a photo on the license)
- Must provide his/her name, name of the company and the nature of the solicitation to any customer when asked
- Must be truthful when stating the purpose of the solicitation
- Must provide a detailed, written receipt for any goods sold when asked by the customer
- Must leave when asked

**What to do if you believe a person is soliciting illegally:**

- Do not open the door if you feel unsafe or are alone
- Ask to see the solicitor's license
- Call the police immediately using the non-emergency number if one is not produced **703-691-2131** (at this point, simply stating that we as a community report unlicensed solicitors to the police could be enough to deter them from our neighborhood if you are uncomfortable calling the police)
- Give the police a description of the solicitor and which way the person is traveling
- Once the police arrive, speak with the officers to give them any other information they may require

If we as a community follow these guidelines established by the county, we can reduce the number of unlicensed solicitors in the neighborhood.

Finally, there has been some discussion about starting an informal daytime patrol to compliment the formal watch rotation. My suggestion is that any stay at home parents and retired community members who are around during the daytime hours, and are willing to help, could simply monitor the street (or section of their street in the case of King David and King Solomon) that they live on for unusual activity. If you are able and interested in helping with the informal daytime watch, or if you are interested in joining the formal neighborhood watch rotation, please contact me at 703-978-0432, or [megdavenhall@aol.com](mailto:megdavenhall@aol.com). We are always in need of alternates when people are unable to patrol during their assigned week.

For those of you already on the watch list, if you are unable to patrol during your assigned week, please try to find a neighbor on the list to switch with, or contact me for assistance.

Please don't hesitate to call or email me if you have any questions or concerns.

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## Poo(h) In the Hundred Acre Woods (Long Branch)

After the dog-walking etiquette article appeared in the last newsletter, it has come to the LBCA Board's attention that, in the view of some of our neighbors, a lack of proper dog-walking etiquette is a troubling problem for some who live in Long Branch.

If you own a dog, according to local law, it is your responsibility to make sure your dog does not trespass on your neighbor's lawn. This includes ensuring your dog does not do his business in the lawn, or in the flower beds. It is also your responsibility to clean up after your dog wherever your dog goes. Residents who do not observe the rules and allow their dog(s) to trespass onto a neighbor's property, could ultimately be fined up to \$250 and be prosecuted for a Class 4 misdemeanor.

Your dog has the right to walk and relieve himself on the treeline (the strip of grass between the sidewalk and the street) but you are still responsible for cleaning up after your dog.

If you are having ongoing problems with a dog owner allowing his or her dog to trespass on your property, the Fairfax County Police recommend placing a "No Dogs Allowed" sign on your lawn. This should alert your neighbors that their dogs are not welcome on your lawn.

If you still continue to have problems with a dog trespassing on your property, you are urged to send the owner an Animal Trespass letter, available at the following link:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/animal/animal-trespass.htm>

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## Entryway Maintenance...Thank You



Thank you to **Stuart Pregnall** for organizing the Long Branch entryway maintenance. He coordinated with Fairfax County to obtain orange vests, gloves and bags.

Thanks to the group of Long Branch residents who generously donated their time--in the heat of summer--to clean-up the area, trim the bushes, plant new flowers, and spread mulch. Special thanks to rising 7th-graders **Julia Malico**, **Garrett Stoll** and **Hunter Hartung** (and their parents!). "The entryway looks great!"

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**CLASS  
OF  
2010**

## Congratulations to the Class of 2010

Congratulations to all our Long Branch graduates. We wish you the best of luck in your future endeavors. Graduation is a time to celebrate your achievements, prepare for a future of opportunities and embrace a world of infinite possibilities.

### "Success"

Inaccurately attributed to Ralph Waldo Emerson  
Contributed by Michele Johnson

*To laugh often and much;  
To win the respect of intelligent people  
and the affection of children;  
To earn the appreciation of honest critics  
and endure the betrayal of false friends;  
To appreciate beauty, to find the best in others;  
To leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child,  
a garden patch or a redeemed social condition;  
To know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived.  
This is to have succeeded.*

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## Easter Bunny Rocked the Annual Long Branch Easter Egg Hunt



Thank you to **Megan Davenhall** for organizing a fantastic Long Branch Easter Egg hunt. The weather was beautiful and the kids had a great time.

The Easter Egg Hunt was a big hit, thanks to the help of some wonderful neighbors! A big thanks to **Ian Rector and Chris Suh** who came to help fill eggs in the hot sun, and to the **Rectors, TJ Hawkins, and Donna Schneider** for helping hide eggs the morning of the hunt. The event went off without

a hitch thanks to your help!

This year the kids got a special treat when the Easter Bunny showed up on a motorcycle! The kids then started the hunt, complete with candy, goodies brought and shared by neighbors and pictures with the bunny. A special thanks goes out to **Jim Hawkins** for providing us with a very memorable Easter Bunny!





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## Volunteers Needed

Do you want to get more involved with your community? We need you! There are multiple positions available for those who want to join the Long Branch Board or serve as a street representative. Some of the officers and volunteers have been serving for several years and are ready to turn over the reins. If you don't have a lot of time to invest but are interested in getting involved, there's willingness for sharing a position. If you are interested in getting involved, please email [longbranchcommunity@verizon.net](mailto:longbranchcommunity@verizon.net).

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## Have A Good Contractor...Please Recommend

Do you have a fabulous contractor that has done work on your house? Have you recently had work completed on your house or property that was impeccable? We are working on compiling a list of recommended contractors and professional services for our Web site. Send your recommendations to Melinda Malico at [m.malico@verizon.net](mailto:m.malico@verizon.net).

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## Long Branch Officers

<b>President</b>	Karla Gill (703) 764-4919
<b>Vice President</b>	Melinda Malico <a href="mailto:m.malico@verizon.net">m.malico@verizon.net</a>
<b>Secretary/Treasurer</b>	Michele Johnson <a href="mailto:maejohnson@deloitte.com">maejohnson@deloitte.com</a>
<b>Membership and Welcoming</b>	Martha Bernardi <a href="mailto:bmarthab@verizon.net">bmarthab@verizon.net</a>
<b>Newsletter</b>	Susan Betts <a href="mailto:susan@thebettsfamily.com">susan@thebettsfamily.com</a>
<b>Web site</b>	Melinda Malico <a href="mailto:m.malico@verizon.net">m.malico@verizon.net</a> and Steve Alvo <a href="mailto:salvo@verizon.net">salvo@verizon.net</a>
<b>Neighborhood Watch</b>	Megan Davenhall <a href="mailto:megdavenhall@aol.com">megdavenhall@aol.com</a>
<b>Database and Directory</b>	Glenn Betts <a href="mailto:glenn@itprojectmanagers.com">glenn@itprojectmanagers.com</a>

There are multiple positions available for those who want to join the board. Some of the officers have been serving for a number of years. If there's interest, there's willingness for multiple positions to swap/step down, etc.

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## Street Representatives

Alyssum .....	9213	Luce Tejano ....	703-425-1021
Bradfield & Burnetta .....	9201	Katzer .....	703-978-2352
Bramble .....	9106	Heather Hartung	703-978-1524
Cascus.....	9113	Emily Wiggins .	703-978-1355
Claytonia.....	9206	Elliott.....	703-978-2654
Colt .....	9117	Jodi Kalantgis..	703-764-9669
Gloxinia.....	4910	MaryEllen Slattery	703-425-0671
King David (4900–5002) .....	4908	Martha Bernardi	703-425-5505
King David (5003–5015) .....	4923	Laurie Siegal....	703-503-0057.
King David (5017–5031) .....	5024	Kathy Moore ..	703-764-9485
King David (5032–5126) .....	5124	Linda Leonard.	703-503-8441
King Solomon (4800–4816)...	4815	Bruce .....	703-323-9211
King Solomon (4817–4838)...	4821	Rabadan .....	703-425-8927
King Solomon (4900–4920)...	4918	Burns .....	703-503-5756
King Solomon (4921–5008)...	4923	Siegal.....	703-503-0057
Loosestrife .....	4910	Letellier .....	703-425-0664
Meadow Rue.....	9111	Herrick .....	703-978-4004
Mignonette .....	5002	Banks .....	703-764-0548
Sabra/ Windflower (9100–9123)	4949	Nancy Ellis .	703-978-1182
Windflower (9000–9026).....	9009	Alvo.....	703-323-5336
Steeplebush.....	9112	Maritza Taylor .	703-503-0438
Tabard (4800–4817) .....	4803	Lisa Spero.....	703-426-5590
Tabard (4819–4838) .....	4826	Marla Peyser...	703-426-2643

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## Stay Informed!

Don't forget to check the Long Branch Web site at [www.longbranchcommunity.net](http://www.longbranchcommunity.net) for updates and all our community information! And don't forget to give us information for the Web site!

# Long Branch Community



Welcome to Long Branch Community

[1 Long Branch Home For Sale](#)

[Long Branch Swim & Racquet Club](#)

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[Long Branch Swim and Racquet Website](#)

[Neighborhood Watch](#)

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Please add [longbranchcommunity@verizon.net](mailto:longbranchcommunity@verizon.net) to the "safe list" in your address book. Also, send any change of address to the same address. The newsletter editor will be unable to deliver the newsletter if the e-mail does not go through. Thank you!

## Classified Ads

### Tiny Steps Day Care

Mother of three in Long Branch has opened her home to care for children ages 6 weeks to 5 years old on a full-time or part-time basis. The Fairfax County licensed family home day care offers a happy, caring, and fun environment that fosters individual growth and learning through hands-on activities, developmentally appropriate toys, arts and crafts projects, music and movement, and storytime. Visit <http://www.tinystepsdaycare.zoomshare.com> to learn more or call Nicole at (703) 425-1288. Convenient location on same street as Long Branch pool.

### Velasquez Painters

If you need a painter, hire a reputable one who has worked for many Long Branch families. Mr. Velasquez specializes in interior and exterior painting. From drywall, wallpaper removal, expert surface preparation, to door replacement, new mouldings & power washing, Mr. Velasquez and his crews do it all. Please call for a free estimate: Mr. Velasquez at 571-245-9026.



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### **Tutor Available**

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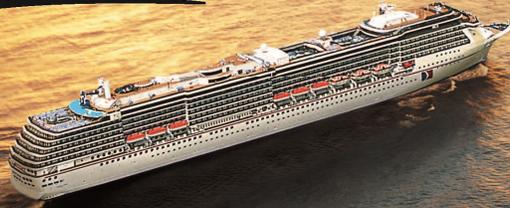
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### Deadlines for Submissions

Please send any newsletter submissions to [susan@itprojectmanagers.com](mailto:susan@itprojectmanagers.com) in Word or PowerPoint (not PDF files) by the deadline below.

Publication Date	Article Submission Deadline	Classified Submission Deadline
October 2010	September 15	September 30