

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

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We hope you're enjoying the crisp fall weather. The dogs certainly seem to be reenergized as temperatures have dropped judging by the activity levels at the park! A few updates:

Fall Festival Fundraiser - Mark your calendars for our Fall Festival, which will take place on Sunday, November 1, from 2:00-4:00pm. Come enjoy brats and kraut from the grill, participate in our raffle, and admire the new trees. We are trying to raise \$2000 needed to fully fund this year's budget.

Water Update: We are happy to announce that our grant application to fund a permanent water source for the park was approved by the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) Board. FCPA will fund 50% of the estimated ~\$15,000 cost with the remainder to be funded by the PACK. We are working with FCPA to develop a schedule for pipeline installation and let you know about timing as

soon as we have more information.

Tree Planting: This past Saturday from 8:00 am until about 3:00 pm our park was visited by some 25 Boy Scouts from Troop 1509 who came to plant 18 trees. The Scouts were led in this effort by Zachary Broome, son of one of our regular users, Tonya Broome. Zachary chose to plant trees at Westgrove Park as his Eagle Scout project. This is the highest achievement attainable in the Boy Scouts. If you haven't seen the results of the Scouts' work yet, be sure to stop by to see the beautiful oaks, red maples, catalpa, river birch and dogwoods that now grace our park and will provide much needed shade when hot weather returns. Thanks to those all those who donated funds to purchase trees and to those who donated saplings, to the FCPA crew for digging the holes for the trees, and to McGee Landscaping for its generous donation of compost, topsoil and mulch. But most of all, thanks and kudos galore to Zachary and all his helpers from Troop 1509 for this major improvement to our park!!

Elections for five open PACK Board positions resulted in four Board members being re-elected and one new member joining the Board. Re-elected were: Nancy Urban, Vice Chair; Sean Fitzpatrick, Director of Operations; and Barry Spangler and Jan Speakman, at-large members. Darlene Dove joined the board as a new at-large member, taking the spot vacated by Christine Dailey, who chose not to stand for re-election. All newly elected Board members will serve a two-year term. Many thanks to Christine for her dedicated service over the past six months, and especially for her work on the Westgrove PACK

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commitment to the PACK Board. And welcome, Darlene!

Annual caretaker contributions. The \$20 annual contribution to become a Westgrove Park caretaker or continue as an existing caretaker may be paid any time; Please note that you must be a paying caretaker to be eligible to vote at general meetings. Your \$20 contribution will cover you for CY 2016 and can be paid via Paypal on our website (<http://www.westgrovepack.org/how-to-help.html>) or by mailing a check payable to Westgrove PACK LLC to PO Box 7321 Alexandria, VA 22307. You can also give your donation to any board member. Remember we have 501 (c) 3 status so your donations are tax deductible. Please consider becoming a sustaining caretaker by donating to Westgrove on a monthly basis.

That's all for now. Please stop by and talk to one of the Board members if you have questions or concerns, or send an email to westgrovepack@gmail.com.

See you at the park!

Kathy Seikel
Chair, Westgrove PACK



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