

WEST LANHAM HILLS CITIZEN

May 2023

Next Meeting: Thursday May 4 at 7 PM at Park Building

President's Corner: Lan Tsubata

It's time for the annual meeting of the West Lanham Hills Citizens' Association, Thursday, May 4th at 7 PM. We need at least 16 members to attend in order for us to vote on things like our yearly budget, changes to meeting times and so on.

If we do not have a quorum of 16 voting members, we will not be able to vote on our budget for all the activities like the Back-To-School event, Movie Nights, Community Clean Ups, Santa's Workshop, Senior events, Mosquito control, classes, food drives, or other ideas that you might suggest and take responsibility to carry out.

If you have never attended a meeting before, this is the one you want to come to! We can't wait to see you there!

Your Story is a Maryland Story!

Because you live here, you are part of the history of the great state of Maryland. For neighbor Joe Mohr, his love of Maryland began as a youngster, catching crabs, fish and oysters from the Chesapeake Bay. When Joe visited Smith Island (the model for the fictional Raff Island in the book *Jacob have I Loved*) in the early 1970s, it ignited a love for history. He earned a degree in history from Gettysburg College, PA, he has been trained as a resource guide by Maryland's highway information office, and in parks and wildlife guiding as well. He gave guided tours of Baltimore Washington Airport, attending the ceremony naming it for Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, which researched the artist who sculpted the statue portraying Justice Marshall, Antonio Tobias Mendez.

The presentation will take place Tuesday May 16th at 11 AM at the West Lanham Hills Park building, 7700 Decatur Road, Hyattsville, MD 20784. Refreshments will be served. All are welcome.

Check www.westlanhamhills.com for announcements or alerts, as well as service providers in the community. The Facebook page, [West Lanham Hills Neighborhood](#), also has breaking news and urgent information.



Come, Learn, Connect!

On Saturday, May 20, from 11 AM to 2 PM, the West Lanham Hills Citizens Association will be hosting a Health and Resources Fair at the West Lanham Hills Park.

Residents will be able to find out about issues of direct importance to their lives. Agencies such as for housing rehabilitation, parking, property standards, job training, and job opportunities will be on hand. Information relating to the wellbeing of the family—children, teens, adults and seniors—will be given.

Safety information will be available.

For the children, face painting and fun activities will be provided by the MNC-PPC.

We are also requesting health screenings and services to be provided at the event.

Refreshments will be served and lots of help is needed, so please contact us to volunteer. If you can help with the Health and Resource Fair on Saturday, May 20, contact Kate Tsubata: katetsubata@gmail.com or 301-257-4243.

Come and bring your family and neighbors!



Homeowner Property Tax Credit

Residents 65 and older who have owned their homes for at least 10 years, are eligible for a 5-year, 20% Property Tax Credit. The limit on the property's value is \$500,000, indexed upward annually by 3% for normal inflation. The Property Tax Credit will remain in place for a period of up to five years. Apply online at:

<http://www.taxcredits.sdat.maryland.gov/>

A neighbor reported that their KIA car with a steering wheel lock on it was stolen, with the steering wheel lock cut. Thieves are developing new ways to steal cars. Owners of popular cars may want to look into theft insurance coverage.

Free Pet Innoculations:

A Drive Up FREE Clinic for dogs and cats at the Wayne Curry Sports and Learning Complex will take place Monday, May 8, 2023 from 10 AM to 3 PM, rain or shine, providing:

- Shots for Rabies and Distemper
- Free Pet licenses
- Microchipping

Pets must be at least 4 months old, on a leash or in a carrier. Drivers stay in the car; pets are removed to perform the vaccination.

Info: pgcpetvaccineclinicmay2023.eventbrite.com

Yard Work Needed?

If you are looking to hire a teen to do yard work for you this summer Dojoon Lee is ready to work for you! He offers mowing, weeding, raking and other yard services. For pricing and scheduling please call 301-442-3517 or email djlee1155@gmail.com

In Memoriam, Lynn Distelhorst Getz

A dear neighbor, Lynn Getz, has passed. Born April 10, 1945 in Bronxville, NY to parents Carl and Josephine Smith Distelhorst, she was baptized in Highland Park, Illinois in October of 1951.

She grew up to be a tall, willowy blonde, traveling abroad, and even meeting President John F. Kennedy. She met and married her husband, Stan Eagle Getz, on October 21, 1979, in Washington, D.C.

Since 1978, the Getz couple owned a house here, but it wasn't their primary residence. Despite that, they stayed connected to the community, and often participated in civic matters. Lynn was a great researcher, always finding news articles or issues that might affect the neighborhood. She read the newsletter every month and sent news bits to add information to be shared with neighbors. When the trees on her property had numerous dead limbs and were threatening neighbors' and her own house, she deliberately sought out another neighbor, Saturnino Reyes, to perform the work of removing the trees and bushes and improving the property's safety. Not only did she pay him for his work, but she bought a wood chipper to use for his business.

Lynn was a kind and intelligent person who graced our community with her attendance at meetings, support for civic issues, and personal acts of thoughtfulness and generosity. We join her daughter Kiya in honoring her life and acknowledging her contributions to our community.