



The Rampage Bexley

June 2011

President's Letter



Summer has arrived with a combination of graduations, weddings and vacations. Before we depart to enjoy these long-anticipated celebrations, here's an update on what is happening in our neighborhood.

As I mentioned in my last column, dues payments from community members underpin everything we do in Bexley. Thanks to the responsibility and generosity of our neighbors, the Association has met its goal for dues collection in 2011. The officers, directors and residents of Bexley extend a big "thank you" to everyone who paid their dues. For more information about finances, please see the treasurer's report on page two.

The entire country was saddened by news of the passing of Ms. Taylor Anderson during the earthquake and tsunami in Japan. Please see the following article about Bexley's response to this tragedy and your kind support for a memorial.

There are several neighborhood events. The annual yard sale was held June 11 and we will hold an open forum at the LaPrade Library

on June 14. Thanks to Darrell Wilkerson for coordinating the forum and to Patty Meador for coordinating the yard sale.

As residents of this community we should all be concerned about our environment. This includes both the land and the animals that live in it. Please see the article on page two discussing our responsibility for caring for the lake and the report on page three regarding a growing concern for the feral cat population. We should also be good neighbors to the human members of the community. Please see the article on page four discussing concerns brought to the Board about traffic, pet control and early morning yard work.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the open forum on June 14. If you cannot attend, please feel free to contact me or any of the Board members to express your concerns or let us know what you think we are doing well. Let's continue the team work that makes Bexley a place we enjoy. Have a great summer.

Bill Lark, President

Bexley Remembers Taylor Anderson

The neighborhood that Taylor Anderson called home during most of her childhood will always remember her. While the inspiration she gave is her most important legacy, there will also be a physical memorial consisting of a weeping cherry tree, a bench and a bronze plaque. These will be installed at the common area adjacent to the lakes. Taylor's home also overlooks one of the lakes. The plaque will show Taylor's name, her birth date of August 13, 1986 and the inscription, "A child of Bexley.....a woman of the world."



Taylor had a lifelong love of Japan and began studying the language in middle school. She moved overseas after graduating from Randolph-Macon College in 2008 to teach in the Japan Exchange and Teaching Program.

The majority of the \$2091 donated by Bexley residents will be given to the fund established in Taylor's name at Saint Catherine's School. This fund is used to help the victims of the earthquake and tsunami that struck Japan on March 11 claiming Taylor's life and those of many Japanese. Bexley's was able to donate the a greater portion of the money it raised due to the generosity of Summer Classics. The firm, which is located on West Broad Street, gave Bexley the bench at no charge when it learned of our intended use for it. For more information about the Taylor Anderson '04 Gift Fund, please check <http://www.st.catherines.org/tayloranderson>.

Treasurer's Report

Warren Dannenberg made a guest appearance at the May Association meeting and submitted a report on behalf of Chuck Smith. Warren reported that 343 of 401 home owners or 84.1% have paid their dues. Income as of April 11 was \$66,316 and expenses were \$17,519 leaving a net income of \$48,797. Income included a \$1600 reimbursement for clean up of a foreclosed property. The Association will continue to have expenses throughout the year, but we are on track to fund them.

An audit review for 2009 is near completion. The audit for this year will be done internally which will save the Association \$2500. Bexley West's lake reserve fund is in considerably better shape than ours, and we will be working to improve our reserve fund. Bexley and Bexley West share lake-related expenses equally and we are obligated to do our part. Maintaining the neighborhood is in everyone's interest. So, please pay your dues.

The complete treasurer's report may be found by clicking on the "Financials" menu at <http://www.bexleyhomes.net/association.php>

Providence Road Zoning

You may have seen signs regarding a zoning violation at a property on W. Providence Road near the Bexley West entrance. The owner is currently running a business from his home, and parking equipment on the property. The County Planning Department has granted the owner a three year variance, during which he will be allowed to continue to park his equipment at the rear of the property where it cannot be seen from the road. The owner may not have employees there, nor add to his equipment. He must begin searching for a new site. **The Board will oppose granting a further extension.**

Healthy Lakes Vital to Bexley

Bexley neighbor Sito Willoughby spends a lot of time on the lakes. He is concerned about their appearance and health. We should all share Sito's concerns because the lakes are the "crown jewels" of Bexley. They make what would be a nice neighbor-



hood into a spectacular one. They provide an opportunity for recreation, fishing or just contemplating nature.

Virginia has only two natural lakes - Lake Smith and Lake Drummond. All other water impoundments in the

State are man made. Artificial ponds like those in Bexley are subject to several threats. These include algae blooms, excessive weed growth, fish kills, sedimentation, eutrophication (an increase in nutrient levels that leads to a decline in the amount of oxygen in the water) and toxic chemicals.



Because we do not permit the use of gasoline powered boats and jet skis, we avoid excessive erosion and noise issues. However the health of the lakes is threatened by sedimentation and nutrient run offs and the appearance is threatened by litter.

Fortunately, there are steps that we can all take to promote the health of the lakes. First, do not put anything in the lakes. This includes leaves, trash, and chemicals. If you see someone dumping or blowing leaves or other materials in the lakes, call a Board member and report it. We will contact the homeowner or the



landscape service and take corrective action.

Second, don't throw anything into the streams that lead to the lake. Rain will wash litter into the lakes as you can see in these pictures.

Third, if you are performing construction or landscape work, be sure that you take action to prevent soil from washing into the lakes. Hay bales or sediment fencing will go a long way to stop run off. Fourth, avoid excessive use of fertilizers. These nutrients increase the likelihood of eutrophication. Finally, if you are on the lakes and see trash, please pick it up. Sito Willoughby has been doing this and it has helped with the lakes appearance. If you have questions about how you can help, please call Sito at 307-5737. Let's all work together to keep the lakes beautiful.

Your Officers and Directors

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Home Sales Link

At least 3000 visitors a month are viewing the Bexleyhomes.net website. If your home is on the market but not on the website, contact Board@bexleyhomes.net. The posting requires one exterior photo, address, price, description, and contact information. The \$25 posting fee helps support the website and can be mailed to Bexley Association, Box 74014, Richmond, VA 23236. For additional information contact Sharron Leonhirth at 278-3005 or Board@bexleyhomes.net.

Social Activities

The Bexley Book Club, under the chairmanship of Katy Wood, has grown to 16 members. The Club meets in members' homes every third Tuesday of the month except in December when there is no meeting due to the holidays. Read a book and join them! Please contact Katy Wood (amwood23@yahoo.com) or Barbara Quirk (quirkj@comcast.net) for more information.

Fine Dining and Progressive Dinner -Barbara Quirk can also provide information on the fine dining in Bexley. Neighbors join neighbors to enjoy fine food and wine in host homes. Barbara is planning a progressive dinner in the fall. If you are willing to host a main course or dessert, please contact Barbara (quirkj@comcast.net) for a sign up form.

Bexley Mini Service Master List

Neither the board nor the Bexley Association accepts responsibility for these individuals. Before using the service provider call the person and ask for their Bexley reference; then call the Bexley resident to confirm their satisfaction. To add to the list submit your recommendations to board@bexleyhomes.net.

Companion to the Elderly	Vent Cleaning	Snow Removal
Christina Webb	Gil Calkins	Todd Brown (roads only)
804-744-7341 (home)	804-651-4344	804-402-5896
At Home Hair Care	Pet Care	Pleasants Refuse
Cheryl Kahn	Tonya Kesler	804-598-3625
804-349-8275 (cell)	804-283-1471	Snow Removal - Shovel
Handyman	Emily Lord	Donald Cobb
Doug Tatro	804-549-6504 (cell)	744-2001 or 347-4750
(804-955-5528 (cell)	Alexa Gillert	Victoria Schwartz-Lutz
Housecleaning Lady	804-363-7705	276-2650 or 690-2107
Agni Giubi	Jane Meyer	Marcus Robinson
804-894-4061	804-543-8605	276-4639
Leaf Removal Service	Home Organizing	Baby Sitting
Hydro-Tap	Wanda Januski	Sonia Talegaonkar
804-590-1981	804-276-8132 (home)	804-745-1159
Molloy Lawn & Landscape	804-822-5786 (cell)	Tree and Stump Removal
310-3165 (cell)	Plumber	Winston Jones
Carpenter	Kevin Lansford	804-909-270
Robert Weedon	804-276-4488	Yard Work
804-873-6672 (cell)	Home Improvements	Donald Cobb (Bexley Res.)
Power Washing	Scott Jordan	804-774-2011
Tom Harris	804-794-5690	King Kutz (Bill King)
804-731-0786		804-437-1554

Trap, Neuter, Return and Manage Feral Cats



Many of us have seen cats wandering through the neighborhood. Some of them may be lost pets, but it is more likely that they are feral cats. Feral cats are descendants of domesticated pets that have returned to the wild. Several Bexley neighbors including Karrie Richards have been keeping an eye on the cat population in Bexley and have seen some evidence that there may be two feral cat colonies in the neighborhood. This is a concern because feral cats attack desirable wild life such as song birds and can spread disease to both humans and animals. Feral cats also suffer from illness, injury and starvation. Most don't live more than a year in the wild. Read more about the nationwide feral cat issue here: <http://www.tuckahoevet.com/news/feral-cats.html>, or here: http://pets.groups.yahoo.com/group/Richmond_VA_Feral_Cats/

What can we do about the feral cat population in our neighborhood? This is a controversial issue since we must treat the cats humanely while managing their population to minimize the harm they cause. Experts differ on the best approach. Several neighbors are banding together to support the Trap, Neuter, Return and Manage program. This calls for cats to be trapped and neutered before being returned to the wild. For more information about the neighborhood initiative please contact Karrie Richards at blue_heron_associates@yahoo.com. You may call Karrie at 276-4033.

Hip to Knit

If you are interested in joining a monthly knitting group for the purpose of sharing knowledge and socializing with Bexley neighbors please contact Donna Jewell at 674-1145. Donna will be glad to host the first meeting at her home.

Are You Planning to Sell or Rent Your Home?

Home sellers must order a Homeowners Closing Package and have it available at contract time to avoid delays. The \$75 preparation fee will be paid at closing. Contact Board@bexleyhomes.net or call Sharron Leonhirth at 278-3005 to order a package.

The Bexley Association is required by law to provide a *Homeowners Disclosure Document* to sellers. In addition to information about dues and the Homeowners Association it includes notice of any serious, uncorrected architectural violations. If you are selling your home, contact the Architectural Control Committee (ACC) at Board@bexleyhomes.net or by calling an ACC member. (Don Heslep (276-0750), Denis Klisz (276-9409), or Bob Hollinger (276-1850)) The ACC can help you identify and correct problems.

If your home is to be rented be sure your renter has a copy of the covenants and also understands clearly the requirement for back yard trash pickup.

Good Neighbors

Board members have been contacted by several neighbors to discuss concerns about neighborly behavior. Most Bexley residents are good neighbors, but we all have blind spots. The Board offers the following reminders to everyone on the topics of noise, traffic and pet waste.

Noise - Some residents have complained about the early start of workers and yard services in the neighborhood. The Board requests that these workers follow the Chesterfield County policy of a 7 A.M. start time during the week, and a 9 A.M. start time on Sunday. If possible, it might be best to wait until noon on Sunday

Traffic - This is a continuing concern and the Board was especially alarmed to hear a report about speeding near the bus stop at Broadstone and Rams Crossing. A Board member will monitor neighborhood complaints and report them to the Chesterfield County Police. Neighbors may also file complaints directly with Chesterfield County by e-mail at speeding@chesterfield.gov. For more information on the Chesterfield County traffic program, please see this site: <http://www.chesterfield.gov/police.aspx?id=2531>

Pet Waste - Please clean up after your pet. Some of the most emotional complaints we receive are from neighbors who are greeted by a pet's calling card. Pet waste contains bacteria that are harmful to our water. Leaving it on the sidewalk or in the yards means that harmful bacteria can get washed into storm drains and roadside ditches that flow directly into our lakes and rivers untreated. So what can you do? Whether you are in your yard or on a walk, dispose of your pet's waste promptly in the trash or toilet to prevent it from entering storm drains and roadside ditches.

Donate Used Items

If you discover some serviceable used items while doing your spring cleaning, consider donating them to the **Thrifty Quaker**. For more information check their web site: www.thriftyquaker.com or call Karrie Potter at 276-4033.

Bexley Board Meetings

These are the remaining Board meeting prior to the annual meeting in February 2012. All meetings are at 7:00pm on the second Tuesday of the month unless otherwise noted. Meetings are open to all neighbors, but please contact the host of the meeting if you plan to come. This will allow the host to plan for enough seating. The June meeting at LaPrade Library will be a mid-year open forum. Please check future editions of the *Rampage* or **BexleyHomes.net** for updated information.

Date	Location
June 14	LaPrade Library Open Forum Meeting (Hosted by Darrell Wilkerson)
July -	No Meeting
August 9	George Reid
September 13.....	Donna Jewell
October 11	Chuck Smith
November 8	Bill Lark
December 13	Deborah Hollinger
January 10	Kevin Hennelly

Articles Welcome

If you have an interest that you would like to share with your neighbors, please contact Kevin Hennelly at 745-0611 or Bexley-Rampage@Verizon.net.

Are You Receiving the Rampage By Mail?

Most Bexley residents now have e-mail addresses. E-mailing the Rampage saves money and natural resources. If you want to continue receiving the Rampage and do not have e-mail, please contact Kevin Hennelly at 745-0611 to discuss delivery options. The Association will continue to mail annual meeting notices to all.