

MUTUAL 16 MATTERS

AUGUST 2023

Mutual 16 — Leisure World, Silver Spring, MD 20906 ■ www.lwm16.com

AGENDA MEETING:

1:00 PM first Thursday of month
Clubhouse II, Rossmoor Room

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING:

9:30 AM second Tuesday of month
Clubhouse II, Rossmoor Room & Zoom

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Paula Seebode PaulaS330@aol.com	301-944-4759
Vice President	Betsy Davis BetsyTDavis1@gmail.com	240-383-7155
Secretary	Chris Everett Chris@CEverettOnline.com	410-428-7549
Treasurer	Edwin Bradley edsubrad@aol.com	202-641-7455
Directors:	Doug Allston dkallston@gmail.com	301-598-2557
	Marcia Laundy malaundy@gmail.com	301-598-3027
	John Looney JackL02@icloud.com	240-669-3530

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Communication Distribution	Virginia Rehbehn	301-438-0949
Landscaping	Betsy Davis	240-383-7155
	& Marcia Laundy	301-598-3027
Maintenance	John Looney	240-669-3530
Social	Kay Looney	240-669-3530
	& Diane Rosenfield	301-996-2549

CONTACTS

Sr. Property Manager	Robert Brunelle RBrunelle@lwmc.com	240-560-5565
Admin Assistant	Stacey Carranza SCarranza@lwmc.com	301-598-1338
Editor	Chris Everett	410-428-7549
LW Admin		301-598-1000
PPD		301-598-1500
Main Gate (Security)		301-598-1044
Comcast		1-855-638-2855

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

We live in a condominium. Your individual unit is called a condominium but our neighborhood, all 95 units, is also a condominium. Living in a condominium is unique. We live close together and we all own a percentage of the condominium. It's not like living in a subdivision where responsibility ends at the fence line. In a condominium, you are responsible for your bit of acreage; but you are also responsible for the whole kit and kaboodle. Give me some poetic license here; but a subdivision is like a plate with a steak, a potato, and the vegetables neatly separated. A condominium is like a bowl of soup, all mixed up together.

Because we share responsibility for the condominium as a whole, it's important to be a good neighbor. All major religions have some form of love thy neighbor in the rules (I looked it up on the internet). Is it that we need reminding to extend our thinking beyond our own circle or is it that there is something innate in us that knows it's better to be nice to others than the alternative?

In a condominium, it's important to think about how our actions will affect our neighbor, our neighbor's ability to get around, our neighbor's view, and our neighbor's property values. In a condominium all these things are not just our neighbor's; they are ours.

I have taken a winding road to get to this: Instead of a culture of complaining about our neighbor, I hope Mutual 16 can develop a culture of helping our neighbor. I notice that we're close to being there. I have seen neighbors taking in neighbor's trash cans. I have seen neighbors watering and weeding neighbors' yards. I have seen neighbors donating books to the little library and plants to the park. What else can we do to be good neighbors?

I wrote the above before the Great Power Outage of '23. What I saw during the recent emergency convinces me that we HAVE developed a culture of helping our neighbors. I saw a collective positive spirit in the face of adversity. I saw neighbors extending their arms to each other in so many ways: with food, shelter, information, portable chargers, freezer space, battery powered fans, generators, a knock on the door... When I saw extensions cords connecting one garage to another, I teared up. What else can we do? Never mind. We did it.

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HELPFUL HINTS!

Cordless handsets, Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) phones, and voice mail from those phones will usually not work during a power outage. A corded phone plugged into a phone jack will work during an outage. A smart phone will work without power; and in addition to being able to make emergency calls, you can get email and Robocalls.

We recommend that you give the Mutual your cell phone number for the Robocall list, and that you give your email address for email updates.

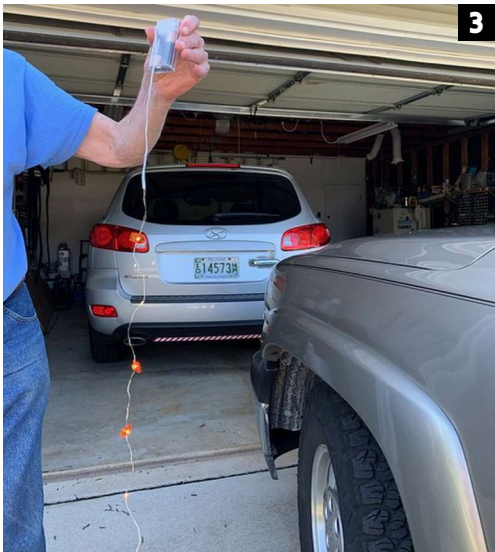
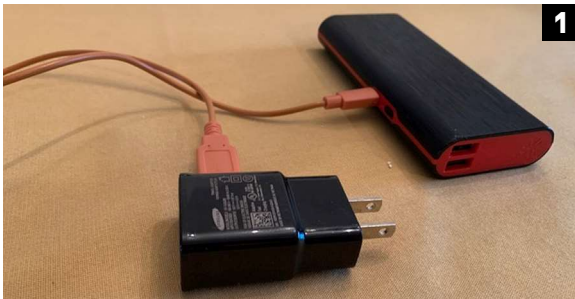
If you have a late model car you can charge your cell phone in your car. You can also buy a portable charger for your smart phone. Keep the portable charger plugged in when not in use. When the power goes off, plug it into your phone to charge the phone. The portable charger has enough power stored to charge your phone several times during a power outage. A portable phone charger costs between \$25-35 on Amazon. **1**

Rechargeable plug-in flashlight: Plug it into a regular wall outlet. It does two things: 1) when the power

goes out, it automatically turns on giving you light to see your way to the bathroom and, 2) when you take it out of the outlet, it functions as a regular flashlight. Put several around your home. 3/\$29 on Amazon. **2**

Norm Pulliam (15556 Prince Frederick Way), gave this idea: short strings of battery-powered holiday lights, bought at a dollar store, can be taped onto wall, wrapped around hazards, or placed along a hallway to guide your path in a power outage. His require two AA batteries and lasted about 24 hours. **3**

To open your garage door when the electricity is off: the garage door opener switch or remote will not work. You may need to get your car out in an emergency, to charge your phone, or to just go somewhere with electricity. *To get your car out of the garage:* Pull the cord with the red handle hanging from the garage door opener mechanism until you hear a click. The cord is near the front of the garage. This disengages the door from the opener. You can then open the door by lifting it manually. Some are heavier than others. It may take two people to open the door. **4** **PAULA SEEBODE**



MILESTONES

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Ruth Day	August 01
15528 Prince Frederick Way	
Bob Pechacek	August 05
3420 Island Creek Court	
Ed Bradley	August 20
15420 Prince Frederick Way	
June Hortin	August 21
15537 Prince Frederick Way	

AUGUST SCRAMBLE

Rearrange letters on each line to form a word, then use the circled letters on each line to form the BONUS WORD.

Created by **JANET GILBRIDE**

U T P M S



L T E I N



N T E I H



E Y E R G D



E G A L N R



BONUS WORD

CLUE: NO PAINS, NO -----



See next month's Word Scramble for answers

JULY ANSWERS

YESOTR
OYSTER

RMCBU
CRUMB

ISERM
MISER

ELMRBI
LIBER

CSPMA
SCAMP

BONUS WORD
CLUE: DOG DAYS OF

SUMMER

GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS

CAROL BARRICK

3406 ISLAND CREEK COURT

Carol was born and grew up in Colorado. She started taking dance lessons when she was six. Dance became her focus and her love from then on. Upon graduating from high school, she wanted to go to New York to pursue a dance career. Her father put his foot down and said "You WILL go to college first." She went to Colorado State University and graduated with a degree in Dance. Older and wiser in the ways of the dance world, Carol decided against New York. She did not want to be a waitress! She went to Las Vegas instead and supported herself by dancing for 12 years. She never had to wait tables. It turns out: Father Knows Best.

In Las Vegas, Carol was a pony dancer. Those are the covered shorter dancers who dance in front of the show girls. She still wore super high heels, two-inch eyelashes, feathers and spangles. The dancers worked long hours, had no benefits, and like football players, had a rather short-lived career, old at 32. But if she could dance, it was all worth it.

The shows she was in, like the Follies Bergere and Casino de Paris, traveled to places like Miami, Argentina, Manilla, the Caribbean, Reno, and Lake Tahoe. She danced during the Rat Pack Days of Las Vegas. She particularly remembers Sammy Davis Jr. as being a "very sweet man and soooo short," but she admired his strength facing the discrimination of the times. She also singles out Tony Bennet for a nice guy award.

Carol met her husband in Las Vegas in 1977. He was a drummer. After a long-distance romance, they married in 1979. They soon relocated to the Washington DC area where her husband played drums for a variety of groups including the Gene Donati Orchestra. Carol needed a job and there was not much call here for two-inch eyelashes and spangles, so she began her second career as a florist.

Their son was born in 1984. When he was

six, she needed a job so she began her third career working in shipping and receiving for a computer networking company. There she worked her way up from clerk to member of the Board. When the small company restructured, Carol began her fourth and final career in real estate, starting as an administrative assistant and ending as a title agent. When the company merged with a larger company, knowing she would be laid off, she retired at age 76.

After her husband passed away last year, she decided to leave the sad memories and extra maintenance

of her house in Rockville and move to Mutual 16. She has many friends here, plus her cousins, **Alex and Thomaseena Cox** live in Mutual 16. Here she watches her grandchildren, knits for charity, and plays Monday night Bingo. She attends St. Peter and St. Paul Antioch Orthodox Church and St. James Episcopal Church.

Carol's husband, Billy, always said, "Nobody turns on the lights and music but you." This new life is a big change from the glitz and glamor of Las Vegas and even from working and raising a family in Maryland, Carol turns on



THEN AND NOW:
Carol in the center of the
black and white photo



MEET THE PETS OF MUTUAL 16

Mutual 16, Leisure World's best community, is known for its pet-friendly atmosphere.

This month, we welcome the first feline participant in our neighborhood parade of pets. *Mutual 16 Matters* invites you to send images of your animal companion(s). We have an audience eager to meet your pride and joy.

Please send a photo – include your name, your pet's name, your pet's address, your pet's breed/species, and any anecdotes you'd care to divulge. A sentence or two would be ideal. We look forward to meeting the animals who share your homes and your lives.



Sunny, an Orange Domestic Tabby, is keeping an eye on **Marcia Laundry** from their front door at 15526 Prince Frederick Way.



Say hello to **Sadie**, the youthful 13 year old housemate of **Bob & June Hortin** (not shown), all residing at 15537 Prince Frederick Way.

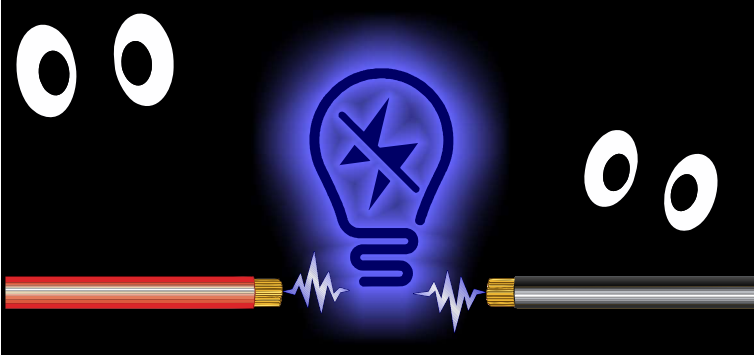


Welcome **Ellie**, an English Golden Doodle – the newest addition to Mutual 16. She lives with **Rhonda Finehout** at 3400 Island Creek Ct.



Meet **Brodie**, a West Highland White Terrier, who shares space with **Janet Gilbride** at 15403 Prince Frederick Way.

THE GREAT OUTAGE OF '23



At 2:00 PM, Saturday, July 29th, the electricity went off to 36 homes in Mutual 16. This was the second prolonged outage in 3 weeks. As we have been instructed to do, many residents and I called the Main Gate to report the outage. We started reporting at 2:01 PM. We were given different answers by the security personal who answered our calls: PPD had been called, Pepco had been called, Pepco was on site, Pepco was handling the problem remotely, no information is available, the problem should be fixed by 10:00 PM, only Mutual 16 has no electricity, other Mutuels are also affected, the residents should call Pepco, "we are Security, not Emergency Personnel," and "You can call the Red Cross." In my official capacity, I called the Main Gate eight times in the first 24 hours.

The Pepco Outage Map said our outage was weather related, fewer than 5 homes were affected, and that the electricity might be back on by Tuesday August 1 at 3:00 PM. Mutual 16 electricity went out before the storm that caused large outages throughout the County. Our Mutual's outage was *not* weather related. The Mutual 16 outage affected 36 homes. So, except for the prospect of three days without electricity, this was all erroneous information.

Once, through a convoluted series of deductions, I was able to reach a Pepco emergency response team human being. She repeated the erroneous information on the automated system and the Pepco Outage Map, and would not be moved by my pleas: "What if it was your grandma?" It turns out that because Mutual 16 is a Master Meter Mutual, Pepco thinks an outage is for one account, one house! Ours was a low-priority problem.

During the first 24 hours of our tribulation, members of your Board of Directors emailed and called Mutual Services and upper management but got no response. After a little help from a friend, and after 25 hours with no electricity, we received our first communication from Management: an email from the general manager: "PPD is working on it." He sent a follow-up email that said Pepco was not coming to Leisure World until Monday and that he was trying to get in touch with his Pepco contact.

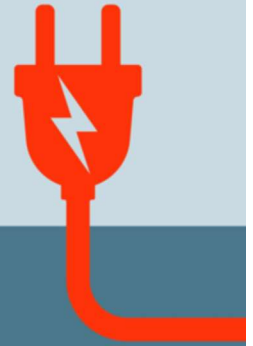
When Mutual 16 was 27 hours without power, Sunday afternoon, a person from PPD came to our Mutual to write down the house numbers of those without electricity; and later the general manager, PPD, and the LW Special Police brought salads for dinner to those affected. We are grateful for this response.

Monday afternoon, after calls to a County Council Representative and to additional upper management personnel, we got word that Pepco was on the campus. In fact, several Pepco and PPD trucks were spotted throughout the Mutual and on Norbeck Blvd. During the repair procedure, the electricity to approximately two dozen additional houses went out for a short time. By 5:35 AM, Tuesday morning, the electricity was restored. Rejoicing was heard throughout Mutual 16. All of Island Creek Court, the even side of upper Prince Frederick Way, and two houses on the odd side of Prince Frederick Way had had no electricity for 63 hours and 35 minutes.

During this outage, houses became uncomfortably hot, food spoiled, and devices went uncharged. But neighbors helped each other: opening garage doors, picking up and delivering breakfast, sharing air conditioning, freezer space, and generators. We seniors coped stalwartly. But, as well as the inconveniences of no electricity, we endured a frustrating failure to communicate by Leisure World management and Pepco. I hope this problem can be worked on, so we don't experience the same prolonged lack of info and aid in future emergencies.



Eat Safe Food after a Power Outage



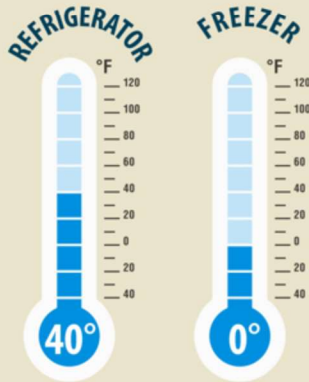
Refrigerated or frozen foods may not be safe to eat after the loss of power. Find out what you can do to keep food safe during a power outage, and when you need to throw away food that could make you sick.

Before

Keep appliance thermometers in your refrigerator and freezer.

The refrigerator should be at 40°F or below.

The freezer should be at 0°F or below.

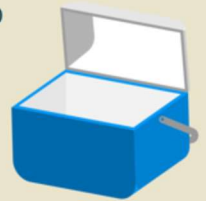


Prepare for emergencies or natural disasters



Freeze containers of water and gel packs to help keep your food at 40°F or below.

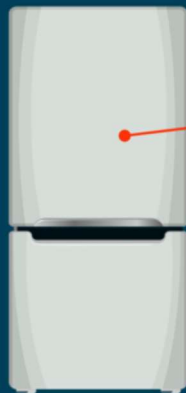
Have a cooler handy.



Buy dry ice or block ice to keep food cold in the refrigerator if the power might be out for a long time.

During

KEEP
Refrigerator
& Freezer Doors
CLOSED



4
Hours
in a
Refrigerator



48
Hours
in a
FULL
Freezer



24
Hours
in a
HALF-FULL
Freezer

After 4 hours without power, put refrigerated perishable foods in a cooler. Add ice or another cold source to keep them at 40°F or below.

After

Never taste food to determine if it is safe to eat. When in doubt, throw it out.



- **Throw out perishable food** in your refrigerator (meat, fish, cut fruits and vegetables, eggs, milk, and leftovers) **after 4 hours without power** or a cold source.
- Throw out any food with an **unusual odor, color, or texture.**
- **Check temperatures of food** kept in coolers or your refrigerator with a cold source. Throw out food above 40°F.
- If you have an appliance thermometer in your freezer, check to see if it is still at 40 °F or below.
- You can **safely refreeze or cook** thawed frozen food **that still contains ice crystals** or is at 40 °F or below.



www.cdc.gov/foodsafety



SAVE THE DATE!
 Pizza Party
 at the
 Park at the Rock
 September 13



SCENES FROM MUTUAL 16



On a clear August day, **Julie Repeta** and **Paula Seebode** enjoy a game of Scrabble at the picnic table in the Park at the Rock.
 Photo credit: **Dennis Johnson**

RESOURCES

CONTRACTORS

Carpet Cleaning	Rod Gardner Unique Carpet Cleaners 301-455-4623
Electrician	Ethan Greene 240-388-1616
Garage Doors	Billy's Garage Doors 301-367-9160
General Contractor	Mike Morrow Morrow1200@me.com 301-613-8781
HVAC, Plumbing	Pete Kristiansen Jiffy Plumbing, Heating and AC 240-882-8696 petethehvacguy@gmail.com
Painter	Ralph Carter Ralphcarter8@aol.com 301-302-1211

HANDYMEN & APPLIANCE REPAIR

Scott Davis	240-463-6134 t00lman7@yahoo.com
John Kent	301-385-8866 a1handymanjack@gmail.com
Alex Santos	202-945-3178 aasremodel@gmail.com
Senior Appliance Repair	571-445-2623

GARDENING SERVICES

Gloria Sherman (LW Res)	301-980-2867
Jane Zimmerman (LW Res)	301-219-8745
Austin Angles	301-598-5161
Bill Bowers	301-831-7893
Cooper	301-473-2191
REC Lawn Russ Cooper	301-614-2938
Mark Emmel	301-249-3655
Jovy's	301-537-9156
Jose Mayorga	301-346-5880
Carlos Mendoza	301-624-9769
Sam & Mari Gardens	301-590-5977

M16 CONNECTIONS

HELPING HANDS

Peter Loan	240-676-6074
Lenny Sammarco	240-535-8627

FRIENDS OF THE PARK

Paula Seebode	301-944-4759 PaulaS330@aol.com
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SUNSHINE LADY

Melinda Proctor	301-847-9644 mefoxp@gmail.com
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POWER OUTAGE

If you have a power outage, do NOT call Pepco! **Call the Main Gate**, at **301-598-1044**. The Main Gate reports outages to Pepco. We don't have individual accounts with Pepco so Pepco has no record of your residence if you were to call them.

REMINDERS

LITTLE LIBRARY AT THE ROCK

Anyone can put books in, anyone can take books out. After you read a book, bring it back or give it to someone else. If you have questions, call **Paula Seebode**, 301-944-4759.

SUNSHINE LADY

Our "Sunshine Lady" sends cards to our hospitalized residents as well as condolence cards for our deceased residents. If you know of anyone who would need a card, contact **Melinda Proctor** at 301-847-9644 or mefoxp@gmail.com.

SHOULD THE MUTUAL PAY FOR IT?

If you need work done in your home and feel the Mutual should pay for it, you **MUST FIRST** call **Jack Looney** at 301-938-0718 or 240-669-3530 **BEFORE** calling Physical Properties (PPD). If Jack is not available, call **Paula Seebode**, 301-944-4759. If you call PPD directly, you will be responsible for any charges incurred unless it is an emergency situation. For Emergencies after hours, call the Main Gate 301-598-1044.

FRIENDS OF THE PARK

Mutual 16 is home to a Leisure World landmark: the Park at the Rock. Join in to help out – call **Paula Seebode** at 301-944-4759 for more information.

"FILE OF LIFE"

Do you have a red vinyl "File of Life" magnetically attached to your fridge door? If not, get one of the red pouches from Montgomery County Fire & Rescue. Keep it updated with info concerning your medications, doctors, and contacts to be notified in case of serious illness. This data is important to an emergency crew when they are called in due to a sudden illness. First responders will check your refrigerator door for the "File of Life."

ROBO-CALLS:

The Mutual 16 President directs the Robo-Call system to alert residents about immediate situations in the mutual. It may be a notice about a repair that affects residents' water service, a last-minute change to a meeting time, or even a "Silver Alert" for a missing vulnerable neighbor.

HELPING HANDS VOLUNTEER

Need help with a minor household task? Call **Lenny Sammarco** 240-535-8627, or **Peter Loan** 240-676-6074.

TRASH SCHEDULE

Here's the schedule for garbage and recycling pickups, with specific requirements for each.

Note: garbage and recycling containers may be put out the night before their pickup days.

- **GARBAGE:** Pickup days are **Tuesday** and **Friday**. Be sure your garbage can is tightly covered.
- **GLASS/METAL/PLASTIC RECYCLING:** Pickup days are **Tuesday** and **Friday**. Recycling should be in the appropriate blue container. If you need a blue container, you can get one from PPD.

- **PAPER/CARDBOARD RECYCLING:** Pickup day is on **Wednesday** only. Paper/cardboard should be placed in a blue recycling container. Large boxes may be set out separately. Secure properly so paper doesn't fly around when it's windy.

- **YARD DEBRIS: BY REQUEST ONLY** on **Monday** and **Thursday**. Contact the Grounds Department email grounds@lwmc.com or call 301-598-1314 to notify them you have yard debris for pickup. Use tall brown paper recycling bags.

COMCAST CUSTOMER SERVICE

For routine service (if you need a technician, etc.) call LW Comcast Bulk 1-855-638-2855. For urgent issues (no TV or Internet), call Comcast Rep Willis Gray directly at 443-370-5018.