

## Note from the President – James Curtis

There are so many historic events unfolding around us almost daily. To many this is an extremely stressful and uncertain time. Several of us have loved ones, friends or colleagues affected in one way or another. The events of a pandemic, public demonstrations and political unease have certainly caused tension and uncertainty. For these reasons, I want to wish everyone our heartfelt support and encouragement to remain optimistic. LaCrosse is a strong community and is much stronger when we are confident, connected, and focused.

Our members and volunteers work tirelessly to provide a wonderful home we call LaCrosse. We are lucky to have great parks, a garden, walkways, and welcoming common areas. Our community garden is the envy of many communities and for many years Priscilla Fitzgerald developed this garden and helped it flourish until her retirement. We are fortunate today to have several members who took on Priscilla's duties and formed a new garden committee. Members, Sandee Hannan, Peter Crelley, Shellie Percich, Teassa Chism, Scott Okino and Sandy Taylor are inspired by previous achievements and are passionately taking our garden to the next level. Most recently, I spent some time in the garden reflecting on my thoughts for this article and I could not help but feel a sense of pride, community, and ownership for their hard work.

In addition, I recalled our October membership meeting when we discussed the need for a new perimeter fence. Based on your input and support we finalized the recommendation from our fence committee. Their report illustrated the need for sturdy construction, phased installation, and consideration toward the budget. The report is very thorough and organized which gave us a simple plan to follow during the bid process. Please thank the following members for their hard work, time, and effort – Mark Himeda, Nat Nguyen, Bob Peck, Bob Williams, and former longtime resident Janet Hill. Construction is planned to start August 24<sup>th</sup> and will include a new chain link garden fence and gated entry along the gravel roadway.

This Spring brought a new landscaper to LaCrosse from nearby Barbee Mill Condos. We are working closely with our new landscaper to rehab our common areas, tackle overgrowth, and fix tree root damage. Sadly, twenty years of cherry tree growth caused severe damage to many areas near the main corner of 36<sup>th</sup> and May Creek Park Drive. We are planning to rehab this corner with new foliage and are also considering new signage at the secondary entrances. This will help provide a clean and modern appearance to our HOA and compliment the new fence.



The Fourth of July was a special time to relax and see friends and family through social distancing. Many of us took time off, enjoyed the holiday, or simply had a barbecue. Some of our residents heard an enormous explosion that night and discovered our new community library at Grassy Park was vandalized. Unfortunately, the library was blown up and several books were scorched by the explosion. This scar on LaCrosse was short lived when resident Grant Wong took it upon himself to quickly repair the damage and return the library within a day. Grant's actions are a great example of working together, taking time to help and being considerate of others. On behalf of the LaCrosse Community and our Board Thank You!

I wanted to leave you with the library story to inspire compassion, remind you to drive with care and consider our neighbors. Please continue to practice pandemic precautions, wave at each other, and think of all the positives.

## Board of Directors

Buddy Sliva – Vice President  
Michele Williams – Secretary  
Shelley Percich – Director  
Sandy Taylor – Director  
Open – Director  
Open – Director



## Community Garden Update – Garden Committee

Our community garden is looking beautiful!! We've had a busy spring/early summer with a lot of projects. We put in new play chips all throughout the garden, trimmed the bushes and spread new beauty bark along the pathway. We also completed a lot of work in the Meditation Center: We pulled up the existing pavers, levelled out the sand and added some new pavers, bought new chairs and repainted the table so folks can sit and enjoy the garden. A big Thank You to all of



## Community Garden Update – Continued

the volunteers and Garden Committee for your hard work. A special Thank You to Peter Crelley for all the work and maintenance he does on the garden every year

We have some other projects that we are working on this season: new perimeter fence, new gate and gravel entrance by the shed and repairing the blueberry enclosure. Thank you to all of the participants that have a pea patch, your gardens are looking great and we hope you are enjoying this season.

If you have not yet checked out our community garden this year or have never checked it out before, please do! If you think you might want to have your own garden plot in the community garden next year, please let the Lacrosse Garden Community know at [lacrossesgarden@gmail.com](mailto:lacrossesgarden@gmail.com).

## New Neighborhood Speed Limit

Residents of LaCrosse HOA have voiced their concerns for the current rate of speed allowed within the neighborhood. The speed is regulated by the City of Renton at 25 miles per hour and we would like to lower it to 20 miles per hour to keep our children, pets, visitor, and ourselves safe. A nice neighborhood photo and interview with James Curtis was recently featured in the [Renton Reporter](#) (hyperlink). We need your help as we are only a few votes short. Scan the QR code to the right and sign our petition **NOW!** (Email addresses are kept confidential).



## CALM – Architectural Review Committee (Common Area Landscape Maintenance)

Homes and landscapes in our neighborhood have never looked so good! There certainly is some benefit to being home during this time ... it is great to see. We have a very beautiful and in-demand neighborhood. The requirements of our CCRs/Rules & Regulations keep it that way. Go to an area without an HOA you easily see the difference.

When in doubt on any of the LaCrosse requirements go to <https://lacrossehoa.org> and look up the CCRs (Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions) and the Rules & Regulations in the “Document” section. If you have questions or concerns ask any board member or email us [board@lacrossehoa.org](mailto:board@lacrossehoa.org).

## Quick Reminders ...

**PARKING:** All vehicles should be parked in your garage or driveway. Parking on our neighborhood streets is limited to 48 hours; cars must be faced with traffic flow on the right side and is enforced by the City of Renton.

**TRASH CANS:** Trash cans should be put out for *Pickup Only* and then returned concealed from view within 24 hours of garbage pickup.

**ARCHITECTURAL APPROVAL:** Per our Rules & Regulations; all work done on the exterior of the house or yard which is visible from another lot or the street will need a submittal to the ACC for approval. These include, but are not limited to, fences, patio/deck, “major landscaping”, driveway extensions, satellite dish placement, paint color, roofing, gutters, outbuildings, sheds, etc. The ACC form can be found at: <https://lacrossehoa.org> and sent through to [acc@lacrossehoa.org](mailto:acc@lacrossehoa.org). We strive for a quick approval process and communication of any concerns.

## Keep your home & yard in Tip-Top shape this summer with this easy checklist...

- Check your smoke & carbon monoxide detectors to ensure they are working properly,
- Inspect your heating/cooling equipment & change filters,
- Clean your Gutters - Regular cleaning is crucial for maintaining good gutters. A gutter clogged with debris can cause a leaky roof or water damage to the interior or exterior of your home. Unclean gutters also make a nice home for pest, rodents, and mold.
- Wash your Windows,
- Touch-up house paint,
- Flush hot water tank - It’s recommended that you flush your water heater at least once per year. Doing so will help prevent the potential problems that sediment can bring over time.
- Test GFCI outlets - The TEST button is there to help you check and ensure the outlet is working properly. To be certain your GFCI outlet is prepared to protect in the case of a fault, just plug something in and hit TEST. Whatever device you plugged in should not work if the GFCI outlet is working properly.
- Power Wash driveway, patio, sidewalk - Having a clean sidewalk has many benefits: it improves the look and value of your home, is inviting to guests and can remove dangerous slippery mildews. Dark-colored mildew and moss stains can make a sidewalk look grimy, dingy and cause a slippery surface.

Did you know that per Renton code the sidewalk surrounding your property is your responsibility to clean and maintain. You could be liable if a walker slips or falls injuring themselves on the sidewalk surrounding your property if it’s not clean of moss or encroaching vegetation.

We want to expand our newsletter electronic delivery. Please provide us with your contact information so we can email you the newsletters along with other important Association information.

Please email to [lacrossehoa@gmail.com](mailto:lacrossehoa@gmail.com) with “Contact Information” in the subject line.

FOLLOW US



[www.lacrossehoa.org](http://www.lacrossehoa.org)  
[board@lacrossehoa.org](mailto:board@lacrossehoa.org)  
[lacrossehoa@gmail.com](mailto:lacrossehoa@gmail.com)