

# Western Branch

## March 2006 News

# Little League

**WELCOME TO THE  
SPRING 2006 SEASON!**

**OPENING DAY -  
APRIL 1**

### From the Prez...

Welcome to Western Branch Little League Spring Softball! We are really happy that you are playing with us this year!

For newcomers to our league, WELCOME! If you have any questions, just ask.

For returnees, it's great to see you again!

The season is off to a fast start. Opening Day is coming up quickly. We look forward to seeing each of you April 1<sup>st</sup> for our Opening Day festivities.

Signups were very good this year. To encourage players to sign up early (so we could recruit managers and coaches and set the teams), we changed the fee structure a little. Although we don't like to, we have had to put some players on a waiting list.

Please remember, at WBLL, sportsmanship is very important, whether you are a player, a coach, or a fan.

We hope you enjoy the season! Play ball!

**Woody McLeod**  
WBLL President

### Opening Day Info for You!

We've got an exciting Opening Day planned for Saturday, April 1!

We'll be starting off the Opening Day Ceremony at 9:00 a.m. so we ask all players to arrive in uniform at 8:30 a.m. to join their teammates.

There will be lots of raffles so come prepared to buy your raffle tickets!

The raffle will feature items such as:

- gift certificates to Dick's Sporting Goods, Kelly's Tavern, Spaghetti Eddies, Casablanca, Olive Garden, Picadillys, Greater Grinders, The Doll Dresser, Pizza Hut, Golden Corral
- passes to Nauticus, Virginia Air & Space Museum
- Starbucks coffee, softball bracelets, Girl Scout book

We'll have hats for sale, doughnuts, and more!

**For info on Opening Day ceremonies, contact Greg Robinson. Contact Karen Sheeley for raffle info (see inside for contact info).**



Western Branch Little League  
League ID: 346-06-02  
P.O. Box 9784  
Chesapeake, VA 23321  
www.wbll.org



## THANKS TO OUR 2006 SPONSORS!

As Western Branch Little League continues down the road in our second decade, we are continually looking for ways to raise money and help the league purchase necessary items for our girls to continue playing safely and having the equipment they need. Western Branch Little League relies on volunteers and help from the community. The list below are businesses that helped achieve that. ***Please think of these businesses as you shop through the year to show them our support.***

- ★ Air Conditioning Specialists
- ★ Dr. Weisburg
- ★ Dr. Hatcher
- ★ Dr. Kenneth Shoaf
- ★ Bill Barnett
- ★ Orthopedic Specialists
- ★ Paramount Builders
- ★ Southside Eye Care
- ★ Towne Bank
- ★ Hot & Cold Plumbing
- ★ Crazy Kids
- ★ Maria Camp
- ★ Mr. Handyman
- ★ Churchland Obstetrics
- ★ Beach Panels & Controls
- ★ Atlantic Fabrication
- ★ Nansemond Dentistry
- ★ The Answer Center
- ★ Sand Blasting Experts
- ★ Weight Loss Forever
- ★ BB&T
- ★ Allstate
- ★ Harrisons Moving & Storage
- ★ Pet Dairy
- ★ Cogentrix
- ★ Norton Sandblasting Equipment
- ★ Village Trading Post and The Village Mailbox
- ★ Sam's Club
- ★ Vinny's Pizza

***And the League thanks Karen Sheeley, our Sponsorship Chair, for all of her hard work!***

Volunteers  
make  
WBLL  
great!

*If you can spare some of your time to the League, please let a Board member know, or simply let your Team Mom or Dad know that you are available. Your help is greatly appreciated!!*

## WESTERN BRANCH LITTLE LEAGUE DAY AT HARBOR PARK!

**Sunday, May 14th will be Western Branch Little League Day at Harbor Park!!**

WBLL has partnered with the Norfolk Tides for this exciting fundraising event. For every \$8.50 reserved seat ticket sold, Western Branch Little League will earn \$3.50. We need everyone's support! Bring your families! Approach neighbors, friends, and coworkers! Businesses and organizations may also want to support this worthwhile effort. All proceeds will go to the league's capital fund for the new fieldhouse/concessions building.

The top individual ticket seller will be able to throw out the first pitch at the Tides Game. The top selling team will participate in the Tides "Field of Dreams" promotions prior to the Game and will take the field with the Tides during the playing of the National Anthem. Game Time is 1:15 p.m.

Team Moms/Dads will be providing the details for this great afternoon of baseball and family fun as soon as practices begin. We are hoping that each Western Branch Little League Family will purchase four (4) tickets to the game. Thanks for your support. ☺

## CONCESSIONS OPPORTUNITIES

Wanted: A kind, caring, sensitive person ... no seriously. Anyone 13 or over interested in being a substitute concession worker, please contact Sabrina Sexton at 405-0380.

Concessions Mgmt is looking for a team of hardworking dedicated individuals to provide assistance with ideas and manning. If interested please contact Sabrina Sexton at 405-0380.

## NEW BUILDING UNDERWAY WITH YOUR HELP

This year on game days we will have inside plumbing (bathrooms) available to us at the new High School Concession stand that was built with help from Western Branch Little League and other contributing members of the community. NOT one cent of City Taxpayers' money went into it. Parents in our league contributed fixtures and cash to make it a reality.

This year we are trying to start construction on the first phase of the new concession stand and storage facility for joint use by WBLL and the High School softball teams. The building will be two stories and will be located behind A Field. Eventually it will also include inside plumbing. In order for this to become a reality we need your help. An estimate of \$20,000 has been prepared to have the shell of the building completed.

We are looking for volunteers to contribute their expertise, labor, time and materials. If you or you know of anyone who can help with any of the below please contact:

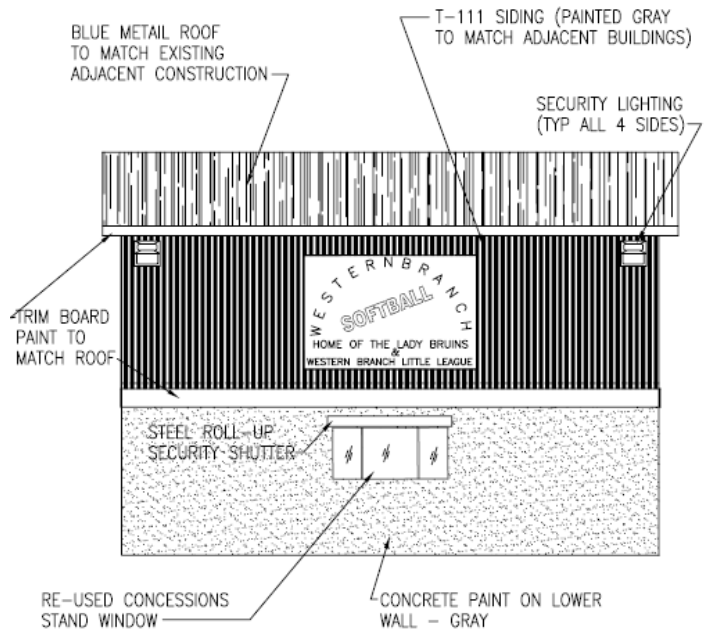
- Pete Reilly at [Peter.G.Reilly@NAO02.USACE.ARMY.MIL](mailto:Peter.G.Reilly@NAO02.USACE.ARMY.MIL) or
- Chuck Anderson at [wbemail@cox.net](mailto:wbemail@cox.net) or phone 483-0234.

We are looking for:

1. Expertise at laying concrete slab
2. Expertise at laying concrete block
3. Expertise at installing a metal roof
4. A surveyor to shoot the site plan
5. Carpentry and electrical help
6. All the other things that go into a building

Why do we need a new building? Our current concession stand was intended as a temporary measure when it was donated 7 years ago. It is leaking and will continue to deteriorate. It is also un-securable. We have had numerous break-ins over the years and for that reason we are unable to store a lot of items there with any degree of assurance they will be safe. In addition, the blue boxes are not adequate for our storage needs and two are also beginning to rust and leak. Those leaks have damaged supplies and equipment. They will need to be replaced. A financial analysis showed it would be less expensive in the long run to build a new building than try to repair and replace them.

Help to make this building a reality!



## WESTERN BRANCH LITTLE LEAGUE MAGNETS AVAILABLE!

If you would like a WBLL car magnet, or two or three, we have them for you, at the reasonable price of only \$6!!! See design below (actual size is 6"). For info, contact Denise Conter ([deniseconter@wbll.org](mailto:deniseconter@wbll.org)).



## WHAT'S A TEAM HAVE TO DO?

All the fun of watching and playing in softball games is only part of what a team has to do. Many things take place apart from the games. Did you know each team is responsible for?

- Cutting the grass on the fields once during the season.
- Dumping the trash once during the season. (Includes putting new trash bags in the cans.)
- Staffing the concession stand twice during the season.
- Getting the field ready before every game when they are the home team.
- Repairing the field and putting things away when they are the visiting team.
- Sell the fundraiser. Registration fees cover less than 25% of the monies needed to operate the league.

In addition, before, during, and after the season Western Branch Little League must maintain the fields. That includes:

- Keeping the grass cut.
- Keeping the fences edged.
- Grading the fields and preparing them for play.
- Making repairs to equipment as needed.

Western Branch Little League has no paid staff and receives no money from the city. Quite the contrary. We pay for the lights, all our equipment and all the other expenses involved with keeping the fields safe to play on.

**So please volunteer to help. See something that needs to be done just do it. If you don't, then who will?**

## CONGRATULATIONS TO PETE MANUGO!

In recognition of his many years of sports involvement, Pete has been selected by the Portsmouth Sports Club as 2006 Sports Person of the Year. In addition to Pete's many years at WBAC, Pete has managed and coached with WBLL since 2003. **Congratulations Pete!**



## FOOD LION FUND RAISING

As a community service, Food Lion offers groups an opportunity to fundraise using their MVP card. **To participate we need at least 25 people to register their MVP cards on-line.** By doing so a portion of your receipt is applied to a fund for the Little League. The league could receive a check from \$10 to \$350 per quarter based on the number of participating parents and the number of registered MVP cards.

Go to our WBLL web site ([www.wbll.org](http://www.wbll.org)) and follow the links to the Food Lion Fundraising Info. Simply identify Western Branch Little League as the organization you designate the funds to go to.

This is an easy fundraising for the Little League and only cost you 5 to 10 minutes of your time to register.

Thanks!

### KEY DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

**April 1:** Opening Day

**April 15-16:** Spring Break - no games

**May 14:** WBLL at Tides Day

**May 27-28:** Memorial Day Weekend - no games

**June 10:** Season Ends (weather permitting)

## EVERYONE LIKES HERSHEY CANDY BARS!!!

Many thanks for your participation in our spring fundraiser! We have found that selling Hershey candy bars is a real winner – they're a great product and you get a real bargain. If you have questions, please contact Denise Center ([denisecenter@wbll.org](mailto:denisecenter@wbll.org)).

2006 WBLL BOARD		
NAME		E-MAIL
Anderson, Chuck Treasurer		chuckanderson@wbll.org
Anderson, Deb		debanderson@wbll.org
Bullock, Bert		bullock@wbll.org
Bullock, Lynn		bullock@wbll.org
Cerza, Rick		rickcerza@wbll.org
Conter, Denise Vice President		deniseconter@wbll.org
Conter, Tom		tomconter@wbll.org
Irvin, Angela		angelairvin@wbll.org
McLeod, Woody President		pres@wbll.org
Reilly, Pete Secretary		petereilly@wbll.org
Robinson, Greg		gregrobinson@wbll.org
Sexton, Sabrina		sabrinasexton@wbll.org
Sheeley, Karen		kwsheeley@wbll.org
Sheeley, Wayne		kwsheeley@wbll.org
Smith, Bryan		bryansmith@wbll.org
Stone, Donna		donnastone@wbll.org

Interested in serving on the  
WBLL Nominating Committee?  
Please contact Woody McLeod.

[www.wbll.org](http://www.wbll.org)

### IDEAS FOR THE WEB SITE?

Have you visited our web site recently? If you have any comments or ideas, please send them on to Tom Conter at tomconter@wbll.org.

### NEWSLETTER SUGGESTIONS

If you have any suggestions or information for the newsletter, please contact Deb Anderson at debanderson@wbll.org or contact her at 483-0234.

## WHO HAS THE ANSWERS???

Each team will be selecting a **team parent**. In addition to the **manager**, the team parent will be able to answer many of the questions you may have. Here are some other folks who can answer your questions...



- o About **concessions** – Sabrina Sexton
- o About **uniforms** – Denise Conter
- o About **equipment** – Bryan Smith
- o About the **fundraiser (candy sale)** – Denise Conter
- o About the **opening day ceremony** – Greg Robinson
- o About the **T-Ball Division** – Rick Cerza
- o About the **Coach Pitch Division** – Pete Reilly
- o About the **Major Division** – Chuck Anderson
- o About the **Senior Division** – Woody McLeod
- o About the **fields** – Tom Conter
- o About **team photos** – Sabrina Sexton
- o About **registrations** – Karen Sheeley
- o About the **league's safety program** – Denise Conter
- o About the **web site** – Tom Conter
- o About the **newsletter** – Deb Anderson
- o About **sponsorships** – Karen Sheeley
- o About **\$\$\$** - Chuck Anderson

### ←←← See contact info!

Home phone numbers are not available on line, please contact via e-mail.

## INTERESTED IN SELLING YOUR WARES?

Make your own jewelry? Have a small business? If you would be interested in selling your wares at the softball field during game Saturdays, please contact Karen Sheeley (karensheeley@wbll.org).

## YES, A SILENT AUCTION!

Yes, WBLL will be hosting a silent auction on its web site this year, during the month of April. There will be lots of great items for you to bid on! Please remember the proceeds will go to the Little League. If you can, bid higher so you can say "I contributed". Watch for details on www.wbll.org!