

2003

Hickory Farms

Newsletter Archive

Includes the following newsletters:

- January 2003
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- May 2003

The Hickory Farms Newsletter

*Hickory Farms Community Association
Fairfax County, Virginia*

SPECIAL CONTENT NOTICE

- The 2003 HFCA Dues Assessment Notice on page 9.
- Be sure to read the HFCA Mission and Goals for 2003 on page 4.

Message from the HFCA President *by Bob Cosgriff*

A new year, with all its promise and uncertainty, is underway. It will be hard to top last year with the 'headline news' we received when our neighbors Bob and Lee Sottile won Braddock District Council's *Citizen of the Year Award* and our Community won Fairfax County's *Environmental Excellence Award*.

Nonetheless, the 2003 Board is busy planning on how best to carry out HFCA's vision and yearly goals which are included on page four of this newsletter. Our aim is to make Hickory Farms the best place to live in Fairfax County in 2003 and beyond.

On the right is this year's Board of Directors and ACC. Both groups include a mix of people who

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HFCA Board

Bob Cosgriff*	President
Ginny Herchert*	Vice-President
Bob Bentley	Treasurer
Kathy Gillette*	Secretary
Richard Dudley*	Grounds
Greg Gillette*	Neighborhood Watch
Rob Mikula	At Large
Missy Jackson	At Large

Architectural Control Committee (ACC)

Bob Sottile*	Chair
George Rosenkranz*	
Bob Montgomery*	
Bill and Diane Galinis*	
Rob Mikula.	

* Denotes previous member.

Our thanks to these neighbors for their commitment to our community.

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Concrete Thoughts—*by Kirk Randall*



From: The ConcreteNetwork.com
www.concretenetwork.com/

We are ready to contact some concrete contractors to bid on HFCA jobs. Thus far, twelve families are interested in having concrete work performed. The plan is to have about 3 or 4 contractors bid on the jobs. We will check their references, insurance, bonding, licenses, etc., and then select a winning

bidder. The winning bidder will prepare a separate contract for each homeowner. Each homeowner would be free to accept an individual contract — or not. If you choose to accept, you would handle payments directly with the contractor.

By combining our projects

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Concrete Thoughts *by Kirk Randall*

(Continued from page 1)

and having them done at the same time, we should be able to save a considerable amount of money over individually arranging to have the work done.

Thus far, I have identified four contractors:

- Tim England
- Wright's Concrete
- Great Falls Development Co.
- Hard H Paving.

Tim England and Hard H were referred by members of our group. Wright's and Great Falls both advertise in local newspapers. If you have heard anything negative about these contractors, please let me know! Also, if you know the names of any other reputable concrete contractors, please pass their names on to me.

Even though it is too cold to pour concrete right now, contractors are booking projects for the spring. We have to get this bidding process going very soon. So as soon as possible, please deliver to my home, at 4279 Country Squire Lane, an 8 ½ x

11 piece of paper with the following information:

- Your name, street address, day and evening telephone numbers and your e-mail address.
- A drawing of your property showing exactly what you want done and where;
- A detailed description of any special instructions or requirements for the project. State if you would like to have separate quotes for different projects (e.g., one for a driveway and another for a sidewalk)
- List any period of time when you absolutely cannot have concrete work done.

The following neighbors have expressed an interest in participating: Joe Pomager, Ying Zhang, Bob Bentley, Bob Cosgriff, Mark Lutz, Gerry Tumulty, John Webb, Kirk Randall, Paul Kruzynski, Judy Collier, Nancy Doolin, and Greg Gillette.

If you know of any other neighbors who might be interested in participating in this joint effort, please have them contact me as soon as possible.

*Kirk Randall is at 4279
Country Squire Lane.*

*Go all the way to the end
of the cul de sac and
down the pipe stem.*

*It's the blue colonial on
the left.*

*If you have the time,
talent and interest to
help out, you can call
(703) 528-5806 or go to
the Web at
www.rpjhousing.org
for more details.*

Volunteer opportunities

There are many ways in which people can help their community through volunteering. Many residents of Hickory Farms are already doing so in schools, churches, scout dens, sports programs and the HFCA Board.

From time to time, we get mailings from non-profit organizations and we will pass on the information so that anyone who is interested can take

part. One such group is called "Rebuilding Together with Christmas and Sukhot in April." This organization repairs and rehabilitates homes of low-income (often elderly and/or disabled) homeowners in Arlington and Fairfax County and the cities of Falls Church and Fairfax.

Now in its 15th year, this group hopes to serve 95 homeowners this year.

Message from the HFCA President *by Bob Cosgriff*

(Continued from page 1)

have previously served and some who are new additions. I want to especially thank each and every one of them for their willingness to participate.

Nothing maintains home values like maintenance of the home and the community.

Do your part!

Last year, Hickory Farms witnessed a big run-up in sale prices of homes. While some of this can be attributed to market forces, a lot of it has to do with the appearance and ambience of the neighborhood. This is an area where everyone has a responsibility.

As in the previous years, the Board and ACC will focus on compliance with our covenants. We want to continue the trend of appreciating values for our homes. Admittedly, deep winter is not the time most people begin to tackle major yard work or ex-

ternal improvements.

However, it is a good time to take stock and make plans for spring-time. There are a few easy things residents can do now to keep our neighborhood looking its best during the next couple of months:

- 1) remove leaves, sand, dirt, etc. from gutters fronting your property;
- 2) remove the litter that somehow finds it way onto our streets, sidewalks and lawns;
- 3) take down Christmas decorations;
- 4) check and clean carports.

This will still leave plenty of time to enjoy the Super Bowl. Then we can look forward to March Madness.

Can Spring be far behind??

Schedule of HFCA Events

The following is the tentative schedule of events for the year:

Board meetings are the second Thursday of each month at 7:30. They are held at different members' homes. The next meeting is February 13 at the Gillettes' (10005 Cotton Farm Road).

Spring Clean-up	Saturday, May 3 (Rain Date: Sunday, May 4)
Spring Fling	Saturday, May 17 (Rain Date: Sunday, May 18)
Yard Sale	Saturday, September 13 (Rain Date: Saturday, Sept. 20)
Fall Clean-up	Saturday, October 4 (Rain Date: Sunday, October 5)
Fall Festival	Saturday, October 18 Rain Date, Sunday, October 19)
Annual Meeting: Week of 27 Oct. (exact date to be determined)	

HFCA VISION AND GOALS 2003

Hickory Farms has always been, currently is, and for the foreseeable future will remain, essentially a community of young and growing families, which nonetheless comprises a variety of residents, including young, unmarried professionals; occasional college (usually graduate) students; empty-nesters; and some retirees. Over ninety percent of the residents are homeowners, and the remainder are renters—often long-term—who eventually buy homes here.

Our greatest assets are:

- The people who choose to live in our neighborhood. They (you) make this a friendly and active community. HFCA residents have been named Braddock District Council Citizen of the Year on two different occasions (1995, 2002). Two residents are currently serving in County-level appointments. Many others are active in other community volunteer efforts
- Our seventeen acres of common grounds, including open mowed fields, forested areas, creek habitat and a restored natural meadow with a bluebird trail. Hickory Farms Community Association was selected as the winner of the 2002 Fairfax County Environmental Excellence Award (Organization category) “for its exemplary stewardship of environmental resources through a variety of initiatives to enhance the environmental value of the community’s common open space”
- Our placement in the Woodson pyramid, enabling our children to attend some of the finest schools in Fairfax County—Oak View Elementary, Frost Middle, and Woodson High School
- Our central location, convenient to Metro (Vienna), VRE (Burke Center), the Beltway and the Fairfax County Parkway, the City of Fairfax, shopping and employment centers, Washington Dulles and Reagan National Airports, and Washington, D.C.
- Our proximity to George Mason University, with its many educational, cultural and sports activities
- The reasonable price of our homes compared to neighboring subdivisions

Our goals for the future include:

- Maintaining the physical attractiveness of this twenty-five-year old neighborhood to ensure that property values continue to increase
- Protecting, preserving and, where appropriate, enhancing our award-winning common grounds
- Increasing the involvement of residents in community operations and events, such as membership on the HFCA Board, Neighborhood Watch, Spring and Fall Clean-ups and community social events
- Continuing our already strong working relationship with the office of the Braddock District Supervisor and other elected officials at the local (county and city), state and federal levels
- Maintaining the peace and safety of the neighborhood through on-going coordination with the Fairfax County Police and specifically through the Neighborhood Watch program
- Ensuring that the operation of the HFCA Board is open, responsive and consistent with the legal requirements of our By-laws and Covenants and Virginia law, without being intrusive

To carry out these goals, we will:

- Use persuasion, example and, where necessary, the powers of the HFCA Covenants to ensure that all homeowners show respect and courtesy for their neighbors in maintaining neighborhood standards of property appearance and behavior
 - Actively seek neighbors to assist the Board as active Board members or volunteers for events
 - Assign one Board Member with the primary responsibility of maintaining close liaison with the office of the Braddock District Supervisor and other elected officials
 - Continue the monthly publication of the HFCA Newsletter to keep all residents informed
 - Maintain our annual dues at the lowest level consistent with having a balanced budget and sufficient reserve funds for future contingencies or membership-approved capital expenditures. Currently, the dues are \$100/year and the reserve is equal to just over one year’s operating expenses
-

Community news

The National Park Service has announced a process of public input on a General Management Plan for the Great Falls National Park. This is one of the most spectacular natural areas in Fairfax County. The goal of the Plan is to improve the facilities and make this heavily-visited park a premier destination. If you are interested in this, you can get more information at (703) 289-2500 or on the Web at www:nps.gov/grfa.

If you haven't visited the park, it's well worth the trip. There is a fee, and the entrance can be very crowded

on weekends, especially from April through October.

Did you know that you can go to Riverbend Park directly upstream, enter for free (it's a Northern Virginia Regional Park) and take a reasonably easy hike of about one mile to the National Park?? There are some areas that are a bit rocky, but you are right along the Potomac and get some great views of the river and wildlife. If you're lucky, you might even see a Bald Eagle, as they nest in that area of the river.

Braddock District Council News

Supervisor Bulova has initiated a "Community Dialog" on Transportation and Land Use issues as the result of the defeat of the sales tax referendum in November. This dialog will comprise several meetings between now and June 2003. The first meeting was held on January 22nd and was centered on why people did or did not vote for the referendum. Alternatives for the various transportation issues were also discussed. The rest of the schedule includes:

February 5: The Parameters Within Which We Operate (the roles of state, county and city governments in transportation and land use).

February 19: Planning of Land Use and Transportation (the whole process, including the Comprehensive Plan, Capital Improvement Plan and growth

vs. 'no- or slow-growth.'"

March 5: Funding for Transportation

March 19: Political Dynamics (state, local, regional, including D.C./ Maryland)

April 2: Next Steps (review sessions and setting up further discussion groups)

April 16: Community Dialog Task Force Meeting

April 30: Discussion Groups Report to Full Task Force and Supervisor

May 14: Conclusion of Community Dialog (adopt recommendations of TF)

All meetings will be held at Supervisor Bulova's Office at 3002 Burke Lake Road.

If you are interested in being on the Task Force, let a member of the HFCA Board know and call 703-425-9300.

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Braddock District Council News

(Continued from page 5)

June 25: Spring Braddock District Town Meeting on Transportation and Land Use (televised).

Supervisor Bulova has also announced plans for some new types of recognition for people and organizations within Braddock District. This is an outgrowth of the Citizen of the Year Award sponsored by the Braddock District Council of Homeowners' Associations.

posed awards are:

Neighborhood Enhancement/ Beautification.

Commercial Beautification/ Improvement (for going "above and beyond")

Most "Can Do" Public Employee (working on Braddock District issues)

Most Outstanding Business Person

The details are not final, but the pro-

Club or Organization Really Making a

Supervisor Bulova mentioned Hickory Farms and our Environmental Excellence Award when discussing Neighborhood Enhancement and Beautification at the District meeting.

Hickory Chips – Tidbits from the Community and the Editor

Capitol Steps, a nationally known musical political satire comedy troupe, will perform at **W.T. Woodson High School Auditorium** on Sunday, March 2, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$22 in advance, \$27 at the door. A limited number of reserved, block seating will be available for groups of 24 or more. For advanced purchase send a stamped, self-addressed envelope and check payable to the **Woodson Band Patrons** to: Capitol Steps, 10176 Red Spruce Road, Fairfax, VA 22032. Part of the price of each ticket benefits both the Woodson Band and the 2003 Cavalier Cruise Graduation Party. For additional information call 703-425-8014.

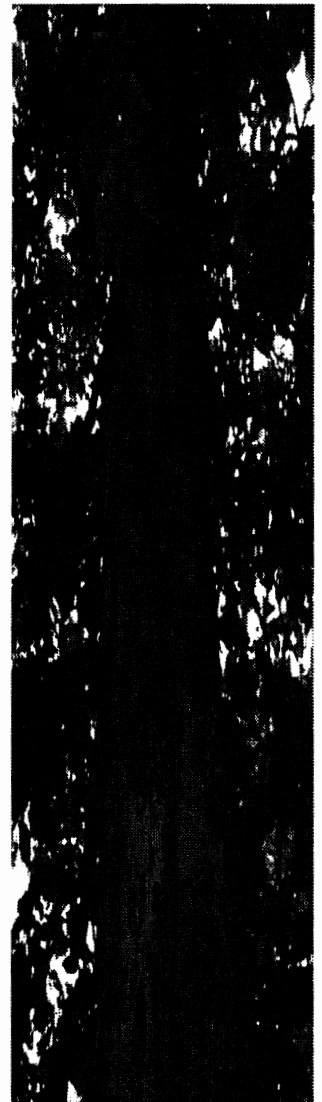
Hickory is the common name for any of a genus of deciduous trees of the walnut family. Of about 16 species, 4 are found in Mexico and China, with the rest native to the eastern and southern United States. Hickories are characterized by light gray bark that varies from the smooth, slightly ridged bark of the pignut to the rough, peeling plates of the shagbark.

The commercially cultivated pecan tree, which bears paper shell pecans, was bred from the wild pecan hickory. Hickories are about 30 m (about 100 ft) tall, often grow among oaks in dry uplands, and have long taproots. Their leaves are compound, with from 3 to 17 leaflets that turn bright yellow in au-

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Editor's Note: If you have an item of interest for this section please send it directly to the editor at: hfca-editor@cox.net. I will try to include it or let you know the reason why I didn't.

For the entire Board, here's wishing you all the best in the New Year!



Shagbark Hickory
(*Carya ovata*)
With thanks to
U Conn Plant Database

General Guidelines for the Architectural Review Application:

The following list provides examples of maintenance normally required for your property and **do not require review** by the Architectural Control Committee.

- Any repairs or upkeep that does not alter the outward appearance of structures on your property including:
 - Repainting your home the same color and shade.
 - Includes doors, storm doors, windows, storm windows, trim, gutters, and shutters.
 - Replacing your roof with the same type, style, color and shade of shingles.
 - Replacing your gutters with the same type, style, and color.
 - Replacing your driveway or sidewalk in the same size and material type.
 - Replacing your windows with the same color and shade and appearance and style. (e.g., six pane over six pane divided lites)
 - Replacing a door with the same type style, color and shade. (Includes a garage door)
 - Planting of flowers, shrubs, trees, or creating planting areas.
 - Replacing your fence with the same style, height, and color and shade.
 - Replacing a storage shed with the same type including size, materials, and color and shade.

The following is a list of improvement examples that **require review** by the Architectural Control committee.

- Any alterations or repairs that alters the outward appearance of structures on your property including:
 - Repainting your home a different color or shade. Includes doors, storm doors, windows, storm windows, trim, gutters, and shutters.
 - Replacing your roof with other than the same style, type, and color or shade of shingles.
 - Replacing your gutters with other than the same type, style, or color.
 - Replacing your driveway or sidewalk with materials different than the original.
 - Enlarging your driveway or sidewalk.
 - Replacing your windows with other than the same color or shade or appearance and style. (e.g., installing a bay window)
 - Replacing an entrance or garage door with other than the same size, type, color or shade. (e.g., steel with wood)
 - Installing or replacing a fence with other than the same style, height, or color or shade. Includes painting a previously approved fence that was left natural.
 - Constructing a storage shed, changing the color or shade of a previously approved shed, or painting a shed that was previously approved to be left natural.
 - Replacing the siding on your home.
 - Any additions to your home including room, garage, porch, or deck.
 - Completely or partially enclosing a carport.
 - Installing a permanent basketball hoop or any type of batting cage.
 - Installing a "pole" light fixture.
 - Installing storm windows or door.
 - Installing any type of swimming pool or water garden.

If you are unsure if your alteration should be reviewed, please feel free to contact any member of the Architectural Control Committee.

Hickory Farms Community Association 2003 Assessment Notice

Please Pay by March 31,2003

The 2003 Hickory Farms Community Association (HFCA) annual assessment is \$100. The assessment is used for maintenance of the common grounds; insurance for the association and Board members; semi-annual neighborhood picnics; the Neighborhood Watch program; and, the costs of managing and operating your Association.

You can help conserve your Association's financial resources—and your own— by submitting your payment in a timely manner. Payments postmarked after the due date will be considered late and will be charged an additional \$25 late fee. In the event an owner's check is returned, the owner will reimburse HFCA for any expenses incurred for the returned check.

This year's assessment of \$100 is due March 31,2003.

The HFCA is committed to maintaining and improving the quality of life in Hickory Farms, to maintaining our property values and to resolving issues of concern to our neighbors. Assessments (and late fees) are collected in accordance with your By-laws to cover Association expenses, which are outlined and approved by the homeowners at each Annual Meeting.

If you are not a property owner and are not responsible for paying the assessment, please forward this notice to the property owner promptly.

Please complete the coupon below, detach and mail it with your check to the address on the coupon.

HFCA 2003 ANNUAL ASSESSMENT

The Assessment of **\$100** is payable by **March 31,2003**.

Please make your check payable to **HFCA** and mail to:

HFCA
P.O. Box 2239
Fairfax, VA 22031-2239

Your Name: _____

Lot Number: _____

Address: _____

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tumn. Each tree has male and female flowers, the male found along the stem in hanging, three-branched catkins and the female found at the twig ends in small, petalless clusters.

The usually hard-shelled nuts, 2.5 to 5 cm (1 to 2 in) in diameter, are enclosed in fleshy husks that dry and split into quarters. The species that bear large, sweet, edible nuts commonly gathered in the wild include the shagbark, the shellbark, the mockernut, and the wild pecan hickory. Other species bear nuts that are

too small to be of value, or that have kernels with skin coverings containing tannin, giving them a bitter taste. Hickories are also valued for their tough, hard wood, which is used for tool handles, sports equipment, and furniture, and as fuel and a smoke wood for meats.

Scientific classification: Hickories constitute the genus *Carya*, of the family Juglandaceae. The pignut is classified as *Carya glabra*, the shagbark as *Carya ovata*, and the wild pecan hickory as *Carya illinoensis*. The shellbark is classified as *Carya laciniosa* and the mockernut as *Carya tomentosa*.

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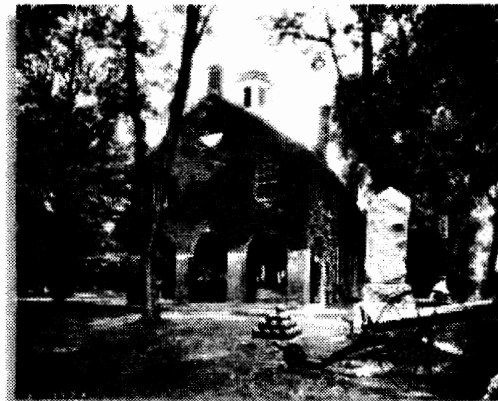


Hickory Leaves and Fruit
With thanks to U Conn Plant Database

Letters to the Editor for the Hickory Farms Community Association Newsletter may be sent to:

HFCA
Attn: Harry E. Herchert
P. O. Box 2239
Fairfax, Virginia 22031-2239

E-mail the editor at: *hfca-editor@cox.net*



Fairfax County Courthouse, c. 1910

This c. 1910 view of the Courthouse conveys a feeling of stately importance. Two 1856 naval cannon stand vigil before the Ivy covered edifice. The gazebo at left covers the public well and posted legal notices are clearly visible beneath the arched portico.

From: <http://www.co.fairfax.va.us/library/branches/vr/courthouse/morecourthouse.htm>

The Hickory Farms Newsletter

Special Content Notice

- **The 2003 HFCA Dues Assessment Notice on page 7. 31 March Deadline!**
- **The Home Improvement Form on Page 5.**

Inside this issue:

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- HFCA Schedule of 9
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- HFCA Board and 10
ACC Members



Can Spring Be Far Behind?

*Hickory Farms Community Association
Fairfax County, Virginia*

Message from the HFCA President, Bob Cosgriff

By the time you read this, the "Blizzard of '03" will be gone, but not forgotten. The result was beautiful to look at, but unpleasant in its reality of unplowed streets, a week out of school for the kids, and cabin fever for all. I reported to Sharon Bulova our concern over the poor quality of the plowing job. As we all know, we weren't alone in this, as the magnitude of the storm exceeded the ability of all jurisdictions to keep up with it. If I get any feedback from Sharon's office, I will pass it on.

I would say the efforts of neighbors to clear sidewalks was somewhat mixed at best in the day or two after the storm. We do ask that if you are unable for some reason to clear your walk, to call on one of the young people in the "Kids' Yellow

Pages" of our new Hickory Farms Directory. I'm sure they'd be glad to help cut at least a swath. In any event, March is here and therefore Spring can't be far behind. In just a couple of months, we'll be complaining of the heat and mowing lawns!

Speaking of kids, please continue reading. Starting on page three, I discuss some ways that our younger residents can perhaps become more involved in the community. Also, there is another article on the history of Hickory Farms below, this time shedding a little light on the folks who owned the land from Roberts Road down to the creek prior to the building of the subdivision.

And now, let's get ready to enjoy the coming of springtime!

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Grounds *by Richard Dudley*

Though much of the ground is still covered with snow, HFCA is already planning ahead for spring and summer activities for our common areas.

Our Neighborhood Spring Clean-Up will be held on Saturday, May 3 from 9:00 a.m. until noon. More no-

tices will be forthcoming but please plan on being part of our team. In the spring, we traditionally remove trash, limbs, invasive vines, and try to take on a special project to beautify our common areas.

HFCA will continue working
(Continued on page 8)

History of Hickory Farms by Bob Cosgriff

The original series of articles concerning the history of what became our neighborhood, Hickory Farms, focused on the colonial and Civil War periods. Obviously, a lot happened after 1865. Various books available from Fairfax County provide good sources of the evolution of Fairfax from a mostly agrarian county to the large, dynamic urban county it has become. The growth of subdivisions is a characteristic of that development, so this article sheds a little light on the transformation of our property from a farm to the neighborhood we all call home.

The owners of much of what is now Hickory Farms (basically from Roberts Road down to Rabbit Run) was Christian Gunder Gilbertson and his wife Muriel V. Gilbertson.

I gathered the material for this article by looking into the land records in the courthouse. The new computerized system makes this a much easier process than it used to be. I tried to locate the chain of ownership. The land records contain property descriptions, sales, mortgages, etc. I then went to the Virginia Room of the Fairfax County Library in Fairfax City. There, modern technology made the job easier as well. A computer system that enables you to enter a keyword (or name) gives you hits that refer you to newspaper articles on microfilm. So what you see below is a summary of what I found. It by no means represents complete research, but it does convey a little something of what life was like before we came to live here.

The owners of much of what is now Hickory Farms (basically from Roberts Road down to Rabbit Run) was Christian Gunder Gilbertson and his wife Muriel V. Gilbertson. They had about 60 acres (some of this might have included land where Glenmere Road is now) The earliest reference I

found was for 22 March, 1939, mentioning a mortgage of \$8,000 for the property in the interest of William C. Montgomery and C.B. Hunt, trustees. This was released on 23 October, 1947. There are additional entries in the late 1960's that indicate that there were trustees for the property (H. Wise Kelly, Jr., and John Wood). On March 30, 1972, the property was acquired by A & B Construction. The description of the property mentions land owned by Henry Hunt (I believe this is where Country Squire Lane and Wheatfield Court are now; I'll need to go back and check this further), Layman Rudolph (this is the land where east of Rabbit Run up to Burke Station Road and also where Manor Place is located today), and E.H. Toole (this is the land along Rabbit Run, at the end of Glenmere Road and bordered to the east by Tumbleweed Court).

In the papers, I was able to find out a few interesting things about the Gilbertsons. They were certainly not dirt farmers. Gentleman farmers would be a better term. They were very active in the Fairfax community, belonging to such organizations as the Community Chest, Fairfax Athletic Club, Rotary (Christian was President in 1946), the Courthouse Players (a theater group), the Choral Society. They hosted a meeting of the Players in July, 1941.

The Gilbertsons had at least two daughters. Julie was the older one; she graduated from Fairfax High School in 1952 (the building that is now Paul VI) and enrolled at Northwestern University. In 1958, she was engaged to Douglas Sorrell Mackall II nickname "Bus"), and was married on

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President's Message (Continued from page 1)

Some ideas for Hickory Farms' younger residents:

As our Mission and Goals Statement puts it, Hickory Farms is primarily a community of young and growing families. This is not to neglect residents who don't fall into this characterization, but to point up a fact. The neighborhood seems to be filling up again with young people, which certainly adds to its vibrancy. Beyond being an attractive, quiet and safe place to live, and with good schools to attend, what else does (or could) our neighborhood offer to our school-age residents? Well, as it turns out, quite a few things. The purpose of this article is to throw some ideas out that might help kids, especially the middle-school/high school group, to be a contributing part of the neighborhood. So here goes:

The purpose of this article is to throw some ideas out that might help kids, especially the middle-school/high school group, to be a contributing part of the neighborhood.!

1. School projects: there are opportunities for science and history projects right here in Hickory Farms. For example, students could study the environment in a variety of ways (after all, we did win the 2002 Environmental Excellence Award), such as monitoring the bluebird trail, studying natural succession in our restored meadow, monitoring the creek for water quality and aquatic bio-diversity, counting bird species, etc. As for history, the articles on HF history could serve as a starting point for research papers into various topics in colonial, Civil War or even more recent history of this area.

2. Scout projects: there are numerous merit badges in Boy and Girl Scouting that could get substantial completion here. Again, the natural environment is one area readily available for

observation. We have had one young man do his Eagle Scout project by upgrading the environment of Rabbit Run.

3. Community Service: High school students need to complete several hours of community service as a graduation requirement. Assisting in the Spring and Fall Clean-ups might be a way to earn some of these hours (we've had at least one student do this in the past).

4. Learning about Local Government: This ties into the school requirements above. Students could attend a regular meeting of the Board, or the Annual Meeting to see how the Association operates. Or they could use our good relations with Supervisor Bulova and Delegate Peterson to perhaps talk with them about issues and how the County and State governments function.

5. Contributing to the Newsletter: Students could write an article about what's going on in their school, or submit news about an accomplishment (theirs or a friend's who lives here).

Another way young people can contribute to the neighborhood is to be sure that they and their friends respect the rules of the Association by helping to keep the common areas and streets clean, and being sure that their activities don't bother the other residents.

There are probably other ways that this article doesn't cover. The point is that kids make up a big part of the neighborhood and can do a lot more

(Continued on page 4)

President's Message (Continued from page 3)

in, and for, Hickory Farms than they perhaps thought was possible.

Community News

Hickory Farms resident Jocelyn Breeland (Harvester Farm Lane), President of the Oak View Elementary PTA, has contacted us with news about an exciting project at Oak View School. They are planning to build a four-lane, 1/8-mile outdoor track to provide a safe place for students to practice to meet State physical fitness

standards. The track will be available to the public too. Obviously, this will cost money (\$48,000), which is being raised by the PTA. If you would like to contribute to this worthy cause, please forward a check payable to *Oak View PTA*, 5004 Sideburn Road, Fairfax, VA 22032. Please write "Track Fund" on the memo portion of the check. Your donation is tax deductible. If you have any questions, please contact Jocelyn at (703) 323-1404 or breeland.bc@verizon.com.

Oak View Elementary PTA sponsored and tax deductible project to help students meet Virginia fitness standards.

Hickory Chips — Tidbits from the Farm

Golf Tournament. Circle the date of April 7, 2003. Join **Congressman Tom Davis**; college basketball TV and radio analyst and **WTW grad Chris Knoche**; and, scores of your friends and colleagues at the first Annual Cavalier-Charge Golf Tournament. Co-sponsored by the **Athletic Boosters and Band Patrons** the tournament will be held at Fairfax National Country Club. For further information, or to sign up for the limited number of slots, contact Jeff Kramer at jkramer@aarp.org.

Dominion Products and Services (an affiliate of our electric company Virginia Power) is offering a **Water Line Replacement Program** which, for \$3.25 per month, insures replacement of the water line that runs

from the water meter (usually between the sidewalk and the street) and your home.

Given that water line replacements in our neighborhood usually run in excess of \$2,500, this sounds like something you might consider. You can call 1-866-645-9810 (M-F 8:30-5:30) for more information. The "fine print" of the program can be found on the Internet at:

http://www.dom.com/products/retail/pdf/va_waterline.pdf.

Our **new neighbors** at 10115 Cotton Farm Road are **Mykola and Tatiana Sakharov** and their six year old daughter **Helen** and sixteen month old son **Slava**. The Sakharovs have most recently lived in Alexandria. Welcome to Hickory Farms, Sakharovs! §

Golf Tournament with Congressman Tom Davis and Chris Knoche.

Water Line Replacement Insurance with Dominion Products and Services.

Welcome to our new neighbors, the Sakharovs.

Editor's Note: If you have an item of interest for this section, please send it directly to the editor at: hfca-editor@cox.net. I will try to include it or let you know the reason why I didn't. Thank you.

General Guidelines for the Architectural Review Application:

The following list provides examples of maintenance normally required for your property and **do not require review** by the Architectural Control Committee.

- Any repairs or upkeep that does not alter the outward appearance of structures on your property including:
 - Repainting your home the same color and shade.
 - Includes doors, storm doors, windows, storm windows, trim, gutters, and shutters.
 - Replacing your roof with the same type, style, color and shade of shingles.
 - Replacing your gutters with the same type, style, and color.
 - Replacing your driveway or sidewalk in the same size and material type.
 - Replacing your windows with the same color and shade and appearance and style. (e.g., six pane over six pane divided lites)
 - Replacing a door with the same type style, color and shade. (Includes a garage door)
 - Planting of flowers, shrubs, trees, or creating planting areas.
 - Replacing your fence with the same style, height, and color and shade.
 - Replacing a storage shed with the same type including size, materials, and color and shade.

The following is a list of improvement examples that **require review** by the Architectural Control committee.

- Any alterations or repairs that alters the outward appearance of structures on your property including:
 - Repainting your home a different color or shade. Includes doors, storm doors, windows, storm windows, trim, gutters, and shutters.
 - Replacing your roof with other than the same style, type, and color or shade of shingles.
 - Replacing your gutters with other than the same type, style, or color.
 - Replacing your driveway or sidewalk with materials different than the original.
 - Enlarging your driveway or sidewalk.
 - Replacing your windows with other than the same color or shade or appearance and style. (e.g., installing a bay window)
 - Replacing an entrance or garage door with other than the same size, type, color or shade. (e.g., steel with wood)
 - Installing or replacing a fence with other than the same style, height, or color or shade. Includes painting a previously approved fence that was left natural.
 - Constructing a storage shed, changing the color or shade of a previously approved shed, or painting a shed that was previously approved to be left natural.
 - Replacing the siding on your home.
 - Any additions to your home including room, garage, porch, or deck.
 - Completely or partially enclosing a carport.
 - Installing a permanent basketball hoop or any type of batting cage.
 - Installing a "pole" light fixture.
 - Installing storm windows or door.
 - Installing any type of swimming pool or water garden.

N.B. If you are unsure if your alteration should be reviewed, please feel free to contact any member of the Architectural Control Committee.

Hickory Farms Community Association 2003 Assessment Notice

Please Pay by March 31,2003

The 2003 Hickory Farms Community Association (HFCA) annual assessment is \$100. The assessment is used for maintenance of the common grounds; insurance for the association and Board members; semi-annual neighborhood picnics; the Neighborhood Watch program; and, the costs of managing and operating your Association.

You can help conserve your Association's financial resources—and your own— by submitting your payment in a timely manner. Payments postmarked after the due date will be considered late and will be charged an additional \$25 late fee. In the event an owner's check is returned, the owner will reimburse HFCA for any expenses incurred for the returned check.

This year's assessment of \$100 is due March 31,2003.

The HFCA is committed to maintaining and improving the quality of life in Hickory Farms, to maintaining our property values and to resolving issues of concern to our neighbors. Assessments (and late fees) are collected in accordance with your By-laws to cover Association expenses, which are outlined and approved by the homeowners at each Annual Meeting.

If you are not a property owner and are not responsible for paying the assessment, please forward this notice to the property owner promptly.

Please complete the coupon below, detach and mail it with your check to the address on the coupon.

HFCA 2003 ANNUAL ASSESSMENT

The Assessment of \$100 is payable by **March 31,2003.**

Please make your check payable to **HFCA** and mail to:

HFCA
P.O. Box 2239
Fairfax, VA 22031-2239

Your Name: _____

Lot Number: _____

Address: _____

Hickory Farms History (Continued from page 2)

November 22, 1961. The other Gilbertson daughter was born in 1956. I didn't notice a name, so will have to dig a little deeper. Julie had a daughter, Suzanne, on May 13, 1962, at Columbia Hospital. There is a Douglas S. Mackall III, Attorney, listed in the most recent phone book (living in Clifton and practicing law in Fairfax City), and it would be reasonable to conclude that he is the child of Julie Gilbertson.

Some interesting ads pertaining to the Gilbertsons appeared in the *Fairfax Herald*. In 1936, he offered 20 acres of hay for cutting. In 1937, he offered "cow peas" for sale (see sidebar.). Both these dates are earlier than the mortgage mentioned above, indicating that the Gilbertsons already owned the property from the mid-thirties. In the same papers of the period, "hamburger meat" was offered at 19 cents a pound!! Also, the Gilbertson's ran a few ads over the years requesting 'domestic help'.

I was not able to determine from the newspaper reports what Mr. Gilbertson's profession was. However, he did file an application to operate an antique store on his property "on the east side of Roberts Road at the Fairfax City line in the Providence District." The case was to be heard at 12:00 noon on October 27, 1964, according to the 16 October public notice. However, I couldn't find any mention of the outcome. He was no doubt retired by this time. As we know, the property changed hands eight years later.

So there is a little vignette of the previous owners. There are obviously lots of gaps. If I get the chance to fill them in from documentary or anecdotal sources, I'll put them in future newsletters. Doing some sleuthing about our early history might be a good school project for some enterprising young person in Hickory Farms. We will publish any results of such a project, especially if we can learn more about the 'cow peas'! §

The cow-pea, botanically named *Vigna unguiculata*, has long been recognized as a valuable crop for the Southern states, where it has been extensively grown for forage and green manuring, but it has only been within comparatively recent years that the general cultivation of this crop has extended into the Northern states. The cow-pea is a native of India, and it is supposed to have been introduced into this country from England in 1734 by the Oglethorpe colonies in Georgia.

- From a 1906 Kansas State Agricultural College Farm Bulletin. *The Editor.*

Grounds (Continued from page 1)

with our grounds contractor to spruce up the Roberts Road and Burke Station Road neighborhood entrances. Although you cannot see them now, bulbs were planted in the fall and should make their appearance this spring. We will also plant summer flowers once the bulbs are finished with their blooms.

We will be working with the Virginia Department of Transportation to see whether it is permissible and feasible to plant wildflowers along Burke Station Road in order to add an attractive touch to what is now a semi-

grassy strip of land between the neighborhood entrance and the road's "S" curve.

HFCA hopes to work with an arborist from the county to do an inventory of any rare trees in our common areas, determine protective measures to preserve these trees, and examine options for inhibiting the overgrowth of invasive vines.

For the time being, however, we'll wait for the snow to melt. Please remind your kids to be careful

(Continued on page 10)

Neighborhood Watch *by Greg Gillett*

Driving on the Common Grounds: Please report any sightings of vehicles driving in the common areas to the Fairfax County Police non-emergency number, 703-691-2131 and to the Neighborhood Watch Chair, Greg Gillette, at 703-503-3158. Off-street driving through Hickory Farms' property is against the law and does a lot of damage to our beautiful common areas.

Watch Schedule: Here is the watch schedule for the remainder of March and for April. Please make sure that you get the watch kit to the next watch in a timely manner.

Sat	March 8, 2003	Ron Arnold	Charles Walters
Fri	March 14, 2003	Jeff Lindsay	Larry Rogers
Sat	March 15, 2003	Eric Maribojoc	Clarisa Dacanay
Fri	March 21, 2003	Rich Pernicano	Steve Mathews
Sat	March 22, 2003	Bob Montgomery	George Rosenkranz
Fri	March 28, 2003	Pete Scala	Rose Scala
Sat	March 29, 2003	Stan Lee	Jim Marshall
Fri	April 4, 2003	Pam Barrett	Tom Barrett
Sat	April 5, 2003	Robert Cooke	Lorna Cooke
Fri	April 11, 2003	Bruce Bernhardt	Nancy Bernhardt
Sat	April 12, 2003	John Verheul	John Cotner
Fri	April 18, 2003	Rob Mikula	Sharon Mikula
Sat	April 19, 2003	Alfonso Acosta	Marie Acosta
Fri	April 25, 2003	Harry Herchert	Ginny Herchert
Sat	April 26, 2003	Rob Cruz	Louise Cruz

Reminders for Neighborhood Watch Members:

Here are some reminders for the Neighborhood Watch:

- Report any suspicious activity.
- Do not pursue vehicles or suspects.
- Do not attempt to enforce traffic rules.
- Vary your route.
- No weapons of any kind are allowed by Neighborhood Watch.

The main thing to remember when you are doing your Watch is that you are there to make passive observations and communicate any suspicious activity to the police. §

Nothing maintains home values like the maintenance of the home and the community.

Do your part!

The following is the tentative schedule of events for the year:

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| Spring Clean-up | Saturday, May 3
(Rain Date: Sunday, May 4) |
| Spring Fling | Saturday, May 17
(Rain Date: Sunday, May 18) |
| Yard Sale | Saturday, September 13
(Rain Date: Saturday, Sept. 20) |
| Fall Clean-up | Saturday, October 4
(Rain Date: Sunday, October 5) |
| Fall Festival | Saturday, October 18
Rain Date, Sunday, October 19) |

Annual Meeting: Week of 27 October 2003
(exact date to be determined)

Grounds (Continued from page 8)

on the sledding hill in the Lower Common Area. With many sledders choosing the steepest part of the hill next to the woods, please encourage caution to your children and do your part to foster a safe environment by removing any limbs or other obstructions that find their way onto the sledding slope. And a reminder to pet owners to please clean up behind your dog.

The **Fall Clean-Up date is Saturday, 04 October, from 9-12**. If that time and/or day is inconvenient, please contact me and we can arrange a secondary clean-up opportunity that you can sign up for on Sunday, 05 October. We will meet in the upper common area. Please bring gas-powered grass trimmers, pruning shears, hand clippers, and work gloves. Trash bags will be provided. We will focus on cleaning up trash/debris, cutting back obtrusive

trees/brush in the upper and lower common areas, and working along the paths adjacent to the north end of the neighborhood and Rabbit Run. We may also undertake planting of bulbs and/or fall flowers at our neighborhood entrances. If anyone with a "green thumb" has good suggestions and wants to volunteer for the job please let me know. For those of you who cannot make the official clean-up, please consider spending a little extra effort cleaning up around your own homes. Fall is an excellent time to fertilize and seed your yard to prepare for a thick lawn next year!

Please let me know if you plan to attend, what equipment you can provide to the effort, and any special projects you care to undertake. If you forget to RSVP, come out anyway – we can use the help. §

2003 HFCA Board

Bob Cosgriff*	President
Ginny Herchert*	Vice-President
Bob Bentley	Treasurer
Kathy Gillette*	Secretary
Richard Dudley*	Grounds
Greg Gillette*	Neighborhood Watch
Rob Mikula	At Large
Missy Jackson	At Large

2003 Architectural Control Committee (ACC)

Bob Sottile*	Chair
George Rosenkranz*	
Bob Montgomery*	
Bill and Diane Galinis*	
Rob Mikula.	

Board meetings are the second Wednesday** of each month at 7:30. They are held at different members' homes.

*Previous member.

**Change from last Newsletter

Letters to the Editor for the Hickory Farms Community Association Newsletter may be sent to:

HFCA
 Attn: Harry E. Herchert
 P. O. Box 2239
 Fairfax, Virginia 22031-2239

E-mail the editor at: hfca-editor@cox.net

The Hickory Farms Newsletter

*Hickory Farms Community Association
Fairfax County, Virginia*

Special Content Notice

- ◆ **Spring Clean-up**
Saturday, May 3
9 am until Noon
(Rain Date: Sunday, May 4)
- ◆ **Sharon Bulova es-**
tablishes "Best of
Braddock" award.

Inside this issue:

- Laurel Hill Update** 2
- Hickory Chips: Local Events** 4
- Treasurer's Report** 4
- Home Improvement Form** 5
- Neighborhood Watch** 7
- HFCA Schedule of Events** 8
- HFCA Board and ACC Members** 8

Message from the HFCA President, Bob Cosgriff

It is really Spring now, and as always, the neighborhood is taking on signs of renewed activity. Our beautiful common areas will soon be green and flowering. In that spirit, we have extended our bluebird trail into the upper common grounds with the installation of two boxes. This will enable neighbors at that end of the community to enjoy the sight of nesting bluebirds or some other desirable species. Please mark your calendars for Saturday, 3 May, the date of the annual Spring Clean-up. Details can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

The **concrete replacement** project spearheaded by volunteer Kirk Randall seems to be moving forward,

and I have been asked by a neighbor if we could do the same for **window replacements**. Anyone living in a home with the original windows knows that they are nearing the end of their useful life. They are not as energy efficient or attractive as today's models. Were we to have a "window" project like the concrete project, we would need a volunteer to coordinate it (identify the best vendors and negotiate rates, etc.).

As a start, however, if anyone has recently had windows replaced and would like to share your estimation of the quality of the job with neighbors, you can do so by letting me know. We can list your name and number in the next newsletter and send an e-mail to the neighborhood collective address

(Continued on page 3)

Grounds *by Richard Dudley*

The deep snow has finally melted and plans are under-way for next month's Spring Clean-Up. We have all received some benefit from our 17 acres of common grounds and now is an opportunity for us to give something back to the community so we can continue taking advantage of this valuable asset. Please don't leave this work to just a few - involve yourself and your family in a couple hours meeting neighbors

and making a difference to the neighborhood.

The Spring Clean-Up date is Saturday, May 3 from 9:00 a.m. until noon. We will meet in the upper common area. Please bring any pruning shears, hand clippers, rakes, or any other equipment that will assist in the effort (trash bags will be provided). You are encouraged to

(Continued on page 4)



Cherry Blossoms
From dc.com

Laurel Hill Update *by Bob Cosgriff*

It's been a while since I've updated you on the progress of planning for the former Lorton Prison site, now referred to as Laurel Hill. To quickly summarize the situation, there are basically six main parts to the nearly 2,400 acres transferred to Fairfax County by the Federal government. These parts, and the responsible body for planning are as follows:

1. An area for new schools (high school, middle school, elementary school) (Fairfax County Public Schools)
2. A large area for parkland, including a golf course (Fairfax County Park Authority)
3. A large area for parkland (Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority)
4. A graduated care adult-living community (Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors)
5. The adaptive reuse area (old Occoquan Workhouse on Rt. 123, and the Central/Maximum facility on Silverbrook Road (Adaptive Reuse Citizens Task Force, and Board of Supervisors).
6. An area (about 200 acres) for residential development by Pulte Builders (Planning Commission)

The conditions for use and 'development' of this property are spelled out in the legislation transferring the property, the Memorandum of Agreement between Fairfax County and the Government Services Administration (GSA) and the County's Comprehensive Plan. Anything done to or on the property must conform to this guidance, and of course must go through the usual public planning and hearing processes. Because there are several different agencies and bodies involved, there will be several, concur-

rent planning processes. However, these agencies are required to coordinate so that things are in harmony.

The Adaptive Reuse Task Force is up and running. We have adopted a set of principles to guide us in evaluating proposals. Shortly, we will conduct citizen meetings to provide information about the Task Force's role (and the overall planning process), and hopefully trigger some input and solid proposals. This process will go on through the summer, resulting in an overall concept for adaptive reuse as part of a Draft Master Plan to go to the Board of Supervisors. In a Board Action on 10 March, the Board authorized the Task Force to send forward any proposals that are ready for review and conceptual approval now. This is important because all such proposals will rely on outside funding and therefore need a commitment from the County that they can go ahead to line up funds. The only complete proposal received so far is from the Lorton Arts Foundation which has an excellent vision and definite plan for the Occoquan Workhouse portion of the property. On FCPA land, there is a proposal for a Cold War Museum on the old Nike Missile Site.

I'll let you know when there will be a Laurel Hill Task Force Meeting in Braddock District. For more information about the totality of the Laurel Hill process, go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov and find the Laurel Hill link. ■

*Former Lorton Prison site,
now referred to as Laurel
Hill.*

*2,400 acres transferred to
Fairfax County by the Federal
government.*

*Lorton Arts Foundation
proposes plan for the
Occoquan Workhouse portion
of the property.*

President's Message (Continued from page 1)

group. This way, in case we don't have a coordinated effort, at least people who want to replace windows can get a recommendation.

Another issue recently addressed to me by a neighbor is that traffic safety, specifically, speeding and running stop signs. The street in question for speeding is Cotton Farm, approaching Country Squire from the Burke Station Road direction. There is a curve there and high speed coupled with reduced sight distance creates a dangerous situation (there is a similar curve on Still Meadow, near the Roberts Road entrance). The stop sign running occurs throughout, but Cotton Farm/Farm House seems to be the place *de jour* at the moment. I wish we could blame these dangerous practices on inconsiderate cut-through drivers, but I'm afraid I can't confine it to them. We have had positive identification of neighbors basically not even slowing down at the stop signs. With Spring here, kids will be more in evidence on foot, on skates, on bikes. Please keep your speed to the posted limit or lower, stop and look carefully at stop signs and above all, be mindful of kids and other pedestrians.

I have contacted Sharon's office about having VDOT come back and ensure that the grass that was dug up to replace sidewalks is properly restored and seeded. The heavy runoff after the big snowstorm scoured out some places, leaving holes and probably removing some of the grass seed. We will follow this one.

Finally, Sharon has instituted a new award, called the "Best of Braddock." This is an outgrowth of the Citizen of the Year Award. It allows

for wider recognition of people or organizations that have gone "above and beyond" to make a significant contribution to the quality of life in Braddock District. Categories are:

- Neighborhood Enhancement/ Beautification which can be for an individual property or entire community association. (We're not eligible, having already received the Fairfax County Environmental Excellence Award.)
- Commercial Beautification/ Improvement for landscaping, cleaning up blighted areas, etc.
- Most "Can Do" public employee (working on issues in the Braddock District).
- Most Outstanding Business Person.
- Club or Organization that is really making a difference.

Anyone can make a nomination. If you would like to do so, I can send you the form via e-mail or hard copy. Submit your nomination directly to Supervisor Bulova's office, 9902 Burke Lake Road, Burke, VA 22015-1608.

That's it for this edition. Please enjoy the beautiful Spring. Hope to see you at the Clean-up in May, if not before. ■

Speeding and stop sign running on Cotton Farm and Farm House

Sharon Bulova's office contacted about having VDOT come back and ensure that the grass that was dug up to replace sidewalks is properly restored and seeded.

Bulova institutes Best of Braddock Award.

Grounds Message (Continued from page 1)

wear long pants and work gloves. We will focus on cleaning up trash/debris, cutting back obtrusive trees/brush in the upper and lower common areas, and working along the paths adjacent to the north end of the neighborhood and Rabbit Run.

For those of you who cannot make the official clean-up, please consider spending a little extra effort doing yard work around your own homes. If the scheduled time on Sat-

urday is inconvenient, please contact me and we can arrange a secondary clean-up opportunity on **Sunday, May 4.**

Please let me know if you plan to attend, what equipment you can provide to the effort, and any special projects you care to undertake. If you forget to RSVP, come out anyway – we can use the help.

See the Hickory Farms Spring Clean-Up Sign-Up Form on Page 7. ■

Notify Rich Dudley at 703-503-2060; or fill out the form on Page 7 and deliver it to 4358 Farm House Lane; or send the information requested on the form by email to hfca-editor.cox.net.

Hickory Chips – Tidbits from the Farm

Shade Gardeners Unite! Virginia bluebells, wood poppies, trout lilies, ferns, sweet woodruff, violets, bleeding hearts..... All of these beautiful shade garden plants are starting to come up and beautify the yards of those in Hickory Farms who are shade gardeners. Four neighbors who share a common woodland area are excited about spring because that is when shade gardening is the most satisfying. The Cosgriffs (10003 Cotton Farm), Gillettes (10005 Cotton Farm), Russes (10004 Tumbleweed), and Raos (10002 Tumbleweed) have taken shade gardening to heart in this

beautiful woodland area. We would like to share tips and ideas with other shade gardeners in the neighborhood. Please contact Kathy Gillette (703-503-3158) if you are interested in the possibility of creating a HF Shade Gardening Club or if you would just like to visit our shade gardens. We know you're out there!

This is the time of year for college acceptances. We'd love to put your good news into the next newsletter. Just send us the name, current high school and prospective college (or any other post-graduation plans, such as the military) and we'll publish it. ■

Interested in the possibility of creating a Hickory Farms Shade Gardening Club?

Do you have college acceptance or any other good news?

Let us know.

Treasurer's Update *by Bob Bentley*

As of 1 April, 188 homeowners have paid their annual assessments on time. Many thanks to all who paid in such a timely manner. Unfortunately, this means that ten of our fellow homeowners did not make their payments on time. Payments post-marked after 31 March will be considered late. A Board-approved late-fee of \$25 will be added to the amount

due, resulting in a total fee of \$125.

The Hickory Farms Community Association's financial records for 2002 have been audited and were found to be accurate and well-maintained. A copy of the letter from the auditor, *Fiducial—Century Small Business Solutions* along with the balance sheet and cash flow statement as prepared by the auditor, are available for review. [Editor's note: I will run the HFCA financial statements in the next newsletter.] ■

95% of homeowners pay their HFCA assessments on time.

Finances for 2002 pass audit. Review finds no discrepancies or system weaknesses.

Neighborhood Watch by Greg Gillett

There is again a major telephone scam occurring throughout the state of Virginia which first appeared in 1996. Do not respond to e-mails, telephone calls, or web pages which tell you to call an 809 area code telephone number. Calling this number could cost you hundreds of dollars.

The scam has been identified by the National Fraud Information Center. This is how it works. You receive a message on your answering machine or pager indicating you ur-

gently need to call an 809 area code number. There may be a reference to a family emergency or another serious problem. If calling from the United States, the caller will be charged \$25.00 per minute. You will reach a recorded message intended to keep you on the line as long as possible. This area code is in the Bahamas. Since it is not in the U.S., it is not covered by U.S. regulations. Please pass this info on to family, friends and co-workers. ■

809 Area Code Telephone Scam
Information from West Springfield Police District.

Neighborhood Watch Schedule

Sat April 5, 2003	Robert Cooke, Lorna Cooke
Fri April 11, 2003	Bruce Bernhardt, Nancy Bernhardt
Sat April 12, 2003	John Verheul, John Cotner
Fri April 18, 2003	Rob Mikula, Sharon Mikula
Sat April 19, 2003	Alfonso Acosta, Marie Acosta
Fri April 25, 2003	Harry Herchert, Ginny Herchert
Sat April 26, 2003	Rob Cruz, Louise Cruz
Fri May 2, 2003	Jaime Gutierrez, Ed Wagner
Sat May 3, 2003	Bob Bentley, Nancy Bentley
Fri May 9, 2003	Larry Russe, Chris Russe
Sat May 10, 2003	Jay Kistler, John Morrison

03 May Hickory Farms Spring Clean-Up Sign-Up Form

Name: _____

Job/Activity: _____

Equipment Provided: _____

Preferred Clean-Up Date: _____

Please return this form to Rich Dudley, 4358 Farm House Lane; or, call him at 703-503-2060. If you have suggestions, please let Rich know and they will be included on our work list. You may also send the information requested above by email to hfca-editor.cox.net.

The following is the tentative schedule of events for the year:

Spring Clean-up	Saturday, May 3 (Rain Date: Sunday, May 4)
Spring Fling	Saturday, May 17 (Rain Date: Sunday, May 18)
Yard Sale	Saturday, September 13 (Rain Date: Saturday, Sept. 20)
Fall Clean-up	Saturday, October 4 (Rain Date: Sunday, October 5)
Fall Festival	Saturday, October 18 Rain Date, Sunday, October 19)

Annual Meeting: Week of 27 October 2003

(exact date to be determined)

2003 HFCA Board

Bob Cosgriff*	President
Ginny Herchert*	Vice-President
Bob Bentley	Treasurer
Kathy Gillette*	Secretary
Richard Dudley*	Grounds
Greg Gillette*	Neighborhood Watch
Rob Mikula	At Large
Missy Jackson	At Large

2003 Architectural Control Committee (ACC)

Bob Sottile*	Chair
George Rosenkranz*	
Bob Montgomery*	
Bill and Diane Galinis*	
Rob Mikula.	

Board meetings are the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30. They are held at different members' homes.

*Denotes Previous Member.

N.B. Next meeting planned for 09 April 2003 at the Gillette's 10005 Cotton Farm.

Letters to the Editor or topics for the Hickory Chips section of the Newsletter may be sent to:

HFCA
Attn: Harry E. Herchert
P. O. Box 2239
Fairfax, Virginia 22031-2239

E-mail the editor at: *hfca-editor@cox.net*

The Hickory Farms Newsletter

Hickory Farms Community Association
Fairfax County, Virginia

Special Content Notice

- ◆ **Spring Clean-up**
Saturday, May 3
9 am until Noon
(Rain Date: Sunday, May 4)
- ◆ **Spring Fling**
Saturday, May 17
(Rain Date: Sunday, May 18)



Reuters

Inside this issue:

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Fairfax Pool Notice	3
Hickory Chips: Local Events	4
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Recent Break-In in Hickory Farms	7
Neighborhood Watch List	7
HFCA Calendar	8

Teamwork Works!
The HFCA Board Needs You on the Spring Clean-Up Team.
9 AM this Saturday, 3 May. Please Help!

Message from the HFCA President, Bob Cosgriff

May is one of our busiest months, since we hold the annual **Spring Clean-up** and then our **Spring Fling**. Both of these events provide a time to appreciate our award-winning common grounds, truly a great asset to the community. That is especially true in the Spring, when everything is at its freshest and most beautiful.

We hope that as many of you as possible can take part in both events: The **Clean-up** is on May 3 and the **Spring Fling** is on May 17 (rain dates the

following day for each).

We have a number of new neighbors who come from many different countries: Korea, China, Vietnam, the Philippines, India, Ukraine, and various countries in Latin America and the Middle East. The **Spring Fling** is a great chance for you to bring a native dish to the party to add a dash of flavor to the good old hamburgers and hotdogs. Please don't be bashful: bring your *bulgugi*, your *goluptzi*, your chicken *adobo*, or any other favorite recipe to share.

(Continued on page 3)

Treasurer's Update by Bob Bentley

As promised in the last newsletter, here are the details from the audit of HFCA. First the letter from the auditor:

The Board of Directors
 Hickory Farms Community Association
 P. O. Box 2239
 Fairfax, VA 22031

Enclosed are financial reports relating to statements of revenue, expenditures and the homeowners' equity for the year ended December 31, 2002. We used data from the Association's books and records to prepare your Annual Report and the U.S. Income Tax Return for

Homeowners Associations (IRS Form 1120-H).

We also reviewed the Association's record keeping system and source documents with the person responsible for financial and accounting matters. We found no discrepancies in the data nor did we identify any material weakness in the system.

It was a pleasure to do business with you and we look forward to continuing to serve you in the future.

Sincerely,

Sherry Sims, E.A.
 Fiducial (www.fiducial.com)
 6035 Burke Centre Parkway, Suite 270
 Burke VA 22015

Statement of revenue, expenses and fund balance for the year ended December 31, 2002

<u>REVENUE</u>		<u>EXPENSES</u>	
Annual Dues	20,200.00	Audit/Tax Filing	250.00
VPOAA Packages	550.00	Insurance	2,381.00
Bank Interest	352.33	Legal Fees	100.00
TOTAL REVENUE	21,102.33	Newsletters/Postage	2,262.83
		Maintenance/Landscaping	12,912.83
		Taxes/Fees	264.00
		Neighborhood Watch	206.75
		Miscellaneous	634.08
		<u>VPOAA Package Expenses</u>	<u>40.03</u>
		TOTAL EXPENDITURES	19,051.52
EXCESS REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES	2,050.81		
BEGINNING CASH BALANCE	5,861.51		
BEGINNING CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT	15,638.15		
HOMEOWNERS' EQUITY END OF YEAR	23,550.47		

BALANCE SHEET December 31, 2002

ASSETS	
Cash - Checking	7,591.96
Certificates of Deposit	<u>15,958.51</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	23,550.47
LIABILITIES AND ASSOCIATION EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	0.00
Association Equity	
Homeowners Equity	<u>23,550.47</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND ASSOCIATION EQUITY	23,550.47

Please take "ownership" of the gutter and roadway immediately in front of your house. It is a very important part of that all-important "curb appeal" that separates the great neighborhood from the average one.

HFCB Board members will be doing a walk-around check in a few weeks. They hope to find a great number of houses that they can commend for outstanding appearance. They're looking to reduce the list of those that don't come up to Hickory Farms standards to zero!!

President's Message (Continued from page 1)

May also reminds us that some of our younger residents are graduating from high school (or college). We still haven't received any input on who is doing what in this regard. Please let us know so we can share the good news.

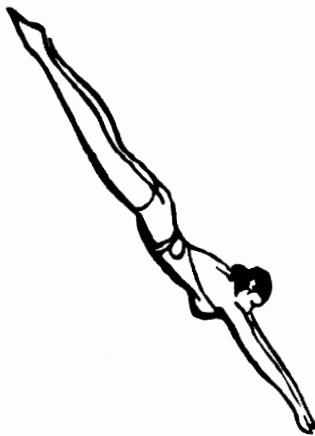
With the good weather comes the annual reminder for everyone to please keep your lawns mowed, edged and weeded. It would also be a great time to sweep up the sand that is left from the now-forgotten winter. It is not only unsightly, but it can get washed into the storm drain system, thus adding sediment to the creek. Where it gathers next to the curb, it provides a place for weeds to sprout. Please take "ownership" of the gutter and roadway immediately in front of your house. It is a very important part of that all-important "curb appeal"

that separates the great neighborhood from the average one.

On the subject of appearance, of course this is also the time to make sure that all fences are in good repair, carports are clear of clutter, and house trim and shutters are painted. We will be doing a walk-around check in a few weeks and hope to find a great number of houses that we can commend for outstanding appearance.

We're looking to reduce our list of those that don't come up to Hickory Farms standards to zero!!

That's it for this month. Enjoy the beautiful month of May!



The **Fairfax Swimming Pool** will soon be opening for the 2003 season. Join them for an open house on May 24 and 25 from Noon to 5 pm. You can check out their new gazebo and other improvements to the grounds while the kids jump on the **moon bounce**. They have swim and dive teams which participate in the Northern Virginia Swim League (NVSL). They also have many other social activities throughout the season. Whether you're looking for a great summer of family fun or just a nice place to relax, consider joining Fairfax Swimming Pool. You may also call their membership chairperson, **Pam Tuben**, at **703-978-5655** for membership information.

See you at the pool!

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Adopts Fiscal Year 2004 Budget with 5 Cent Tax Cut

On April 28, 2003, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors formally adopted the fiscal year 2004 budget, which begins July 1, 2003. The fiscal year 2004 budget is balanced and includes General Fund disbursements of \$2.56 billion, an increase of \$69.02 million or 2.77 percent over the fiscal year 2003 revised budget plan. This includes General Fund Direct Expenditures of \$946.89 million, which is a decrease of \$8.05 million or 0.84 percent from the fiscal year 2003 estimate.

The budget calls for reducing the real estate tax rate from \$1.21 per \$100 of assessed value to \$1.16 per \$100 of assessed value. From: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news/03103.htm>

Hickory Chips – Tidbits from the Farm

Keith Lindsay, son of Jeff and Roberta Lindsay (Harvester Farm Lane) is serving with our forces involved with **Operation Iraqi Freedom**. Keith is a sergeant in the U.S. Army Reserve, attached to a Psychological Warfare unit operating jointly with the U.S. Marine Corps 'somewhere in Iraq.'

We all wish Keith (and our other service men and women) a safe and speedy return home.

Bob Cosgriff (Cotton Farm Road) will be the **chairman of the Braddock District Council for 2003-2004**. The Council is comprised of the 40+ homeowners' and civic/community associations in Braddock District. It exists to help get the word out to residents and also to address issues that directly affect citizens and associations.

There will be a community meeting concerning the **Laurel Hill planning process** on 27 May at Sharon Bulova's office on Burke Lake Road at 7 pm.

This meeting will provide an opportunity for residents to hear how the process works, hear what has been proposed for the park areas and the 'adaptive reuse' areas, and to provide input.

HFCA President Bob Cosgriff is the Braddock District

Representative to the Adaptive Reuse Citizen Task Force, so if you have any questions at any time about Laurel Hill, please call him to discuss it. Bob has a variety of printed information on Laurel Hill, and reminds everyone to check the Fairfax County website (the link in the sidebar will take you to the Laurel Hill site) for up-to-the-minute information.

The Fairfax County Park Authority is also engaged in a planning process, so you might also want to check its website for dates/places of public meetings.

Troop 807 is recruiting boys, ages 11, 12 and 13, to join their Boy Scout Troop. They are organized in the Patriot District and any boy with an interest in learning outdoor skills is eligible to join. They meet once a week and have an outdoor activity once a month. The Troop will also perform occasional community service projects and Eagle projects. **Brand and Katherine Niemann** are the recruiting directors for the Troop. If you have a son who is interested in scouting, please call 703-533-4635 or stop by 4316 Still Meadow Road.

Patrick (Ricky) Ito (Round Top Ct) will graduate this month from the **Maryland Institute College of Art** in Baltimore.

Web page for Laurel Hill:
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gov/cex/laurelhill/default.htm



Do you have college acceptance or any other good news?

Let us know.

E-mail the editor at: hfca-editor@cox.net to let us know your Tidbit

Neighborhood Watch by Greg Gillett

Recent Break-In in Hickory Farms

A house in the neighborhood was recently broken into and valuables were stolen. It is suspected that this break-in was performed by experienced thieves or someone who may have had a copy of the house key made. This brings safety in our neighborhood to the forefront. Please be especially alert of any activity in and around the neighborhood which may seem suspicious and report suspicious activity to the police as soon as possible.

If anyone would like to have a police report made without having an officer respond, call the Fairfax County Citizens Reporting Unit at 703-922-7938 or go online to www.FairfaxCounty.Gov/PS/Police and make a report on the department's website.

Fairfax County Police Department Website: FairfaxCounty.Gov/PS/Police

Home Security Tips

Lock all doors and windows when you are not at home.

If you are working or relaxing in your backyard, lock all doors and windows in the front of your home. Make sure that any unlocked doors or windows are within your view when you are working in the yard.

Close garage doors when you are not actively going in or out of the garage.

Install a deadbolt lock in the door from the garage to the house. Easy access to a garage provides a potential burglar with sufficient time unobserved to enter a door that is not

secured with a deadbolt.

Neighborhood Watch Needs More Volunteers!

Your Neighborhood Watch needs more volunteers! Watch teams are scheduled now about every 3 ½ months. The more people we have, the more time in between watches for those dedicated neighbors who have been doing the watch for the neighborhood, some for many years.

Statistics prove that neighborhoods that have an active Neighborhood Watch can reduce residential burglary crimes by almost 60%. Is it your turn to volunteer for your Neighborhood Watch? **Please contact Greg Gillette (703-503-3158) if you would like to join.** Please take time to thank your neighbors who volunteer their time to watch your neighborhood.

A house in the neighborhood was recently broken into and valuables were stolen. It is suspected that this break-in was performed by experienced thieves or someone who may have had a copy of the house key made.

Neighborhood Watch Schedule

Fri	May 2, 2003	Jaime Gutierrez	Ed Wagner
Sat	May 3, 2003	Bob Bentley	Nancy Bentley
Fri	May 9, 2003	Larry Russe	Chris Russe
Sat	May 10, 2003	Jay Kistler	John Morrison
Fri	May 16, 2003	Bill Galinis	Diana Galinis
Sat	May 17, 2003	Pingjun Li	Jin Wang
Fri	May 23, 2003	Dave Maurer	Sanjeev Munjal
Sat	May 24, 2003	Bob Sottile	Lee Sottile
Fri	May 30, 2003	Kirk Randall	Jerry Tumelty
Sat	May 31, 2003	Angel Meza	Jason Meza
Fri	June 6, 2003	Bob Cosgriff	Don Klingemann
Sat	June 7, 2003	David Froberg	Beverly Froberg

The following is the tentative schedule of events for the year:

Spring Clean-up	Saturday, May 3 (Rain Date: Sunday, May 4)
Spring Fling	Saturday, May 17 (Rain Date: Sunday, May 18)
Yard Sale	Saturday, September 13 (Rain Date: Saturday, Sept. 20)
Fall Clean-up	Saturday, October 4 (Rain Date: Sunday, October 5)
Fall Festival	Saturday, October 18 Rain Date, Sunday, October 19)

Annual Meeting: Week of 27 October 2003
(exact date to be determined)

2003 HFCA Board

Bob Cosgriff*	President
Ginny Herchert*	Vice-President
Bob Bentley	Treasurer
Kathy Gillette*	Secretary
Richard Dudley*	Grounds
Greg Gillette*	Neighborhood Watch
Rob Mikula	At Large
Missy Jackson	At Large

2003 Architectural Control Committee (ACC)

Bob Sottile*	Chair
George Rosenkranz*	
Bob Montgomery*	
Bill and Diane Galinis*	
Rob Mikula	
Catherine Haley	

*Denotes Previous Member.

Board meetings are the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30. They are held at different members' homes.

N.B. Next meeting planned for 08 May at the Mikulas on 4344 Still Meadow Rd.

Letters to the Editor or topics for the Hickory Chips section of the Newsletter may be sent to:

HFCA
Attn: Harry E. Herchert
P. O. Box 2239
Fairfax, Virginia 22031-2239

E-mail the editor at: hfca-editor@cox.net