

Volume 10 – No. 3

April 2010

# The Hickory Farms Newsletter

## Board of Directors

President

John Kitzmiller 503-3443

Vice President

Keith Ferguson 703-323-1067

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Dante Gilmer 978-0621

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Community Grounds, Paths  
& Woods - Keith Ferguson  
703-323-1067

ACC (Building Design Approvals)

Kirk Randall 425-0210

At Large

Jaime Gutierrez 425-7919

## Other Volunteers

Neighborhood Watch

John Kitzmiller 503-3443

Welcome New Neighbors

Joyce Kitzmiller 503-3443

Newsletter & Web Site

Kirk Randall 425-0210

Community Yard Sale (Fall)

Pete Scala 764-0730

Email (Listserv)

Heather Webb 425-1347

Ellie Coddling 426-4606

Social Committee

Patty Dudley 503-2060

Dawn Dempster 503-0561

Lynn Welch 978-4113

Architectural Control Committee

Keith Ferguson

Donna Garfield

Greg Gillette

Kirk Randall

Carole Rogers

Larry Rogers

*Email addresses are at*

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

All phone area codes are 703

**Hickory Farms Community Association**

**P.O. Box 2239, Fairfax VA 22031**

**[www.hickoryfarms.org](http://www.hickoryfarms.org)**

After the harshest winter in well over a decade, folks are emerging from hibernation and thinking of fixing up or remodeling the old homestead. Two new advertisers to the Newsletter are offering their services to help whip your house into shape:

*Professional Property Maintenance* offers lawn mowing, fertilizing and weed control, mulching, and a variety of other services.

*McCarthy Services* offers plumbing, electrical, heating and air conditioning services.

Some heating, hot water, insulation, and windows installations may save you money on your 2010 taxes. See article inside.

The Editor

\$125 annual dues paid after April 1 will be assessed a \$50 late charge. Contact Treasurer Dante Gilmer for more information.

### **Join the Hickory Farms email List**

- Get up-to-the-minute news on neighborhood happenings
- Ask your neighbors to recommend a contractor/repairman
- Locate a lost and found item
- Get an advance copy of this newsletter

Visit <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HickoryFarms/> -- Click "Join this Group" -- Be sure to click the "Individual Emails" option.

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### Neighborhood Watch Schedule

John Kitzmiller

***Please volunteer for this important neighborhood activity*** – all it takes is one three-hour Friday or Saturday evening every three months, or so. Neighborhood Watch is proven to cut crime! It's also a great way to meet your neighbors. John Kitzmiller 703-503-3443

Fri	April 2	Eric Maribojoc	Clarisa Dacanay
Sat	April 3	Bob Montgomery	George Rosenkranz
Fri	April 9	Mike Martin	Scott Buchanan
Sat	April 10	Pete Scala	Rose Scala
Fri	April 16	Stan Lee	Jim Marshall
Sat	April 17	Pam Barrett	Tom Barrett
Fri	April 23	John Verheul	Tammy Verheul
Sat	April 24	Stefan Schwarz	Christine Schwarz
Fri	April 30	Dave Dempster	Dawn Dempster
Sat	May 1	Greg Gillette	Kathy Gillette
Fri	May 7	Jaime Gutierrez	Ed Wagner
Sat	May 8	Harry Herchert	Ginny Herchert
Fri	May 14	Dave Maurer	Sanjeev Munjal
Sat	May 15	David Froberg	Beverly Froberg
Fri	May 21	John Kitzmiller	Brand Niemann
Sat	May 22	Bob Sottile	Lee Sottile
Fri	May 28	Susan Mulliner	Brenton Mulliner

## Hickory Farms Special - On All Windows, Siding, Roofing, Decking or Fencing Projects:



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### This Month's Home Maintenance Checklist

See the complete list at [www.hickoryfarms.org](http://www.hickoryfarms.org) → Home Maintenance and Appearance (All)

**Chimney & Fireplace Cleaning** – Have a chimney sweep check and clean the chimney – if you used the chimney during the winter.

**Furnace Humidifier Shutdown** – Drain and clean the humidifier water pan. Turn off the water supply valve. Work the float arm back and forth to dislodge crud. Scrape off mineral buildup.

**Air Conditioner & Heat Pump Spring Checkup** – Schedule your spring checkup or do it yourself. Use a hose to spray debris off the outside compressor unit.

**Smoke Alarms & Carbon Monoxide Detectors Check** – Replace smoke detector batteries (don't wait for them to die). Press test buttons on carbon monoxide detectors. Open each unit and vacuum dust that could interfere with operation. Carbon monoxide detector batteries are usually not replaceable by the user; replace the unit when indicated on the unit's instructions..

**Are Your Smoke Alarms & Carbon Monoxide Detectors Expired ?** – Check the date printed on the back of your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Smoke Alarms should be replaced every ten years. Either the Carbon Monoxide Detector sensor/battery pack or the entire detector should be replaced every five years.

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### Recent Architectural Control Committee (ACC) Approvals

(All)

4360 Harvester Farm – Front Door  
10119 Cotton Farm – Screened porch & deck

### How Many Unrelated People May Live in a House?

If more than four unrelated individuals live in a house, it is considered a boarding house. It is illegal to operate a boarding/rooming house in Fairfax County, except under very limited circumstances which require a special permit. To report a suspected illegal boarding house, visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/striketeam](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/striketeam) or call 703-324-1300 (Fairfax County)

(4)

### Did You Get Hit By “Ice Damming” in February?

I'd like to hear from you. What worked and what didn't? Please email your experiences to [Kirk\\_Randall@hotmail.com](mailto:Kirk_Randall@hotmail.com). I'll then use your feedback (anonymously) to update my ice damming help document which is on the website at [www.hickoryfarms.org/Ice%20Damming.pdf](http://www.hickoryfarms.org/Ice%20Damming.pdf). This document also currently has suggestions on how to prevent this from happening again.



## Hickory Farms Home Sales & Listings

Arlene Da Cruz

	Model	# Bed room	# Bath	List Price	Sold Price	Seller Subsidy	Days on Market	Status / Date Sold	Notes
4291 Country Squire	Split Level	4	2.5	450,000			14	Active	This is a short sale, being sold "as is" and subject to bank approval
10000 Tumbleweed	Split Level	4	2.5	475,000			5	Active	Upgraded w/stainless steel appliances, cathedral ceilings, huge unfin 4th level, 1 car port.
4363 Farm House	Split Level	4	3	469,000			23	Active	Well maintained home with cathedral ceilings and cherry wood floors throughout. Walk out lower level w/full bath.
4316 Farm House	Split Level	4	2.5	459,333			291	Active	New storm windows, carpets, flooring, washer, dryer, stove & microwave. Fab flat lot.

Material provided by Arlene Da Cruz, a full service Realtor and Tumbleweed Court resident. Arlene is associated with Weichert Realtors ([www.arlenedacruz.com](http://www.arlenedacruz.com)), She assists both home buyers and sellers, and manages rental properties for homeowners. Call 571-436-6551 or email [arlenemyrealtor@gmail.com](mailto:arlenemyrealtor@gmail.com) (1-4-7-10)

## Babysitters and Other Youth Services

Youths who are residents of Hickory Farms may offer services to their neighbors. If you wish to offer services such as snow removal, raking leaves, lawn mowing, babysitting, general home maintenance, etc., **your parent** should e-mail or write (no phone calls, please) The Editor, [Kirk.Randall@Hotmail.com](mailto:Kirk.Randall@Hotmail.com), giving the youth's name/age, telephone number, and a list of services to be offered. This list is published January, April, July, October. (1-4-7-10)

Zachary Buchanan (16) 703-978-0045	Leaf raking, snow removal, etc.
Victoria Hebeisen (16) 703-978-0045	Experienced babysitter of infants, toddlers, and school-aged children, weeknights to 10 PM and weekends to 1 AM. References available.
Corine Johnson (14) 703-272-3302	Experienced babysitter of all ages weekends until 1 AM. References available.
Cari Moore (12) 703-323-3699	Babysitting/mother's helper.
Cathy Moore (14) 703-323-3699	Babysitting/mother's helper, pet sitting, dog walking.

## **Free! Supervisor Cook's Monthly email Newsletter**

The emailed Braddock Beacon is available for the asking by visiting [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/braddock](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/braddock). A sample copy was attached to the emailed version of this month's Hickory Farms Newsletter.

## **Limited DMV Services Offered at Fairfax City Hall**

Limited DMV services are available 8:30-4:30 weekdays at Fairfax City Hall on Armstrong Street. Services include license plates, handicapped permits, and title and registration transactions. This office does not issue drivers licenses or identification cards. You can usually get your business done in under 20 minutes!

(4-10)

## **Don't Forget Your Energy Tax Credit When You Remodel**

Income tax credits are available for many energy saving products. Unlike a tax deduction, a tax credit is a dollar-for-dollar reduction in your taxes.

Consumers who purchase and install specific products, such as energy-efficient windows, insulation, doors, roofs, and heating and cooling equipment in existing homes can receive a tax credit for 30% of the cost, up to \$1,500, for improvements placed in service through December 31, 2010. See [Federal Tax Credits for Energy Efficiency](#) for a complete summary of energy efficiency tax credits available to consumers.

Consumers who install solar energy systems (including solar water heating and solar electric systems), small wind systems, geothermal heat pumps, and residential fuel cell and microturbine systems can receive a 30% tax credit for systems placed in service before December 31, 2016.

## **Woodson Class of 2010 Spring Flower Sale**

The WT Woodson High School Spring Flower sale is a critical fundraiser to help meet the all night graduation party costs for seniors. In addition to all types of flowers and hanging baskets, this year's sale will also offer young vegetable plants (tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers) and an herb garden starter plant kit.

Please show your support for the Cavalier Cruise by purchasing flowers, hanging baskets and vegetables plants from WT Woodson. Order forms are available at: <http://woodsonptso.org/> or by emailing [sneads@earthlink.net](mailto:sneads@earthlink.net). Deadline for ordering is April 9th.

Saturday April 24th (Earth Day!) is the plant pick up date from 10am to 1pm at the front entrance to W.T. Woodson.

Questions? Call K Snead at 703-591-1197.

## **Woody's Ice Cream Opening Delayed**

Woody's Ice Cream is moving to North Street in downtown Fairfax City, near the intersection with Chain Bridge Road (123). Woody says they will open soon. So, keep an eye out for activity in the small building adjacent to City Cleaners. (4)

## **There's a New Cop on the Block**

You may have noticed a police vehicle with GMU colors running radar on Roberts Road, near the entrance to Masonvale. According to the GMU Police Chief, his officers have jurisdiction on streets adjacent to the university, including Roberts Road. The Chief says that they are issuing both tickets and warnings to speeders. So, be sure to watch your speed!

## **Sidewalks**

The Virginia Department of Transportation (703-383-8368) owns the streets, sidewalks, the curbs, and the grassy areas in between. VDOT relies on us to keep the sidewalks free of mud, snow, bushes, and low-hanging tree branches, and to maintain the grassy area between the street and sidewalk.

- If a neighbor has shrubbery or branches that obstruct the sidewalk for more than a reasonable period of time and the homeowner doesn't respond to a polite request, call VDOT.
- If you see a broken sidewalk, call VDOT. VDOT will inspect the problem and fix it, if necessary, at some time in the *distant* future.

You need a VDOT permit to plant a tree on the grassy area between the sidewalk and the curb. (4)

## **Have You Noticed any Damaged Common Grounds Trees?**

Please let Common Grounds Coordinator Keith Ferguson know so he can schedule a contractor to perform the work. 703-323-1067.

## **Spring Cleanup – Can You Volunteer?**

Common Grounds coordinator Keith Ferguson wants to schedule a spring cleanup, given that we have lots of winter damage in the Common Areas. If you can help, please call Keith at 703-323-1067. He will try to work around your calendar to schedule a date for the cleanup. This is a great opportunity for your child to earn some community service hours!

## Confederate Spy Marries Union Major

On March 10, 1864, Miss Antonia Ford, a woman who had been arrested in 1863 for spying on behalf of the Confederacy, married Joseph Willard, co-owner of the famous Washington Hotel of the same name. Shortly before the marriage, Willard had resigned as a major from the Union Army and Ford, a resident of Fairfax County, had been released from jail. Miss Ford was suspected of assisting Confederate Colonel John S. Mosby.

On March 9, 1863, in perhaps the most daring and successful raid of the Civil War, Mosby made his way upstairs in the middle of the night into the Gunnell House in Fairfax where Union Army Brigadier General Edwin Stoughton had his headquarters. The house still stands and is now owned by the Truro Church. Stoughton, who had a few drinks that night, was fast asleep. Mosby rudely awoke the young sleeping general with a smack to his backsides and announced to Stoughton that he was being taken prisoner. Mosby and a handful of his Rangers then left the Union camp with Stoughton and approximately thirty-two soldiers and fifty-eight horses. President Lincoln was furious when he heard the news the next day, mainly because of the horses. "I can make a brigadier general in five minutes," Lincoln proclaimed, "but the horses cost \$125 each!"

Shortly before her marriage, Miss Ford wrote in a letter to Willard: "It seems I was literally thrown in your way by a power above us—call it destiny; I think that a prettier word than fate." When later asked why a pro-Confederate like herself would marry a former Union officer, Mrs. Antonia Ford Willard answered, "I knew I could not revenge myself on the whole nation, but felt very capable of tormenting one Yankee to death, so I took the major."

Many years later one man cited the importance of Fairfax in the war: "For years and years after the war was over you have no idea of the number of ex-Union soldiers who came out on the trolley to visit Fairfax and the site of their earlier war experiences. Fairfax was the hub of all troop movements...Fairfax was the route they all used."

Paul N. Herbert, President of the Historical Society of Fairfax County and the author of "God Knows All Your Names." Reprinted from Supervisor John Cook's March *Braddock Beacon*.

This newsletter is published monthly except February, June, and August. E-mail submissions to The Editor by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the prior month. For past issues and information for advertisers, see [www.hickoryfarms.org](http://www.hickoryfarms.org) --> Newsletters.

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