

Volume 13 – No. 9

December 2013

The Hickory Farms Newsletter

Board of Directors

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Vacant

Vice President - Vacant

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Secretary

Ed Wagner 425-7875

Community Grounds, Paths

& Woods – Don & Sara

Lobeda 539-8472

Architectural Control

Committee

Kirk Randall 425-0210

At Large

Chuck Stewart 425-7368

Bruce Bernhardt 426-9446

Other Volunteers

Neighborhood Watch

Kathy Gillette 503-3158

Newsletter & Web Site

Kirk Randall 425-0210

Community Yard Sale (Fall)

Pete Scala 764-0730

Email ("Listserv")

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Dante Gilmer, Sondra

Arnold, Ed Kiechlin

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Get Email addresses at

www.hickoryfarms.org

All telephone area
codes are 703-

Hickory Farms Community Association

P.O. Box 2239, Fairfax VA 22031

www.hickoryfarms.org

**Please patronize our newest advertiser,
Hickory Farms resident Debbie Lewis
(Country Squire Lane). Debbie - who has
more professional certifications than I can
count - offers comprehensive financial
planning services for you and your family.**

**There is still time join the Board of
Directors. Please call one of the existing
members, using the phone numbers to the
left. It will be only a very minor burden on
your free time – just 1-2 hours a month.**

**To avoid a fine, please mail your
\$150 Annual Dues check to the above
address no later than January 7.**

**Are you good with numbers? Treasurer
Dante Gilmer could use a bit of help. And,
you don't have to be a member of the Board
of Directors to help balance our checkbook.
Please call Dante at 703-978-0621.**

Join the Hickory Farms email Group

- 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 in PDF format.

Visit <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HickoryFarms/> -- Click "Join
this Group"



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Neighborhood Watch & Security Update

Kathy Gillette

The New Year starts with the addition of a new team! Thanks go out to Rick and Judy Loranger who have joined Neighborhood Watch. We now need a minimum of six new teams to extend the amount of time between watch rotations to three months. A team can be two neighbors, or it can be a couple from the same house. If we have one neighbor volunteer, we can easily team you up with someone. Please call or email Kathy Gillette, Neighborhood Watch Coordinator, at 703-503-3158 or Kathy.gillette@gmail.com if you have an interest in helping keep crime at bay in YOUR neighborhood.

Many thanks go out to all the Neighborhood Watch teams who have stuck with it through thick and thin for so many years. Hopefully, new teams will help out soon, and you will have more weeks between your rotations.

As you probably know, there have been some vehicle tamperings in the neighborhood. Please be sure to report any problems to the Fairfax County Police (emergency is 99 and non-emergency is 703-691-2131) and to me at 703-503-3158. Please keep an eye out for your neighbors.

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Neighborhood Snow Preparations

Most of us are not wishing for another 2010 “Snowmegeddon”, but if we get a couple of big snowfalls, there are a few things we can do to make life easier on all of us. First of all, it would be really great if everyone would get their cars off the street, so when the snowplows come through they can actually push the snow to the curb so we have wider passageways on the street. It would also reduce the amount of snow for each of us to shovel in order to get to our mailboxes so that mail can still be delivered. Also, if your cars are in your driveway, there’s less area you have to shovel when you move them onto the street. As for garage owners, if you park your cars in your driveway during a snowstorm, once it stops snowing, all you have to do is brush off the cars, drive them into your garage and you only have a fraction of the snow to shovel away on your driveway. Be sure you shovel around your cars and keep a passage way between the cars and garage door for easier movement. (12)

How Many Dogs Can I Have at My Property?

Under [Fairfax County Zoning Ordinance Section 2-512](#), most homes in Hickory Farms may have no more than two dogs. If your lot size is more than about a quarter of an acre, you may have more. If you have a complaint about a resident keeping excessive dogs under this ordinance, call the Fairfax County Zoning Department at 703-324-1300 (12)



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ADC Property Services

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Junk Cars

Under Chapter 110 of the Fairfax County Code, junk cars can be kept on your property only if they are completely screened or shielded from view. An "Inoperative Motor Vehicle" is any motor vehicle, trailer, or semitrailer which:

- Is not capable of starting and moving under its own power; OR
- Does not display valid license plates; OR
- Does not display an inspection decal that is valid or displays an inspection decal that has been expired for more than sixty days.

To report an inoperative vehicle, call the Police Impound Section at 703-280-0716. Callers' names are not divulged. The Police can tow an inoperative vehicle if the owner does not get it in working order to remove it within ten days after receiving a violation notice. (12)

Winter Sidewalk & Driveway Care

Never - ever - use salt on the driveway or sidewalk to melt ice or snow. Salt eats away concrete in the blink of an eye. Although using salt to melt snow and ice is convenient in the short run, you'll pay for it when you spend thousands of dollars for a new driveway. If you feel that you must use an ice or snow melting chemical, please ensure that the package says it will not damage concrete. (12)

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The Hickory Farms Email Service – Not a “Chat Room” or Spam

If you have hesitated about joining the HF email service -- thinking it is a “chat room” -- not to worry. It most definitely is not. Members usually get at most 3-5 emails a month from their neighbors, most relating to recommendations for reputable contractors and announcements of HF activities (e.g. the spring picnic and Annual Meeting). In addition to your delivered hard copy, the monthly newsletter is also distributed via email. The email service, however, is not a source of “spam.” Only adult residents of Hickory Farms may send emails through the service and all messages must be approved by coordinators working under the guidance of the Board of Directors. Email unrelated to life in our community is prohibited. To join, please visit <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HickoryFarms/> -- Click "Join this Group" (12)

Free Home Security Inspections

The Fairfax County Police Department offers free home security inspections. A trained officer will inspect the locks, doors, and windows of your home and make recommendations for improvement. Outdoor lighting, landscaping, and other factors affecting the protection of your home from burglary also will be reviewed. Call the West Springfield District crime prevention officer at 703-644-7377. (12)

Remodeling Services

Bathroom & Kitchen Remodels – Decks
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Annual Assessment (Dues) Payments Are Due No Later Than January 7

The deadline for paying your \$150 Hickory Farms 2013 Annual Assessment is January 7. Please send your check to: HFCA, P.O. Box 2239, Fairfax, Virginia 22031. Please do not mail or deliver them to the Treasurer's home.

Checks that are not postmarked or in the physical possession of the Treasurer by January 7 will be considered late and will be assessed a \$50 late fee. Checks that are received late and do not include the late fee will be returned for non-payment. On February 1, delinquent accounts will be turned over to the Association's attorneys for collection. At this point, the amount owed by a delinquent homeowner will be the \$150 dues, the \$50 late fee, and attorney fees. So, please send your dues check while it is still on your mind. Please note that the Treasurer does not begin cashing checks until January 2. (11-12-1)

Architectural Control Committee Approvals

4342 Still Meadow – Deck Shade

Got a Concern About George Mason University Students Living in Hickory Farms?

Call GMU's Director of Community Relations at 703-993-8846

(12)



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This Month's Home Maintenance Checklist

Lawn Mower Shutdown – After cutting the lawn for the last time this season: Add a bit of gas stabilizer to the fuel. Let the mower run out of gas (this keeps the gas from gumming up over the winter). Remove and clean the spark plug – don't replace it just yet. Change the oil. Replace the air filter. Remove and sharpen the blade. Scrape off grass clippings under the deck. Apply a light coating of oil to the underside of the deck. Squirt a spoonful of oil in the cylinder and pull the starter rope a few times to coat the cylinder wall. Replace the spark plug.

Clean out Gutters – Overflowing gutters lead to ground erosion and wet basements. If you are surrounded by trees, you may have to do this Spring and Fall.

Furnace Humidifier Setup – If you have a furnace humidifier, make sure it is plugged in and set properly. Turn on the water supply valve. If you did not do so in the spring, scrape off mineral buildup in the water pan and replace the filter – if needed. Work the float arm back and forth to dislodge mineral deposits.

Neighborhood Watch Schedule

Kathy Gillette

Please volunteer for this important activity!! It only takes one three hour shift every three months on a Friday or Saturday evening. Neighborhood Watch has been proven to cut crime! It's also a great way to meet your neighbors! Call Kathy Gillette at 703-503-3158

Fri	Dec 6	Jeff Lindsay	Larry Rogers
Sat	Dec 7	Angel Meza	Jason Meza
Fri	Dec 13	Eric Maribojoc	Clarisa Dacanay
Sat	Dec 14	Bob Montgomery	George Rosenkranz
Fri	Dec 20	John Coyne	Linda Coyne
Sat	Dec 21	Pete Scala	Rose Scala
Fri	Dec 27	Stan Lee	Jim Marshall
Sat	Dec 28	Pam Barrett	Tom Barrett
Fri	Jan 3	John Verheul	Tammy Verheul
Sat	Jan 4	Zhong Cheng Wang	Tong Wang
Fri	Jan 10	Dave Maurer	Sanjeev Munjal
Sat	Jan 11	David Froberg	Beverly Froberg
Fri	Jan 17	Jaime Gutierrez	Ed Wagner
Sat	Jan 18	Dave Dempster	Dawn Dempster
Fri	Jan 24	Susan Mulliner	Brenton Mulliner
Sat	Jan 25	Ron Arnold	Charles Walters
Fri	Jan 31	Harry Herchert	Ginny Herchert
Sat	Feb 1	Chris Woody	Angela Woody

The HF Newsletter is published January, March-May, July, and September-December. E-mail submissions to the Editor by the 25th of the prior month. For past issues and information for advertisers, see www.hickoryfarms.org --> Newsletters. The Editor, subject to review by the Board of Directors, may reject or edit any submission. Advertising in this newsletter does not constitute endorsement. The editor is Kirk Randall 703-425-0210 – kirk_randall@hotmail.com