

Volume 8 – No. 2

February 2008

# The Hickory Farms Newsletter

## Board of Directors

President – John Kitzmiller  
703-503-3443  
Vice President – Rich Dudley  
703-503-2060  
Treasurer – Jaime Gutierrez  
703-425-7919  
Secretary – Bilal Sayyed  
703-764-8716  
Community Grounds, Paths  
& Woods – Rich Dudley  
703-503-2060  
Neighborhood Watch  
Dave Dempster 703-503-0561  
Building Approvals  
(ACC) – Rebekah & Wesley  
Moore 703-286-7179  
Members at Large  
Dante Gilmer – 703-978-0621  
Barin Chakrabarti  
703-426-1430

## Neighborhood Volunteers

Welcome New Neighbors –  
Nancy Bentley 703-978-0373  
Newsletter & Web Site –  
Kirk Randall 703-425-0210  
Fall Community Yard Sale –  
Pete Scala 703-764-0730  
email Coordinators –  
Heather Webb 703-425-1347  
Ellie Codding 703-426-4606  
Social Committee –  
Patty Dudley 703-503-2060  
Dawn Dempster 703-503-0561  
Lynn Welch 703-978-4113  
ACC Members – Bob Ambrogio,  
Claire Coleman, Marc Fogleman,  
Donna Garfield, Maryle  
Mondschein & Kirk Randall

**Hickory Farms Community Association**  
**P.O. Box 2239, Fairfax VA 22031**  
**[www.hickoryfarms.org](http://www.hickoryfarms.org)**

We want to welcome aboard our new HFCA Secretary, Bilal Sayyed, and give a hearty thanks to our outgoing Secretary, Dave Dempster. Volunteers like these fine gentlemen keep our community running smoothly.

Not to beat a dead horse, but our Annual Dues were due a month ago. Only about half of us have paid thus far. Avoid a late payment charge by sending your \$110 check to the Treasurer ASAP.

If you haven't done so already, please subscribe to the Hickory Farms email list. You won't get spam, but you will get up-to-the-minute news on neighborhood happenings, recommendations on a contractor or repairman, help locating a lost item, and you get an advance copy of this newsletter. To subscribe, send a blank e-mail to

[HickoryFarms-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:HickoryFarms-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

Spring is right around the corner.  
Hang in there!

The Editor

### **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

To subscribe, send a blank e-mail to  
[HickoryFarms-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:HickoryFarms-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

## Neighborhood Watch Schedule – Neighborhood Security

Dave Dempster

*Please volunteer for this important neighborhood activity – all it takes is one three hour Friday or Saturday evening every four months, or so. Neighborhood Watch is proven to cut crime in neighborhoods that have this program. It's also a great way to meet your neighbors. Dave Dempster 703-503-0561 ([ddhokies@cox.net](mailto:ddhokies@cox.net))*

Fri	February 1	Dave Dempster	Dawn Dempster
Sat	February 2	Stefan Schwarz	Christine Schwarz
Fri	February 8	Jaime Gutierrez	Ed Wagner
Sat	February 9	Harry Herchert	Ginny Herchert
Fri	February 15	Pingjun Li	Wang Chan Cheng
Sat	February 16	Greg Gillette	Kathy Gillette
Fri	February 22	Dave Maurer	Sanjeev Munjal
Sat	February 23	Bob Sottile	Lee Sottile
Fri	February 29	John Kitzmiller	Brand Niemann
Sat	March 1	Susan Mulliner	Brenton Mulliner
Fri	March 7	Ron Arnold	Charles Walters
Sat	March 8	Kirk Randall	
Fri	March 14	Bob Cosgriff	Don Klingemann
Sat	March 15	Jeff Lindsay	Larry Rogers

Scenic Remodeling Ad Here

### **If You Just Can't Wait to Read Your Paper Copy of the Newsletter .....**

..... subscribe to the e-mail version, which is generally delivered before the paper copy. To be added to the e-mail list, send a blank e-mail to

[HickoryFarms-subscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:HickoryFarms-subscribe@yahoo.com)

(2-7)

### **Will Your Child Start Public School in the Fall?**

Oak View School elementary school serves Hickory Farms. Please call 703-764-7100 if your child will be attending this fall.

(2)

### **Sneak Peek of New Fairfax County Web Site**

Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/survey/websitesurvey.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/survey/websitesurvey.htm)

### **Protect Your Underground Water Pipe**

Every few years, we seem to have a rash of underground water pipe breakages. For some reason, some of our water pipes (the pipe that runs from the street to your home) are prone to failure. When this pipe breaks, *you* pay to have it fixed, and it could cost thousands of dollars. Protect yourself with a water line insurance policy *before* the pipe breaks. Dominion Products (a cousin of the electricity folks) offers an inexpensive water line insurance program. The cost is only \$3.25/month if your water line (from the water meter near the sidewalk) is less than 125' long. The cost is \$5/month for longer pipes. I'm sure there are other companies that offer similar insurance. Call them toll free at 1-866-545-9810 or visit [http://retail.dom.com/products/warranty/va\\_waterline.jsp](http://retail.dom.com/products/warranty/va_waterline.jsp) (2)

*Note: Insurance rates are increasing about \$1/month in February*

### **Seedlings at Discounted Prices**

Fairfax County offers seedlings at discounted prices. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/seedlingsale.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/seedlingsale.htm)

### **Dog License Renewals Due January 31**

All dogs four months of age or older must be licensed. Licenses are good for one year and must be purchased by Jan. 31. Call 703-222-8234. (1)

**From the Treasurer**  
Jaime Gutierrez

As of January 27, we have received the dues from 89 homeowners, 45% of the total homes. Again, keep in mind that dues are were due January 1. Enclosed with this newsletter is the THIRD reminder to pay your dues. Dues received or postmarked after March 31 will be subject to an additional \$25 late fee.

**Help Plan the Future of County Parks**

Public participation in developing the future of county parks will occur through ten workshops planned through April. To learn more about the process, visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/plandev/greatparks.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/plandev/greatparks.htm)

**If You Plan To Sell Your Home**

If you are planning to sell your home in the upcoming year, keep in mind that you will need to obtain a VPOAA package from the HFCA. The package is required by law.

The following are the steps for obtaining a VPOAA package:

- Contact the Treasurer (see page 1 of this newsletter). Let him or her know when the package is needed and where it should be sent.
- Send a \$50 check, payable to the HFCA, to HFCA, P.O. Box 2239, Fairfax, VA 22031-2239; or make other arrangements with the Treasurer as necessary.

Please allow 7-10 days from receipt of the check by the Treasurer to the date the VPOAA package can be released, as we must allow time for the check to clear. Should time be critical, cash payments can be accepted and a written receipt will be provided.  
(2-7)

**Woodson Band Pre-Festival Concert**

On Wednesday February 27, Woodson bands will present a **free concert** at 7:00pm in the Woodson auditorium. The concert is in preparation for evaluation at the District Band Festival, where bands are awarded ratings based on their performance. The Concert Band will play "Rough Rider" by Karl King, "Norwegian Rhapsody" by Clare Grundman, and "Dominion of the Sky" by David Shaffer. The second half will feature the Symphonic Band playing "Montmartre" by Haydn Wood, "Enigma Variations" by Edward Elgar, and "La Forza del Destino" by Giuseppe Verdi.

## Fireplace Safety

The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department would like to remind you of some important SAFETY TIPS:

- Have the chimney inspected annually, and cleaned as necessary.
- When cleaning the fireplace, store ashes in a metal container with a tight fitting lid. Place the container away from the house.
- Never leave a fireplace fire unattended.
- Make sure the fire is completely out before going to bed or leaving the house.
- Allow ashes to cool before disposing in a metal container (it takes sometimes four days for ashes to cool down).
- Dispose of ashes in a metal container.
- Call 911 immediately when a fire occurs. Do not attempt to extinguish the fire yourself.

For more fire and life safety information, please visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fire](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fire)

## Does Your Vinyl or Aluminum Siding Need Cleaning?

It's been about four years since many of us had our vinyl siding replaced. If tree debris or acid rain has stained your siding, it might be time for a power washing. If there is enough interest, I would like to coordinate a group purchase of this service. Just email me at [kirk\\_randall@hotmail.com](mailto:kirk_randall@hotmail.com) or call 703-425-0210 to indicate your interest.

Do you know the name of a *reputable* and reasonably priced pressure washing outfit? If so, please send me their name and contact info.

## This Month's Home Maintenance Checklist

The complete list may be found on the [HF web site](#) under "Home Maintenance and Appearance" – "Home Maintenance Checklist." Send suggestions to [kirk\\_Randall@Hotmail.com](mailto:kirk_Randall@Hotmail.com) (All)

**Furnace & Heat Pump Filter Change** – Replace paper/fiberglass filters. Vacuum or wash electronic filter elements. A dirty filter makes your fan work harder, using more electricity.

**Fire Extinguisher Check** – Visually check that each fire extinguisher is fully charged. You should have fire extinguishers in the garage, kitchen, and basement.

## **Inoperative Vehicles ("Junk Cars")**

Under Chapter 110 of the Fairfax County Code, junk cars can be kept on your property only if it is 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 or send an email to Officer Jamie Fletcher at [James.Fletcher@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:James.Fletcher@fairfaxcounty.gov). Callers' names are never 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. (2)

## **Beatles Tribute Band Coming to Woodson HS**

Get ready! The event of the year is coming to Fairfax on Sunday, March 2. "**1964**" **The Tribute**, the "Number One Beatles tribute show on earth" according to Rolling Stone magazine, will be performing at the W.T. Woodson auditorium as the featured fundraiser for Cavalier Cruise 2008 and the Woodson band program. This high-energy group has sold out the Birchmere in Arlington as well as Carnegie Hall in New York City. By recreating an early '60's Beatles-type experience (down to the hairstyles, dress, and period instruments), "**1964**" brings such favorites as "Hard Days Night", "Twist and Shout", and "Yesterday" with an unparalleled atmosphere of excitement. Tickets will sell fast, so buy as soon as possible to make sure you don't miss out!

Advance sales: \$30.00 adult, \$25.00 student. At the door: \$35/adult, \$30/student. Send ticket orders to: Ron Marlow, 5701 Captain Jones Ct., Fairfax Station, Va. 22039 Make checks out to WTW Band Patrons and include a stamped self-addressed envelope.

## **Area Crime Data at the Click of a Mouse**

We can access information about incidents reported to Fairfax County Police with a new tool called the "Police Incident Viewer." The site reflects actual 911 police calls. Incident information is usually available for viewing within 48 hours of the time an incident is reported.

A particular address or police district can be entered into the application and statistical data reveals the number of events for queried categories. A user can search for incidents against persons, property crimes and quality of life incidents. Once

calculated, a map appears with a legend indicating what event occurred and its location. To access this tool, visit:

[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gisapps/myneighborhood/default.aspx?http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gisapps/myneighborhood/mynpolice.aspx#police](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gisapps/myneighborhood/default.aspx?http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gisapps/myneighborhood/mynpolice.aspx#police)

Editor's Note: This is a pretty slick tool. You can view one month's incident reports at a time. For example, the report for December showed three noise violations in our neighborhood and a larceny on nearby Burke Station Road.

This service reports Fairfax County incidents only. Fairfax City incidents are reported in a daily crime report which may be viewed at

[www.fairfaxva.gov/Police/DailyCrimeBulletin.asp](http://www.fairfaxva.gov/Police/DailyCrimeBulletin.asp)

### **Student Essay Submissions Being Accepted for Time Capsule**

On July 12, Fairfax County will host a ribbon cutting for the new Burke Centre Library. A time capsule will be placed in the library's cornerstone. The time capsule is scheduled to be opened in 2038. Students who attend kindergarten through 12th grade in Fairfax County are invited write a brief paper on what they think the world will be like in the year 2038, when the time capsule will be opened. What changes might there be in transportation, housing, food, clothing, world politics, animals or global warming? Winning papers will be placed in the time capsule. For more information, visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news/2008/010.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news/2008/010.htm)

The Hickory Farms Newsletter is published monthly, except for June and August. You may e-mail submissions to The Editor by the 25<sup>th</sup> of the prior month. Submissions and advertisements **must** be in Microsoft Word format. Advertisements must be prepaid. Past issues and information for advertisers may be found at [www.hickoryfarms.org](http://www.hickoryfarms.org) – click Newsletters.

The Editor is responsible for most of the contents of this newsletter; the exceptions are advertisements, submitted community service type announcements, articles with a byline, and other articles which have been obviously contributed by others. The Editor reserves the right to edit submissions for space or writing style. The Editor, subject to review by the Board of Directors, may reject any submission.

**Hickory Farms Community Association  
Annual Dues Notice**

**The \$110 annual dues assessment is due January 1, 2008.**

**Payments received after March 31, 2008 will be assessed a \$25.00 late fee.**

Dues are used to maintain the common grounds, insure the association and Board members, hold neighborhood picnics, support Neighborhood Watch, and fund all other expenses 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 a \$25 late fee. If a check is returned for insufficient funds, the homeowner must reimburse any expenses incurred by the HFCA.

The HFCA is committed to maintaining and improving the equality 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 the Association's By-laws to cover HFCA, which are outlined and approved by the homeowners at each Annual Meeting.

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

Please return the completed coupon below with your check.

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**HFCA ANNUAL DUES**

Make your check payable to **HFCA** and send it to:

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Lot Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(1-2-3-12)