

Volume 9 – No. 2

February 2009

The Hickory Farms Newsletter

Board of Directors

President

John Kitzmiller 503-3443

Vice President

Keith Ferguson 703-323-1067

Treasurer

Dante Gilmer 978-0621

Secretary

Bilal Sayyed 764-8716

Community Grounds, Paths

& Woods - Keith Ferguson

703-323-1067

ACC (Building Design Approvals)

Kirk Randall 425-0210

At Large

Barin Chakrabarti 426-1430

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 Coordinators (Listserv)

Heather Webb 425-1347

Ellie Codding 426-4606

Social Committee

Patty Dudley 503-2060

Dawn Dempster 503-0561

Lynn Welch 978-4113

ACC Members

Barin Chakrabarti

Claire Coleman

Keith Ferguson

Donna Garfield

Greg Gillette

Kirk Randall

Carole Rogers

Larry Rogers

Email addresses are at

www.hickoryfarms.org

Hickory Farms Community Association

P.O. Box 2239, Fairfax VA 22031

www.hickoryfarms.org

Homeowners

To avoid a \$50 late fee, you must pay your \$125 annual dues by March 31. We do not bill for annual dues by mail. Renters – Please tell your landlord. See more details inside.

The leadership of Hickory Farms is all-voluntary. We count on interested homeowners and residents stepping forward as volunteers to keep Hickory Farms one of the best run communities in the area. We are fortunate to have a number of new leaders step forward and assume leadership roles. President **John Kitzmiller** gives a full accounting inside, but let's give a front page welcome to our new leaders!

Keith Ferguson (Harvester Farm)

Dante Gilmer (Farm House)

Joyce Kitzmiller (Harvester Farm)

The next issue of The Newsletter is April.

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.

Special Fairfax County Election February 3

Now that Chairman of the Board of Supervisors Gerry Connolly has been elected to the US Congress, the Chairman seat is vacant. A special election to name a new Chairman will be held February 3. Our Braddock Supervisor Sharon Bulova (D) and Springfield Supervisor Pat Herrity (R) are competing for the position, as well as Independents Christopher DeCarlo and Carey Campbell. Our polling place is Woodson High School, and voting hours are 6 AM - 7 PM. Note that in a special election in Alexandria to replace Brian Moran, who resigned in order to campaign for governor, the winning candidate prevailed by only 16 votes. So, *since turnout could be very light, every vote counts.*

Protect Your Underground Water Pipe

For unknown reasons, some of our water supply lines (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 a water line insurance program. The cost is under \$5/ month if your water line (from the water meter near the sidewalk to the house) is less than 125' long. 1-866-645-9810

http://retail.dom.com/products/warranty/va_waterline.jsp

(2)

Neighborhood Watch Schedule – Neighborhood Security

John Kitzmiller

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! It's also a great way to meet your neighbors. John Kitzmiller 703-503-0561

Sat	January 31	Susan Mulliner	Brenton Mulliner
Fri	February 6	Ron Arnold	Charles Walters
Sat	February 7	Kirk Randall	Chris Woody
Fri	February 13	Bob Cosgriff	Don Klingemann
Sat	February 14	Jeff Lindsay	Larry Rogers
Fri	February 20	Angel Meza	Jason Meza
Sat	February 21	Eric Maribojoc	Clarisa Dacanay
Fri	February 27	Bob Montgomery	George Rosenkranz
Sat	February 28	Mike Martin	Scott Buchanan
Fri	March 6	Pete Scala	Rose Scala
Sat	March 7	Stan Lee	Jim Marshall
Fri	March 13	Pam Barrett	Tom Barrett
Sat	March 14	John Verheul	Tammy Verheul
Fri	March 20	Stefan Schwarz	Christine Schwarz
Sat	March 21	David Dempster	Dawn Dempster
Fri	March 27	Jaime Gutierrez	Ed Wagner

Sat	March 28	Harry Herchert	Ginny Herchert
Fri	April 3	Pingjun Li	Wang Chan Cheng
Sat	April 4	Greg Gillette	Kathy Gillette
Fri	April 10	Dave Maurer	Sanjeev Munjal
Sat	April 11	David Froberg	Beverly Froberg

[Scenic Remodeling Advertisement Here}

This Month's Home Maintenance Checklist

See the complete at www.hickoryfarms.org → Home Maintenance and Appearance (All)

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

Dryer Vent Cleaning – Clean lint from the exhaust pipe; lint can cause a fire. Never use a plastic pipe – it could melt. .

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, please visit <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HickoryFarms/> (2-7)

How to Discard Your Old TV & Electronic Equipment

Take your old TVs, computers, and other electronic equipment to the free recycling event Sunday Feb 8 and Sunday Mar 8. The event is at the transfer station on West Ox Road, right across from Costco.

President's Letter

John Kitzmiller

In January, the Board of Directors elected the following 2009 officers:

President: John Kitzmiller

Vice President: Keith Ferguson

Treasurer: Dante Gilmer

Secretary: Bilal Sayyed

Members at Large: Barin Chakrabarti, Jaime Gutierrez, and Kirk Randall

In addition to these offices, these Board members have assumed responsibility for the following:

Common Areas: Keith Ferguson

Chairman, Architectural Control Committee: Kirk Randall

Neighborhood Watch: John Kitzmiller

New Neighbor Welcoming Committee: Joyce Kitzmiller*

Snow Removal -- The Virginia Department of Transportation is responsible for removing snow and ice from the thousands of miles of public roads (interstate, primary and secondary) in Fairfax County. Clearing is done on a priority basis, with interstates and high volume roads cleared first. Once the most heavily traveled roads and emergency routes are adequately clear, snow crews move to less-traveled roads and subdivisions.

Public roadways, including those within Hickory Farms, are maintained by the Virginia Department of Transportation. If your roads are not being plowed in a timely fashion, please contact the VDOT Northern Virginia District Office at 703-383-8368. (Pipestem driveways are privately owned and maintained by the property owners on the pipestem. Snow removal would be the property owners' responsibility.)

Neither the Virginia Department of Transportation nor Fairfax County clears snow and ice from public walkways (sidewalks and trails). While not legally obligated, citizens and businesses are asked to help keep sidewalks safe. They should, as soon as feasible, clear snow off the sidewalks in front of their property so that all pedestrians, especially school children, those with disabilities, and the elderly, may walk securely.

Please Don't Take Firewood Outside Fairfax County

Fairfax County residents should not take any firewood outside the county or nearby areas, or they may face state and federal fines. State and federal quarantines for the emerald ash borer ban the transport of firewood to prevent the spread of this insect. Firewood may not be transported to any other part of the state or across state lines. Violating the state quarantine is a class 1 misdemeanor, which carries a maximum fine of \$2,500 and a year in jail. Violating the federal quarantine could result in a fine up to \$250,000.

The emerald ash borer, a serious threat to ash trees, was discovered in Fairfax County last summer. These insects have killed more than 25 million ash trees in the U.S. The borers are native to China, Korea and Japan, and they first arrived in this country from Asia in the 1990s. Contact the Fairfax County Forest Pest Branch at 703-324-5304.

Transitions

After many years of faithful service, **Jaime Gutierrez** (Harvester Farm) has stepped down as Treasurer and has passed the books over to **Dante Gilmer** (Farm House). Jaime will stay on as an at-large Board member to assist with the transition.

Keith Ferguson (Harvester Farm) has joined the Board as the new Common Grounds Coordinator. Keith replaces **Rich Dudley** (Farm House), who performed that job admirably for several years.

Both **Carole Rogers** and **Larry Rogers** (Harvester Farm) have joined the Architectural Control Committee, replacing **Clair Hill** (Cotton Farm), who recently resigned.

After several years of faithful service to the community, **Dave Dempster** (Farm House) is stepping down as Neighborhood Watch Coordinator. President **John Kitzmiller** (Harvester Farm) will now wear two hats as he takes over as coordinator.

Not to be outdone, John's wife **Joyce Kitzmiller** (Harvester Farm) is assuming responsibilities for welcoming new families who move into the neighborhood (what used to be called the "Welcome Wagon"). Joyce replaces **Nancy Bentley** and **Claire Coleman** (both of Cotton Farm).

Thomas Quinn Spencer, son of **Doug and Jennifer Spencer** (Farm House), was born Jan. 24. He weighed in at 8.8 pounds.

Send news regarding Hickory Farms *resident* weddings, new neighbors, births, HS & college graduations, birthdays (80, 85, 90, etc), and wedding anniversaries (55, 60, 65, etc.) to kirk_randall@hotmail.com. Be sure to name the street the honoree lives on. (All)

Woodson High School Benefit: "#1 Beatles Tribute Show on Earth"

Get ready for a lively, fun show that's been called "The #1 Beatles tribute show on earth" by none other than Rolling Stone magazine! This group has fans all over the country, and they're coming here to Northern Virginia to do a fund-raising show benefiting the W.T. Woodson High School Band program along with Woodson's '09 Cavalier Cruise alcohol- and drug-free graduation party. Those who attended last year's show promise that you'll have a GREAT time!

The show is set for 7 p.m. Sunday, March 1. Buying tickets is easier than ever this year, as for the first time, they will be available online. Simply go to the Woodson PTSA website, www.wtwoodstonptsa.org, and click on the "1964" link. It's fast, easy and secure. If you prefer, you can download an order form and follow instructions for mail-order tickets. Tickets purchased in advance are \$35 for premium seats, \$30 for general admission and \$25 for students. All seats are an additional \$5 at the door.

Due to renovation of Woodson's auditorium, the show will be held at Oakton High School, 2900 Sutton Road, Oakton (a mere 3.3 miles and 9 minutes from Woodson).

Inoperative Vehicles ("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 or send an email to Officer Jamie Fletcher at 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)

Send a smile, Send a giggle, Send some cheer, On Valentines' Day!

Order one balloon or a whole bouquet of colorful balloons for your special Woodson High School student. What better way to say "You're the best"! Or maybe you want to say "I love you". Your balloons will be personally delivered on February 13th. All proceeds support the Cavalier Cruise, Woodson's all-night drug and alcohol free graduation party. Prices start at \$3.00. Contact Jan Syers at mjfielder@yahoo.com or (703) 876-9686.

Advertise in the This Newsletter

Display ads are available to businesses offering services to Hickory Farms homeowners. The newsletter is delivered monthly (except June and August) to 225 Hickory Farms residents and absentee homeowners. For more information, visit www.hickoryfarms.org and click Newsletter. (2-9)

The Hickory Farms Newsletter is published every month, except March, June, and August. You may e-mail submissions to The Editor by the 25th 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 --> 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 that 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.

Your only notification that Annual Dues are due is through The Newsletter.

We do not mail bills for annual dues.

The \$125 annual dues assessment is due starting January 1, 2009.

Payments received after March 31, 2009 will be assessed a \$50 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 \$50 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 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 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.

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)

Hickory Farms Community Association Application for Architectural Review

Emailing your application (cut and paste this into your email message) to the Chairman of the Architectural Control Committee (Kirk_Randall@Hotmail.com is Chairman) is preferred. You may also hand deliver your completed application to any member of the ACC or mail it to PO Box 2239, Fairfax, VA 22031 (Mailing could delay delivery to the ACC by several days). Electronic versions of photos and plans, attached to your email, are preferred, but please use the lowest resolution when scanning to conserve precious disk space. Please read [How to Get ACC Approval for Your Renovation Project](#) at www.hickoryfarms.org before submission. You do *not* need to submit the "Architectural Review Guidelines" part with your application.

Today's Date :

Name :

Phone :

Address :

Email Address :

Proposed Start Date (Must be at least 30 days past the date received by the ACC) :

Expected Completion Date :

Project Description :

I understand that the HFCA has thirty (30) days to deny or request additional information on this application or, in accordance with the HFCA covenants, the application will be considered approved. I further understand that the thirty (30) day period will commence upon HFCA's receipt of this application or upon receipt of all additional information requested by the HFCA and that I may not start construction until approval is received.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Ensure project complies with all Fairfax County residential building codes and Hickory Farms Community Association (HFCA) covenants. The Board of Directors cannot waive those requirements.
2. Prepare a specific description and/or sketch of the proposed improvement in sufficient detail (color, dimensions, materials, etc.). If a county permit is required, provide evidence of compliance.
3. Provide a site plan and indicate where the improvement is to be located on the property.
4. Deliver to Committee Chairperson.

Architectural Review Guidelines

Projects that do not alter the outward appearance of structures on your property DO NOT require review by the Architectural Control Committee, 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. (i.e. 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.
- Installing a television antenna or satellite dish on your roof.

Examples of alterations or repairs that alter the outward appearance of structures on your property including, and DO require review by the Architectural Control Committee, include:

- 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. (i.e. installing a bay window)
- Replacing an entrance or garage door with other than the same size, type, color or shade. (i.e. 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.
- Installing a television antenna or satellite dish anywhere on your property other than on your roof.

If you are unsure whether your project needs review, please contact any ACC member.