

January  
2016

# The Hickory Farms Newsletter

## Board of Directors Members & Officers

### President

Bruce Bernhardt 989-0751

### Vice President

Chuck Stewart 425-7368

### Treasurer

Brenda Denny 623-3779

### Secretary

Ed Wagner 425-7875

### Common Areas – Don

Lobeda 539-8472

### Neighborhood Watch

Vanessa Franck 483-0730

### Records Management

Brand Niemann 503-8124

### Newsletter

Kirk Randall 425-0210

### Community Yard Sale (Fall)

Pete Scala 764-0730

### Architectural Control

#### Committee - Brian

Roethlisberger 426-9099

### At Large – Mike Mehrman

323-0801

Dante Gilmer 978-0621

### Webmaster - Vincent Dasalla

530-301-1892

## Valued Volunteers

### Email ("Listserv")

Stefan Schwarz

### Social Committee – Vacant

### Architectural Reviews (ACC)

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(Chair), Keith Ferguson

Donna Garfield,

Ed Kiechlin, Kirk Randall

Carole Rogers

Stefan Schwarz

### Newsletter Delivery – John

Kitzmiller, Heather Webb

Leslie Morrissette

Dante Gilmer, Sondra

Arnold, Ed Kiechlin

Claire & Sean Coleman

Debbi Buchanan

Get Email addresses at

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

All telephone area

codes are 703-

*Hickory Farms Community Association*

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

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

**We mailed a GREEN Annual Dues postcard bill to each homeowner in November. To avoid a late assessment, please mail your \$150 check made out to HFCA to the above address no later than Jan 7.**

**If you haven't done so already, please subscribe to the HF email group so you can get both a paper newsletter and a backup electronic version. Visit <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HickoryFarms/> and click "Join Group"**

**There will be no February newsletter.**

## **Join the Hickory Farms email/listserv 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://www.hickoryfarms.org/E-mail.htm> -- Click "Join Group"



Deborah L. Lewis, CFP<sup>®</sup>, ChFC<sup>®</sup>, MBA, CPA  
Agent, New York Life Insurance Company  
3605-D Chain Bridge Road  
Fairfax, Virginia 22030  
(703) 352-8983  
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Deborah L. Lewis, Financial Adviser, offering investment and advisory services through Eagle Strategies LLC, a Registered Investment Adviser. Registered Representative, offering securities through NYLIFE Securities LLC (member FINRA/SIPC), A Licensed Insurance Agency.

### **Your Annual Assessment Must Be Paid by January 7**

The deadline for paying your \$150 Hickory Farms Annual Assessment is January 7. Please send your check to HFCA, P.O. Box 2239, Fairfax, Virginia 22031. Be sure to include on the check itself the house number and street name of the lot for whose Assessment you are paying. Checks that are not postmarked or in the physical possession of the Treasurer by January 7 will be considered late and will be charged a \$50 late assessment fee. Checks that are received late and do not include the \$50 fee will be returned for non-payment. On February 1, delinquent accounts will be turned over to the Association's attorneys for collection. At that point, the amount owed by a delinquent homeowner would be \$200 plus attorney fees and court costs. These procedures are in accord with the Hickory Farms Bylaws, which have no provision for waiver. The Treasurer does not begin cashing checks until January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

(11-12-1)

### **Cold Spell + Heavy Snow = Ice Damming (Interior Flooding Damage)**

If you have icicles hanging from your gutters or actual water leakage into your house after a heavy snow followed by a cold spell, you may be experiencing ice damming. Ice damming occurs when snow on the roof melts and the water makes its way into your attic and living area, possibly causing thousands of dollars in damage. Hickory Farms four and five bedroom Colonials are especially vulnerable to ice damming. You can read an article on ice damming at [www.hickoryfarms.org](http://www.hickoryfarms.org) [Home Maintenance and Appearance](#)

(1)

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### The Laurel Hill Project at the Former Lorton Prison Bob Cosgriff

On December 7<sup>TH</sup>, Hickory Farms former-president Bob Cosgriff (Cotton Farm) participated in the groundbreaking ceremony for “Liberty Crest at Laurel Hill,” marking the long-awaited redevelopment of the Reformatory-Penitentiary area of the former D.C. correctional facility at Lorton. The two-phase project will create up to 412 market-rate residential units, including up to 225 apartments in former prison dorms and workshops, 157 new townhomes, six condos and 24 new single-family homes. 110,000 square feet of retail and office space and 20,000 square feet in civic or community space on an 80-acre site off of Silverbrook Road. The County’s goal is to make a livable, affordable, walkable community on the former prison site, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Complete details on Laurel Hill, perhaps the largest adaptive reuse project in America, can be found at:

[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/laurelhill/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/laurelhill/) Call Bob at 703-764-0720 for more information.

### Your Exterior Remodeling Project May Need Approval

If you are changing the exterior appearance of your home (siding, windows, additions, etc.) or property (fences, sheds, etc.) you probably need the approval of the Architectural Control Committee. You must get ACC approval **before** you begin the project! If you are in doubt as to whether approval is required for your particular project (and some do not require approval), please read [Application for Architectural Review](#) and [Approval of Your Exterior Renovation Project – How to Get It](#) at [www.hickoryfarms.org](http://www.hickoryfarms.org). You may also find [Tips for Choosing a Contractor](#) helpful. If you do not have internet access, please call the chairperson of the Architectural Control Committee, whose phone number is listed on page 1. (1-5-9)

# Moving anytime soon? Call me today!

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## Junk Cars

Under 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)

## Architectural Control Committee Approvals

4377 Harvester Farm – Deck & French doors

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**Speeding and Noise**  
 HFCA President Bruce Bernhardt

I am continuously reminded of how great a place this is to live by the many wonderful, helpful and friendly neighbors that reside within our 198 homes. In this our 40th Anniversary Year, the vast majority of neighborly interactions are positive and constructive. A few situations do arise that provide opportunities for improving ourselves and our community:

**Speeding:** Increasing concerns have been expressed by residents on the number and speed of vehicles moving through our neighborhood. We have posted *SLOW DOWN* signs, some of which have even been vandalized. We have written articles for the Newsletter. We have passed resolutions. All to no avail. It is now time to consider increased enforcement and calming options. Since most speeding tickets are issued to residents of the community (that means us!), we can either voluntarily slow down on our own or pay a fine that could lead to higher car insurance premiums. Serious consideration is being given to asking the County to install traffic calming options such as speed bumps/humps such as those on Burke Station Road. The goal is to avoid the case where someone is seriously hurt or killed by a speeding or out of control vehicle. Please, please, please drive no faster than 25 MPH.

**Noise:** One home in particular has been associated with multiple noise complaints (and visited by the police) in the recent months. We all want to enjoy our properties and to be free from noisy neighbors. As the holiday season begins and many of us entertain friends and



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- √ Accurate Year End Statements

# ADC Property Services

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relatives, please respect your neighbors by keeping the noise level down.

Note that a new Fairfax County Noise Ordinance will take effect in February. There will be more details in the March Newsletter.

On behalf of your Board of Directors, I thank each and every one for continuing to make Hickory Farms a great place to live! We all have capability and capacity for improvement and can do more!

## Student Yellow Pages

If you wish to offer services such as snow removal, raking leaves, lawn mowing, babysitting, general home maintenance, etc., **your parent or guardian** should contact the Editor at 703-424-0210 or email [Kirk\\_Randall@Hotmail.com](mailto:Kirk_Randall@Hotmail.com), giving the information shown in the table.<sup>(12-5-9)</sup>

Anna Rashkover (15) - 703-426-2451	Babysitting, dog sitting & dog walking
Cody Dempster (14) - 703-503-0561	Yard work like raking leaves and mowing lawns, shovel snow, housework
Erika Maaseide (13) - 703 865-4469	Babysitting
Mason Danger (13) - 703-403-5751	Mow lawns, shovel snow
Zach Buchanan (17) - 703-307-7323	Shovel snow

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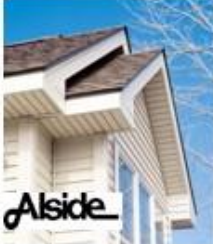
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## Street Snow Removal

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) clears the 7,000 miles of road in Fairfax County, including our Hickory Farms. Unlike some communities, our Association is not responsible for clearing streets, and homeowners must arrange to clear from their driveway and sidewalk. VDOT's goal is to clear roads within 24 hours after snow stops falling. Interstates and major primary roads are cleared first. Secondary roads with high volume also receive early attention. After the snow crews have cleared the highly traveled roads and emergency routes, they begin working on less-traveled routes. Cul-de-sacs have the lowest priority.

**Where is the Snow Plow?** <http://novasnowplowing.virginia.gov/> - The locations of most VDOT trucks are updated every two minutes using satellite technology, but contractor trucks may not be so tracked. Neighborhoods are color coded depending on their stage of completion. Click the Quick Tips, Status, Legend, Display, and Mobilization tabs for helpful information about the display. In the "Find Address" box, enter your full address, such as "1234 Farm House Lane, Fairfax, VA" If the streets are coded blue, it means that plowing has not started, yellow means plowing is in progress, and green means plowing is completed.

**Snow Removal Information** - [www.virginiadot.org/travel/snow.asp](http://www.virginiadot.org/travel/snow.asp)

**To Report an Unplowed Road** – Email [novainfo@vdot.virginia.gov](mailto:novainfo@vdot.virginia.gov) or call 1-800-367-7623

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Northern Virginia Team | Main Office Address: 640 Warrior Drive #105 Stephens City, VA 22665

- Park your cars in driveways before the snow begins falling, and shovel your snow to the right (when facing the road), so the plow won't push your own snow back into your driveway.
- You are responsible for shoveling the sidewalk in front of your house. This is especially important for children walking to catch their school busses.
- Keep your driveway and sidewalks clear of snow and ice, not only for your own convenience and safety, but so that firefighters and medics can reach your house.
- Clear snow from the fire hydrant nearest your home so that firefighters can easily find it. (1)

### What if My Water Pipes Freeze?

Water freezing in cold and hot water pipes can cause serious problems. While the freezing takes place the pipe begins to swell and may burst. In most cases, the actual break doesn't occur until the water begins to thaw.



- If you haven't done so already, shut off water to your outdoor faucets. Cutoff valves are usually found in the basement or crawl space. Cover your outside faucets during the cold months with inexpensive foam covers such as shown in the nearby picture.



- Do you have a bathroom or kitchen sink that faces an outside wall? Is the temperature forecasted to drop below 20 degrees? If so, then open the cabinet doors below the sink so room air can warm up the pipes. This is especially important at nighttime, when outside temperatures are the coldest. If it's forecasted to get bitterly cold, turn both the hot and cold faucets on to a slow trickle during the duration of the cold spell. Pipes generally don't freeze if water is moving through them.
- The first sign of a frozen pipe is a loss of water. If that happens, completely open the cold-water faucet closest to the frozen pipe. That will relieve pressure and reduce the chance of a break. Frozen pipes often have a telltale bulge where ice has formed. A common culprit is the main water pipe that enters a home from outside, often into a laundry room or unheated crawl space.
- A drop in water pressure may be a sign that the pipe is in the process of freezing. Run water (hot if possible) through the pipes to clear out any ice that may be forming.
- If a pipe freezes, first shut off the water valve that serves that pipe (and the water heater if it's the hot water pipe). Then slowly thaw out the frozen pipe using a hair dryer. Never use a flame or blow torch to thaw out a frozen pipe! It thaws the water too quickly, weakens the pipe, and you could burn down your house.
- Do you know where the master water valve is located? It's usually in the basement; attached to the water line that enters the house through the floor or wall. If a pipe bursts, turn off the master water valve immediately.
- Keep the name of a good plumber on file. You'll need to call her immediately. Talk to the plumber about insulating the pipe to prevent future freezes. You can purchase inexpensive pipe insulation from Home Depot, Ace, and Lowes. (1)

### **This Month's Home Maintenance Checklist**

<p><b>Lawn Mower Shutdown</b> – 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.</p>
<p><b>Clean out Gutters</b> – Overflowing gutters lead to ground erosion and wet basements. If you are surrounded by trees, you may have to do this both Spring and Fall.</p>
<p><b>Furnace Humidifier Setup</b> – 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.</p>

### Association Income & Expenses (2015 Yearend Final)

INCOME	\$	EXPENSES	\$
Advertising (Net)	1,259	Bank Fees	12
Assessments - Annual	29,150	Common Areas Maintenance	22,391
Assessments - Prior Years	300	Insurance - Director's, Liability & Surety	2,373
Assessments - Late Charges	1,000	Legal Fees	2,303
Interest – Checking & Reserves	22	Miscellaneous	239
Legal Fees - Recoupment	0	Postage	178
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>31,731</b>	Printing	2,083
		Social	696
		Tax Preparation & Audit	608
		Taxes & Fees	228
		VPOAA Packages	21
<b>INCOME LESS EXPENSES</b>	<b>599</b>	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>31,132</b>
<p>\$23,416 Reserve Fund (Bank Certificates of Deposit) – Under the Rules and Regulations, it is HFCA policy to maintain a reserve fund invested in low risk investments approximately equal to the Association's Annual Assessments.</p>			

### A Hickory Farms 40th Anniversary Feature

### Silas Burke – 19<sup>th</sup> Century Fairfax County Luminary

Burke Station Road, the communities of Burke and Burke Centre, Burke Lake, Burke Centre Parkway, Burke School, Burke Commons Road, and the Burke Centre VRE train station are just some of the nearby features named after Silas Burke (1796-1854), a Fairfax County luminary in the mid-1800s.

Lt. Col. Burke, who had significant property holdings in the area, was a well-known farmer, innkeeper, and politician. He was also an investor in and director of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad (now part of the Norfolk Southern system), having donated considerable landholdings for the railroad right-of-way and Burke's Station. Burke held many Fairfax County offices with distinction, including road surveyor, commissioner of public buildings and schools, county court justice, presiding justice, and sheriff.



The historic Silas Burke House (built circa 1825) can be seen at 9617 Burke Lake Road. Boasting almost 4,000 SF on five levels, the five-fireplace home sits on nearly five acres. The home was listed for sale for \$1.95 million just after the real estate bubble peaked in 2008, but did not sell. It was relisted two years later for \$1.3 million, again did not sell, and remains unsold to this day. Heck, the five acres alone are probably worth more than \$1.3 million!

**Hickory Farms Real Estate Activity**  
Arlene Da Cruz

Address	Model	Bed rooms	Baths	Listing Price	Sold Price	Seller Subsidy	Days on Market	Status / Date Sold
(1) 4338 Farm House	Colonial	4	2	\$569,888			82	Withdrawn - will be relisted in 2016
(2) 4296 Country Squire Lane	Split Level	5	4	\$669,000	\$669,000	\$14,000	67	Sold 11/2/15
(3) 4282 Country Squire Lane	Split Foyer	4	3	\$2,500	\$2,500	0	37	Rented 12/21/15

- (1) Meticulously maintained with upgraded kitchen and baths. Hardwood floors and new carpet. Rear addition.
- (2) Largest home in Hickory Farms. Open floor plan with many upgrades - windows, siding, gutter guards, kitchen, heat pump, and more.
- (3) Many upgrades, including new kitchen, screened in porch off dining room.

**Information provided by Arlene Da Cruz and Dominic Da Cruz – Da Cruz Real Estate Group - full service Realtors and Hickory Farms residents.** Arlene and Dominic are associated with Weichert Realtors ([www.arlenedacruz.com](http://www.arlenedacruz.com)) and are also sole proprietors of ADC Property Services, a family-owned property management business managing rental properties. 571-436-6551 - [arlenemyrealtor@gmail.com](mailto:arlenemyrealtor@gmail.com) (1-4-7-10)

**Neighborhood Watch Schedule**

***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 Vanessa Franck at 703-483-0730.

Fri	Jan 1	John Verheul	Tami Verheul
Sat	Jan 2	Dave Dempster	Dawn Dempster
Fri	Jan 8	Dave Maurer	Sanjeev Munjal
Sat	Jan 9	Brian Roethlisberger	
Fri	Jan 15	Susan Mulliner	Brenton Mulliner
Sat	Jan 16		
Fri	Jan 22		
Sat	Jan 23	Ron Arnold	Charles Walters

Fri	Jan 29	Harry Herchert	Ginny Herchert
Sat	Jan 30	Rick Loranger	Judy Loranger
Fri	Feb 5		
Sat	Feb 6		
Fri	Feb 12	Jeff Lindsay	Larry Rogers
Sat	Feb 13	Angel Meza	Jason Meza
Fri	Feb 19	Eric Maribojoc	Clarisa Dacanay
Sat	Feb 20	Bob Montgomery	George Rosenkranz
Fri	Feb 26	John Coyne	Linda Coyne
Sat	Feb 27	Pete Scala	Rose Scala
Fri	Mar 4	Debbi Buchanan	
Sat	Mar 5		
Fri	Mar 11	Matt Franck	Vanessa Franck
Sat	Mar 12	John Kitzmiller	
Fri	Mar 18		
Sat	Mar 19	Ed Wagner	
Fri	Mar 25	Pam Barrett	Tom Barrett

***A Hickory Farms 40th Anniversary Feature***

**Civil War History Was Made Right around the Corner**

Bob Cosgriff (Cotton Farm)

Past President and Resident Historian

The disastrous campaign of General Braddock, which began in Fairfax County, was not the last major event to occur here. We are all familiar with the legacy of such early "Founding Fathers" as George Mason and our 'Number One Citizen,' George Washington. However, since the focus of British military efforts during the American Revolution was aimed elsewhere (New York, Philadelphia and later on, the Carolinas), our immediate area was not much affected by military operations. The only significant event happened in 1781, when the combined American-French Army marched through Fairfax County on its way from Newport, Rhode Island, to Yorktown. (This army encamped briefly in the City of Alexandria.) Otherwise, great personages acted out their great events elsewhere. In like manor, the primary actions in the War of 1812 occurred outside of Fairfax County. (The closest the British got was Fort Washington, MD and of course, Washington, DC!). For more historical drama, we must jump ahead to 1861 and the American Civil War.

Place yourself at the Fairfax County Court House on Thursday, May 23, 1861. This building

still stands at the corner of Rt. 123 (Chain Bridge Road) and Rt. 236 (Main Street). A vote is being taken on the weighty issue: "An Ordinance to Repeal the Ratification of the Constitution of the United States by; the State of Virginia, Adopted in Convention at the City of Richmond on April 14, 1861." The vote was 151-6 to adopt the Resolution, that is, to secede from the Union. Most of Virginia (with the exception of many western counties, now in West Virginia) followed suit. The one-sided vote shows that "secession fever" surely prevailed in this immediate area.

By the time the vote was taken, there were already Confederate troops stationed at Fairfax Court House and Fairfax Station. The troops here comprised two cavalry and one rifle company, about 150 men, essentially untrained and untested county militia, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Richard S. Ewell, late a Captain in the U.S. Army. Nicknamed "Old Baldy," Ewell lost a leg at Groveton, one of the fierce opening engagements in the Battle of Second Manassas in August, 1862. Ewell went on to command the Second Corps in General Lee's Army of Northern Virginia after the death of the legendary Gen. Thomas ("Stonewall") Jackson at the Battle of Chancellorsville in May, 1863. His performance in command at Gettysburg and later at the battles of Wilderness and Spotsylvania Court House are still the subject of scholarly debate. But this was all in the future. Today, the fighting hadn't really started, even though the Union, after Fort Sumter, had quickly moved forces into Virginia, creating a line of small forts and outposts stretching from Alexandria to Falls Church. A clash was inevitable.

On the night of May 31, 1861, only a little more than a week after the secession vote, a Union cavalry detachment set out from near Falls Church to reconnoiter the area near Fairfax Court House. About a mile below the town, on the "Falls Church Road" (present-day Old Lee Highway), this force captured some dozing Confederate pickets; however, one managed to escape to warn the forces at the Court House. At approximately 3:00 a.m., the Union forces proceeded on and maneuvered into column, facing northwest, onto Little River Turnpike approximately where Old Lee Highway, Main Street and North Street come together. The unit commenced a charge, firing wildly. The surprised and understandably disorganized Confederates were unable to stop the charge, which pushed some of the Southern troops back to the creek west of the Court House (this creek runs across Main Street at the City of Fairfax cemetery, near Judicial Drive). The Confederates rallied and set up a line across the road in the vicinity of Truro Church. The Union commanding officer, probably realizing that he had allowed himself to let the enemy get between him and his best escape route, wheeled his troopers about and charged back in the opposite direction. The Confederates managed a few volleys, and the battle was over, as the Federals withdrew. The Union commander's report stated that he faced perhaps 1,000 enemy troops—an excellent example of the "fog of war." Total casualties were light: Federals—one killed, four wounded, one missing and three captured; Confederates - one killed, at least one wounded (Col. Ewell) and five captured (although some Union reports mentioned "heavy" Confederate casualties). The one person killed was Captain John Quincy Marr of the Warrenton Rifles, who was the first Confederate officer killed in the Civil War. A monument to Captain Marr stands on the site of the original Fairfax County Court House, although he was actually killed a few hundred yards south of the site, near the Legato School in front of the Fairfax County Judicial Complex.

Parts two and three of Bob's Civil War series will appear in future newsletters.