

Volume 12 – No. 5

July 2012

# The Hickory Farms Newsletter

## Board of Directors

### President

John Kitzmiller 503-3443

### Vice President - Vacant

### Treasurer

Dante Gilmer 978-0621

### Secretary

Ed Wagner 425-7875

### Community Grounds, Paths & Woods – Don & Sara

Lobeda 539-8472

### Architectural Control Comm.

Kirk Randall 425-0210

### At Large

Kathy Sayyed 764-8716

## Other Volunteers

### Neighborhood Watch

John Kitzmiller 503-3443

### Newsletter & Web Site

Kirk Randall 425-0210

Sarah Maurer – Assoc Ed

### Community Yard Sale (Fall)

Pete Scala 764-0730

### Email (Listserv)

Debbi Buchanan

Stefan Schwarz

### Social Committee

Patty Dudley 503-2060

Dawn Dempster 503-0561

Lynn Welch 978-4113

### Architectural Reviews

Keith Ferguson, Donna

Garfield, Greg Gillette

Carole Rogers

Kirk Randall (Chairman)

### Newsletter Delivery – Stefan

Schwarz, John Kitzmiller

Heather Webb, Dante

Gilmer, Sondra Arnold,

Ed Kiechlin, Claire/Sean

Coleman

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)*

After many years of service to the community, Ellie Coddling and Heather Webb are retiring as moderators of our community email service ("listserv"). Debbi Buchanan and Stefan Schwarz have volunteered to keep the service running. Welcome aboard, Debbi and Stefan, and thank you for your help! And, please give Ellie and Heather a shout out to thank them for their service to the community.

Start accumulating your valuable but unneeded stuff to sell at this fall's community yard sale. See page 3

If you see tree damage on our Common Areas, please contact Common Areas coordinators Don and Sara Lobeda (10031 Wheatfield) at 703-539-8472.

Remember, even if a tree from the Common Area damages your property, you are responsible for the damage to your own property. It also works the other way.

**There will be no August Newsletter**

### **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"



## Learn Tai Chi

Classes are taught by Hickory Farms resident Dante Gilmer.

**Tai Chi** is great for relieving stress and improving balance, coordination, flexibility and focus.

11:15am Sundays & 11:10/12:10 Wednesdays

Our studio is just minutes from Hickory Farms at 11226 Waples Mill Road  
(at the intersection just before Fair Oaks Mall)

703.862.2192    [www.stillwatertaichi.com](http://www.stillwatertaichi.com)

### Architectural Control Committee Approvals

4349 Farm House – Garage Door

4316 Still Meadow – Two Story Addition

10112 Round Top - 1) Shed Under Deck & 2) Modify Existing Shed



September 1977 –  
Farm House - 4322,  
4320, 4318 (not yet  
visible) & 4316 –  
Courtesy James  
Lewis

## **Invasive Plant: Tree of Heaven aka Paradise Tree**

Kathy Gillette

One of the most invasive plants in the United States is Tree of Heaven, which is also known as Paradise Tree. It is rumored that Tree of Heaven was brought to the U.S. by Chinese immigrants during the gold rush in California. *Ailanthus altissima* grows in 42 of our 50 states. It is a rapid spreader, and one tree can produce 350,000 seeds in a year. This invasive can grow in the crummiest of soils. It also produces a toxin which can keep other plants from growing in the area. No wonder this invasive is so rampant! Hickory Farms has many of these trees in the neighborhood. You can see a lot of Tree of Heaven at the edges of woods in our common areas. It also may pop up in your garden if you are not a vigilant weeder. See the picture below to identify Tree of Heaven. Make sure to properly identify it because it does resemble other trees, such as sumac and black walnut. Although it is difficult to remove and a very persistent plant, you can get rid of this plant by cutting back the tree and regularly cutting back the suckers that will emerge afterwards. Mechanical control (cutback) is the best way to get rid of this invasive, but it has a long taproot, so glyphosate (in Roundup) may be necessary. Read below if you need more information on removing this nasty pest and be very careful using herbicides if it is required.

<http://pubs.ext.vt.edu/420/420-322/420-322.html>

[http://www.dof.virginia.gov/health/resources/pub\\_Ailanthus-Control-and-Utilization.pdf](http://www.dof.virginia.gov/health/resources/pub_Ailanthus-Control-and-Utilization.pdf)

[http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural\\_heritage/documents/fsaial.pdf](http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural_heritage/documents/fsaial.pdf)



## **Celebrations**

Madeleine Alexandra Breeland, daughter of Benjamin and Jocelyn Gilbert Breeland, graduated (cum laude) from Emerson College in Boston MA on May 14, 2012, with a Bachelor of Arts in Producing from the School of Arts (Department of Visual and Media Arts). Madeleine is a 2008 graduate of Woodson High School.

## **Plan Now for the Annual Community Yard Sale**

Hickory Farms holds a Community Yard Sale every fall, generally on a Saturday morning in September or October. With a large number of participants, we attract many costumers, so this is a great opportunity to clean up your basement or garage! We split the costs of advertising and fliers, which typically runs about \$10 each. Look for more details in the next Newsletter. Meanwhile, start collecting and pricing your unneeded valuables. Questions?

Pete Scala 703-764-0730 [scalapr@verizon.net](mailto:scalapr@verizon.net)

(7)

## Lawn Mowing + Landscape Maintenance specialists

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- Lawn Aerating + Seeding
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### Should I Power Wash My Sidewalk, Patio, or Driveway?

Only if you are very, very gentle. Pressure washers – especially gas powered ones - deliver enormous water pressure to the concrete, powerful enough to actually dig out the rock aggregate which is part of the concrete mix. Once that begins, the concrete will begin to crumble, a process called spalling. However, if you really want to clean your concrete using a power washer, use it at the lowest power setting and keep the wand at least 1½ feet from the concrete. Better yet, use a concrete cleaning product available from Ace Hardware or Home Depot. (7)

### Give Our Postman a Break!

Things are tough all over for our mail delivery men and women these days. If you place your trash can on the street in front of your mail box, the mail delivery person has to step out of the van to deliver the mail. Do him or her a favor and keep your trash can at least six feet from a mailbox. (7)

### PLEASE READ THIS If You Plan To Sell Your Home Soon

When you sell your home, you will need to give the purchaser a copy of the Hickory Farms Virginia Property Owners' Association Act (VPOAA) Disclosure Package. This is required by Virginia state law. ***If you do not give a copy of this document to the purchaser, they could delay closing or even cancel the sale.***

The Disclosure Package comes in two parts; both parts must be given to the purchaser. You or your agent should contact the Treasurer to arrange for the delivery of the Disclosure Package. Please request the package three weeks prior to closing in order to give the Treasurer time to respond. As a word of advice, however, do not request it *too* early. Should it take a long time to sell your house, the Disclosure Package information could become outdated. We recommend you request the Disclosure Package when you have a signed contract in hand.

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Part 1 contains specific information about your property. You or your agent may request either a hard copy or electronic version. There is no charge for either. Please note that before Part 1 is sent to you, your property will be inspected by a member of the Board of Directors or Architectural Control Committee to determine compliance with the [Hickory Farms Rules & Regulations and Restrictive Covenants](#). Otherwise, the letter will alert the purchaser that you (the seller) needs to bring the property into compliance before closing. If you do not do so, the purchaser could delay or even cancel the purchase.

Part 2 contains general information applicable to all homes in Hickory Farms. This 40+ page document is available for free download by visiting [http://www.hickoryfarms.org/VPOAA%20Disclosure%20Package-Hickory%20Farms%20\(Part%202%20of%202\).pdf](http://www.hickoryfarms.org/VPOAA%20Disclosure%20Package-Hickory%20Farms%20(Part%202%20of%202).pdf) If you would prefer a hard copy to be mailed to you, please deliver a \$10 check to the Treasurer or send it to P.O. Box 2239, Fairfax, VA 22031-2239 (Please note: in-person delivery is preferred as the P.O. box is checked only once a week). Please allow ten business days from when the check is received by the Treasurer to the date the Disclosure Package can be released, as we must allow time for your check to clear.

(3-7-11)

**One Call For All Your Home Improvement Needs!**

 <p><b>Handyman Central</b> Satisfaction...More than a guarantee</p> <div style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p><b>10% Off</b> <b>ANY SERVICE</b></p> <p><small>With coupon. Not valid with any other offer.</small></p> </div> <p>Licensed • Bonded • Insured</p> <p><b>703-502-4910</b> <b>Residential &amp; Commercial</b> <a href="http://www.handymancentral-inc.com">www.handymancentral-inc.com</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="width: 33%;">• Bathroom Remodeling</li> <li style="width: 33%;">• Ceramic Tile</li> <li style="width: 33%;">• Plumbing</li> <li style="width: 33%;">• Toilet &amp; Faucet Repair</li> <li style="width: 33%;">• Kitchen Remodeling</li> <li style="width: 33%;">• General Repairs &amp; Maintenance</li> <li style="width: 33%;">• Electrical Work</li> <li style="width: 33%;">• Painting</li> <li style="width: 33%;">• Power Washing &amp; Much More!</li> <li style="width: 33%;">• Carpentry &amp; Dry Wall</li> <li style="width: 33%;">• Door Installation</li> </ul>	 <p><b>Plumbing Central</b> Affordable Quality Plumbing</p> <p>Master Plumber</p> <div style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p><b>10% OFF</b> <b>ANY PLUMBING REPAIR</b></p> <p><small>Not valid with any other offers or with prior contracts. With this coupon.</small></p> </div> <p><b>MORE SAVINGS...</b> <small>You may qualify for a Federal Tax Credit on select energy efficient models.</small></p> <p><b>703-539-8306</b> <b>We're In Your Neighborhood...</b></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: left;"> <tr> <td>• Leaking Faucets &amp; Sinks</td> <td>• Water Heaters</td> <td>• Gas Leaks</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Pipe Repair &amp; Replacement</td> <td>(conventional &amp; tankless)</td> <td>• Gas Repairs</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Sewer &amp; Drain Cleaning</td> <td>• Sump Pumps</td> <td>• Toilet Repairs</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Garbage Disposals</td> <td>• Water Main Repair</td> <td>• Bathroom Remodeling</td> </tr> </table>	• Leaking Faucets & Sinks	• Water Heaters	• Gas Leaks	• Pipe Repair & Replacement	(conventional & tankless)	• Gas Repairs	• Sewer & Drain Cleaning	• Sump Pumps	• Toilet Repairs	• Garbage Disposals	• Water Main Repair	• Bathroom Remodeling
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**Do Our Rules and Regulations Need Updating?**

The October Annual Meeting is when our community usually considers revisions to our Rules and Regulations. The revisions must be evaluated by the Board of Directors several months in advance, and they are then announced in the Newsletter and via email. If you are aching to amend our Rules and Regulations, please contact Kirk Randall at 703-425-0210 or [kirk\\_randall@hotmail.com](mailto:kirk_randall@hotmail.com) by July 30 with your proposals. You can view our current Rules and Regulations at [www.hickoryfarms.org](http://www.hickoryfarms.org) → Laws, Rules and Regulations. (7)

**Attention Landlords**

You already know that you should give the Treasurer your contact information so you can receive newsletters and other information such as notices of annual dues. Is your property managed by a real estate agent? If so, please make sure that person's contact information is also given to the Treasurer. (7)

**We Need Your Contact Information for the New Neighborhood Directory**

The Board of Directors is working on an updated neighborhood directory (the last one was in 2008). Please send your name(s), address, phone number(s), and email address(es) to Dante Gilmer at [dantegilmer@hotmail.com](mailto:dantegilmer@hotmail.com) or 703-978-0621. Children's names are optional and their ages will not be included in the directory. The directory will be distributed only to Hickory Farms homeowners and residents.

## Neighborhood Watch

John Kitzmiller

***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! Contact: John Kitzmiller 703-503-3443

Fri	July 6	Eric Maribojoc	Clarisa Dacanay
Sat	July 7	Bob Montgomery	George Rosenkranz
Fri	July 13	Mike Martin	John Kitzmiller
Sat	July 14	Pete Scala	Rose Scala
Fri	July 20	Stan Lee	Jim Marshall
Sat	July 21	Pam Barrett	Tom Barrett
Fri	July 27	John Verheul	Tammy Verheul
Sat	July 28	Harry Herchert	Ginny Herchert
Fri	Aug 3	Dave Maurer	Sanjeev Munjal
Sat	Aug 4	David Froberg	Beverly Froberg
Fri	Aug 10	Jaime Gutierrez	Ed Wagner
Sat	Aug 11	Dave Dempster	Dawn Dempster
Fri	Aug 17	Susan Mulliner	Brenton Mulliner
Sat	Aug 18	Ron Arnold	Charles Walters
Fri	Aug 24		
Sat	Aug 25	Greg Gillette	Kathy Gillette
Fri	Aug 31		
Sat	Sep 1	Kirk Randall	Chris Woody
Fri	Sep 7	Jeff Lindsay	Larry Rogers
Sat	Sep 8	Angel Meza	Jason Meza
Fri	Sep 14	Eric Maribojoc	Clarisa Dacanay
Sat	Sep 15	Bob Montgomery	George Rosenkranz
Fri	Sep 21	Mike Martin	John Kitzmiller
Sat	Sep 22	Pete Scala	Rose Scala
Fri	Sep 28	Stan Lee	Jim Marshall
Sat	Sep 29	Pam Barrett	Tom Barrett

The Newsletter is published January, March-May, July, and September-December. 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. The Editor, subject to review by the Board of Directors, may reject or edit any submission. Advertisers in this newsletter are not endorsed by the HFCA. The editor is Kirk Randall 703-425-0210 – kirk\_randall@hotmail.com