Volume 11 – No. 8

November 2011

#### **Board of Directors**

President
John Kitzmiller 503-3443
Vice President
Keith Ferguson 323-1067
Treasurer
Dante Gilmer 978-0621
Secretary
Jaime Gutierrez 425-7919
Community Grounds, Paths
& Woods - Keith Ferguson
323-1067
Architectural Control Comm.

Kirk Randall 425-0210

**Other Volunteers Neighborhood Watch** John Kitzmiller 503-3443 **Welcome New Neighbors** Jovce Kitzmiller 503-3443 **Newsletter & Web Site** Kirk Randall 425-0210 Sarah Maurer - Assoc. **Editor** Community Yard Sale (Fall) Pete Scala 764-0730 **Email (Listserv)** Heather Webb 425-1347 Ellie Codding 426-4606 **Social Committee** Patty Dudley 503-2060 Dawn Dempster 503-0561 Lynn Welch 978-4113 **Architectural Control** Committee **Keith Ferguson Donna Garfield Greg Gillette** Kirk Randall (Chairman) **Carole Rogers** Larry Rogers Get Email addresses at

www.hickoryfarms.org

All telephone area codes are 703-

# The Hickory Farms Newsletter

Hickory Farms Community Association P.O. Box 2239, Fairfax VA 22031 www.hickoryfarms.org

On January 1, there will be four vacancies on the Board of Directors.

Please volunteer.

If we can't get sufficient
Board members to manage
our community affairs, we
may have to hire a
management company,
which could easily double
our annual dues.

Please call John Kitzmiller at 703-503-3343.

#### 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 <a href="http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HickoryFarms/">http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HickoryFarms/</a> -- Click "Join this Group" -- Be sure to click the "Individual Emails" option.



# It's Leaf Raking Time

Leaf raking season is back! If we lived just a few blocks north in Fairfax City, we could rake our leaves into the street and city workers would vacuum them up for us. But, alas, we live in Fairfax County, so *please don't rake your leaves into the street!* Here's the skinny on disposing of your leaves (and other yard debris) in our community:

- Under Fairfax County ordinance, trash collectors are required to pick up at least six bags of leaves on a given yard debris pickup day. However, if you put out more than six, the extras may not be taken.
- If the trash collector doesn't take all of your bags on your yard debris pickup day, please don't just leave them in the street or the parkway (the strip of grass between the street and sidewalk) for the next week's pickup. The bags kill the grass if left on the parkway, or block the mailman if left near the mailbox.
- Under Fairfax County Ordinance, *you should not use black plastic bags for yard debris such as leaves*. Please use clear plastic bags. The trash collector may refuse to take black bags because its workers can't tell whether you put garbage or yard debris, such as leaves, in the bags.

  (11)

# Architectural Control Committee Approvals

4358 Farm House - Addition – Metal Roof & Chimney 4359 Farm House – Front Door

# To Report a Burned Out Streetlight

. . .

... or one that's on during daylight hours, please call 1-888-667-3000. You'll need the address of the home nearest to the streetlight, as well as the number off the streetlight pole – example: C-415 W096.



#### 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.

10am 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

# Please Read 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 stale. We recommend you request the Disclosure Package when you have a signed contract in hand.

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 <u>Hickory Farms</u>

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 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.

# Lawn Mowing + Landscape Maintenance specialists

- Lawn Mowing
- Spring cleanups and Mulching
- Lawn Fertilizing + Weed control
- Lawn Aerating + Seeding
- Bed Weeding + Shrub Pruning
- · Fall Leaf Cleanups

Also available: Complete Landscape Installations, renovations and creations, Complete Tree Services including pruning, removals and planting. See our website for more information.

# **Professional Property Maintenance Inc.**

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and get 1 visit free.



#### **New Board of Directors Members are Needed**

The demands are not great, especially when shared among other members. Former Board members and those homeowners that have never served on the Board are invited to join. We would especially welcome members that are new to Hickory Farms, so fresh ideas can be introduced. Anyone willing to at least explore being on the Board is invited to join us at the next Board meeting. Please call John Kitzmiller at 703-503-3443.

## **Shooting and Hunting In Hickory Farms – Prohibited!**

With hunting season soon upon us, Hickory Farms residents need to know that the discharge of guns within the Hickory Farms subdivision is illegal. See Chapter 6 of the Fairfax County Code. This includes BB guns, air rifles, and paint ball guns. If you see anyone who appears to be in possession of a gun with the intent to shoot, please immediately call the Fairfax County Police at 9-1-1.

Bows and arrows, however, are allowed. A person may shoot a bow and arrow on their own property. If the arrow could potentially land on another person's property, however, the owner of that property must first give their permission. Rest assured that the Board of Directors would never give anyone permission to shoot their arrows into Hickory Farms Common Grounds. If you see any person shooting an arrow in such a manner that could endanger people, please immediately call Fairfax County Police at 9-1-1.

Fairfax County Code also prohibits hunting within 100 yards of a road, thereby making illegal all hunting activities within our community, whether on private or Common Grounds.

If you see what you perceive to be a dangerous situation, trust your instincts and call the police. Let them sort out what's legal and what's not.

## Parking on the Yard – Short Term Only

A vehicle may be parked on the front yard for **no more than 48 hours** to allow residents to unload, work on the vehicle, or clean it. Report violations to Fairfax County Zoning at 703-324-1300

#### This Month's Home Maintenance Checklist

Outside Water Faucet Shutdown – Turn off outside water faucets using the inside shutoff valves. Open the faucets to drain remaining water. Drain water hoses before storage.

### **Neighborhood Watch**

Our Neighborhood Watch crew needs replenishment. The Neighborhood Watch patrols Hickory Farms on Friday and Saturday nights, serving as the eyes of the community. Those patrol members are NOT police wanna-be's. They are expected to do no more than contact authorities if they observe something suspicious. Such a simple activity as driving around the neighborhood helps to keep everyone safer. Please call John Kitzmiller at 703-503-3443.

# 2012 Budget & Dues Increase Affirmed at October 2012 Annual Meeting

| Hickory Fa               |                                  |                       |        |                 |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------|-----------------|
| 2011 & 20                | 012 Budgets                      |                       |        |                 |
| INCOME                   | 2011<br>Estimated<br>thru Dec 31 | 2012 Adopted by Board |        | Difference<br>% |
| Annual dues              | 24,625                           | 29,700                | 5,075  | 21%             |
| Late Fees                | 730                              | 0                     | -730   | -100%           |
| Prior Year's Dues        | 225                              | 0                     | -225   | -100%           |
| Legal Fees/Costs         | 313                              | 0                     | -313   | -100%           |
| Newsletter Advertising   | 994                              | 500                   | -494   | -50%            |
| Interest on Investments  | 46                               | 45                    | -1     | -1%             |
| Total Income             | 26,932                           | 30,200                | 3,268  | 12%             |
| EXPENSES                 |                                  |                       |        |                 |
| Tax Preparation/Audit    | 265                              | 280                   | 15     | 6%              |
| Director's Insurance     | 1,488                            | 1,560                 | 72     | 5%              |
| Liability Insurance      | 272                              | 300                   | 28     | 10%             |
| Surety Insurance         | 260                              | 300                   | 40     | 15%             |
| Legal Fees               | 1,228                            | 2,400                 | 1,172  | 95%             |
| Landscape/Maint.         | 18,750                           | 21,000                | 2,250  | 12%             |
| Miscellaneous            | 95                               | 400                   | 305    | 321%            |
| Social Functions         | 400                              | 400                   | 0      | 0%              |
| Newsletter Printing      | 2,000                            | 2,500                 | 500    | 25%             |
| Taxes/Fees               | 25                               | 50                    | 25     | 100%            |
| Postage                  | 200                              | 200                   | 0      | 0%              |
| Neighborhood Watch       | 95                               | 0                     | -95    | -100%           |
| Total Expenses           | 25,078                           | 29,390                | 4,312  | 17%             |
| Surplus (Deficit)        | 1,854                            | 810                   | -1,044 | -56%            |
| Annual Dues              | 125                              | 150                   | 25     | 20%             |
| Dante Gilmer - Treasurer |                                  |                       |        |                 |

# **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 | November 4  | Jaime Gutierrez | Ed Wagner         |
|-----|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Sat | November 5  | Dave Dempster   | Dawn Dempster     |
| Fri | November11  | Susan Mulliner  | Brenton Mulliner  |
| Sat | November 12 | Ron Arnold      | Charles Walters   |
| Fri | November 18 | Bob Cosgriff    | Don Klingemann    |
| Sat | November 19 | Kirk Randall    | Chris Woody       |
| Fri | November 25 | Jeff Lindsay    | Larry Rogers      |
| Sat | November 26 | Angel Meza      | Jason Meza        |
| Fri | December 2  | Eric Maribojoc  | Clarisa Dacanay   |
| Sat | December 3  | Bob Montgomery  | George Rosenkranz |
| Fri | December 9  | Mike Martin     | Scott Buchanan    |
| Sat | December 10 | Pete Scala      | Rose Scala        |
| Fri | December 16 | Stan Lee        | Jim Marshall      |
| Sat | December 17 | Pam Barrett     | Tom Barrett       |
| Fri | December 23 |                 |                   |
| Sat | December 24 |                 |                   |
| Fri | December 30 |                 |                   |
| Sat | December 31 |                 |                   |

The Hickory Farms 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 <a href="https://www.hickoryfarms.org">www.hickoryfarms.org</a> --> Newsletters.

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