

ARMFIELD



ADVOCATE

Winter 1998

What's Happening!

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Making a Difference

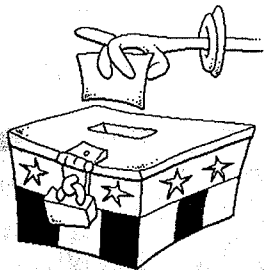


On October 25, 1997, 13 children and five adults participated in Make a Difference Day, reports Armfield Farm resident Diane Kazuba. "This is the first year we participated in this project," Kazuba says. "We decided trash needed to be picked up in the community's common areas. As a group, we worked for two hours. The result was 38 bags of trash picked up."

Pictured above is the industrious group which made a significant contribution to keeping our community beautiful. They are: (bottom row) Adam Ashforth, Samantha Hanson, Kelsey Beckwith, Karly Beckwith, Kristin Duffy, Annie Kazuba, Justin Bailey, (middle) Cori Jones, Lauren Duffy, Rachel Phillips, Korey Beckwith, Nicole Kazuba, (top) Alison Ashforth, Tammy Ashforth, Debi Duffy, Diane Kazuba, Kris Beckwith and Cathy Bailey.

A big thank you to all who participated in this project. Your efforts truly did make a difference!

Do you know someone who has made a difference to this community? Contact an editor and let us know!



Community Update

Editors' Notes

By Jo Gordon, 709-8237 or jogordon@erols.com,
and Jeannette Borneman, 707-0394 or
mjborneman@aol.com

So much has happened this past year, and with the holidays well upon us it sometimes seems like such a blur. Still, as a community we have much to be proud of. This past year saw some new and improved programs—reestablishment of the Neighborhood Watch, the first community yard sale and garden contest, successful volunteer cleanup committees, and a wonderful annual community picnic to name a few.

Have a safe and happy new year and keep up the good story ideas, suggestions, and community spirit. Our community is founded on the strength of its people.

Secretary's Notes

By Dan Gordon, 709-8237

My responsibility as secretary of the Board of Directors is to document all official decisions by the Board. One of the most common gripes I hear from homeowners is that they don't know what is going on in the neighborhood. To overcome this problem, I plan to include in every future issue of this newsletter the highlights of what your Board is doing so that you can tell, at a glance, what activities are being proposed, what is in the works, and what has been completed in the community with your dollars.

It is my hope that, with this information at your fingertips, you will feel more informed and perhaps it will inspire you to become involved in your own way. Please don't hesitate to contact me, or any Board member, with your suggestions or concerns. And remember—monthly Board meetings are an open forum, so please join us when you are able to.

See Recent Board Activities on page 3.

Home Sales

Armfield Farm Drive, 3534: Sunil J. and Ashita S. Patel to Steven J. Donnelly; \$272,000.

Clary Sage Drive, 13613: Carolyn J. Zebley to Thomas V. and Rita M. Fuentes; \$287,000.

Rosetree Court, 13716: Danford Burt and Dana Lee Wright to Raymond E. and Joann Marie Nelson; \$269,500.

Rosetree Court, 13722: Ramesh C. and Rajashree Yerramilli to Edward G. and Cheryl H. Range; \$247,480.

Spring Yard Sale News

The next Annual Community Yard Sale is in need of a small committee to implement suggestions received from last year's event. Some of these included contacting welfare providers like the Purple Heart to come through the neighborhood at the end of the day to help homeowners really clean out their garages. Additional help is needed to post signs well in advance.

The tentative date is Saturday, May 9. Details will be published in the next issue of the newsletter. If you can offer some support please contact **Jeannette Borneman, 707-0394** or via email at mjborneman@aol.com.

Recent Board Activities

Administrative The Association's current legal counsel will continue to be used as our collection service for delinquent accounts, as opposed to using a separate collection service company. Costs to us are lower and this process eliminates the need for a third party.

Violation letters were sent to homeowners for the following reasons: 2 letters were sent regarding trash cans placed in front of the house. 1 letter was sent regarding trash placed at the curb too early. 3 letters were sent regarding pet violations. 2 letters were sent regarding vehicle violations. 1 letter was sent regarding a recreational vehicle parked in front of the house. 1 letter was sent regarding a non-standard mailbox.

Operations The winterization of the pool and pool fixtures has been completed. Repairs to the pool and the 1998 pool management contract has been awarded to Virginia Pool, after a competitive bid.

Hercules Fence will be taking care of all the fencing issues (repairs) that remain outstanding.

STM will be installing perennials at the Saville Chase entrance and the landscaping company has also been awarded the contract for 1998 Grounds Maintenance.

The bench at the tot lot next to the tennis courts was fixed and repainted.

The vertical strap on the left tennis court net was replaced.

Financial A delinquent account has been written off in response to this recommendation by the Association's attorney.

The above information, as you can see, is not terribly glamorous or exciting, but reflects the actions and decisions made by the Board in order to keep our community in good shape.

If you are not already familiar with the Association's covenants, please take a few minutes to read through your HOA package which itemizes every aspect of this community's regulations clearly. When we all honor the spirit of the Association's covenants, we all reap the benefits of a community which retains and grows its value.

Protect Your Water Pipes

Every year, the fire department responds to hundreds of water pipe breaks in this area. Water freezing in cold and hot water pipes can cause serious problems. Prevent frozen pipes in your home with an ounce of prevention.

- Shut off water to unheated parts of the house and to outdoor faucets. Don't forget to drain these pipes. Open cabinet doors and service access ways so heat can get to these hidden areas where pipes are located.
- Leaving a faucet trickling may not prevent freezing. Instead, purchase some UL approved heat tapes for use in unheated areas. Be sure to follow directions exactly.
- Locate the shut-off valves for both the hot and cold water and the power shut off for the hot water heater. In the event a pipe freezes, shut off the water valve to that pipe and to the hot water heater if it's the hot water pipe. Then slowly thaw it out. Don't use a torch. It thaws the water too quickly and weakens the pipe. Room temperature heat and careful use of a hair dryer are good thawing methods.
- If a pipe does break, shut off the water valve right away. Then call a plumber. Call the fire department only if water gets into or near electric outlets or panels, or if the water threatens a pilot light or power to a water heater or furnace.

Plan ahead for a dry, warm and safe winter.

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Advertising in the Armfield Advocate

Advertising rates are as follows:

Business card ad

Per issue for owner/resident	\$5
Per issue for non-resident	\$10

Quarter-page ad

Per issue for owner/resident	\$15
Per issue for non-resident	\$25

Half-page ad

Per issue for owner/resident	\$25
Per issue for non-resident	\$40

Full-page ad

Per issue for owner/resident	\$45
Per issue for non-resident	\$75

To book your space or for further information, contact property manager **Toni Koch** at 385-1133, ext. 3228.



Community Regulations

Elections and the Annual Association Membership Meeting By Toni Koch, Property Manager, Armstrong Management Services, Inc., 385-1133

In the upcoming months, Management and the Board of Directors will be preparing for the Association's Annual Membership Meeting. The meeting will be held in April and will be for the purpose of electing members to the Board.

Last year, the Association had its first big turnout to the meeting in a number of years. We not only achieved the necessary quorum of 118 homes represented in person or by proxy, we far surpassed the required attendance and filled the cafeteria of Lees Corner Elementary School. This was a welcome change from prior years where quorum was only achieved by volunteers knocking on doors at the 11th hour, getting proxies signed, or where the meeting had to be cancelled and rescheduled for another date. It was a pleasure to see so many of you turn out to hear the guest speakers and show your support for the Association.

Remember, this is your meeting. This is the one meeting where you have a voice in all issues on the table for discussion. This is also your opportunity to elect members to your Board of Directors. The Board is composed of five homeowners who make decisions on behalf of the Association. Past Boards, and especially the current Board, have worked long and hard to ensure that the community's quarterly fees remain low, and that members receive the highest level of service and benefits possible. Ideas from homeowners are always appreciated and taken into consideration when decisions are made. You

have a voice by contacting Management or a Board member, by attending the annual meeting in April, or even by nominating yourself or someone you know to run for the Board.

In February, a nominating petition will be sent to all homeowners. If you are interested in nominating yourself to run for the Board, please fill in this petition and return it to Management by the date indicated on the form. Your name will then be placed on the ballot for election at the Annual Meeting.

If you would like to discuss this or any other matter, please contact me at 385-1133, extension 3228; write to me at 3959 Pender Drive, Suite 205, Fairfax, VA 22030; fax me at 591-5785; or email me at tonikoch@armstrong.net.

TASC

Leadership in

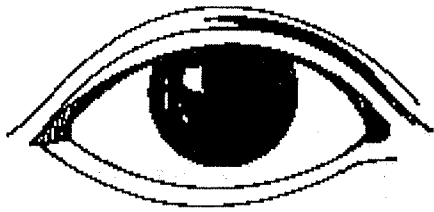
Applied

Information

Technology

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Neighborhood Watch

Preparing for Launch

by Richard Borneman, Neighborhood Watch Committee Assistant Chair, 707-0394

The first meeting of the Neighborhood Watch program was held in October. Seventeen homeowners attended the meeting to express their interest and concern over the safety and security of their families, neighbors, and properties.

Jennifer Lescallett, Crime Prevention Officer at the Fair Oaks substation gave an overview of the Neighborhood Watch program. She expressed the commitment of the Fairfax County Police and gave examples of successful neighborhoods in the program. She also explained a multitude of effective ways that homeowners can get involved. These can best be described as either passive or active, but all are important. The more help we have the more effective they will be.

Everyone Can Help

Anyone can support the program and they don't need to be official members on the rosters (although we certainly would like them to be). A passive role can be played by each of us on a daily basis. Most criminal activity is not noticed and reported by foot patrol programs, but by homeowners who notice and report unusual activity in their neighborhood.

Officer Lescallett made it clear that no call is ever seen as a waste of time by the police department. So please, if you notice any unusual or suspicious activity, call the Fairfax County Police and they will send an officer to check it out. That stranger sitting in a car in your court may not be doing anything wrong, but may be wanted on other charges... you never know. Be safe, not sorry.

Our program is also in need of more volunteers to play a more active role in our Watch program. By active role, I mean volunteers who are willing to give up two hours or so once every other month or less.

The time may be in support of patrolling, putting up signs, creating fliers, making phone calls, and other tasks. The more volunteers we have in this capacity, the lighter the time commitment.

Free Training

All volunteers will need to attend a free Neighborhood Watch training class given and required by the Fairfax County Police. Once the training is complete, the police department will assist us with information and data about ours and other Neighborhood Watch programs.

We had hoped to have had everyone trained before the end of the year, but will need to shoot for the beginning of the New Year instead. All volunteers will be contacted and any new recruits are encouraged to call either **Steve Spero, committee chair** at 437-4006 or myself.

Police Non-emergency: 691-2131

**Emergencies,
Life threatening situations or an immediate
danger: 911**

Crime Watch

The following were among crime reports recently received by the Fairfax County Police Department:

Angelica Court, 1600 block. Cellular telephone taken from parked vehicle.

Beech Down Drive, 3800 block. Stereo and cellular telephone taken from parked vehicle.

Southernwood Court. Christmas lights vandalized.



Fairfax County News

The Cold Facts

Surviving frigid winters can take a toll, even on the hardiest Virginians. Remember recent blizzards? Remember scouring the kitchen for that box of powdered milk you thought you'd put away and bathroom cabinets for hidden toilet rolls? Those inconveniences are minor compared with some disastrous consequences of the cold.

The human body has mechanisms to defend itself from internal cooling, with even a slight drop in temperature triggering regulatory systems to turn up the body's heat through shivering. A decrease in body temperature is known as hypothermia. Those who can't afford high heating bills - often the elderly - are at greatest risk for hypothermia. If you suspect that someone has this condition, call 911 immediately; handle the person gently, removing them from the cold and replacing wet clothes with dry ones; maintain an airway; cover the afflicted person with blankets; do not administer alcohol.

Frostbite is more common, but a less serious result of exposure to the cold. Prickling pain in the extremities, numbness, waxy-white or mottled blue discoloration, hardness and impaired movement are all signs of frostbite. Seek medical attention; remove the victim from the cold elements; very gently remove gloves and socks and cover frostbitten areas with warm hands; if unable to seek medical care, place the affected extremity in water with a constant temperature of 100-105 degrees; cover with a sterile dressing and elevate the injured area on a pillow.

Do not rub snow into a frostbitten part of the body; do not massage a frostbitten area or use dry or radiant heat for rewarming; do not rupture blisters or apply ointment or tight bandages; don't allow the area to refreeze.

If you plan to be out in the cold, play it safe by dressing warmly in layers, wearing a hat and knowing when to come in from the cold.

Snow Notes

Snow Facts: In Fairfax County, there are 6,818 lane miles that VDOT has to clear when it snows. Over 900 workers do the snow removal. Virginia starts the season with 30,000 tons of sand, 50,000 tons of salt and 110,000 gallons of liquid calcium chloride on hand.

Closings: To keep up with what winter's doing to the county, tune in to Channel 16, the Fairfax County Government Channel for closings, bus schedule changes and trash pickup schedules.

Salting Roads: Salt is only effective after snow has accumulated about an inch and the temperature is 20 degrees or higher. Under these conditions, the snow and the salt will mix, melting the snow into slush that can be easily plowed. If the temperature falls below 20 degrees, abrasives are put down for traction and liquid calcium chloride is added to melt the snow and ice.

Sidewalks: Home owners are individually responsible for clearing of snow on sidewalks. VDOT does not undertake this task.

Shoveling Driveways: The best time to shovel one's drive is after a plow has been through the neighborhood. If you shovel before the streets are plowed, shovel to the right, facing the street so that less snow will be pushed back into your driveway when the plow does come through.

Snow Smarts: When snow is forecast, don't park on the street or in the community's cul-de-sacs. Park in your driveway so that plows have room in which to work. During your commute, don't abandon your car unless you absolutely have to. If you have no choice, be sure to leave it as far off the road as possible. Motorists with cell phones can call #77 to report non-emergencies, such as abandoned vehicles. For an update on road conditions in Northern Virginia, call 383-VDOT.

Holiday Enviro-Tips

The Fairfax County Division of Solid Waste Collection and Recycling offers the following seasonal conservation tips:

Reduce Waste

Give from the heart by choosing a thoughtful service or donation. Make a coupon redeemable for your own services (a home-cooked meal, free babysitting) or for professional services (house cleaning, manicure). Or make a donation to charity on someone's behalf.

Prevent waste by choosing quality, long-wearing product. This saves money by avoiding early or frequent replacement of goods.

Reuse

Donate, exchange or find new uses for items.

Reuse wrapping paper, tissue paper, bows and boxes. Wrinkled paper can be used as packing material when mailing gifts.

Make giving a family activity by selecting toys and clothes to donate to a favorite charity.

Recycle

Don't throw away boxes. Instead, take them to a **Fairfax County Drop-Off Center**. For a location near you, call 324-5052.

Put your old Christmas tree out for recycling. It will be turned into mulch and reused. Interested in free mulch? Call 324-5995 for details.

Old Christmas cards can be recycled too, along with mixed paper, at a Fairfax County Recycling Drop-Off Center. The exception is any foil wrapping which would contaminate the mixed paper collected.

Household Battery Disposal

Fairfax County is collecting limited types of household batteries for environmentally safe disposal. This program is not aimed at the common household battery but rather at those batteries which contain these metals: cadmium, lithium, mercury, zinc and nickel.

This program targets household batteries that pose the greatest environmental concern: small "button" (or disc) batteries, lithium batteries, and rechargeable nickel-cadmium batteries.

Acceptable batteries are often found in items such as watches, cordless phones, laptop computers, camcorders, or other similar devices. This program does not collect the more common alkaline type batteries such as those used in radios, toys and flashlights. During the last few years, battery manufacturers have virtually eliminated the mercury content in alkaline batteries, making these batteries relatively benign. Alkaline batteries can be effectively handled by the County's current disposal system.

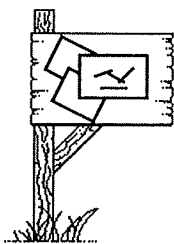
Remember to collect acceptable batteries separately and bring them to a participating County recycling drop-off center or to Household Hazardous Waste drop-off sites. For more information on the program, call the **Division of Solid Waste Disposal** at 324-5230.

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Watch or Warning?

According to the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, a Winter Weather Advisory indicates 0-4 inches of snow and slippery road conditions. On residential streets, plowing to bare pavement is completed up to 12 hours after the storm ends. Four to eight inches of forecast snow will lead to a Winter Storm Warning with the threat of hazardous roads. Residential streets are made passable (the road will be snow packed with only one travel lane plowed) up to 24-36 hours after the storm ends. When a Winter Storm

Warning is followed by 8-12 inches of snow, plowing begins 24 hours after the end of the storm. A Blizzard Warning heralds 12-18 inches of snow, with plowing in residential areas commencing 36-48 hours after the storm passes. In the case of a Blizzard Warning which is followed by 18-24 inches of snow, plowing begins 48 hours after the storm ends in neighborhoods. Finally, when treacherous roads ensue after a Winter Weather Advisory for freezing rain or ice, sanding and salting begin up to 24 hours after the storm ends, as needed.



Services and Resources

Congratulations!

The Armfield Farm community has undergone a recent population explosion.

Community residents **Neville** and **Martha Crenshaw** welcomed triplets to their family. **Veronica Martha** (5 pounds, 3 ounces), **Parker Neville** (5 pounds, 13 ounces) and **Zachary Albert** (6 pounds, 11.5 ounces) were born November 28 at George Washington University Hospital.

Dan and **Jo Gordon** of Beech Down Drive welcomed **Shoshana Eve** to their family November 24. A little sister for **Joshua** (3), Shoshana weighed in at 7 pounds, 1 ounce. She was born at Inova Fairfax Hospital.

Clark and **Janna Robinson** welcomed **Catherine Jeanette**, a sister for **Christopher** (2), who weighed in at 7 pounds on December 18.

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Armfield Directory

Board of Directors

Deborah Broderick, President	709-8360
Dan Gordon, Secretary	709-8237
Mauricio Herman, Treasurer	834-0723
Ann Meier, Vice President	478-3490
Rob Strupp, At Large	471-1152

Armstrong Management Services

Toni Koch, Property Manager	385-1133 ext. 3228
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Architectural Review Committee

Lee Caslavka	736-0908
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Grounds Committee

Terri Donovan	834-1136
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Neighborhood Watch

Steve Spero	437-4006
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Pool Committee

Sue Kovalcik	318-0677
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Social Committee

Vacant

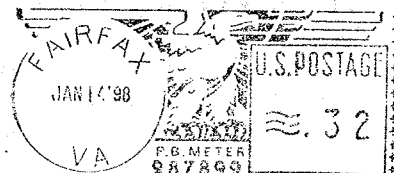
Swim Team

Deborah Broderick	709-8360
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Newsletter Editors

Jeannette Bomeman	707-0394
Jo Gordon	709-8237

Armstrong Management Services, Inc.
3959 Pender Drive, Suite 205
Fairfax, Virginia 22030



On the Calendar...

Board meetings are held on every third Tuesday of the month and open to all residents. During the summer, meetings are held at the pool house; otherwise, at Armstrong Management Services' offices, located at 3959 Pender Drive, Suite 205, Fairfax, in the conference room.

HOA Board Meetings

January 20
February 17
March 17

BEECH DOWN DRIVE
CHANTILLY VA 20151-3314