

Armfield Farm Connection

WINTER 2010

President's Message



In this issue, I want to give everyone an update on the status of the special parking district for our community. The special parking district will prevent large trucks, trailers, RV's, and boats from parking on our streets for more than 2 days at a time. We are very close to getting all of the signatures needed to qualify for the parking district. We have already gathered the required 60% of the community and have almost 51% of every block.

It has been a lot of work, since the Fairfax County Department of Transportation carved our neighborhood up into blocks of 5-10 houses. As of the last count, we needed about 6 more signatures in various parts of Armfield. We will be posting the addresses we need on our Facebook page as well as emailing them out. If your house is on the list and you are willing to sign the petition, please let me know.

We have budgeted for a few major repairs this Spring. We will be fixing the large cracks in the Tennis courts and repainting them. We will also be repairing the surface of one of the basketball courts. If you have items you want us to consider for repairs in 2011, please send a note to president@armfieldfarm.org

Rob Shear
President
Armfield Farm HOA

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We're on the web!
armfieldfarm.org

Upcoming Events At A Glance

JANUARY

- 24 - Electronics Recycling, I-66 Transfer Station, 10-3pm
- 28 - HOA Meeting, Capitol Property Management, 7pm
- 26 - Washington Post Career Fair, Dulles Expo Center
- 29-31 - Sugarloaf Crafts Festival, Dulles Expo Center
- 31 - Groundhog Celebration, Kidwell Farm, 2-3:30pm

FEBRUARY

- 5-7 - Golf Show, Dulles Expo Center
- 6-7 - Virginia Wine Showcase, Dulles Expo Center
- 7 - Board Game Day, Kidwell Farm, 2-4pm
- 25-28 - Home & Garden Show, Dulles Expo Center
- 25 - HOA Meeting, Capitol Property Management, 7pm
- 28 - Electronics Recycling, I-66 Transfer Station, 10-3pm

MARCH

- 6-7 - DC Big Flea, Dulles Expo Center
- 19-21 - Super Pet Expo, Dulles Expo Center
- 25 - HOA Meeting, Capitol Property Management, 7pm
- 28 - Electronics Recycling, I-66 Transfer Station, 10-3pm



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If your property is currently listed for sale with a broker,
this is not intended as a solicitation of the listing.

Recent Home Sales (courtesy of Rosemary Graham)

Street	List Price	Sold Price	Subsidy *	Model	Close Date
Gladwyn Ct	\$383,900	\$396,000	\$11,800	Folkstone	Oct 2009
Rosetree Ct	\$548,500	\$530,000	\$10,000	Cavendish	Nov 2009
Beech Down	\$359,900	\$382,700	-	Falmouth	Nov 2009
Armfield Farm Dr	\$370,000	\$370,000	-	Falmouth	Dec 2009

* Seller payment on behalf of the purchaser

Community Connection



Earlier last year, to increase the sense of community, the Homeowners Association created a social networking group for the community on the popular web-site Facebook.com.

Facebook is a social utility that connects people and groups to publicize events and exchange information. Due to the snowstorm, we were able to reach out and let the community know that Santa's Fire Truck visit on the 19th had been canceled. There are already over sixty members as of this printing. To join, please search for "Armfield Farm Homeowners Association" on the www.facebook.com webpage.

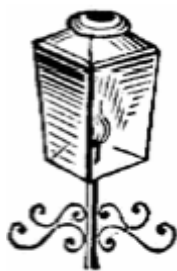
Gas Mantles

Many of the gas lamp posts in our neighborhood have one or more of the mantles missing. Our new ARB guidelines require them either to be lit or the light be converted to electricity with a sensor to turn it on automatically at night. In order to help residents obtain the mantles, we have purchased a stock of them and our management company will resell them at cost for \$5.00 per set. You can pick them up at:

Capital Property Management
3914 Centreville Road
Chantilly, VA 20172
703-707-6404

Please bring a check made out to Armfield Farm HOA for \$5.00 as they do not accept cash or credit cards at the office.

They are open Monday - Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.



You can also purchase them yourself at:

Acme Stove
7026 Commerce Street
Springfield VA 22150
703-644-2288
www.acmestove.com

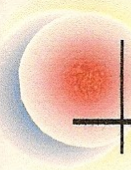
The manufacturer is Modern Home Products (www.mhpgrills.com/lamps.html).

If you need help getting them installed, want to have them converted or have a mechanical problem with the lamp, you can contact: Buck Riley at 703-670-8622. He is certified by Washington Gas to repair the lamps and charges about \$57.50 to clean the lamp and install new mantles.

Holiday Decorations

Now that Christmas is over, we would like to remind all our neighbors to please make sure that your decorations should be up no longer than **30 days after the holidays**.


Also, remember that it's a good idea to periodically check your gutters, downspouts, and drainage lanes to help with runoff from snow melt.



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Battery Disposal & Recycling (1-800-8-Battery)

Alkaline batteries - The everyday household batteries used in flashlights, remote controls, and other appliances. Labeled "alkaline," the size can be AA, AAA, 9v, D or C. Alkaline batteries may be disposed of safely in your household trash. This is because today's alkaline batteries have been re-engineered and reformulated to a very low toxicity.

Rechargeable batteries (*If you can recharge it - you can recycle it!*) - Rechargeable batteries are commonly found in cordless power tools, cellular and cordless phones, laptop computers, digital cameras, two-way radios, camcorders, and remote control toys. Labeled "rechargeable," the size can be AA, AAA, 9v, D, C or be specially designed for a particular device. Please recycle your rechargeable batteries at the Sully District Office at 4900 Stonecroft Blvd.

Button batteries - These small, round "button-cell" type batteries are found in items such as watches, hearing aids and some cameras. Residents may take their button batteries to the Household Hazardous Waste Facilities at the I-66 Transfer Station Complex at 4618 West Ox Road.

Kids @ Work

Armfield Farms presents Kids @ Work — space for youth under the age of 18 to promote their services within the neighborhood.

Whitney Blankenship	703/419-0170	Swim Lessons*
Kendall Douel	703/389-9749	Babysitting *
Nick Gashel	703/867-5242	Babysitting, Swim Lessons*
Aimee Giel	703/344-6183	Swim Lessons *
Bart Gonzalez	703/853-0939	Personal Trainer for adults or teens
Christina Gonzalez	703/853-0940	Babysitting, Dog walker
Marissa Gonzalez	703/853-0940	Babysitting, Mother's helper
Josh Gordon	703/709-8237	Babysitting, Swim Lessons, House/Pet Watcher *‡
Deanna Jefferson (16)	703/478-0054	Babysitting
Sharese Jefferson (17)	703/478-0054	Babysitting
Thelma Jefferson (13)	703/478-0054	Babysitting
Wes Kerbusk	703/850-6810	Swim Lessons *‡
Lauren Kessier (17)	571/234-2555	Babysitting / Nanny
Alec Martin	703/318-3245	Babysitting, House/Pet Watcher
Christina Mastracchio (10)	703/391-0821	Mother's Helper
Nicole Mastracchio (13)	703/391-0821	Swim Lessons
Cassie Morton	703/282-7582	Baby & Pet sitting, Swim Lessons *‡
Lauren Phillips (15)	703/785-8916	Babysitting
Lark Sine	703/803-9722	Babysitting / Dog Walker

* CPR Certified ‡ Swim lessons at Cub Run available

Parents, please discuss who your teen is working for and when. They should be in the Armfield neighborhood. It would be great to discuss wages, responsibilities and availability as well. Please contact Mariann Gonzalez at m.gonzalez@cox.net to be added or removed from the list.

Warning Signs of Heart Attack During Winter Storm Cleanup

Stress and strenuous physical activity can increase the risk of heart attacks among those experiencing the impacts of a natural disaster. As Virginians cope with winter storms, the Virginia Department of Health asks those performing heavy physical activity to be aware of the warning signs of heart attacks.

While some heart attacks are sudden and intense, many heart attacks start slowly with mild pain or discomfort. If you or someone you are with begins to have chest discomfort, especially with one or more of the other signs of a heart attack, call 911 right away.

Warning Signs of a Heart Attack

Chest discomfort—Most heart attacks involve discomfort in the center of the chest that lasts more than a few minutes or that goes away and comes back. It can feel like uncomfortable pressure, squeezing, fullness or pain.

Discomfort in other areas of the upper body—Symptoms can include pain or discomfort in one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw or stomach.

Shortness of breath may occur with or without chest discomfort.

Other signs include breaking out in a **cold sweat**, **nausea** or **light-headedness**.

What to Do?

If you or someone you are with shows one or more of these signs, don't ignore them. Call 911 to get medical help right away. Calling 911 is almost always the fastest way to get life-saving treatment. Emergency medical services staff can begin treatment when they arrive, up to an hour sooner than if someone gets to the hospital by car. EMS personnel are also trained to revive someone whose heart has stopped. You'll also get treated faster in the hospital if you arrive by ambulance.

Spring Renovation Planning

The Architectural Review Board is an important part of our Homeowners Association. Their goal is to make sure our neighborhood is in line with HOA guidelines - so that we can keep up our home values and keep the community looking great. The ARB has been very busy this year working with homeowners on replacing garage doors (which need to match the original color or the home's trim) and reviewing shed applications on a case-by-case basis.

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If you are planning any renovations on your home's exterior this coming Spring, please plan ahead and contact the ARB via email (see page 8) and find out if you need to submit an application. It's better to be sure up front rather than gamble on having to fix things later!

If you are interested in volunteering for the HOA, the ARB is looking for new members to help out reviewing applications and/or taking over as ARB chair.

Halloween Party

A big thank-you to everyone who helped make the Halloween event a huge success. We had enough notice to move the party to Sunday to avoid the rain and got a beautiful day. The patch pumpkin painting was fun and every pumpkin went home to decorate a porch or table. Our parade was well attended and we plan to have a boom box next year, blasting out "The Monster Mash." Trick-or-treating at the playground (well, next to it due to soaking wet mulch), was terrific fun and all the kids got stickers and sweets. Our volunteers, both adults and kids, were great. Everyone was responsible, on time, enthusiastic, and we had everything cleaned up in half an hour.

Spring Yard Sale -- Big Changes Afoot!

In the past, the community has only advertised a date for the yard sale and each household wanting to participate has loaded up their driveway with their things. It seems that fewer people are participating these days, so we are going to try doing a true community yard sale this year - in the parking lot of the community pool.

Each person who wishes to sell will be assigned 2 parking spaces in the lot so that all buyers can go to one central location and wander around. We will be assigning parking spaces on a first-come-first served basis about a month in advance. This will give everyone lots of time to tag and decide what to get rid of for spring cleaning.

So save the date for a weekend in early June. The date will be posted on the website, Facebook site and in the Spring Newsletter as soon as it is selected.

Snow Removal FAQ

Where do I call about getting my street plowed?

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) is responsible for plowing the public roads (interstate, primary, secondary, residential) 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. These public roadways can typically be identified by a route number sign posted at street intersections. Please contact VDOT's Northern Virginia District Office for additional information (703-383-8368, TTY 711).





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Snow Removal FAQ Continued

What about snow removal on my pipestem driveway?

Pipestem driveways are privately owned and maintained by the property owners on the pipestem. Snow removal is the property owners' responsibility.

Who is responsible for clearing snow from the sidewalks in my neighborhood?

Neither the state nor the county clears snow and ice from public walkways (sidewalks and trails). While not legally obligated, residents 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, dog walkers and the elderly, may walk securely.

For more snow removal information, please visit:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/navbar/faqs/snowremoval.htm>

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www.armfieldfarm.org
www.facebook.com

Things to do this winter

Oh, the weather outside is frightful. But that doesn't mean you need to stay indoors all season!

There are plenty of fun (and educational) things to do around town like catching a Capitol Steps or DC Improv comedy show, visiting the Spy Museum, Madame Tussads Wax Museum, the Smithsonian Museums in DC or the Air and Space Museum just down the road on Rte 28. While you're there catch an IMAX movie or a new release. And with all the tourists gone until summer, it will definitely be less crowded.

If you are in the mood for mittens and scarves, check out the Reston outdoor Ice Skating Rink in Reston Town Center and finish the outing off with a cup of hot cocoa and some window shopping.

ROCKNOCEROS plays every Wednesday in Vienna at the Jammin' Java Café and GMU Men's Basketball and Capital's Hockey have rousing sporting events to attend.



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Neighborhood Concerns

If you have concerns about any of the homes in your area that are unoccupied and need County attention, please contact the HOA Board. You may also submit complaints and/or ask questions directly to the County at the Fairfax County Neighborhood Concerns website:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/faqs/concerns.htm>