

ARMFIELD



ADVOCATE

Summer 1999

What's Happening!

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SPECIAL MEETING

Regional storm water management pond to be built in our backyard

by Deborah Broderick, HOA President

Fairfax County has proposed to place a Regional Storm Water Management Pond in our Community to benefit "other communities." If approved, the natural wooded area and creek (a.k.a. Cain Branch Tributary), that separates our neighborhood from Franklin Middle School would be eliminated and replaced with a storm water pond. The pond's purpose would be to collect and hold excessive water from properties across Centreville Road, and other areas. The homeowner's Board is opposed to this proposal for the following reasons:

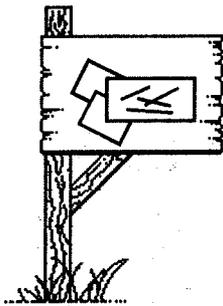
1. The Pond was originally planned to be placed on the West side of Centreville Rd. where it logically belongs, but the supporters of Sully Plantation found that a drainage area was unsightly and unacceptable to the historic Sully Plantation. Their opposition caused its proposed relocation to our neighborhood. Likewise, we find it unsightly and don't want it on our property, particularly since we receive no benefit from it.
2. In 1996, the Homeowner's Board requested help from Fairfax County in maintaining the creek. The County refused to provide any assistance declaring that the property belonged to the Homeowner Association. They can't have it both ways.
3. Several of the sports fields that are used by our children at Franklin Middle School, and that are already in short supply throughout the County, would be eliminated by the placement of this unsightly Pond.
4. Our community already has an adequate storm water management pond that the County required us to have when the community was built. Why should we bear the burden of having two ponds?

We want the County to put their proposed pond on the other side of Centreville Road; where the property is still largely undeveloped, where it is intended to have the most benefit, and where it would have little to no impact on Fairfax County residents.

Community support is crucial in defeating this proposal. A representative from Fairfax County Public Works Department and a Representative from Michael Frey's office will be at the meeting to present their proposal and to answer our questions. We believe it is possible to defeat this action - but we need your support. Please come to the meeting on **Wednesday, August 25th, 1999, at 7:00 p.m.** at the Pool House.

Letters in opposition to this proposal can be sent to our County Representatives. Sample letters . (With addressed envelopes) are available at the Pool House (and are on line at eneighbors.com. Please take a few moments to help your community.

We appreciate your support.



Community Update

Social Committee News

by Beth Brummett, Social Committee

The Social Committee would like to thank....



Armfield Farm's very own "Bunny Man" Joe Sherrier. Joe did a wonderful job entertaining the kids at the Easter Egg Hunt held earlier this year.

Annette Rhoads and Mary Swanbery for completing their term as co-chairs of the Social Committee. Under Annette and Mary's expert leadership, the committee has organized and hosted a variety of social events throughout the year for all the families in the neighborhood to enjoy. In addition, they have been successful in increasing the committee membership to more than double the size from the original seven members to sixteen at the last count!

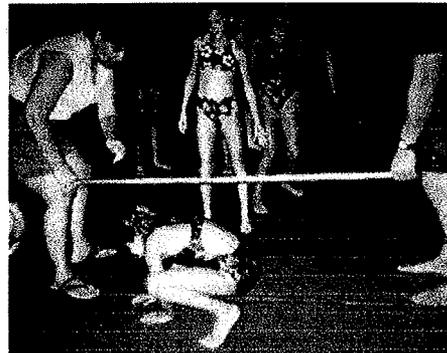
Peggy Cook who has volunteered to take Annette's place as a co-chair of the Social Committee. (We are still looking for a replacement for Mary's co-chair position. Any takers?)

Heather Makris and Lisa Clem who served on the committee during the past year helping out in so many ways. Unfortunately for us, these two wonderful volunteers have moved away from the neighborhood. We all wish them a fond farewell.

Congratulations! Congratulations are also offered to Social Committee member Kim Reardon and her husband Pat on the birth of their son Nicholas on July 3rd.

You Scream, I Scream, We all Scream for Ice Cream!!!
The Social Committee hosted two Ice Cream Socials at the pool this summer. The first Ice Cream Social of the year was held on the evening of Sunday, June 6th. The weather was hot, the ice cream cold, and the turn out good. The second social was held in the afternoon of Sunday, July 11th on a less humid day.

Annual Summer Pool Party This popular event was held at the Pool House on Saturday, August 7th from 5:00 until 10:00 p.m with an estimated 400 people in attendance. The recent drought held off any chance of rain and large a crowd remained until the bitter end of the night. There was great food, fun, games and prizes! This free event only asked each family bring a desert to share.



Ms. Tara Symth uses an interesting technique during the limbo contest at the pool party.



Kids, lifeguards—all enjoyed line dancing at pool the party.

Many thanks to the following merchants who supplied door prizes and contest awards: Milwaukee Frozen Custard, Papa Johns Pizza, Popeyes, The Backyard Steakhouse, Bungalow Billiards, China Cafe Dan's Golf Shop, Giant Food, Kiari's Coffee, Memphis Bar-B-Q, Pho'90, VIP Nails, Burger King, Subway, and Blockbuster Video.

Lots of volunteers beyond the social committee were needed to make the party successful and they came through to help out with all the activities. Many thanks to everyone involved in making this years party the biggest and most successful ever.

Future Events The social committee will be planning additional events for the fall and winter including a Halloween Parade and a visit from Santa. Please watch for information on these activities in the next *Armfield Advocate* and on notices posted at the entrances to the community. Again, we'd like to extend an invitation to those of you in the community who may be interested in joining us or giving us suggestions. You need not volunteer "full time;" if you choose, you can select specific jobs or activities. We could really use your help. If you are interested, please call Peggy Cook at 318-7261 or Mary Swanbery at 435-8207.

Editor's Notes

Good-bye to a good friend and neighbor...

by Jeannette Borneman, (707-0394)

It is with a heavy heart, that I publish the following resignation of my good friend and cohort of the neighborhood newsletter, Jo Gordon. Jo and I have worked together for nearly four years to bring the community news about activities and concerns of the neighborhood. I felt it best to let her tell you in her own words.

For myself, my family and I will be leaving the neighborhood at the end of the year. Expecting our third child in September, we felt the need to take advantage of lower interest rates and purchase a larger home for our growing family. Accordingly, I will lead the newsletter until the end of the year. Of course, the board and myself are anxiously looking for a few good neighbors to take over the newsletter in the meanwhile.

If anyone is interested in helping on this committee, please contact Jeannette Borneman, 707-0394 or via email, jeaniee@earthlink.com

From: Jo Gordon

Effective immediately, I am resigning as co-editor of the Armfield Advocate. I have enjoyed making a contribution to the community for the past four years, but feel that it is time to pass on the baton.

Attached, (see Letters to the Editor in the next column) please find a letter to the newsletter from Earl Chisa, an Armfield resident and our neighbor. I knew that Mr. Chisa's letter to the Advocate in the last issue was a direct stab at Dan and me. However, in writing my last column under Editors' Notes, I made no reference to this relationship whatsoever. The only person who could have made such a connection was Mr. Chisa himself.

While Mr. Chisa's letter is not the reason for my resignation, it does contribute to my feeling that I have spent a lot of hours and put a lot of energy into re-establishing the newsletter as a serious communication forum in this community. However, the newsletter could use a fresh perspective, and I certainly do not want it to be perceived as a personal mouthpiece. I have always believed that the Advocate must remain an objective forum in which all issues can be addressed fairly. I continue to hold that view.

I will continue to be an active participant in this community's affairs, and would be happy to offer advice to anyone wanting to assist in the compilation of the quarterly Advocate.

Letters to the Editors

Power of the Pen!

I had forwarded two concerns over a "Community" situation for the last issue of the Armfield Advocate but apparently the editor responded as though it was an "Individual" situation. I suppose if the shoe fits, then wear it. It is unfortunate though that one cannot use this medium of communication to express their thoughts without the editor taking free license to attack the writer in the Editor's Notes. Again, it is a shame that they are without values. I see now why folks choose not to participate in the medium as we don't hold the pen. I shall cease any further communication with the Advocate.

Earl Chisa

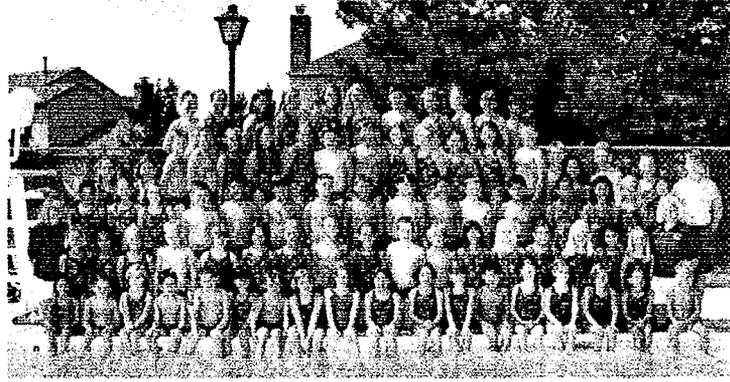
Beech Down Drive

If you have any thoughts that you would like to see published in the *Armfield Advocate*, please send them to Jeannette Borneman, 3632 Beech Down Drive or via email at jeaniee@earthlink.com. Or you may send them to Armstrong Management, c/o Bob Schultz for the Armfield HOA Newsletter Editor, 3959 Pender Drive, Suite 205, Fairfax, Virginia 22030. Please note that occasionally, letters may be edited for space or clarity as needed, but generally are published as they are received.

Newsletter needs help!

The Armfield Advocate is in need of a few good people to help write and compile our quarterly publication. While the job could be done by one person, two or three would be really great and easier to accomplish. All copying and mailing is handled by our management company.

Currently, volunteers working on the newsletter contact board and committee members about story ideas and deadlines, write short articles about activities and events not covered by the committees or to supplement what has been provided. The layout design is currently done on a home computer so any volunteer who has one would be a big plus. If you are interested, please contact Jeannette Borneman, 707-0394.



The 1999 Armfield Swim Team!

Armfield Swim Team A short but fun season

by Sue Kovalcik, Pool Committee Chair

Roughly 100 children made up this years swim team, many of whom were new making this our youngest team yet! The kids were coached by Lauren Giel and Michele Kovalcik with supervision from Heather Moore. Heather is the swim coach for the Mako Swim or Win program where our coaches swim competitively year round.

The swim season was a little shorter than normal this year due to the later county school closings—remember all those make up days? Consequently, there were fewer meets this year. Still the kids were out to have fun, beat the heat and learn to swim better, which they did. The season culminated with a Divisional meet and then an All Star Meet. The Armfield team was pleased to send about 15 kids to the All Star meet.

Many thanks to all the parents who supported the kids and the swim program this year. And especially thanks to the residents who had to endure the pools closing for home meets three times this year.

Neighborhood Watch New leadership needed

Over the past two years the Neighborhood Watch committee has struggled to get started. New members, have come and gone, unpredictable weather maladies, and obtaining time with our police contacts have hampered our efforts.

Unfortunately, job commitments and a recent decision to leave the neighborhood will prevent Richard Borneman from leading this committee to its goals. If you have some outstanding ideas or are just concerned enough about our community to make this program work, please contact Richard Borneman, 707-0394 or Bob Schultz at Armstrong Management, 385-1133 x 3268.

Armfield Receives New Property Manager

by Barbara Brown, Director of Management Services

Valerie Hockensmith recently requested to be relieved of her duties as community manager. In an effort to provide the best service for the Armfield HOA a new manager has been hired for the association.

Robert Schultz has assumed the managerial responsibilities for the community. Robert is a very capable, professional community manager. He comes to Armstrong with experience as a portfolio manager and as an on-site manager of a large high-rise condominium. Valerie has been working with Robert, updating him on the issues and action items for the community. They have completed a site visit and have spoken with a number of vendors that service the property. Valerie is planning to stay with Armstrong Management in a different role and will be available to work with Robert to achieve a smooth transition. Robert can be reached at 385-1133, x3268.

**Armfield residents may
contact Robert Schultz at
385-1133, ext. 3268.**

Armfield Homeowners Association Annual Meeting

This year's meeting was held on May 21, 1999 outside the Pool House at 7:30 pm. until 9:00pm. Reaching the mandatory quorum proved tough, but obtainable as many residents ran around to gather more neighbors to ensure we made it. Team work at its best! Thanks to all those unnamed heroes that made that happen.

The past year and the future Deb Broderick, president of the Armfield HOA, addressed the Board's and the community's accomplishments of the past year, and the future plans and goals.

Report of Treasurer Mauricio Herman, Treasurer of the Armfield HOA, addressed the status and outlook of the Association's finances.

Political report Joe Mays, our district's state Congressman, addressed the political gains and losses in the Virginia general assembly, and how they affected our district.

Our Future Projects Dan Gordon, Secretary of the Armfield HOA, addressed some past, current, and future projects within the community. These included:

- The completed installation of the new playground at the pool and the future installation of two new benches and trash can for the area.
- The installation of the volleyball court.
- The future installation of the sprinkler system on the pool house grounds.
- The future renovation of all remaining tot-lots in the



This year the board held our annual meeting outside the pool house grounds to announce intentions of looking into building a new community center for the community.



Board members, Dan Gordon, Ann Meir, John Mullins, and Mauricio Herman wait to be introduced by our president, Deb Broderick (not pictured).

community.

- The future installation of the multi-way stop signs on Beech Down Drive.
- The future renovation of the entrance signs.

Social Committee Ann Meier, vice-president of the Armfield HOA, addressed the current accomplishments and future plans of the social committee. These included:

- The Santa Claus fire truck community visit.
- The Easter Egg Hunt.
- Ice cream socials.
- The summer pool party.

Swim Team Report Maureen Polivka addressed swim team issues. These included:

- Introduction of swim team coaches
- Swim team registration
- swim team fund raisers

A new pool house and rec center John Mullins, at-large member of the Armfield HOA, addressed the future plans for the expansion and renovation of the pool house. These included:

- Multi-season facility
- Budgeting for this project
- Presentation and review of architectural drawings

New Business Queries, concerns and statements from the community were addressed. Some of these included:

- Topics from all of the above mentioned items in the agenda.
- Speeding and blockage by occupied vehicles on Beech Down and Armfield Farm Drive.



Worth Noting

Tips for tree care during drought

Fairfax County's trees do more than add to the beauty of the landscape. They cool homes and streets, filter out pollutants, remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and provide homes for wildlife. But trees need care, especially during periods such as the current extended, region-wide drought.

The Fairfax County Urban Forestry Branch offers these tips for tree care during this time of diminished water supplies:

Prioritize your watering to trees planted in the past three years or trees with stress factors such as limited root zone area or previous damage. (During drought conditions, limit watering of trees and shrubs to the amount needed to maintain plant health.)

Water only the soil under trees since watering leaves or trunk can cause fungus growth.

Use a soaker hose, hand-held spray nozzle or water-filled buckets/milk jugs with pint sized holes in the bottom, placed under the tree's canopy. Sprinklers are not recommended for watering trees because they water too large an area and can get tree leaves and trunk wet.

If water runs off the soil surface, reduce the watering rate. To assess the amount to water, use this rule of thumb: a four- to six-inch screwdriver should be able to penetrate the soil after watering. If it does not, increase the frequency of watering.

To conserve water use, place mulch three inches deep in the area under the canopy of each tree, being careful not to place mulch against the trunk.

For future planting, choose native trees, which will require less maintenance and survive better in drought periods.

Although Fairfax County does not currently have mandatory water restrictions in place, the County has instituted conservation measures to restrict water consumption at all County-owned facilities in order to demonstrate County government's commitment to easing the current region-wide water shortage. The County is seeking to set an example in its conservation efforts.

For further information about the County's conservation program, call the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services at 324-5033.

Conserve water for you and the environment

Current drought conditions, brought on by last year's dry fall and winter weather, below-average rainfall, and record low flows in the Potomac River, are causing local residents to look for ways to conserve water and reduce water bills.

Although the Fairfax County Water Authority has been closely monitoring water availability and does not feel that a water emergency exists currently, the County is encouraging residents to use water prudently and not be wasteful.

Water Conservation Tips

Repair leaks in toilets and faucets.

Run dishwashers and washing machines with full loads.

Install water-saving devices such as faucet aerators and low-flow shower heads.

Turn off the water while shaving and brushing teeth.

Limit shower time to two to three minutes.

Keep a container of water in the refrigerator to avoid running water for a cold drink.

Defrost frozen food in the refrigerator or microwave instead of running water over it.

Use a broom, rather than a hose, to clean sidewalks and driveways.

Avoid excessive outdoor watering.

Repair or replace leaky hoses and hose connections.

Police Non-emergency: 691-2131

Emergencies, Life threatening situations or an immediate danger: 911

Back to school

The following information was gleaned from the Fairfax County Schools Web site. You can visit the web site at <http://www.fcps.k12.va.us/> or contact the superintendent at 246-2991.

Chantilly Back to School Nites

Chantilly High	Tues	9-14	7:00
Franklin Middle School	Thur	10-7	7:00
Rocky Run Middle School	Tues	10-5	7:00
Rocky Run Middle School	Thur	10-7	7:00
Lees Corner Elementary	Wed	9-15 - K-2	7:30
Lees Corner Elementary	Thur	9-16 - 3-6	7:30

Fairfax County School Calander

Sept. 7, 1999	School Begins
Oct. 11	Columbus Day Holiday
Nov. 2	Student Holiday
Nov. 10	First Grading Period Ends*+
Nov. 11, 12	Student Holidays
Nov. 15	Second Grading Period Begins*
Nov. 24	Students Released Two Hours Early
Nov. 25, 26	Thanksgiving Holidays
Dec. 23-31	Winter Vacation
Jan. 17, 2000	King's Birthday Holiday
Jan. 28	Second Grading Period Ends*+
Jan. 31, Feb. 1	Student Holidays
Feb. 2	Third Grading Period Begins*
Feb. 21	Washington's Birthday Holiday
April 6	Third Grading Period Ends*+
April 7	Student Holiday
April 10	Fourth Grading Period Begins*
April 17-21	Spring Vacation
May 29	Memorial Day Holiday
June 19	Graduation on or after this date*
June 21	Last Day of School*+##

*Schools are open.

+Report cards are provided to parents at the end of each grading period and at the end of the school year.

#Date subject to change if more than three school days are lost because of inclement weather.

'2000 trees by 2000'

Fairfax County residents will vie for district awards as well as contribute to environmental quality by participating in a new citizens tree planting initiative, "2000 Trees By 2000." The initiative, launched by the Fairfax County Tree Commission, has the goal of planting at least 2,000 trees in each magisterial—or supervisory—district and at least 20,000 new trees County wide by the year 2000.

Tree nurseries throughout the County are offering 10 percent discount coupons for trees purchased for the "2000 Trees By 2000" program. The Tree Commission will present awards to the first magisterial district to reach 2,000 tree plantings and to the district that plants the most trees. Tree plantings that are required for development projects will not count toward the competition total.

The Tree Commission initiated the program to combat the alarming loss of trees and forest cover in the County. Trees help improve air quality, cool urban areas, combat noise pollution, control soil erosion, increase soil fertility, improve water quality and provide homes and food for wildlife.

The Tree Commission has published a brochure describing the competition and containing a reporting form for tree plantings. The brochure is available from the offices of members of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. For further information, call the Tree Commission at 324-1770.

Photo system will monitor stoplights

In case you have not heard, The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has approved an amendment to the County Code that authorizes the use of photo monitoring systems for traffic light signal violations. The amendment became effective earlier this year.

The Virginia General Assembly passed legislation authorizing qualifying jurisdictions to utilize a maximum of 25 traffic light signal photo monitoring systems at a time to identify and issue summonses to drivers who do not stop for red traffic lights. Violations are considered traffic infractions and are punishable by a fine of up to \$50. They do not result in points being placed on the operator's driving record.

For further information about the monitoring system, call the Fairfax County Department of Transportation at 324-1135.

Odds & Ends

Armfield Advocate Submissions

The next issue of the *Armfield Advocate* is scheduled to be published in October 1999. Editorial submissions must be received by no later than October 15, 1999. Your submissions are most welcome. They may be made electronically to jeanie@earthlink.com, or by fax to 709-1497. Interested advertisers should contact Robert Schultz at 385-1133 for advertising information. The deadline for advertisements is October 15 as well.

Have a gripe or a compliment? Write a letter to the editor and we'll include it in the next issue. Planning a yard sale, seeking a baby sitter or play group? Let us know. Are you new to the neighborhood or have you had a new baby? Share your news and we'll pass it on.

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
John Mullins, Member at large	787-8714

Armfield Farms Web Site

Tom Polivka	742-6121
http://www.eneighbors.com/afarms	

Armstrong Management Services

Robert Schultz	385-1133 x3268
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Architectural Review Committee

Charlie Dutton	787-8324
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Neighborhood Watch

Richard Borneman	707-0394
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Grounds Committee

Terri Donovan	834-1136
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Pool Committee

Sue Kovalcik	318-0677
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Social Committee

Peggy Cook	318-7261
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Mary Swanberry	435-8207
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Swim Team

Deborah Broderick	709-8360
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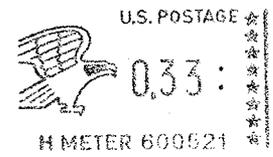
Newsletter Editor's

Jeannette Borneman	707-0394
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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 are open to all residents. Meetings are held at the pool house during the Summer and at Armstrong Management Services' offices, located at 3959 Pender Drive, Suite 205, Fairfax, at 7:30 p.m.

HOA Board Meetings
Sept 21

**Special Community Meeting -
Storm Water Pool**
Aug 25, 7 pm at the Pool House

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BEECH DOWN DRIVE
CHANTILLY VA 20151-3314

20151+3314 1.44