

ARMFIELD



ADVOCATE

A Newsletter for the Armfield Farm Community in Chantilly, Virginia

Summer 2001

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Stingrays Off With a Splash

By Cheryl Caslavka, Swim Team President

The 2001 Stingray Swim Team is off to a great start, having won its first divisional meet of the season. The team is 102 members strong this year! Our swimmers come from 70 different families and range in age from 4 to 18 years old.

The team is extremely fortunate to have Niels Moore as head coach this season. Niels, his wife Heather, and their two children live here in the Armfield community. Together, they are the owners of MAKO Swimming, a winter program at George Mason University. Recently, Niels was named Head Coach for Chantilly High School for the upcoming school year. His experience and expertise have been a significant asset to the Stingrays.

Our fabulous staff also includes assistant coaches Lauren Giel and Carrie Zill. Lauren returns for a third coaching season, having completed her freshman year at James Madison University. Carrie, the newest mem-

(STINGRAYS: Continued on page 3)

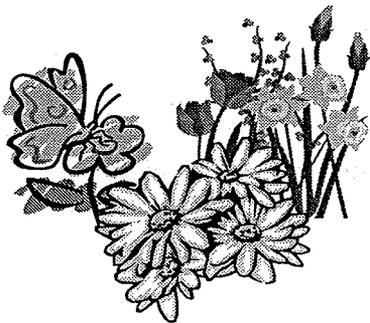
Summer Events

By Peggy Cook

Family Pool Party

This is our biggest community event of the year, so mark your calendars for Saturday, August 11th from 5pm-10pm. This popular event is sure to provide fun for the entire family. There will be a DJ, moon bounce, basketball free throw game, swim relays, games and door prizes. As usual, lots of food will be provided, including dinner and deserts. Please bring your own beverages. Sign up sheets will be available at the pool. Please sign up so we know how many people to plan for. There is a big difference in planning food for 50 vs. food for 400. Rain date is Sunday, August 12, 4pm—9pm. We will need plenty of volunteers to help out during this event, even if it is for only 15 minutes to make sure the bowl of chips is full.

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Important Contacts

Community Manager

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Armstrong Management
Services, Inc.
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Fairfax VA 22030
Voice 703-385-1133
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Board Members

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Dan Gordon
703-709-8237

Vice President:

Dennis Kazuba
703-904-0845

Treasurer:

Charlie Dutton
703-787-8324

Secretary:

Marieann Machida
703-708-7194

Member-at-Large:

Paul Malherek
703-481-8188

Social Committee

Peggy Cook
703-318-7261
Kim Reardon
703-707-9317

Architectural Review Committee

Marge Goldman
703-435-2391

Swim Team

Cheryl Caslavka
703-435-3939

The Armfield Advocate is
produced by Jennifer Whitehead.
E-mailed comments welcome:
newsletters@cox.rr.com

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Teen Pool Party

At the request of community members, the first teen pool party was held on June 30th. The event was originally planned for June 23rd but was postponed due to predictions of bad weather and thunderstorms. The event was enjoyable and neighborhood teens danced until the sun went down. Pizza from Papa Johns and sodas were provided. Door prizes were handed out too.

Door Prize Winners at the Teen Pool Party

- \$5 Milwaukee Frozen Custard Gift Certificates went to Mike Meier, Whitney Fentem, Rachel Phillips, Phillip Caslavka and Carol Johnson.
- \$15 Tower Record Gift Certificates went to Harrison Smyth and Amanda DeCenzo

Thank you to all of the chaperones who provided assistance at the event. The Social Committee greatly appreciates your help and could not put on these events without assistance. Special thanks to Ellen and Tom Smyth, Beth Brummett, Cheryl Caslavka, Mary Swanberry and Kathy Karonis.

Ice Cream Social

The annual ice cream social was again a great success. On June 19th, an ice cream social was held in front of the pool house. In celebration of the end of the Fairfax County school year, residents gathered to enjoy a cool treat and play on the playground. In all, over 170 bowls of ice cream were sold at \$1.00 a bowl including all the toppings. This year there was plenty of ice cream to go around and everyone seemed to enjoy the evening.

Adult Pool Party

The second annual Adult Pool Party was held on Saturday, July 14th from 7:30 -11:30 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres and munchies were provided and a professional DJ was on hand to spin some "discs" from the "olden" days. Approximately 60 people attended this event, which provided a wonderful opportunity for the neighborhood's adults to kick off their shoes and enjoy a fun and relaxing evening with their neighbors.

What is the Social Committee?

The Social Committee is a group of volunteers from the community who plan events. Members are very dedicated and donate considerable time to planning events for the enjoyment of the community. Please consider helping out at one of our events. Volunteering for just 15 minutes helps to share the load. Please sign up at the pool to volunteer, or call **Peggy Cook** at (703) 318-7261 or **Kim Reardon** at (703) 707-9317.

Thank You to the Social Committee members: Beth Brummett, Melissa DeLeon, Mariann Gonzalez, Dawn Donnelly, Beverly Himm, Julie Kim, Caren Martin, Polly Murray, Pam Peratin, Chere Pheifle, Annette Rhoads, Jana Robinson, Mary Swanberry, Jennifer Griese, and Ellen Smyth.

(STINGRAYS: Continued from page 1)

ber of our coaching staff, will be a senior at Fairfax High School this fall.

We appreciate the community's support for the fundraising events held this year. The team has sold spring flowers, had car washes, run concession stands, and sold delicious gourmet pretzels and cookie dough. The success of these programs has helped to keep our registration fees down so that more families are able to participate.

In addition to swimming and fundraising, the Stingrays have a variety of social events planned, including a movie outing, a trip to Splashdown Park, Ice Cream Socials, team parties, and a "Fun Meet". We look forward to a fun and successful swim season.

Our Swim Team...



Annual Meeting Recap

The annual membership meeting was a great success. More than 140 homes were represented, either in person or by proxy. The quorum requirement was easily met. Thanks to all who sent in their proxies or attended. The winner of the \$100 door prize was the owner of 3802 Beech Down Drive. They received a gift card from Home Depot.

The candidates for seats on the board of directors introduced themselves and spoke of their ideas for Armfield. Then followed a lively discussion on numerous community issues. The tally of votes resulted in election of Dan Gordon and Paul Malherek to three-year terms. Dennis Kazuba was elected to serve two years and Charlie Dutton got a one-year term.

In a later board meeting, Dan Gordon was elected president for 2001-2002. Dennis Kazuba was named vice-president, Marieann Machida will serve as secretary and Charlie Dutton is treasurer for the upcoming year. Paul Malherek will serve as "member-at-large."

The membership also overwhelmingly supported giving the board of directors the authority to sign documents approving permanent dedication of the end of Springhaven Drive as a cul-de-sac.

NOTICES!

Does your teen have a summer business that needs promotion? Do you have some good news, such as the birth of a new baby, or a daughter's wedding, that you'd like to share? Are you trying to organize a play group or bridge club? **LET US KNOW!** The Armfield Advocate will publish your notice **FREE OF CHARGE**. Join us in building our community. Please contact Marieann Machida at (703) 708-7194 if you have something you'd like to submit to the Armfield Advocate.

CLASS RING FOUND

A lady's class ring for Chantilly High has been found near the pool. If you lost one, call 703-318-7261 to describe and claim it.

SUMMER READING FUN

The Fairfax County Public Library has a program where children who read 15-20 books during the summer can earn prizes including gift certificates from area merchants for ice cream cones etc. Check at the Chantilly branch library for details.

The web site is:

www.co.fairfax.va.us/library.

Summer Safety

By Marieann Machida

Who among us can't remember at least one special summer from when we were kids? Summer days filled with swimming, camping, biking and hiking; summer nights filled with clambakes and barbecues, clear starry nights and the sound of crickets. Summer is a wonderful time of year that gives us a chance to enjoy the outdoors in a special way. Summer is also the time of year, however, when seemingly harmless activities, such as walking barefoot and riding a bike at dusk, put you and your children at risk. In order to keep this special time of year accident-free, keep in mind these general rules:

1. Cook food thoroughly. Barbecues abound in the summer, but the chance that food will appear to be fully cooked when it is not is far greater when cooking over an open flame. Be sure to prevent food poisoning by cutting your burger or chicken in half to check doneness; simply slitting the top will not give you a good enough look at the center of the meat. And keep an instant meat thermometer handy. For maximum safety, ground beef should be cooked to an internal temperature of 160 degrees and chicken should be cooked to 180 degrees.
2. Apply sunscreen early and often. We all know that we need to make sure our kids put on their sunscreen before they get to the pool or the beach, but did you know that it takes 20 minutes for sunblock to take effect? Try slathering yourself and your kids with sunscreen before leaving the house, and reapply sunscreen at least every two hours, even if the lotion claims to be good for a longer time.
3. Never leave your children unattended in the pool or at the beach. Even strong swimmers can go too far, tire or misjudge waves. Since drowning is the second leading cause of accidental death in children 15 and under, don't assume your kids are just fine in the water.
4. Make sure drivers can see you. Dusk is one of the hardest times of day to see. That means that children and pedestrians playing or walking near traffic need to make an extra effort to be visible. Thus, even if it is still light out, make sure you and your kids apply reflective strips to clothing, bikes, scooters, helmets and skateboards. Once the sun goes down, make sure that the kids are playing in the yard only.
5. Add padding to play areas around your home. If you have a swing set or jungle gym, protect your kids by adding a layer of mulch, wood chips or sand, at least a foot deep, extending six feet from all sides of the equipment.
6. Don't go barefoot. In addition to the possibility of stepping on a rusty nail, just as your grandmother warned, there is the possibility of stepping on shards of glass from broken bottles, stinging insects and poison ivy, all of which can cause tremendous discomfort or a trip to the emergency room. Public swimming pools and showers can expose your feet to athlete's foot and other fungal infections. Do yourself a favor and wear slip-on shoes in the shower, changing room and the pool area.

Architectural Committee News

By Charlie Dutton

Here is a summary of applications reviewed in 2000 and this year to date:

Item	2001 YTD	2000
Roof replacement	5	13
Trim color change	4	8
Fence	4	11
Shed	1	0
Deck	2	5
Siding color change	2	16
Screened in porch	0	1
Gazebo	0	1
Front porch/roof over door	0	2
Miscellaneous	1	2

When submitting an ARC application, please remember to provide as much information as possible, and obtain the required signatures of your adjoining neighbors. For trim or siding color changes, please provide a color sample. In most cases, the ARC approves the applications that are submitted for review unless insufficient information is provided. The ARC will attempt to contact the homeowner for clarification or more detail, if possible, but the more information provided the better.

Marge Goldman has assumed the position of ARC Chairperson from Charlie Dutton. Regular meetings will move to the first Tuesday of each month. Applications may be sent to Michael Meagher at Armstrong Management or Margaret Goldman. She can be reached at 703-435-2391.

Community Improvement Plan in the Works

By Marieann Machida

The Armfield Board of Directors has begun developing a comprehensive five-year Community Improvement Plan for the Armfield Farm community and we need your input! If you have an idea about how to improve the grounds and facilities in our community, let us know. Suggestions should be forwarded to Michael Meagher at michael-meagher@armstrong.net. Please include "Armfield Community Improvement Plan" in the subject line.

Attention, Parents of Pre-teens!

Are your kids already complaining they are bored this summer? Are you sick of having gobs and gobs of kids at your house? Have we got a deal for you!!!

How about planning a pre-teen pool party for the community (ages 8-12)? It's easy!

1. The Social Committee will give you the "recipe" (pizza + sodas + music + chaperones = pre-teen fun) and all the information you'll need, plus the funding.
2. You get together with other parents to plan and work the event.
3. An afternoon or evening with lots of good, wholesome fun for you and your preteen.

Call **Peggy Cook** at (703) 318-7261 if you are interested in chairing the planning and implementation for this event.



On a completely different note...

Hungry, anyone? Summer is the best time for fresh fruit, particularly fresh raspberries. If you're having company, or just want to serve something special for the family, here is a delicious and simple recipe to try out at home.

Raspberry Sour Cream Tart

Crust:

8 whole graham crackers, coarsely broken
 1/4 cup (packed) golden brown sugar
 1/4 cup (1/2 stick) unsalted butter, melted

Filling and Topping:

6 ounces cream cheese, room temperature
 1/3 cup sugar
 1/2 cup sour cream
 2 teaspoons fresh lemon juice
 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
 2 1/2-pint baskets fresh raspberries
 1/4 cup seedless raspberry jam

For the crust: Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Grind crackers and sugar in food processor until coarse crumbs form. Add butter and process until crumbs are evenly moistened. Press crumb mixture firmly onto bottom and up sides of a 9-inch-diameter tart pan with removable bottom. Bake until crust is firm to touch (about 8 minutes). Cool crust on rack.

For the filling: Using an electric mixer, beat the cream cheese and sugar in a medium bowl until smooth. Beat in the sour cream, lemon juice and vanilla. Spread filling in cooled crust. Chill until firm (at least 4 hours). You can make this one day ahead, if you keep it covered and chilled. For the topping: Arrange berries over the filling. Whisk jam in a small bowl until it reaches a loose consistency. Drizzle jam over the berries. Serve immediately or chill up to 3 hours.

An Informed Community

By Dennis Kazuba

While walking through almost any part of our community, one is struck by the diversity of cultures we have within our boundaries. As we go about our daily business we see community signs and notices at the pool house and take for granted that our community is being well informed. However, many residents may have difficulty with the English language and therefore miss out on opportunities for participating in community events and understanding homeowner responsibilities.

Parents who would like to have their children take swim lessons may miss out if they cannot read posted signs and mailed flyers. Community events like our recent yard sale and pool parties may enjoy increased participation through simple translation. As part of our commitment to improving communication, your HOA Board would like everyone to be equally informed. To this end, we are asking for volunteers to participate in translating information for those who request it.

The Board would like to put together a list of bilingual residents, along with their phone numbers and the languages that they are able to interpret in our next newsletter. If you can help, please contact a Board member or send your information via email to: michaelmeagher@armstrong.net.

To those who volunteer we say: "Thank you for helping our community to be better informed and allowing everyone to share in the pleasures and responsibilities of living in Armfield Farm."

Board Notes

By Dan Gordon, President, Armfield Board of Directors

Here follows a summary of board activities for the months of April and June 2001. A regular Board meeting was not held in May because of the annual association meeting. Homeowners interested in viewing complete minutes should contact Armstrong Management Services where these will be made available.

Administrative

- Violation letters were sent to homeowners for the following:
 - 4 x Christmas lights need to be removed.
 - 3 x Rotted wood trim and garage doors.
 - 2 x Debris/storage in front of house.
 - 1 x Dog defecating on common area and owner not cleaning up afterwards.
 - 1 x Structure built in backyard without necessary ARC approval.
 - 3 x Fence in need of repair.
 - 1 x Broken mailbox.
 - 5 x Trash can stored in front of house.
 - 14 x Yard maintenance issues.
- The Board held a meeting with the Pool Manager and Lifeguards prior to the opening of the pool to discuss pool management issues.
- Management solicited a competing proposal for the association's insurance

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(BOARD NOTES: *Continued from page 6*)

coverage. The competing bid from Community Association Underwriters was higher for the same coverage. The Board voted to renew the association's insurance policy with Nationwide for a yearly premium of \$3,444.

Operations

- The Board approved the purchase of fifteen new umbrellas for the pool.
- The Board rejected a request to seek approval of all homeowners to consolidate trash collection services with one company.
- The Board approved the proposal for new perimeter lights at the pool. A majority of the original lights had been vandalized over the winter season.
- The Board held a meeting with representatives of NV Pools regarding several issues. NV Pools has made some personnel and procedural changes in the hope that these changes will improve the operations.
- The Board approved the submission to VDOT of a landscaping plan for the Centreville Road side of the storm management pond.

Financial

Financial statements and delinquency reports were approved.

WANTED: LOCAL CHILDCARE

Are you looking for day care for your children? Have you thought about providing childcare services for others in the community?

In an effort to assist Armfield residents, we are going to try something new this year. If you need childcare or if you would consider providing childcare for others in your home, simply contact community manager Michael Meagher at (703) 385-1133 ext. 3268; or e-mail michaelmeagher@armstrong.net no later than August 15th.

Provide your name, address, phone number and state if you are seeking childcare or are willing to provide childcare. Shortly after Au-

(CHILDCARE: *Continued on page 8*)

Teen Pool Party...



(CHILDCARE: Continued from page 7)

gust 15th, a list will be mailed (or e-mailed, if available) to all those who responded. The list can then be used by residents to connect with one another in a way that will benefit both parties.

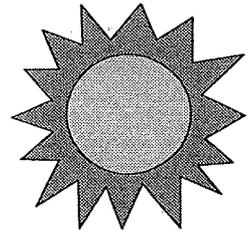
Remember, it is the responsibility of parents and childcare providers to do appropriate screening to ensure that all applicable standards are met. Childcare providers on the list will not be screened by the Board or by our community manager.

Message from the President

By Dan Gordon

There has never been a better time to live in Armfield, and it is a great privilege for me to continue to serve on the Board of Directors. On behalf of the community, I'd like to extend a warm welcome to new board members Charlie Dutton (Treasurer), Dennis Kazuba (Vice-President) and Paul Malherek (At-Large), and a hearty thank you to Marieann Machida (Secretary) for continuing to serve us well. The efforts of the many volunteers that serve on our community's several committees are very much appreciated.

Please don't hesitate to contact a Board member to offer constructive advice, criticism or information, to make suggestions or to offer your services as a volunteer. Enjoy the rest of the summer and I look forward to seeing you at the family pool party!!



Armfield Farm Community
c/o Armstrong Management Services, Inc.
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