

Armfield Farm Connection

SUMMER 2010

President's Message



Happy Summer everyone! We have had a very warm start to the season and it has made the water at the pool very enjoyable. We are very excited that most of the pool staff is back again this year including our pool manager, Martha and assistant manager, Nick. We are continuing to require a photo ID or a photo on file at the pool to use the facility. The photo should be 4" x 6" and include all the members of your family. If you are a renter, the

homeowner should fill out the pool transfer form for you to be able to use the pool. Extra copies are available at the pool.

We had a very successful annual meeting in May. About fifty people attended in person and almost another 100 people returned their proxy forms. This was the highest participation in many years. I really appreciate everyone doing their part to ensure we met the required 25% quorum. I would like to thank our two new board members, Susan Hanson and Ken Liu, for volunteering their time to help make our community a better place.

As I mentioned in my last article, Charlie Dutton decided to step down as Architectural Review Committee chairperson. I am very excited to announce that Harry Furney, a long time member of the committee, has agreed to take over as chairperson. The ARC plays a vital role in maintaining the look and feel of our community.

We are planning a few major repairs this summer. We have already signed a contract to repair the cracks on our tennis courts using a high-tech tape system.

(continued on page 10)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|------------------|----|
| Upcoming Events | 2 |
| Home Sales | 3 |
| Kids @ Work | 5 |
| Swim Team | 9 |
| Parking District | 11 |

We're on the web!
armfieldfarm.org

Upcoming Events At A Glance

JULY

- 3, 10, 19, 21, 24 Home Swim Team Meets / Time Trials
- 4 Pool Party, Noon-2pm
- 9-11 Collectors' Showcase, Dulles Expo Center
- 22 HOA Meeting, Capitol Property Mgmt, 7pm
- 24-25 DC Big Flea, Dulles Expo Center
- 25 Electronics Recycling,
I-66 Transfer Station, 10-3pm

AUGUST

- TBD Annual Pool Party
- 20-22 Int'l Gem & Jewelry Show, Dulles Expo Center
- 22 Electronics Recycling,
I-66 Transfer Station, 10-3pm
- 26 HOA Meeting, Capitol Property Mgmt, 7pm

SEPTEMBER

- 23 HOA Meeting, Capitol Property Mgmt, 7pm
- 24-26 Capital Home Show, Dulles Expo Center
- 25 Document Shredding,
Sully District Office, 9-2pm
- 26 Electronics Recycling,
I-66 Transfer Station, 10-3pm

Fourth of July Barbeque

Our next event will be the 4th of July BBQ at the pool house from 12 to 2pm. In case of rain, we will have it the next day. Like last year, there will be food from Dave's BBQ, streamer decorating and fun. In addition, we are having some live music! Wander over and have a bite with us before you head off to where-ever you plan to watch the fireworks.

Annual Pool Party - August TBD

The Summer Pool Party in August is a long-standing tradition in the community. Almost everyone comes out for this one! We have committee members ready to take off, but we need a point person for the whole event. Please write to our Social Chair, Kay Shear, at kayshear@mac.com if you are interested in volunteering to coordinate this event, or just coming and helping out for an hour. Look for signs at the community entrances once the date is confirmed.

Spring Fling Recap

We had a fantastic time at this year's Spring Fling! Due to requests from residents to have events appeal to older kids, some changes were made in the activities. We had a professional face painter who didn't stop working until every child got decorated and she was great!! A magician set up his table under the willow tree at by the tennis court and he amazed the crowd with laughs and tricks. There was a moon bounce obstacle course that

kids of all ages loved. And, of course, treats!! Thank you, thank you, to all our volunteers! They made cupcakes and bought icing and sprinkles. They monitored the cupcake decorating and the moon bounces. The clean up and setup were quick and easy with so many hands! It was a fun event for those who stayed and those who dropped by.

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Community Yard Sale Recap

On June 12th, a dozen residents packed up their wares and headed to the pool grounds or set up shop in their driveways. Due to requests from members on some of the smaller courts and drives, we held our first centralized group sale to draw in potential buyers. And come in they did, as over a hundred cars of shoppers made their way to the pool. Carpets and rugs were the big sellers, with one family noting that they sold enough items to create a playroom for their child. We look forward to doing it again next June.



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Recent Home Sales (courtesy of Rosemary Graham)

| Street | List Price | Sold Price | Subsidy * | Model | Days on Market |
|--------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| Beech Down | \$534,990 | \$525,500 | \$0 | Falmouth | 5 |
| Springhaven | \$450,000 | \$444,000 | \$12,000 | Mosby | 27 |
| Old Chatwood | \$599,000 | \$590,000 | \$5,000 | Belgrave | 4 |
| Old Chatwood | \$609,900 | \$595,000 | \$11,900 | Belgrave | 8 |
| Southernwood | \$548,000 | \$545,000 | \$0 | Greenwich | 4 |
| Windmoore | \$599,000 | \$590,000 | \$3,500 | Belgrave | 3 |

* Seller payment on behalf of the purchaser

Avoiding ID Theft

Our keynote speaker for the Armfield Farm HOA annual meeting was Delegate Tom Rust (86th District) who represents the northern and eastern sections of the community. Rust reported that state budgets will continue to be very tight and many areas like road construction and aid to counties may suffer. In addition to his discussion of the financial shape of the Commonwealth, he addressed the growing issue of identity theft. Delegate Rust was himself a victim, like several other lawmakers and many Virginians. For a guide on precautionary steps and the pamphlet of information that was provided, please contact the Delegate office at 703-437-9400 or see www.oag.state.va.us/FAQs/IDTheftBook02.pdf

***Want to know more? Meeting minutes available at
www.armfieldfarm.org***



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Summer Fun

One of the tastiest ways to experience summer in Fairfax County is through various Farmers Markets. With 12 different locations throughout our community and a variety of products including hive honey, pasture-raised meat, garden-fresh vegetables and flowers, this is a great way to buy from local farmers and eat healthy this summer. More information about the Farmers Market can be found at:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/wp-farm-mkt.htm>.



Another great opportunity you won't want to miss is all the free summer Entertainment in the Parks! Through generous contributions from local businesses and corporations, the Fairfax County Park Authority in partnership with the Board of Supervisors presents a summer-long calendar of shows, concerts, and movies. The music is diverse and includes jazz, bluegrass, and rock among many others. There are plenty of opportunities for children and families with puppet shows and classic movies viewed on an outdoor screen. By visiting



visiting <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/>, you can search by genre and performance type to find your perfect summer show.

Kids @ Work

Armfield Farm presents Kids @ Work — space for youth (18 or under) to promote their services within the neighborhood. Please sign up at the community pool to update your information and/or confirm your listing. The list will be refreshed every few issues.

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| Kendall Dovel (18) | 703/389-9749 | Babysitting |
| Christina Gonzalez | 703/853-0940 | Babysitting, Dog walker |
| Marissa Gonzalez | 703/853-0940 | Babysitting, Mother's helper |
| Josh Gordon (16) | 703/861/8332 | Babysitting*, Swim lessons*, Yardwork |
| Bryanna Kerbuski (16) | 703/850-3487 | Babysitting |
| Wes Kerbuski (18) | 703/850-6810 | Swim lessons, Yardwork |
| Casie Morton (17) | 703/282-7582 | Babysitting, Pet sitting and walking |
| Megan Rhoads (14) | 703/471-6895 | Babysitting, Pet Care |
| Nicole Rhoads (16) | 703/471-6895 | Babysitting |

*CPR and/or instructor certified

Parents please discuss who your teen is working for and when. They should be in the Armfield neighborhood. It would also be great to discuss wages, responsibilities, and availability. Please note that while offering this space, the Armfield Farm HOA does not endorse any advertiser to include those through Kids @ Work.

Special thanks to Mariann Gonzalez, who is retiring from organizing this column, for all of her previous support of Kids @ Work and being the genesis of this section of the newsletter. She has not only connected kids to good jobs, but made Armfield Farm a better community.

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To our Armfield Farm Neighbors,

The *Armfield Farm Homeowner's Association (HOA) Guidelines*, as laid out in the association's *Architectural Design and Maintenance Standards*, have been written with the intent of assuring homeowners that the character and appeal of the neighborhood is maintained. This in turn, protects property values and enhances the community's overall environment.

As a reminder to residents to maintain their property, we have listed on the backside of this letter some of the guidelines that are most frequently overlooked by our homeowners and renters. Additionally, we remind homeowners & renters that any **architectural and/or exterior changes require an application and approval**. To gain approval for changes, submit an application to the Architectural Review Board (ARB) using the *Armfield Farm Homeowners Association Exterior Alternations Application* (related changes can be included on the same form).

The *Armfield Farm HOA Board* and *Capital Property Management Company* are committed to ensuring that residents remain compliant with the guidelines set forth in the association's *Architectural Design and Maintenance Standards*. If/when compliance is not followed, applicable penalties will be applied to homeowners and renters who violate the guidelines.

For complete details of the **HOA Guidelines**, go to: www.armfieldfarm.org The *Application for Exterior Alterations* form is located within the HOA guidelines, page 36, or contact the property management office at:

Dan Gordon, CMCA
Capital Property Management
3914 Centreville Road, Suite 300
Chantilly, VA 20151
PHONE: 703-707-6404
FAX: 703-707-6401

Thank you for complying with these guidelines and regulations set forth by *Armfield Farm Homeowners Association*.

Things to remember when living in the Armfield Farm neighborhood...

(Guidelines will be enforced; penalties will be applied to the violations.)

TRASH

Trash containers must be stored so that *they are not visible from the street* or in public view.

Yard debris and trash containers are to be placed at the curb no earlier than 6:00 pm or dusk, *on the evening before pickup*. At all other times, trash containers and yard debris are not permitted to remain in public view.

LAWN/GARDEN

Turf areas and lawns are to be mowed and trimmed at regular intervals, maintaining a height of up to four (4) inches. Trimming around foundations, lampposts, garden edging, and sidewalk and **curb edging is required.** Trim-mings must be removed.

Flower and plant beds must be kept in a neat and orderly manner, including trimming of shrubbery. When mulch-ing, use only shredded/chipped wood or natural color stone, *not white*.

Vegetable gardens must be located between the rear line of the house and the rear property line. All gardens must be neatly maintained, including the removal of stakes, weeds, trellises and dead growth.

Approval is required for all natural or man-made exterior decorative objects located in front yards/flower beds, or which are visible from the street. Exterior objects include items such as: bird baths, ponds, fountains, wagon wheels, sculptures, statues, lighting, light fixtures, stumps, driftwood, fee standing poles of all types, decorative signs, gingerbread and/or additional moldings that are attached to the house.

Gas lanterns that burn out must be replaced. Replacements wicks are available at Capital Property Management Office.

HOME EXTERIOR

Continued maintenance of the exterior of the house and other structures is required. This includes decks, fences, sheds, playground-type equipment, driveways, mailboxes, walkways, gas lanterns, paint and/or rotting wood of trim, garage doors, etc.

Approval is required for all exterior color changes. This includes changes to siding, doors, concrete, shutters, trim, roofing, garage doors and other exterior structures.

Storm/screen doors must be full-view and compatible with the architectural style of the house and the entry door. Doors can be the same color as the entry door or immediate surrounding trim, white, black or brown.

All windows in the house must have grids (mullions) or NO grids at all. The exterior appearance of all windows must be consistent, meaning that partially missing or broken grids are not permitted.

Homes with **single car garages cannot expand the width of their driveway** to accommodate two cars. Driveway entrances also cannot be widened.

STORAGE

Firewood must be kept neatly stacked and located to the rear of the residence, within owner's property line and not readily visible from the street.

Storage of lawn or snow removal equipment, barbecue grills is not permitted in the front or side yard.

MAILBOXES/FENCES

Mailboxes must be straightforward in design and mounted on simple natural wood or metal posts. Posts may be natural or painted in earth tone colors of black, dark brown, dark green or the same color as the trim* of the house. (Trim is defined as the fascia boards and window trim. Trim does not include siding, shutters and front door colors.)

All fences must be constructed from unpainted wood or wood treated to withstand the elements and they must be maintained. *White vinyl fences and chain link fences are not permitted.*

HOME BUSINESS

Home-based businesses that attract large numbers of vehicles to the neighborhood are not allowed. Fairfax County permit is required, no signs or other advertising device is allowed, and no exterior storage of business-related materials is allowed.



SCHEDULE

June 26th — "A" at Manorgate

June 30th — "B" vs

Chantilly Highlands

July 3rd — "A" vs

Chantilly National

July 7th — "B" at

Franklin Farms

July 10th — "A" vs Chase Club

July 14th — "B" at Chase Club

July 17th — "A" at

Sequoia Farms

July 21st — "B" vs Manorgate

July 24th — "A" vs

Hayden Village

July 31st — Divisionals at

Chase Club

August 7th — All Stars at

Countryside

Saturday meets start at 8am

Wednesday meets start at 6pm

Community Connection

One year ago, to increase the sense of community, the Homeowners Association created a social networking group for the community on the popular website Facebook.com. This past month, the group welcomed its **100th member!**

Recent discussion topics and event alerts have included extended pool hours, opinions of home improvement vendors, and police activity. Armfield Farm residents are truly working to put the "social" in "social networking."

Facebook is a social utility that connects people and groups to advertise events and exchange information. To join, please search for "Armfield Farm Homeowners Association" on the www.facebook.com webpage.

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Swimtastic Stingray News

The summer swim season is currently underway for the Armfield Farm Stingrays, but it's not too late to join! Afternoon practices began June 1 and will continue through June 25, with morning practices beginning regularly on June 28. Both morning and afternoon practices will be held on June 25 to accommodate everyone.

We are very proud of our excellent coaching staff! Phil Caslavka is our Head Coach, Austin Caslavka and Mallory Sofastail are our Assistant Coaches, Nawal Kassem is our Jr. Assistant Coach, and Matt Louis is our JRay. All are very enthusiastic, driven and committed to the success of each swimmer.

Through fundraising efforts, the swim team purchased pull buoys and a 31" pace clock this year. **Pull buoys**, also known as leg floats, are a figure-eight shaped piece of foam that is placed between the legs of the swimmer. It provides support to the body (without kicking the legs) and allows the swimmer to focus on training only their arms. This is an excellent device for developing endurance and upper body strength. The **pace clock** will allow swimmers to perform interval sets during their swim workout. It will also help them assess their swim improvement. We hope that these purchases will continue to aid our swimmers for years.

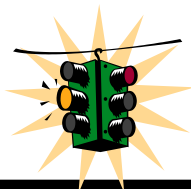
When you visit the pool this summer, you might also take notice of a new mural that was painted under the sign-in desk to match our swim team logo. The sign reads "Home of the Stingrays" with our fun Stingray logo and the words "Armfield Farm" above the ray. The artist for our logo is Savannah McMullen, a 2009 Westfield graduate who has now completed her first year at Duke University. With her help, we hope to make similar artistic improvements throughout the season around the pool house.

Our first "A" meet is scheduled for Saturday, June 26 at 8 AM and our first "B" meet is scheduled for Wednesday, June 30 at 6 PM. As many of you already know, when we host home meets on Wednesday evenings, the pool closes early to allow for set-up and preparation. For a complete schedule of our Wednesday meets, practice times, or to register your child, please visit our website at: http://csl.nvblu.com/plasma/core/site/csl/grp/csl_armfield.

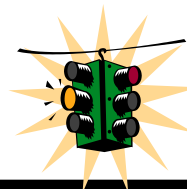
Feel free to come by the pool and cheer your neighborhood team on to victory or come out to volunteer! The meets are truly a blast!

SWIM TEAM PRACTICE TIMES!

4:15 pm - 5:30 pm for our 10 & Under Swimmers
5:15 pm - 6:30 pm for our 11 & Older Swimmers



Watch for Kids at Play
Put down your phone and slow down while
driving in Armfield Farm



From the President (continued from page 1)

The tennis courts will also be repainted and new nets and posts will be installed. The courts will close for a little over a week during the repairs. Dates for the closure will be posted at the courts as soon as the install date is confirmed. We are also looking at replacing the rusting fence at the pool this season.

We are open to suggestions on what other repairs and upgrades to prioritize for the next few years. We are currently planning on repairing and repainting the basketball courts at the corner of Springhaven and Beech Down Drives next spring. We do not have any firm plans after that, but we could look at things like repaving some parts of our walking paths, adding more shade at the pool, or upgrading some of our older playgrounds. Please send your suggestions to me at president@armfieldfarm.org or post them on our Facebook page.

Rob Shear
President
Armfield Farm HOA

Stay Safe from Copperheads

An unusually high number of copperhead snakes have recently been reported in Fairfax County. Copperheads are venomous snakes that are found here and throughout Virginia.

Copperhead snake bites have been reported across Fairfax County in the Dranesville (Riverbend Park), Hunter Mill (Reston), and Springfield (Clifton) Districts. Typically, reports of snake bites (and sightings) peak between August and October when baby copperheads are hatching.

It's important to remember that while death from snake bite in Virginia is extremely rare, a bite can be painful and cause a number of symptoms such as; swelling and bruising, sweating, weakness, nausea, vomiting, muscle twitching and a metallic taste in the mouth. It is important to seek medical attention if you or your pets are bitten.

The Fairfax County Wildlife biologist recommends the following safety tips:

- Keep grass and vegetation mowed short on private property – Snakes like to hunt in tall grass

- Stay on the sidewalk and park trails
- Supervise children at all times
- Do not approach a copperhead – NEVER pick up a snake
- Keep dogs on leash at all times
- Do not overturn rocks or logs
- Wear appropriate protective clothing when outdoors

If you are bitten by a snake:

- Stay calm
- Do not apply a tourniquet
- Keep body part immobilized and level with heart
- Seek immediate medical attention

For more information on copperheads or other local wildlife, please visit:

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/living/animals/wildlife.

For more information, or to report a copperhead incident, contact Vicky Monroe, the Fairfax County Wildlife Biologist, at 703-324-0240.

| | | | | | | | | |
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Community Parking District Approved by Fairfax BOS

In the past several years the entire Fairfax County area has had to deal with an increasing number of commercial vehicles parked in residential neighborhoods. In our neighborhood particularly we have seen numerous boats and other trailers parked on the side of the roads.

On May 25, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors approved our Community Parking District. Signs were posted in mid-June so the new limits are in effect. A 30 day warning period will occur before fines are issued. Anyone seeing a vehicle or trailer on our streets after the limits go into effect should call the Fairfax

County Police Department (Fair Oaks District) non-emergency number at (703) 691-2131 to report the vehicle to be ticketed.

This parking district will help us make our neighborhood safer for pedestrians (especially children), and keep up our residential appearance. Many thanks go out to those who helped canvas the neighborhood and get the signatures of the majority of Armfield Farm homeowners.

It is also worthwhile to note that as we were completing our parking district application, the county also passed legislation limiting public streets parking for all commercial vehicles within Fairfax County.

(Please be aware that commercial vehicles are allowed during construction or for other works in progress. Short term waivers may be available for overnight parking.)

***Thanks to everyone who
attended or sent their proxy
for the annual meeting!***

Board of Directors:

President

Rob Shear
president@armfieldfarm.org

Vice-President

Steve Snyder
vicepresident@armfieldfarm.org

Secretary

Greg Seiler
secretary@armfieldfarm.org

Director

Susan Hanson

Director

Ken Liu

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Architectural Review Board

Harry Furney
arc@armfieldfarm.org

Social

Kay Shear
social@armfieldfarm.org

Communications

Michael Hanson
communication
@armfieldfarm.org

Website

www.armfieldfarm.org

Meet Your New HOA Directors

On May 27th, the Armfield Farm HOA elected two new directors for its Board.

Susan Hanson is a six-year resident of the community (Beech Down Drive) and is an engineer/analyst with The MITRE Corporation. Last year, she co-chaired the Communications Committee and expanded the newsletter. In her personal time, Susan enjoys swing dancing with her husband and playing with their eight-month-old son.

Ken Liu is an eight-year resident of the community (Southernwood Court) and is a Program Manager at AT&T. He is a member of the American Chemical Society, Senior Member of IEEE, and the former President of the Nanjing University Alumni Association for the Washington Metropolitan Area. Ken is glad to be serving on the Board to make his contribution to the community.

Welcome and congratulations!



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How are we doing?

If you know a neighbor who missed out on this issue, direct them to our website: www.armfieldfarm.org. This and other recent issues are there.

If you have any suggestions or events you want to see posted to the newsletter, Armfield website and/or to the Facebook website please email us at communication@armfield.org

Would you like notification of future issues via e-mail?

Contact communication@armfieldfarm.org