

MAY 2017

HOLLIN HILLS BULLETIN

If you're not a
Civic Association member,
why did you get this newsletter?

**IN MAY,
EVERYONE
RECEIVES
THE BULLETIN**

It's our way of reminding
all residents of
our membership drive.

IT'S CAHH MEMBERSHIP SEASON— HERE ARE 9 REASONS YOU SHOULD JOIN

IT'S A BARGAIN

- For about 37 cents a day, (just \$125 a year) you and your whole household can participate in the CAHH (Civic Association of Hollin Hills), the governing body of our unique and wonderful community. Only CAHH members are entitled to vote on future plans and activities that will affect the whole community.
- A widely representative CAHH is vitally important to the health and coherence of our community. Membership is not compulsory, as it is in many other communities, but without wide participation, Hollin Hills could eventually become just another impersonal subdivision.

YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES HELP TO:

- Pay for popular Hollin Hills social events, including the Winter Potluck, the 4th of July Parade and Picnic, and the Oktoberfest celebration.
- Provide funds for the maintenance of Hollin Hills' 30+ acres of parks and common areas.
- Support the administration of our architectural covenants. To

see how important this is, just look at the examples of some nearby McMansion-dotted subdivisions.

- Pay for insurance and other CAHH operating expenses.

CAHH MEMBERS RECEIVE:

- A subscription to the electronic version of the Hollin Hills Bulletin. (Members can also subscribe to a paper version for a small extra charge.)
- The latest edition and electronic updates of the indispensable Hollin Hills Directory.
- Updates of the handy electronic HH Recommendations List.

OK, HOW DO I SIGN UP?

If you haven't already done so, complete the membership form you received in late March, and mail it in. You can also complete the form and pay dues online at www.hollinhills.net. (A \$5 convenience fee applies for processing an online payment.) The membership form may also be printed from the website, and a copy is also inserted in the paper version of this Bulletin.

Questions? Contact Linda Benson, Membership Chair, at 312-907-1797 or linda.benson@me.com.

SAVE THIS DATE

South Flow Alliance
Community Action Meeting
Wed., May 10, 7:30pm
Walt Whitman School
Lecture Hall

HOLLIN HILLS RESIDENTS AND SUPERVISOR STORCK LAUNCH COALITION AGAINST AIRPLANE NOISE

Frustrated by increasing airplane noise, but don't know what to do about it? Find out how you can make a difference!

On Wednesday, May 10, you are invited to attend a kick-off of the new South Flow Alliance, a coordinated campaign of residents who live south of DCA—from Old Town to Mount Vernon, who are fighting the ever-increasing air traffic noise over our neighborhoods.

Fairfax County Supervisor Dan Storck and residents of Hollin Hills, Villamay, and Mason Hill are spearheading the event, including our Virginia State Representative and neighbor Paul

Krizek. Come learn about the recent flight path changes from a resident aviation and noise abatement expert, and find out how you can help. Check out the new flight paths here: www.facebook.com/southflowalliance

WHY SHOULD YOU GET INVOLVED?

The airplane noise over Hollin Hills is worse this year than last, and it will continue to intensify in the future if we don't do anything to stop it. In 2015, the FAA implemented new flight paths out of DCA that turned the skies over Hollin Hills into an airplane superhighway. Instead of the occasional noise that one would expect living close to an airport, *(continued on page 2)*

CIVIC ASSOCIATION OF HOLLIN HILLS (CAHH)

CAHH OFFICERS

President	Gus Matson	768-3797
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Parks	Bob Kinzer	768-4048

CAHH COMMITTEES

ARCHIVIST	Judy Riggan	765-3025
Historian	Scott Wilson	765-4471

(Also see Hollin Hills Archives below)

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Members	John Burns	660-9763
	John Nolan	231-2229
	Ginny Wallace	765-7116
	Ken Wilson	768-5838

CAHH-DRC Liaison Chris McNamara 660-9536

HOLLIN HILLS POOL COMMITTEE

Chair Barbara Bogue 571-257-9313

PARKS COMMITTEE

Chair Elisabeth Lardner 765-3023

HOLLIN HILLS BULLETIN

Published monthly since 1951 by the CAHH. Material in this publication does not necessarily reflect the opinions of the CAHH Board or the editor.

Editor Barbara Shear 660-6543
 Editorial Assistance Andrew Keegan 660-1004

Deadline is the 15th of the preceding month.

Articles generally should not exceed 500 words. Send your submission in the body of an email or as an attachment to barbshear@verizon.net.

If you cannot produce computerized copy, please find someone to submit it for you.

No material will be accepted over the telephone.

Distribution problems:

- If you have not received your digital Bulletin, or to correct/change mail or email address, contact Linda Benson at 312-907-1797 or linda.benson@me.com.
- To replace a missing paper Bulletin, contact Eleanor Fina at 703-768-3174 or etfina@gmail.com.

HOLLIN HILLS ARCHIVES

The Hollin Hills Archives are part of the Special Collections and Archives of George Mason University. To contact the SC&A staff with research questions, use the following:

- For general description of HH Archives contents, go to http://sca.gmu.edu/finding_aids/hollinhills.html.
- For questions about collections, hours, usage, duplications, or directions go to http://sca.gmu.edu/using_sc&a.html.
- Other contacts: phone 703-993-2220, fax inquiries 703-993-8911, email speccoll@gmu.edu.

WWW.HOLLINHILLS.NET

Calendar of community events and information about our parks, the Design Review Committee, the National Historic Registry, and more.

Airplane noise *from page 1*

planes started flying over every one to two minutes on the busiest days. This year, that superhighway has turned into a river, with planes flying over every 30 seconds at peak travel times.

The increased noise over Hollin Hills is the direct result of the new NextGen air traffic control system implemented by the FAA, which uses GPS rather than radar to control flight paths. Designed to increase fuel efficiency and the overall number of flights, NextGen is similar to a robotic assembly line that sends airplanes along one conveyor belt, traveling over the same neighborhoods one after the other. The planes often fly at low altitudes as early as 5am and as late as midnight or 1am.

For many residents of Hollin Hills, Mason Hill, Villamay, and other surrounding communities, the noise has taken a toll on their quality of life and made it difficult to sleep, work from home, and enjoy outdoor activities such as barbecues and gardening. With hundreds of planes flying over our neighborhood daily, many residents are concerned about the long-term impact on our environment, our safety, and our property values.

WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT IT?

The good news is that we have a viable solution to keep the planes over the Potomac River longer and to increase their altitude. This will alleviate airplane noise for the entire Mount Vernon District without shifting the noise to other communities.

Let's make this plan a reality! The first step is for all concerned citizens to attend the South Flow Alliance meeting above. If everyone does one small thing to help, we can make our voices heard over the noise of the airplanes.

WHY NOW?

As you may know, more than 300 residents of the Mount Vernon District attended a heated meeting with the FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) at DCA in June 2016. At that meeting, the FAA said they would take action to resolve the problem within nine to twelve months. That deadline comes due in June 2017, and, so far, the FAA has done nothing. As residents, we need to make sure the FAA follows through on its promise. Please join us on May 10 and help return peace and quiet to our beautiful neighborhood.

—Robin Terry



PAUL STEPS DOWN

Paul Phelps has decided it's time to step down after many years as one of the Bulletin's most dependable contributors. In his hundred+ columns, he has covered all things green and growing and how to grow them successfully in an environmentally sound way. He has taught us how to make simple compost bins, plant our bushes the right way, and grow lawn in shady yards, among dozens of other useful topics. In one series, Paul followed the streams that flow into and out of our neighborhood, reporting on their history and current troubled condition. A huge thank you, Paul, for your time and effort, and for all the valuable information you have shared with us.

We plan to rerun some of Paul's earlier columns from time to time and hope that, in the near future, many will be available on the Hollin Hills website.

Paul will be very difficult to replace, but we're sure there are other avid gardeners, environmentalists, and/or nature lovers out there who want to share their interest and expertise. If you're one of them, please let us know at barbshear@verizon.net.

Quick Takes



WELCOME, NEWCOMERS

• Susan Camaroda and Celine Maurais are new arrivals at 2007 Paul Spring Road (the old McKenna house). Susan will manage a nearby Starbucks, and Celine manages the fabric shop at Beacon Mall.

• A warm Hollin Hills welcome goes out to Nancy Cefalo and Joe Clancey, who have moved from Old Town to 7314 Stafford Road.

• Wendy Kilpatrick extended her Greeter duties to welcome Oliver the Labradoodle, newest member of the Blumenthal/Friedman family of Beechwood Road, and then took the cute photo at right of Addison and Bram holding the newcomer.



—Greeters Ginny Kinzler, Judy Rosen, and Wendy Kilpatrick

GREAT WEEKEND SHOPPING RIGHT IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

• This year the always popular Hollin Hills pottery sale will take place at 7616 Elba Road, on Saturday, May 13, 10am until noon.

• The Mt. Vernon Unitarian Church, on Windmill Lane, will hold its annual plant sale every Saturday and Sunday from now until Memorial Day, from 10am to 12 noon. All the plants are grown in the church's greenhouse.

—Mia van Zelst

KIDS BUILDING SUBMARINES!

Mechanical engineer and “Kids Into Discovering Science” Chair Paola Carts will be the featured speaker at the May program of Mount Vernon At Home (MVAH). She will describe the successful program she and her husband started in 2013 in which students in grades K-12 build human-powered submarines. This June, for the third year, the students will enter their submarine in the International Submarine Races at the Carderock Naval Model Basin, where they have previously been award winners..

This presentation will appeal to all ages, so, unlike most MVAH programs, you are invited to bring your kids and grandkids along.

It will take place on Sunday, May 21, at 3pm at the Mount Vernon Unitarian Church. Please make reservations by calling the Mount Vernon At Home office, 703-303-4060, by May 12.

—Mary-Carroll Potter

DRONES IN YOUR BACKYARD?

At the April meeting of the Citizens Advisory Committee, the speaker, Carol Might of the FAA, assured us that we need not be worried about “Drones in our Backyard,” because Hollin Hills is within in the no fly zone of fifteen miles from National Airport. In other areas, anyone wishing to fly a drone must register their drone with the FAA. Drones must weigh less than 55 pounds and have a ground speed of less than 100 miles per hour, and a waiver from FAA is necessary.

CAC meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7pm. at the Government Center on Parker's Lane. Everyone is welcome.

—Laura Wirkkala

RECOMMENDATIONS LIST UPDATE COMING SOON

Looking for a plumber? Need help with the garden? Trying to find a good mechanic? Want a good place to get your shoes fixed? Like to try different area restaurants? Then check your email for the latest updated “Hollin Hills Recommendations by Residents,” coming to you soon. It's another activity of the Civic Association of Hollin Hills. And remember, whenever you have new recommendations or corrections or updates for old ones, be sure to let us know. It takes a village!

—Barbara Bogue (barbarabogue@gmail.com) and Kathy Seikel (seikel.kathy@gmail.com).

HELPING OUR FURRY FRIENDS

Wendy Kilpatrick is collecting items (some generic, some specific) from the Wish List of the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria. Drop off items at 7219 Beechwood, or call 703-765-7163 and she will pick them up:

Towels and blankets, used or new

Dog or cat crates

Food: cat/kitten wet food, KMR (formula for kittens, puppies)

Kong toys: Extreme Dog toy, lg. or xxlg., Cat Pursuit, Jumbler dog toys

Hammocks, hanging beds, or cages for small mammals, parrots

Hamster balls sizes 5” – 13”

Cat toys: feathers, balls, noise makers, jinglers, etc.

Omni Kitty Cat Play Tunnel pet toy

Oxbow pet products (tunnels, bungalows, etc. for small pets)

Martingale collars (any size)

Mendota products slip leads

FIRST WE CLEAN, AND THEN WE SWIM

The Hollin Hills Pool opens on May 27, and the only things standing between you and summer fun are registering and participating in pool clean up days.

Enroll before May 1 to guarantee your spot (HH and CAHH members only; others may join the wait list.) Complete the membership form and pay online; or download, print form, and mail it in with a check.

Pool clean up days are Saturday, May 6 or Sunday, May 7. For more information, contact Kevin Yap, kevinyap1@verizon.net or Gretchen Spencer, gretchenspencer@gmail.com.

For other important pool dates and contact information, see the 2017 membership brochure.

—Barbara Bogue, Pool Chair



In Memoriam

AL SELIGMANN

Al Seligmann died peacefully at his home in Hollin Hills on April 5, 2017 at the age of 91. He was born May 26, 1925 in New York City, where he attended Townsend Harris High School and went on to earn his B.A. at Columbia College. He served in the U.S. Army as a Japanese language officer during the Occupation. Upon his return, he received his M.A. from the School of International Affairs at Columbia University and joined the State Department.

Al and his beloved wife, Bobbie, were married 69 years ago in New York City, and they moved to Virginia when he began his career as a Foreign Service officer. Al and Bobbie were among the earliest settlers in Hollin Hills, and they recalled being overwhelmed by all of the responsibilities of gardening. Many of the young couples on Recard Lane chose to share push lawnmowers, rakes, and wheelbarrows, and they took great pride in watching both their seedlings and babies grow over the years.

Since Recard Lane was a safe cul-de-sac, the children played in the middle of the street, and cars were at their mercy. Neighbors borrowed from one another and helped each other move furniture as well as trees. With three State Department car pools, if Al had to stay late, he always managed to hitch a ride home in one of them.

Al's Foreign Service assignments took him to Kobe and Tokyo, Japan; Bangkok, Thailand; and West Berlin, Germany. He served as director of the Office of Japanese Affairs, counselor for political affairs in Tokyo, senior Asian affairs officer on the Policy Planning Staff and executive director of the U.S.-Japan Advisory Commission. He also served as deputy director of the Defense Department's Office of Policy Planning and NSC Affairs and spent a year at the University of Miami as diplomat-in-residence.

In between assignments, the family was always excited to return home to Hollin Hills. On Friday nights, Al removed his suit and tie and replaced them with his well-worn weekend gardening clothes. The garden was truly Al's retreat, and he spent innumerable hours planting trees, burying irrigation hoses, and coaxing many varieties of azalea seedlings to take root throughout the property.

Following retirement from the Foreign Service, Al became The

Asia Foundation's representative in Japan. Al's intellect, humility, generosity, wit, and his contributions to foreign policy were widely recognized. His deep knowledge and love of Japan fostered many exchanges and partnerships between the two countries.

The Japanese government in 1993 honored him at a ceremony at the Japanese Embassy with the Order of the Rising Sun, one of the highest decorations bestowed on foreigners.

After a second retirement, Al had more time for gardening, stamp-collecting, tennis, photography, music, and playing with grandchildren. He was an avid participant in cultural activities and lectures as a member of DACOR, the Cosmos Club, and Asian American Forum. Just two weeks before Al died, he and Bobbie hosted the Pub, a Hollin Hills social group, where he delighted in seeing so many of his dear friends. During the last few days of his life, the azaleas burst into bloom, and the beautiful cherry tree graced the front lawn with its double pink blossoms, reminding us that Al's gentle spirit will always remain with us.

In addition to Bobbie, Al is survived by their daughters, Susan Seligmann Moreno, Linda Seligmann (John Cooper), Ann Lyons (Scott Lyons), and Wendy Seligmann (John Schuerman); and by seven grandchildren and one great-grandson. Contributions in lieu of flowers may be made to DACOR Bacon House Foundation, 1801 F Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20006.

A celebration of Al's life will be held on June 18, 3:30pm, at Mt. Vernon Unitarian Church, 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

- A celebration of life in memory of Marge Silverberg will take place on Saturday, June 3, at 11am, at the Mount Vernon Unitarian Church.
- A memorial service was held for Jay Holmes on April 29, at the Mount Vernon Unitarian Church, where he had long been an active member. Jay, a journalist, and his late wife, Bea, moved to Martha's Road in 1960 and raised their four children there. Jay sang for many years with the Nova Community Chorus and was involved in many other local activities.

SOLVEIG COX

Long-time Hollin Hills resident and much-loved ceramic artist, Solveig Cox, died on March 13 at the age of 86. She passed away as she lived her life, peacefully and calmly. Solveig and her late husband, Wendell, lived in Hollin Hills for almost 50 years and raised their children, Jennifer and David, here. She spent the last few years in Northampton, Massachusetts, close to her daughter. A celebration of her life will take place on Sunday, June 4, at 3:30pm, at the Mansion of the Unitarian Church.

Solveig was a founding member of the Torpedo Factory Arts Center, where she was active in the Hollin Hills Potters Studio. She was an early member of The Kiln Club of Washington, DC, and served on the Board of Directors of the Renwick Gallery. She was a regular presence in the summer community in Castine, Maine.

Born in New York City into a family of artists, Solveig Peterson and her sister Rosamund modeled children's clothing for their mother, couture designer and fiber artist Mariska Karasz, from Hungary. Mariska's sister, Ilonka Karasz, a graphic and industrial designer, produced cover art for the New Yorker for 25 years.

Fresh and humorous, Solveig's cat pottery and sculptures found a large, appreciative audience throughout the Washington area and well beyond. Several presidents owned examples of her work; one White House coffee mug featured Socks, the Clinton's cat. Solveig expanded from pottery to cat-themed furniture, casual clothing, and stationary.

Solveig is survived by her sister, Rosamund Berg Bassett of Connecticut; her son, David M. Cox, and his wife, Carolyn Niblick of California; and her daughter, Jennifer Alden Cox, of Massachusetts.



Solveig Cox's witty creations have delighted art and cat lovers in fifty states for over fifty years. Who could look at this feline domestic scene without smiling?

IN OUR PARKS: GOOD TURNOUT • BAD KNOTWEED • BETTER PARKING

A lot was accomplished...

Thanks to all who joined us in the parks, on March 25 in Goodman and on April 8 in Paul Spring. We welcomed new recruits, greeted returning friends, and even managed to combine our socializing with a lot of work. Wisteria was whacked away from the new trail alignment in Goodman Park, ivy was removed from many, many trees in Goodman and Paul Spring, bamboo cut in Goodman, and trash collected in both parks. See the list of volunteers at right. Apologies to any I have missed. If your name was omitted, please let me know so your help can be acknowledged in the next report.

...but there's still work to be done!

Three more Park Celebration Days are scheduled during May and June. Please join us, meet your neighbors, and spend a couple of hours in our parks working and visiting. If the group thing is not your choice, I'm happy to suggest projects that you may undertake on your own and within your own timeframe.

- **SUNDAY, MAY 7, 2PM, SUTTON POTTER PARK**

Work effort is to 'free a tree' by cutting ivy off of and removing other vines on targeted trees. Come and welcome our newest warden, Mary Ellen Gillman! Bring gloves, clippers, and a sense of adventure. Meeting location: at the park entry off of Range Road.

- **SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 4PM, MCCALLEY PARK***

*Note this is a **new time and day** for McCalley Park, but on the same weekend in June. Work effort includes bamboo chopping in the southeast corner of the park, removing or repairing the park's rickety bench, redistributing the river rock salvaged from the parking space renovation at Voigt Park, and distributing mulch. Bring saws and loppers to tackle the bamboo, and shovels and wheelbarrows to move rock and mulch.

- **SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 9AM, VOIGT PARK**

Just in time for the 4th of July picnic. Work effort includes raking (mostly the fallen gumballs), trash removal from the park and creek, spreading the mulch pile under swings and in beds, redistributing river rock salvaged from the parking space renovation, and a general spruce up and vine clearance of major pathways. Bring rakes, shovels, wheelbarrows, clippers, gloves and wading boots.

Battling Japanese knotweed

The Japanese knotweed infestation in the Wildlife Sanctuary is being treated this season, an outgrowth of the recommendations contained in the Neighborhood Forest Management Plan prepared for us last year by Jim McGlone, who works for the Virginia Department of Forestry. In that document, he wrote this about our Wildlife Sanctuary: "This forested area is little different from the northern parks. The significant difference is the presence of Japanese knotweed. The patch is fairly small and

3 CHEERS FOR OUR VOLUNTEERS!

The Parks Committee and the Hollin Hills community send a hearty thank you to these 3/25 and 4/8 parks volunteers: Kevin Roberts, Mike Thomasson, Mary Ellen Gilman, Barry Pearson, Peter and Marianne Martz, Jack Ready, Jo Anne Hersh, Gretchen Spencer, Jamie Agnew, Barbara Liggett, Bob and Lee Ann Kinzer, Ben Jessup and Pam Koger-Jessup, Steve and Sam Kistler, Vince, Johnny, and Haskew Pearson, Bob Blandford, Andrew Keegan, Scott Wilson, Rebecca Bostick, and an unknown good Samaritan who picked up the trash bags along Paul Spring Road following the April cleanup.

**Join us in May & June,
and see your name here, too.**



would be a good start to invasive species management. Because of the RPA and regulations regarding herbicide use near bodies of water, a professional should be hired to manage and remove this species." The CAHH has hired Thrive, a professional firm, and they plan to make a series of treatment visits to the park near the Boswell Road entrance this spring and summer.

The Parks 5-year Plan

If you would like a copy of Jim McGlone's plan or copies of the five-year work plans the CAHH Parks Committee has developed for each of our seven parks and the primary community entrances, please let me know.

Park improvements – parking and more

The parking space at Voigt Park is being renovated this month, also as an outgrowth of implementing our five-year work plans for each park. The space located on the edge of Rippon Road is needed and a positive asset for this heavily visited park, but not when its ballast is strewn across the lawn following a flooding event. We are hopeful that our renovation will solve that issue.

Two park maintenance contracts were competitively bid, one for mowing and the other for some specific park maintenance along our trail system and at our entryways. Both contracts were awarded to the low bidder, Cutter Landscapes, Inc. Wade Cutter held the mowing contract last season, as well.

*Thanks for all that each of you does
in support of our community and our parks.
Elisabeth Lardner, Parks Chair
703-765-3023 eblardner@aol.com*

President's Message



The Glad Game

When I was thirteen, I saw the movie *Pollyanna* starring Haley Mills as the orphan girl who plays 'the glad game' to see the bright side of any situation. For a time, I thought that I was attracted to this movie because of Mills, who my thirteen-year-old brain found to be very alluring in a hubba hubba pre-pubescent sort of way. Decades later, I realized that it is the message of *Pollyanna* that I admire. I took the job as president of the Civic Association because Hollin Hills is so very special. I knew that we were going through a transitional time. Many of the original Hollin Hillers had left or were leaving, and many new families, complete with kids, were moving in. I remembered how well my family and I had been treated by our neighbors in our first days here. I thought that, if new residents experienced what we had when we arrived, our sense of community would grow and be assured.

Before my term began, reality reared its ugly head, and for the next two years, we were caught up in a litigation that put more than a few dents in the idea of community spirit. Sometimes the idea of the 'the glad game' grates on my nerves. Some part of my brain tells me that, despite my pollyannaish aspirations, for most people self-interest reigns supreme. When I feel that jaundiced, I realize that I need 'the glad game' right then. Do we want a great community? If so, we must work at it. Engage your new neighbors. Be kind to them and everybody else. Say 'hello' and wave to your fellow Hollin Hillers (and by that, I mean everybody). Don't be afraid of looking like an idiot. Say 'hello.' Averting your eyes is even sillier, so play the 'glad' game. You might learn to like it.

—Gus Matson, CAHH President

MVCCA MOUNT VERNON COUNCIL OF CITIZENS ASSOCIATIONS

Highlights of the March MVCCA Meeting

- **DAS (Distributed Antenna System).** Work has begun on installation of small telephone towers on seventy-one telephone poles to improve cell phone reception in the Mount Vernon District. The project is scheduled for completion in September.
- **Airplane noise.** South Flow Alliance (the new name of the local group formed to lobby FAS and the Airport Authority regarding excessive airplane noise over the Mount Vernon District) has scheduled a public meeting for May 10, 7:30-9pm at the Mount Vernon Government Center. (See related article on page 1)
- **Stormwater Projects.** Groundbreaking for the Huntington Levee Project took place in March. Work will continue through 2018. The Quander Road Outfall Restoration Project is nearly

complete, stabilizing a massive erosion gully that was twenty feet deep in the wooded land behind the Martha Washington Library.
—KathySeikel

Planning & Zoning Committee

The Planning and Zoning Committee met on Monday, April 3. Only two of the projects that were discussed would be located in our immediate area.

One presentation proposed a 75 unit apartment complex at the Penn Daw Shopping Center, south of Walmart.

The other proposed project involved a building planned for the east side of Richmond Highway, near the Hampton Inn Hotel, just south of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge. Some medical space may be included. Many committee members were surprised that Fairfax County long ago decided that medical offices are simply zoned as regular office space.
—Burt Kronstedt

Book Report



The Book of Aron, by Jim Sheppard

At the April meeting of the book group we discussed *The Book of Aron*, a novel by Jim Sheppard. It is a work of fiction, but the reader becomes emotionally involved reading the diaries and writings of eye witnesses in the Warsaw ghetto from September 1939 to August 1942. It becomes real.

In the beginning, we encounter a hero—a real person—a famous doctor who is an advocate of children's rights. The doctor, Janusq Korezak, has a Thursday afternoon radio show that Aron, the narrator, and his younger brother love to listen to. The doctor is with us throughout the book until the end when he and the children of his orphanage prepare to board a train to Treblinka concentration camp and the end of their lives.

The doctor is an inspiration with his attitude and kindnesses to the children. When Aaron lives at the orphanage, his attention to his own life improves.

The book is about Aron and his friends. The stories involve their lives, which begin quite simply, then evolve into tragedy. The events are sad and never seem savable, but capture the reader who reads on. Our members declared this not to be one of our favorites, but as one said, "It is a book that must be read."

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, May 3, at 2pm, at the home of Louise Wiener, 703-768-9522. New members and visitors are welcome.

—Ann Klunder

Design Review

MARCH MEETING

The Design Review Committee (DRC) met on Wednesday, March 8, 2017, at Sherwood Regional Library. Members present included Frank Collins (Chair), John Burns, John Nolan, and Ginnie Wallace.

- **2103 Martha's Road, Jeff and Jade Texcell:** The DRC approved a two-car carport contingent on receipt of final construction drawings and a copy of the homeowners' neighbor notification letter.
- **2400 Brentwood Place (unoccupied):** The DRC approved a project presented by architect Christine Kelly to replace approximately half of the fixed glass panels, awning and casement windows, and the front door. Front door is to be plain/unadorned.
- **7401 Recard Lane, John Segura:** The DRC discussed a privacy screen for the master bedroom (L-shaped consisting of horizontal wooden slats) with the new homeowner. The committee advised homeowner to check with Fairfax County on possible height restrictions on proposed screen due to the property's unusual topography.
- **2321 Nordok Place, Charlotte and Alex Safos:** The DRC discussed a pool fence and deck replacement project with the homeowners. The committee will follow up with the homeowners to determine whether there is any conflict between code height requirements for pool fences and Fairfax County front yard fence height requirements.

Other Business:

The DRC offered preliminary feedback on the potential renovation of a Hollin Hills property to Theresa Bosch, a contractor and realtor, whose firm recently renovated 7213 Beechwood Road. The committee plans a site visit to the property to provide further feedback to Mrs. Bosch.

APRIL MEETING

The DRC met on Wednesday, April 12, 2017. Members present included Frank Collins (Chair), John Burns, John Nolan, Ginnie Wallace, and Ken Wilson.

- **7612 Elba Road, Jaclyn Allman and Sean Vann:** The DRC reviewed the drawings submitted by the homeowners for a 10'x14' backyard shed to be constructed of T-111 siding and painted to match the house. The committee encouraged the homeowners to check Fairfax County height and setback requirements. The project was conceptually approved pending final submission of drawings indicating final height of the shed and its location.
- **2109 Mason Hill Drive, Samuel Gyulnazarian:** The DRC approved drawings as submitted for a two-phase addition project. The committee had approved a much larger version of the addition project in September 2015. The homeowner has scaled back the original design and indicated that he will proceed on phase one now and may or may not complete phase two in the

future. The committee gave conceptual approval to the phase two component of the plans.

- **2205 Martha's Road, Corey and Jane Runnels:** The DRC approved a screen porch addition off the back of the home presented by architect Roger Miller. The committee encouraged the architect to consult with Fairfax County about the project to determine if additional framing and bracing will be required. The DRC conceptually approved the lighting plan for the porch but asked for specific information about fixtures to be used prior to installation.

Other Business

- **7401 Recard Lane, John Segura:** The DRC approved the privacy screen discussed during the March meeting, provided it is built at a height of 4 feet, as required by County regulations.
- **1945 Martha's Road, Casey Olney:** The DRC gave administrative approval to the homeowner for replacing in kind 17' of T-111 siding and an existing bathroom window.

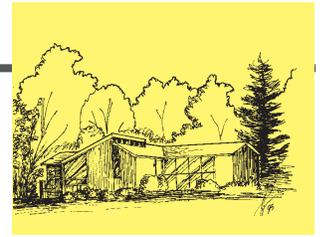
About the DRC

The Civic Association of Hollin Hills DRC meets monthly to offer homeowners guidance about potential exterior property renovations and whether those desired renovations are in harmony and conformity with the association's Design Review Guidelines. All DRC-approved projects are subject to and must comply with Fairfax County building regulations, policies, and codes. Homeowners should complete appropriate County permit processes prior to the start of any renovations.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the DRC will be on Wednesday, May 10, 2016, 7pm, at the Sherwood Regional Library, Conference Room 3, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane.

—Chris McNamara



CLASSIFIEDS

NOTICE: The deadline for the June Bulletin will be May 15. As usual, the July and August issues will be combined into one summer issue, which will be sent out during the third week of July. The deadline for that summer issue will be July 10. Please make a note of these dates.

RECOMMENDED: Brad Furman (Entropic Enterprises) has provided quality service and excellent workmanship for us on a number of interior and exterior projects over the past ten years. Among other things, Brad's work for us has included painting, deck work, drywall installation, waterproofing, and designing and installing a French drain to draw off excess water in our yard. Brad is easy to communicate with and reliable, and his work has always been fairly priced. We're pleased to recommend him for neighborhood projects. Brad can be reached at 703-201-6797 or by email at bafurm@gmail.com. He has our highest recommendation.

—Rick Schwabacher and Mary Ann Rametta