



JOIN THE FUN!

IT'S TIME FOR THE ANNUAL *Oktoberfest!*

HOLLIN HILLS BULLETIN

OCTOBER 2018

IT'S OUR 6TH CAHH OKTOBERFEST. DON'T MISS IT!

You are invited to our sixth annual Oktoberfest, 3-6pm, on Saturday, October 6—and bring the kids, too! The party will be held in the Hollin Hills Pool parking lot, at the corner of Paul Spring and Fort Hunt Roads. This popular family-friendly event will, once again, be sponsored by the Civic Association of Hollin Hills (CAHH).

The CAHH will provide the German beer and bratwurst. Each household is asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share with their neighbors. German-themed dishes (apple strudel, German potato salad, etc.) would be great, but are not required. Bavarian dress (see Jaelith Hall-Rivera, above) is also encouraged but optional. And, besides the great food, drinks, and camaraderie, there will also be activities for the children.

Susmita Dastidar, CAHH social chair, along with David Rivera and Jaelith Hall-Rivera, co-chairs for this event, would welcome your help. Contact Susmita at dustbin114@gmail.com to volunteer.



A MESSAGE FROM THE CAHH PRESIDENT

IT TAKES A LOT OF FOLKS TO MAKE THIS VILLAGE

The Right to Vote

We have lots to talk about. In December, we will have the Civic Association (CAHH) Fall General Membership Meeting where, hopefully, we will elect several new officers and directors to the CAHH Board.

This year is unusual because, of the nine current board directors, six will be leaving. Five of them are leaving because their terms are ending, and one is leaving because of an overseas assignment.

The Board of Directors runs the Civic Association, which has the specific mission of promoting the common good and welfare of the community of Hollin Hills. To do this, the CAHH does lots of things. It publishes the Hollin Hills Bulletin and the Hollin Hills Directory, compiles a recommended vendors and busi-

ness list, and oversees the Greeters program. The CAHH also puts on various social events such as the Fourth of July Picnic, Oktoberfest, and the Winter Pot Luck Party throughout the year and promotes even more social events like neighborhood block parties and annual carol singing. It really advocates and cheerleads for the strong sense of community that has existed here for many decades.

The CAHH takes care of our Hollin Hills parks and strives to preserve the architecture of this wonderful mid-century modern community.

Doing all that needs community involvement

Doing all that requires a lot of volunteers and a lot of buy-in from our residents. As of *(continued on page 2)*

President's Message *from page 1*

right now, we do not have enough volunteers to fill the positions that are being vacated on the Board. We have at least three director positions open. I'll be happy to talk to you about what is involved. Get in touch with me (Gus Matson) at 703-768-3797 or gus.matson@gmail.com.

Every director has the right to vote on the Board and directly affects the direction taken by the CAHH and the Hollin Hills community. This is genuine power. Think of it—or imagine it in your wildest dreams: Perhaps, with all that power, you could be several inches taller in your own mind! It would look great on your CV. Maybe you could lord it over your kids, reminding them of the important work you are doing. You would certainly qualify for your own special parking space outside your house. And, just in case the idea of serving on the Board is still a problem for you, I want to dispel an unconfirmed rumor right now: DIRECTORS ON THE CAHH BOARD ARE NOT FORCED TO EAT WORMS AT BOARD MEETINGS! There are usually a few snacks, like cookies or brie, as well as liquid refreshments, but worm-eating has simply never happened (at least not to my knowledge).

Another consideration is that the only director required to be

a good speller is the recording secretary, and even that has been waived in the past for an otherwise willing volunteer.

So now, silliness aside, please give it some *serious* thought. By mid-October, we will publish, via email, the list of nominees that we have, but there still will be opportunities to step forward.

In addition to the Board members mentioned above, we also need someone to chair the Design Review Committee. It should be someone with a lot of tact and a calming influence. Frank Collins was great at that. He showed great empathy for what people wanted to accomplish and still could explain those parts of a plan that needed to be tweaked to meet the community's design standards. This can be a very rewarding job. Think about giving it a try.

The next couple of years will be eventful for Hollin Hills. There will be big stream restoration work in Goodman and Brickelmaier Parks; the investigation by the County of the Historic Overlay District and the formation of associated guidelines; the evaluation of the current restrictive covenants. The CAHH Board will be involved in all that stuff, shaping the future of Hollin Hills. Be a part of it. Volunteer.

—Gus Matson, CAHH President

Quick Takes

ALL-CLASS GROVETON HIGH SCHOOL PICNIC

The weekend of October 6 and 7 will present a great opportunity for anyone who attended Groveton High School to meet and mingle with their classmates and other Groveton alumni.

On Saturday, October 6, at about 1pm, there will be a walk-through of the old building, and later, a Happy Hour at the Holiday Inn in Old Towne Alexandria. On Sunday, starting at noon, there will be a picnic at Fort Hunt Park and, as of this writing, 250 have already signed up for that event. You can sign up and follow discussion on the Facebook event site 2018 All Class Groveton High School Picnic. All former Groveton students are encouraged to attend and are asked to notify any classmates who may not be on Facebook.

—Wendy Montanari Kilpatrick



WHEN A SOLICITOR KNOCKS ON YOUR DOOR

Other than Halloween Trick-or-Treaters, many of the people who come to your house are looking for repair and maintenance work. Most of them represent legitimate and honest businesses, but there are others who could be running a scam.

How do you determine which is which?

Protect yourself from being scammed by following these sug-

gestions provided by Fairfax County's Silver Shield Anti-Scam Campaign:

- Request and verify licenses by calling:
 - Solicitor License** - 703-324-5966
 - Contractor License** - 804-367-8511
- **No license?** Call police non-emergency at 703-691-2131.
- Take a business card, get second opinions, check references.
- Request a written scope of work and cost estimates. Review all agreements carefully.
- Never pay more than 30 per cent of total cost before the work has been completed.
- Always pay by credit card or check. Never pay in cash.



CITIZEN/POLICE LIAISON MEETINGS

Local residents are invited to attend the meetings of the Citizens Advisory Committee of the Mt. Vernon District Police (CAC). They are held on the second Tuesday of the month, at 7pm, in the Mount Vernon Government Center, on Parker's Lane.

The speaker at last month's meeting was Virginia State Trooper Robert Pacific, whose job it is to confirm sex offenders' data several times per year. In Virginia, convicted sex offenders must register their name, home address, employment, and volunteer activities. Online access to the State Registry of Sex Offenders in our area is available at the Virginia State Police website (<http://www.vsp.virginia.gov>).

—Laura Wirkkala

News of Our Schools

New school year in a newly renovated school

Hollin Meadows students hung up their swimsuits in exchange for pencils and notebooks with the start of school on August 28. This year, there are 675 students at Hollin Meadows, the highest number in over 15 years. They are enjoying the renovations made over the summer, including a new cafeteria and new classrooms for the upper grades and kindergartners. Major construction, still in progress, should be completed by the end of the calendar year. At that time, all classrooms will be inside the building.

Students are eagerly awaiting the arrival of the new Playscape outdoor equipment, and they will have more time to enjoy it, now that the school is implementing a thirty minute recess for all grades.

Care & Share provides weekend backpacks

The Weekend Backpack Program, which provides a bag of child-friendly, nutritious, nonperishable food to students at risk of weekend hunger, is in full swing. We currently provide food to 32 students, with those numbers expected to grow. We thank all those in the community who have already donated. If you would like to donate, please contact Jane Runnels, janerunnels@gmail.com. Thanks to our very own Lisa Price of Martha's Road, we also now have this easy-to-use Amazon link: <https://smile.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/33PJHPIK5SJLU> that shows the food items we regularly include and delivers the



First day of first grade got smiles all around from (l-r) Ryan Regardie of Mason Hill, and Clay Edminston and Eva Medic of Hollin Hills.

donated food directly to a Care & Share committee member.

Avoiding school traffic jams

To avoid traffic congestion near the school, Principal Gates has stressed that, ideally, children should walk, ride bikes, or take the bus to school and, whenever possible, parents should avoid driving on Nordok Place during school arrival and departure times. He also has asked that parents NOT park in or block the driveways of nearby neighbors.

—Jane Runnels

Design Review

The Design Review Committee (DRC) met on Monday, Sept 17, 2018, at the Sherwood Regional Library. Members present included Pam Koger-Jesup (Chair), John Burns, and Virginia Wallace. The DRC addressed the following homeowner project during the meeting:

7712 Elba Road: The DRC met with the owner and her architect to discuss several planned changes and changes that had already been performed prior to meeting with the committee. After reviewing owner-supplied documents and photographs with suggested revisions supplied by the DRC, the committee approved the following renovations:

- Removal of a small exterior bump-out storage unit attached to the right side of the house, bringing back the original wall design.
- Removal of a detached storage containment unit attached to a fence on the right side of the house.
- Replacing a damaged sliding-glass door to the left of the front door with a fixed

piece of glass consistent with the adjacent front windows. The bottom panel will be a solid panel. The window and panel will be trimmed with standard Hollin Hills squared wood design.

- Centering the front door between the right side of the new window and the existing corner wall, with T-111 siding that matches the rest of the house. The panels underneath the existing window wall units on that wall will be solid panels to match the new window unit on the front-door wall.
- On the back of the house, the window wall units on either side of the sliding-glass patio door will also include solid panels under the windows, trimmed to match the standard Hollin Hills window wall design on the adjacent wall.
- Replacement of a piece of painted plywood with glass to match the opposite side of the roof line on the back of the house.



ABOUT THE DRC

The Civic Association of Hollin Hills Design Review Committee (DRC) meets monthly to offer homeowners guidance about potential exterior property renovations and to determine 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.

The DRC also recommended that the owner paint an existing wire fence on the property flat black.

Neighbor notification is completed.

Next DRC meeting

The next DRC meeting will be on Wednesday, Oct. 10, 2018, 7pm, at the Sherwood Regional Library, Conference Room 3, (2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria, 22306).

—Chris McNamara

Garden-Wise

DRURY LANE'S BUMPER CROP

As a happy followup to Gretchen Spencer's September article on monarch butterflies, the Bostick family reports a record year for monarchs on Drury Lane. As of mid-September, they had released 49 of these endangered butterflies and had 31 more hanging chrysalises expected to hatch in the following days. Forty more monarchs were in the process of emerging from among the milkweed planted in the Keegans' garden next door, and all of Drury Lane is now enjoying this butterfly bounty. Why not become part of this rewarding conservation project next year—plant some milkweed.



Left: A monarch chrysalis. Below: Can you find the eight monarchs in this photo of the Bostick's garden? (Sorry, they might not show up well in black/white paper Bulletins.)



in Our Parks

TWO-FOR-ONE: EXERCISE + GOOD DEEDS

To all our neighbors who helped clean up Voigt Park after the series of summer flooding events, a big "Thank you!" And a special thanks and shout out to Taylor Bostick of Drury Lane, who decided to combine his athletic workout with a park cleanup. (Who needs a kettle bell when we have river cobbles to share?) Taylor made great progress filling the many ankle-tripping holes that opened up following the late summer floods. He raked and returned a good portion of the large plume of cobble extending from the road to the swing set and back to the edge of Rippon.

HAPPY TRAILS! GOODMAN IMPROVEMENTS

Thanks to the trail crew led by Robert Fina, who shared his expertise and equipment with CAHH park volunteers, Goodman

Park's upper trail is now more suitable for walking in everyday shoes rather than in hip boots.

The crew employed several different techniques in ten spots along the trail to improve drainage and redirect stormwater and natural spring water runoff away from the trail itself.

Generously giving their time on a Sunday morning were Rebecca Bostick, Barry Pearson, Elisabeth Lardner, Virginia Wallace, Bob Blandford, Barbara Liggett, and of course Robert Fina, the trail leader. If you see them, please thank them—and enjoy your next walk without incurring muddy feet.

PICK UP. SNIP. REPORT. REPEAT.

There are lots of opportunities for all of us to combine exercise with park improvements. Join us this fall for work parties in the parks (see schedule on next page) or work on your own to help whenever you can. Some suggestions:

- Litter is always entering our parks. It's (continued on page 5)



Muddy but unbowed, this determined crew worked hard to tame the Goodman Park trail.

In Our Parks *from page 4*

always a problem, and it always needs to be picked up, particularly in Sutton Potter Park and along the creek in Paul Spring Park.

- The parks are always in need of ivy snippers. Cut the ivy off tree trunks about waist high and remove the section between the ground and the cut.
- Eyes on the park are appreciated, too. As you walk our trails, if you see fallen limbs or something else that needs attention, please tell one of our many volunteer park wardens, or contact me at eblardner@aol.com or 703-765-3023.

STREAM RESTORATION PROGRESS NOTES

• Bricklemaier Information Meeting Scheduled

A public information meeting to introduce the planned Bricklemaier Park Stream Restoration Project will be held on October 22, 2018, 7-9pm, in the Walt Whitman Middle School Auditorium, 2500 Parkers Lane. Come learn about the project, its schedule, and the reasons for Fairfax County's interest and investment.

• Post-Restoration Plant Selection Discussion

A group of Hollin Hillers met with Fairfax County staff members Meghan Fellows and Charles Smith in late August to explore and discuss a plant palette and desired park character for both of the stream valley parks, Goodman and Bricklemaier, once the stream restorations are complete. A broad discussion ensued, touching on potential plants, plant species likes and dislikes, potential techniques to protect new plantings from deer browse (one idea: encircle more tasty plants with less appealing ones), and a desired park character and aesthetic, such as open meadows, shady trails, and views of the stream.

FALL SCHEDULE FOR PARK VOLUNTEERS

- **Multiple dates in Sutton Potter Park** (aka the big sledding hill). For all five sessions, meet at the entrance to the park, between 7404 and 7406 Range Road. If late, head up the hill on the mown 'path' to join the work efforts. These Sunday work parties are led by Mary Ellen Gilman (maryellengil@gmail.com), who recommends wearing long sleeves and long pants to reduce the risk of scratches.

October 7, 21, 28, and November 4, 2-4pm. Free our trees by removing harmful ivy and other vines and, at the same time, enjoy contemplative moments in the woods. Bring clippers, loppers, and gloves.

November 11, 2-4pm. Rid the park of its nasty shrub layer. Oodles of winged euonymus/burning bush, honeysuckle, Japanese privet, multi-flora rose—all need to be cut to the ground. Bring clippers, loppers, gloves, and rakes.

- **October 13, 9am-noon, Paul Spring Park and Hollin Hills entrance at Ft. Hunt Road.** Collect trash that travels downstream from Beacon Hill, and cut vines off of the trees. Barbara Liggett, Lee Ann Kinzer, and Gretchen Spencer will lead an adventure-filled morning. Meet at the Hollin Hills Pool parking lot. Arrive late? Look for neighbors having fun along the entirety of the Paul Spring Park corridor between Fort Hunt Road and Devonshire Road. Bring clippers, gloves, boots for creek wading/cleaning, and lots of enthusiasm.

- **November 3, 9am-noon, McCalley Park, corner of Rippon and Paul Spring Roads.** Bring a strong dislike of English ivy and bamboo and come support Jamie Agnew in her efforts to rid this park of invasive plant materials. Ultimately, our intent is to replant the park with species more suitable and supportive of our local ecology. Bring clippers, rakes, saws, shovels, and gloves.

—*Elisabeth Lardner, CAHH Parks Chair*
703-765-3023, eblardner@aol.com

CIVIC ASSOCIATION OF HOLLIN HILLS (CAHH)

CAHH OFFICERS

President	Gus Matson	768-3797
Vice-President	Chris McNamara	660-9536
Treasurer	Scott Weidenfeller	725-7894
Secretary	Friederike Ahrens	571-481-4628
Membership	Marinka Tellier	768-8709

DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE

Pool	Laura Kistler	768-4161
MVCCA	Kathy Seikel	768-2350
Social	Susmita Dastidar	660-5938
Parks	Bob Kinzer	768-4048

CAHH COMMITTEES

ARCHIVIST	Judy Riffin	765-3025
	Historian Scott Wilson	765-4471
(Also see Hollin Hills Archives below)		
DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC)		
Chair	Frank Collins	660-6525
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

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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 Marinka Tellier, 703-768-8709 or tellim@hotmail.com.
- To replace a missing paper Bulletin, contact Ellen Rydell at 703-768-3442.

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.hollin-hills.org

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