

# HOLLIN HILLS BULLETIN

OCTOBER 2019



The success of any Hollin Hills house tour is the result of a group effort, but it always relies heavily on the talent, leadership, and energy of the tour committee chair. But why does anyone willingly sign up for such an exhausting and demanding job? We asked the 2020 co-chairs, Heather Shuster and John Crowder. Here is Heather's reply; John's will follow next month.

## WHY I DECIDED TO TAKE ON THE TOUR CHALLENGE

I've served on the committee for the past two Hollin Hills House + Garden Tours, identifying and securing sponsors. The opportunity to meet new neighbors and create an event that showcases our unique community was certainly the draw, and I truly enjoyed the experience.

As a senior strategist for Freeman, an event marketing and managing firm, my role entails providing consultation to corporate brands and event organizers to ensure they are creating and activating truly memorable brand experiences for their participants. This includes, but is not limited to, brand development, mission clarity, event journey design, and sponsorship engagement. Everyone in Hollin Hills has a unique way to add value to the community. Serving as the co-chair for the tour seemed like a natural way for me to contribute, leveraging my professional skills.

My co-chair, John Crowder, and I have several exciting announcements to share with the community over the months leading up to the tour on Saturday, May 2, 2020, and I hope everyone is as eager as we are to develop the tour into a nationally recognized event that showcases all the elements that make Hollin Hills and its residents so remarkable.

—Heather Shuster



## CAHH PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The CAHH Board of Directors held their monthly meeting on September 2. Highlights of the meeting are provided below.

- Ginny Wallace completed her four years of service on the Design Review Committee (DRC). Cory English was approved to fill the DRC position. Thanks to both Ginny and Cory for their service to the community.
- A nominating committee was approved to find candidates to fill four positions on the CAHH Board of Directors for 2020. The committee consists of Friederike Ahrens, Jaelith Hall-Rivera, Rick Heffner, Barbara Jacobs, and Gretchen Spencer. Positions up for election are: Vice President, Membership Chair, Social Activities Director, and At-Large MVCCA position. Elections for the Board will be held at the Fall Membership meeting in November. If you are interested in serving on the Board, please contact one of the nominating committee members.
- The Board is recruiting volunteers to serve on subcommittees of the Mount Vernon Council of Civic Associations (MVCCA). We

are looking for individuals with an interest in issues affecting the Mount Vernon Supervisory District involving: 1) transportation; 2) planning & zoning; 3) environment & recreation; and 4) education. The subcommittees hold monthly meetings, and we need CAHH representation at these meetings. Please contact Tony Morris, [tonymorris500@me.com](mailto:tonymorris500@me.com), or me if you are interested in serving.

- The Fall Membership Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 19. In addition to electing new Board members, the membership will also vote on the 2020 budget. The proposed budget will be published in the November Bulletin.

Please feel free to contact me at [cahh@hollin-hills.org](mailto:cahh@hollin-hills.org) if you have any ideas, comments, concerns, or questions.

—Patrick Kelly, CAHH President

## CELEBRATING



## OKTOBERFEST

**SATURDAY,  
OCTOBER 12  
3-6PM**

Hollin Hills Pool Parking Lot

It's the seventh year for this **FAMILY EVENT** sponsored by the Civic Association of Hollin Hills

**BEER, BRATWURST  
LIVE MUSIC  
FUN & GAMES**

Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

### WANT TO LEND A HAND?

Contact Gino Madrid at [ginomadrid@gmail.com](mailto:ginomadrid@gmail.com) or just show up at the parking lot around noon to help with setting up.

## CIVIC ASSOCIATION OF HOLLIN HILLS (CAHH)

### CAHH OFFICERS

President Patrick Kelly	405-1763
Vice-President Chris McNamara	660-9536
Treasurer Scott Weidenfeller	725-7894
Secretary Mohra Gavankar	815-919-3513
Membership Marinka Tellier	401-9736

### DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE

Alan Barak	240-888-5735
Gino Madrid (Social)	202-549-6723
Tony Morris (MVCCA)	571-431-9711
Sally Watkins (Parks)	837-9654

### CAHH COMMITTEES

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

(Also see Hollin Hills Archives below)

### DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC)

Chair Andy Hight	869-2639
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](mailto: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.

### Bulletin Distribution problems:

• To add/correct/change your mail or email address, or if you have not received your digital Bulletin, contact Marinka Tellier, 703-768-8709 or [tellim@hotmail.com](mailto: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](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](http://sca.gmu.edu/using_sc&a.html).
- Other contacts: phone 703-993-2220, fax inquiries 703-993-8911, email [speccoll@gmu.edu](mailto:speccoll@gmu.edu).

## www.hollin-hills.org

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

## Quick Takes



### IMPORTANT VOTER REGISTRATION DATES

Please note the following deadlines in order to vote in the November General and Special Elections in Virginia. More information is available at [elections.virginia.gov](http://elections.virginia.gov).

- Deadline to register to vote or update an existing registration is Tuesday, October 15, 2019.
- Deadline to request an absentee ballot to be mailed to you is Tuesday, October 29, 2019. Your request must be received by your registrar by 5pm.
- Deadline to vote in-person absentee is Saturday, November 2, 2019.

### CANDY NEEDED FOR “TRUNK OR TREAT”

Good Shepherd Housing and Family Services is hosting its second annual “Trunk or Treat” and Halloween Fair for children living in the Colchester Towne complex. In the parking lot, in addition to games and activities, candy will be given out from the trunks of a group of Halloween-decorated cars. This will provide parents with a safe place for their children to enjoy their Halloween fun.

Donations of new, packaged, nut-free candy are needed. If you would like to help, please drop off your donations at 2307 Kimbro Street. Leave them in the pumpkin by the front door. For planning purposes, the deadline is October 25.

—Betsy Damitz

### HOLLIN MEADOWS PTA PROGRAMS OF NOTE

For the second year, Alysson Burgess co-chaired the very popular Family Math Night on September 19. A lively crowd of kids and their parents enjoyed playing a variety of games that proved math can be fun.

Hollin Hills families are involved in many other PTA activities at Hollin Meadows School, too. Two of these ongoing projects that would welcome help from of the school’s Hollin Hills neighbors are:

### Weekend Backpack Program:

This year, the Weekend Backpack Program is once again providing meals for designated students who have no reliable food source on weekends. Each bag, sent home on Fridays, contains 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners, plus snacks and milk for the weekend. A group meets at the school each Thursday at 2pm to pack the bags with healthy, child-friendly, single-serve items. Anyone interested in volunteering to help pack should contact Jane Runnels (703-864-3669). Some examples of needed items are:

- single-serve vegetable cups
- single-serve macaroni and cheese
- individual shelf-stable milk
- single-serve microwavable soups & pasta
- tuna, chicken salad, and hummus kits
- granola bars
- single-serve peanut butter
- rice bowls
- oatmeal packets
- single-serve cereal boxes/bowls

To donate food for this program, please drop off items *(continued on pg.3)*



(From left) Alex Lee, Ryan Regardie, and Clay Edmiston enjoy their ‘Popsicles in the Playground’ at the event that welcomed Hollin Meadows students back for the new school year. The boys are all in the second grade.

**Quick Takes**

at the school office, or at Jane Runnels' house, 2205 Marthas Road

To make a direct donation, you can shop off our Amazon wish-list at <http://www.amazon.com/registry/wishlist/33PJHPIK5SJLU> for items that will be delivered to the school.

**Good shoes for a good cause**

Do you have gently used or new shoes in your closet that need a new home? The

PTA's Care and Share Committee is collecting shoes to raise funds for its projects, as well as for the Weekend Backpack Program. Drop off your shoes (each pair tied or rubber banded together), at the school or at 2205 Marthas Road. All sizes, children to adult, are welcomed (but please, no cleats or ice skates). The shoes will not only raise funds for worthy PTA projects, but will also be used to support micro-enterprise vendors (small businesses in

developing nations typically operated by one person or family).

**POLICE-COMMUNITY LIAISON**

At the September meeting of the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) of the Mt. Vernon Police, Officer Katie Treichel described three of their Community Outreach programs. The goal is to foster and maintain mutual trust and respect between the police and the community.

The Community Foot Patrol gets its officers out of their cruisers and interacting directly with people in the neighborhood.

The PALS program aims to develop a positive relationship between kids and police by making the officers more approachable. Community Outreach officers make regular visits to local schools to talk about their lives as police officers and to answer the kids' questions.

At Coffee with Cops, officers are available to chat informally with local residents. One such event took place September 21, at the Hybla Valley Starbucks.

Learn more about these programs from Community Outreach Officer Katie Treichel, at [katie.treichel@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:katie.treichel@fairfaxcounty.gov)

The next meeting of the CAC will be held on Tuesday, October 8, 7pm, at the Parkers Lane facility. All members of the public are invited to attend.

—Laura Wirkkala



**Very early days in Hollin Hills**

*These photos, taken almost 70 years ago, show the Montanari family checking out their new home as it was being built on Drury Lane. Note (left) the typical Hollin Hills fireplace-chimney walls. Wendy Montanari, (born after these pictures were taken), still lives in the family's second Hollin Hills home on Beechwood Road with her husband, Mike Kilpatrick. The original Drury Lane house, much changed, is now the home of Mike and Mary McGill.*



**IN MEMORIAM ■ NORMA ODOM**

First-generation original Hollin Hiller, Norma Odom, 95, died on August 9, 2019.

When Norma and Ray Odom applied for a mortgage for 7200 Beechwood Road, they were stunned, (but Norma loved to tell the story), when they were turned down because the brand-new and very different glass house community of Hollin Hills was "too high a risk." They promptly went to another bank and were accepted.

Norma was born in New York City in 1924, daughter of Henry F. Voelker and Theresa Hollinger Voelker. She was raised in Westchester County, NY.

She graduated from Tufts University in 1944, cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa. While there, she was president of her sorority, Chi Omega. She received her Masters degree in International Law from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy in 1945, just as World War II was ending in Europe. Immediately following her graduation, Norma boarded a military transport plane to Moscow, where she had a position in the US Embassy.

There she met Raymond Odom, who was with the American Military Mission stationed in Moscow. Norma and Ray were married in New York in December 1947. Ray went to UCLA, and after graduating, they moved here, where Norma pursued a career in the US Intelligence Services, including the NSA and CIA. She held both analytical and supervisory positions.

Norma was well known for her volunteer work in Hollin Hills and beyond. She leaves a strong legacy of lifelong friends and beloved family members. She was predeceased by her husband, Ray and is survived by three daughters, Barbara O. Pagos (James) of Eastham, Mass., Nancy O. Perry of Hingham, Mass. and Ann O. Matticks (Shawn) of Charleston, S.C.; as well as 8 grandchildren.

Her daughter, Barbara Odom Pagos, would love to hear from our community at PO Box 1158, Eastham, MA 02642.

Norma will be inurned alongside Ray at Arlington National Cemetery. There will be a memorial celebration of her life at that time.



# News from the Parks

**WE CAN ALL DO SOMETHING TO HELP**

## THANKS TO THESE VOLUNTEERS

The first Saturday work party of the season at Sutton Potter Park, under the guidance of Warden Mary Ellen Gilman, accomplished a lot. Al Volkman was there with his trusty machete, clearing the way so we could cut vines at the property lines. Virginia Wallace joined us. Virginia grew up in Hollin Hills and has now moved back. Michael and Melissa Hentges, from Elba Road, were there, too, and we all chatted, clipped, and cut our way through a substantial quantity of vines.

## COME JOIN US

You are invited (and urged) to join a group of friendly neighbors at one (or all), of the future work parties listed below. Tools to bring with you are: clippers, gloves, and boots (if creek walking). We have noticed that pruning saws also really help, in addition to loppers, pruning shears, and screwdrivers. Oh, and machetes, too, in the hands of the experienced. Some of the vines are really thick!

## IN PAUL SPRING PARK

• Saturday morning, October 5, 10 to 12 noon. Meet at the north end of Rebecca at the park's entrance.

The main branch of Paul Spring not only periodically floods Paul Spring Road, but also serves as the drainage capture for a watershed that extends all the way to Beacon Hill Mall (think Lowe's). There are many neighborhoods upstream of ours, all equally deficient in stormwater technology and management systems; their development, like that of Hollin Hills, also predates stormwater management regulations. Thus, the creek often displays our upstream neighbors' 'treasures.' Recent finds include a bike, a bike cart, water bottles, beer cans, plastic bags, firewood, wood palettes, and more. Walk the creek with your boots on and discover your own special finds.

Rather stay dry? The best thing we can do to help our mature forest and understory thrive is to remove the vines that quickly grow up our many tree trunks. As

Paul Spring is one of our largest parks, vine removal from tree trunks is a never ending task. Come clip!

## IN VOIGT PARK

• Saturday morning, October 12, 10:00-noon (corner of Rippon and Paul Spring Rds, the home to our July 4 picnic)

Three intense storms this summer did much damage to this beloved neighborhood park. After storm #1, VDOT added new riprap along Rippon Road and replaced lost gravel in our parking space. Most of this was totally washed out three days later in storm #2. On August 15, storm #3 further exacerbated the damage.

The Friends of Hollin Hills have replaced the garbage cans that were washed away, but the rocks, gravel, and flood debris that remain hinder our immediate use of the park.

Please join us on the morning of the CAHH Oktoberfest to help carry the stones uphill—a temporary fix to make the park safe and usable again. We suggest you bring buckets, gloves, rakes and, if possible, wheelbarrows, too—but most of all, bring lots of energy, and enthusiasm.

## IN SUTTON POTTER PARK

• Saturday, October 19, 10:30-noon  
• Saturday, October 26, 10:30-noon  
Access to Sutton Potter Park is adjacent to 7406 Range Road. After entering the park, likely work areas will be to the right and up the hillside.

The CAHH has recently made significant investments in this five-plus acre park. Acres of honeysuckle, a highly invasive 1950s era shrub, have been cut down and their remnants are being treated by an outside contractor. Woody parts have been ground up and the chips placed on the many paths within the park. Recent tree removals included ten ash trees, all dead due to the ash borer. More will likely die in the near future.

Removing the massive vines from trees other than ash (and even from some ash) is a sound investment we can make right now to begin reclaiming this extensive, invasives-infested landscape.

## CAN'T VOLUNTEER? YOU CAN STILL HELP

Please consider making a financial donation in support of stewarding the 30+ acres of our Hollin Hills parks to:

**Friends of Hollin Hills**, a 501c3 organization with a mission to support the Hollin Hills Historic District, at <http://www.friendsofhollinhills.org>; or

## CAHH

Add a gift for parks stewardship with your membership renewal

## BUT, WAIT—THERE'S MORE!

Besides the satisfaction of knowing we are helping our community, there are multiple benefits that accrue when we become park volunteers:

- Park work parties provide an opportunity for us to learn firsthand of the many challenges we face in the stewardship of our common lands
- They are a great opportunity to meet a bunch of our neighbors
- It's a great Saturday morning work out
- It gives a plausible excuse to ignore more pressing chores.

See you in the parks,  
*Elisabeth Lardner, Parks Chair*  
703-765-3023  
[ebLardner@aol.com](mailto:ebLardner@aol.com)

## Classified Ads

**Recommendation:** I have been pleased with the yard service performed by "Green View" and its dedicated work staff. They are prompt, courteous, efficient and reasonably priced. I've used them for lawn mowing, shrubbery trimming, gutter cleaning, etc., but they also do a host of other jobs relating to landscaping in general. I highly recommend the Green View team for complete satisfaction. Call them directly at 703-980-1339 (ask for Maynar).

—Paul Bubernak, 703-765-8327

# Design Review

## September meeting

The Design Review Committee (DRC) met on Wednesday, September 11, 2019 at the Sherwood Regional Library, Sherwood Conference Room. Members present included John Nolan (Acting Chair), Cory English, Jennifer Kirby, Piya Vlach, and Virginia Wallace. The DRC addressed the following homeowner projects during the meeting:

- 7322 Rebecca Drive, Sydow Residence  
Project: Patio and landscaping  
Purpose: Recreation area  
Action: Unanimous approval

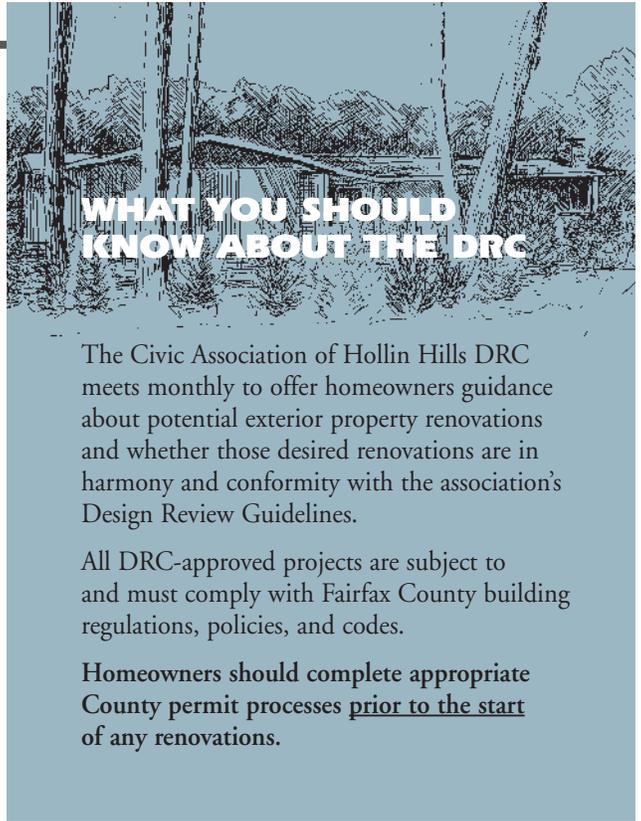
The DRC reviewed a revised landscaping plan for a project previously discussed by the committee.

- 7702 Elba Road, Gavankar Residence  
Project: Integrated carport and shed addition  
Purpose: Car protection and storage  
Action: Unanimous approval

The DRC reviewed final plans and design renderings for a proposed integrated carport and storage shed to be sited at the front of the house.

## Other Business

The DRC officially welcomed Cory English as a member of the committee. The Civic Association of Hollin Hills approved his nomination to serve on the DRC at its September 2019 meeting. The committee also bid farewell to Virginia Wallace, who has completed her term as a DRC member. Please join the DRC in thanking Virginia for her committed service to the community.



## WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW 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.

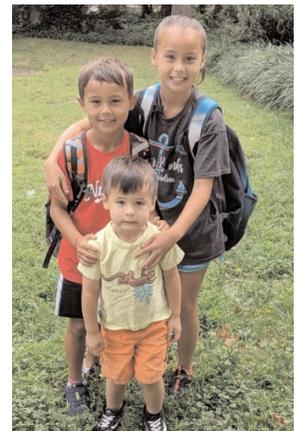
Homeowners should complete appropriate County permit processes prior to the start of any renovations.

## Next Meeting

The next meeting of the DRC will be held on Wednesday, October 9, 2019, at 7:30pm. Location TBD.

—Chris McNamara

## AT THE BUS STOP ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL



Photos by Jenn Regardie and Jin Jang