

E C C H O

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I certainly hope everyone has survived the winter's cold and ice. Warmer weather and blooming dogwoods are sure to be on their way soon.

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HOLIDAY DECORATION RESULTS 2

We want you to know of several fun things coming up...so make sure to check out and update your social calendar with a progressive dinner, a spring egg hunt, creek clean up for Earth Day and the next annual association meeting.

CIVIC AFFAIRS UPDATE 3

Our annual meeting is scheduled for **7 PM on Thursday, May 14 at the new Interpretative Center at Blenheim.** House tours and refreshments will be provided. Please join your neighbors as we elect a new board of directors. If you are a regular at our annual meetings, consider bringing a neighbor who would like to get involved or just participate in the discussion of the evening. If you haven't been to an annual meeting yet, we'd love to get to know you and hear your concerns, questions and ideas. If nothing else, please come for this spectacular opportunity to tour our own piece of Civil War history.

CREEK CLEAN IN APRIL 5

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 8

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

The Nominating Committee has the following openings. Some already have volunteers, but feel free to volunteer:

President – Hildie Carney

VP Civic Affairs -

VP Community Safety – Alicia Thomas

VP Block Captains – Steve Caruso

Treasurer –

VP Membership –

~ Cheers ~

Katie Baxter-Gagen

2nd Annual

Progressive

Dinner

Easter Egg Hunt

2008-2009 HOLIDAY DECORATION CONTEST RESULTS

Category: Most Traditional (and Beautiful) Holiday Decoration

First Place : Joyce and Leonard Skoglund -

3415 Country Hill Drive

Honorable Mention: Pamela Spraker -

3402 Country Hill Drive

Category: Most Beautiful Holiday Decoration

First Place : Richard and Cynthia Kibbey -

10016 Morningside Court

Honorable Mention: Jaime Figueroa and Carmen Mejia - 3507 Pinehurst Avenue

Category: Most Original Holiday Decoration

First Place : William and Linda Gibbs -

9915 Broadview Drive

Honorable Mention: Colin and Sue McKenzie - 3408 Brookwood Drive

Beautiful Holiday Decoration

New Entry: Garry Hernandez and Roxanna Serrano - 9916 Pinehurst Avenue

Beautiful Holiday Decoration

Best Use of Color :Steve Wilson -

3408 Country Hill Drive

Best Use of Color : Bob Keith -

10005 Spring Lake Terrace

Beautiful Holiday Decoration

Best Outdoor Trees: Ken and Donna Dowd - 10111 Cornwall Road (blue tree)

Best Outdoor Trees: Gene and Shauna Hall -

3410 Park Hill Place (green trees)

Beautiful Holiday Decoration

Best Innovation (Penguins): Peter Yang and Jean Thompson - 3413 Andover Drive

Street with Most Participation

Morningside Court

We thank all residents who decorated their homes and made the Holiday Season so festive and bright.

-Ernie Klimonda

OCTOBER BEAUTY SPOT

Country Club Hills Garden Club is happy to give the Beauty Spot for October to Jean Thompson and Peter Yang, of 3413 Andover Drive - Lots of color and a neat, well designed yard.

Congratulations to Jean and Peter!

-Kathy Keitt and Polly Haecker, Country Club Hills Garden Club

Some of CCH's Most Beautiful Homes



In full bloom...



Inviting entry ways



Evergreen slopes...



Drawing the eye...



Creating a "softscape"



CCHCA UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

Despite what that pessimistic ground hog said, Spring is in the air as I write this column today. Time to enjoy an evening stroll through Country Club Hills. Time to eat and be merry with neighbors. It's time for the 2nd annual CCH Progressive Dinner. Here's how it works. A group of about 10-12 will travel together between houses for each course of their meal: appetizers, salad, main course, and dessert. Everyone contributes something to the meal so that none of us have to work too hard. We'll choose a theme to make all the courses go together. What sounds good?

Irish? Italian? Thai?

The Progressive Dinner is scheduled for Sunday, April 26. We'd like to have two circuits this year, one for adults only and one for the whole family. To reserve your slot and vote for a theme, contact Stephanie Uttenweiler by April 5. (sutenweiler@yahoo.com).

DANGEROUS CHOCOLATE CAKE IN A MUG

To get us thinking about food, here's an interesting recipe:

1 coffee mug
4 tbsp plain cake flour
4 tbsp sugar
2 tbsp cocoa
1 egg
3 tbsp milk
3tbsp oil
Small splash of vanilla
3 tbsp chocolate chips (optional)

1. Add dry ingredients to mug, mix well with a fork
2. Add egg, mix thoroughly
3. Pour in milk and oil and vanilla, mix well
4. Add chips, if using
5. Put mug in microwave, and cook for three minutes on 1000 watts.
6. Cake will rise over top of mug – do not be alarmed!
7. Allow to cool a little; tip onto a plate if desired (This can serve two if you want to feel slightly more virtuous)

And WHY is this the most dangerous cake recipe in the world? Because now we are all only five minutes away from chocolate cake any time of the day or night!!!

Calories; 796 without the chocolate chips, 1006 with the chocolate chips! (Jeannette Wick)

IN MEMORIAM

Rose Wotherspoon, a respected long time resident in CCH and original owner passed away after a long illness on Tuesday, February 17. Services were held at Everly Funeral Home in Fairfax City on February 19. A great crowd of relatives, friends, and CCH residents came to wish Rose farewell. Our community mourns a great loss.

Ingrid Annibale, an honored 45-year resident of CCH passed away on February 2 after a long struggle with cancer. Services were held at Everly Funeral Home in Fairfax City on March 7. Let's join Curtis Annibale of 3424 Andover Drive to share the sorrow of losing his beloved mother.

- Ernie Klimonda

FROM OUR VP, CIVIC AFFAIRS, HILDIE CARNEY

The City is beginning its budget hearings. Go on the City Web to find out dates and if you have an input, this is the time to email your councilpersons with your concerns.

At the last Board meeting our Board voted to join The "Assembly of Civic Associations" which is a Organization of all the Civic Associations in the City in order to address any Citywide issues. Anyone is welcome to attend the meetings. I will keep you posted as to the next meeting.

The Blenheim Use Policy was approved by the Council recently. Historic Resources can now begin to rent the facilities for functions. City residents are entitled to a discount. If you would like to know more about the fees and guidelines, call Chris Martin at 703. 273.5452 or me.

The Book Fair – books & authors – about the Civil War was held February 21 at the Blenheim site.

Please join in the City's enhanced recycling program. RECYCLE

CITIZEN INPUT IS IMPORTANT. EMAIL YOUR COUNCIL!

Hilcarn31@aol.com

FOR OUR RESIDENTS

Trash Reminders: Please . . .

- * Place your trashcans and recycling bins on the curb if possible after dusk on the day before trash pickup days
- * Return your trashcans and recycling bins to their regular places before 8:00 p.m. on trash pickup days
- * Keep your sidewalks and adjacent fire hydrants free of snow and ice (soon to come)
- * Be considerate of others if your dog is prone to bark when left outdoors for prolonged periods.
- * Clean up after your pet and keep our neighborhood healthy.

Drive Carefully - Obey Traffic Signs

Please obey all speed limits and traffic signs in CCH (and everywhere else). Residents have complained of excessive speed, especially after dark. Since the police cannot enforce speed limits on all streets all of the time, we must each do our part by obeying all regulations so that our streets will continue to be safe for all of us. The speed limit in Country Club Hills is 25 miles per hour.

Raccoons? If you have a concern about wildlife in your backyard, call the Wildlife Hotline at 703.440.0800

Mail Delivered to the Wrong House?

Don't write "Not at this address" on it. The mailman will return it to the sender. Instead write "Delivered to the wrong address." The mailman will re-deliver it to the correct address.

New web pages on our website www.cchca.org (

Please send your suggestions to: webmaster-cchca@cox.net)

- 1) FOR PARENTS - With many parents residing in Country Club Hills, the links below provide useful tips and information for parents regarding childcare, general health, safety and topics that encourage better parenting.
- 2) FOR SENIORS Consider this page your one-stop shop for all links and information relating to benefits, hobbies, education, employment, volunteering, health & fitness, travel and much more.
- 3) RESTAURANT GUIDE. Features a list of residents' preferred restaurants nearby. Why not add your favorite eating place and share your experience with your neighbors?

Drink Tap Water

Save thousands of dollars by using what's safe and fresh every day: TAP WATER. Use safe reliable containers and skip the bottle – and the cost of a year's worth of drinking water is less than a dollar (\$1).

Be a responsible pet owner – pick up your animal's waste and dispose of it properly (in the trash or toilet.) Do not contaminate streams and storm drains. Information: 703-385-7816

FOR OUR RESIDENTS

Hiring a Contractor: Before You Do!

- Ask to see a valid contractor's license
- Doing constructional modification? Ensure that the license has a BLD classification
- Discuss and decide upon the nitty-gritty in advance and have the contractor incorporate those details into your final written agreement or contract
- If you're asking multiple contractors to submit bids, give them your specifications and ask each to work up a contract. Don't approach the one you perceive as most competent, ask him or her to create a detailed contract, and then give that document to the others so they can use it to submit a bid. This is not only unethical on your part, but you may end up with quotes from other contractors who don't understand the work or who may try to cut corners just to get your business
- Find out who's doing and/or supervising the work – the law requires them to be on site or directly supervising the work
- Don't subdivide the work necessary to create a finished product unless you're qualified to do so.

Unless you're ready to hold yourself accountable for the results, don't try to dumb the work down or drive the price down so that it meets unrealistically simplistic expectations.

Disposing of Unwanted, Unneeded Medicine

Need to clean out your medicine cabinet and don't know the most environmentally sound way to dispose of stuff you don't need?

- Package drugs carefully (so others won't be exposed to the drugs), and put into the garbage immediately before pickup.
- Leave medication in its original, childproof container labeled with the drug's name, so officials can identify the substance in the unlikely event someone finds and ingests it. Remove or obliterate the patient information for privacy.
- Make drugs unappealing. Dumpster divers will find medications that are mixed with a little water and some kitty litter, flour, or a nontoxic spice (like hot pepper) unappealing.
- Seal the drugs in a brown paper bag or box, and place the package in the trash as close as possible to garbage pickup time.
- Be particularly careful with liquids, especially if they are in glass bottles. Seal them into a ziplock bag or a plastic container, so if they break, others will not be exposed.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency now discourages flushing medications down the toilet because sewage treatment plants cannot remove pharmaceutical and personal care product residue from water. The drugs you flush end up in our drinking water, rivers, lakes and streams.

FOR OUR RESIDENTS

New Email Address?

Have you changed your email address recently? Is it different from the one shown in our CCH 2009 Directory? Please let us know so that we may update our CCH-Yahoo-Group list and assure that you keep receiving informative posted messages.

Thank you. eklimonda@gmail.com

CCH 2009 Directory.

By now every resident of CCH should have received a copy of our new 2009 Directory. Please verify your entry and let us know if any changes need to be made. Thanks.

If you failed to get one, you may obtain an extra copy (free of charge for members and \$5 for non-members) by contacting:

Chad Hurley, Block Captains V.P. 703.278.0428 chadhurley@verizon.net

Penny Saved, Iceberg Earned?

Install faucet aerators.

Aerators attach to the end of faucets and restrict water flow through the faucet. These small easy to install gadgets can save up to 50% of normal water use, thus reducing the water heating bill.

Proper Use of your Dishwasher

.If you don't need your dishes right away, avoid using the "heated dry" setting on your dishwasher. Instead let them air dry.

Avoid opening the oven door while cooking.

One peep at the food inside can change the oven temperature by 25 °F.

Turn Off the Lights

Turn off the lights whenever you leave the room, even if you are only leaving the room for a few minutes. Probably one of the most oft-repeated reminders. It's a small task but it saves energy .

Replace your incandescent light bulbs with compact **fluorescent** ones. You save up to 75% energy and reduce your electric bill accordingly. Visit: www.energystar.gov

The sale of incandescent bulbs is already prohibited in Australia and will be in the European Union in 2014. We were 100 years behind in adopting the Julian calendar, and hopefully it won't take us that long to discontinue the use of incandescent light bulbs.

Need more money saving ideas?

Check: <http://greenlivingideas.com> or www.energy.gov

Yanji Lama,
your personal Realtor®

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APRIL IS CITY OF FAIRFAX CLEAN-UP MONTH

Country Club Hills is a great place to live! Why? Because so many neighbors care about their city, homes, and neighborhoods. Fairfax City Council has designated April as Clean-Up Month. If you're looking to have an impact on your city/community join your neighbors and help clean our CCHCA Adopt-a-Spot.

The spring cleaning of Accotink Creek held Saturday April 25th 10am - 1pm is an opportunity to explore thru and/or around your creek collecting litter - enjoying conversation - making new friends. Dust off unused winter muscles - Breathe fresh air again - Create your own positive ecological thumbprint.

Feel good about helping the environment in its recovery battle!

FREE PIZZA / GATORADE - at conclusion / in Commons Shelter

When: Saturday April 25th at 10am

Where: Country Club Hills Commons Shelter

(intersection of Spring Lake/ Andover / Brookwood)



Contact: Steve Caruso / smcestop@msn.com or smcestop@yahoo.com
703-273-3085 or 703-477-3216

CLEAN UP DAY APRIL 25TH CLEAN - UP DAY

WELCOME NEW CCH RESIDENTS!

Ron and Sue Mochinski
 3418 Park Hill Place
 Trey and Jacqui Barrineau
 10002 Boxford Court
 Matt and Sarah Jordan
 3303 Spring Lake Court
 Bill, Lucy and Drew Lorence
 9910 Broadview Drive
 Matthew and Amy Levy
 3305 Spring Lake Court
 Stephen and Sisi Jou
 9910 Pinehurst Avenue
 Suzanne Hanni
 10103 Spring Lake Terrace

-Yanji Lama

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City of Fairfax Democratic Committee

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703.385.8500



CCHCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Position	Name and Email	Phone
PRESIDENT	Katie Baxter-Gagen katiepbg@yahoo.com	703.385.7737
VP, CIVIC AFFAIRES	Hildie Carney hilcarn31@aol.com	703.591.5305
SECRETARY	Dia Pullen diapullen@hotmail.com	703.352.8670
TREASURER	John Sabo newbury05@cox.net	703.246.0066
VP, BLOCK CAPTAINS	Chad Hurley chadhurley@verizon.net	703.278.0428
VP, COMMUNITY SAFETY	Steve Caruso smcestop@msn.com Patrick Thomas phatrick_thomas@cox.net	703.273.3085 703.591.2859
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VP, SOCIAL ACTIVITIES	Nina Prescott ninaprescott@verizon.net Stephanie Uttenweiler suttweiler@yahoo.com	703.278.1008 703.543.4957
WELCOMING COMMITTEE	Yanji Lama yanjilama@yahoo.com	703.395.3693
HISTORIAN	Steve Lescure stephen.lescure@cgi.com	703.591.2452
COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESP. TEAM	Matthew West matthew.west@bakerbotts.com	703.359.4652
COMMON AREA ENHANCEMENT	Nasrin Lescure tonasrin@yahoo.com	703.591.2452
ELECTRONIC MEDIA (Website) WWW.CCHCA.ORG	Marty Pullen mpullen2@hotmail.com Ernie Klimonda eklimonda@gmail.com	703.352.8670 703.591.0696
ELECTRONIC MEDIA CCHCA-YAHOO-GROUP (Moderators)	Ernie Klimonda eklimonda@gmail.com Jill Toth jilltoth@yahoo.com	703.591.0696 703.383.1965
PUBLICITY (Street signs)	Christopher Gagen cgoogen@msn.com	703.385.7737
COMMUNITY APPEARANCE	o p e n	

CCHCA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 11

Annual Spring Egg Hunt
 Contact: Stephanie Uttenweiler,
 or Nina Prescott 703.547.4957

April 16

CCH Board of Directors Meeting
 Contact: Hildie Carney
 703.591.5305

April 25

Accountink Creek Clean
 Contact: Steve Caruso
 703.273.3085

April 26

Progressive Dinner
 Contact: Stephanie Uttenweiler
 703.547.4957

May 14

Annual General Meeting
 Historic Blenheim
 3610 Old Lee Hwy
 CCH Contact: Hildie Carney
 703.591.5305



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