

CCHCA Membership Meeting in October

The Country Club Hills Civic Association general membership meeting will be held in October. Date, time, and room will be announced by a separate flyer, e-mail, and signs at the entrances to CCH.

On our agenda will be recognizing those who assisted with either cleaning up or planting trees at our common area and any other items brought forward by members. And Fairfax City's General Registrar will have new computerized "touch screen" voting machines available for voters to practice their voting skills.

CCHCA Nominated for Award

Country Club Hills Civic Association was a contender for an award when the City of Fairfax presented its annual volunteer awards on Monday evening, September 29th at the Old Town Hall. The hosts were Mayor Robert Lederer and the members of the City Council.

CCHCA Board Members Olivier Denier Long and Nancy Jones accepted a gift from the city of a framed drawing, in recognition of Country Club Hills Civic Association's pocket park revitalization being nominated for "Best Volunteer Program."

The two winners in that particular award category were "Friends of Fairfax" and Historic Fairfax City, Inc., out of a total of four nominees including CCHCA. CCHCA board member Hildie Carney accepted the award for Historic Fairfax City, Inc.

In the Direct Service Volunteer category, Margie Urano of the Lamb Center prevailed over six other nominees. Linda Yard of FPYC won for Community Leadership. Two adult volunteer groups — Noonday Optimist Club of Fairfax and Women's Club of Fairfax — won awards out of four candidates in the Volunteer Group category.

About 100 people attended this event, which concluded with a wine & cheese reception.

Common Area Planting Set for October 18

Please grab your gloves and join in our community effort to plant trees in our common area! Planting begins at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 18.

The planting effort is the next in a planned series of improvements to our common area at the intersection of Brookwood Drive and Spring Lake Terrace.

The Country Club Hills Civic Association applied for and received two City of Fairfax grants to improve the empty lot. The common area is the site of our annual picnics, Easter Egg Hunt, Ice Cream Social, and other events. The city's Parks and Recreation Department will provide additional labor and a backhoe, courtesy of parks and rec director Mike Cadwallader.

The common area planting is being organized by Lisa Whetzel. Please call her at 703-383-5989 for further details, or just show up on Saturday morning. Bring gloves, shovels, rakes, and wheelbarrows. If you can't help out with the planting, please show your support by providing drinks and snacks for fellow residents. This is a community event where we'll be able to enjoy the fruits of our labors for many years.



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Common Area Improvements

By Lisa Whetzel, chair,
Common Area Enhancement Committee

Noticed anything different about the common area lately? For those of you new to Country Club Hills, the "common area" is the field located along Spring Lake Terrace between Andover and Brookwood Drive.



CCHCA holds all social gatherings on this spot. Over the past year, we have been trying to make this city-owned property more inviting for CCH neighborhood use.

On July 19, 14 neighborhood volunteers came out to beautify the common area. They hacked and whacked at years of overgrowth, swatted gnats, and hauled tons of yard waste to the curb. A big huge THANK YOU to all the CCHers that came out to help: Annalisa Abate, Ryan Abate, Hildie Carney, Rob Faber, Hugh "Bob" Farrell, Nancy Jones, Keith Kuder, Steve Lane, Bob Martin, Paul Sullivan, Andrew Toth, Jay Whetzel, Patrice Winter, and Joe Valentino. Fairfax City Mayor Rob Lederer also came along and pitched in. State Delegate Chap Peterson brought much needed coffee and donuts to keep up the momentum. A few days later, without any prompting from CCHCA, the city came in with a team of workers and a backhoe to finish the job and top it off with three truckloads of mulch! Thank you Fairfax City!

With the combined funds and efforts of Fairfax City and CCHCA, it looks like we will have ourselves a nicely landscaped common area before the year is out! Here's what CCHCA and Fairfax City are planning to do by December: (1) clean up the area, (2) modestly landscape with trees, (3) install signs laying out guidelines for appropriate use of the area, (4) connect the sidewalks along Spring Lake Terrace, and (5) put up split rail fence along either end of the common area.

This fall, we plan to apply for funds from Fairfax City for a small pavilion (similar to other city park pavilions) to be erected on the site. This property will **remain city-owned and city-maintained**. Over the next five years we will look into putting in a pathway and footbridges in the woods behind. These would not connect to Lee Highway or other neighborhoods.

Suggestions and comments or want to lend a hand? Call me at 703-383-5989.

President's Corner: Hurricane Isabelle Strikes Fairfax City

By Paul Sullivan

Surviving a hurricane is a once in a lifetime event in these parts. Country Club Hills residents and our city responded well to this natural disaster. Here's some good news, some bad news, and an overall assessment of how we handled this crisis.

First, the good news. We took a pretty good hit from hurricane Isabelle on September 18 and 19, but there were no deaths or serious injuries.

Now the bad news. Many of us lost power for three days, and some of us faced serious home damage from falling trees. At least eight large trees fell in CCH. A few houses sustained direct hits. Houses on Newbury Drive, Andover Drive, and Spring Lake Terrace suffered serious damage. Trees damaged houses on Spring Lake Terrace and Park Hill. There were big piles of debris in front of most houses.

After the storm cleared CCH residents immediately began helping each other. Some streets, such as Country Hill Drive, Farr Drive, Broadview Drive, and Pinehurst Avenue, had no power for days. Neighbors offered food, showers, and television sets or watched children for each other while parents dashed out for food or ice.

I saw neighbors helping neighbors remove trees, clean yards, and share hurricane stories. Having the TV off for a few days was a great way for many people to meet their new neighbors. This is true community assistance — an example of how things are supposed to work. Our grade: A.

I was also impressed with our city government. With several days notice, our city prepared and responded admirably. Our water was clean and safe, while water for the county residents had to be boiled. Our fire department responded quickly to emergencies caused by falling trees. Our police department immediately handled traffic and other needs. And the city collected fallen trees, limbs, and debris for two weeks.

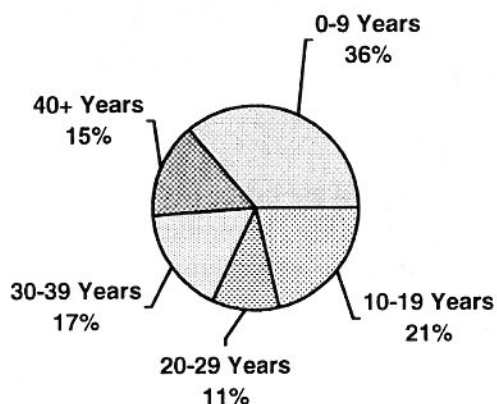
Making all this possible was the city staff, with the leadership and guidance of Mayor Robert Lederer, the entire City Council, City Manager Bob Sisson, Police Chief Richard Rappoport, and Fire Chief Tom Owens. As soon as the rain stopped, Mayor Lederer called city staff and civic leaders to City Hall for a status report.

City staff gave flyers to each neighborhood association to distribute advising people that our water was safe and that help was available, if needed. In less than two hours, nearly a dozen people came to my house to get a stack of flyers and hand them out to every house in CCH. Thank you to everyone in CCH and our city who made surviving a hurricane a lot easier than it could have been.

CCHCA Membership – It's About Building Our Community

Have you renewed your membership in our civic association? 51% of your neighbors have! Although you have until May 31 to renew your CCHCA membership, time is running out if you want to ensure that your contact information makes it into our next directory. The CCHCA Membership Directory is going to print November 15, so if you want to see your information published, **return your completed membership application (attached to this newsletter) by Oct 31.** Give your application to Jill Toth, at 9934 Pinehurst Avenue.

Our neighborhood has been turning over quite a bit lately, as evidenced by the number of home sales in the past year (see page 4). A clear plurality of residents have been here fewer than 10 years, though there is a good distribution of people in the other groups, including 15 percent who have lived here more than 40 years! This is obviously a place where people want to stay. The chart below shows the years of residence in Country Club Hills of the people who have returned their forms.



CCH Communications

Do You Have A Business/Service That You Want to Advertise in the CCHCA 2003/2004 Membership Directory? Please contact Jill Toth, via e-mail at jilltoth@yahoo.com, with your information by **October 31, 2003.**

Would You Like to Receive Regular E-mail Updates about CCH and Fairfax City Happenings? Then please join our CCHCA Yahoo Group. Send an e-mail to CCHCA-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. Because this group is restricted to CCH residents only, you will be asked to verify your name and home address when you subscribe. If you're concerned about bulging inboxes, the traffic for this group is light, perhaps two or three messages a month.

CCH Home Sales

Readers may be interested in sale prices of houses in our neighborhood over the past 18 months or so. This is public information, available on the Fairfax City Web site.

Address	Date	Price
10116 SPRING LAKE TERR	04/30/02	\$323,000
10112 FARMINGTON DR	05/16/02	\$287,000
3416 PARK HILL PL	05/20/02	\$300,000
3421 ANDOVER DR	05/22/02	\$270,000
10104 CORNWALL RD	05/28/02	\$280,000
3415 NEWBURY RD	06/19/02	\$205,000
10101 CAPEWAY CT	06/24/02	\$293,500
3510 OLD POST RD	06/26/02	\$338,000
3507 OLD POST RD	07/02/02	\$339,000
10108 SPRING LAKE TERR	08/15/02	\$339,900
10115 FARMINGTON DR	08/27/02	\$329,900
3405 PARK HILL PL	08/27/02	\$339,000
3509 PINEHURST AVE	09/10/02	\$341,000
3501 OLD POST RD	11/01/02	\$320,850
3432 BROOKWOOD DR	12/09/02	\$340,500
3420 COUNTRY HILL DR	12/12/02	\$305,000
3431 BROOKWOOD DR	12/17/02	\$330,000
10114 FARMINGTON DR	12/26/02	\$300,000
10141 SPRING LAKE TERR	12/26/02	\$318,000
10002 BLACKTHORN CT	02/03/03	\$330,000
3407 ANDOVER DR	03/07/03	\$280,000
9916 FARR DR	05/22/03	\$268,000
3416 COUNTRY HILL DR	06/25/03	\$351,000
3408 COUNTRY HILL DR	07/01/03	\$400,000
10106 SPRING LAKE TERR	07/11/03	\$430,000
10124 SPRING LAKE TERR	07/29/03	\$388,000
3421 BROOKWOOD DR	07/29/03	\$365,000
3303 Spring Lake Court	08/01/03	not avail.
3420 Andover Drive	08/07/03	not avail.
3400 COUNTRY HILL DR	08/19/03	\$380,000

Source: <http://www.fairfaxrealestate.org/fairfax208/LandRover.asp>

Blenheim Plans Taking Shape

Approval of the Blenheim Master Plan is on the agenda for the city council's October 14 meeting. The plan includes building an interpretative-museum-visitors center. Phase I of the plan includes construction of the center as well as restoration of the house and defining a new entrance and paths. A selection committee is in the process of recommending a company for accomplishing this task.

To view the plan or ask questions please call Hildie Carney at 703-591-5305 or e-mail Hilcarn31@aol.com.

City Picks Wood Center for New Police Station

By Paul Sullivan

The Fairfax City Council has selected the John C. Wood Center as the site of our new police station.

According to *Cityscene*, the city's official newsletter for residents, construction of the new police station is scheduled to begin next autumn.

The selection of the Wood site represents a victory for Country Club Hills. Many residents turned out to support retaining the police station at the current site. Residents also expressed concerns about retaining park space and playing fields. After carefully listening to residents' concerns, the city will protect open space at Van Dyck Park, including Little League Fields and a nature habitat.

The city initially considered moving the police station to City Hall. However, the Wood site was selected instead because many residents near City Hall were strongly opposed to building a new police station near their homes, as well as the support for the Wood site from CCH and other nearby residents.

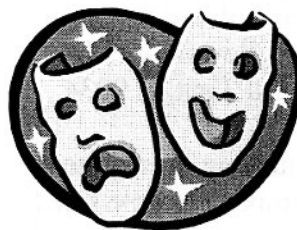
The city is also considering the feasibility of constructing a small community center. The City is interested in your ideas, suggestions, and input. For

Historic Fairfax City Inc. Fall General Meeting

HFCI's fall meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 30, 2003 at Old Town Hall. The program begins at 7:30 p.m. and will include an entertaining hour on the History of the Banjo by Carson Hudson (Williamsburg). Everyone is welcome.

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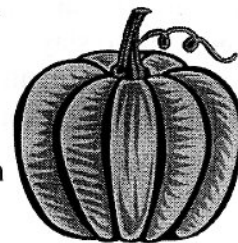
From the Social Committee . . .

HALLOWEEN FUN

Country Club Hills will host a Halloween bash for children on Sunday, Octo-

ber 26 from 4:30-6:00 p.m. in the common area on Spring Lake Terrace. Children ages 12 and younger should come in their costumes.

We will parade around a part of the neighborhood for everyone to see all of our colorful costumes. There will be games with prizes and we ask that each family bring some treats to share for everyone.



SANTA VISITS

Santa will be making private home visits to CCH kids again this year, in early December. We will send more information via a flyer in mid-November.

Please Leash Dogs

As a friendly reminder, please keep your dog on a leash when outside of a fenced yard. Several unleashed dogs have started fights with leashed dogs in Country Club Hills. A leash is the best safety measure for dogs and the people walking them — especially children. Thank you!

ADVERTISEMENTS

Babysitting — Nathan and Alex Caruso are available for babysitting. Nathan is 16 and a sophomore at Fairfax High School. He has completed the INOVA babysitting course. Alex is 14 and going into 8th grade at Lanier Middle School. Both are great with children and can be reached at 703-273-3085.

Writing and Editing — CCH newsletter editor Steven Lane is now freelancing out of his home, having quit his job to say home with kids. Please call 703-352-6217 if you or your company are in need of professional writing or editing services.

SIGNS

CCHCA purchased three signs earlier this year to advertise social functions and meetings to residents at the three entrances to the neighborhood. Two of them have now gone missing. If you have one, or both, please return them to Steven and Debbie Lane at 10019 Morningside Ct., 703-352-6217, or to any other board member. Thanks.