



FAIRLAND ESTATES CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER WINTER 2013

We're on the web:

<http://www.FairlandEstatesCivicAssociation.com>

E-Mail us at: FECA@FairlandEstatesCivicAssociation.com

President's Message

Welcome to the Fairland Estates Civic Association (FECA) first newsletter. FECA is not a homeowners association, but rather residents of Fairland Estates who have organized into an informal neighborhood group to address the aspirations and concerns of the neighborhood. Over the past couple of years, members of the association have been meeting once a month, 7:00-8:30 pm on the second Tuesday or Wednesday evening during September through June. These meetings give us an opportunity to connect with each other and to discuss items of interest in the neighborhood. Everyone is welcome and may volunteer dues of \$20.00 per household per year which goes to cover minimal expenses such as meeting site rental, paper for newsletters, etc.

To those who are just learning about Fairland Estates Civil Association, welcome and please join us. To those we have not seen for a while we welcome you back, and to all the regular attendees, thank you for your continued support and service.

Our email list serve and web site allow information distribution and communication among the Fairland Estates 190+ households. We have a number of committees; you may wish to join one that interests you. These committees and the current leaders are listed below:

Web Site and Newsletter	Mark Fine
Political Liaison	Scott Mitchell
Neighborhood Watch	Lee Suggs and Scott Mitchell
ICC	Alfred Burris
Picnic	Susan and Anthony Perry
Hospitality	Tom Cygnarowicz
Street Lighting	Richard Wyatt
Nominating	Current Officers

We have had successes since re-forming the dormant association. Due to the hard work of past president Scott Mitchell, our streets have been repaved (instead of slipping later and later in the queue as had been the case). Our state and local legislators know we exist and are responsive to our concerns. The county police are more aware of our situations and are eager to interact with the community. The list serve has allowed residents to easily communicate about a number of issues, including crime that has taken place in the neighborhood. Committees are looking into establishing a neighborhood watch program and into a survey by the county to improve street lighting.

If you have any questions or want to be added to the list serve, call me at 301-531-0756 or email us at: FECA@FairlandEstatesCivicAssociation.com.

Please join us for the next meeting on December 10, 2013 at the Praisner Library (north on Old Columbia Pike) at 7:00 – 8:30 pm.

Richard A. Weismiller
President, FECA

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

December 10, 2013

7:00 PM

Marilyn J. Praisner

Branch Library

14910 Old Columbia
Pike Burtonsville, MD.

Note new meeting
location effective 2014

January 8, 2014

7:00 PM

**St. Gregorios Indian
Orthodox Church**

2337 Fairland Rd
Silver Spring, MD

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### Association Officers

#### **President**

Richard Weismiller

[President@FairlandEstatesCivicAssociation.com](mailto:President@FairlandEstatesCivicAssociation.com)

#### **Vice President**

Raj Kalsi

[VicePresident@FairlandEstatesCivicAssociation.com](mailto:VicePresident@FairlandEstatesCivicAssociation.com)

#### **Secretary**

Kindra Sudama

[Secretary@FairlandEstatesCivicAssociation.com](mailto:Secretary@FairlandEstatesCivicAssociation.com)

#### **Treasurer**

Roger and Sally Hunt

[Treasurer@FairlandEstatesCivicAssociation.com](mailto:Treasurer@FairlandEstatesCivicAssociation.com)

## NEW MEETING LOCATION

We are pleased to announce that effective January 2014, our meetings will be held at :

**St. Gregorios Indian Orthodox Church**  
2337 Fairland Rd  
Silver Spring, MD 20904

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at:

[FECA@FairlandEstatesCivicAssociation.com](mailto:FECA@FairlandEstatesCivicAssociation.com)

## FAIRLAND ESTATES WEB SITE IS UP AND RUNNING

FECA is pleased to announce that the new Community Website is now up and running at:

[www.FairlandEstatesCivicAssociation.com](http://www.FairlandEstatesCivicAssociation.com)

New pages are continuously being added to the site. If you would like to see minutes of recent Association meetings, post something for sale, etc., please visit the site. If you wish to contact the Officers, we have made it very easy to do so, simply click the "*Contact Officers*" link on the left side of the home page. A template will be provided for you to enter your request/comments. In addition, feel free to contact the Officers anytime:

[FECA@FairlandEstatesCivicAssociation.com](mailto:FECA@FairlandEstatesCivicAssociation.com)

We welcome comments, suggestions, and questions from our fellow homeowners and neighbors and look forward to hearing from you.

## KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY LOOKING GOOD

We need all of our resident's help in keeping our community looking its' best. Please do your part and remember to:

- \* Pick up after your pet and dispose of waste properly.
- \* Pick up litter you notice in the community and dispose of it.
- \* Make sure household trash is bagged, secured and disposed of in a timely and appropriate manner.

Thank you for taking pride in the appearance of our community. Your cooperation is appreciated!

## ARE YOU PREPARED FOR AN EMERGENCY?

An emergency is defined as "an unforeseen combination of circumstances or the resulting state that calls for immediate action." An emergency doesn't necessarily mean a disaster. It could mean that your child needs a birth certificate copy to register for school or apply for a passport. You may need a copy of the pink slip for your automobile when a brand new set of wheels catches your eye. If you don't already have important papers together in a safe place, maybe this is a good month to buy a small fireproof box and gather those papers together. Things you might include are:

- \* Wills, social security cards, passports, birth certificates, divorce and custody decrees, immigration documents.
- \* Property deeds, mortgage company address and phone number.
- \* Homeowners and life insurance policies and phone numbers
- \* Copies of health insurance card and phone numbers.
- \* Inoculation records, health records, doctors and dentists names, addresses and phone numbers.
- \* Auto ownership papers, auto insurance policies and phone numbers, drivers and auto license numbers.
- \* Credit card numbers and contact information.
- \* Addresses and phone numbers for outstanding loans.
- \* Stock and securities certificates, address and phone number of broker.
- \* Bank account numbers, addresses and phone numbers of banks.
- \* A current copy of your employment resume, as well as a list of previous home addresses and dates of residence.
- \* An extra copy of your address book, complete with phone numbers and addresses of friends, relatives and professional resources.

You'll be surprised at how useful it will be to have this information in order and accessible.

## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAMS *Neighbors Watching Out For Their Neighbors*

It is certainly no surprise that many cities are encouraging, and even coordinating Neighborhood Watch Programs. They really work!

The reason they work is simple: One of the best ways to deter crime and vandalism in a community is to create a network of neighbors looking out for each other. Not only do police and sheriff's departments encourage Neighborhood Watch Programs, they sponsor educational programs to help participants learn more about fighting crime in their community.

Some Facts About Neighborhood Watch:

- \* Over 40 million crimes are committed every year and the number is still growing.
- \* There can't be a law enforcement officer on every corner, so citizen involvement is essential to combat this social crisis.
- \* By cooperating with each other and the police, people can help fight crime in their community the most effective way - before it begins!
- \* Neighborhood Watch is a crime prevention program that enlists the active participation of citizens in cooperation with law enforcement to reduce crime in their communities. It involves:
  - o Neighbors getting to know each other and working together in a program of mutual assistance;
  - o Citizens being trained to recognize and report suspicious activities in their neighborhoods; and
  - o Implementation of crime prevention techniques such as home security, Operation Identification, etc.

You may hear it called *NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH*, *Home Alert*, *Citizen Crime Watch* or *Block Watch*. The idea is the same. Neighbors looking out for each other! Taking part in a Neighborhood Watch program is simple. The only thing you need is for you and your neighbors to participate. If you would like to participate in a Neighborhood Watch Program for our community, please contact Lee Suggs, Chairman at:

[crimewatch@FairlandEstatesCivicAssociation.com](mailto:crimewatch@FairlandEstatesCivicAssociation.com)

## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH TIPS

Let's all work together to help eliminate neighborhood crime. Please watch out for these activities in our neighborhood:

- \* Someone running from a car or home.
- \* Someone screaming. If you can't explain the screams, call law enforcement and report them.
- \* Someone going door-to-door in the neighborhood or looking into windows and parked cars.

- \* Someone asking about past or current residents.
- \* Someone who appears to have no purpose wandering through the neighborhood.
- \* Unusual or suspicious noises that you cannot explain, such as breaking glass or pounding.
- \* Vehicles moving slowly without lights or without an apparent destination.
- \* Business transactions conducted from a vehicle. This could involve the sale of drugs or stolen goods.
- \* Offers of merchandise available for ridiculously low prices. The merchandise might be stolen.
- \* Someone walking or running while carrying property at an unusual time or place.
- \* Someone removing property from unoccupied residences.
- \* A stranger entering a neighbor's home which appears to be unoccupied.
- \* A stranger in a car who stops to talk to a child.
- \* A child resisting the advances of an adult.

## WE HAVE OPEN POSITIONS ON OUR COMMITTEES

Committees serve a number of important roles in our Association:

- \* Committees serve as a training ground for future association leaders.
- \* Committees serve as a conduit through which the Association receives "grass root" input - opinions and attitudes of owners.
- \* Committees serve as a vehicle through which Association actions are explained.
- \* Committees enhance the effectiveness of the Association by providing research analysis and advice needed for policy decisions.
- \* Committees are an important linkage between the Officers and community residents.

In order to be effective committees need members!

We need help on our Crime Watch Committee, Political Action Committee, Picnic Committee, Hospitality Committee and others.

Please consider participating in the association process and volunteering to serve on a committee. Our community needs you!

## PLEASE PICK UP AFTER YOUR PET

It doesn't take much to remember that we have pets in our community. In fact, if you don't watch your step, you are liable to step in one such reminder! Besides being unsightly and smelly, animal waste can be hazardous to the health of our children who play in the community as well as to other pets. One of the most common forms of disease transmission between dogs is through fecal matter.

It is important to remember to immediately clean up after your pet. Take along a plastic bag with you to pick up waste. Then dispose of it properly. By taking a few simple steps to clean up after your pet, you can contribute not only to the beautification of our community, but also toward the elimination of one of the most irritating nuisances in our community. Thank you for your cooperation!

## HOME HEATING SAFETY

Heating equipment is a leading cause of home fire deaths. Almost half of home heating equipment fires are reported during the months of December, January, and February. Some simple steps can prevent most heating-related fires from happening:

- \* Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from heating equipment, like the furnace, fireplace, wood stove, or portable space heater.
- \* Have a three-foot "kid-free zone" around open fires and space heaters.
- \* Never use your oven to heat your home.
- \* Have a qualified professional install stationary space heating equipment, water heaters or central heating equipment according to the local codes and manufacturer's instructions.
- \* Have heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional.
- \* Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.
- \* Always use the right kind of fuel, specified by the manufacturer, for fuel burning space heaters.
- \* Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room. Ashes should be cool before putting them in a metal container.
- \* Test smoke alarms monthly.

**BE SAFE!!!**

## HOLIDAY COFFEE RECIPES

*Here are some coffee recipes you might be able to use for the holidays.*

**To prepare the coffee recipes:** mix in food processor or blender until you have a fine powder.

**For all the coffee recipes:** use 1 to 2 teaspoons to one mug of hot water (to desired taste).

### BAVARIAN MINT

- 2/3 cup instant coffee
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 tsp. dried mint leaves (you might have to turn the mint leaves into powder)
- 2/3 cup non-dairy creamer

### CAFÉ L'ORANGE

- 2/3 cup instant coffee
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 tsp. dried crushed orange peel
- 1/4 tsp. cinnamon

### TOFFEE COFFEE

- 1 cup instant coffee
- 1 cup non-dairy creamer
- 1 cup brown sugar

### CAFÉ MOCHA

- 2/3 cup instant coffee
- 3 TBSP unsweetened cocoa
- 1 1/3 cups sugar
- 1 cup non-dairy creamer
- 1/4 cup nonfat dry milk

### CINNAMON-N-SPICE

- 2/3 cup instant coffee
- 1 1/3 cup sugar
- 1/2 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp. nutmeg
- 1/2 tsp. allspice

### CAFÉ VIENNA

- 1 cup instant coffee
- 1 1/3 cups sugar
- 1 1/3 cups nonfat dry milk
- 1 tsp. cinnamon

### CAFÉ ORANGE CAPPUCCINO

- 1 cup instant coffee
- 1 1/2 cups sugar
- 2 cups nonfat dry milk
- 1 tsp. dry orange peel

Have a recipe you would like to share, please feel free to send it to us.