# COUNTRY CLUB VIEW

# Civic Association Newsletter

**March 2017** 

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#### Editor's Note:

We value your input.
Comments or ideas for
future articles are welcome
and encouraged.
Contact Susan Mekenney,
Newsletter Editor at
susan@movetovirginia.com

### President's Message

Diana Michel, CCVCA President

My three-year term as president of Country Club View Civic Association (CCVCA) will end on April 25<sup>th</sup>, our general membership meeting. It has been a pleasure to work with the Executive Board on neighborhood issues. They are a great group of people and very enjoyable to associate with. I have also had the privilege of meeting a lot of nice neighbors as they asked questions or shared concerns.

As a programmer, one of the concepts integrated into our work is continuous process improvement. In applying that to CCV, thanks to **Thayne Bohman**, we now have a website! If you have not visited it, it is at <a href="http://countryclubview.org/">http://countryclubview.org/</a>. A big thank you also goes out to the **Wade family** for agreeing to maintain that site. Another aspect of bringing our civic association into a more modern focus has been the addition of a database for keeping our membership records. Thank you to **Tom Carnahan** for writing the database and putting up with my constant requests for corrections/improvements! We also owe a thank you to **Diane Carnahan** for her role in making the database happen.

Thanks to all the members of CCV for electing me and allowing me to serve as your president. I'll be looking forward to seeing you around the neighborhood.

Country Club View Civic Association, General Membership Meeting Tuesday, April 25, 2017, 7:45 PM Oak View Cafeteria Guest Speaker, Delegate David Bulova, Important Board Elections

#### SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE MARCH 20th. STILL TIME TO SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION.

Bob Mizer, Public Service & Neighborhood Watch Committee Chair

Each year CCVCA awards a \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior whose family is a member of the Civic Association. The Paul Maltagliati Memorial Scholarship is awarded based on: **academic achievement,** participation in school, community activities, a short essay, and an interview.

Applications will be due no later than *March 20, 2017* and are available on Nextdoor.com. The application provides details about the process and required documentation. All seniors, regardless of school attended or home schooled, are eligible. Feel free to contact me at **703-425-9607** if you have any questions or are having trouble downloading the application.

#### **About the CCVCA Newsletter**

The CCVCA Newsletter is published quarterly. To advertise or submit articles, contact the newsletter editor. CCVCA reserves the right to not publish any material it deems inappropriate.

#### **Board of Directors**

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#### **CCVCA PayPal Account**

Don Weber, CCVCA Treasurer

Tired of writing and mailing checks for your CCVCA dues and scholarship contributions? Now you can do this electronically via PayPal. No checks, no envelopes, no stamps. Just go to the CCVCA website — countryclubview.org — click on the "Payments" button, and click on the "Donate" button. It's simple, fast, convenient, and safe. One reminder, though. If you use PayPal to make a payment or contribution to CCVCA, please add a dollar to help us defray the PayPal transaction fee. Thank you! We hope that many CCV residents will take advantage of our PayPal option.

#### MUSICAL CHAIRS IN COUNTRY CLUB VIEW—Why?

Sheila Coffin, CCVCA 2nd Vice President

In the 31 years I've lived in CCV, there've been a handful of names on the CCCVA Board. A few people have managed to escape. Some succumb to pressure to return. Our by-laws allow a person to hold a position for 3 years — what has been happening when those 3 years are up; people rotate to a new job on the board. Sad, that, in a community of this size, there are fewer than 10 people willing to step up and help. We try to meet once a month in the evening about ten months out of the year. We meet in each other's homes. We learn of happenings in areas others might not know of for a while. We get to interview bright young people and award scholarships to them.

Please give a thought to joining this not-so-elite group, perhaps bring some new ideas, and get to know your neighbors better. You can find the job descriptions for board members in the neighborhood directory.

#### **CCVCA Membership Year Runs from Sept 1-Aug. 30**

Don Weber, CCVCA Treasurer

It was recently discovered that two residents paid twice to join CCVCA this year. The CCVCA membership year runs from Sept. 1st through Aug. 30th of the following year. If you joined since Sept. 1, 2016, you don't need to renew your membership until Sept. 2017. If you're unsure whether you paid dues for the current membership year, contact your block captain or send an email to <a href="mailto:ccvcafx@gmail.com">ccvcafx@gmail.com</a>. We invite all CCV residents to join CCVCA, but you only need to do it once a year! Thanks to all who have joined for 2016-2017. You help make CCV a wonderful place to live. P.S. We are refunding those extra payments.

#### FAMILY SECURITY 101: STAY ALERT, STAY SECURE & STAY HAPPY!

Stephen E. Belisle, CCVCA First Vice President



In 2015, the Fairfax County Police Department (FCPD) responded to 25,206 crimes against property and 7,712 crimes against persons, including 13,320 larcenies, 837 burglaries, 448 robberies, 120 kidnappings or abductions, 792 motor vehicle thefts, 5,016 vandalisms, 7,375 assaults, and 203 forcible sex offenses. What's a great way to avoid becoming one of these statistics? One word – vigilance!

Vigilance in using social media, like NextDoor and Facebook. Once you disclose information on the Internet, you cannot be certain who may obtain it. Avoid disclosing detailed information online as to when family members may be away from home. Such information could tip off evil-doers as to when you'll be gone, who will be home, and what the approximate threat at home might be based on ages given. They could also use kids' names, ages, and other information for purposes of approaching them in public, and assembling profiles used to guess your online passwords (since many people unwisely use combinations of birthdays, important dates, and family names as login names and passwords). Whenever you find yourself about to disclose specific personal information online, question whether it's necessary, and whether you could provide more generalized information.

Vigilance in entering and exiting your vehicle. Many crimes against persons are committed when they're attempting to access vehicles. It's a vulnerable moment—people often are searching for their keys/remotes, managing children and/or packages, and trying to open doors or trunks, all with their backs to everything happening around them. Evil-doers see this as a moment of opportunity to rob, assault, abduct, and more. Be vigilant – look around before focusing on door handles and every few seconds until you're in the vehicle with doors locked. When you leave your vehicle, remove all valuables from plain sight and lock your vehicle.

Vigilance in protecting your home and family. While home security systems may not prevent crime, they may deter some evil-doers. Whether you have one or not, consider posting security system warning signs around

your property, which can be purchased at places like Home Depot or Amazon.com, and making it a habit to lock all doors and windows in your home, night and day. Evil-doers prefer to operate under the cover of darkness, and look for visual clues that a family has left for days, such as newspapers in the driveway, or no lights on in the house when normally there are certain ones on during the evening.

Consider having someone trustworthy collect newspapers, using timers to control various lights when no one will be home for days, and leaving at least some lights on at night around your home's entry points.

Vigilance in using the telephone and email. Be vigilant whenever anyone calls or emails you asking for personal information or to verify personal information. If your phone rings and it's not a family member, friend, or expected call, just hang up. If the caller purports to be from a charity or financial institution you use, just say that you're not comfortable talking now and you'll call them back directly (you make the call to the charity's or financial institution's real phone number). The same holds true with emails. If you get emails or online solicitations for personal information, just shut that down, and either call the institution directly or login to what you know to be the institution's secure website.

Continued on next page.

For information about several known telephone and/or computer frauds and scams or to report one, visit the U.S. Federal Communications Commission's website at <a href="https://www.fcc.gov/general/frauds-scams-and-alerts-guides">https://www.fcc.gov/general/frauds-scams-and-alerts-guides</a>, or for IRS scams, visit <a href="https://www.irs.gov/uac/newsroom/scam-phone-calls-continue-irs-identifies-five-easy-ways-to-spot-suspicious-calls">https://www.irs.gov/uac/newsroom/scam-phone-calls-continue-irs-identifies-five-easy-ways-to-spot-suspicious-calls</a>.

You've likely heard of the saying, "See Something, Say Something." In Fairfax County, it's not uncommon for FCPD to schedule patrol operations based on incident reports. So if you see or suspect criminal activity, do not hesitate to contact the FCPD using 9-1-1 for emergencies (like life-threatening events) or 703-691-2131 for non-emergencies.

Remember, stay alert, stay secure, and stay happy!

### **Traffic /Parking Update March 2017**

Bob Mizer, Public Safety Committee Chair

Since the last update on the status of traffic /parking issues there have been several developments that impact the Association's planning. A detailed discussion of the situation and any additional information that may become available will be provided at the April 25<sup>th</sup> membership meeting.

To summarize the major changes:

<u>Traffic study on Portsmouth:</u> At this time, VDOT is not considering any 3-way stop sign installations unless other traffic calming initiatives are undertaken concurrently with the request for the stop signs. This means CCV residents would have to agree to the installation of speed humps/bumps at various locations on Portsmouth as part of any request for intersection improvements at Gadsen or elsewhere on Portsmouth. If CCV residents were to agree to the calming measures then a traffic study could be initiated which may or may not justify any changes depending on the results.

<u>Residential Permit Parking Districts</u>: Any request for a RPPD in the Portsmouth/Gadsen/Sideburn area would be for the hours covered by the GMU restricted parking agreements. They are significantly different than previously reported. The hours for the GMU parking permit districts are Monday through Friday, 7:00 AM until 8:00 PM, and Saturday from 7:00 AM until 1:00 PM.

The areas CCV has been studying do not qualify for inclusion in the high school RPPD hours which start at 8:00 AM and terminate at 3:30 PM on school days.

<u>Gadsen Stub</u>. It has been determined that since the short stub is private property and the proffers that exist require that access to the Mall must be maintained there is little the Association can do to restrict parking or access. It would be up to the owners of the property to take action.

However, it is recommended that nearby property owners report illegally parked vehicles to the police. The Association will provide a handout of current parking regulations at the April 25<sup>th</sup> meeting outlining such things as distances to stop signs, driveways, crosswalks, fire hydrants, and intersections. The police ask that you provide a description of the vehicle, the license number, and the specific location so they can respond effectively.

If you have questions or concerns don't hesitate to give me a call at 703-425-9607.

#### 2016 CCVCA WINTER HOLIDAY DECORATION WINNERS

Sheila Coffin, CCVCA 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

Congratulations to the 2016 winners of the CCVCA Holiday Decorating Contest sponsored and judged on December 20<sup>th</sup> by our local CCVCA Women's Club. This contest has been a long standing tradition in CCV for many years. Eligibility is contingent on membership in our community civic association. For only \$15 a year, this is one of the many amazing member benefits.

First place and winners of \$50.00:

**The Arn family on Briar Street** – their decorations consisted of bushes of many different colors all the way across the front of the house and several lighted features such as a peacock – symmetrical and VERY colorful while being tasteful.

Second place and winners of \$35.00:

**The Cummings family on Grinnell Street** – tastefully decorated with white lights featuring several figures – symmetrical and pleasing.

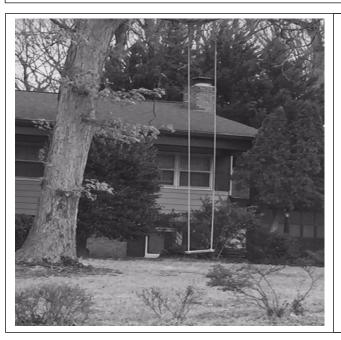
Third place and winners of \$25.00:

**The Hickson family on Lindsay Street** – their decoration was a well thought out display of all white lights on the house and throughout the yard.

### **Trash Bags or Containers for Yard Waste?**

Bea Stephens, CCVCA Women's Club Representative

There have been some questions regarding the need to use biodegradeable trash bags for yard waste. At the present time this is not a County requirement. It is left up to the individual trash companies. AAA-Republic requires that you use the bags or containers that can be emptied as of March 1. American has put the requirement on hold for the present time and will still accept the plastic bags.



# Can you guess the CCV location pictured here?

Sherrie Brady, CCVCA Secretary

Send your guesses (be specific) to sherrie.brady@gmail.com for correct answers to be collected for a drawing. Executive board members will draw for a winner who will receive a \$10 gift card after the April membership meeting. Be sure to include your name and address with your guess. **Good luck!** 

Congrats to December's winners, the Cummings family at 5212 Grinnell Street!



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