## COUNTRY CLUB VIEW

# Civic Association Newsletter

**July 2021** 

### President's Message

Amye Lee Rheault, CCVCA President

Since our previous CCVCA members' newsletter, you have been a recipient of the 2021 Country Club View Civic Association Directory! A heartfelt thank you to Diana Michel and Diane Carnahan for their tireless efforts to manage our member database and ultimately create this vital publication. Our Directory, much like our presence on Facebook, NextDoor, and our recently refreshed CCVCA website, serves as a springboard for further connections among neighbors. We aim to maintain and deliver the most accurate and relevant information to our residents. Enclosed with this newsletter you will find a 2021 Directory Addendum that includes updated contacts and corrections since the initial publication.

Among the member names listed in the directory you will find those of your CCVCA Board and volunteers. This Spring we welcomed to our Board a new volunteer, Cheryl Osborne, as the Robinson Representative. We also welcome back a returning volunteer, Fran DelVecchio, into the new role of GMU Representative. Turn to the feature on page 8 to learn more about Fran's ongoing service to our neighborhood. If you or a neighbor is interested in serving on our CCVCA Board, we welcome your outreach to ccvcafx@gmail.com at any time. If the (very manageable!) commitment of serving on the Board is too much for your schedule right now, there are still many valuable ways to contribute to the neighborhood. For instance, in response to a Facebook post our neighbor Hanan Idilbi offered to host a CCV pick-up site for Potomac Vegetable Farm (PVF) Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) shares. Since then more than a dozen households in our neighborhood have signed up and began receiving bags of local, ecoganic produce. If you would like to join them there is still time to sign up for the fall season of deliveries. You can write to us at <a href="mailto:ccvcafx@gmail.com">ccvcafx@gmail.com</a>, and I am happy to answer any questions as this is my family's third year participating in the PVF CSA season.

However, before the fall produce and cooler temperatures arrive, we have more summer to enjoy! Look for updates on Facebook about the upcoming CCV Fun in the Sun event and mark your calendar for National Night Out on Tuesday, August 3rd; our annual CCV Ice Cream Social on Sunday, September 19; and our Fall General Membership Meeting on Monday, September 27.

2021 has been a great year for CCV neighbors to gather in service, celebration, and remembrance. Highlights include the stream cleanup, neighborhood yard sales, a concert in the park and the inaugural CCV Memorial Day commemoration. Photos of some of the 2021 CCVCA events appear on the pages that follow. We thank those of you who joined us for these events and look forward to seeing you at the next CCVCA gathering!

Sincerely,

Amye

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

The CCVCA Newsletter is published a few times per year. To submit articles, contact the Newsletter Editor. CCVCA reserves the right to not publish any material.

Contact members of the Board and Executive Committee via email at CCVCA@country clubview.org.

#### **Board of Directors**

President

Amye Lee Rheault

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Bill Barfield

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

Diana Michel

Secretary
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#### **Committee Chairs**

Public Service & Neighborhood Watch Bob Mizer

Scholarship
Bob Coffin

Events
Sherrie Brady

School Liaisons GMU–Fran DelVecchio Robinson–Cheryl Osborne Oak View–Aileen Winguist

Beautification
Pete & Bertha McClintock

Welcoming
Bertha McClintock

Newsletter Editor *Laura E. Mayer* 

Website
Wade Family

Women's Club Representative

Karen Hauck





#### 2021 CCVCA Scholarship Awards

Bob Coffin, Scholarship Chair

CCVCA annually awards the Paul A. Maltagliati Memorial Scholarship to one or more graduating high school seniors of CCVCA members. The scholarship is awarded based on academic achievement, participation in school and community activities, a short essay, and an interview with the Scholarship Committee. The exact amount awarded and number of scholarships given may vary based on funds available. Most funding comes from the annual membership drive's donations to the scholarship fund. Other donations from members will be most willingly accepted and appreciated, just contact the Scholarship Chair—we DO have some extremely talented and worthy students in our community. This year we were fortunate—at the last moment!—to have an anonymous donor give \$1000 for the fund, enabling us to provide three \$1000 scholarships. This year's awardees are:

#### **Emily Bruck**



Since the age of three, Emily has been involved in everything dance. Over the years she has parlayed that interest by "leaps and bounds" to achieve a high state of acumen, working with the Robinson Dance Team; teaching and choreographing children with Dance Zone Extreme; and performing with the Virginia Ballet Company and in several Joffrey Ballet Productions. She believes that dance has eased her anxieties and has strengthened her both physically and mentally. Emily has also volunteered with Keen Greater D.C., interacting with special needs children in sports and dancing. She has been elected to her Class Council for three years and in that position has further supported the Robinson special needs community. Specifically, she has worked with "Robinson Partners" through the popular "Fanquest" basketball games starring special needs athletes to include that underrepresented population. She is also a member of the National Honor Society and the

German National Honor Society (in which she has accomplished genealogical work on her German family roots since they got off the boat in Baltimore). Lastly, she is a licensed Ham Radio Operator, believes in activism, and has a desire to get involved in politics, all of which showcase her diversified interests. Emily will be waltzing off to New York City to study at the Joffrey Ballet School while concurrently getting a degree at the College of New Jersey.

#### Madeline "Maddie" Hitchcock



If Maddie is not intently pursuing some academic or athletic goal or working summers at Sideburn Run Pool, you can likely find her curled up on the couch reading, writing, painting or journaling—her relaxing modes. First, she is a multi-sport varsity athlete: In her freshman and junior years she was a District and Regional competitor in Swimming, excelling in Butterfly. In Outdoor Track for four years she excelled at distance events qualifying for District and Regional competitions and was named Varsity Track Captain. In Indoor Track, Maddie's best event has been the High Jump as she was the District and Regional Champion in 2021 and went on to place 3<sup>rd</sup> in the State in 2021! Maddie finds Track to be physically and mentally challenging; it drives her to be in tune with both body and mind. She was (quite deservedly) the Robinson Ram Booster Award recipient

for Indoor Track & Field in 2021. In her spare time, Maddie has been a Girl Scout since 2016, achieving the coveted Silver Award. (Her project was "Making Country Club View a 'Bee Safe' Neighborhood"). Her academic career has been eclectic, acing courses from IB Philosophy to IB Geography, Anthropology, and World Religions with a side of Yoga for Wellness. Academically, she was nominated for Honors in English as a junior. She will be attending the College of William and Mary in the fall, planning on majoring in English/History with an eye toward teaching or library science.

#### **Elina Teolis**



Elina attended the Washington Japanese Language School on Saturdays for the past 12 years, developing a 5.0 fluency and a greater appreciation for who she is as a person. She was a Cherry Blossom Festival volunteer in 2017 and 2019. In her spare time, since 2014, she has been a Club and Robinson Girls Volleyball Varsity Defensive Specialist, sometimes a Libero—the "glue" of a Volleyball team that keeps the ball from hitting the floor at all costs, a somewhat bruising position requiring agility, speed, reflexes and instinctive IQ. There's no "Glory" to the position because you are not allowed to score. It does teach humility, self -confidence, and teamwork. Academically, she has excelled; in fact she seems to succeed in whatever endeavor she pursues. Emily will be receiving an International Baccalaureate diploma (her thesis was on "The Assassination of Hitler Attempt"); has been a National Honor Society member since 2016 and a Science National Honor Society

member since 2019; holds a 4.5 GPA; and has also acquired a 5.0 fluency in French! She also squeezed in business management classes and a membership in Future Business Leaders of America. Her career goal is to become a physical therapist. In line with

this she will be attending the University of Virginia, majoring in Kinesiology. Note: the Teolis family will have the dubious pleasure of supporting students at both UVA and VT: her brother, Sam, a previous CCVCA scholarship winner attends VT.

In addition to the individual \$1000 student scholarships, CCVCA has also bestowed \$50 to each of the three teachers cited as the most influential to each awardee's educational success. This year they were all from Robinson: **Haley Crissman** (chosen by Emily Bruck); **Jennifer Fulton** (chosen by Maddie Hitchcock), and **Kathryn Dirga** (chosen by Elina Teolis). A tip of the hat to all, particularly in this most challenging year!

#### CLASS OF 2022: TAKE AN EARLY NOTE!!!

Scholarship Application Forms can be obtained from the CCVCA website, or the CCVCA Scholarship Chairperson, Bob Coffin, 10716 Almond Street, Fairfax, 22032; 703-385-3264; or <a href="mailto:ntttwalr@verizon.net">ntktwalr@verizon.net</a>. **Due date for the Scholarship Application is 15**March 2022. Don't hesitate to ask questions!

#### Why I Volunteer: Meet Bob Coffin

Laura E. Mayer, Newsletter Editor

Ever wonder about the identity of the man behind the scholarship curtain with the big voice and big heart? Learning about our resident wizard—as he makes financial wishes come true!— is much like traveling down the Yellow Brick Road to Oz: you journey in search of what you want and end up receiving what you need.

I sent Bob my COVID-standard interview questions via email, but asked to follow up in person. I had never officially met Bob, but was intrigued by the warm and copious voice reflected in his written words. As I rang the bell of the Coffin residence with my laptop and secondary questions in hand, I was beckoned from within. I entered the house at the foyer, and as I ascended the stairs, I saw several senior portraits of their children lined the adjacent wall. Bob, with sky-blue twinkling eyes reminiscent of older generations, sat at the end of his dining room table holding his full-sized poodle by a short leash, like a sentinel at his side. "This is Big Papi named after David Ortiz of the Red Sox. Big Papi is friendly; he just excites easily with new people."

The Coffin family, Bob, his wife Sheila, and their five blended-family kids, have called their split-level on Almond Street home for almost thirty-five years. Retiring from the Army in 1986 after a three-and-a-half year, family accompanied tour in Korea, Bob targeted the DC Metropolitan area (to live and work) in the hopes of staying in the Intelligence field for a second career. However, moving to the United States was a big change for the Coffin clan—and the mid-December move left the family with only half their luggage and no Christmas presents. That is until a jolly CCV neighbor dressed as Santa gave the Coffins a warm-welcome with small gifts and candies for the kids, wine and cookies for the adults, and a homemade meal for everyone. "One could call that a fairly positive introduction to the neighborhood...[especially since] we knew no one in the neighborhood... [and they] knew ALL [our] names!," Bob joyfully remembers. "[That neighbor], his wife, his two boys and Scottish Terriers have moved away since, but I like to think the spirit of neighborliness continues thirty-five years later."

Bob's belief in "doing your part" is clearly woven into the fabric of his life: From his small town upbringing in Hubbardston, Massachusetts where his immediate and extended family "all played voluntary parts in town activities, functions, and governance" (and all were presumably Red Sox fans); to his participation in Alpha Phi Omega, the National Service Fraternity in which he contributed volunteer hours in addition to his class and study time in college; to his first career in the Army during which he engaged in the community of military life; to his wife Sheila's role as the CCVCA Secretary for over twenty years and continuous involvement in the CCV Women's Club; to his own community involvement in coaching Braddock Road Girl's Soccer (seventeen years), announcing for the Sideburn Run Recreation Association Board and Swim/Dive team meets (fifteen years), volunteering for Robinson High Booster events, including Fruit Sales for the Band and Food Chair for the All Night Grad Party, and his current role of organizing and awarding the CCVCA Scholarship, Bob has both witnessed and experienced the impact that one person can have on another, a group, and even a community.

Interestingly, when I asked Bob about his most enduring memory of volunteering for CCVCA, he recollected starting a drive to replace the cherry trees that once were the prominent landscaping tree of the community. Most of those original trees in the neighborhood had perished, so Bob and Sheila worked with a local nursery to replant cherry trees to interested neighbors. "That was twenty to twenty-five years ago, but I can still drive around the community and still see many of them gracing the lawns of our streets." Bob also mentioned the overwintered azaleas he found at a nursery: "There's always a ton of plants in the back,

unlabeled, half-dead. You've gotta look carefully, but you can find some good ones in there. That's where I found hundreds of azaleas—and I planted them at Sideburn Run [Pool]. You can still see them today; they're doing well."

Would you like a blueberry muffin?" Sheila waited for a conversation break and asked from the kitchen. "They're freshly baked with blueberries from the backyard."

"Oh, thank you, but no," I said over the growling dismay of my stomach. "I'm going home after this interview to eat dinner." Cherry trees, azaleas, blueberry bushes? That's when I realized: Bob is passionate about plants. So when I finished with my follow-up questions, I asked for a garden tour.

From one plant person to another, he shared his raised beds of herbs and heirloom tomatoes, a barrage of berry bushes from elderberry to black and blue- berries, and two frazzled fruit trees. Many thriving; some just surviving, yet Bob persists in tending to their growth and relishes the reward. "Do you know what this is?" He said, eyes shining, handing me an unlabeled jar among many of canned, home-grown items: salsas, pickles, vinegars, jams.

"Moonshine?" I grinned. The long back room behind the dining room and kitchen felt like another place for surprises: dark and homey with exposed wood ceiling beams and a brick wall, it stood in contrast to the shiny, white, and polished kitchen.

"Watermelon rinds. See you only take the white part of the melon, cut off the green skin, and throw away the red part." Then he must have observed me scanning the room when he added, "This part of the house is an addition. That's so we could have plenty of space for the kitchen." (So Bob could prepare the fruits of his labor, of course!)

As I stood with my goodie bag of blueberry muffins—for dessert instead!—with gratitude that the Coffins and I could properly (physically) meet, the conversation curiously led to the struggle of both students and teachers during the pandemic. Bob chimed in with his past experience teaching special education in high school. "…see the secret to student success is to find what a student does well, build his or her confidence, and then watch him or her bloom." The wizard finally stepped entirely outside the curtain.

"Wait, Bob. You were a teacher? For how long? Where?" My laptop was closed, but my heart and eyes were wide open.

"Oh for about twelve to thirteen years at an alternative high school and then three years at Robinson." Continued on page 10.



## HAT'S OFF!

TO ALL 2021 GRADUATES
CCVCA HONORS YOUR ACHIEVEMENT!

Country Club View Civic Association Newsletter July 2021

National Night Out is a national community-building event between neighbors and law enforcement. One of the best ways to build a safer community is to get to know your neighbors! In that spirit, the CCV Board would like to encourage people to host a gathering of your neighbors in your front yard on Tuesday, August 3, 2021 from around 7-9pm, but timing is flexible. Serve whatever light refreshments appeal to you, invite a few nearby neighbors, and learn about one another! Some block captains and section leaders will be hosting events, but anyone who is comfortable hosting is encouraged to do so. There is no reason to confine ourselves to the pattern of blocks used for distribution of newsletters for the Civic Association—invite anyone nearby and enjoy the evening!

If you are hosting and would like a police officer to stop by your gathering, please notify Diana Michel, <a href="mailto:dianalmichel@gmail.com">dianalmichel@gmail.com</a>, as soon as possible.



Sunday, September 19, 2021 CCV Park at 10609 Henrico Street 4:00pm – 6:00pm Informational booths, fun activities, and ice cream!









#### **CCV Bustles with Activity**

Sherrie Brady, Events Chair

Our community faced many challenges these past months, but an undercurrent of energy to organize neighborhood activities managed to thrive nonetheless. Many thanks to all who planned and supported these many activities!

- The Stream Clean-up which was spearheaded by Aileen Winquist and our CCV-sponsored Boy Scout Troop 1865 was a gratifying success: Almost 50 neighbors, scouts, and leaders participated.
- Almost 20 neighborhood entrepreneurs presented wares to sell at the Spring Yard Sale.
- CCV's own professional musicians, Solomia Gorokhivska (violin, vocals) and Andrei Pidkivka (different flutes), presented a lively lawn concert of Eastern European music for a very appreciative crowd.
- The Memorial Day Ceremony and Picnic provided a quiet moment of commemoration for neighbors and friends. Many thanks to all who supported and attended this meaningful gathering:

Boy Scout Troop 1865 – Color Guard

Sheila Coffin – Wreath Designer

Dan Freeman – Trumpet

Girl Scouts - Wreath Presentation

John Hughes – Bagpipes

Curt Mattingly – Rolling Thunder

Annie Paquette - Wreath Designer

Amye Rheault – CCVCA speaker

Greg Rheault - Sound Engineer

Supervisor James Walkinshaw – Guest Speaker

- Lorenda Weider has generously continued to schedule neighborhood food trucks.
- John Kroon, CCV astrophysicist, shared his vast knowledge and enormous telescope with CCVCA board members for "A View of the Night Sky."

The number of people who volunteer for CCV is increasing constantly. If you are interested in taking a more active part of this vibrant neighborhood, please contact Sherrie at <a href="mailto:sherrie.brady@gmail.com">sherrie.brady@gmail.com</a>.









#### A Special Thank You

Before the Harmon family moved away from CCV this spring, their son Andrew Harmon devoted his time to improve our neighborhood. Andrew, earning his Boy Scout Service Project badge, sanded and refinished the railings for one of Oak View Elementary School's access stairs. Thank you, Andrew, for leaving behind such a vital gift for CCV! We wish the Harmon family all the best in their new location and thank them for their generosity.



#### **Get To Know A New CCVCA Board Member**

This year the CCVCA Board is glad to welcome back a valued volunteer, Fran DelVecchio, in a new role. Fran is now serving as our inaugural George Mason University Representative alongside the School Liaison roles already established with Oak View and Robinson. We are thrilled for Fran to shape this role and open up communication between CCV and GMU. Get to know Fran through the following interview:

How long have you lived in CCV?

I have lived in CCV for 27 years.

Where did you call home prior to moving here?

Previously, we lived in Springfield and Arlington. I grew up in New Jersey.

How did you volunteer with CCVCA previously?

I have served with CCVCA as the schools liaison, scholarship committee, newsletter editor, and block captain.

What made you interested in serving this current role?

George Mason University is a great resource for our neighborhood, providing cultural, educational, and athletic opportunities. I recently attended a GMU Master Plan engagement session and learned that a process is under way to "reimagine" the Fairfax campus. It is in the earliest stages, but the ideas are exciting and would substantially modernize the campus to create a 21<sup>st</sup> century educational environment. At the same time, I think it is important that the voices of GMU's community neighbors are heard as GMU considers its development plans. I am looking forward to serving as CCV's liaison to GMU and keeping our community informed of GMU's plans and activities.

What are you most looking forward to as we emerge from the COVID Pandemic?

It will be great to be able to travel again and to visit family that I haven't seen for well over a year.



#### **Neighborhood News and Summer Safety**

Bob Mizer, CCVCA Public Service, Neighborhood Watch



The revised VDOT 2021 paving plan includes additional streets within CCV. The following streets are scheduled to be repaved by November of this year: Almond, Ames, Concordia, Elmira, Grinnell, Holden, Linfield, and Portsmouth. All other CCV streets are scheduled to be paved in 2022.

The Neighborhood Watch is active and full of volunteers, but CCV can always use more volunteers. If you aren't available to drive through the neighborhood in the evening, we are also looking for teams to patrol during the day. Anytime is always better than no time. Contact Bob at 703-425-9607 if you're interested in helping.





Reminders: please dispose of all barbecue coals safely: put them in a metal container away from your home, deck, or fence. Also, if you have a gas grill, keep it at least five feet from flammable material (outdoor furniture, decks, home siding, and fences). Don't finish a great meal with a house fire.

It is hurricane season!. Have an evacuation plan and at least three days of food and water

ready—just like you probably prepared during the COVID lockdowns! Don't get caught unprepared. Don't wait until the last minute. There are several websites with great information and checklists, including Fairfax County, American Red Cross, and FEMA.



### Fairfax County Recycling News: Plastic Yard Waste Bag Use Eliminated

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Joining several neighboring communities in the D.C. Metro Area that have banned the use of plastic bags for yard waste, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors amended the county's Solid Waste Management ordinance to prohibit the use of plastic bags for set out and collection of yard waste.

The change, which took effect on March 1, 2021, requires county residents who have curbside collection of yard waste to use reusable containers or paper yardwaste bags to set out grass, leaves and brush. The Solid Waste Management Program did not begin enforcing the new rule until April 19, 2021 to allow time for customer notification and education.



#### What is CERT?

Tony Teolis, CCV Resident

Hi Neighbors! Have you ever wondered what would happen if a disaster occurred in or near our neighborhood and how you would thrive? It's hard to imagine because we live in such a lovely neighborhood and Fairfax County Emergency Response is quick and reliable. However, we should be aware of how things can abruptly change. For example, my family's house had its roof torn off by a tornado in 1972.

Although I have extensive experience and training in disaster preparedness and recovery, I was not sure how I could help my neighbors. Then I discovered the Fairfax County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). There are actually CERT programs all over the country, yet the Fairfax county program began in 2004 by none other than our neighbor Bob Mizer!

According to the Fairfax County CERT website: "CERT is a partnership between the Federal and Fairfax County Governments and is managed by the Fire and Rescue Department. The training prepares people to help themselves, their families, and their communities during major disasters when first responders can be delayed. The CERT motto is to 'Do the greatest good for the greatest number.'"

I started the CERT training program in November and graduated in April. The most important thing I learned is that Fairfax County needs its CERT volunteers. CERT members are called for many unseen activities, such as food distributions and vaccine center traffic control. Training and certification is free, but another reward for participating in CERT is making new friends. If you want to learn more about CERT and how our community prepares for disasters, see <a href="https://www.ready.gov/cert">https://www.ready.gov/cert</a> and <a href="https://fairfaxcountycert.org">https://fairfaxcountycert.org</a>. I'm also happy to answer any questions and elaborate about my present and future experience with CERT at <a href="mailto:tonyteolis@tonyteolis.com">tonyteolis.com</a>. Best wishes to you and yours for a happy and safe summer!

#### Continued from page 5.

That was the information I needed most. Information that I did not initially seek. The final piece in the story of Bob. He did not mention his credentials or his interest to be the CCVCA Scholarship Chair as a former teacher, yet his soul was seeping joy when he reflected about his experiences in the classroom and the known influence he made on his students. When I asked him how he became the Scholarship Chair, he said plainly, "Sheila and Bob Mizer asked for my help."

Bob's faith in potential—whether dilapidated, forgotten plants or emotionally and academically challenged students—is the cornerstone of his heart. Not only has Bob "done his part" in countless ways serving his family, community, and country, he tends to the future by opening others to do their part. The best way a person can share and serve others is to know the gifts of him or her-self, and that's exactly what Bob chooses to see in every person.

Please remove the last pages of this newsletter and insert the addendum in your CCV Directory. Some entries need to be added to the Directory; other entries need to be modified. Susan Mekenney's full advertisement is corrected. We apologize for the errors.

## **2021 CCVCA Directory Addendum**

Last Name	First Name	Address	Phone	Email
Chhabra	Pratibha & Muktesh	10701 Buckingham Road	202-569-3793	pchhabra@worldbank.org
Hamo	Ludwig & Flanagan, Meg	10710 Ames Street	703-273-7283	meg.flanagan@gmail.com
Hartmann	Dan & Ann	5100 Portsmouth Road	703-591-4831	dhartmann1@cox.net
Hauck	David & Karen	4906 Gadsen Drive	703-501-1058	teksailor@juno.com
Mayer	Kevin & Laura	5120 Sideburn Road	240-723-0359	Mayerlaurae@gmail.com



Susan Mekenney, Associate Broker
12001 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Suite 200
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susan@movetovirginia.com
703-283-6881

Country Club View has been my home since 1990. My husband Bob and I have raised our two sons here. I love this neighborhood and am particularly proud of our strong civic association and all the volunteers that work hard to make this community a wonderful place to call home. My web page is a wealth of information on real estate here in Northern Virginia. As your neighbor and full time REALTOR, consider me your go to person when it comes to real estate here in Country Club View.

