

PRSR STD  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit #6221  
Merrifield, VA

The Pimmit Hills Citizen Association  
1927 Pimmit Drive  
Falls Church, VA 22043  
PimmitHills.org

PLEASE DELIVER BEFORE DEC 3



### How to Advertise in the Pimmit Hills Dispatch and reach 1,636 Pimmit Hills homes

- Display ads: \$30 for ¼ page per month; \$55 for ½ page per month; \$80 for entire page per month. Your ad designed for free.
- Classified ads: 40 words maximum; \$10 per month
- Write check to: PHCA
- Mail check to: Editor, Pimmit Hills Dispatch, 1925 Cherri Drive, Falls Church, VA 22043
- Send news items, articles, ad copy, classified ads, etc to the *Dispatch* Editor via:
  - email—dispatch@pimmithills.org
  - fax—703-734-0779
  - mail—above address

**January issue deadline: Dec 6**

### Pimmit Hills Citizens Association Meeting Dates:

<b>Dec 3, 2002</b>	Mar 4, 2003
Jan 7, 2003	Apr 1, 2003
Feb 4, 2003	May 6, 2003
	Jun 3, 2003

PHCA community meetings are at 7:30 pm the first Tuesday of every month at the Pimmit Hills School, 7510 Lisle Avenue. *ALL Pimmit Hills homeowners and renters are welcome and encouraged to attend!*

December  
2002

Published since 1952  
Courtesy of the Pimmit Hills  
Citizens Association

# The Pimmit Hills Dispatch

Our Neighborhood,  
Our Home

## PimmitHills.org

PIMMIT HILLS, VIRGINIA ■ ESTABLISHED IN MAY 1950

## Pimmit Hills Holiday Decorating Contest



# PIMMIT HILLS NEWS



It's time for the PHCA Annual Holiday Decorating Contest! No-where beats the Hills when it comes to holiday decorating and we want to honor the best of show. Do you think your twinkling lights, gift-wrapped door or other home holiday finery has what it takes? Our 2002 contest has four categories and prizes will go to the winners in each.

The first category is the **Norman Rockwell Award**. This award will go to the house that best says, "Come Home for the Holidays."

The second category is the **Dr. Seuss Award**. This award will recognize the most creative and/or non-traditional approach to holiday decorating.

The third category is the **Over the Top Award**. We think this award is pretty self-explanatory - think National Lampoon.

The fourth and final category is the **Neighborhood Jewel Award**. This award will go to the house that nobody can forget, truly the best of show.

The Judging Committee, made up of PHCA volunteers, will be scouting the neighborhood in search of winners during the middle of the month. If you wish to participate, please make sure you have your decorations in place by then. Winners will be notified and prizes will be awarded. We will an-

nounce the list of winners at the January meeting and have the list posted on the PHCA website.

Happy decorating!



**Pimmit Hills**  
Our Neighborhood  
Our Home

■ ■  
Upcoming PHCA Meeting Date:

## Dec 3, 2002 COOKIE SWAP and HOLIDAY PARTY!

Bring cookies to the meeting to eat and swap.

Our meetings are at 7:30 pm on the first Tuesday of every month at the Pimmit Hills School on Lisle Ave. All **homeowners and renters** are encouraged and most welcome to attend meetings to meet your neighbors, learn more about your community, voice your concerns, and participate in votes.

■ ■  
Ads (classified and display), articles and other submissions for the *Pimmit Hills Dispatch* are due the Friday after the monthly PHCA meetings.

**PHCA Meeting**  
Dec 3, 2002  
Jan 7, 2003  
Feb 4, 2003  
Mar 4, 2003  
Apr 1, 2003  
May 6, 2003  
Jun 3, 2003

**Dispatch Deadline**  
Dec 6 for Jan  
Jan 10 for Feb  
Feb 7 for March  
March 7 for Apr  
April 4 for May  
May 9 for June  
July/ Aug: *Dispatch* is not published



# Pimmit Hills Citizens Association

## Pimmit Hills Citizens Association

1927 Pimmit Drive, Falls Church, VA 22043

EMAIL: PHCA@pimmithills.org, WEBSITE: PimmitHills.org

## OFFICERS for September 2002 to June 2003:

President	Joe Baker	703-448-1394 president@pimmithills.org
First Vice President	Bill Niland	703-356-8240 firstveep@pimmithills.org
Second Vice President	Lee Rock	703-760-7181 secondveep@pimmithills.org
Treasurer	Kim Rollen	703-761-7391 treasurer@pimmithills.org
Secretary	Sarah Rock	703-760-7181 secretary@pimmithills.org
Three Year Director	Martha Duggar	703-356-6508 director@pimmithills.org

## WHO TO CALL:

PHCA Chairman for Volunteers *vacant*  
Neighborhood Watch Bill Niland 703-356-8240  
Fairfax County Police (non-emergency) 703-691-2131

**The Dispatch Editor** Cindy Kwitchoff 703-734-0402

Contact Information for Ads/Articles fax: 703-734-0779  
email: dispatch@pimmithills.org  
mail: 1925 Cherri Drive



### Display Ad Rates:

\$30 for 1/4 page per month  
\$55 for 1/2 page per month  
\$80 for entire page per month

### Classified Ad Rates:

\$10 per month; 40 words max

Ads designed for free, send copy via email, fax or mail

## PH Citizen Contact Information

**Supervisor Stu Mendelsohn**  
McLean Governmental Center  
1437 Balls Hill Road  
McLean, VA 22101

PHONE: 703-356-0551; FAX: 703-821-4275  
EMAIL: stuart.mendelsohn@co.fairfax.va.us

**Delegate Jim Scott, 53rd House Dist.**  
P.O. Box 359

Merrifield, VA 22116-0359  
PHONE: 703-560-8338  
EMAIL: DelJScott@aol.com

**State Senator Janet D. Howell**  
P.O. Box 2608

Reston, VA 20195-0608  
PHONE: 703-709-8283  
EMAIL: SenHowell@aol.com

**Congressman James P. Moran**  
5115 Franconia Road, Suite B  
Alexandria, VA 22310-1903

PHONE: 703-971-4700  
WEBSITE: www.house.gov/moran

**Jane K. Strauss, School Board**  
10700 Page Avenue

Fairfax, VA 22030  
PHONE: 703-246-4780  
EMAIL: jane.strauss@fcps.edu

**Pimmit Hills School**  
7510 Lisle Avenue

FRONT OFFICE PHONE: 703-506-2344  
FAX: 703-506-2397

To report safety, parking or behavioral concerns: 703-506-2318

**Beverly R. Wilson, Principal**  
PHONE: 703-506-2315  
EMAIL: beverly.wilson@fcps.edu

### Most Requested Numbers

Area Agency on Aging, 703-324-5411  
Athletic Service, 703-324-5533  
Animal Control, 703-830-3680  
Audit Hotline, 703-876-0526  
Cox Cable, 703-378-8422  
Clerk-Board of Supr, 703-324-3151  
Consumer Affairs, 703-222-8435  
Dept of Health, 703-246-2411  
Dept of Motor Vehicles, 703-761-8435  
Disabilities Svc Board, 703-324-5421  
Dept of Public Works  
Environmental Svcs, 703-324-5033  
Site Inspections, 703-324-1950  
Electoral Board, 703-222-0776  
Fairfax County Public Schools,  
703-246-2502  
Gas Leaks, 888-223-9452  
Human Services, 703-222-0880  
Office for Children, 703-324-8100  
Office for Women, 703-324-5730  
Park Authority, 703-324-8700  
Pimmit Senior Center, 703-734-3238  
Planning Commission, 703-324-2865  
Police (non-emer) 703-691-2131  
Tax Administration, 703-324-8234  
Trash Collection/Recycling,  
703-324-5040  
VDOT Maintenance, 703-383-VDOT  
Virginia Power, 888-667-3000

**Zoning Enforcement  
Complaints,  
703-324-1300**

**Joan Dubois**

Fairfax County Planning Commission  
12000 Govt Center Pkwy, Suite 330  
Fairfax, VA 22035  
PHONE: 703-324-2865  
FAX: 703-324-3948  
E-MAIL: plancom@co.fairfax.va.us



## Pimmit Hills 2002-03 Membership Drive

The annual Pimmit Hills Citizens Association (PHCA) Membership Drive begins September 2002 and ends June 2003. Dues are only \$12 per person. Please show your support of your community by becoming a member!

### Your membership dues go towards:

- Printing and delivery of the *Pimmit Hills Dispatch* (which costs about \$2 per house *per month*--10 month schedule equals \$20)
- PHCA Telephone Directory
- PHCA representing the community to Fairfax County and its officials
- Special community events like clean-up day, annual yard sale, holiday socials, picnics, holiday decorating contests, etc
- Projects like building *Welcome to Pimmit Hills* signs at the entrances to PH
- Sunshine fund--cheering up neighbors who are ill or who've lost loved ones
- Running monthly meetings where community business is conducted that affects you; having special speakers come to our meetings like our elected leaders, transportation and development topics
- Participating in the McLean Citizens Association which helps give us an even stronger voice in the County
- Helping PH citizens with problems and complaints; working with Fairfax County on serious property concerns
- And more!

Please send in your dues or bring them to the next PHCA meeting and show how much you care about your community!

**Mail this Membership Form with your YEARLY dues to:**  
**Pimmit Hills Citizens Association**  
**1927 Pimmit Drive, Falls Church, VA 22043**

Name(s) of PHCA Members in Household:

Street Address:

Falls Church, VA 22043

Home Phone:

E-Mail Address:

Dues Enclosed:  
**\$12 per person**

I'd like to volunteer for PHCA activities  
 yes     no



# Pimmit Hills Citizens Association Meeting NOTES

By Sarah Rock, PHCA Secretary

**H**ello Pimmit Hills Neighbors! Missed you at the November meeting. Even with the movement from our regular meeting location and a cold rainy night, we still had a substantial turnout of loyal PHCA members. During the meeting we reviewed the past months issues and brought up some new business.

The October Community Cleanup day was a tremendous success. We filled up two and a half trucks of trash and treasure out of the neighborhood. Thanks to Meredith Stewart of Cherri Drive for helping arrange this day. The plans for next year's cleanup are already underway. We would love to have volunteers with trucks help neighbors who do not have access to a truck so we can clear out even more trash from yards, front, back and side.

The Election Day bake sale was a tremendous success, with many new memberships and plenty of baked goods sold. There have been several suggestions for projects based on the money we've raised. One suggestion was to setup a scholarship. Another idea that has been floating around for a while is to build neighborhood signs welcoming visitors to Pimmit Hills. It was suggested in the November

meeting that we hold a contest to design the sign. Such a contest would be open to all residents, young and not-so-young! We need a committee to help plan and coordinate the effort. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact one of the PHCA board members.

Fall means leaves in the Hills, however the county does not pick up leaves in our neighborhood. Please bag your leaves instead of raking them into the gutter.

Falling leaves are sure sign that the holidays are almost upon us. Last year's holiday home decorating contest was so popular we decided to bring it back again this year. If you would like to help out with the contest as a judge or would like to nominate your neighbor for the contest, please contact one of the PHCA board members.

Another Hills tradition is the December cookie swap. Bring your cookies and baked goods to the next PHCA meeting to join in the fun. We welcome all Pimmit Hills residents, with or without cookies, to join us at the December meeting. See you around! ■

secretary@pimmithills.org

**HANDYMAN** – Kenny's Handyman Service: Kitchen, bathroom remodeling, painting, tile, drywall repair, decks power washed and repaired, minor plumbing. No job too small. Call Kenny Shrader at 703-506-4532 for free estimate. Long-time Pimmit Hills resident.

**HANDYMAN** – Roof and gutter repairs, hauling and general home maintenance. Gutter cleaning special \$30 (with gutter screens extra). Power washing fences, decks, siding. Call Steve at 703-475-9026 or via his pager, 703-393-3272. Free estimates. 24-hr emergency roof repairs.

**LET ME HELP YOU** with: leaf raking, snow shoveling, pet sitting (mid-day walking available), baby-sitting, mail pickup/plant watering, odd jobs. Call Shelly at 703-734-1683 to schedule your work to be done.

**SKINCARE FOR ALL AGES** See 30% reduction in fine lines, 29% decrease in dryness, 21% increase in firmness per clinical research. Fast, easy to use formula. Have clear, healthy looking skin. Call Jeff and Jane Stoltzfus, Independent Reliv Distributors, 703-848-0742.

**SPYCRUISE** – Cruise from San Diego to Hawaii on board Royal Caribbean's luxury ship, *Legend of the Seas*, in March 2003 with ex-CIA, FBI, DOD and KGB spies and spycatchers. Daily lectures on espionage cases by these retired intelligence professionals. Ship visits different islands. Prices start from

\$1749. For more information, see SpyCruise.com.

**TREADMILL** – Great condition, motorized, adjustable speed and incline. \$100 OBO. Please call 703-883-3989.

**YOUR AD HERE** – Only \$10 per month with a 40 word maximum. Easy way to get the word out to 1,636 Pimmit Hills homes!

Ads and Articles due  
**Dec 6**

Dispatch@PimmitHills.org

Go to [PimmitHills.org](http://PimmitHills.org) website for an easy way to send in your classified ad!

**ADVERTISING  
in the Dispatch**

**CLASSIFIEDS:**  
\$10 per month; 40 words max

**DISPLAY:**  
1/4 page = \$30 per month  
1/2 page = \$55 per month  
1 page = \$80 per month  
Ad designed for free

**Write checks to:**  
PHCA

**Send checks to:**  
1925 Cherri Drive

**Send ad copy to:**  
email: [Dispatch@PimmitHills.org](mailto:Dispatch@PimmitHills.org)  
fax: 703-734-0779  
mail: 1925 Cherri Drive

THE PIMMIT HILLS DISPATCH  
**CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING**



**ARCHITECT**—Quick, affordable computer design. I have already designed 25 additions in Pimmit Hills. Come and see my house with 2500 sq ft addition. I'll give you ideas and client reference list. Call Peter Boric at 703-790-8396 or 301-770-8595 ext. 206.

**AVON**—Independent Sales Representative Margaret "Maggie" McConchie, 703-356-6058. Request brochure, place order(s), leave message any time.

**AVON** for the Holidays! Start your holiday shopping today with AVON. We have gifts for anyone on your list. Call Julie today to get your FREE color brochure and with every order receive a FREE gift 703-790-5147, donjuliatiff@earthlink.net.

**CARPET CLEANING**—5 rooms only \$65. 7 rooms only \$88. Furniture cleaning experts. Nationally certified. Quality service since 1975. Pet problems and carpet protection treatments. Carpet stretching. Call Mike or Bill at 703-978-2270 or 703-847-9741.

**DAYCARE**—Loving mom will care for infants and toddlers in my Pimmit Hills home. Experienced, with good references and licensed by the state. Near 495, 7 and 66. Call Malee

for more information, 703-848-2371.

**DAYCARE**—Home daycare with permit. Loving mom, experienced, will care for children 2 months to 13 years every day in my Pimmit Hills home. Please call Fariba at 703-448-1384.

**DAYCARE**—Will provide lots of TLC for your child in my home. Meals and snacks provided. Full or part-time. Ages: infants to 5 yrs. Hours: 7:30a-5:30p, M-F. Reasonable rates, lots of reference. Call Nancy at 703-761-4008.

**DISCUSSION**—Thursday, December 12, 2002, at the Tysons/Pimmit Regional Library, Sovaida Ma'ani will give a talk titled "A Baha'i Perspective on Collective Security." The discussion will last from 7 pm until 8:45 pm. Refreshments served. All are welcome! 703-448-6955

**FREE** wood chip mulch delivered. Also free unsplit firewood. Call Mark at 703-790-0651.

**FOR SALE**—7-foot artificial Christmas tree. Very real-looking and in excellent condition. \$64 or best offer (this is half of what it cost new). Please call Jeff and Jane at 703-848-0742 or email jstoltzfus@att.net.

# CHINA KING



Authentic Hunan and Szechuan Cuisine  
 A Great Place for Lunch and Dinner  
*Nice Food • Low Price • No Tipping  
 Fast and Friendly Service*

## CHINESE FAST FOOD

Chicken/Pork . . . \$4.25  
 Beef . . . \$4.50  
 Shrimp . . . \$4.75  
 Vegetable . . . \$3.95  
 Fried Rice/Lo Mein . . . \$3.95-\$4.50  
 Chef Specialties . . . \$6.50-\$7.95

Location: 7500 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA  
 We are on Route 7 at Tyson's Station Shopping Center  
 (1/2 mile inside Beltway) next to Trader Joe's

**Phone: 703-288-6588**

**FREE**

**Egg Roll or Choice of Soup**

Wonton, Egg Drop or Hot & Sour  
 with this coupon or any entrée purchase  
 China King • Falls Church  
 703-288-6588  
 Not valid with other offers  
 Offer expires 12-31-2002 PH

**\$2 OFF**

**Any purchase of 15 or more**

with this coupon  
 China King • Falls Church  
 703-288-6588  
 Not valid with other offers  
 Offer expires 12-31-2002 PH

**FREE**

**Chicken Fried Rice**

With any purchase of \$25 or more  
 China King • Falls Church  
 703-288-6588  
 Not valid with other offers  
 Offer expires 12-31-2002 PH



**Pimmit Hills  
 resident for over  
 30 years**

## M.R. STRIDE, Inc.

Plumbing, Heating, Air Conditioning  
 Repairs and Installations, Disposals,  
 Water Heaters, Drains

**703-893-5161**

REMOVAL ♦ FEEDING ♦ TOPPING  
 TRIMMING ♦ PRUNING ♦ STUMP GRINDING

Free Estimates

**703-790-0651**

**BAILEY'S TREE SERVICE, Inc.**

A Full-Service Tree Company

LICENSED AND INSURED ♦ EXPERIENCED AND RELIABLE





# Curb Appeal

## Hello Neighbors!

The holiday season is upon us, and of course that means that the holiday display season is here! All around the country, folks are dressing their homes for the holidays with lights, figurines, and all manner of ornamental glitz to show off their holiday spirit. There is quite a tradition in Pimmit Hills for fabulous displays—in fact, we've become a destination for many people who live in less "spirited" neighborhoods.

If you're new to Pimmit Hills, you're in for a treat. And if you've been here for a while and haven't yet joined in the fun, there's no time like the present! Pimmit's holiday displays range from simple to outrageous—the sky's the limit, so get creative! I've seen lots of great displays in years past—one of our neighbors transforms the entire front of his home into Santa's workshop. Another covers their entire roof with thousands of little white lights—a glowing blanket of "snow". It's beautiful!

So what's this got to do with curb appeal? Some folks might say



By Cynthia Bernat,  
Anderson Road

that these holiday displays are tacky. Bah Humbug! These displays are a little bit of holiday spirit that you can share with your neighbors. Think about it. You decorate the inside of your house for yourself and your family. But the outside—that's a gift you give to passersby. My

husband and I make a habit of taking a different route to our house every time we come home during December. The beautiful displays make me almost glad it gets dark so early! Curb appeal is about instant impact. You might have some beautiful azaleas in front of your home—in May they're gorgeous, in full bloom, and it's easy to see how they create curb appeal. In December, glowing holiday lights can have the same effect.

There are plenty of local stores that sell the stuff outdoor displays are made of—but if you're not sure where to start, or are looking for something new, try one of these websites:

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

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

*Continued on page 8*



## Celebrate Christmas Eve with us!

### Christmas Eve at St. Luke's

- ✦ Live Nativity with animals from 4 pm until 6 pm
- ✦ Children's Service at 5 pm with birthday cake and kids' gifts
- ✦ Family Candlelight Worship at 8 pm
- ✦ Join us for carols by candlelight

Also during the holiday season:

Carol Sing—Sunday, Dec. 15, 11 a.m. service

Advent Bible Study—Wednesdays Dec. 4, 11 and 18 at noon, at the church

St. Luke's United Methodist Church

"The Church on the Hill"

7628 Leesburg Pike

(on Rt 7 across from Marshall High School)

Falls Church, VA 703-893-9220



## Home Loan Special

Refinance Now Before Rates Go Up!  
Consolidate Debt into One Easy Payment  
Perfect or Poor Credit—No Problem

Call Today!  
**Call Shawn Farra**  
**703-691-8345 x107**

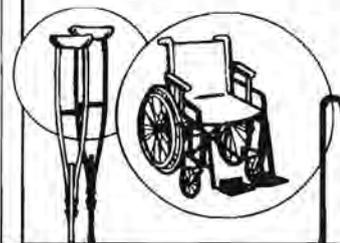
Home Purchases, Refinancing & Debt Consolidation

**ME Mortgage & Equity Funding Corp.**



## Personal Injury Cash

**Injured in an accident?**  
**Is your lawsuit still pending?**  
**Need money now?**  
**Call 703-448-1019 for help!**



# Visit a Place of Worship

**Garfield Memorial Church**  
(Disciples of Christ)  
1731 Great Falls St, McLean  
Pastor Kenneth W. Collins  
703-356-7878  
Church school 9:30 am  
Worship service 10:30 am

☪

**McLean Presbyterian Church**  
1020 Balls Hill Rd, McLean  
Pastor John Hutchinson  
703-821-0800  
Worship at 9:15 am and 11:00 am;  
Sunday school for children and  
Adult Education classes at 9:15 and  
11:00 am

☪

**Our Lady of Good Counsel  
Catholic Parish**  
8601 Wolftrap Rd, Vienna  
703-938-2828; www.olgcva.org  
Mass: Mon-Fri 8:00am & 12 noon;  
Saturday 8:00 am, Vigil 5:00 pm;  
Sunday 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 am  
and 12:30 pm. 6:00 pm service is in  
Spanish

☪

**Redeemer Lutheran Church**  
1545 Chain Bridge Road, McLean  
703-356-3346  
Pastor George Evans  
Asst. Pastor Jeffrey Wilson  
Sunday school 9:45 am  
Sunday services 8:30 am, 11:00 am

☪

**St. Luke's United Methodist Church**  
"The Church on the Hill"  
7628 Leesburg Pike (Pimmit Hills)  
Rev. Gretchen A. Miller  
703-893-9220  
Sunday school 9:30 am  
Worship service 11:00 am

☪

**The Baha'i Faith**  
703-556-3400  
Embraces the Oneness of God,  
Religion and Humanity as the  
foundation of the truth of all  
religions. The Baha'is of McLean  
and Falls Church hold gatherings,  
called "firesides," open to all at 8  
pm every Friday.

☪

Excerpt from President George Washington's prayer for the United States:

*"Almighty God, we make our earnest prayer that you will keep the United States in your holy protection, that you will incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government; and entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another and for their fellow citizens of the United States at large."*



**Your home  
improvement  
is just a phone  
call away!**

Citizens Contracting Company, Inc. is your community contractor. We offer complete remodeling services. CCC serves Pimmit Hills and Northern Virginia. Free estimates. Financing is available. Check any bureau or bank about our reliability. We want your business!

**Call 703-536-6400 today**



5072 North 27th Street, Arlington, VA 22207  
703-536-6400  
VA REG# 36527



# Rx Pc, inc.

**Computer Repairs, Upgrades and Sales**

- On site and carry-in repairs**  
Repairs performed at your business, home or in our shop
- Hardware, Software and Internet Support**  
Expert support for all PC, printer and laptop makes and all models
- Virus removal and prevention**  
Protect and save your valuable data
- Friendly, fast, expert service**  
Your neighborhood computer support center

Open Saturdays 10 am to 4:30 pm  
Weekdays 8:00 am to 6:30 pm  
For help with any of your computing problems, give us a call!

**Rx Pc, inc., 2190 Pimmit Drive, #212, Falls Church, VA**  
**703-893-0034 or email rxpc@itoas.net**  
Serving Falls Church and Pimmit Hills since 1992

Continued from page 6

www.holidaytree.com  
www.christmasfactory.com  
www.christmas-lights-trees-etc.com  
www.christmasmoon.com

Of course, make sure that when you're out there hanging your lights, you follow basic safety precautions. If you're up on a ladder, make sure it's on stable ground! Here's a few other basics:

- For outdoor light displays, only use lights that are meant for OUTDOOR use. Also, never use indoor extension cords on outdoor displays.
- Keep outdoor electrical connectors above ground and out of puddles and snow (wishful thinking!). When connecting light strands outside, wrap a plastic bag around the connections and tie the ends with waterproof tape.
- Make sure that cords do not cross walkways—it creates a tripping hazard.
- Check Christmas lights carefully for frayed or bare wires, cracked sockets, loose connections or damaged insulation.
- Connect no more than three strands together.
- Avoid overloading a single extension cord or outlet.
- Make sure that trees hung with lights are not touching power lines.
- For outdoor lighting, use an electrical outlet that is protected by a ground-fault circuit-interrupter. A GFCI is an outlet

that shuts off the power if there is any leakage to ground -- that is, if electric current from the outlet is going anywhere except through the item plugged into the outlet.

- Use only *insulated* staples to hold strings in place, not nails, tacks or brads. Alternatively, you can use plastic hooks, gutter clips, fasteners, or soffit clips. If you can't find these where you buy your lights, try Home Depot—they sell some Velcro light clips that make putting the lights up and taking them down again very easy!
- Unplug lights before you go out or go to bed.

And just one more thing—burned homes have no curb appeal.

Neighbors, please protect yourself and your loved ones and install a smoke detector near your tree, or add new batteries in the one(s) you have and test it/them. Buy a household fire extinguisher and place it where it is easily accessible.

Now get creative! I hope you have fun creating some holiday curb appeal. I'm really looking forward to enjoying your display. Just remember to take the lights down at the end of the holiday season—holiday lights in February (or March, April, May...) certainly don't create curb appeal!

Best wishes for a safe and wonderful holiday season!! ■

*Cynthia Bernat is a licensed realtor*



## Thinking of Buying or Selling a Home?

*You owe it to yourself to compare Realtors and their services.*

*Hello Neighbor! My name is Cynthia Bernat, and I'm a realtor with Long & Foster Realtors. I'm also a Pimmit Hills resident!*

If you are thinking of selling, when you talk to me you can expect an honest evaluation of your home.

Speaking of being honest, you need to know that I *do not* cut my commission. I welcome the opportunity to show you the value you'll receive by hiring me. I don't offer discount services—I only offer first-class service. One question you might ask yourself is this—if a Realtor is willing to cut *his* profits, what's stopping him from cutting *yours*? When you hire me, you're getting a trusted advisor, a master marketer, a skillful negotiator, and an expert facilitator. You're not just getting a Realtor, you're getting a worry-free transaction.

Why do I work so hard for my clients? My business is almost entirely by referral. I work hard and give my clients superior service so that they will want to refer me to their friends and family. That way, I can spend my time giving my clients the service they deserve instead of looking for the next client. Working by referral also gives me time to help my clients even AFTER the transaction. Whether they need the name of a good electrician, a loan officer to refinance, or information on paying down their mortgage early—my clients know they can turn to me.

If you are thinking of buying, then buy your new home with me. You'll get the same first-class service and it doesn't cost you a penny. Call me and I'll explain why.

Oh, by the way...if you were buying or selling a home, or had a friend or family member who was, do you have a Realtor you'd refer them to?



longandfoster.com

## Cynthia Bernat

OFFICE: 703-437-3800 ext.3065

CELL: 703-598-0399

EMAIL: [cynthia@longandfoster.com](mailto:cynthia@longandfoster.com)

WEB: [www.2hdb.com/cynthiabernat](http://www.2hdb.com/cynthiabernat)



continued from page 14

length and flower buds begin forming in the growing tips. If the night is illuminated during this critical period, the Poinsettia "thinks" that the day is longer than the night and does not form buds. When they are produced in the greenhouse, the natural day length brings them into bloom for the Christmas season. They are also provided with the abundant sunshine, the proper temperatures, the high fertilizer levels and the excessive blood, sweat and tears that Poinsettias demand. So if you bring your poinsettia into the New Year pretty much intact, pat yourself on the back and don't feel guilty about decorating the garbage can with it on Monday.

And if you find yourself on the receiving end of winter-blooming bulbs such as Tulips, Hyacinths or Paperwhites, relax! These are easy to grow and easier to dispose of when they are finished. Just remember to keep them away from excess heat and don't let them dry out. When they're done, just toss 'em on the compost pile; like most bulbs they're not much good after being forced into early bloom. The Amaryllis bulb, on the other hand, deserves a commitment. With leafless stems topped with spectacular trumpet flowers, this one is worth



the trouble of keeping for years of winter bloom. And the variety of colors and forms is wonderful these days: from the traditional red to soft pinks to salmon-orange to bi-colors and from frilly doubles to spidery miniatures. After flowering, long, fleshy strap-like leaves emerge; take care of these leaves and you will be rewarded in the next winter season. A little liquid fertilizer is a good thing, and when planting your patio pots in spring with petunias and marigolds, why not

add your leafed-out Amaryllis instead of a Dracaena spike? When the time comes in fall to add Mums to the pots, remove the Amaryllis, pot it up and set it in the basement where it can go dormant in peace. Water it sparingly to keep it from drying out completely and remove the leaves as they yellow. After a rest period a new flower bud emerges, and it's time to enjoy these beauties again.

Hopefully, with this bit of advice, your living Holiday presents will live longer than poor "Hammy," even, perhaps, into the next year and beyond. ■

*Horticulturalist Deanne Eversmeyer  
lives on Leonard Road*

## Baby Back Ribs

ě ě ě

"...A knockout of a North Carolina barbecue..."

—Phyllis Richman, *Washington Post*

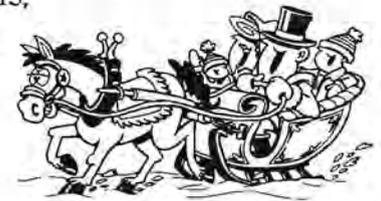


**1394 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, Virginia**  
**703-356-1700**

## Old Time Christmas Open House

Come join in the fun at the home of Jamie and Linda Wheeler, 1823 Pimmit Drive on Sunday afternoon, **December 8th, 3:00 to 6:00 pm.** Bring a plate of goodies to

share and some Christmas cheer! Punch will be provided. Join in the singing of Carols around the piano or just visit with neighbors, new and old. Children welcome!



# Pimmit Hills Wellness



Leticia Nordvall,  
Pimmit Hills Wellness Coordinator  
TishN@runwalklive.com

## Drink Of Choice: Water!

Did you know that....

75% of Americans are chronically dehydrated?

Even mild dehydration will slow down one's metabolism as much as 3%?

A mere 2% drop in body water can trigger fuzzy short-term memory, trouble with basic math, and difficulty focusing on the computer screen or printed page?

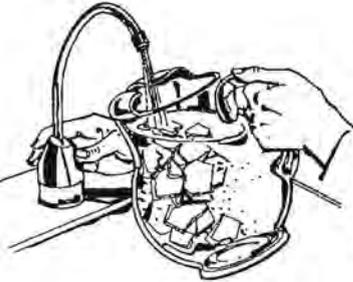
37% of Americans' thirst mechanism is so weak that it is often mistaken for hunger?

One glass of water will shut down midnight hunger pangs for almost 100% of dieters (studied in a U. of Washington study)?

Preliminary research indicates that 8-10 glasses of water each day could: 1-Significantly ease back & joint pain for up to 80% of sufferers?; 2-Decrease the risk of colon cancer by 45%; 3-Slash the risk of breast cancer by 79%; 4- Decrease the development of bladder cancer by 50%!

Lack of water is the #1 trigger of daytime fatigue?

Are you drinking enough water every day??



Drinking the required 8-10 glasses of water daily will:

- Help metabolize fat!
- Cause less water retention!
- Improve muscle tone!

- Rid the body of wastes!
- Maintain body temperature!
- Help carry nutrients and oxygen to all the body tissues!
- Help balance the acids in the body!
- Assist with breathing, digestion and metabolism!
- Reduce the risk of injury!

Warning-Warning-Warning! Don't drink and the result may be...

- Digestive inefficiency
- Decreased organ function
- Sore muscles and joints
- Dehydration

Who needs more than the recommended 8-10 glasses?

- Elderly
- People on prescribed high sodium or protein diets
- People who live in hot climates
- People who work outdoors
- Pregnant women

Please email your wellness questions to TishN@runwalklive.com or see [www.runwalklive.com](http://www.runwalklive.com). ■



## Small Group Bible Studies You are invited!

Friendship ■ Following Christ ■ Fun  
Wednesdays 7:30 pm, 1823 Pimmit Drive  
Jamie and Linda Wheeler, 703-734-1683

Need some  
direction in life?

Small Group Ministries of  
Charity Baptist Church

## KWIK-KOPY PRINTING®

in your neighborhood of Pimmit Hills

### Printing, Copying, Fax Service and Desktop Publishing

Letterheads, business cards, envelopes, NCR forms, brochures, books, invoices, resumes, tickets, flyers, menus, GBC binding, folding, laminating, raised printing, computer forms, business forms, labels, self-ink and rubberstamps, wall signs, deskplates, name badges, wedding invitations and Christmas cards

**Your printing job ready when you need it!**  
**Quality work at low prices • Courteous service**

2190-L Pimmit Drive  
Falls Church, VA 22043  
Mon-Fri 9am-5pm  
Sat-Sun: Closed



Kwik-Kopy is proud to  
print The Pimmit Hills  
Dispatch newspaper

For Free Estimate, Pick-Up and Delivery, Call

# 703-442-8777

(Fax) 703-442-9469

## J&M

### HOME IMPROVEMENT & REPAIR

PLUMBING AND ELECTRICAL. INTERIOR/EXTERIOR  
PAINTING. ROOFING. FLOORING. SIDING. TOP-TO-  
BOTTOM COMPLETE REMODELING, AND MUCH MORE!

CALL JIM LAMBERT AT 703-967-6312  
CERTIFIED AND EXPERIENCED TECHNICIANS ■ FREE ESTIMATES



# The Pimmit Hills Gardener

By Deanne Eversmeyer,  
Horticulturalist

I remember a Christmas a few years back when I was just four or five years old and Santa brought us a hamster in a small wire cage. As I remember, I fed "Hammy" a raisin and the next morning he was dead. I know, not a very good Holiday story... but a lesson to be learned: give a kid a hamster or give a kid raisins, but not both. Anyway, there's not much I can do about the hamster now, but perhaps a few words of advice can avert a similar tragedy at your house when someone walks through the door with a Christmas Poinsettia or Amaryllis bulb.

First off, most of your Holiday plants are tropical and will not enjoy being left in the trunk or back seat of the car in the cold. Okay, so how cold is cold? Let's try to keep them in the 50's, the upper 40's at the coolest. And once home, don't let them dry out. Poinsettias and



Christmas Cacti (one cactus, two cacti...yeah, that's right ... but it's not really a cactus at all) are brought-up in a loving, humid atmosphere with plenty of TLC and liquid fertilizer, and the average house has a hard time measuring-up. So keep these plants away from heat vents, water when the top inch or so of soil feels

dry. Situate them in good, bright light, but out of the hot afternoon sun. And make sure that the pot can drain -- over-watering is the number one killer of Poinsettias in the home.

Poinsettias that survive the season can easily be kept as leafy, green potted plants through the summer, but getting them to bloom again for the Holidays is another story. Shortly after the autumnal equinox (that's when the days are as long as the nights in September), the Poinsettia "reads" the shorter day

*continued on page 16*

## Take the High Cost Out of Selling Your Home: The 6% bite vs the 4.5% nibble



When it comes time to sell your home, you'll want to get as much as you can for it in the shortest amount of time. Now there's Fox Hunt Realty.

We offer professional services at a reasonable fee.

Our sales commission is just a nibble: An easy-to-swallow 4.5%!

That's a savings of \$3,750 on a \$250,000 home.

We have an extensive network of potential buyers through the Multiple Listing Service (MLS).

There you have it. The 6% bite or the 4.5% nibble. Remember the Fox Hunt Realty name. You'll be seeing a lot more of us.

**Call Doug Morris, Pimmit Hills resident since 1985,  
at 703-573-4300; residence 703-847-4658**

## Fox Hunt Realty

2136-C Gallows Road, Dunn Loring, VA 22076

**703-573-4300**



Each home sold in four days. Why four? Because of my marketing plan. Call me for a copy of it and the most recent sales in the neighborhood.

# Call 703-229-1300



Did you know that the average price of Pimmit Hills homes has now reached OVER \$200,000? Please contact me if you're interested in a free market analysis of your home.



## **Bill Bolinger, Pimmit Hills Real Estate Expert**

EMAIL: [bill@billbolinger.com](mailto:bill@billbolinger.com)

WEBSITE: [www.billbolinger.com](http://www.billbolinger.com)

