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The Pimmit Hills DISPATCH

COURTESY OF THE PIMMIT HILLS CITIZENS ASSOCIATION, INC. 1927 PIMMIT DRIVE, FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA 22043

JANUARY 2000

**HAPPY
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YEAR
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Get Involved in Your Community!

Pimmit Hills Citizens Association meetings:

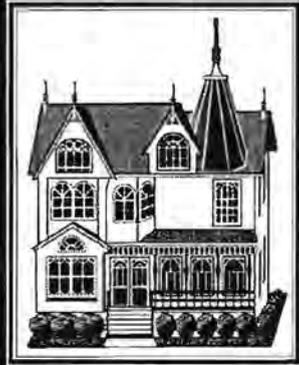
Tuesday, Jan. 4, Feb. 8, 2000 at 7:30 pm

Pimmit Hills School, 7510 Lisle Avenue, Falls Church



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Pimmit Hills Citizens Association President Keith Allison states that the special guest speakers at the next PHCA meeting will be representatives from the Virginia Department of Transportation, the Fairfax County Department of Transportation, and Rosemary Ryan of Stu Mendelsohn's office. The meeting is open to all and will take place on Tuesday, January 4, 2000 at 7:30 pm at the Pimmit Hills School on Lisle Avenue. Please join us. Also, the terms of the PHCA officers are very overdue and we need new people to come forward to take their place. Please consider becoming involved in your community. Call Keith for more information.



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Pimmit Hills Citizens Association

OFFICERS:

President	Keith Allison	703-356-9632
First Vice President	Linda Rose	703-442-8375
Second Vice President	Gary Samples	703-893-7075
Treasurer	Daniel VanRoekel	703-821-6680
Secretary	Jennifer Baker	703-448-1394
Three Year Director	Jackie Allison	703-356-9632

WHO TO CALL:

Neighborhood Watch	Joe Baker	703-448-1394
Fairfax County Police (non-emergency)		703-691-2131
<i>The Dispatch</i> Delivery	Linda Rose	703-442-8375

Place an ad, article or news item in *The Dispatch*

Cindy Kwitchoff 703-734-0402
 fax 24 hrs/day: 703-734-0779
 e-mail: cjk@suburbanweb.com

Pimmit Hills Citizens Association, Inc. (PHCA)

1927 Pimmit Drive, Falls Church, VA 22043

NEXT PHCA MEETINGS:

Dates:	Tuesdays - January 4, February 8
Time:	7:30 pm
Location:	Pimmit Hills School
Address:	7510 Lisle Avenue, Falls Church

*Your Community
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Pimmit Hills
Your Community

PIMMIT HILLS CITIZENS ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

It only takes \$3 per person to join the Pimmit Hills Citizens Association. Support and get involved with your community! The more members we have, the stronger our voice is with the government of Fairfax County. ☞

Mail form to:

Pimmit Hills Citizens Association, Inc.
1927 Pimmit Drive
Falls Church, VA 22043

Name (s)

Street Address

Falls Church, VA 22043

Home Phone

E-Mail Address

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Did You Know?

BY CINDY KWITCHOFF, FILLING IN FOR
JENNIFER BAKER, PHCA SECRETARY

Here's what happened at the last Pimmit Hills Citizens Association (PHCA) meeting in December:

The PHCA monthly meeting began at 7:30 pm with 35+ people in attendance. The executive board consisted of the President and the Three Year Director, as the other officers were called away on work and family commitments. Condolences to First Vice President Linda Rose who was in Michigan because her mother passed away. *The Dispatch* editor, Cindy Kwitchoff, filled in for Secretary Jennifer Baker.

The principal and assistant principal of the Pimmit Hills School, who were the invited special guest speakers to the meeting, did not show up. They were to answer questions from the Association about the parking problems and the behavior of some of the students on private property near the school.

A vote was taken to get approval for the PHCA Directories to be printed at Kwik Kopy. Copies of the directory should be available at the next meeting.

Unfortunately, Pimmit Hills does not have leaf pick-up on the road, so residents need to bag their leaves rather than rake them to the road. It was asked that this message be posted in *The Dispatch*.

The PHCA President said he would call the Supervisor's office to have someone come and talk about ways to slow down traffic in Pimmit Hills. He would also find out why there are no school zone signs around Pimmit Hills School.

Many citizens talked about how they have seen cars run stop signs and when the Pimmit Hills School gets out for the day, some of the students drag race down Lisle Avenue. A citizen said speed bumps might be considered. Another citizen said that there needs to be a sense of balance and that stop signs should not be put up where they are not needed. PHCA should think of other ways to slow down traffic, such as school zones and enforcement by police officers.

A citizen stated that the police used to be seen in Pimmit Hills, but now they are rarely seen here.

Others agreed that the main deterrence to people and students

Continued on page 6

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Send news items, articles, ads, responses to issues, for *The Dispatch* within an e-mail message (no attachments) to cjk@suburbanweb.com. Or call Cindy at 703-734-0402 or fax it to her 24 hours a day at 703-734-0779, or drop it off at her house, 1925 Cherri Drive.



THE PIMMIT HILLS DISPATCH

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Continued from page 4

speeding is to have this enforcement. Citizens noted incidents where some of the Pimmit Hills School students were in the road and would not let them pass, and they felt threatened by the students. One citizen wrote to the principal of the school about this. Our community should not put up with students behaving this way in our neighborhood, said the citizen.

Another citizen said that PHCA should go to the school board members to ask for a smoking policy for the students at the Pimmit Hills School. Students should stay on the school lot rather than smoke on the private property of Pimmit Hills residents. Someone stated that students are not allowed to smoke on school property.

A citizen who lives across the street from the Pimmit Hills School complained that 96% of the cars speed on Lisle and he has picked up a great deal of trash that some students leave on his yard. To make a dramatic point, he then brought out a bag of this trash and dumped it on the table. The PHCA President said this was not an appropriate act towards the group because all of us agreed with him that the trash is a problem.

Another citizen said that this man was showing the frustration of all of us about the Pimmit Hills School and that it seems that Fairfax County has not looked at the ramifications of this "alternative"

school in our neighborhood. The alternative school has been in existence for only about five years.

A citizen suggested that a machine be put up that tracks how fast a car is going on the road. The President said that he would talk to the Captain at the Fairfax County substation about the police having a greater presence around the school.

Another citizen reminded everyone that the school is not just for "last chance" students but also the place for people taking ESL and GED classes.

It was stated that whoever is running the school is not doing a good job and it was asked why the principal did not show up to the meeting.

The principal had told one of the citizens previously that some of the students at the school are over 18, and he could not do anything about them.

A citizen said that we as a community cannot let the negative behavior of some of these students make us change our lifestyle, and that we need to have the paid officials respond and deal with this issue. Citizens were urged to contact Supervisor Stu Mendelsohn and School Board member Jane Strauss.

A pitch was made to get more people involved in the Neighbor-

(continued on page 8)

pers to thin-out crowded, weak growth, creating windows for sunlight to penetrate into the interior of the bush. (Please, please give up the green meatball look — after all, it's a new millennium, and your bushes will be healthier and require a lot less maintenance.)

If you want to thin or shape growth on a tree, always remove the branch back to another branch or the trunk. Do not leave stubs as these will die, then rot and the rot will spread. Maples are particularly susceptible to rot. And don't "top" a tree. Topping (shearing the outer branches) creates a lot of stumps which either rot or result in

a lot of weak, crowded sprouts. Neither condition is desirable. If a tree or bush is too big (or too messy or too ugly), get rid of it!

There are so many new varieties of plants that have been selected for their size, shape or terrific personalities — don't be afraid to ask questions at the nursery or garden center. (Also when hiring someone to do tree work, for your protection, be sure to get a copy of their proof of insurance — you never know what could happen!)☞

Horticulturalist Deanne Eversmeyer lives on Leonard Road.



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The Pimmit Hills Gardener

By Deanne Eversmeyer

Now that the Christmas tree has been dragged to the curb and most of the needles have been vacuumed up, let's see what's on the agenda for the rest of this winter. #1: Cheer Virginia Tech on to victory at the Sugar Bowl. Check! (Hopefully!) #2: Spend many hours on sofa under cozy afghan with stacks of garden catalogs and big mug of cocoa with mini-marshmallows. Check! #3: Garden clean-up. Uhh, let's save this for early Spring. #4: Look for brave little Snowdrops and Crocuses in the garden, admire, then go back to sofa, afghan and cocoa. Check! #5: Prune trees and shrubs. Che...oh, you haven't started on this one yet? Okay, let's go over a few basics then!

First off, when to prune? I like to prune evergreens around the Holidays and use the trimmings for decoration. Most trees and non-flowering shrubs benefit from winter or early spring pruning, before they've spent energy on new growth. Spring-blooming shrubs, such as Forsythia and Azaleas, are best pruned right after they flower to avoid reducing the show; or prune while in bloom and enjoy their blossoms in a vase. Avoid pruning in the fall when there's not



enough time for new growth to mature before winter.

Next, how to prune? Multi-trunk shrubs, such as Forsythia, Lilacs and Spirea, should occasionally have old, unproductive canes removed at ground level to make room for new shoots.

Dense shrubs, Azalea, Burning Bush and Holly, need to be thinned with hand pruners, removing entire branchlets, instead of shearing off the outer growth. A sheared shrub becomes a dense shell of foliage with bare interior and quickly looks unkempt as new shoots compete for sun.

Use your hand pruners or lop-

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44-Year Pimmit Hills Resident Passes Away in November

Mrs. Millie Graham, a long-time resident of Pimmit Hills, died on November 12, 1999 of complications following emergency triple bypass surgery in October. She would have been 80 years old the next day.

Mrs. Graham moved to Pimmit Hills in June 1955. She worked in



*Millie Graham
November 13, 1919 - November 12, 1999*

the cafeteria at McLean High School, and later became the baker at Spring Hill Elementary School. In the late 1950s, she was active in the PTA and the Pimmit Hills Teen Club.

At her death, Mrs. Graham was an active member of Garfield Memorial Christian Church, which also started at the Pimmit Hills School. She was a Sunday School teacher, Deaconess, Elder, chairwoman of many committees including the Women's Fellowship.

Mrs. Graham celebrated her 60th wedding anniversary on July 15, 1999. She was a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother, friend and neighbor and she will be missed by all.

Mrs. Graham is survived by her husband, four children, seven grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. ☞

"Did You Know?" (continued)

hood Watch program. (Call Joe Baker at 703-448-1394 to be a part of this important community effort.)

On another topic, the meeting date for the Association may be changed to the second Tuesday of every month rather than the first so that more people can attend.

A discussion about this will be held at the next meeting in January, it will then be posted in February's *Dispatch*, and then voted on in March.

The next meeting will be held at 7:30 pm on January 4, 2000 at the Pimmit School. ☞



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Saturday 8:00 am, Vigil 5:00 pm;
Sunday 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 am
and 12:30 pm

☪

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 9:30 and 11:00 am
Sunday school for children and
Adult Education classes at 9:30
and 11:00 am

☪

St. Luke's United Methodist Church

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Rev. Gretchen A. Miller
703-893-9220

Sunday school 9:30 am
Worship service 11:00 am

☪

Idylwood Presbyterian Church

7617 Idylwood Rd, Falls Church
Pastor Leonard B. Sirbaugh, Jr.
703-573-3027

Worship/Church school K-6 at
11:00 am; Coffee hour at Noon



This issue of *The Pimmit Hills Dispatch* was designed *pro bono* by Cindy Kwitchoff of Cheri Drive in Pimmit Hills as a service to the community.

Her desktop publishing services include newsletters, directories, notecards, business cards, pamphlets, flyers, forms, invitations, programs, promotional materials, resumes, advertisements, Powerpoint slide presentations, 35mm photography, marketing. Her goal: Make you look good!

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Help Our Community

Become an Officer for the Pimmit Hills Citizens Association



Pimmit Hills
Your Community

The present officers of the Pimmit Hills Citizens Association (PHCA) have been serving our community ably for many years, but now they would like to pass the baton to a new set of officers. They have stated that by this coming spring, their terms will have been long overdue and they need people in the community to come forward and take their place. If this doesn't happen, the Association may cease to exist.

Do you care about having an association of people in Pimmit Hills who are concerned about the welfare of this community and want to make things better for themselves, their families, children and neighbors? The verdict if the community does care is whether citizens of Pimmit Hills like you step forward to volunteer a small fraction of your time to work as an officer of the Association. If no one comes forward, then perhaps the verdict from the community is that there is no need to look out for the best interests of our community and try to make it better, and no need to represent our collective voice to Fairfax County and our elected county leaders.

Many people have attended the last few association meetings because they were concerned about the traffic/speeding issue or the Pimmit School issue. Do you like to take action and get things accomplished? Do you like to improve things? Do you want to make the quality of life better in Pimmit Hills and make it safer? Complaining about things doesn't make it better, only you can make it better by taking the initiative to act and be a leader in this community. Call current PHCA President Keith Allison at 703-356-9632 to find out how you can make a difference by becoming an officer on the PHCA Executive Board. ☞



Pimmit Hills Senior Center

Open to everyone 55 years of age or older.

7510 Lisle Avenue
Falls Church, VA

Monday through Friday
9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Pimmit Hills Senior Center offers a wide variety of activities such as ceramics, craft classes, exercise classes, guest speakers, blood pressure screenings, weekly shopping trips and various other programs. We also offer a daily hot lunch for a donation based on your monthly income. If you would like to find out more about the Center, please stop by anytime to visit and pick up a copy of the monthly calendar with a complete listing of the daily activities and menu, or call Brenda Riley at 703-734-3338. Listed below are just a few of the programs being offered in January. ☞

Tuesday, January 4 at 10:30 am

Craft Project. Winter Door Wreath (RR) Cost \$12.50

Friday, January 7 at 10:00 am

Niceties & Necessities "Traveling Gift Shoppe"

Monday, January 10 at 11:00 am

Simply Jazzercise

Thursday, January 13 at 11:00 am

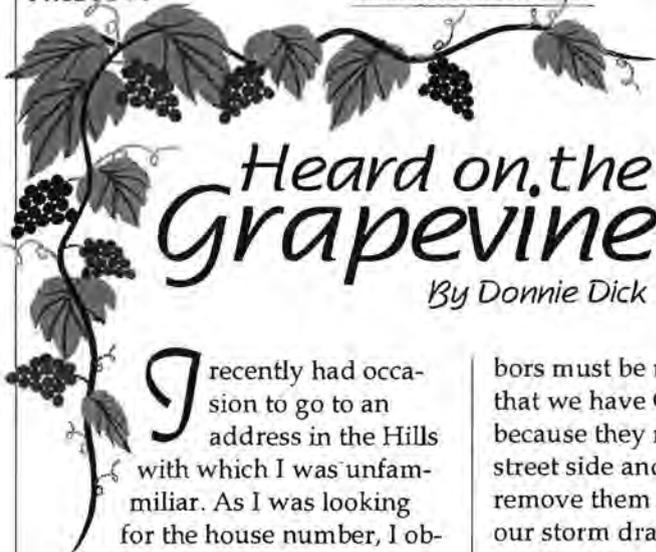
Glaucoma Lecture and Screening (RR)

Tuesday, January 18 at 11:00 am

Travel Video: Manila and China with Steve Gubak

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: If you have a hobby or special talents you would like to share with others, please call Brenda Riley at 734-3338. We also have openings for volunteers to answer the phone Monday-Friday between 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Pimmit Hills Senior Center is operated by Fairfax County Community and Recreation Services.



Heard on the Grapevine

By Donnie Dick



I recently had occasion to go to an address in the Hills with which I was unfamiliar. As I was looking for the house number, I observed that many homes are poorly marked or in one instance, not marked at all. Numbers should be visible from the street. I found that curb markings are nice but are frequently obscured by parked cars. Remember your health and safety may depend on a quick location of your home in any emergency.

By now most of the fall leaves have been raked up, bagged and hauled away. Some of our neigh-

bors must be under the impression that we have County leaf removal because they rake to the curb or street side and leave them. Please remove them and don't clog up our storm drains.

I don't know about the rest of you, but my long distance phone service has become much more expensive with the break-up of "Ma Bell" and the Federal Communications Act. I formerly didn't have a long distance charge unless I made a call. Now I pay monthly fees for access fees and other charges. I have no idea what they are except profit for the carrier. ☺

Earn Extra Money

BE A PART OF THE 2000 US CENSUS TEAM! The US Census Bureau is taking applications and administering tests for Census Takers—a job that ensures everyone is counted accurately in the upcoming census. The salary for this job, that lasts 4 to 6 weeks with a possible extension, is \$13 an hour. The Bureau will be hiring people in January, February and March, but first you will have to take a 30 minute test at either the Pimmit Tysons Library or the Pimmit Senior Center. Call now to register and find out the dates and times of the test:

703-354-0173

PH Citizen Contact Information



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

phone: 703-356-0551
fax: 703-821-4275



Jane K. Strauss, School Board
10700 Page Avenue
Fairfax, VA 22030

phone: 703-246-4780
email: board@burkholder.fcps.k12.va.us

Fairfax County Police (non-emergency): 703-691-2131

Internal Affairs (complaints related to service provision): 703-246-2918

Traffic Safety Division: trafsaf@co.fairfax.va.us

McLean District: mclcapt@co.fairfax.va.us

Pimmit Hills School

7510 Lisle Avenue, Falls Church, VA 22043

Principal: William Harper, 703-506-2315, wharper@fc.fcps.k12.va.us

Asst. Principal: Paula Castri, EdD, 703-506-2310, pcastri@fc.fcps.k12.va.us

Asst. Principal: Bud Mayo, 703-506-2273, bmayo@fc.fcps.k12.va.us

Fax: 703-506-2397 Web site: www.fcps.k12.va.us/PimmitAlthS/



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Bill Bolinger
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REAL ESTATE NEWS

Happy Holidays! As always, things slow down throughout the holidays and will pick-up again in January. The true Spring market starts with those sellers who are getting ready now and selling in January and February. These are the homes that are moved into during April, May and June. Call us now for tips and suggestions on what to do now to be ready. Best wishes for the holiday and the new millennium!

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