

Reach 1,585 Pimmit Hills homes by advertising in the Dispatch

It's easy to advertise in the *Pimmit Hills Dispatch* and reach every home in Pimmit Hills each month. With an average of two people per household, you're reaching 3,170 potential buyers. It's money well-spent!

CLASSIFIED ADS

Flat rate for all classified ads: \$5 per issue; 40 words max.

DISPLAY ADS

- \$25 for 1/4 page
- \$50 for 1/2 page
- \$75 for whole page

Display ads are designed for free and you can update information in them monthly if you send changes to the editor *before* the 10th of every month.

☞☞

Send copy for your advertisement for *The Pimmit Hills Dispatch* to the *Dispatch* Editor, Cindy Kwitchoff:

EMAIL: Dispatch@pimmithills.org

PHONE: 703-734-0402; FAX: 703-734-0779

or drop it off at her house, 1925 Cherri Drive, Falls Church, VA 22043

Checks for ads should be made out to "PHCA"
and sent to the above address.

The Pimmit Hills Citizens Association and the *Dispatch* go on break for July and August. Anyone who advertised this past season (Sept 2000 to June 2001) will be receiving an invoice this summer to show how much they paid or still owe. This is also the opportunity to advertise in the coming season (Sept 2001 to June 2002). Those display advertisers who pay upfront for the whole season will receive a discount. If you're not a current advertiser but would like to advertise in the next season, contact the editor.

SEPTEMBER ISSUE DEADLINE: August 10

*Our Neighborhood,
Our Home*

June 2001



The Pimmit Hills Dispatch

Courtesy of the
Pimmit Hills
Citizens Association

pimmithills.org



Inside...

The Homes of Pimmit Hills What Makes Pimmit Hills Special

PIMMIT HILLS NEWS

We've hit a milestone in Pimmit Hills. A Pimmit Hills home recently sold for *over* the asking price of \$350,000. See the middle of the *Dispatch* for a photo and details of the home. For long-time residents who bought their homes when they were selling for \$20K, did you ever imagine this price? We live in a beautiful neighborhood with houses being renovated, remodeled and added-on to. Real estate agents say when you see that going in a neighborhood, people are investing in the area and planning to stay for a long time.

☪☪



Pimmit Hills
Our Neighborhood
Our Home

Be sure to check the Pimmit Hills website throughout the summer. Any articles, letters to the editor, announcements, etc that come in will be posted there. There are many letters to the editor on the website about development in Pimmit Hills. Unfortunately, we don't have room to print everything that comes in, but we have lots of space online. The address is pimmithills.org.

☪☪

PHCA Meeting Dates for 2001-02:

Mark your calendars for next season's PHCA meetings. We are planning some exciting things and you won't want to miss them.

September 4, 2001
October 2, 2001
November 6, 2001
December 4, 2001
January 1, 2002
February 5, 2002
March 5, 2002
April 2, 2002
May 7, 2002
June 4, 2002

The meetings are on the first Tuesday of every month except July and August. ☪☪

**Don't miss the last
PHCA meeting:**

Tues, June 5

**Then we'll see you in
September!**

**Meeting location:
Pimmit Hills School
on Lisle Avenue**

Meeting time: 7:30 pm

Please join us!

DISPATCH ADVERTISERS: You will be receiving in the mail this summer your invoice for the 2000-2001 season along with the opportunity to advertise in the upcoming Sept 2001-June 2002 year. Discounts for those who pay a year in advance.



Pimmit Hills Citizens Association

Pimmit Hills Citizens Association

1927 Pimmit Drive, Falls Church, VA 22043
email: phca@pimmithills.org

OFFICERS for June 2001 to June 2002:

President	Joe Baker	703-448-1394 president@pimmithills.org
First Vice President	Linda Rose	703-442-8375 firstveep@pimmithills.org
Second Vice President	Bill Niland	703-356-8240 secondveep@pimmithills.org
Treasurer	Kim Rollen	703-761-7391 treasurer@pimmithills.org
Secretary	Jennifer Baker	703-448-1394 secretary@pimmithills.org
Three Year Director	Martha Duggar	703-356-6508 director@pimmithills.org

WHO TO CALL:

PHCA Sunshine Fund	Joan Naleppa	703-893-7866
Neighborhood Watch	Bill Niland	703-356-8240
Fairfax County Police (non-emergency)		703-691-2131
<i>The Dispatch</i> Delivery	Linda Rose	703-442-8375
<i>The Dispatch</i> Editor	Cindy Kwitchoff	703-734-0402 fax: 703-734-0779
		email: dispatch@pimmithills.org mail: 1925 Cherrri Drive

Ad Rates:

\$25 for 1/4 page
\$50 for 1/2 page
\$75 for whole page
Classifieds: \$5; 40 words max

More Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

My husband and I moved into Pimmit Hills in October 1996. We had just had our second child, and our little second-story condo was feeling very crowded.

We spent almost a year looking at various neighborhoods. We wanted a home that was comfortable, but still affordable. We wanted a big yard for our children to play in and room for a garden. We wanted safe, quiet streets for walking. We wanted easy access to playgrounds, schools, shopping, entertainment and the metro system. We wanted a neighborhood with lots of young families like us, so our children would have playmates nearby. And we found it all in Pimmit Hills!

We love the big shade trees we have here, so much nicer than those brand new developments left to bake in the sun. We love the diversity of cultures in Pimmit Hills, and our children are richer for the variety of friends they've made here. We love being within walking distance of three parks and the library. We love the stability of the neighborhood; some of our neighbors have been here since these houses were built.

We plan to stay in Pimmit Hills for a long time. We have already decided that when we outgrow our little house, we will add on rather than move because we haven't seen

another neighborhood with so much to offer. We can only hope that others here feel the same way and will work to preserve the character and quality of our community.
Kristine and Greg Griswold
Leonard Drive

Dear Editor,

As I drive through Pimmit Hills, it reminds me of the neighborhood in which I grew up. The neighborhood where my parents still live. When my friends and family come to visit, I am proud to have them drive through my neighborhood. I would like to stay in Pimmit Hills for a long time to come. But if we lose this captivating haven, we may lose the people who have cherished this place since its beginning as well as newcomers who have quickly grown to love this refuge. Whether they plan to stay or move on, I hope everyone will think about it long and hard before allowing the destruction of such a lovely oasis in the midst of a booming city. I plan to attend the next PHCA meeting in an effort to protect the attractiveness of this community; I hope others will too.

Diane L. Bowen
Griffith Road

These are excerpts from some of the many Letters to the Editor about Pimmit Hills that can be found on pimmithills.org.



PAYING TOO MUCH FOR TRASH REMOVAL?

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703-449-9766

GREAT SERVICE AT A REASONABLE PRICE
Serving all of Northern Virginia



Did You Know?

By Jennifer Baker, PHCA Secretary

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

Hello Neighbors - Well, we almost hit 30 - attendees at the May PHCA meeting that is. It was encouraging to see attendance go up ever so slightly, and I hope with the June meeting being the last PHCA meeting until September, we'll see even more of you on Tuesday June 5th at 7:30 pm.

The main item of business of note from the May meeting was the unopposed passage of a motion to reelect the current Board of Directors. This motion came about because without it, there would be no officers for the next Association year. The terms of all of the current officers, save one, are ending in June, but no one has stepped forward to serve (with the exception of one kind soul - Kim Rollen - who has agreed to serve as Treasurer and whose name will be presented for consideration at the June meeting). The current officers all consented to serve one more term so that the organization could continue.

As I alluded to in a previous col-

umn, this is a sad state of affairs. It's sad to me because I don't believe that the need for or the desire to have an association is gone. In fact, I think you all would miss your *Dispatches* and having a forum to go to when you need a place to vent concerns. Am I wrong? I think the problem is that too many of us assume that someone - a nebulous "they" - will take care of things like this. Well, I'm here to tell you that the "they" you are counting on is actually a small band of your neighbors who are just as busy as you are. So please, don't make the mistake of assuming that because we dodged the dissolution bullet this time around that it won't ever happen in the future.

If you like to receive your *Dispatch* every month, then you need to get involved. If you enjoy the convenience of having an up-to-date neighborhood Web site (www.pimmithills.org) chock full of valuable news and resources, then you need to get involved. If you want a new phone directory for the Hills, then you need to get involved. If you like having a forum for getting help with a variety of homeowner

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Ads are due
August 10
dispatch@pimmithills.org

ADVERTISING in the *Dispatch*

CLASSIFIEDS:

\$5 per month; 40 words max

DISPLAY:

1/4 page = \$25

1/2 page = \$50

1 page = \$75

per month

Ad designed for free

Write checks to:

PHCA

Send checks to:

1925 Cherri Dr.

Send ad copy to:

email: dispatch@pimmithills.org

fax: 703-734-0779

mail: 1925 Cherri Drive

Simple!



What's NEWS with you? Send your Pimmit Hills people news - births, engagements, weddings, deaths, job promotions, military promotions, school news, graduations, awards and other news about the people of Pimmit Hills to the *Dispatch* Editor at dispatch@pimmithills.org or fax to 703-734-0779 or mail or drop off to 1925 Cherri Drive.

THE PIMMIT HILLS DISPATCH
CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING



ARCHITECT—Inexpensive, quick computer design for house additions. 25 years design/build experience. Come see what I've done to my PH home. I'll give you free ideas. Call Peter at 703-790-8396.

☞

AVON—Call Maggie, your Pimmit Hills Avon Representative, 703-356-6058. Leave name and number.

BABYSITTER available evenings and weekends (responsible teen-17). **PETSITTING/HOUSESITTING** services also available (mother/daughter team). Call Melissa or Linda at 703-734-1683.

☞

CARPET CLEANING—Pimmit Hills whole house special only \$77; five rooms and hallway \$55; furniture cleaning, water damage emergency service. Serving Northern Virginia since 1977. Call Mike at 703-978-2270.

☞

CHILDCARE—In my Pimmit Hills home for infants and toddlers. close to 495, Rt. 7 & 66. Experienced and great references. Reasonable rates which include lunch and snacks. Call Edna at 703-821-8366.

☞

CHILDCARE—Licensed childcare provider. Certified CPR. Reliable. Good references. Reasonable rates. Call Gloria at 703-734-9123.

☞

DAYCARE—Licensed care provider with 15 years of experience. Takes care of newborn and up. CPR certified. Loving parents. Teaching children to develop social skills. Reasonable rates. Lives close to 495, Route 7 and 66. For more information, call 703-356-3837.

☞

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.

☞

FOR SALE—NordicTrack Power Trak treadmill; digital, programmable with heart monitor. New; originally \$1400, asking \$650. Also: NordicTrack Ultra Lift weight machine. New; originally \$1200; asking \$600. Call 703-442-8275.

☞

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

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

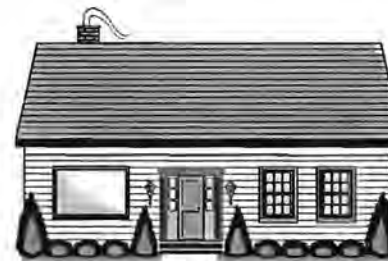


When it comes time to sell your home, you'll want to get as much as you can for it in the shortest amount of time. Now there's **Fox Hunt Realty**. We offer professional services at a reasonable fee.

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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

Continued from page 4

and neighborhood-related issues, well then - let me say it again - you need to get involved. Whether your contribution is large or small, I assure you it will be welcome!

Ok, now that you know that there isn't a hearty group of magic elves that make all this stuff happen, let me provide just a few additional highlights from the May meeting.

As many already know, there are big changes slated for the Commons Safeway complex. President Joe Baker indicated that he would try to find out more about exactly what is planned and he has since followed-up. Joe is working to schedule a speaker from Safeway to come to our June meeting. At this time he does not have the speaker confirmed, but he is pretty hopeful that we can expect to have someone from the company in attendance on June 5th. So, if you come to the June

meeting, there is a good chance you will be able to get the real lowdown on Safeway's plans.

The research phase of the project to place signs at key entrances to our neighborhood continues. We will accept sign design submissions through the summer.

The Board is working on preparing the schedule of events for the new Association year (September 2001 - June 2002). More details will be forthcoming, so stay tuned!

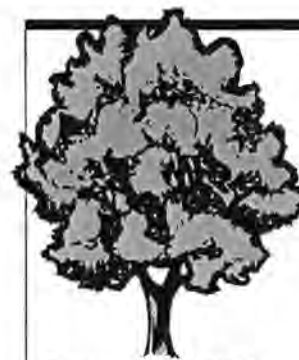
I hope these highlights are helpful. Please remember that they are in fact only highlights and in order to get the whole picture of what is going on, you should make time to come out to the regular monthly meetings. All residents of Pimmit Hills are welcome to join. All you need to do is bring yourself (and those with children should feel free to bring them along too if you need to). See you in June! ☞



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Pimmit Hills
Our Neighborhood
Our Home

Membership Dues

Collection of Pimmit Hills Citizens Association membership dues for the new season (September 2001 to June 2002) will begin at the September 4th meeting and through the mail. Thanks to all those who paid their dues for this season. Did you know that the *Dispatch* costs \$2 per PH home per month to print? Your dues go towards this cost. ☞

Dear Editor,

Thank you for *The Pimmit Hills Dispatch*, my husband and I look forward to its delivery every month. We relocated to Virginia eight months ago and shortly after purchased our home here in Pimmit Hills. May's issue discussed the relative poor attendance at the Association's meetings, noting that while sixty people were present when the possibility of development loomed, only twenty normally attend.

Has the Association considered that the meeting time ought to be adjusted? While many residents in the Hills are retired, there are plenty of folks with children, or jobs which keep them at work later than the traditional 9 to 5. Either way, I imagine that very few people can manage to get to a meeting at 7:30p. My schedule keeps me at work until 8:30p. My personal schedule notwithstanding, I submit that even people with "normal" hours have great difficulty with the Association's meeting time.

Perhaps a start time of 8:00p could be considered. Traffic has abated by then; travel times to and from the meeting would be less of an issue for everyone. It is, just a suggestion, but, if the Association truly wants to increase attendance, it seems something new ought to be tried. It can always be changed.

Yes, more people "found a way" to attend during the development "scare." That was an aberration brought about by serious concerns. I think that the Association should regard those numbers in a positive manner. People did look to the Association for leadership and gave it some degree of authority in so doing. The interest in the Association is there; a way must be found to encourage more residents to become involved on a more routine basis. Perhaps the *Dispatch* should conduct a poll, to discover if there is support for a later meeting time. Regards, and thank you for all your great work.

Mallory Hurteau
Maynard Drive

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nas ought to make it through our winter. (As with any marginally hardy plant, it doesn't hurt to dig a few to stow in a cool basement or unheated, but not freezing, garage, just in case.) Elephant Ears (*Colocasia* and *Alocasia*) make most other garden plants look puny, so be sure to partner them with other big, bold plants such as Cannas, Castor Beans (*Ricinus communis* 'Carmencita'), and the hardy Maiden Grass (*Miscanthus sinensis*). Look for the luscious deep, dark purple form called 'Black Magic' -- a bit pricey, but well worth the expense. Set this one in behind a big blue-leaf Hosta such as 'Blue Umbrellas' or 'Big Daddy' and prepare to drool! The Angel's Trumpets, the shrubby *Datura* and its tree-like cousin, *Brugmansia*, scent the evening garden with their lovely, pale flowers. *Datura* is easily grown from seed, but *Brugmansia* should be kept containerized, cut back in fall and stashed in a cool (not freezing) basement or garage for the winter.

For that truly equatorial look try Banana trees in pots set into the garden. Once the weather has warmed these giants grow fast; at the end of the season cut back and winter-over in a basement or garage. The Blood Leaf Banana (*Musa zebrina*) has large green leaves splashed with burgundy. Another Banana, the Japanese Fiber Banana (*M. basjoo*), is reported to be hardy

to -3 degrees F. Near Raleigh, N.C., a grower has been testing the limits of Needle Palms (*Rhapidophyllum*) and Scrub or Palmetto Palms (*Sabal*), reporting an amazing zone 6 hardiness for a few species (we're a warmer zone 7). Hmm, will it be Banana Daiquiris by the Palm or Pina Coladas under the Banana tree? Hardy Ginger Lilies (*Hedycium*), long a staple of gardens of the Deep South, are also moving northward. Their tall (4 to 6 foot), leafy stalks are topped by lovely cone-like arrangements of soft colored flowers in late summer into fall. Though listed hardy into zone 7, it might be a good idea to dig a potful in late fall, just in case.

Continue the effect by fronting these big, bold tropical beauties with bright annuals, such as Impatiens, Coleus, Sweet Potato Vines (*Ipomoea batatas* 'Blackie' and 'Margarita'), and Dwarf Marigolds. Or add chartreuse Hostas like 'Sum and Substance' or 'Zounds', bright Daylilies (*Hemerocallis*), and hardy grasses and sedges. Toss in a tropical Hibiscus, a few Calla Lilies (*Zantedeschia*), the spiky, burgundy-leaf New Zealand Flax (*Phormium tenax* 'Purpurea') and, of course, a pink flamingo, and you've got a tropical paradise right here in Pimmit Hill! ☺

Horticulturalist Deanne Eversmeyer
lives on Leonard Road.



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2190-L Pimmit Drive
Falls Church, VA 22043
(Tyson's Corner Area)
Mon-Fri 8:30 am-6:00 pm
Sat-Sun: Closed



What We Call Home In These Here Pimmit Hills

by Tom Gillespie, Storm Drive

As a Pimmit Hills resident for the past couple of years, I've enjoyed many strolls throughout our community. What I've found is that besides offering some good exercise, walking our neighborhood allows one to clearly see the many variations and conditions of the homes.

From original condition models to customized castles, our 1950's 'burb has changed much from its original days. In this article, I'll share some (hopefully) amusing descriptions of the kinds of homes I've seen in Pimmit Hills. Of course, these descriptions are amalgams of many typical homes; none describes any home in particular--so please, no hate mail. Imagine this is a brochure for a neighborhood being developed.

Stroll through the quaint village of Pimmit Hills where we have many unique dwellings...

The Original

The original Pimmit Hills home (PHH) is a tribute to the post-war building boom. Most of the PHHs originally shared the same simple floor plan. A living room/dining room and small kitchen keep the

common areas communal. Don't plan on heading off to the den off the kitchen for a quiet evening with a book or you'll find yourself in the backyard. One small bedroom and two even smaller bedrooms round out the sleeping quarters. I've heard that in the "good old days," some Pimmit Hills families raised six kids in these sardine cans. I guess that's when sales of bunk beds must have taken off. Oh, and you'd better hold it if you need to use the bathroom... it's occupied.

The Bump-Out

Many PHHs sport this one-story addition—often in the rear. I see many bump-out variations, from small utility rooms to 1000 square foot gargantuans that seem to double the size of the house. I've been in a few PHH bump-outs. They may include master bedrooms (as opposed to apprentice bedrooms), family rooms (where we do more living than in living rooms), laundry rooms, larger dining rooms, etc. I can't help but wonder what else our many bump-outs might have inside them. There have got to be one or two that are concealing velvet portraits of Roy Orbison.

Continued on page 10

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Program includes mowing, edging, trimming
weekly, fertilizing, leaf removal and snow removal
\$125.00 PER MONTH

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DreamLawnsInc.com

2002 Dexter Road, Falls Church, VA 22043

The Pimmit Hills Gardener

By Deanne Eversmeyer

Global warming." I know I should be alarmed by these words, but, as a winter-phobic, they're not really as scary as say, "global cooling." Yes, I know that the Pimmit Hills could become beachfront property as we lose the Eastern Shore to rising sea levels caused by melting icecaps. I know that shifting weather patterns could mean that some day we'll be battling advancing sand dunes just to get to the Safeway. But global warming, in my view (and I know a few other plant-nuts who agree), is an opportunity

to grow more tropical plants outside! Okay, let me pull my tongue out of my cheek, and we'll take a look at some not-so-hardy plants that can turn your garden, at least for the summer months, into a bold, tropical paradise.



First off, let's look at some of the old-fashioned plants from Grandma's day that are taking on a whole new look. Cannas. You know Cannas, those tall, leafy stalks with red, orange or yellow flowers perched on top. The new varieties sport bigger

flowers, better colors, and brilliantly striped foliage. Try the red, orange and purple striped-leaf Canna 'Tropicanna' (aka 'Phaison') with the Red Fountain Grass (*Pennisetum setaceum* 'Rubrum') for great color and wonderful contrast in texture. Instead of filling a round bed in the yard

with these beauties as Grandma did, try mixing them in towards the rear of a colorful border for a dramatic backdrop and great verticality. With a good blanket of mulch applied at fall clean-up, your Can-

continued on page 26

Homemade Apple Dumplings



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

—Phyllis Richman, *Washington Post*



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

Continued from page 8

The Porchie

The only thing I remember about the Latin Stoics was that stoic roughly translates to porchie (one who likes to hang out on the porch). Probably the best idea somebody had was to add a covered front porch to his or her PHH. The idea seems to have caught on. Not only are these porches attractive, but they encourage neighbors to interact (as opposed to 'hoods where everybody isolates themselves on their secluded back decks, "Well I've lived here for years, but neighbors? I don't know any of 'em").

The Upstairs

The upstairs PHH comes in two categories: NHRs and LHRs (no headroom and lotsa headroom). NHRs are the finished attic or loft models. Some people can stand up in these lofts, but they aren't yet old enough to vote. The challenge of NHRs is, where to put the stairs? I looked at one that sacrificed the smallest bedroom for a staircase with, you guessed it: NO headroom (I found that out while hitting my head). LHRs vary from large dormer finished attics to full-fledged second stories. The added upstairs bedrooms of LHRs beckon for modified downstairs floor plans, especially for the smallest bedroom to be combined with the living room to make the living room big enough for people to actually be able to live in it.

The Mammoth

I guess some people just love living in the Hills even when they can afford to move to a mansion in Great Falls. So they take their 900 square foot PHH and add on, say...3000 more square feet? The mammoths are hard to miss and most are quite attractive and creatively done. I think they look even bigger than they are because they sit next to shoebox-sized original PHHs. I'm sure that some of these mammoths must have indoor swimming pools or gymnasiums inside. Ok, maybe I'm stretching my imagination, but on a recent walk, I passed a mammoth and I could hear the crack of bowling pins through the window.

The Custom

Technically, I suppose any changes to your PHH could term it a custom. But my definition of a custom PHH requires that they be changed in appearance so radically, that you can't imagine that they were ever original PHHs. Custom roofs, brick work, relocated doors and windows, well incorporated additions, and unusual siding & trim make these homes stand out. Who can blame people for wanting to have a unique looking house in a 'hood where every house is almost exactly the same? Frank Burns of M*A*S*H once said, "Individuality is fine...as long as we all do it together."

Continued on page 12

Visit the Church of Your Choice

Charity Baptist Church

(Spring Hill at Lewinsville Road)
1328 Spring Hill Road, McLean
Pastor John Mitchell
Pastor Andy Giessman—Youth
703-893-2177
Worship 10:45 am; Adult and children's Sunday School 9:30 am; Small Groups—weekday evenings

☪

Dunn Loring United Methodist Church

2501 Gallows Road, Vienna
Pastor Kathleen R. Monge
703-573-5836
www.dunnloringumc.org
Sunday services: 9:00 am Joy & Praise; 11:00 am Traditional service (nursery provided); 10:50 am Sunday School for all ages

☪

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; Evening service 6:30 pm

☪

Idylwood Presbyterian Church

7617 Idylwood Rd, Falls Church
Pastor Leonard B. Sirbaugh, Jr.
703-573-3027
Sunday School for children and adult education class at 10:00 am; worship 11:00 am; coffee hour at noon.

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

☪

Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Parish

8601 Wolftrap Rd, Vienna
703-938-2828; www.olgcva.org
Mass Monday-Friday 6:30 am, 8:00 am and 12:00 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
703-356-3379
Pastor George Ebens
Sunday services at 8:30 am, 11:00 am and 6:30 pm
Sunday school at 9:45 am

☪

St. Luke's United Methodist Church "The Church on the Hill"

7628 Leesburg Pike (Pimmit Hills)
Rev. Gretchen A. Miller
703-893-9220
Worship service 10:00 am
No Sunday school in June, July, or August



Tyson's Pimmit Regional Library News

When school's out, the summer place for kids is the Tyson's-Pimmit Regional Library, where they will find a fun, rewarding reading game and interesting children's programs throughout June, July, and August. The excitement kicks off on June 19!

The Summer Reading Program theme is "*Treasure Your Library.*" Kids from preschool through high school are invited to participate at all Fairfax County libraries. Children may pick up reading logs--and a special extra or two!--at their library. As they enjoy summer reading, they record each book they finish on their reading logs. When a log is filled, the child brings it to the library to receive congratulations and a coupon book filled with great discounts and freebies from local sponsors. Every Summer Reading Program participant may also enter a countywide prize drawing.

In addition, the Tyson's-Pimmit Regional Library will have a special summer contest just for our community of library users! Children will have a chance to guess the number of treasures contained in a treasure chest. The one whose guess comes closest will win all the treasures--and the chest, too! Watch for our summer treasure display!

Thanks to the generosity of the

Friends of Tyson's-Pimmit Regional Library and other library Friends groups, children's programming will be rich and varied all summer. For example, on June 20, master storyteller Margaret Chatam will create magical history as Harry Potter might have learned it, in "Wishbringers From Beneath the Waves." Other special summer events include puppet shows, music, live animals, science experiments, karate, and much more! All programs are free, but advance registration is required.

To find out more about the Summer Reading Program, call the Tyson's-Pimmit Regional Library at 703-790-8088, or visit the Fairfax County Public Library Web site at <http://www.co.fairfax.va.us/library>.

By Starr E. Smith
Academic Resources Manager

Tyson's Pimmit Regional Library

Hours:

Sunday, Noon to 6:00 pm
Mon-Thursday, 10:00 am to 9:00 pm
Friday, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm
Saturday, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Phone: 703-790-8088

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summer!



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The Garage

Yes, some people have added garages--next?

The Basement

It's hard to tell how many PHHs have had real basements dug over the years. It seems like quite a few have them, but it's still a small percentage. After all, have you ever tried driving a backhoe under a house? For those of you who haven't, PHH basements are mostly hand-dug affairs. On my street, the neighbors teamed up many years ago for a few big digs. I understand they had to dump wheelbarrow after wheelbarrow, month after month for each basement. I hate to say, "get a life" here, especially since I'm so grateful that somebody dug a basement for my own PHH, so I won't.

The Sanford & Son (S&S)

Ok, I had to end with this category. You can't ignore S&S houses. Most older 'hoods have some, and boy...do we have some. Jeff Foxworthy said, "If you are mowing

your yard and you find a car...you might be a redneck." Being a redneck myself, I can truly appreciate the artistic quality of S&S houses. Here are some of the things I've seen in the "yards" of our esteemed S&S's: rusted vintage vehicles soon to be restored (yeah, sure, and our President is Gore), truck caps, campers on jacks, mean old dogs and mean old cats, crumbled driveways soaked with grease, broken car parts (want some please?), tattered blue tarps flapping in the breeze, I even saw a swimming pool leaning on some trees, hub-caps, bathmats, a birdbath upside down, and seats from a van (once white, but now they're brown), snowplows rusting (yes, I know what a bummer)--do you think they'll leave it out in case it snows a bunch this summer? Bet on it.

I love this place. We've got some great houses with lots of character. But, let's face it...the best part of the Hills is not the houses, it's the people. ☞



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Pimmit Hills Senior Center

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 703-734-3338.

The Pimmit Hills Senior Center is open to everyone 55 years of age or older. It is located at the Pimmit Hills School, 7510 Lisle Avenue, Falls Church, and its hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. ☞

The Center is operated by
Fairfax County Community
and Recreation Services



The Board Members
of the Pimmit Hills
Citizens Association
wish you a relaxing,
fun and safe summer.
See you on Tuesday,
September 4!



Heard on the Grapevine

By Donnie Dick



Here we are at the end of another term of the Citizens Association. Where does the time go? It was a great year in terms of the resale value of a Pimmit Hills home. I recently saw one house with an asking price of \$230,000. I hope the tax appraiser doesn't use that as market value for my appraisal for tax purposes. I think it's time for a consideration of a county income tax and a freeze on real estate taxes for us older retirees still living in the Hills.

I thought I was running out of material to report on when an old subject was called to my attention. A property on Pimmit Drive was reported to have a rat infestation

and reported to the Health Department. The cause was unkempt lawn and trash strewn about the property. Come on, folks, use proper waste disposal and if you can't afford the trash service, ask for help from your neighbors.

I think a special note of thanks is due to the Editor of the *Pimmit Hills Dispatch*. Cindy Kwitchoff has done a truly professional job and has made the *Dispatch* a newsworthy publication. Keep up the good work Cindy.

I hope to see you at the Citizens Association meeting in the fall and I will attempt to continue the *Grapevine* for your information. ☞

Donnie Dick lives on Nigh Road



Pimmit Hills
*Our Neighborhood,
Our Home*

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

It was one year ago that I recognized Pimmit Hills for the many pleasant attributes that have made it so attractive to its residents, and though hardly tenured in the community, I certainly consider myself a true believer. As such I will leave any praise to those of you who have long since established a deeper relationship with this beautiful neighborhood than mine.

I must instead focus on the alarming consistency of the threat of development that we continually hear may be in our near future.

First and certainly foremost, I must enthusiastically applaud the Citizens Association for not only defending the neighborhood, but also for communicating with us the multiple attempts that have been made by developers to claim Pimmit Hills. I hope the community recognizes the difficulty in not only resisting the undoubtedly powerful persuasion that large and profitable businesses have the means to bring to bear, but in publicly announcing these instances they have kept our homes from being lawfully pulled out from underneath us. It may have been this action on their part that keeps our

neighborhood whole today; there could have been townhouses here by now. As a matter of fact, read this paragraph again. Let that sink in.

Do you remember what was there before The Commons was built across Magarity Street? How about the Mall where Fresh Fields and Starbucks are now? When

Route 7 was a bit narrower? Perhaps someone may even know when the streets were first paved? I read an allusion to long gone muddy streets in the PH Dispatch, and it struck me that what makes Pimmit Hills special is not only the natural atmosphere, the seeming vastness of our neighborhood, or even the nearly uniform

humbleness of our homes.

What makes Pimmit Hills unique is the fact that all of this has existed for longer than most of us can remember. My house is almost twice as old as I am, and has had more years to build its charming character than I can ever hope to have. This neighborhood has outlived many, perhaps most of its residents, and has been witness to



Pimmit Hills
*Our Neighborhood
Our Home*

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more memories than any human being is equipped to hold. Modern American culture may move so quickly that a new computer may be obsolete in a year, or perhaps that no one expects to own any car longer than their lease terms. But the relationship that people can have with their homes, and their neighbors, and their neighborhood, is a connection that cannot be so easily broken as some would have us believe, or that we are even capable of.

This is exceptionally true here in Pimmit Hills. When I first moved in, one neighbor and I got along so well that we trimmed back the shrubs between our lots, so we could walk to each other's houses. My neighbors 8-year-old son has long since become a regular visitor, as have his friends. We all play volleyball on my lawn, which he also mows. As spring continues to bloom, I am planning a small backyard gathering for friends who were overjoyed with my home when I had a housewarming party at this time a year ago.

It is difficult to explain to the developer, what the blossoms smell like on our bushes. When the rain stops in May and summer starts to cover our prickly bushes in blooms, he can see nothing but a place to build something, ANYTHING, on. Or to describe how we feel so welcome in our cozy LITTLE houses, our honest, humble, MODEST homes... if he only equates satisfaction with the amount of expensive luxuries packed in the most cost effectively restrained space. While our happiness may lie in the enjoyment of everything we have here, he can only achieve his enjoyment when he can proudly announce to his superiors that he has, "Closed the Pimmit Hills Deal!!", and collect a hefty check. To be honest, I don't blame him, and I wish him as much luck in his business as I wish for myself. I want to buy a new computer and a cool car too... But he will need much more than those to match what I already have in Pimmit Hills.

Dan Brunton
Howard Court

There are a lot more letters to the editor concerning development in Pimmit Hills. You can read these letters at our website, pimmithills.org. Send along your thoughts about living in Pimmit Hills to dispatch@pimmithills.org. Please include your full name and the name of the street you live on.

Local merchants donated their help. Tysons Tree Service, Jim's Drywall, Remington Mulch and the Fairfax Circle Home Depot contributed equipment, goods and labor to the project, Kenny Shrader said.

Ledo Pizza, Jerry's Pizza and Subs, Safeway and Tyson's Bagel Market donated food for the workers.

To qualify for Christmas in April renovations, homeowners must be

low-income and elderly or disabled or unable to do the work themselves, according to Rebuilding Together, the parent organization for Christmas in April.

Residents interested in volunteering their labor for future Christmas in April projects can contact St. Luke's United Methodist Church at 703-893-9220 or they can call Christmas in April at 703-528-5606. ☞

Good Neighbor

Have you ever noticed how along with daffodils, tulips and the sound of singing birds, spring brings a fresh crop of yard sale signs? Some are creative, homemade affairs, some are more professional with big clear printing and some are small slapped together things. No matter what form to take, they serve the important purpose of connecting sellers with buyers. The problem is that far too often, even though the sale has ended, the signs stay hanging right where they are. Our telephone poles and street signposts look like out of control bulletin boards. So please, be a good neighbor and take the time to remove any signage you put up around the neighborhood once your event is over or your product is sold. This simple step will be appreciated by all! Do you have any good neighbor tips to share? Tell us about them. You can email your ideas for this column to phca@pimmithills.org.

Amazing facts: According to the National Arbor Day Foundation, trees cool our air. Water is pulled from the soil and transported to the tip of each twig and into the leaves. From there, transpiration releases water into the air, cooling the surrounding area by as much as 12 degrees more than nearby areas without trees. Why spend money on air conditioning when you can plant a tree!

Curb appeal: Landscaping your yard can give you anywhere up to 76% return on your investment.

Christmas in April

By Leigh Rivenbark

Pimmit Hills homeowner Lilian Caceres said the 28 volunteers who swarmed over her Prout Place house on April 28 brought her "a miracle" -- a free renovation making her home more liveable.

The volunteers worked on behalf of the non-profit group Christmas in April, which rehabilitates housing for qualified low-income homeowners.

Caceres, who has lived in the house for 11 years, shares it with her mother, son, daughter and grandson. She said the house was in poor condition, needing repairs to beams and dry-wall.

Renovating the house "was my dream because I was thinking and thinking, how could I do this?" Caceres said. "I prayed to God many times and for me this was a miracle. I feel very happy and very satisfied that 28 people did everything."

Pimmit Hills resident Kenny Shrader coordinated the volunteer team on behalf of St. Luke's United Methodist Church.



Some volunteers got started on Friday night, April 27, and more joined them on Saturday, April 28, working from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. to repair walls, paint, replace the kitchen floor, put up a storage shed and landscape the yard, Shrader said.

The team was one of 110 Christmas in April teams working that weekend on houses in Fairfax County, Falls Church and Arlington, he said.

Participants from St. Luke's were Ted Argleben, Jr., Theresa Campbell, Virginia and Roland Chartier, Yvonne Cormier, Pat Czikra, Bill

French, Linda Gleason, Bill Hepler, Catherine Hoyle, Jeanne Ingle, Patsy Lawton, Gretchen Miller, Janice Myers-Coleman, Brenda Pearson, Amanda and Connie Shrader and Cathy Wise. Others who took part included Jose Acuna, Chris Hasychak, Tony Holod, Sharon and Tom Kallio, Julio Rodriguez and Ted Tieff.

Continued on page 19

Small Group Bible Studies



You are invited!

Friendship ■ Following Christ ■ Fun

Pimmit Hills/Falls Church area
Weekday evenings. Call 703-893-2177 for times and locations

Small Group Ministries of

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Baptist Church

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Sunday Worship Service 10:45 am

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Highest Sale Price Ever in Pimmit Hills!

This house was listed at \$350,000 and was sold in one weekend for above list price. It has 4 bedrooms, 3½ baths, garage, family room, and is totally remodeled inside and out. Cathedral ceilings, master bedroom has huge (12x12) master bath, marble floor, Jacuzzi, separate shower, home office with separate entry and ½ bath. – *Bill Bolinger, 703-283-1413*



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