

APRIL 2016

HOLLIN HILLS BULLETIN

SPRING CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEETING

**April 11, 7:30pm
Hollin Meadows School**
If you cannot attend, please
submit absentee ballot/proxy
on page 6

HOUSE TOUR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Hollin Hills House & Garden Tour will take place Saturday, April 30 (rain or shine). If you have not done so already, purchase your tickets by April 28 at www.hollinhills.net and save \$5. For a sneak preview, go to our Facebook page where you will find stunning photos of the twelve homes on this year's tour.

To kick off the tour, we invite you to join us on Thursday, April 21, for a discussion on mid-century modern architecture and design at Room & Board at 1840 14th Street, NW. Room & Board is one of our major sponsors and has agreed to help us promote the tour by inviting the author, Heidi Creighton, to discuss her recently released book, *William Krisel's Palm Springs: The Language of Modernism*. The reception begins at 6:30, followed by Ms. Creighton's lecture at 7pm.

We are in need of volunteers to help us sell tickets on the day of the tour, as well as docents to serve two-hour shifts at one of the twelve homes on this year's tour. If interested, please email us at tygerlatham@gmail.com or barlward1@cox.net. We look forward to seeing you April 30!

—*Tyger Latham & Barbara Ward, Co-Chairs 2016 House & Garden Tour*

OUR 21ST POTLUCK — WHAT A FUN TIME!

The Civic Association hosted its twenty first annual Winter Potluck at Mount Vernon Unitarian Church's Hollin Hall on February 28. The wonderful warm weather (we seem to be lucky each year) drew a large crowd. Even the Academy Awards could not keep our neighbors away. Over a hundred of us attended, and brought many of the next generation of Hollin Hillers along. The garden outside was packed with children whizzing around and playing games. We were happy to see several teens attend—thanks for coming by.

As usual, the buffet table was soon groaning under the wonderful food, that started to arrive. Tempura shrimp appeared, was (Continued on page 8)

Wendy Kilpatrick



From left: JG and Jere served up drinks at the Potluck for the twenty-first time; Hollin Hillers provided and then enjoyed a delicious feast of appetizers; our own Music Man, Tony Jordan, sampling the lavish spread.

JOIN OR RENEW IT'S MEMBERSHIP SEASON!

Calling all Hollin Hills residents! The Civic Association (CAHH) membership year is May 1-April 30, and our 2016 membership drive is now underway. It's time to join or renew your membership. Membership forms were sent out in late March. Complete the form and mail it in, or you can complete your membership form and pay your dues online at www.hollinhills.net. (A \$5 convenience fee applies for processing an online payment.) The membership form for mailing may also be printed from the website if you did not receive one in the mail, and a copy is also inserted in the paper version of this Bulletin.

Benefits of membership include receiving the Bulletin and the Hollin Hills Directory. Your membership dues also allow residents to enjoy community social events, including the Winter Potluck, the 4th of July Parade and Picnic, and the Oktoberfest celebration.

Membership dues also support the administration of our architectural covenants, pay for insurance and other business expenses of the CAHH, and provide funds for the maintenance of Hollin Hills parks and common areas.

If for some reason you did not receive the form or if you have any questions, please contact me at 312-907-1797 or linda.benson@me.com.

—*Linda Benson, Membership Chair*

CIVIC ASSOCIATION OF HOLLIN HILLS (CAHH)

CAHH OFFICERS

President Gus Matson	768-3797
Vice-President Chris McNamara	660-9536
Treasurer Susan Kuhbach	768-8154
Secretary Barbara Southworth	721-0734
Membership Linda Benson	312-907-1797

DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE

Pool Laura Kistler	768-4161
MVCCA Michael Plotnik	660-6272
Social Susmita Dastidar	660-5938
Parks Bob Kinzer	768-4048

CAHH COMMITTEES

ARCHIVIST Judy Riggan	765-3025
Historian Scott Wilson	765-4471

(Also see Hollin Hills Archives below)

DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC)

Chair Frank Collins	660-6525
Members John Burns	660-9763
Christine Kelly	768-2497
Roger Miller	768-2095
Ken Wilson	768-5838

CAHH-DRC Liaison Chris McNamara 660-9536

HOLLIN HILLS POOL COMMITTEE

Chair Barbara Bogue 571-257-9313

PARKS COMMITTEE

Chair Open

HOLLIN HILLS BULLETIN

Published monthly since 1951 by the CAHH. The material in this publication does not necessarily reflect the opinions of the CAHH Board or the editor.

Editor Barbara Shear 660-6543
 Editorial Assistance Andrew Keegan 660-1004

Deadline is the 15th of the preceding month.

Articles generally should not exceed 500 words. Send your submission in the body of an email or as an attachment to barbshear@verizon.net.

If you cannot produce computerized copy, please find someone to submit it for you. As a last resort, type or print it clearly, leave in basket to right of front door, 1820 Drury Lane, and inform editor at 703-660-6543.

No material will be accepted over the telephone.

Distribution: To replace a missing paper Bulletin, contact Eleanor Fina, 703-768-3174.

To correct/change address, contact Linda Benson at 312-907-1797

HOLLIN HILLS ARCHIVES

The Hollin Hills Archives are part of the Special Collections and Archives of George Mason University. To contact the SC&A staff with research questions, use the following:

- For a general description of the Hollin Hills archives contents, go to http://sca.gmu.edu/finding_aids/hollinhills.html.
- For questions about collections, hours, usage, duplications, or directions go to http://sca.gmu.edu/using_sc&a.html.
- Other contacts: phone 703-993-2220, fax inquiries 703-993-8911, email speccoll@gmu.edu.

WWW.HOLLINHILLS.NET

Calendar of community events and information about our parks, the Design Review Committee, the National Historic Registry, and more.

Quick Takes

WELCOME

Allison, Patrick, and Ada Heck (age three-and-a-half) and their dog, Luna, moved into 2213 Glasgow Road in January, just after the Godzilla snowstorm. For Allison, it is a bit of a homecoming since her mother, MaryAnn Davis (now MaryAnn Abbott), grew up on Bedford Lane. The Hecks are expecting their second daughter in July of this year.

Both Allison and Patrick grew up in Virginia; Allison in Harrisonburg, and Patrick in Stafford. They met as undergraduates at James Madison University and received master's degrees at the University of Florida. Allison then earned a PhD in urban planning at Virginia Tech. She works for FEMA. Patrick is a manager at Pricewaterhouse Coopers Public Sector.

They are looking forward to the House & Garden Tour for some good ideas for redoing their home to make it perfect for themselves. Contacts: Allison, 540-383-8174 and abbottaj@gmail.com; Patrick, 703-850-9620 and iamheck@gmail.com.

—Lainey Nexon

COMMUNITY YARD SALE

Start collecting your items for our 4th annual HH Community Yard Sale! It will take place on Saturday April 16, 2016, from 9am-12noon (rain date May 7), in the Hollin Hills Pool parking lot. Participants bring their own tables and are asked to make and post one LARGE sign to advertise the sale. To sign up and for further details, please email Friederike Ahrens (friederikemh@hotmail.com).

“GREAT BEGINNINGS”

Hollin Meadows School will hold its annual “Great Beginnings” orientation program for rising kindergartners and their parents on Wednesday, April 13, 9:45–11am. If your son or daughter will start kindergarten at Hollin Meadows in the coming fall, this event will be helpful for both you and your child. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to 703-718-8300.

CAR CRAZY? THIS IS FOR YOU

Have a cool/unique/antique car you want to show off? Want to see a bunch of cool/unique/antique cars or even a new car or two? West Potomac High is holding a



Members of the Hollin Hills running group on a recent Saturday morning outing. Runners of all abilities are welcome to join. Contact Stine Riis Svenningsen, 678-920-4735 or stine_riis@hotmail.com.

car show Saturday April 23, 9am-2pm, in the front parking lot (rain date April 30). Free admission for spectators (donations accepted), \$20 to enter a car. Awards will be presented. Event t-shirts, food and drinks will be on sale. All proceeds will benefit the West Po All Night Graduation Celebration. To reserve a spot or for more information, contact Rebecca Bostick, rbarch@mindspring.com.

POOL MEMBERSHIP DEADLINE

Early spring makes us wish for summer afternoons at Hollin Hills Pool—swimming laps, relaxing with a good read, meeting other members at events, stopping by the food trucks, or cheering for the Bluefish. It can all be yours starting opening day, May 28!

If you are already a member, you should have received your renewal form via email. New residents of Hollin Hills can request a membership application at admin@hhpool.org. All Hollin Hills residents who are active, dues-paying Civic Association of Hollin Hills (CAHH) members are guaranteed membership. Others, who are not residents of Hollin Hills, may also apply and will be added to a wait list that is about two seasons long.

Be sure to get your registration in no later than May 1, 2016. After that date, all unfilled slots will be opened to one of the many eager families on our wait list. For information about the pool, go to <http://www.hollinhills.net/pool/>.

—Marielle Reading, Membership Director,
 Barbara Bogue, Pool Chair

DAVID NEXON TO SPEAK ABOUT “LION OF THE SENATE”

Mount Vernon At Home invites you to a talk by Hollin Hills neighbor, David Nexon, co-author of the recently released book about Senator Edward Kennedy, *Lion of the Senate*. David and his co-author Nick (Continued on page 3)

Quick Takes

Littlefield worked with Senator Kennedy for several remarkably productive years. They later wrote this prize-winning book that Doris Kearns Goodwin called, “The best book I have read about the inner dynamics of the United States Senate.”

The talk will focus on Kennedy’s effectiveness and what it was like to work for him. David will describe how Kennedy rallied Democrats and cultivated friendships with Republicans, enabling passage of a mountain of progressive legislation in that very partisan and polarized environment. He will comment on implications for today’s political situation.

As Senator Kennedy’s senior health policy advisor, David directed the Senator’s health staff from 1983-2005. Currently, he is an executive at the Advanced Medical Technology Association. He and his wife, Lainey, have lived in Hollin Hills since 1977. David has agreed to sign copies of the book.

The program will be held on the Mt. Vernon Unitarian Church grounds, in the house to the left of the church, at 3pm, Sunday, April 17. To assure a seat, please contact me at marycarrollpotter@verizon.net or 703-768-6590 .

—*Mary-Carroll Potter*

COUNTY BUDGET AND TAXES

On February 27, Dan Storck, our recently elected supervisor, held the Mt. Vernon District Town Meeting, following a tradition long observed by his predecessor, Gerry Hyland. A main topic was County finances.

Sharon Bulova, County Board of Supervisors chair, gave an overview of priorities, pointing out that the 2017 Advertised Budget Plan was the maximum amount that would be considered, and that school funding would be a priority. Funds would be needed for repairs in older areas of the County and also for police officer training, which would be revised. Guaranteeing a AAA bond rating would be another priority.

Ed Long noted that revenue growth was only 2.3% in the last year and that there is now an oversupply of office space. The budget proposal recommends raising the real estate tax rate from the current \$1.09 to \$1.13. No tax increase is proposed for personal property tax, refuse collection and disposal, or leaf collection. Almost 65% of County revenue would come from real estate taxes and 15% from personal property tax. In allocating funds, 52.2% of the advertised budget would go to schools, 11.9% to public safety, and 11% to welfare.

—*Burt Kronstedt*

IN MEMORIAM

Kathleen Spagnolo

Kathleen Spagnolo, a longtime resident of Hollin Hills, died on February 15, 2016 at the age of 96. She was born on September 12, 1919 in England. She studied at the Royal College of Art before working

through WWII in the cartography division of the British Forces. It was there she met her American husband, Frank Spagnolo, who was serving in the US Army.

They came to the United States and settled in Hollin Hills in 1953. Both Frank and Kathy were active members of the Hollin Hills community—teaching art, designing and illustrating publications, and hosting art groups and discussions in their home. Over many years, Kathleen’s beautiful line drawings graced the Hollin Hills Bulletin and Directory and some are still being used today (*see above*).

Kathy’s prints and paintings are in the collections of the VA Museum; Georgetown University; American and George Washington Universities, and the Imperial War Museum in the UK, as well as numerous private collections.

Frank Spagnolo died in 1972, and Kathy remained in the original Hollin Hills house on Recard Lane until her death. Kathy’s two nieces survive her in England, as does Frank’s nephew in Florida.

Joyce Sherwood Keir

Joyce Sherwood Keir passed away at her home in Hollin Hills on Saturday, February 20, succumbing to kidney failure at the age of 92. She was born on August 28, 1923 in a town so small that it no longer graces the map, Leetsville, Michigan, a crossroads in Rapid River Township northeast of Kalkaska, Michigan where she grew up.

Joyce, an excellent student, aspired to attend the University of Michigan. However, as a young woman in the Midwest at mid-century, she was constrained to attend the school that offered the most scholarship money, Central Michigan University. She graduated in 1945, but remained an ardent fan of the Michigan Wolverines for the rest of her life.

After college, she moved to Detroit, where she taught middle school math, worked for the Wayne County Health Department, and ultimately got a job at General Motors. She left Michigan for Washington, D.C. in the early 1950s to attend graduate school at George Washington University, where she earned a master’s degree in government and economic policy. Thereafter, she worked for five years as an economist at the International Monetary Fund, traveling on several missions to Costa Rica and Nicaragua.

In 1958, a mutual friend introduced her to Peter Keir, a recently divorced fellow economist with two young children. Shortly thereafter, she embarked on a new and very different stage of life as a wife and mother. Although she officially “retired” in 1959, she remained active as a volunteer in the public schools, as a political campaign stalwart, and in a number of community activities and recreational pursuits. Her home was always a welcoming place, where dinner was served promptly at 7pm, with generous portions for all. Certain relatives and family friends were known to time their arrival in town for that hour in order not to miss the evening meal.

She is survived by her husband of more than 56 years, Peter M. Keir, of Hollin Hills; her sister, Kay Ryckman; stepdaughter Ellen Keir and former son-in-law Mark Bobseine; stepson Bruce Keir and daughter-in-law Patricia Wittbold Keir; and son David Keir and daughter-in-law Lorraine Predham Keir, as well as six grandchildren.

The family wishes to thank the staff of Adult Companion Care in Alexandria who provided excellent care and friendship to Joyce and the entire family during the last years of her life, in particular caregivers Dionne Pressley, Willie Mae Batts, and Lillian Opoku, and nurses Kathy Schrader and Lavonne Rolincik.

Joyce loved the springtime, when the countryside turns green and the flowers bloom. Accordingly, a Celebration of Life will be held at 2pm on April 23, at the Mt. Vernon Unitarian Church. Further details will be announced later.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to the Alzheimer’s Association, the American Cancer Society, or the Esophageal Cancer Action Network.





DEAR NEIGHBORS,

Spring is upon us. We will once again pour out of our houses to walk, run, and bike in the pretty—and even for some of us more devoted, the not so pretty—weather. Children will dash across streets to other yards or into one of our plentiful parks. Moms, dads, and/or nannies will push strollers down our streets. Countless dog walkers will stroll happily with their sniffing pooches enjoying the fresh spring air.

We have speed limits, speed humps, crosswalks, and stop signs on our neighborhood streets. The speed limits are rarely obeyed. The humps are often sped right over as if they weren't even there. And, I have stood at crosswalks where signs are posted instructing motorists to yield to pedestrians and watched cars sail by as I

stood waiting to cross. I have watched many cars glide rather quickly without stopping around corners with stop signs as if the signs were not there.

I beg you. While out in your car, please slow down. Please obey the traffic signs. Many residents back out of driveways and parking spaces. Slow down so as not to surprise them in a most unpleasant encounter. Yield to pedestrians and do give them wide berth as they stroll our lovely streets. This is a neighborhood, not a superhighway. Let us safely enjoy the warmer weather in the months to come.

Whatever it is you are hurrying to can wait the five minutes it takes you to drive carefully into or out of the neighborhood.

—Hilary Ginsberg

SAFE KIDS IN THE INTERNET AGE

Fairfax County residents are invited to attend meetings of the Police Department Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC). 7pm, on the second Tuesday of every month, at the Mount Vernon Government Center, 2511 Parkers Lane. The CAC aims to enhance communication between residents and police, to keep residents informed about local safety matters, and to provide an opportunity to bring issues or questions to the attention of local police.

Detective Joseph Sorrentino of the Child Exploitation Squad spoke at the February meeting of the CAC. The squad deals with runaway and missing juveniles (their biggest job, with three to four per day), juvenile fugitives, parental abductions, the sex offender registry, child pornography, solicitation of minors, and sexting. The unit consists of seven detectives and a supervisor. Virginia also has two Internet Crimes Against Children Task Forces, one of which is in Northern Virginia. These task forces help train police officers and give talks to the public.

Children often put out too much information on the Internet

without realizing it. They should never Skype or webcam with anyone they do not know. Detective Sorrentino recommended that parents have accounts on the same sites as their children do.

On the web, kids are using: 1) social media sights: Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Skype, Google and Hangout; 2) chat rooms; 3) web cam sites: Omega, Chalrououlette, Tiny Chat, Chaturbate, Oovoo, You Now/Blogtv; and 4) online video games.

Warning signs that children may be in trouble include isolating themselves in their room and being constantly online and secretive with their devices. Changes in behavior or personality should also be cause for concern.

Detective Sorrentino said that there are 750,000 child predators online. His advice to parents is: 1) Know the login and passwords for all your kids' media. 2) Do not allow kids to keep devices in their rooms after bedtime. 3) Charge devices in common family areas. 4) In some instances, install monitoring software. 5) Have serious conversations with your children about the Internet.

—Submitted by Laura Wirkkala

NEWS OF OUR SCHOOLS

Share Your School's News

All Hollin Hills students and their parents are invited to submit news and pictures of achievements, activities, and coming events at our local schools.

Hollin Meadows Coming Events

• "Great Beginnings" kindergarten orientation, April 13. More on page 2.

• Earth Day Celebration, Saturday, April 16, 10am-2pm. Seedling sale, garden projects, Arcadia Mobile Market.

• 6th Annual Hollin Meadows Partnership Gala, Saturday, April 30, 7pm. Fundraiser to support the school's math and science programs, including the learning garden and STEM lab.

Let's Hear It for the Snail!

To celebrate Youth Art Month in March, an exhibit of student art was displayed at Hollin Meadows along with an intriguing sounding Teachers' Yam Decorating Contest. The students voted on their favorite yam, and the snail (*below*) won.

Susan McCarthy



L-R: Second graders perform at Multicultural Fair; Peanuts fan Jack Wilson of Kimbro Street, fireman Rafid Mia, and "Knight" Jack McCarthy of Saville Court in the HMES Book Parade; and the winning snail surrounded by student artwork.





FROM THE CAHH PRESIDENT

Civic Association Spring Meeting to Focus on Discussion of Our Parks

On Monday, April 11th, 2016 at 7:30pm we will hold our Spring Meeting at the Hollin Meadows School cafeteria. We will review our income and expenditures for the last year, as required by the by-laws, (*see charts at right*), but what I really would like to discuss is the Parks.

Last month, Dave Matthews wrote a letter to the Bulletin about the storm-water erosion problem in the parks that made me sit up and take notice. For the first time in years, I walked through Goodman Park, and I was stunned at the seriousness of the erosion problem. The ‘canyon-like carving’ mentioned by Dave is a giant crevice eight to ten feet deep at one point, and that point is only a few feet from the foot path. On several levels, this is a serious problem, and it is only one of multiple problems associated with the Parks. So, put on your thinking caps, and then come to the meeting. We have plenty of smart, innovative, idea-laden (not to mention good-looking) folks in this neighborhood, and we need a plan, so show up and contribute your two cents. Since the Parks are the concern of all Hollin Hills residents, I invite everybody to attend. Don’t be put off if you are not CAHH member. Please come and contribute.

New Parks Chair

I am happy to announce that Elisabeth Lardner has agreed to become the new Parks Chair. Elisabeth is a well-regarded landscape architect and brings substantial knowledge to the issues we face in dealing with the Parks. I am very grateful to her for taking on this job.

—Gus Matson

BALANCE SHEET as of December 2015

ASSETS		LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Bank Accounts		Liabilities	\$0.00
Checking	\$ 1,424.00	Equity	
Savings	<u>72,336.63</u>	Retained Earnings	91,122.88
Total Bank Accounts	73,760.63	Net Income	<u>-17,362.25</u>
Total Current Assets	73,760.63	Total Equity	\$73,760.63
Total Assets	\$73,760.63	Total Liabilities & Equity	\$73,760.63

CAHH 2015 BUDGET vs ACTUALS

	Actual	Budget	Over Budget	Percent
INCOME				
Book Sales	\$240.57	\$300	-\$59.43	80.19%
Bulletin Subscriptions	1,149.26	1,250	-\$100.74	91.94%
Donations:				
<i>Parks</i>	<i>2,796.60</i>	<i>2,500</i>	<i>296.60</i>	<i>111.86%</i>
<i>Other</i>	<i>50.00</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>50.00</i>	
Total Donations	2,846.60	2,500	346.60	113.86%
Dues 2015-16	40,779.03	40,625	154.03	100.38%
HHHGT 2016 sponsors	2,000.00	0	2,000.00	
Mdse Sales	60.00	0	60.00	
July 4 Picnic	301.00	150	151	200.67%
Oktoberfest	574.75	650	-75.25	88.42%
Reimbursed Insurance	7,543.00	7,145	398.00	105.57%
Total operating income	\$55,494.21	\$52,620	2,874.21	105.46%
EXPENSES				
Administrative	844.45	1,060.00	-215.55	79.67%
Dues	90.00	90	0	100%
Insurance	15,036.28	15,530	-493.72	96.82%
*Legal & Professional Fees	26,939.17	2,000	24,939.17	1346.96%
Parks Maintenance	18,811.27	22,900	-4,088.73	82.15%
Printing	1,646.22	1,180	466.22	139.51%
Rent or Lease	1,662.00	1,650	12.00	100.73%
Social Events				
<i>Holiday Caroling</i>	<i>63.13</i>	<i>75</i>	<i>-13.87</i>	<i>81.51%</i>
<i>July 4 Picnic</i>	<i>3,618.17</i>	<i>3,775</i>	<i>-156.83</i>	<i>95.85%</i>
<i>Newcomer Event</i>	<i>184.45</i>	<i>250</i>	<i>-65.55</i>	<i>73.78%</i>
<i>Oktoberfest</i>	<i>3,655.74</i>	<i>3,410</i>	<i>245.74</i>	<i>107.21%</i>
<i>Winter Potluck</i>	<i>449.77</i>	<i>675</i>	<i>-225.23</i>	<i>66.63%</i>
Total Social Events	7,969.26	8,185	-215.74	97.36%
Taxes & Licenses	25.00	25	0	100%
Total Expenses	73,023.65	52,620	20,403.65	138.78%
Net Operating Income	-17,529.44	0	-17,529.44	
Interest Income	167.19	60	107.19	278.65%
NET INCOME	-\$17,362.25	\$60	-\$17,422.25	-28937.08%

*This result is a consequence of using \$2000 as a placeholder for projected legal and professional fees.



THANK YOU, PAUL!

This article is number 100 in a series of columns written for the Bulletin by Paul Phelps going back to the mid-1990s. All of them have reflected Paul's knowledge of environmentally sound gardening and his commitment to the conservation of our natural surroundings.

THE VALUE OF BACKUP TREES

About 15 years ago, I noticed two oak seedlings growing in my neighbor's yard, close to our boundary line. They were perhaps 12 inches tall at the time, volunteers that had sprouted from acorns buried and forgotten by some long-gone squirrel. I asked my neighbor's yard man to mow around the two seedlings, and then I too forgot about them for 10 years as they grew into strong, 15-foot saplings. At that point they were beginning to crowd

one another, so I asked the yard man to take out the weaker one and leave the other. That neighbor is gone, but the sapling is now 20-foot tree that is already providing welcome shade from the worst of the late afternoon sun. More importantly, it will eventually replace a much older oak that was planted too close to the house, which has been failing slowly for some time.

About 10 years ago a huge oak tree in my neighbor's yard came down in a microburst, taking out half a dozen of my trees as it fell across the back yard. My neighbor generously paid to have her tree removed from my property, and I brought in a crew to clear my collateral trees. They cleared a lot of brush in the process, and I took advantage of the open ground to plant a "grove" of small trees and shrubs, including yellowwood, two different kinds of dogwood, three different kinds of viburnum, and three different kinds of holly. All of these plantings have grown in by now, and volunteers – elm, maple and pine – have grown in behind them, creating a thicker and more interesting screen than I had before.

Now I'm losing the big silver maple that has defined the back of our house for 25 years. The tree is sick, there's no cure to be had,

and it has to come out before it gets any sicker and starts dropping branches on the house. It's going to leave a hole in our landscape, right next to the patio where we read the paper in the morning, but even before Woodlawn Tree Service gets here I have taken steps to fill that hole. One is to plant a row of Chindo viburnum that eventually will become a 10-foot privacy hedge. Another is to plant a yellowwood tree, echoing another yellowwood that has proven attractive at the opposite end of the garden. I may plant a second yellowwood once the maple is gone, I like them that much, but I'll certainly have the tree guys grind the stump below grade, so the pachysandra and other groundcovers can grow back over the hole.

All of which points to the value of having backup trees and shrubs available, preferably before the need for them arises. Sometimes it's a volunteer, sometimes it's something growing in a pot on your patio, and sometimes it's an expensive replacement so big that you have to ask the nursery to plant it for you. This is why I write each spring about the native plant seedling sale by the Northern Virginia Soil & Water Conservation District. It's a perfect opportunity to obtain low-price seedlings of trees and shrubs that are well adapted to our climate and provide welcome diversity and habitat value to our landscapes. This year's plant package includes three outstanding native trees—redbud, persimmon and American hornbeam—while the shrub package contains five small trees and large shrubs that can be used to patch and enrich your garden—flowering dogwood for blooms, American hazelnut for fruit, chokeberry photinia for color, northern bayberry for aroma, and indigo bush for the bees and butterflies. Get more information or place orders for late April pickup by visiting <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/seedlingsale.html>.

My experience also speaks to the value of working with your neighbors on tree problems. My tree can shade your house, if I let it grow, and it follows that I should consult you before I cut it down. We have all of these valuable shade trees now because previous owners planted them 50 years ago; it behooves us to plant backup trees today that will provide shade and property value 50 years from now.

—Paul B. Phelps

ABSENTEE BALLOT / PROXY

Civic Association of Hollin Hills
 General Membership Meeting
 Monday, April 11, 2015

CAHH members who cannot attend this meeting may mark this ballot (one ballot per member household), sign, and print name, address, and date. Ballots must be received by the recording secretary prior to the meeting. Send ballot to:

Barbara Southworth, CAHH Secretary
 1813 Paul Spring Road
 Alexandria, VA 22307

If you decide to attend, having submitted this ballot, you are obliged to retrieve it prior to voting at the meeting. This ballot counts as a presence in reckoning a meeting quorum.

Your Signature _____

Print Name _____

Print Address _____

_____ Date

Check here if you wish to give your proxy to another CAHH member and indicate that member's name below.

I give my proxy to:

Proxy holder's name (print) _____

Proxy holder's address (print) _____

DESIGN REVIEW**Cooperation between neighbors yields good results**

The Design Review Committee (DRC) did not meet for its scheduled March 9, 2016 meeting because no homeowner plans were submitted for review and discussion.

Between the February 10, 2016 meeting and March 9, the DRC administratively approved a driveway restoration project at 1927 Martha's Road. The project will remove the current asphalt and replace it with pea gravel, the surface material of the original driveway. The new pea gravel driveway will retain the same dimensions as the current asphalt parking bay.

In addition, the committee worked with the homeowners at 1927 Martha's Road and 1929 Martha's Road to resolve an issue related to a new fence addition. The DRC applauds the constructive and neighborly manner in which the owners of both properties worked together to find an equitable solution.

The next DRC meeting will be on Wednesday, April 13, 2016, at 7pm, at the Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria, in Conference Room #3

—Chris McNamara, CAHH/DRC Liaison

BOOK CLUB**Olive Kitteredge by Elizabeth Strout**

Olive Kitteridge, by Elizabeth Strout was felt to be a worthwhile selection which over time would provide more thought concerning the characters and events that take place over twenty years in Croset, Maine.

We are introduced to Henry Kitteridge in the beginning of the story. He is so mild mannered and cheerful that we have difficulty at first finding him interesting. We realize that he knows everyone, and we wonder if he will be the narrator. Soon we meet his wife, Olive, who has a caustic personality. We realize soon that it is she who will carry the events for us as we learn about her relatives and neighbors.

The book is made up of chapters, each one individual but coordinated,

and as we read, we see that these chapters form the story. Elizabeth Strout, the author, hopes that readers feel a sense of awe at the quality of human endurance. Our members were particularly interested in the changing qualities apparent in the lives of Olive and her son, Christopher. We all hope that a closeness will develop. In our imagination, the book is a story that will go on.

—Ann Klunder

Note: This review of our February book was to have run last month, but because of space limitations, was moved to this issue. Reviews of *The Remains of the Day*, by Kuzuo Ishiguro, and *Silent House*, by Orhan Pamuk (the March and April selections) will both appear in the May Bulletin.

MUSIC MAN**Jazz Appreciation Month and more outdoor music venues**

It's Jazz Appreciation Month. Check video clip: www.smithsonianjazz.org.

- Fri. 4/1, 6pm, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 I St. SW: Sharon Clark (jazz vocalist) \$5 www.westminsterdc.org/jazz-night-in-dc.html
- Sat. 4/2, 7:30pm (6:45 doors, food and drink) National Museum of American History Wallace H. Coulter Performing Arts Plaza: Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Orchestra - Benny Carter: Groundbreaking King of Jazz, \$25 <http://americanhistory.si.edu/smithsonian-jazz/concerts#BennyCarter>
- Sun. 4/3, 3-4pm Lyceum: Friday Morning Music Club, works by Debussy, Dorf www.fmmc.org
- Sun. 4/3, 7:30pm, Lyceum: National Brass Ensemble - Tribute to Veterans and the Military, works by Handel, McKee, Gabrieli, Kamen, Bernstein, Barnes, Walker, Ward and Sousa www.alexandriava.gov/historic/lyceum/default.aspx?id=44792
- Tue. 4/5, 7:30pm, Schlesinger Center Concert Hall: NOVA Jazz Ensemble www.nvcc.edu/schlesingercenter/
- Fri. 4/8, 6pm, Westminster Presbyterian Church: Howard University Jazz Ensemble, \$5
- Fri. 4/8, 7pm Jane Lang Recital Hall, 2801 Upton St. NW: Levine Music Jazz Fest, Afro Blue (vocal jazz ensemble) \$15 advance \$20 at door www.levinemusic.org/performance/jazzfest
- Sat. 4/9, 11:30am -1pm, Strathmore, 5301 Tuckerman Ln., N. Bethesda: Latin Jazz Workshop, Levine Jazz Fest 2-4pm, Performance Lecture: The Song is You - The dance of Jazz Voice and Piano. Both free with reservation www.levinemusic.org/performance/jazzfest
- Sun. 4/10, 2-4pm, Jane Lang Recital Hall: Masterclass lecture with Pat Martino, The Nature of the Guitar. Free with reservation

www.levinemusic.org/performance/jazzfest

- Sun. 4/10 3pm, Church of Epiphany, 1317 G St. NW: Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic-Copeland, Nielsen, Schumann: "Spring" Symphony \$20 www.wmpmusic.org
- Thu. 4/14,, 7:30pm, Lyceum; USAF Band String Chamber Series - An Evening of Chamber Music for Strings www.usafband.af.mil
- Fri. 4/15, 7:30-9:30pm, Hollin Hall Senior Center: Mt. Vernon Swing Band - Swing Dance Party, \$4 www.mvbands.com
- Sat. 4/16, 7:30pm, Church of St. Clement, 1701 Quaker Lane: Johnsmith (singer/songwriter) \$15 advance \$18 at door www.focusmusic.org
- Sun. 4/17, 3pm, George Washington Masonic National Memorial: Washington Metropolitan Philharmonic \$20 (see 4/10 program)
- Mon. 4/25, 8pm, UDC Performing Arts Bldg. 46: Calvin Jones Jazz Festival featuring Howard University Jazz Ensemble, University of Maryland Jazz Ensemble and UDC Jazz Ensemble \$20, \$15 seniors, <http://www.lrdudc.wrlc.org/jazz/festival.php>
- Mon. 4/25, 8pm and 10pm, Blues Alley: Andrew White with the Navy Commodores - tribute to John Coltrane. Free with reservation www.bluesalley.com
- Wed. 4/27 through Fri. 4/29, 11am-6pm, Pershing Park. 14th St. & Penn. Ave. N.W. Big Band Jam, High School Jazz Ensembles www.bigbandjam.org/
- Sat. 4/30, 11am-6pm, Sylvan Theater: International Jazz Day - Levine School of Music, Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz All Stars, Jazz Academy All Stars, Bowie State University Jazz Ensemble, Virginia Music Adventures, Blue Alley Youth Orchestra www.bigbandjam.org/

—Tony Jordan

Our 21st Potluck *from page 1*

admired, and disappeared within minutes! Recipes were exchanged over the tables along with news of our neighborhood and the state of the world in general. Children



flew in briefly to demolish the sweet treats and juices.

Thanks to smooth organizing and hard work through the evening by Jere Gibber and J.G.Harrington, the fun at the gathering moved along with the smooth serving of beverages. This is their 21st year spreading the cheer as our bartenders, since the very first Potluck. We hope they will continue the tradition for many years to come. Thank you from your community, once again.

Thank you also to the Civic Association Board and their families for

Three generations at the Potluck: Ann and Al Horne, grandson Felix, and son Gary.

setting up and cleaning up afterwards. Aditi Stromayer, thanks for setting up the children's art area and helping some little ones with projects.

What a pleasure to see Hollin Hillers of all ages having such a wonderful time, visiting with old friends, and getting to know new ones. One attendee remarked that he had learned something completely new about a neighbor he had known for forty years during a conversation beside the buffet table. A caring community, conviviality and a warm welcome to all—it was heartwarming to see that these very Hollin Hills traditions are alive and well. Thank you to all our wonderful neighbors!

—Susmita Dastidar, Social Chair