

BELLE HAVEN CITIZEN'S ASSOCIATION

SUMMER 2010 NEWSLETTER

DEVOTED TO MAKING YOUR COMMUNITY A BETTER PLACE IN WHICH TO LIVE



Annual Neighborhood Meeting – Save the Date!

The Citizen's Association Annual meeting will be held Wednesday, [September 15th](#) at Belle Haven Country Club.

More details to come, so please save the date!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

BHWC Fashion Show	1
Police Using Social Media	2
Copperhead Snakes on the Rise	3
Fort Willard Greening Up	4
Garden Club Winners	5
Area Summer Attractions	5
Newsletter Help Needed	6

Belle Haven Women's Club Fashion Show a Big Success

The Women's Club (BHWC) hosted their annual fashion show in May, showcasing many of the area's clothing boutiques. A big thanks to Denise Constandy, Fran Slade, Kara Cosby, Karen Harriman and their team (and of course all of the models) for their hard work putting on this fun event. Local vendors who participated in the show included Hysteria, Shoe Hive, Alison Brooks (jewelry), and J.McLaughlin.



Stephanie Stack, Jo Hyman, Denise Constandy, and Mary Elizabeth Duke at the Fashion Show



Lauren Colyer from the J.McLaughlin Boutique, Emily Jones, Denise Jackson, Maggie Jackson, and Ashley Jones

County Police Using Social Media 2 Keep Residents Informed

The Fairfax County Police Department is launching new outreach tools; a Facebook Fan page and a new police emergency alert network. The Department encourages the public to help keep their families and neighborhoods safer by staying informed and aware.



Coordinated by the Police Public Information Office, the agency launched a fan page on the social networking site juggernaut, Facebook on April 7. A variety of police information and announcements have been posted every day since. So far, over 500 residents have joined the group. With over 400 million Facebook users nationwide, the networking site enables users to stay better connected to friends and the communities where they work and live. There is no cost to join Facebook, but to become a fan users must sign up at <http://www.facebook.com/fairfaxcountypolice>.

In partnership with the County's Office of Emergency Management, the public is also invited to sign up to receive police alerts on a variety of their electronic devices. A new public safety category on the Community Emergency Alert Network (CEAN) enables the police to send geographically targeted alerts, to include timely information on significant criminal incidents in

neighborhoods and important announcements. There is no cost to sign up to receive the alerts and residents may sign up at <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cean/>.

New users may register using several addresses, such as their home, work, child's school or any others that may be of interest to them. Existing users may sign up for police alerts by editing their current profiles. Most police alerts will occur within minutes of an incident. Initial details of a criminal incident can be difficult to determine; follow-up messages of clarification may be necessary. Police ask that the public not take action on their own but to call 9-1-1, or follow the message's instruction, if they have vital information to report.

For more information on the police department, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police. Visitors are encouraged to visit the newsroom page to receive news releases via email and view police department YouTube videos. A newly designed television show about the police department "On the Beat" may be viewed on demand from the site as well.

National Night Out

The 27th Annual National Night Out, a unique crime/drug prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch has been scheduled for **August 3rd**. More than 36 million people participated in last year's event including law enforcement agencies, civic groups, businesses, neighborhood organizations, and local officials from 15,000 communities. The event is designed to:

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships
- Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back

Copperhead Snake Sightings on the Rise in Fairfax County

An unusually high number of copperhead snakes have recently been reported in Fairfax County. Copperheads are venomous snakes that are found here and throughout Virginia.

Copperhead snake bites have been reported across Fairfax County in the Dranesville (Riverbend Park), Hunter Mill (Reston), and Springfield (Clifton) Districts. Typically, reports of snake bites (and sightings) do not peak until between August and October when baby copperheads are hatching.

Virginia is home to three poisonous species of snakes, the Timber Rattlesnake, the Cottonmouth and the Copperhead. It's important to remember that while death from snake bite in Virginia is extremely rare, they can

be painful and cause a number of symptoms such as; swelling and bruising, sweating, weakness, nausea, vomiting, muscle twitching and a metallic taste in the mouth. It is important to seek medical attention if you or your pets are bitten.

The Fairfax County Wildlife biologist recommends the following safety tips:

- Keep grass and vegetation mowed short on private property (snakes like to hunt in tall grass)
- Stay on the sidewalk and park trails
- Supervise children at all times
- Do not approach a copperhead – NEVER pick up a snake
- Keep dogs on leash at all times
- Do not overturn rocks or logs
- Wear appropriate protective clothing when outdoors

If you are bitten by a snake:

- Stay calm
- Do not apply a tourniquet
- Keep body part immobilized and area level with heart
- Seek immediate medical attention at the nearest hospital

For more information on copperheads or other local wildlife, please visit the Fairfax County Government website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/living/animals/wildlife. To report a copperhead incident, contact Vicky Monroe the Fairfax County Wildlife Biologist at 703-324-0240.



Fort Willard is Greening Up and Putting on a New Face!

For more than a year, a crew of enthusiastic and knowledgeable volunteers from the Belle Haven Women's Club (with the assistance of O.C. Landscapers) has greened up the park with mostly native plants.

This effort is part of the Belle Haven Citizen's Association adoption of Ft. Willard Park Historic Site under the direction of Caulley Deringer; the design for the project and the selection of plants is due to the efforts of Eleni Silverman and Nancy Burns.

At the new brick plaza, Belle Havenites will find Calicarpa (Beautyberry) which has very bright purple berries in the fall; Black-eyed Susans; Solidago 'Fireworks' (this is NOT goldenrod!); Ilex verticillata 'Sparkleberry' (deciduous holly with dazzling plentiful red berries in winter) oak leaf hydrangeas; and lirioppe.

The large hollies at the entrance to the plaza have been pruned and opened up.

Our Fort Willard investment is a long-term commitment to the neighborhood, and we enthusiastically want to thank all of those folks who are putting forth so much effort.

Around the Circle, there are red and white native redbud trees, white dogwoods, native orange/yellow azaleas, pink azaleas by the three benches, and native Fringe trees.

Our community extends a hearty 'shout out' of thanks to Eleni, Nancy Burns, Teddy Marchant, Willa Cericola, Diane Brumbaugh, Molly Singerling, Susan Golightly, Marion Yonce, the Lawler, Holden, and Reed families who generously gave us the use of hose and water, Suzanne Backus, whose unparalleled gift of her landscape man, Oscar, made this last planting possible, and Jesse Moore with his chain saw!



Before the work - yuck...



After the work - spectacular!

Celebrate Summer on Alexandria's Historic Main Streets



Alexandria is the perfect location to celebrate summer. From dining alfresco to dozens of historic and waterfront attractions, plan your summer vacation or a [weekend getaway](#) to relax and enjoy the charm and ambiance of Alexandria.

Belle Haven Garden Club Members Win Area Awards

The Belle Haven Garden Club chaired the Horticultural Classification and Entries at National Capital Area's Standard Flower Show April 16-17 at AHS/River Farm.

There were 457 cut flowers entered in the Hort category, and the BHGC members listed below won many ribbons for excellence:

Angela Anderson won Second place for her 'Pink Ruffles' azalea; First place for Ipheon Unifloram 'Wisley Blue'; Second for Iris, bearded; Third for Iris bearded 'Immortality'; Honorable mentions for: Narcissus Triandros 'Thalia'; Weigela; Columbine.

Sarah Moore: Second place for Mazus, alba; and Third for her Purple Wallflower (Cheiranthus).

Pat O'Reagan: Second place for her large purple allium.

Betty Goode: Azalea prizes~~First for 'Gardenia' azalea; Second place for both 'Martha Hitchcock' and a rose pink azalea; Third for 'Maiden Blush';

First place for both a variegated hosta and a double with purple edge Hellebores.

Nancy Burns won First place for her display of five perennials as well as the Collectors Showcase ribbon (Best in Show of all the Displays and Collections).

The next Flower Show will be in two years, April 2012.

National Harbor Hosts Concerts and Movies all Summer Long!

July 24 – Gospel Music Festival

July 31 – Caribbean Music Festival

July 18 – Back to the Future

July 25 – Gremlins

August 1 – Superman the Movie

August 8 – Ironman

August 15 – Batman

August 22 – Incredible Hulk

(movies continue through September)

Board Members

Heather Cox, President
Chip Ambrose, Vice President
Mary Elizabeth Duke, Treasurer
Camp Kaufman, Secretary

Bobby Avary
Denise Constandy
Chris Crane
Frank Chrzanowski
Kate Goelz
Rick Murphy
Steve Pritsios
Larry Stack, Past President

bellehaven@bellhaven.org

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.bellehaven.org

**Your Citizen's Association Needs Help
with the Newsletter**

The Belle Haven Citizen's Association is looking for a talented and enthusiastic high school or college student who would be interested in writing the Association's newsletter each quarter. This opportunity could serve as a useful tool for those students looking to build their writing portfolios.

The student (or students) will work with the Board to develop content, and the students would be responsible for design and implementation.

If you have a student who is interested, please contact Camp Kaufman, secretary of the Board, at bellehaven@bellehaven.org.

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