

Pimmit Hills Dispatch

Pimmit Hills Citizens Association (PHCA)

Published Since June 1952

www.PimmitHills.org

Our Annual National Night Out is August 7

Big neighborhood block party from 7 to 9 pm

The Pimmit Hills Citizens Association will participate again this year in the nation-wide 29th Annual National Night Out event, held on Tuesday, August 7, by hosting a big neighborhood block party to be held on Hileman Road, which will be blocked off for the event.

The fun starts at 7 pm. There will be cool popsicle treats, kids games, chalk art, a hula-hoop contest and the always popular 'cake walk' game.

Everyone in Pimmit Hills is invited—homeowners and renters, families and singles, adults and kids, dogs and cats. It's a great time to meet your neighbors! Our local police will also stop by.

LOCAL BUSINESSES: Bring a table to the event and publicize

your services and products.

What is National Night Out (NNO)? It's a unique crime/drug prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch.

Held on the first Tuesday of August every year, neighbors lock their doors, turn on outside lights and spend the evening outside together. NNO is designed to:

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



fighting back.

NNO is an effective, inexpensive and enjoyable program to promote neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships in our fight for a safer nation.

National Project Coordinator Matt Peskin said, "This is a night for America to stand together to promote awareness, safety and

neighborhood unity. NNO showcases the vital importance of police-community partnerships and citizen involvement in our fight to build a safer nation. On NNO, we invite neighborhoods nationwide to join us in *Giving Crime & Drugs A Going Away Party.*" ■

Keeping Your House Safe in Pimmit Hills

When Pimmit Hills citizens take positive steps by learning how to secure their property and report suspicious activities around their homes, they are helping themselves as well as their neighbors.

Two of every three burglaries were committed in residential dwellings, the majority of which (60%) occurred during daylight hours. About 64% of all burglaries required forcing a door or window to gain entry. Remember the three D's of burglary prevention:

■ DETER

Sound residential security practices and good locks are a deterrent since they eliminate the opportunity for an easy burglary.

■ DETECT

The possibility of detection is increased if you can force a burglar to work where he can be observed. A burglar also wants to avoid drawing attention to himself by making noise, such as breaking

glass or smashing doors. Alarms on doors and windows are the surest way to detect a burglar, but watchful neighbors alert to unusual activity who will notify law enforcement authorities are also an effective means of detection.

■ DELAY

Delaying a burglar for four minutes is generally considered

sufficient to prevent entry into a residential dwelling. A burglar wants to avoid being caught, so the longer it takes to force a door or window, the greater his risk. It is nearly impossible to make a house or apartment impregnable, but it is relatively easy and inexpensive to make forced entry difficult and to delay the burglar. ■

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Mark Kinnane
PHCA President

**Pimmit Hills Citizens Association
President's
Corner**

On behalf of the incoming board, the members of the Pimmit Hills Citizens Association (PHCA) and the residents of Pimmit Hills, I would like to thank the outgoing board members for their contributions and efforts supporting our neighborhood.

Matthew Martz, Animesh Gupta, Elizabeth Hall and Sarah Rock, with the assistance of Cindy Kwitchoff, Carol Martz and Marie Davis, made great strides in increasing community involvement in PHCA, and improving interactions between PHCA, the county and neighboring communities.

Many of the successes and achievements over the last year were not as visible to our members as the many challenges they faced.

At the beginning of 2011, PHCA was on death's door. Membership levels were low, community involvement was severely lacking and finances were on the wane.

The situation was exacerbated by the rapid transition of the neighborhood demographic from long term residents to young professionals and families. The demographic transition placed severe pressure on PHCA as many devoted and active members left the area.

Through the efforts of the outgoing board, membership in the PHCA has increased from less than 100 households to over 230 households and rising.

These efforts included resurrecting quarterly newsletters, increasing the number of community based events, organizing regular guest speakers to name a few.

On the advocacy front the addition of traffic calming measures throughout the neighborhood was the successful culmination of many years of effort by board members on behalf of concerned residents throughout the community.

PHCA gained a seat on the McLean Citizens Association (MCA) executive board for the first time in a number of years. This gave the PHCA a voting position on the MCA and a say in the county level decisions.

The PHCA advocated on behalf of our members for increases in bicycle and foot access to the neighborhood and surrounding communities.

The Environment and Parks Committee was created and obtained funding from Express Lane Grants to organize neighborhood cleanup activities which have resulted in cleaner parks and waterways in the neighborhood.

As a result of these efforts, and many others not mentioned, PHCA and the neighborhood are in a far better position to deal with county level issues affecting our neighborhood, such as the Tysons Development, the Silver Line addition and the rapid expansion of neighboring communities.

On a personal note I would like to thank the PHCA membership for giving me the opportunity to serve as PHCA president.

For the last year I served as the PHCA representative to the McLean Citizens Association (MCA) Executive Board, through which I gathered a deep understanding of the issues affecting our neighborhood. I also served as the PHCA treasurer for part of the year. I hope I can continue the fantastic work of our previous president, Matthew Martz, in growing community involvement in the association.

PHCA will remain involved in MCA activities. The MCA is a volunteer organization covering over thirty McLean district neighborhoods, including Pimmit Hills, which represents around thirty thousand Fairfax residents.

The MCA has a significant voice in the direction of county legislation, regularly lobbying lo-



Carol Martz
Vice President



Brad Sanders
Treasurer



Ashley Reynolds
Secretary



Sarah Rock
3-Year Director

*Pimmit Hills Dispatch & Website: Cindy Kwitchoff, Dispatch@PimmitHills.org
Environment & Parks Committee: Elizabeth Hall
PHCA Rep to McLean Citizens Association: Lise Visser*

cal representatives, and serving as an advocate for the McLean district.

The PHCA representative to the MCA this year will be Lise Visser. Lise has already been involved with the Taxation and Budget Committee of the MCA. Lise has served on school boards in the past and brings a strong community spirit to the PHCA and the MCA.

This year we have two new board members joining us. Brad Sanders, will serve as the treasurer, and Ashley Reynolds, will serve as the secretary. Brad and Ashley are both relatively new to the area and will be fantastic additions to the board.

Our previous president, Carol Martz, has returned as the Vice President. Carol's efforts on the board in past incarnations will serve to bring a wealth of experience to incoming board activities.

Sarah Ivey Rock is entering her second year as the three year director and her enthusiasm for community activities will continue to expand community involvement with the PHCA.

Serving as a board member is often a thankless job and it is great to see people sacrificing their time voluntarily in the interest of the PHCA members.

Without volunteers standing up and taking leadership roles there would be no PHCA at all, and without an association the community would have no unified voice to express concerns to our government representatives, no ear to listen for community wide concerns and no common vision for improving neighborhood quality of life.

In the next year there will be a variety of issues facing the Pimmit Hills community. Ensuring the neighborhood has access to new nearby infrastructure like the Silver Line, the addition of sound barriers along the Dulles access road, the addition of bicycle lanes through the neighborhood and neighborhood development, to name a few, will require community involvement and input.

The PHCA board will do our utmost to keep members aware of county level and neighborhood issues. The PHCA will continue with our guest speaker agenda, increase the number of member events such as cleanup days, DIY gardening events and other environmental activities.

I look forward to serving as the PHCA President, continuing to advocate for our members at the county level and improving the Pimmit Hills environment. ■

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The Man in the Patriotic VW Beetle

You've seen (or heard) him as he drives his red, white and blue VW Beetle "Let's Roll" through Pimmit Hills, blaring patriotic music.

He's Irv Poole, a resident of Pimmit Hills since the early 1950s. You can't miss his house on Pimmit Drive during the holidays decked out in giant Christmas decorations and causing traffic to come to a standstill. He also arranges for Santa to come visit Pimmit Hills in a fire truck.

Irv is a retired professional firefighter with the Washington, DC Fire Department, joining the force in 1952.

He had a long and interesting career that included meeting President Kennedy, responding to the damage and fires from the riots in DC after Martin Luther King was killed, and rescuing a woman who had driven her car off the GW Parkway (for which the DC City Council presented Irv with a

Meritorious Award).

In 2003, the Chief of the DC Fire Department appointed Irv Poole to be an Ambassador of Good Will where he traveled all over the world meeting with fire chiefs and representing our nation's capital. Countries included Japan, Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong, New Zealand, Australia and many trips to Hawaii—where he became personal friends with singer Don Ho.

Irv Poole's "Memories of a Professional Firefighter" about his career is posted on the History page of PimmitHills.org. ■



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PHCA CALENDAR

Town Meeting - Sept 4
Pimmit Hills Day - Sept 22
Town Meeting - Oct 2
Town Meeting - Dec 4

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Pimmit Hills Gardener

By Deanne M. Eversmeyer, Horticulturist, lives on Leonard Road

It's that time o' year -- time to sit back with a big glass of lemonade and enjoy the garden!

After getting everything planted and mulched, all that's needed is a hose and a good sprinkler. Keep your plantings, especially new ones, hydrated when rain is scarce with longer, deeper and less frequent waterings.

Running a sprinkler once or twice a week for a total of an hour does much more good than every day for fifteen minutes.

And this year the Hydrangeas are to be particularly enjoyed. After a very mild winter, the Hydrangeas have been putting on a huge floral display!



And there are more and more varieties of this wonderful summer flowerer available each spring. Plantsmen have developed different colors, double flowers and more compact shrubs.

The native Oakleaf (Hydrangea quercifolia) and Smooth Hydrangeas (H. arborescens) are gaining popularity, and for good reason. Both of these southerners are at home in the shade of our mature trees.

The Oakleaf has large, conical trusses of creamy white flowers above coarse, oak leaf-like (what else?!) foliage that takes on lovely shades of red in the fall.

The Smooth Hydrangea, a graceful shrub sporting lovely

domes of white florets is usually found at the garden center labelled 'Annabelle,' but a pink-flowered form, 'Invincibelle Spirit,' is now available.

Of course the old-fashioned Mophead and Lacecap Hydrangeas (H. macrophylla) are still available, and in improved forms.

Look for the "Endless Summer" varieties for longer bloom with their habit of blooming on new wood (especially important after a hard winter).

I just planted 'Wedding Gown,' a lacecap Hydrangea at mom and dad's—both approved of its beautiful starry saucers of double white florets! And then there is the even

older-fashioned, Hydrangea paniculata 'Grandiflora,' known as the "Pee Gee" Hydrangea, that dominated grandma's yard in summer.

Today there are numerous new cultivars sporting much smaller profiles

and colorful panicles of flowers.

Look for the cool 'Limelight' or the cutely named 'Pinky Winky' for something different.

When asked when to prune Hydrangeas, I always recommend pruning during bloom. Cut long stems so that new growth has room to grow and you have a lovely floral display for the table!

Remove some of the longer stems every year once your shrub has attained adulthood—you won't ruin the display in the garden, yet you'll keep your Hydrangea in shape. And if it's just way too big, why not replace it with one of the new smaller varieties? ■

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Pimmit Hills Citizens Association MEMBERSHIP FORM

Show your support for your community by joining the Pimmit Hills Citizens Association (PHCA). Yearly dues are only \$20 for homeowners and renters living in Pimmit Hills; \$25 for non-residents.

Sign up and pay your dues quickly and securely on our PHCA membership website, PimmitHills.org. Or, you can fill out this form, mail us a check. Your dues help fund neighborhood events, activities, projects, the membership website and the printing and mailing of the *Pimmit Hills Dispatch*.

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Pimmit Hills Notes

Tim Jewell of 1846 Griffith Road wrote a new book called, "*Intentional Thinking: A Stimuli for Life's Adventure*," which is about the conscious effort of goal attainment and how to approach what we want to achieve or create.

Long-time Pimmit Hills resident Buddie Hunt, Jr. of Bethune Street passed away on June 21, 2012.

For those who grew up in Pimmit Hills in the 1905s/60s/70s and 80s, there is a great Facebook group called "Pimmit Hills Alumni" run by long-time PH resident John P. Sitnik. A link to the page is on PimmitHills.org.

Pimmit Hills residents Lesley Stone and Erika Bowles have started a petition to try and save the Pimmit Hills dairy barn on Cherri Drive for use as an educational venue about the history of farming in our area, as this is the last remaining dairy barn inside the Beltway. See the link to the petition on the front page. Fairfax County has plans to build a home on the site for elderly mentally/physically disabled County residents who no longer have families to take care of them, yet still require 24/7 in-house care because of their disabilities.

Savena Doychinov of Gilson Street was awarded a prestigious trophy by the National Kitchen and Bath Association for the Best Before & After Kitchen. She and her husband, residents in Pimmit Hills since 1978, run Design Studio International from their home offices.

PHCA thanks 123Junk.com for their help on Dumpster Day in May. A full-service junk removal company, 123Junk.com donates, recycles and disposes of junk from homes.

Have you noticed while driving around the Hills how more and more houses are being torn down and new ones built? Some of these are practically three-story castles and kind of look out of place next to the small GI-bill 1950s houses with original casement windows. Tell us what you think: Dispatch@PimmitHills.org.

Tysons Corner Lions Club meets the third Thursday of every month at 7:00 pm at St. Luke's United Methodist Church. For more information, contact Marie Davis at 703-790-8561 or see the Lions Club page under Events on the PH website.

Mark your calendars for Pimmit Hills Day on Saturday, September 22 from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm at Olney Park in Pimmit Hills. This annual community event for all homeowners, renters and alumni features games, prizes, food by the Lions Club. Local businesses can bring a table, meet residents and introduce them to products and services. Contact Director@PimmitHills.org for more information.

The next Pimmit Hills Citizens Association (PHCA) community meeting is at 7:30 pm on Tuesday, September 4 at the Pimmit Hills Center, 7510 Lisle Avenue.

PHCA MEMBERSHIP REPORT	Dec 2011	Feb 2012	Apr 2012	June 2012
Paid Resident Memberships	131	156	205	233
Paid Non-Resident Memberships	9	9	7	7
TOTAL	140	165	212	240
Contacts in Database		497	570	604

- **Pimmit Hills Membership Website:** \$100/month
- **May/June 2012 Pimmit Hills Dispatch Printing & Mailing to all 1,642 homes in Pimmit Hills:** \$1,508
- **May/June 2012 Dispatch Advertising Income:** \$1,230

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Pimmit Hills Dispatch

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Brian Varani
Pimmit Hills Resident



Pimmit Hill's Annual National Night Out Event is August 7



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