

BBHCA eNews

DECEMBER 2011

COMMUNITY MEETING

Tuesday, January 10, 7:30 pm
Bush Hill Elementary School, Cafeteria

MEETING AGENDA:

- Board and Committee Reports
 - November Meeting Minutes (Vote)
- Old Business
- New Business

TOPIC: Update from State Delegate Sickles

SPEAKER: Mark Sickles

Winter Preparedness Week is December 4–10

During winter months, there could be power outages, icy roads, closed schools and businesses, and health problems associated with wind, cold and snow. If you and your family aren't ready for winter, then take a few simple steps now to prepare.

Make A Plan

Decide on a meeting place outside of your neighborhood if your family is separated and cannot return home because of closed roads. Choose an out-of-town relative or friend to be your family's point of contact for emergency communications. With your family, write down your emergency plan – get a free worksheet at www.ReadyVirginia.gov. Click on Make a Plan for more details.



Get A Kit

Start with these basic supplies for winter weather:

- Three days' food
- Three days' water (a gallon per person per day)
- A battery-powered and/or hand-crank radio with extra batteries
- A written family emergency plan
- A first-aid kit
- Medications if needed
- Blankets and warm clothing
- Supplies for special member of your household
- Pet items
- And don't forget an emergency kit for the car. Include an emergency thermal blanket, snack food and water, matches, jumper cables, road salt and sand, and emergency flares.

Stay Informed

Before, during and after a winter storm, you should listen to local media for instructions from emergency officials. There may be times when you are advised to stay in place until it is safe to travel. Stay informed about winter storm watches and warnings and road conditions. You can get road condition information 24/7 by calling 511 or checking www.511Virginia.org. Sign up for emergency alerts from the [Community Emergency Alert Network \(CEAN\)](#). Go to www.ReadyVirginia.gov and print out an emergency supply checklist and a family emergency plan. You can also prepare a family emergency plan or business emergency plan at www.ReadyNOVA.org. Get ready now – **Winter Preparedness Week in Virginia is Dec. 4-10.**

Find more tips and resources online on the Fairfax County [winter weather preparedness](#) page. And during severe weather or other emergency event, be sure to visit the [emergency information blog](#) for the latest updates.

Additional Information

- Visit
 - [OEM's preparedness Web page](#),
 - [FEMA's winter preparedness page](#), and
 - [Ready.gov](#).
- [Register for emergency alerts from the Community Emergency Alert Network \(CEAN\)](#).
- National Weather Service [forecast](#).

OBITUARY

Woody Betts

Woody Betts with the Rose Hill Civic Association (RHCA) died on November 4, from cancer. He served as chair of the Neighborhood Watch for RHCA. Funeral service were held at Demains on November 8.

From his wife Tammy: "I would love to have donations sent to FCPD in Woody's memory, as he thought so much of them." Donations can either be sent to Capt. Bennett at the station (6121 Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA 22310) or to Col. David Rohrer's office (1100 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax, VA 22030).

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Happy Holidays and Be Safe!



Only one report in November of a vandalism incident (mail taken from a mailbox and scattered around).

Please look out for your neighbors if they are away during holiday periods. Be especially attentive to the older neighbors (like me) who may need help. People are accumulating presents this month. Thieves know this. Keep the goods out of sight in your car and home. Lock up!

Bob LHeureux
Chair, Neighborhood Watch

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Report A Crime Online

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/crs/>

The online **Citizen Reporting System (CRS)** is designed to make it easier and more convenient for you to file a police report without leaving home; however, not every crime can be reported using the online system.

Please use the on-line reporting service for the following crimes:

- Alcohol Violations
- Civil Disputes—A disagreement between people or groups in which no criminal laws are broken.
- Destruction of Property—The act of changing, modifying, defacing public or private property. For example, a vehicle was damaged on the exterior but no parts were removed or entry was made into the vehicle.
- Disorderly Conduct—Conduct having a direct tendency to cause acts of violence by the person or persons at whom, individually, such conduct is directed.
- Larceny—up to \$5000
- Loitering—Remaining in any one place under circumstances that would cause a reasonable person to suspect the behavior is to enable criminal activity to occur.
- Lost Property—When property is missing or lost. Not including passports, social security cards, and drivers licenses.
- Noise Violations—Operating or permitting the use, or operation of any radio receiving set, musical instrument, television, phonograph, or any other device for the production of sound in such a manner as to be plainly audible across property boundaries or through partitions common to two persons within a building.
- Police Service
- Solicitor Violations—Any solicitor, canvasser or peddler who canvasses, peddles or solicits at any residence, dwelling or apartment at which a sign is painted, affixed or otherwise posted bearing the words "No Peddlers or Solicitors" or similar words indicating that such persons are not wanted on said premises.
- Suspicious Events/Persons/Vehicles
- Trespassing—A person has entered/remained on your property without your permission.
- Telephone Harassment/Threats—Unwanted phone calls of an annoying, harassing or threatening nature.
- Vehicle Tampering—Vehicle parts were stolen from the exterior of the vehicle.

What is the purpose of filing a report with CRS?

- Primarily for insurance and police information purposes.
- Case will not be investigated.
- Assists in preventing future crimes by providing statistics on trends, locations and times of violations.
- May assist in the identification and return of stolen property recovered as the result of other investigations.

For additional information or information on how to report other types of crimes, please click on the story link above.

Have your own business?

Looking to attract new customers?



Did you know the *BBHCA News*, the print newsletter for and by the residents of Brookland, Bush Hill, and Gunnell Estates, sells advertising space? For as little as \$25 an issue, you can reach more than 800 homes in our neighborhood.

Ad size and frequency determine the actual cost. Please check out the [2011–2012 Advertising Contract](#) for more information.

Becky Johnson
Editor, *BBHCA News*

Fill the Wagon 2011—Another Success

“The Fill the Wagon food drive is officially over. **The bin in the station lobby will remain until early December** and a few community groups are still gathering donations. In these difficult times for many, the giving by our residents has been tremendous.

We have collected approximately 12,000 pounds of food (nearly double what we collected last year) and over \$1,200 in cash, check, and gift card donations.

Donations have been made to:

- The Koinonia Foundation, Inc.
- United Community Ministries (UCM)
- Ecumenical Community Helping Others (ECHO)
- Annandale Christian Community for Action (ACCA)
- Artemis House Women’s Shelter
- Bethany House Women’s Shelter



A special thank you is extended to several unknown residents. Some simply pushed a full grocery cart of items up to the officers standing near the wagon, and walked away leaving the full cart. There was one memorable gentleman who invited an officer and the officer’s son (who was assisting that day) to go in the store and shop with him. There was a girl, perhaps 11 or 12 years old, who handed an officer 23cents. Thank you.

The Franconia CAC [Citizens Advisory Committee] was, as always, a huge support. The group made a donation and several individual members made donations of food, cash, and gift cards. The camaraderie shared and coffee provided helped of us all begin the holiday season in the right frame of mind.

Additional recognition goes out to grocery stores which allowed us to stake a location near the exit of their store. The participation by the management and employees has not gone unnoticed.”

Source: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/stations/franconia/bulletins/20111123fillthewagonupdat.htm>

Operation Empty Cage

County Proclamation Kicks off Annual Holiday Animal Adoption Event



“‘Operation Empty Cage’ at the Fairfax County Animal Shelter as part of the organization’s special Home 4 the Holidays adoption. One of the campaign’s goals is to empty the shelter’s cages by finding a home for each animal available for adoption throughout the holiday season.

As part of the special Home 4 the Holidays adoption event, the shelter will offer free spay/neuter for the first 100 dogs and cats adopted from the shelter until Dec. 31, 2011.

‘Each year, homeless animals in Fairfax County spend the holidays in an animal shelter cage versus in a loving home,’ says Dr. Karen P. Diviney, Fairfax County Animal Shelter director. ‘Operation Empty Cage aims to change that by giving these animals the gift of a new family and by enriching families through the unconditional love that a pet can provide.’

To view animals available for adoption at the Fairfax County Animal Shelter, visit the shelter during its business hours Tuesdays through Fridays, 12 pm – 7 pm and Saturdays from 10 am – 5 pm.”

>> For more information, call the **Fairfax County Animal Shelter** at 703-830-1100, or go to <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/animal/adoption.htm>

Source: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/news-releases/2011/110411emptycage.htm>



EVENTS

Child Safety Seat Inspection—Free!

Thursday, December 10

9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Springfield Mall, in the parking lot between Target and the Silver Diner

Did you know? Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for children 3–14 years old. Statistics show most car seats are not properly installed. Have yours checked by trained experts from the Fairfax County Police Department.

Citizens Advisory Council (CAC) Meeting

Wednesday, December 21

6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Franconia Governmental Center, Helen Wilson Community Room, 6121 Franconia Road, Alexandria

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/stations/franconia/franstacac.htm>

Topic: A special presented by P.R.O.T.E.C.T. (Parents Reaching Out To Educate Communities Together) who are part of the Unified Prevention Coalition.

What is CAC? “In 1979, the Fairfax County Police Department established a program to enhance its ability to communicate with and better serve the community. This program took the form of advisory groups, known as Citizen Advisory Committees (CACs), comprised of citizens representing a cross-section of the various neighborhoods of Fairfax County.”

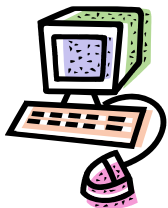
BBHCA Community Meeting

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Bush Hill Elementary School, Cafeteria

www.bbhca.org

Topic: Report from Delegate Sickles
Speaker: Mark Sickles



LINKS TO KEEP

Parktakes Online

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes/>

Search for and register for Fairfax County classes and activities online. Narrow your search by the type of activity you are interested in, the location, your age, and/or the day of the week. Once you get the list of classes available, click on the class to get additional details, including price. Then register online. Your New Year resolution is only a click away!



Coordinated Services Planning

(CSP) 703-222-0880 TTY: 711

Monday – Friday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dsm/csp/>

“We provide information, referral, linkage, and advocacy to public and private human services available to Fairfax County residents. Through partnerships with community-based organizations and other Fairfax County agencies, we assist callers with the following services:

Basic Needs: Emergency food, shelter, clothing, furniture, and transportation to medical appointments.

Financial Assistance: Rent or mortgage assistance to prevent eviction or foreclosure, security deposit assistance to secure permanent housing, utility payments to prevent disconnection, prescription assistance, and other special needs. Assistance is determined on a case-by-case basis and is generally available only once a year.

Health Care Services: Complete enrollment or make referrals for enrollment to the Northern Virginia Dental Clinic based on residents' zip codes. Provide referrals for other health care services—medical, dental, eye glasses, hearing aids, pregnancy, and family planning.

Referrals to Services and Resources: CSP staff has extensive knowledge of resources available to meet the needs of Fairfax County residents. The Human Services Resource Guide is a database that contains detailed information on resources that are available to Fairfax County residents.



Coordinated Services Planning multilingual staff is available to assist callers in the following languages: Arabic, Bangla, Creole, Farsi, French, Hindi, Korean, Punjabi, Somali, Spanish, Urdu, and Vietnamese.”

How Much Energy Does Recycling Save?

<http://greenliving.nationalgeographic.com/much-energy-recycling-save-2363.html>

Did you know that “Once you throw glass out, 1 million years will pass before that glass breaks down at the landfill”?

BBHCA 2011–2012 Board

President: Jeannie Henry president@bbhca.org

VP Newsletter: Rebecca Johnson newsletter@bbhca.org

VP Membership: Rebeccah Wolfkiel membership@bbhca.org

Treasurer: Joan Akins treasurer@bbhca.org

Secretary: Deborah Moore secretary@bbhca.org

Committees

Bylaws: Bob Michie bylaws@bbhca.org

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This electronic newsletter is sent to current members of the Brookland-Bush Hill Civic Association (BBHCA). If you do not wish to receive this or any other e-mails from BBHCA, respond to membership@bbhca.org and enter “unsubscribe” in the subject line. The views expressed in eNews do not necessarily reflect the views of the Brookland-Bush Hill Civic Association or its Board of Directors.

Brookland-Bush Hill Civic Association

Alexandria, VA 22310

www.bbhca.org