

# BBHCA eNews

MARCH 2010

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## BBHCA COMMUNITY MEETINGS

- **March 16, 2010 (Tuesday)**

7:30 pm

Bush Hill Elementary School (**Band Room**)

**AGENDA:**

Minutes from November Meeting (Vote)

Board and Committee Reports

New Business: Changes to Comprehensive Plan Affecting BBHCA Neighborhood

**TOPIC:**

**State of Lee District and Update on Richmond**

**GUEST SPEAKER:**



**Delegate Mark Sickles**

- **March 18, 2010 (Thursday)**

7:30 pm

Bush Hill Elementary School (**Cafeteria**)

**TOPIC:**

**Changes to Comprehensive Plan Affecting BBHCA Neighborhood**

**GUEST SPEAKERS:**

**Developers for Land Units D and E**

**Scott Robinson, Lee District Supervisor Chief of Staff**

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## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

### Janet Halsey Hendrickson Neves, in memoriam

Janet Neves, long-time BBHCA member and wife of John Neves, died of a stroke on February 25. John and Janet stepped forward when our Neighborhood Watch effort was started in the Brookland Estates-Bush Hill Woods communities (BBHCA). This effort was begun with an Association vote on May 9, 1983. John and Janet continued as heads of our link to the Fairfax County Police for years and were also staunch supporters of the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC). At one time Janet was Secretary of the BBHCA. She also served as an election officer at the Bush Hill precinct for many years.

Janet was a native of East Hampton, Long Island, NY. After her marriage to Senior Master Sergeant John Neves in 1954, she accompanied him in his Air Force career to locations in Germany, California, Colorado, and Nevada prior to moving to the Washington area. She started her banking career in 1964 in Las Vegas, Nevada, and upon moving to the Washington area in 1969, she joined the National Bank of Washington. At her retirement in 1990, Janet was the Branch Manager at Bolling Air Force Base.

## How to Avoid the Bad Residential Building Contractor



Naturally you want to find and hire only the best residential building contractor for the job. However, actually finding that person or company can be difficult if you don't know what you're doing.

Most residential building contractors are, of course, reputable. They will endeavor to do their best to complete the job within budget, on time and with quality results. However, it's a fact that not all contractors are good or honest. You should always keep this in your mind and know what to watch out for when it comes to scammers or even inexperienced professionals.

The following things are red flags to look out for when hiring a residential building contractor:

- Soliciting for work door-to-door. A good residential building contracting company doesn't need to do this to get business.
- When they offer discounts that seem too good to be true. For example, if a "contractor" knocks on the door and offers to fix your damaged roof for a great rate because he has "materials left over from another job," he is likely a scammer.
- Cash payments only. They're likely to take your money and you'll never see or hear from them again.
- They have no known business address or even a telephone number listed in the phone book.
- A residential building contractor that asks you to obtain permits, although sometimes it is easier and less costly for a homeowner to do this, so use judgment here.
- Special price offers. For example saying your home will be the "demonstration." When hiring a residential building contractor you want to see their past work, not be it.
- Requesting full payment up front. This is a huge red flag. Avoid a contractor who requires this. A deposit is more than reasonable, but paying for work before it's done is not.

Other scams may include a residential building contractor who offers to help with the financing by suggesting a lender "they know." Be careful. Read all the documentation with extreme prejudice. The fine print could actually have you signing over your house to the contractor.

Most contractors are professionals who pride themselves in quality work, but unfortunately there are those out there who prey on people who don't know.

If an offer seems fishy or just too good to be true, be cautious. The investment is in your home, which means your future as well.

MPO A. E. Eggers-NREMT-P  
Fairfax County Police Department  
Franconia District Station  
Crime Prevention Unit  
6121 Franconia Road  
Alexandria Va 22310

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## Submit Your Comments for the Snow Summit



<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news/snowsummit/>

On Tuesday, March 16, the Board of Supervisors' Transportation Committee will host a Snow Summit at the Government Center beginning at 3:30 p.m. (Cable Channel 16 will televise it live). The meeting will focus on this winter's

snow and assess both what worked well and what did not at the state — Virginia Department of Transportation — and County levels. The lessons learned from this summit will be invaluable not only for the next snow storm, but for any emergency.

You're invited to share your stories and ideas. The Snow Summit is a public meeting that anyone is welcome to attend, but it will not be a public hearing (no opportunities to speak). All stories, experiences and ideas shared in advance of the meeting will be provided to Virginia and Fairfax County personnel for their consideration. Feedback is welcome until 8 am, Monday, March 15. Click on the link above to submit your comments.

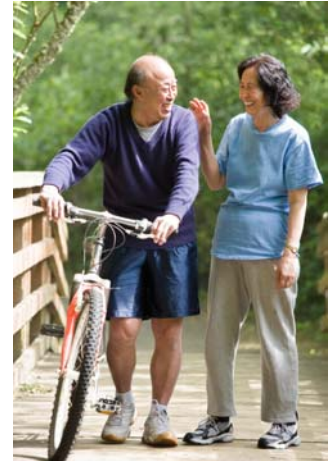
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## Stay Healthy with the Fairfax Take 12 Steps Program

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec/take12/>

The **Take 12** program is free and anyone can participate at any time. This program is designed to:

- Help you accomplish healthy goals each month, with tips to keep you going for the duration.
- Give you access to information - free workshops are available each month on different healthy topics and bulletin boards loaded with information are posted at all the RECenters.
- Provide an opportunity for you to experience fitness and wellness programs offered across Fairfax County.
- Empower you to make important lifestyle changes... you can do it!
- Plus, as a Take 12 participant, you receive monthly emails from the experts on the FCPA Fitness & Wellness team with tips and opportunities to achieve your Take 12 goals!



Click on the link above for this month's tips to getting enough sleep, ask the experts feature, free workshops, sign up for the free Take 12 newsletter, and more!

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## Free Leaf Mulch Available While Supplies Last



Once leaves are vacuumed from neighborhood streets in the fall, they are ground into mulch and distributed to various public sites around the county. Free leaf mulch is available for pickup while supplies last. You will need your own tools for loading and transporting the mulch.

For information on mulch availability and locations, call the mulch info line at 703-324-5995, TTY 711. (Source: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/leaf/process.htm#set-out>)



## EVENTS

### Final Vacuum Leaf Collection (AREA 8)

**March 13**

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/leaf/process.htm#set-out>

The Leaf Collection Program is for leaves only. Leaves mixed with brush, rocks, tree trimmings, sticks or trash, etc., will be left behind.

- Place the leaves no further than four feet from the edge of the streetline.
- Please remove all debris from leaves prior to set-out.
- Leaves raked out after the last scheduled round of collection will not be picked-up.
- Do not block streets or pile leaves over storm drains or ditches.

- Do not block leaf piles with cars or any type of equipment that could limit our accessibility to the pile or create hazardous conditions.
- Do not park vehicles on piles of leaves -- this is a fire hazard!

### Vendor Forum 2010

**March 15**, 9:30 am to 3:15 pm

Fairfax County Government Center  
12000 Government Center Parkway  
Fairfax, Virginia 22035

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpsm/osb/vendor2009.htm>

The Fairfax County Supply Diversity program endeavors to increase contracting opportunities for small, women and minority owned business (SWaM's) through its programs, networking activities and events like this year's Vendor Forum 2010. The Vendor Forum provides SWaM's with direct access to county decision-makers. SWaM vendors are given the opportunity to present their products and services directly to county buyers and representatives; establish relationships with county representatives; network with vendors who compliment their products and services and market those products and services; and obtain important insight about Fairfax County business needs, present their capabilities, offer solutions, and ultimately transact business as a result. Includes workshops designed to enhance business knowledge and capabilities.

### BBHCA 2010 Meeting Dates

**Tuesdays** at 7:30 pm

Bush Hill Elementary School  
5917 Westchester Street, Alexandria, VA 22310  
[www.bbhca.org](http://www.bbhca.org)

- March 16, 2010 (Guest: Lee District Delegate Mark Sickles)
- March 18, 2010 (Changes to Comprehensive Plan Affecting BBHCA Neighborhood)
- May 11, 2010 (BBHCA Board Elections)

### Free Seminars for Family Caregivers

**March – May 2010** throughout Fairfax County

[http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/news\\_press\\_releases/2010/0219-caregiver-seminars.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/news_press_releases/2010/0219-caregiver-seminars.htm)

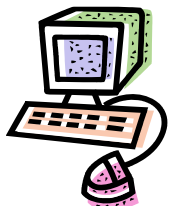
- Understanding Medicare, Medigap and Medicare Part D
- Caregiving 101
- Supporting Caregivers of Veterans
- Making Life Easier: Gadgets, Gizmos and Home Modifications
- Navigating the Medicaid Maze: Waivers, Eligibility and Documentation
- Legal Tools for Caregivers
- Stages of Alzheimer's Disease
- Financial Issues for Caregivers
- Behavior as Communication in Alzheimer's Disease
- When Do I Step In?
- Managing Care for a Difficult Older Adult

### Electric Sunday: TV and Computer Recycling Event

**March 28**, 10 am - 3 pm

I-95 Landfill Complex, 9850 Furnace Road, Lorton

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/recycling/electric-sunday.htm>



### LINKS TO KEEP

#### Identity Theft...Are you Safe?

[http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/consumer/identity\\_theft.pdf](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/consumer/identity_theft.pdf)

Examine your daily routine to determine if you are doing all you can to keep your personal,

financial, and confidential information personal. Just as with any crime, there is no guarantee that identity theft won't strike, but if you are alert and evaluate each request for personal information, you can reduce the risk. Here is information to help you develop a plan of action to protect your personal identifying information. Resources are also provided so you know what to do if you or someone you know becomes a victim of identity theft.

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### **BBHCA 2009–2010 Board**

President: Jeannie Henry [president@bbhca.org](mailto:president@bbhca.org)

VP Newsletter: Sarah Kelly [newsletter@bbhca.org](mailto:newsletter@bbhca.org)

VP Membership: Richard Frederick [membership@bbhca.org](mailto:membership@bbhca.org)

Treasurer: Kevin Henry [treasurer@bbhca.org](mailto:treasurer@bbhca.org)

Secretary: Deborah Moore [secretary@bbhca.org](mailto:secretary@bbhca.org)

### **eNews**

Editor: Sharada Gilkey [eNews@bbhca.org](mailto:eNews@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 [eNews@bbhca.org](mailto:eNews@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](http://www.bbhca.org)

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