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Notes from the Board

*Dear Friends in Fairlington
Meadows—*

Your Board of Directors wishes you a warm and healthy spring. The weather was kind to our snow removal budget, but a very dry winter and spring means that our trees, shrubs, and plants are thirsty. Please take a few minutes to give them a good soaking and protect our landscaping investment. As mentioned before, the lawns will do just fine without being watered, but the taller plants do need your help.

This is the time of the year when we begin to see the results of all the hard work our Buildings and Grounds Committee members put into our community. The blossoming trees and plants are a wonderful reward to us all for getting through yet another winter. We would like to thank all of the members of the B&G Committee and especially Chuck and Judi for all they do to keep our neighborhood looking good.

I know that many of us are anxious to get working on our patios in advance of the Meadows Patio Tour this July. With that in mind, I would like to remind you that any work you might want to do in the common areas needs to be proposed to and approved

by the Buildings and Grounds Committee to help ensure that our community's landscaping is both harmonious and easily maintainable in our common areas. Also, as you remove dead plants and debris from your patio, please don't leave the any trash bags out overnight or out after the trash has already been collected.

The Board would like to for-



mally welcome John Kilkenny as our new CMC property manager. John replaces Paul Leddy who has moved on. John has a wealth of experience and is a hard charger. It didn't take him long to jump right into the several major projects we have on going. Say hello to him when you see him on property or at our monthly meetings. You can reach John at 703-631-7200 extension 212 or e-mail at jkilkenny@cmc-management.com.

It was last March that I reported that we were in the process of upgrading our contract with COMCAST, the cable TV vendor. As I have mentioned in earlier issues of the newsletter, the cable installations in our community have gotten to be a problem and are not only unsightly but have become tripping hazards within the common areas.

COMCAST uses subcontractors for cable installation and chances are good that they will not know the rules of our community. Unfortunately, COMCAST has not been as responsive as we had hoped and we are looking for ways of getting their representatives to better cooperate with our requests. The installation abuses are getting out of control and we need to get the company to abide by our cable installation criteria (see related article on page 3).

The new contract will be very specific about the proper and approved methods of cable installation in our community, but in the meantime, you can be a very effective partner in our efforts if you make sure any work you have done

Buildings & Grounds Update

By Chuck Edwards and Judi Garth, Co-chairs



Fairlington Meadows welcomes the arrival of spring with a plethora of bright blossoms!

Spring Planting

Plans for the spring planting have been made and should be completed by the end of May. If you missed making a request for this planting, get your request in for the fall planting by October 1. You may download the request form from the Meadows Web site at www.fairlingtonmeadows.com or simply submit your request in writing to Chuck Edwards at c-d@comcast.net or Judi Garth at judi-garth@comcast.net.

Did you know?

During 2005, Valley Crest, our grounds contractor, planted:

- 9 cherry trees
- 3 maple trees
- 1 cedar
- 1 crape myrtle
- 18 azaleas
- 3 nandinas
- 9 yews
- 5 hollies
- 2 burning bushes and
- dozens of hosta and liriop

If you are one of the lucky recipients of any of these trees or shrubs, please remember to water the new plantings, especially in times of little rainfall. Newly planted trees and bushes should be watered 2-3 times weekly for the first year. Water plants for 30-40 minutes using a slow trickle from a hose.

Planting Guidelines: What You Can and Cannot Do Outside Your Patio

Residents are welcome to plant annuals in the existing front beds. If you would like to create a new flower garden outside your patio, however, you must first request and receive permission from the Buildings and Grounds Committee. Such gardens are subject to removal if the resident does not maintain the space. We recently had the situation where a resident planted a huge garden in the common area next to his unit without prior permission. He then moved and much of the garden died. We have spent hundreds of dollars removing those plants and returning the area back to grass. Any plantings placed in the common areas become the property of the condominium association.

Grounds Work

Valley Crest has cleaned and mulched the planting beds. They are scheduled to mow, edge, and maintain our shrubbery every 7-10 days during the growing season. They also clean the parking lots periodically each year.

Did You Know?

The Meadows encompasses about 22 acres and every morning José walks through the community checking for burned out lights, fallen shutters, strewn garbage, and other problems. Please help us keep our community looking great by picking

up any debris that eludes the trash company and be sure to thank Jack and José for the great work they do for us.

Arborist

Meadows arborist Jerry Dieruf will inspect the Meadows' trees and shrubs four times during the year and will make recommendations to the Committee about the health of our plantings, what needs to be pruned, and effective ways of combating pests. His expertise has saved a lot of our plantings over the years—not to mention a lot of our money!

Tree Work

The Committee works closely with Arlington County arborists to help maintain the health of street trees and point out which trees need pruning and replacing. During the year, trees in the Meadows will be pruned as needed and dead trees will be removed.

Did you Know?

Nailing or stapling signs into trees creates a wound in the tree and opens it up to disease and often death. Help us preserve the beauty of the Meadows and all of Fairlington by caring for and protecting our trees. Please do not allow children to climb on or

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B & G Update

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break limbs off our trees.

Do you have a green thumb? Interested in helping maintain the beauty of the Meadows? Then join the Buildings and Grounds Committee! We welcome new members at our meetings on the first Wednesday of each month. All meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. and end by 8:30 p.m.

Upcoming meetings:

May 3, 2006

Hosted by Kym Hill
3442 South Stafford Street

June 7, 2006

Hosted by Janet Filer
3444 South Stafford Street

No meetings in July and August



What a pleasure it is to take a walk through the community at this time of year!

At each turn, bright flowers welcome passersby and the sounds of birds and squirrels let them know that summer is on its way...

Cable (or satellite) Ready?

Make Sure You Follow Meadows By-laws for all Installations!



As more and more people opt to get satellite dishes or have additional cable lines installed for their home offices, improper installation has become a serious problem impacting our community.

Cable/satellite wires must be buried through the patio, not attached to the fence. Cable to townhouses and B-building ground-floor units must enter at the rear of the unit near ground level. The only cables allowed on outside walls are those to second-floor B-building units and those must be by the least visible method possible, preferably along the downspout.

Examples of correct cable routing through the patio and into the units are available from CMC or from Jack Clark, the Meadows onsite maintenance supervisor (see contact information on page 6). Periodic inspection of exterior cable and other sorts of installations are made by our onsite maintenance staff. Failure to comply with installation guidelines will result in a return trip for the installer and temporary loss of the service while the situation is being rectified.

For more detailed information, please consult your Resident's Manual (page 10).



Rambling Rose

Longtime Meadows resident and distribution manager for the Messenger Rose Stack is wearing a new hat these days. As our new roving correspondent, Rose is scouring the community in an attempt to showcase some of the interesting characters that live or work in the Meadows and its environs. For this issue, she spoke with Cathy A. Robinson, Shirlington Branch Librarian-Manager about what the facility has to offer.

Rose: Cathy, thanks so much for finding some time for me today. Let's start with this, are you looking forward to moving to

the new building? How long have you been in the temporary library?

Cathy: County staff and the whole Arlington community are very excited. By the time we open the long-awaited new Shirlington Library—hopefully by this Fall—we will have been in the interim storefront location for about five years.

Rose: When did you start with Arlington County? Have you been at Shirlington long?

Cathy: I began my tenure with Arlington County Library in 1989 at Westover Library. I moved to the old Shirlington Library in 2000.

Rose: It sounds as though you have two distinct titles.

Cathy: It is not really about titles. In fact, though I am a long-practicing librarian, I also wear a management hat to ensure successful local library operations, as well as exceptional service aimed at delighting our customers.

Rose: Was it a case of born-to-be-a-librarian for you?

Cathy: A career in librarianship has been a good fit for this child of educators and literature lovers. In fact, Arlington Library's Mission of providing access to information, creating

connections to knowledge, and promoting the joy of reading has been the philosophical evolution of my youthful desire to be a writer.

Rose: Librarians hold an Master of library science (MLS) degree, correct?

Cathy: That's right; however, all library staff are professionals who facilitate a range of services. We hope people think of us first when they have information needs.



Rose: What would you say to someone contemplating an MLS degree?

Cathy: I would say go for it! Librarianship is a very rewarding profession. It's also challenging and sometimes even exciting. A large number of career librarians will be joining the ranks of retirees soon, so it is time to pass the baton to a new and information savvy generation.

Rose: Not to put you on the spot or anything, but do you have an all-time favorite book?

Cathy: I am too inquisitive to settle on just one favorite book. I once made a long list of all the books I wanted to read in my lifetime. Now I can also listen to many of them! I do prefer reading non-fiction.

Right now I'm reading "Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking," for its informational value. Some novels have impressed me with their compelling stories and the author's writing. "House of Sand and Fog" by Andre

Dubus III, "White Teeth" by Zadie Smith, and "Snow Falling on Cedars" by David Guterson, are some examples of what I have enjoyed—and they have all been discussed in Shirlington Library book groups.

Rose: The new library is going to be phenomenal, isn't it?

Cathy: Absolutely. The library building will have a very contemporary look. It shares its new home with the Signature Theater's arts complex in an open plaza. With the new residences and retail establishments, the new facility will become a true "destination" place for visitors of all kinds.

Rose: And once inside, what can we expect?

Cathy: The new library will be about three times the size of the current storefront library. As for the collection, we expect it to grow from the current 38,000 items to about

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Rambling Rose

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50,000. Visitors will see a modern, open space with a larger print and media collection, a versatile meeting room, wireless laptop access, more public-use computers, a bright youth services section, and lounge seating for quiet reading.

Rose: That is such good news. I'm guessing, however, that the new lounge seating will put an end to the "java friendly" policy, right?

Cathy: Oh, to the contrary. In the new space, customers will still be able to bring in covered coffee cups. They can also bring in "sippee cups" for our smallest patrons.

Rose: It seems like electronic resources and media collections have taken over. Remember when there were just "talking books?"

Cathy: There is a national trend toward acquisition of a varied mix of electronic media and print resources. We try to be responsive to customers' requests, and so the library is following those trends. We are especially proud here at Shirlington of the ever-growing audio book collection.

Rose: Now, what about the Library Web site? It's so much more than an on-line catalog.

Cathy: We are very proud of our site. It has supported our library's vision and it

has proven to be effective as an information vehicle. The Library Web page is continually changing to convey the importance of the library to the community at any given time.

Rose: It's nice to see that so many DVDs have been added to your collection. What else is new and exciting?

Cathy: Well, it so happens that we have just rolled out a new collection, called "Featured Titles." These are popular, high-interest books that won't show in the catalog or be available for placing on hold. They don't have a "home" branch, but will "float" among the branches as they are borrowed and returned.

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Notes from the Board

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complies with the following very clear points:

- Cables will be installed on the back wall of the buildings only;
- Building entry points will be at or very near ground level for all units except for the upper Braddock units in the B-buildings; and
- Cables will not be looped or lay slack on the ground or building sides.

On another note, a Meadows neighbor noted that our Resident's Manual section on recycling states that glossy magazines and other types of glossy paper should not be put in the Mead-

ows recycling bins. She wondered why this was the case and asked if we could see if we could change this policy. We checked with Capital Services, our trash hauler, and were told that they do, in fact, take this type of material. This will make disposal of magazines easier for us and will add to the amount of recycled materials taken from our community.

And, finally, the pool will open this year on May 27 for Memorial Day weekend. We will be doing some major repair work on the pools' pump and filter systems this spring to get the pools ready for county inspection in May. Our pool will be managed by Century Pools this year and many of the lifeguards we have had in the past will be back with us this summer. Cliff Beasely, our Pool Committee Chairman, is looking for new members to join the Commit-

tee. Cliff has a number of fun social events planned and needs help with set-ups, running the events, and the clean-up (see related article on page 7).

We wish our Fairlington Meadows friends and neighbors a wonderful spring. Check out our Web site (www.fairlingtonmeadows.com) for important community information and for the schedules of our meetings.

—John Thurber
President, Board of Directors





Rambling Rose

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Rose: What about the book club, still going strong?

Cathy: Yes, of course! The two book discussion groups are expected to continue and grow in the new library, meeting on the first Tuesday and Thursday of the month [Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. and Thursdays at 11:00 a.m.]. There is a "Read Between the Lines" handout on the counter listing the selected titles through October. There may even be other discussion groups added, such as current events and books-to-film/theater.

Rose: And the wonderful volunteers?

Cathy: I think libraries have the best volunteers! We do rely on our volunteers for a variety of tasks. They are dedicated, special

people. In fact—**VOLUNTEER ALERT!**—we hope to recruit several new people who will assist us during and after the opening of the new space. Once open, the demand for volunteers will be even higher. Those interested can always drop by the library to speak to our Volunteer Coordinator.

Rose: Anything else you want to mention?

Cathy: I read the *Messenger* article about "Dog or Cat Person." Well, just for the record, I am a bird person. "Jarvis" is my cockatiel. Even at 18, he is a true clown, full of entertaining somersaults and whistles. He loves pasta. He's just a wonderful pet. Thanks to the *Messenger* for reminding the Fairlington community of its rich library resources. All are welcome

to stop by the current storefront library, or to call or visit us online. When the new Shirlington Library opens, please join us in the celebration!

You can visit the library Web site at: www.arlingtonva.us/Departments/Libraries/LibrariesMain.aspx or telephone the Shirlington Library directly at 703-228-6545.



Note to Unit Owners

Meadows By-laws require you to submit a written request for any changes in excess of \$1,000 that you are considering making inside your unit.

The Board of Directors must approve these changes before any work is begun.

Community Directory

Board of Directors

John Thurber, president
David Andrews, 1st vice pres.
Judy Pisciotta, 2nd vice pres.
Lisa Farbstein, treasurer
Bryan Hochstein, secretary

Send correspondence to the Fairlington Meadows Board of Directors in care of Community Management Corp. at the address listed below. For copies of Board meeting minutes, see the Fairlington Meadows Web site (www.FairlingtonMeadows.com), view them on the community bulletin at the pool house, or contact John Kilkenny at CMC.

Messenger Volunteers

Kathryn Utan, editor
Rose Stack, distribution

Send letters, article ideas, or other items to the editor at 3407B South Stafford Street or via e-mail to kathryn_utan@yahoo.com. Include your name, address, and contact information with all correspondence. Items will be printed at the editor's discretion.



Property Management

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Community Management Corp
12701 Fair Lakes Circle
Suite 400, PO Box 10821
Chantilly, Va. 20153
Tel. 703-631-7200 (x 212)
Fax 703-631-9786
E-mail: jkilkenny@cmc-management.com

On-site Maintenance

Jack Clark, manager
José Rameriz, assistant
Tel. 703-820-6799

Towing Requests

A-1 Towing of Northern VA
Tel. 703-979-2110

Meadows Pool Set to Open May 27

Some Notable Changes This Year...

As John Thurber noted in the January-February *Meadows Messenger*, we have contracted with Century Pools to manage our pool this summer. This was necessary because we were unable to make the repairs and obtain the supplies and materials we needed as an independent contractor.

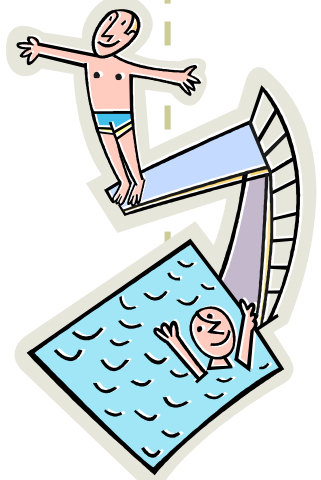
The good news is that Maureen McMorrow will still be our pool manager. However, instead of working directly for us, she will be working for Century Pools. Those former Meadows life guards who wish to return will be given first priority in hiring by Century Pools. The bad

news is the guards will be restricted in their involvement with our wonderful pool social activities. Under the Century Pools contract, lifeguards may only be involved in life guarding and related pool health and safety functions. They will still be able to run our 4th of July pool games, as these are water related. They will not be allowed to cook hot dogs and hamburgers, scoop ice cream, or collect activity tickets.

The Pool Committee wants to continue the Meadows' tradition of fun pool events like the wine and cheese party, float nights, beer tasting, and especially the wildly popular luau

By Cliff Beasley, Pool Committee Chair

party. We will no longer have the assistance of our guards, so we need more residents to join the Pool Committee and volunteers to help with specific events. This is a fun way to help your community and meet your neighbors. It requires only a few months' commitment, so if you are interested in serving on the Pool Committee, volunteering for a specific pool event, or have any questions about pool-related activities, please contact Cliff Beasley at 703-671-5135, Judi Garth at 703-931-3563, or Marie Girovasi at 703-931-3735.



Tennis Anyone?

By Ed Girovasi, Recreation Committee Chair

Another tennis season has arrived with reserved play going into effect starting April 29. On weekends, reserved play will continue every through Sunday,

October 1. A sign-up sheet will be posted by 7:30 a.m. and residents 16 years or older may reserve a court for one hour by printing their full name and unit number on the sign-up sheet. There is a limit of one hour per unit

per day. If the person who signed up for

the court doesn't commence play within 10 minutes after the hour, he/she will forfeit the court to those present.

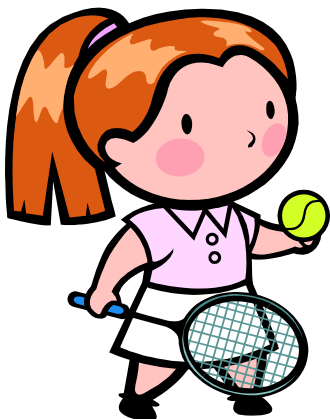
On Weekdays, court time is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Two players must be present to establish their place in line when waiting for a court. One player alone cannot hold a place in line. Before starting play, set the bulletin board clock to indicate your starting time and place your ID card (pool pass) in the corresponding holder. If you fail to indicate your starting time OR fail to display your ID card in the holder, you must vacate the court at the request of waiting players. After one hour (singles), you must vacate the court if others are waiting to play. Doubles play may continue for two consecutive hours, provided that two residents have their ID cards on display.

Please remember that our tennis courts are available for ONE activity only—TENNIS.

Players must wear TENNIS shoes or athletic shoes with NON-MARKING SOLES.

Residents are reminded that all other activity is prohibited on the courts. Improper use may result in forfeiture of recreation privileges, including pool passes.

For more information about the rules governing the use of the Meadows tennis courts, please contact Ed Girovasi at 703-931-3735 or John Stack at 703-379-7245.



Episcurean Adventures

Now that the weather is warming, thoughts naturally turn to the outdoors. Grilling is a great way to enjoy the season, but why just stick with burgers and dogs—or even main courses for that matter? These recipes from the Food Network offer two great dessert options straight from your grill!

Grilled Pineapple with Rum-Butter Glaze and Vanilla Mascarpone

6 ounce unsalted butter
2 tablespoons light brown sugar
1/4 cup dark rum
1 ripe pineapple, peeled and sliced into 1/4-inch thick rounds
9 ounces mascarpone
1 vanilla bean, seeds scraped
1/2 cup fresh blueberries

Melt butter, sugar and rum in a small saucepan. Grill pineapple over medium-high heat on both sides until golden brown, about 2 to 3 minutes per side. Spoon rum glaze over grilled pineapple. Whisk together mascarpone and vanilla seeds. Top each slice of pineapple with a dollop of vanilla mascarpone. Garnish with a few fresh blueberries.

Recipe: Bobby Flay



Grilled Pineapple with Rum-Butter Glaze and Vanilla Mascarpone

2 pineapples, peeled and core removed, cut crosswise into 1/2-inch-thick slices
2/3 cup mascarpone cheese, room temperature
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
2/3 cup chocolate-hazelnut spread (Nutella)
6 tablespoons whipping cream
Olive oil to brush the grill
3 tablespoons chopped toasted hazelnuts

Prepare barbecue to medium-high heat and brush lightly with olive oil. Grill pineapple slices until heated through and beginning to brown, about 3 minutes per side. While pineapples are cooking, whisk mascarpone and vanilla in a small bowl to blend. Set aside. Combine chocolate-hazelnut spread and cream in a small bowl and stir to combine. Place in a microwave on high for about 2 minutes, stirring every 20 seconds to blend well until satiny smooth and easy to pour. Transfer the pineapple slices to a large platter. Drizzle with warm chocolate-hazelnut sauce. Add a dollop of the mascarpone mixture. Sprinkle with hazelnuts and serve.

Recipe: Giada De Laurentiis