

Farmington Civic Association

FARMINGTONVA.COM FALL EDITION 2022

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Hello, Farmington Neighbors!

Fall has arrived. After the hot weather of summer, I am certainly enjoying some cooler temperatures. There is something about fall that is so beautiful. As Mehmet Murat Ildan put it, "dancing of the autumn leaves on a surface of a lake is a dream we see when we are awake."

The civic association remains hard at work. The weather cooperated tremendously for our first community picnic in some years. It was a wonderful time with neighbors. We hosted a general membership meeting with Mayor Tuck as the speaker. Thank you for all that came out for the lively discussion. The FCA also hosted special speakers on community and personal safety. A special thanks to Gary-Musa Moore and Said Moore for that presentation. We are also currently planning our holiday lighting, to include the lighting event.

The civic association has started the 2023 membership dues drive. We appreciate your support with a payment (which can be mailed to the P.O. box or electronically sent via Paypal from our website). The support of the residents is essential to all the civic association does to make Farmington a beautiful and desirable community. We are hoping to complete repairs to parts of the sprinkler system that are not working, add more (and expand current) community events, as well as increase beautification efforts to the medians. We will not be able to complete these desired projects without increased membership to the association. Membership is only \$50/yearly so we hope you will consider joining your neighbors.

Stay safe and see you around the neighborhood,
Connie Vatsa, President

FARMINGTON PICNIC/COOKOUT

The first FCA (Farmington Civic Association) summer picnic/cookout in several years was a resounding success! Attendants were treated to burgers, hot dogs, chips, and bottled water provided by the FCA. Our esteemed Treasurer, Aaron Giles, served as Primary Griller, and everyone who sampled the fruits of his labor came to the same conclusion: Aaron can grill a mean burger!

Randy Bowman, Farmington resident and candidate for the Hampton City Council, was in Attendance, handing out election information and explaining his platform to his neighbors. He also brought along enough collard greens to share with all [Editor's note: they were delicious].

The FCA had the space at Liberty Baptist from 11am-3pm, and many residents took advantage of the time, the food, and the company to spend some quality with their neighbors. A few residents brought cupcakes to share [Editor's note: those were also delicious]. Thanks to Membership Coordinator Kevin Wilson for arranging the rental of the grill used for the event as well as to President Connie Vatsa for towing the grill to/from the event.



Burger and dogs in the preparation stage.



The FCA was gratified to see so many of our neighbors turn out.



Vik Vatsa, Editor

July/August Yards of the Month

Congratulations to the winners of the Yard of the Month, sponsored by the Farmington Garden Club! Our July winners are Fred and Lexine Langley, of 7 Manor Hill Court. Our August winners are Vincent and Felicia Houston, of 10 Castle Haven Road.

Please congratulate our newest winners, and be sure to thank them for helping to keep Farmington a beautiful place to live. Keep an eye out for the upcoming Holiday Decorations Contest. Contact the Farmington Garden Club for details.

Vik Vatsa, Editor



July winners: The Langley family

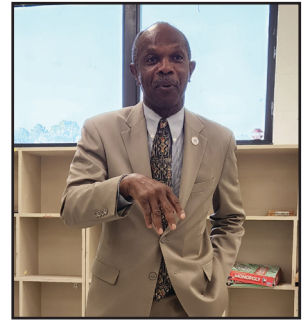


August winners: The Houston family

Mayor Tuck addresses residents at General Membership Meeting

FCA members who attended the August 29th General Membership were treated to a visit from Mayor Donnie Tuck. As per usual in these situations, the loquacious Mayor spoke briefly before opening the floor, eager to discuss items of interest with fellow Hamptonites.

The new/upcoming Aquaplex was a big topic of discussion. The Mayor outlined the virtues of the new center, which the city hopes will bring tourism dollars into the city through events that the new complex can host (e.g., NCAA swim meets). Residents can benefit from the presence of the new complex, as General Memberships will be available for purchase. Hampton City Schools will be adding a Learn to Swim program to the 2nd grade curriculum. For additional information on the new complex, please visit www.hamptonaquaplex.com



Mayor Tuck responds to his constituents' questions at the Northampton Community Center.

Other topics of interest to Farmington residents included queries about the police vacancy rate (we have vacancies, but fewer than in surrounding localities), speeding concerns in the neighborhood (the mayor said he would follow-up later with results from a traffic study in the neighborhood, the results of which were emailed out to all residents with email addresses registered with the FCA on Sept. 12th—please email the FCA if you would like this information), and whether the development occurring in the Forest Park Shopping Center development would result in a new Royal Oak Farms (the mayor confirmed this was indeed the case with the FCA after the meeting).

Further queries about crime in Hampton prompted the mayor to speak passionately about making civic contributions to your own community and that, as much as people asked what the city could do about crime, they rarely asked themselves what they could do to improve the city they live in. For example, he mentioned that every year Hampton can't find enough people to volunteer in its mentorship programs, heavily implying that making a difference in the lives of young people would help lower crime and improve the community. For more information on mentoring opportunities in Hampton, please visit: hampton.gov/3615/RISEMentoring-Program

Vik Vatsa, Editor



The FCA would like to invite you to turn out for the Third Annual Holiday Lighting Ceremony! As per previous years, expect holiday music, hot cocoa, coffee, some sweet treats, and some sharing of holiday cheer with your neighbors!

The event will be held the evening after Thanksgiving, on Friday November 25th. An exact time will be posted on the message board at the Farmington exit as the date of the event approaches.

Vik Vatsa, Editor

National Night Out attended by police, residents

National Night Out is a community program designed to foster cooperation between police and the public in order to improve public safety. The program was held a little later in the month than it usually is, due to a postponement from Hurricane Ian (the police couldn't spare officers for the event while the city was in a State of Emergency, and it was unlikely residents would turn out in the inclement weather). Cooler this year, with many residents in jackets, National Night Out was held the evening of October 18th. As per last year, Captain Edmonds attended, along with several of Hampton's finest. There was a brief roll call, where we learned that a Lieutenant, a Sargent, and some patrol officers had turned out to meet with the citizens of Farmington.

Captain Edmonds spoke briefly before taking questions. This year, there were many questions/concerns about car thefts. One of the officers present emphasized that this was more often than not a crime of opportunity. He warned residents to lock up their vehicles at night, and especially to make sure that they did not keep spare keys inside the vehicle. Residents were also urged not to leave their cars running while they hop into a store, the better to keep their cars warm. Criminals look for exhaust fumes from unoccupied vehicles and will not hesitate to hop in and drive off before you have the time to get back to your car.

If concerned about security at your individual residence, homeowners were encouraged to contact the police for a "security survey". Per the city's website: "If requested a member of the Community Relations Unit will visit your business or residence and review its inner and outer security measures, landscapes, and environment. Afterwards, the unit will make recommendations that will improve your security and reduce the chances of a crime from occurring. To make an appointment for a free security survey, contact the Community Relations at 757-727-2260."

[Editor's note: see hampton.gov/778/Security-Surveys]

The FCA thanks the Hampton PD for participating in this yearly community event and encourages residents to come out in even bigger numbers next year. Thanks to Aaron Giles for providing snacks and bottled water.

Vik Vatsa, Editor



Captain Edmonds, surrounded by fellow officers and Farmington residents, addresses the crowd.



Hampton PD provided toys for neighborhood children. The FCA provided snacks and bottled water.



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