

Farmington Civic Association

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The President's Letter

Hello, Farmington Neighbors!

Greetings to longer days and warmer temperatures. I hope that you have been able to enjoy the sun. The FCA (Farmington Civic Association), as always, is hard at work. I hope you were able to delight in the celebration of our high school graduates on the median. We are planning a picnic in a pavilion at Liberty Baptist Church on August 19th from 11am to 3pm. We will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, and drinks. Hope to see you there!

The FCA Garden Club was saddened to learn that the rose bushes on the front median in between the bushes are afflicted with Rose Rosette Disease. This is a fatal (to the plant) virus which communicates via mites through the soil. This means the roses will need to be removed, roots and all. The FCA is currently working on a plan for their removal. No roses will be able to be planted in that location for several years, and the FCA and Garden Club will determine what, if anything, to plant going forward. In the meantime, the Garden Club's efforts on the medians continues to provide us with a beautiful neighborhood.

It's not too late to pay 2023 membership dues if you have not yet done so. We appreciate your support with a payment (which can be mailed to the P.O. Box or sent via PayPal from our website). Membership is only \$50/year, so we hope you will consider joining if you have not already done so. Thank you to all who have paid your dues and are doing the work of making this a wonderful place to live.

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

General Membership Meeting with Commonwealth Atty



Anton Bell,
(photo courtesy of hampton.gov)

May 23rd brought the FCA a well-attended General Membership meeting featuring special guest Anton Bell, Commonwealth Attorney for the city of Hampton. Mr. Bell was only too happy to kick things off, discussing issues affecting the local community.

As expected from someone in his position, he talked about crime in Hampton and surrounding areas. Mr. Bell made sure to emphasize that, unless one travels in circles with a certain criminal element that numbers about 75 people, the likelihood of being a shooting victim is very small. As well, he noted that a map of all shootings in Hampton would show that the shootings tend to cluster in small pockets, alleviating the worry that shooting violence in Hampton is a widespread issue. Closing out the discussion of shootings, he stated that most shooters in Hampton tend not to live in Hampton, but in surrounding areas. He proposed the idea that perhaps the perception of local criminals is they're more likely to get away with crime perpetrated in Hampton, and it was up to the city to address that perception.

When asked where criminals are getting guns, Mr. Bell noted that the guns laws in VA are fairly lax so legal means of obtaining weapons is not difficult. In many cases, the guns are stolen, from homes or parked cars, and so the cost of a gun is not an impediment to obtaining one. Bell urged all in attendance to lock their vehicles, even if they're parked in driveways. In addition to guns being stolen from vehicles, IDs can be stolen and accounts opened in the victim's name.

Mr. Bell spoke about making sure criminals are properly prosecuted, but he also expressed the need to prevent the dysfunction in the home that later leads to criminal behavior. He noted that many of those who have trouble with the law are involved in custody issues within their first 3 years of life before eventually ending up in the foster system. By age 12, many of them have had their first contact with the courts, generally on minor charges, but that subsequent contact with the courts involves more serious crime.

He noted that part of his office's efforts to engage in early intervention was the Junior Commonwealth's Attorney Program (JCAP), where young people are exposed to various aspects of the criminal justice system from the perspective of people who work in it. For more information on JCAP, please visit <https://hampton.gov/4004/Junior-Commonwealths-Attorney-Program-JC>

Vik Vatsa, Editor



Farmington 2023 High School Graduates

The FCA is excited to celebrate our high school graduates. We wish them the best of luck in their future endeavours.

Leann Vo is the Valedictorian of Menchville High. She is a drum major and was in varsity softball. She plans to attend UVA School of Medicine.

Caleb Jeremiah Dyke has fulfilled requirements as a Certified Network Administrator. He will be graduating with an Advanced Studies Diploma and 19 college credits. He has accepted a summer internship with NASA as a Systems Administrator. After his internship, he plans to attend VA Peninsula Community College.

Bobby Stephens is graduating with high honors as captain of the varsity soccer team. He will be attending the Pamplin College of Business at Virginia Tech.

Brent A. Sales will attend NSU as a Sociology major.

Jada Nicole will graduate with a 4.35 GPA. She has been dual-enrolled in Virginia Peninsula Community College for the past two years. She is an all-star on the basketball court, leading her team for several years. She will attend St. Augustine University for Exercise Science and will be a member of their basketball team.

Andrew Jones will graduate with Highest Honors. He will be attending ODU, majoring in Applied Math.

TyJah Chapman was President of NHS (National Honor Society), Senior member of the Norfolk Collegiate Honor Council, Pres. of the Black Student Union, Pres. of the Medical Professionals of the Future Club, member of the French Club, member of the Green Team Club (environmental), manager of the girls' tennis team, and captain of the boys' tennis team. TyJah will be attending University of Miami, majoring in biochemistry and molecular biology with a minor in Finance.

Winston Chapman was a member of NHS, the Black Student Union, and captain of the varsity tennis team. He will be attending Randolph-Macon College, majoring in Business and Economics and will be a member of the tennis team.

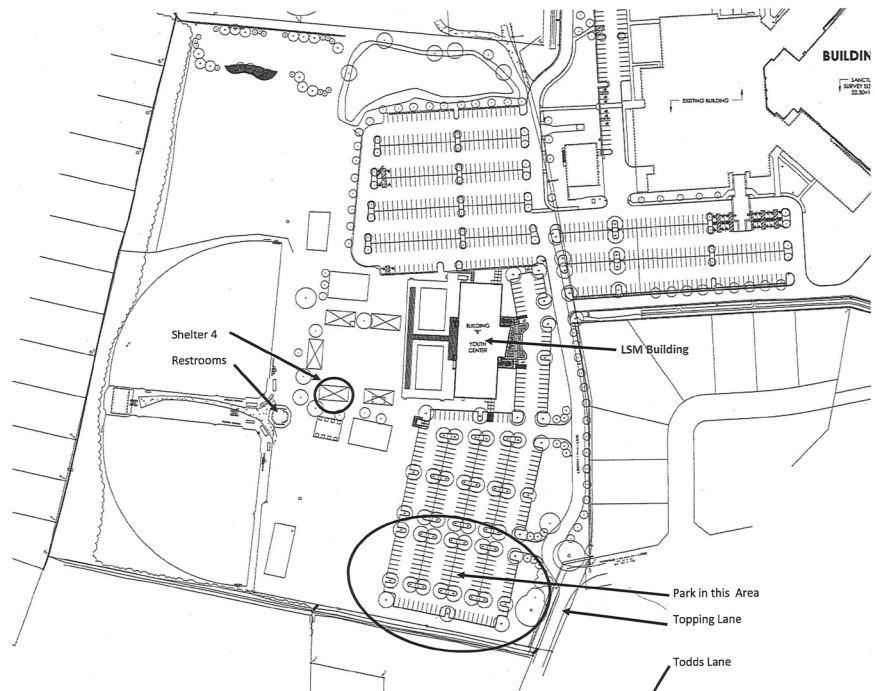


2nd VP of the FCA Michael Chapman once again arranged for signs celebrating our graduates to be installed on the median.

FCA Cookout

The FCA looks forward to repeat success of last summer's cookout! Come out and enjoy **on August 19th from 11AM-3PM** at a picnic shelter in Liberty Baptist Church.

The FCA will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, and drinks. Please feel free to bring whatever sides you and your family will want to enjoy.



Liberty Baptist has asked us to park in the designated areas to avoid conflicts with a second event that day

May/June Yards of the Month



May Winners

Aaron and Cynthia Giles



June Winners

Parviz and Jean Zadeh

Congratulations to the winners of the Yard of the Month, sponsored by the Farmington Garden Club! Our May winners are Aaron and Cynthia Giles of 22 Castle Haven Road. Our June winners are Parviz and Jean Zadeh of 21 Ardmoor Drive.

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