

Farmington Civic Association

FARMINGTONVA.COM SPRING EDITION 2025

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM Retail

Local

Postal Customer



To email articles/input: farmingtonhptva@gmail.com

P.O. Box 7273, Hampton, VA 23666

The President's Letter

Hello, Farmington Neighbors!

I have been included in a lot of discussions about what we want our neighborhood and community to be. There are a lot of things that we are and could be, but ultimately what I hope most of all is that we are a community of people who care for each other. As Coretta Scott King said, "The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members."

The members of the board have been hard at work. We have been working on planning the block party, which will take place May 17th underneath the power lines on Castle Haven. In addition, we have been working on yet another repair at the entrance. We are still looking at the best grant option to get the entryway repaired, as the at-fault driver did not have insurance and therefore we do not have an insurance company to file a claim with. The estimated cost of the repairs is more than our current total operating budget for an entire year.

In related median news, on a recommendation from the Virginia Cooperative Extension stemming from safety/aesthetic concerns, we have the bushes at the first median on Farmington trimmed to the curb. We expect the new spring growth in the median to come in soon. As of this writing, the winter newsletter has not yet been delivered, despite being dropped off at the post office in February. A complaint has been submitted. That issue can be viewed on the website at farmingtonva.com/newsletter.

We appreciate your support--membership is only \$60/yearly, a low ask for the myriad benefits of the civic association including the lovely upkeep and beautification on the medians, neighborhood events, student scholarships, and this newsletter. . Payments can be mailed to the P.O. Box or paid via PayPal from our website. Thank you to all who support the work of making this community a wonderful place to live.

Happy Spring and see you around the neighborhood,

Connie Vatsa, President

Join the FCA Board!

In light of current vacancies, the FCA Executive Board is looking to add new members. We are looking for the following positions: membership chair, youth member, secretary, and member-at-large. Please consider joining the board and experiencing many of the benefits of helping your community.



According to happiness.com, the benefits of volunteerism go both ways. Volunteering also helps volunteers themselves in the following ways:

1. Connecting with others – volunteering can be a fun way to meet new people and make new friends
2. Building confidence and self-esteem – doing good for others creates a sense of accomplishment
3. Boosting physical health – a 1999 study showed highly active volunteers had a 63 percent lower mortality rate than non-volunteers
4. Boosting mental health – volunteering can help counteract the effects of stress, depression, and anxiety
5. Providing a sense of purpose – volunteering helps address social issues, which in turn can help build purpose and boost your own happiness.

Reach out if you would like to discuss the possibility of joining the board at farmingtonhptva@gmail.com or call/text 757-344-2540.

BLOCK PARTY

The FCA is looking forward to hosting a neighborhood block party on Saturday May 17th from 11am-3pm on Castle Haven, in the field under the power lines. As of this writing, the FCA is still making plans for the food and activities. We encourage neighbors to bring chairs for themselves and, if possible, a table, as the FCA may only have a limited amount of tables, chairs, and tents. To ensure we have enough food, we kindly ask for an **RSVP at farmingtonhptva@gmail.com**. Looking forward to seeing everyone!

BLOCK CAPTAINS WANTED

Block captains are a vital part of our neighborhood—they foster community spirit, enhance safety, and facilitate communications. The FCA is currently working on a re-organization of block divisions; however, we do need more block captains to ensure all areas of the neighborhood have a captain. If you are interested in serving as a block captain (or would like more information to help decide) please contact our **Lead Block Captain, Robert Caldwell, at 757-329-6300 or robertac61@yahoo.com**.



Attention, Graduating Seniors!



Students graduating from high school this year who reside in active Farmington Civic Association households are eligible for recognition on the Farmington Blvd median. If you would like recognition, please send the student's name, address, high school, and senior photo (or similar photo) to farmingtonhptva@gmail.com. To ensure signs are ready in a timely manner, we kindly ask for all emails to be sent by May 15th. Feel free to include a couple of sentences noting extracurricular activities, notable accomplishments, and post-graduation plans, as we expect to highlight the students in the next newsletter.



Winter Holiday Decoration Winners

Since the previous issue was lost in the mail, The Farmington Civic Association (FCA) would like to recognize, for a second time, the Pauley Family at 3 Farmington Blvd as the winner of our Holiday Decorating Contest this past winter. Their holiday decorations were truly beautiful, and we are happy to give them this recognition.



The Pauleys receive their award, flanked by FCA board members Pam Kelly on the right and Doris Roland on the left.

Thank you to those who submitted nominations. The contest committee enjoyed touring the neighborhood to see the nominees and the many others who have decorated this holiday season. To all our neighbors, the members of the FCA Executive Board hope the warmth of last winter's holiday season filled your home with happiness and joy. We can't wait to see all of your decorations next year!

Garden Club News!

The Garden club would like to announce the installation of new Officers in May and would like to extend an invitation for all residents to join. Reasons to join the Garden Club include meeting your neighbors and growing your knowledge about flowers and other plants, all while beautifying the neighborhood (which only increases the value of your home!). Make friends, de-stress, and learn new gardening tips, all for a nominal joining fee. Interested in joining? Contacts are below!

Doris Roland: dorisroland@verizon.net

Regina Smith: jasrgs@aol.com

Robert Bender: atrover4716@yahoo.com

April General Membership Meeting



Karen Richa discussed the local real estate market



Council member Campbell made a surprise appearance!



Officer Brown discussed police activity in the neighborhood

The Farmington Civic Association (FCA) had its latest General Membership meeting on Tuesday, April 14th, and it was a lively affair! President Connie Vatsa started by addressing the crowd on the latest regarding the damage to the front entrance and details on the upcoming block party—please read the President’s Letter and the block party announcement in this issue for more information on both topics! The Garden Club rep asked for people to turn out for the next Farmington Garden Club meeting. HPD (Hampton Police Dept) Officers Brown and Birdsong were in attendance. Officer Brown reported on criminal activity around the neighborhood, including vandalism in the form of damaged windows, fraud (forgery), more damaged windows, and a stolen firearm that was eventually returned to its owner. 10 calls for service were logged by the HPD, and no violent criminal activity was reported. Brown encouraged people to verify that their cars are locked and that vehicle locks are operating properly. Newly-elected City Council member Carolyn Campbell was in attendance and addressed the crowd next. She reported that feral cat colonies were being used by the city to monitor the feral cat population. Upon further discussion over email, she said that TNR (Trap Neuter Return) is the feral cat solution preferred by the city, and she would let us know whether there’s a feral cat colony in Farmington. Tune into future newsletters for updates.

Realtor Karen Richa (contact her at 757-349-9379 or karenricha.realtor@gmail.com) spoke last. After handing out packets that contained a market analysis of Farmington’s home sales (and, notably, some candy treats that at least one newsletter editor ravenously wolfed down due to delaying dinner to attend the FCA meeting), Karen assured the attendees that she loves helping clients with the entire buying/selling (depending on which side of the transaction the client is on) process. She enjoys meeting with clients for coffee first to discuss the whole process—including credit, deposits, inspections, etc. If selling, she noted that one of the most important considerations people normally don’t think about is your “selling budget”, which includes improvements you’ll need to make to your home to entice buyers, or even just to pass home inspections.

Karen had the attendees riveted for the time she was center stage, fielded numerous questions from the crowd, and encouraged residents to please contact her if they had any additional questions in the buying or selling process, or even just to obtain a list of vendors she often turns to for home improvements. A resident of Michael’s Woods, Karen displayed a keen knowledge of Hampton in addition to her knowledge of the real estate market.

The meeting was robustly attended. The FCA encourages you to attend the next General Membership meeting. You never know who’ll show up and what interesting topics about your neighborhood will be discussed!

Vik Vatsa, FCA Newsletter Editor

NEWSLETTER: Quarterly editions underwritten by The FCA. Distributed via USPS to all households in Farmington. Staff: Vik Vatsa, Editor. We appreciate feedback and/or submissions: Please email to farmingtonhptva@gmail.com . If you would like to be published in the next issue, please submit by July 11, 2025]