

## BBHCA COMMUNITY MEETING

### Get Back in Touch with Your Community

Tuesday, September 16 at 7:30 pm

Bush Hill Elementary School Cafeteria (side door)

#### AGENDA

Minutes from May Meeting  
Board and Committee Reports  
Budget for 2008-09 (Vote)  
New Business

#### GUEST SPEAKER:

Representatives of [Kingstowne Senior Center](#)  
6488 Landsdowne Center

## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

### Bush Hill Park Gets a Face Lift

Submitted by Glenn A. Rowinski,  
[growinski@cox.net](mailto:growinski@cox.net)

#### Dear Friends and Neighbors:

Please find enclosed the minutes from the July 17, Bush Hill Park Meeting, with Mr. Wadsworth of Supervisor McKay's office, as our speaker. I would like again to thank the Merritts for hosting this meeting at their home. As their home borders the park, it was a very appropriate setting for third action phase under discussion.



July 21 and 22 completed the final park cleanup initiative by the Fairfax County Park crews. Working with Fairfax County Police, the crew trimmed trees, removed piles of debris, and cut away undergrowth to provide good sight lines for police and walkers in the park. Thank You to the Kellers, the Ruemplers, the Fishers, and the Merritts for their contributions of picnic food, tables, and help to feed the Park crew. I would especially like to thank Amy Keller for assisting me in food presentation, serving, and clean-up for the crews lunch's. It was an enjoyable task with beautiful results for our park. Enclosed are photos of this civic event.

I also want to thank all the neighbors who attended these meetings and your show of support and solidarity. It has made a noticeable impact on the police and their response time to the calls from our newly established crime watch. Your participation has made a difference! Unwanted visitors are on the decline, and the neighborhood is increasing their use of the park. It is rewarding to see that a group of determined neighbors can take their park back and make it a safe and family-friendly park.

In closing, I ask you to please keep your park in mind. If you see any unusual activity going on, please continue to phone the Fairfax County Police at 703-691-2131, or if necessary 911. Have your call registered. Remember, you do not have to give your name if you wish. But these calls you make support the police's decision to continue patrolling and monitoring our park.

*Editor's Note:* The above mentioned minutes of this and prior meetings regarding Bush Hill Park along with photos of the clean up are available on the BBHCA Web site under Neighborhood Watch.

## Watch Out for Scams

An elderly woman who lives on Brookland Rd was taken advantage of in July by Kenny's Hillbilly Tree Service. She was charged \$1,800 for cleaning up her yard. Be alert of similar scams. Ask for a solicitors license as well as proof of insurance and bonding.

## i-Neighbors Networking Site Launches

<http://www.i-neighbors.org/22310/BrooklandBushHill>

Residents of Brookland, Bush Hill, and Brookland Estates can now sign up as active Neighborhood Watch supporters and receive/send information and updates regarding neighborhood safety.

"i-neighbors is a social networking service that connects residents of geographic neighborhoods. Unlike websites that encourage global, national, or city-wide communication, i-neighbors links members of local neighborhoods as defined by the people that create them. i-neighbors helps individuals, communities, and homeowner's associations build social capital by providing a place for neighbors to find each other, organize, share information and work together to address local problems. Our goal is to help people create neighborhoods that are safer, better informed, more trusting, and better equipped to deal with local issues."

"Founded in 2004 as a not-for-profit, advertising, and SPAM free service, i-neighbors now supports thousands of neighborhoods in all 50 of the United States and all 10 Canadian provinces. i-neighbors is operated as an ongoing experiment in community building by a team of faculty and students headed by Prof. Keith Hampton at the Annenberg School for Communication at the University of Pennsylvania."

No fee required. E-mails not shared. The i-Neighbors site is independent of the Brookland-Bush Hill Civic Association. Membership in BBHCA is *not* required for participation in i-Neighbors or Neighborhood Watch.

>> *Franconia Crime Prevention Officers Alice Bennett and Jim Nida, (703) 922-8263*  
>> *Robert D. L'Heureux, Chair, 703-609-2966, [neighborhoodwatch@bbhca.org](mailto:neighborhoodwatch@bbhca.org)*

**CIVIL WAR ENTHUSIASTS**

**28th Annual Fall Mosby Bus Tour**

The 28th Annual Fall Mosby Bus Tour is scheduled for **Saturday, September 20**. The tour is organized and sponsored by the Stuart-Mosby Historical Society. Tour Leaders will be Don Hakenson & Gregg Dudding (with special guest Tom Evans). We will be leaving the Truro Rectory at 8:30 and will be visiting various sites in Warrenton, Marshall, the Caleb Rector House, Miskell's Farm & Herndon and more (arriving back around 5-5:30).

The cost is \$40 for members of the Stuart-Mosby Historical Society and \$50 for non-members. To sign up for the tour, contact Don Hakenson at 703-971-4984 or e-mail him at [dhakenson@cox.net](mailto:dhakenson@cox.net) or contact Gregg Dudding at [wdudding@cox.net](mailto:wdudding@cox.net). Send check payable to Don Hakenson at 4708 Lillian Drive, Alexandria, Virginia 22310. *No refunds after September 13*. Bring your lunch.

## New Law Affects Moped and Scooter Riders

Fairfax County Police, July 28—In the wake of soaring fuel prices and balmy weather, an increasing number of drivers are turning to mopeds and motorized scooters as alternatives to cars and trucks. The Fairfax County Police Department has released a new educational brochure and wants owners to know the rules of the road, as they pertain to these fuel-efficient vehicles.

According to Traffic Safety Specialist Master Police Officer Bob Barton, "We are seeing a surge in people, some more experienced than others, commuting by moped, scooters and motorcycles, which can create safety concerns when mixing with other vehicles."

**New Law Effective July 1:** A moped that is driven *over* 35 mph is considered a motorcycle, which means that *the operator needs to have additional driver's certifications and a motorcycle license*. Additionally, *the moped needs license plates, proper registration, and insurance*.

If a moped is driven *under* 35 mph, the driver does *not* need a license (but must carry identification) and the vehicle does *not* need license plates or insurance.

Additional safety tips for moped and scooter operators include:

- Drivers should wear bright or reflective clothing and a helmet.
- Drivers must be at least 16 years old to operate a moped.
- Mopeds and bicycles must stay to the right side of the roadway.
- Mopeds and motorized scooters may not be operated on sidewalks.

>> To learn more about moped and scooter safety, checkout:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/brochure/guide-scooter-moped-cycle-operation.pdf> or call the Fairfax County Police Traffic Division at 703/280-0563.

## West Nile Virus Detected in Fairfax County Mosquitoes

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news/2008/159.htm>

FFC Health Dept, July 14—The Fairfax County Health Department today announced two mosquito samples collected last week in Mason District tested positive for West Nile virus. These are the first positive mosquito samples identified this year in the county.

Fairfax County has an active outreach and education program and staff are aggressively promoting the mosquito management campaign, "Fight the Bite: Say NO to MOSquitoes." A

number of [educational materials](#) have been developed for English and non-English speaking residents.

The Health Department recommends the following tips for residents to reduce exposure to mosquitoes:

When spending time outdoors, use insect repellents containing the active ingredient DEET (up to 30 percent), picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus or IR-3535. Always use mosquito repellents according to label instructions.

- Wear long, loose-fitting, light-colored clothing.
- Turn over or remove containers in the yard where water collects, such as old tires, potted plant trays, buckets and toys.
- Fill in root-ball holes from downed trees or any depression that holds water for more than a week.
- Eliminate standing water on tarps, such as those that may be used to cover wood piles.
- Clean out birdbaths and wading pools once a week.
- Clean roof gutters.
- Manage black corrugated drain pipes.

>> For further information, residents may call the Health Department's Disease Carrying Insect Program at 703-246-2300, TTY 703-591-6435.

## Home Depot Launches National CFL Bulb Recycling Initiative

[http://www6.homedepot.com/ecoptions/stage/pdf/cfl\\_recycle.pdf](http://www6.homedepot.com/ecoptions/stage/pdf/cfl_recycle.pdf)

Home Depot has launched a national in-store, consumer compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulb recycling program at all locations. Customers can simply bring in any expired, *unbroken* CFL bulbs, and give them to the store associate behind the returns desk. The bulbs will then be managed by an environmental management company that will coordinate CFL packaging, transportation and recycling to ensure safety and environmental compliance.

>> For more information on the CFL Recycling Program or Eco Options, go to [www.homedepot.com/ecoptions](http://www.homedepot.com/ecoptions).

## Links To Keep

### EnergyStar

<http://www.energystar.gov>

ENERGY STAR is a joint program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy helping us all save money and protect the environment through energy efficient products and practices. Energy efficient choices can save families about a third on their energy bill with similar savings of greenhouse gas emissions, without sacrificing features, style or comfort. ENERGY STAR helps you make the energy efficient choice.

### BBHCA 2007–2008 Board

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**Brookland-Bush Hill Civic Association**

Alexandria, VA 22310

[www.bbhca.org](http://www.bbhca.org)

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