



Middleridge News

Reaching 578 Homes and Families

December 2010

Middleridge Civic Association

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Special points of interest:

- * Neighborhood Watch Coordinator Needed
- * Luminary Sand Display
- * Directory Cover Artist Contest

Moments with Mary

By Mary Vander Maten, MCA President

How sad to look forward to Thanksgiving with family and friends, and to have it tainted by vandalism in our beloved Middleridge. On Friday, several of us on Spurlock, Ryers Place, Stanhope, and Mt. Vineyard found car windows smashed and articles taken from unlocked cars. Some of these cars were owned by visiting friends and family, which made the actions more reprehensible. Thank you to neighbors who found some of the articles. Please let us know if you find any-

thing on your property. A GPS in a bag was found and turned in to the police; call the police if you lost that. I also heard that some mailboxes on Paynes Church and Kipp Court were damaged. Let me know if there was other vandalism elsewhere.

We have had vandalism before; some targeted and some seemingly random. Again, please be careful and watch out for your neighbors and their property. If anyone

(or a team of people) would be able to take over our Neighborhood Watch, that would be great.

On a happier note, our Halloween parade and party were fantastic! We had lots of princesses, pirates, and Harry Potters in attendance, along with others in equally creative costumes. It was fun to start the parade at the top of Broadwater, where our neighbors there continue to outdo themselves in Halloween fun and spooki-

The holiday Wattage Award is renamed to Wascavage Award in honor of Scott Wascavage.

(Continued on page 7)

Fall 2010 Clean Up Participants

Jerry Reynolds and Sarah Mayhew – Coordinators

Scouts represented: Girl Scout Troop 4154, Boy Scout Troop 1131

Schools represented: Robinson MS and HS, Woodson HS, Frost MS, Bonnie Brae ES, White Oaks ES, Homeschooled

Rebecca Anderson Jessica Anderson, Sharon Larson,

Chris Mayhew, Aiden Schiefer, Catherine Schiefer, Danny Clark, Seven Turchello, Paige Rosson, Ray Rosson, Megan Merryman, Heather Merry-



Thank you to everyone that participated in the event!

man, John Mitros, Carolyn Rospierski, Sandra Meyer, Doris Wright, Madeline Rospierski, Sarah Andino, Laurel Meyer, Amber Holmes, Christine Anatuci, Erica Wright, Clara McCuen, Adelan Wermer, Rachel Ziegler,

(Continued on page 4)

October General Membership Meeting Minutes—Oct. 7, 2010

By Tim Harazin, MCA Secretary

Call to Order: 8:04pm

Members Present: Mary Vander Maten (President), Rick Jones (Vice President), Al and Sandy Obuchowski (Membership Co-Chairs), Paul Armstrong (Treasurer and Webmaster), Jessica Summer (newsletter editor), Tim Harazin (Secretary)

Happy 40th Birthday to Middleridge!(Catie Morales brought a cake to celebrate—thanks, Catie!)

Minutes: from May 8, 2010
(approved previously)

Treasurer's Report:

motioned—Jessica Summer and Rick Jones approved
total cash and assets as of May 6th
\$15, 459.42 current \$16, 185.23

biggest expense—activities
(Nat. Night Out \$2600; movie night \$1000; all night grad party \$1000)

Membership Committee:

currently 351 members registered; out of 578 homes (40 less than this time last year)

reminders will be sent out

Political Candidates for Virginia 11th Congressional District (at bottom of minutes)

Richmond Update--David Bulova (at bottom of minutes)

Neighborhood Issues:

Halloween parade/party—parade will start at a different location—at Broadwater (this will be confirmed on permit)

we need to station someone at the old site

neighborhood watch—we need a new chair

warning: close garage doors;

burglaries in other neighborhoods—not Middleridge yet

neighbor helping neighbor program—keep communication open about people in need

Fairfax County Neighborhood Enhancement Partnership Program (grant projects seeking \$1800 for letter board signs at two entrances; not electronic---still add letters the grant is due on Oct 16th

Speeding—Mary still gets lots of calls about speeding

we have asked VDOT for new 25MPH signs (there used to be signs in the past)

holiday decorating contest—start preparing holiday decorations

Other issues:

Jerry Reynolds--3rd component of “making Middleridge a better place to live”

#1 the garage sale

#2 dumpster day

#3 curb appeal begins at our own curbs help clean the park; but also help clean our streets member will work with Sara Mayhew to write an article for the next newsletter possibly add poop disposal

sinkholes in the dirt—between the curb and sidewalk at Middlegate and Shooters Hill Lane needs to be filled and packed and re-seeded

cover design contest—info in next newsletter

Adjournment: at 9:01pm motioned by Sandy and Al Obuchowski approved

Place of next meeting: November 4, 2010 7:30pm location—Tim Harazin's home

Minutes submitted by Tim Harazin, secretary

Political Candidates for Virginia 11th Congressional District

Gerry Connolly

has had 16 years in public service

we are in worst economic recession in 80 years and need to create jobs at a faster pace

every economist said we needed the stimulus—he thinks it has worked

in Fairfax unemployment fell to 5%--half of national average

government—single largest source of jobs for our area

in our neighborhood—spent almost 400million dollars to fix Woodridge dams

wise investment of public dollars

completed the Fairfax County Parkway (from route 7 to route 1)--brought 20,000 new jobs

questions

solving immigration problem should be a federal responsibility, not state

“high fence but a wide gate” (agree with Tom Davis)

we need a system for letting people in legally

issue of abortion and birth control—conscience clause

moral obligation to fulfill a professional obligation

if those are views, should not be in profession—don't take Hippocratic oath

infrastructure investment

we saw positive result in dams; Kingstown saw what happened when that is denied

We must look at funding infrastructure

(Continued on page 13)

Audubon at Home

By Sarah Mayhew,
Middleridge Resident, Virginia Mas-
ter Naturalist

Walking around Woodglen Lake these days is a whole new experience. The water level was drawn down in late November to allow final work on the newly strengthened and redirected emergency spillway. The level was supposed to drop only two feet, but my estimate is that it came down three feet. The lowered water level has exposed extensive mudflats all around the lake. The county did not estimate how long it will take the lake to fill to its normal level, since that will depend on how much rain we receive, but it is already beginning to come back up. Now is a once-in-a-lifetime (we hope) opportunity to walk around the lake on the clear path at the upper edge of the mudflats. The only place you will need to battle underbrush is when a foray onto dry land is required to get around the storm drain inlets/streamlets and when fording the two feeder streams. Join the many neighbors who have been taking advantage of this opportunity. Slip on your boots or shoes you don't mind getting muddy, choose a day when it has been dry for awhile and take a different kind of hike!

As you hike, you will probably notice the footprints of many popular brands of tennis shoes and hiking

boots, left by those who hiked before you. You should also be able to find tracks of white-tailed deer, beaver, fox, raccoon, opossum and possibly coyote, in addition to lots of domestic dog tracks. There is also the possibility of finding the tracks of a rare local resident – the river otter. If you look very closely, you may see tracks of smaller animals like gray squirrel, chipmunks, and field mice. This is a fantastic opportunity for any Scouts interested in learning more about tracking. If you have a Boy Scout in the family, he has until December 31, 2010 to earn the historic "Tracking" merit badge that was re-released only for the Boy Scout Centennial year – 2010. Each time it rains, the footprints will be renewed and another walk along the lake's margins will produce new tracks to identify. With the Mallards, Canada Geese, and Great Blue Herons in residence on Woodglen Lake, you can obtain 9 types of tracks in one place. You only need to track six animals or birds to obtain the merit badge.

Even if you don't have a Scout in the family, making plaster casts of animal tracks is a fun activity for all ages. It is the perfect messy activity that kids and kids-at-heart enjoy on a chilly fall day. Purchase Plaster of Paris at a craft store (about \$6). Pack



"...Making plaster casts of animal tracks is a fun activity for all ages!"

some heavy-duty plastic zip lock bags to mix the Plaster of Paris in the field, a couple of water bottles, a small brush, some cardboard strips cut about 3 inches deep and paperclips to hold the strips around the track. When you have located a clear track in the mud, gently brush away any loose soil, small rocks or leaves that may be in the track. Make a ring around

the track with the cardboard, held together with paper clips. Push the ring into the mud to form a tight seal. For a small track, mix ½ cup plaster powder with about ¼ cup water until it is the consistency of pancake batter. You will want to experiment with the mixture so it pours into all the crevices of the track, but isn't so fluid that it doesn't set up. Gently pour or spoon the plaster mixture into the ring, allowing it to flow into the track rather than pouring it directly on the track so you don't disturb the track. Put enough plaster in the ring so that it is at least 1 inch deep over the track. Then go on a walk, toss a ball around or make another mold for ½ hour to let the plaster set. For a more permanent ring, you can use a tin can with both ends removed or even a plastic container open on both ends. When the plaster has set, gently dig

(Continued on page 7)

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(near Gold's Gym)

Fall 2010 Clean Up Participants

(Continued from page 1)

Marcy Jumper, Frank Faff, Jane Faff, Claudia Reynolds, William Mayhew, Rachel Ziegler, Adelan Wermer, Mary Vander Maten

Collected:

6 big full bags of plastic bottles and aluminum cans we recycled

10 big full bags of garbage

Thank you to all participants and thank you to the Clean Fairfax Council that donated our prizes.



6 bags of recycling and 10 bags of garbage were collected!





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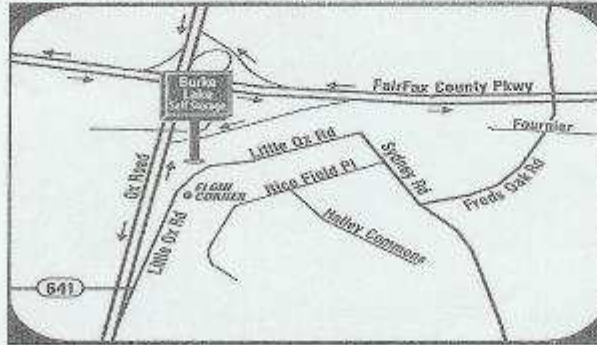
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Audubon at Home

(Continued from page 3)

below the track to remove the cast and ring rather than pulling up on the cast. Wrap it in newspaper and take it home to finish drying. After 2 or 3 days of hardening, you can remove the ring and paint your cast. Remember to write the kind of animal and the date and place you collected the track on the back of the plaster cast. This kind of impromptu, what-will-we-find-in-the-woods-today, activity is a great antidote for kids who have spent too much time with their video games. The plaster is fairly nontoxic (but

avoid getting the powder into your eyes), and mixing it is easy enough for younger children. A clear animal print cast will make a great souvenir of a fun winter outing – even if it turns out the best cast of all was of your own tennis shoe in the mud!

As usual, the internet provides a multitude of resources for locating detailed instructions for making plaster casts of animal tracks, as well as guides for identifying the tracks you find. Here are some I thought were useful.

Instructions for making casts:
<http://www.bear-tracker.com/plastertracks.html>

How to identify the tracks you find:
<http://www.bear-tracker.com/>

Guide to identifying Virginia Wildlife:
<http://culpeper.vaswcd.org/animal%20tracks.pdf>

Experts guide to identifying tracks:
http://www.ussartf.org/animal_tracking.htm

Moments with Mary

(Continued from page 1)

ness. Thanks to the whole White family for planning and managing the entire event!

Now we look forward to holiday decorations. Look further in the Newsletter or on our web site for

guidelines for decorating awards and for setting out luminaries on Christmas Eve. Join in wherever you wish! In honor of the wonderful “singing house” that Scott always loved to plan and decorate, we are naming our wattage award in the memory of Scott Wascavage.

Have a wonderful holiday season (maybe we won't wish for snow this year!),



NEEDED - NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH COORDINATOR

Have you ever noticed the folks driving through the neighborhood Friday and Saturday evenings? They have a flashing light, they drive through our streets, and make sure everything is safe and secure. Well we all thank them for their time and care for our community. During the past year Darric Milligan coordinated the effort to schedule folks to make these evening drives. We thank him for his support and assistance.

Currently we need a new coordinator to schedule the volunteers. If you are interested, please contact Mary Vander Maten at president@middleridgecivicassociation.org or 703-278-9325.

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November Executive Board Meeting Minutes—Nov. 4, 2010

By Tim Harazin, MCA Secretary

Call to Order: 7:36pm

Members Present: Mary Vander Maten (President), Rick Jones (Vice President), Al and Sandy Obuchowski (Membership Co-Chairs), Paul Armstrong (Treasurer and Webmaster), Jessica Summer (newsletter editor), Tim Harazin (Secretary), Catie Morales (past president)

Minutes: from October 7, 2010 motioned—Paul Armstrong & Catie Morales; approved as amended

Treasurer's Report: read by motioned—Al Obuchowski and Jessica Summers; approved

total assets on Oct 31 \$17,182.67

\$0.19 difference in report interest adjustment

Membership Committee:

currently 377 members registered; out of 578 homes

Continuing Business—Events

Halloween party/parade

really neat event and a great party; it was nice moving the parade downhill

kudos—to Sophia and Clair White for co-chairing the event; this is their last event

Catie Morales children have volunteered to chair the event next year

discussion about dogs at MCA events—welcomed, if under control

neighborhood watch—we still need a new chair

we need to collect the equipment;

currently, no watch is being done

neighbor helping neighbor

no requests for help; keep up communication about friends and neighbors who need help

holiday events

we need to prepare baskets as awards for the holiday decorating contest categories

Williamsburg, Traditional, Wattage, Judges' Special, Group and Community

voting online for the community award

Catie Morales has taken care of ordering the sand for luminaries

feed the firefighters next week—Saturday, Nov 13th

lots of support from the community—it took less than 24 hours to get all food covered

we will be feeding three shifts; all food will be brought in one delivery at noon

Continuing Business—Issues

FC neighborhood enhancement Partnership Program

application for 2 signs—Middlegate and Paynes Church entrances

Mary worked on the (very convoluted) payment details; 25% has to be man-hours

she listed a few more events to the application to demonstrate our active community

speeding signs—call VDOT again

Middleridge member with a basket-

ball hoop to donate to a community center

we should recommend the David R. Pinn Center or the Mott Center

fox roaming the neighborhood

foxes are wildlife; they need to be left alone

Fairfax County Federation--Rick will attend the meeting

sinkholes near curbs (at Middlegate and Shooters Hill Lane)

Rick and John looked at sinkholes and notified David Bulova VDOT came right out to fix it

another one on Paynes Church Drive at a drain

MCA members can notify VDOT of other sinkholes on website—give address closest to it

sidewalks all along Payne's Church

get very slippery and icy because it slopes; then it looks like black ice

New Business

board e-mail list

the distribution list includes more than the four officers; committee chairs are included

some board members get double e-mails because of multiple e-mail addresses

text-alert messages—not as successful as other communication methods

phone service provider wasn't included from many members

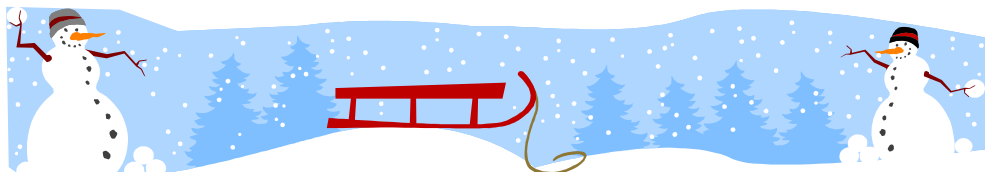
(Continued on page 11)

Community News

* **Christmas Tree for Sale**—Offenbacher Blue Spruce 7 ft. artificial Christmas Tree in original box for sale—\$35 OBO. Please contact Carolyn Walker 703-273-3818



Did you know you can...



November Executive Board Meeting Minutes—Nov. 4, 2010

(Continued from page 10)

we should include a form on the webpage to collect info and service provider

“Craig’s list” for MCA membership discussion to create a “Craig’s list” service for MCA members to sell items and share service recommendations

closed e-mail list—only a member can send to the group; more info to follow

facebook page for MCA

other civic associations have them

(i.e. Kings Park West has a good one)

this would also be a good forum for a service hours coordinator—good for teenagers

Paul, Catie, and Jessica will set one up

entrance lights

two more lights have broken down

Rick Jones found a company that has sets for \$100

motion—to give Rick \$120 to purchase a set; Tim Harazin and Paul Armstrong; approved

landscaping contract

we need to start looking at the contract and potential bidders

MCA directory cover design contest submissions will be voted on at the next meeting

Adjournment: at 9:10pm motioned by Mary Vander Maten and Tim Harazin; approved

Place of next meeting: December 2, 2010 7:30pm location—Catie Morales’ home



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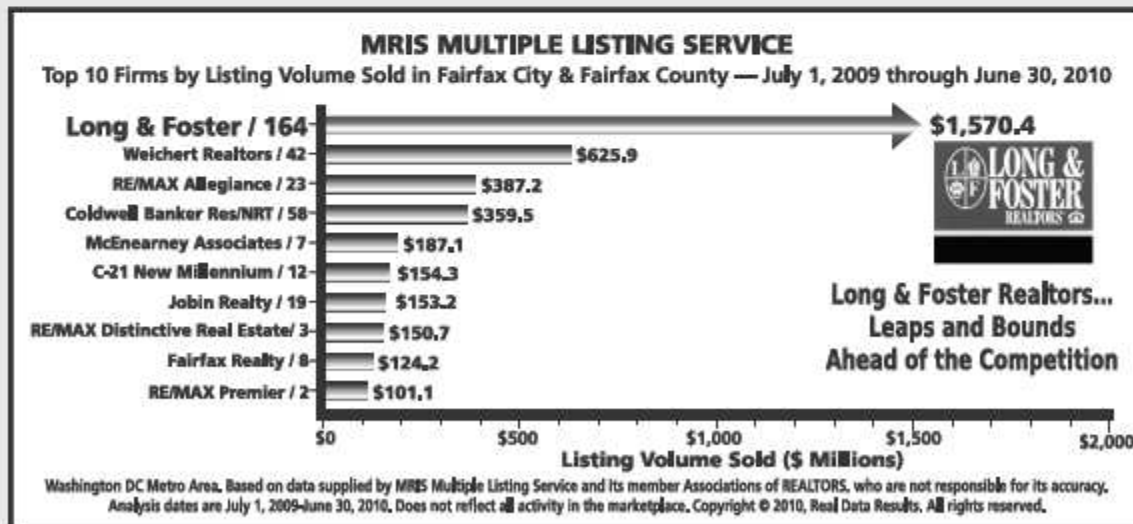
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October General Membership Meeting Minutes—Oct. 7, 2010

(Continued from page 2)

HOT lanes--tolling existing roads is not the answer; the public will not support this

state secondary road fund will be reduced to zero

Keith Fimian representative— Tim Edson

Keith is a native of VA Beach; went to William and Mary; certified accountant

lots of Americans would say things aren't improving—there are still lots of concerns

unemployment is 9.96%; foreclosures have a 25-year highs; home sales declining

spending—3 trillion dollars spent; 2.5 trillion in debt

2007—budget deficit was about 300 billion; now much higher

current Congress can't say no to spending

need people who know how to balance budgets

biggest issue—uncertainty by employers

companies are sitting on much more cash

questions about rising costs

revisit health care bill

small business---1099 filling for any expense over \$600

Keith doesn't want to increase taxes

Connolly doesn't want to say he will raise taxes—more uncertainty

job creation plan—create growth

supports a balance budget amendment

Connolly's record

knows how to tax and knows how to spend

gave himself 27% and 31% pay raises

questions

issue of abortion and birth control—conscience clause

Fimian doesn't want to deny contraceptives

a small % won't stop someone from getting contraceptives; look around, many places

e-mail Tim and he will be happy to respond more fully

Richmond Update—David Bu- lova

David's newsletter recapped 2010—get a copy after the meeting

biggest items on the horizon

ABC stores—interesting debate (Governor's reform commission)

don't ditch what has been working, unless there is a better plan in place

plan should keep the revenue stream flowing

education front (Governor's education reform and innovation commission)

increasing tuition rates

working on how to accept more out-of-state students

health care

David is a member of health care commission

transportation—still fighting over it

a one-time savings was found

we were getting funds ahead of schedule

the last administration overcompensated; we need to find a middle ground

if we can't fix it statewide, we need to fix it regionally

every dollar we send to Richmond—we get about 27 cents back

immigration

bigger issue 3-4 years ago

the federal government should step up and make a decision

local issues

traffic near GMU is bad

GMU community advisory commission created

before votes on plans to build or other changes, commission must discuss issues

in the past, we didn't have a group to follow up on issues and questions; most info was after the decisions were made—now info is shared way before any policy is voted

Zion Drive is in terrible shape—many potholes

Roberts Road is a mess as well as other local roads

Budding Middleridge Artists

Don't forget, your entries for the MCA Directory Cover are due December 2, 2010. Please send to Mary Vander Maten at 10913 Spurlock Ct. or email president@middleridgecivicassociation.org



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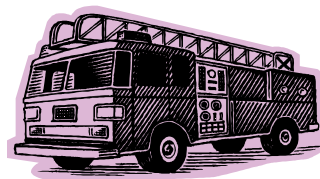
We successfully delivered the Burke Volunteer Fire Department a meal on November 13, 2010. The volunteer firefighters joined us for our NNO celebration in August and we wanted to show our appreciation for their support, courage, and dedication every day!

It was truly a feast and I'd like to give a special thanks to all of the volunteers who shared a dish for the event.

- *Carol Brosseau—broccoli tortellini salad
- *Lil Chalkley—bread
- *Sheila Champion—Oreo Dirt

- Cake
- *Nancy Ciarula—Oriental Salad
- *Peggy Deihl—Pineapple Cake
- *Megan Hish—bread
- *Steve and Jen Mandolesi—lasagna
- *Catie Morales—Macaroni and Cheese Casserole
- *Dana Mularoni—veggie tray
- *Bambi Munos—baked beans
- *Laurie Owens—shredded pork

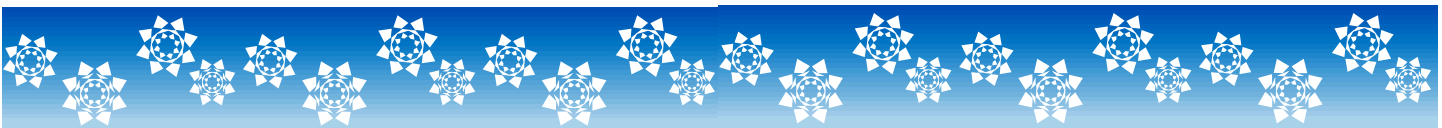
shoulder



Thank you Burke Volunteer Firefighters!

- *Meghan Szkutak—coleslaw
- *Stephanie White—7 layer dip and chips
- *Sue Wilkinson—Greens/Craisin/Walnut Salad

The Chalkley, Hish and Summer families delivered the meal on the 13th and the firefighters gave us a wonderful tour of the facility. Pictures of the event can be seen on page 19 of the newsletter.



Annual Middleridge Luminary Display

**December 24th
From Dusk till Dawn!
(If you can make them last that long!)**

**Sand available on Joshua Davis Court by
December 10th**

The Most Simple & Basic Luminary Display Recipe

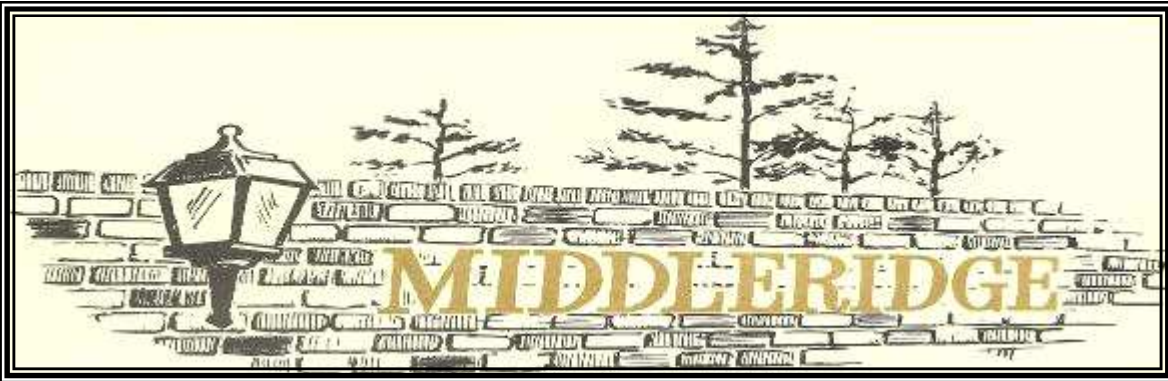
- 1) Plan how many luminaries you will need in advance. Usually about 1 bag for every 5 or 6 feet of space. (Don't forget your driveway if you are going to include that as well.)
- 2) Purchase a pack of brown paper lunch bags from the grocery store or dollar store.
- 3) Purchase 1 candle for each luminary you wish to make. Votives and Tealights are best since they contain their flames well and usually won't end up burning up the entire bag. (Tealights last about 3 to 4 hours ... Votives last about 6 to 8.)
- 4) Take a trip to Joshua Davis Court and pick up enough sand to fill each bag 1/3 way full. (The sand is free so take as much as you need.)
- 5) When you're ready, fill each bag 1/3 full of sand and place the Votive or Tealight in the middle. Carefully light the candle and "Voila" you have your basic luminary.



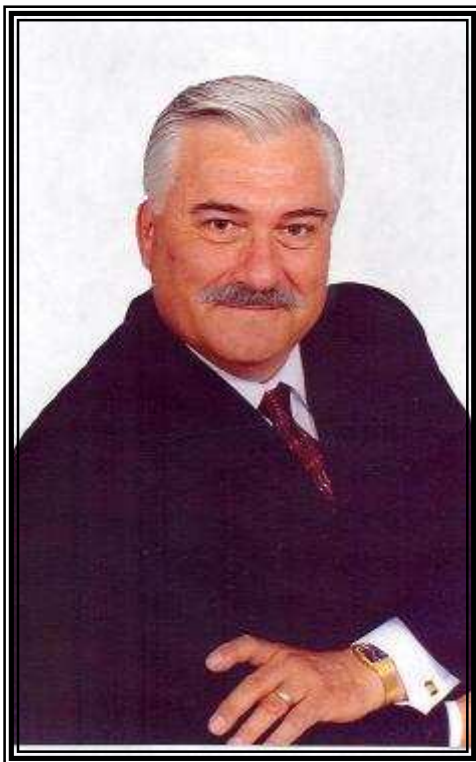
Halloween Parade and Party

On October 30th we enjoyed a fabulous Halloween Parade and Party planned and organized by the White family. A special thanks to Sophia and Clair White for all of their work and effort to gather volunteers and supplies to make it a successful event. Thank you to everyone that donated time and food and for all that came out to participate!





YOUR NEIGHBOR AND RESIDENT FOR OVER 20 YEARS WOULD LOVE TO WORK FOR YOU IN ALL OF YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS.



Bogdan Jastrzebski

Cell: (703) 509-1608

Home: (703) 273-8295

Office: (703) 573-2600

Bogdan.J@longandfoster.com



Please...

feel very comfortable

stopping by at

5327 KIPP Court

with any Real Estate

questions, or just

telephone.

I'm here for you !



GRI - Graduate Real Estate Institute

ABR - Accredited Buyer Rep.

E - Buyer

SHS - Senior Housing Specialist

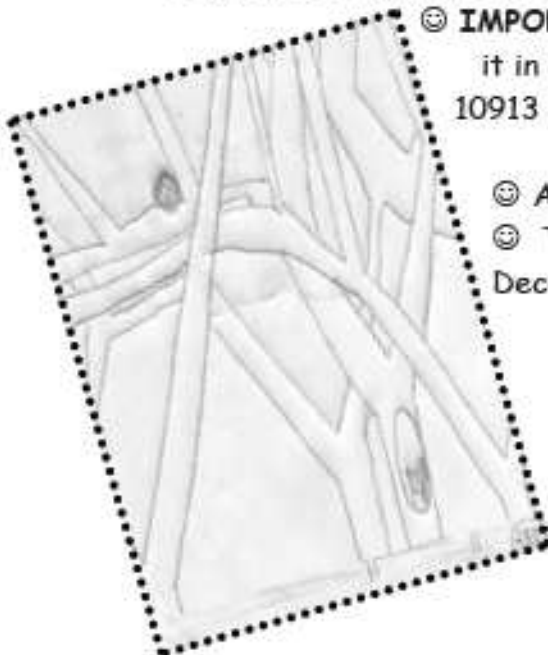




Budding Middleridge Artists

The Middleridge Civic Association is in search of our next MCA Directory Cover artist. If you're between the ages of 5 and 18, and would like to have your artwork featured on the cover of the 2011 directory, then here's what you've got to do:

- ☺ Your artwork can be created either by hand or computer (Photoshop, Publisher, Indesign, etc.) ... as long as it depicts something to do with Middleridge.
- ☺ Please design your artwork on a 8.5 X 11, **PORTRAIT** sheet.
- ☺ Please do not use color ... sorry!!
- ☺ Please sign your work ... we want to give you all the credit!
- ☺ Artist's family must be **Active Association Members**.



- ☺ **IMPORTANT:** Do not bend or fold your artwork ... send it in a large (9X12) envelope to: Mary Vander Maten, 10913 Spurlock Ct, Fairfax, VA 22032. **OR** ... email it to: President@middleridgecivicassociation.org.

- ☺ Artwork must be delivered no later than 12-02-10.
- ☺ The winner will be announced in the December Newsletter!

GOOD LUCK!

Your Artwork Could Be Here!

Middleridge Feeds the Firefighters!

See story page 14.



There was enough food to feed the station for days.



After delivering the food we were able to view the trucks and learn about the firefighter gear.

We appreciate
our firefighters!



We watched the fire truck head out to respond to a call during our time at the station.



We were all smiles and appreciated the time we spent at the station.

Thank you Middleridge Volunteers!!

Middleridge Holiday Decorations Contest

Who: Middleridge and Keys Crossing residents (Middleridge Civic Association members only; must have joined before October 31). Winners of an award from the previous two years are ineligible for this year's awards but are encouraged to participate as judges for the contest.

When: Saturday, December 18, 2010, 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM. Please have your light displays ready and working during these hours if you wish to participate in the judging contest. (Rain date will be Sunday, December 19, 2010).

Judging Categories/Criteria

Williamsburg Award – Decorations are in the classic Williamsburg style. All lights must be white - no colored lights. May use candles, evergreen (real or artificial), ribbons and fruit displays over doorways, windows, etc. Spotlights may be used to enhance the appearance of the evergreen or fruit displays. Figures are not included in this display category.

Traditional Award – Lights can be any color, any style and may frame the house, and/or draped over bushes, trees or other parts of the yard and home. Figures, like Santa, snowman, deer or other seasonal creatures may be used but not to excess. Spotlights may be used to enhance the display.

Wascavage Award– (formerly Wattage Award) Large, extensive display of colored and/or white lights and figures (animated or not). This can include lights on the house, roof, trees, bushes, fences, walkways, basketball hoops or other yard features. It is all about volume, with a touch of amazement.

Judges Special Award – Awarded to a home that uses a unique technique to achieve a special decorative, festive holiday display. This may include styles or themes that do not quite fit any of the above categories or may be a mixture of several categories.

Group Award – Awarded to a group of three or more houses that are similarly decorated and that present a consistent look for the Holiday spirit. Any tasteful decorating style can be used. Each house will receive recognition.

Community Award - Awarded to the house that a majority of the Middleridge Community (one vote per house) voted as deserving of the recognition.

Prizes – Each category will have one grand prize winner that will receive a lovely holiday gift, compliments of the Middleridge Civic Association. Group Award winners remain eligible for individual awards. Winners will be notified the night of judging and a sign will be placed in the front yard of the winning homes. This information will also be posted at the main entrances to Middleridge as well as on the website and the newsletter.

Questions/POC: [Al Obuchowski](#)

Yes... You Can Sell Your House Over the Holidays!



We understand it's hard to imagine selling your home during the holidays; especially with all the parties, shopping, and family obligations ... who has time for open houses? Some Realtors may say it makes more sense to wait until the New Year, but not us ... we believe this is a missed opportunity.

Houses tend to show very well during the holidays, and conveniently, your home is usually most presentable at this time. After cleaning and sprucing up for impending house guests, your home is in perfect shape for those last minute showings and open houses. Homes decorated also have an inviting, family feel about them. It makes it easier for prospective buyers to imagine their own families living in the home.

Although the market slows down somewhat, the buyers out there tend to be more serious about purchasing a home. If they have to relocate their families mid year, they only have a small window of time in which to find a home and close the deal. Signing a contract by New Years could mean a move by spring break; perfect timing for families with school age children.

Some buyers deliberately shop for a home after the summer rush is over. Many have hopes of getting better pricing at this time, as well as weeding out the sellers who are simply testing the waters. People also have more time off during the holidays and it can be easier for both parties to meet for house showings.

Since there are reduced housing inventories at holiday time, this means buyers are giving your home more attention. In fact, you may actually experience more showings during this time, compared to busier seasons.

If you're thinking of selling, maybe it's time to clean the walkway, decorate the house, give us a call and get our sale sign on your lawn.



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2010/2011 MIDDLE RIDGE CALENDAR OF EVENTS			
DECEMBER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
Entrance Decorations Luminary Sand Delivery Decorations Judging Women's Club, TBD, Contact Shirley Plunkett Santa's Visit Luminary Display	Women's Club, Jan 18, Contact Shirley Plunkett Directory Distribution	Women's Club, Feb 15, Contact Shirley Plunkett	Spring Cleanup, TBD, Contact Sarah Mayhew Women's Club, Mar 15, Contact Shirley Plunkett
Every Month:			
MCA Board Meeting: 1st Thursday of the month		Neighborhood Watch: Friday & Saturday nights	
Newsletter Delivery: 5th of the month		Welcoming: as needed. Please notify Laura Jaumillot	

Middleridge Civic Association

Executive Board

President—Mary Vander Maten
 Vice President—Rick Jones
 Secretary—Tim Harazin
 Treasurer—Paul Armstrong

Middleridge Mailing Address

P.O. Box 208
 Fairfax Station, VA 22039-0208

Other MCA Contacts

Webmaster—Paul Armstrong
 Newsletter Editor—Jessica Summer
 Distribution—Sandy Obuchowski
 Directory Editor—Al & Sandy Obuchowski
 Membership—Al & Sandy Obuchowski
 Neighborhood Watch—
 Community Service—Patricia Yates
 Welcoming Chair—Laura Jaumillot
 Middleridge Book Club—Liz Brown
 Middleridge Women's Club—Shirley Plunkett

Newsletter Administration
 Business Advertising Rates:

	Regular	Member*
Full Page	\$75	\$50
1/2 Page	\$50	\$30
1/4 Page	\$30	\$20
1/8 Page	\$20	\$10
Classified Ads	\$ 5	

* 2009 Paid MCA Member

**Monthly Deadline for ads and articles:
 25th of the Month**

Checks Payable to:
 Middleridge Civic Association
 P.O. Box 208
 Fairfax Station, VA 22039

Email or drop off Ads to **Jessica Summer**
 (editor@middleridgecivicassociation.org) or
 703-934-4881



www.middleridgecivicassociation.org

Look for:

- List of MCA Officers
- Committee Contacts
- Photos of Events Past & Present
- Past Newsletter Issues
- Neighborhood Police Reports
- Middleridge Map/Street Name History

And much more!!!

Sign up to be notified every time the Website is updated!

