

The Virginia Hills Echo



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Police Warn of Scams and Unlicensed Solicitors

Late summer and early fall seems to turn out solicitors in Virginia Hills, particularly contractors who just happen to be "already working in the neighborhood" and want to give you a great deal on work on your house, lawn, or driveway. Some of these offers turn out to be scams, and scammers may even do a good job on one property in the neighborhood to use as a reference before either taking your money or doing poor work at a high price. Some will be so bold as to tell you that they aren't selling anything as they try to persuade you to hire them, sometimes using high pressure or scare tactics.

To avoid such solicitations, you may post a "No Soliciting" sign at the front of your property or at your front door. Posting this sign makes it a violation of law for them to enter your property or knock on your door for the purpose of solicitation. If a solicitor ignores such a sign, you should refuse to open your door and should call the police non-emergency number at 703-691-2131 to report them.

If you do open your door to a solicitor, you should immediately ask to see the solicitor's Fairfax County solicitor's license (photos of a sample license are at the end of this article). If they don't have one or they offer a business license or some other license, you should ask them to leave immediately and call the police non-emergency number. Having a business license or a business ID badge does not permit solicitation. Having a Fairfax County solicitor's license does not mean their business, services, products have been verified by the County, nor are they endorsed by the County.

The Fairfax County Solicitor's License is a laminated card that displays the solicitor's photograph, name, and personal information on the front side. The back side of the license displays the solicitor's business information and thumbprints. It is valid for one year from date of issue.

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Second Penn Daw Development Comes Before Land Use Committee

In July, the Lee District Land Use Committee heard the initial presentation of the request for a zoning change for the second half of the Penn Daw property by the owner, Combined Properties. Virginia Hills residents will have noticed the rapid development of the parcel between Poag and School Streets by Insight Properties already in progress. Combined Properties owns the portion of the land that now comprises the Penn Daw Shopping Center.

The information-only presentation provided information on the large number of apartments, as expected, although the final number is not yet fixed. The surprise was that a large CVS drugstore may be part of the development. Echo readers will remember that some months back CVS was considering the Exxon site on Lockheed Boulevard. Another surprise was the possibility that a grocery store might also locate in the development. While the grocery store chain was not disclosed, it is likely to be one that does not have a presence in the area and is not looking to build a mega-store. Likely prospects might include Trader Joe's and Harris Teeter. Both the grocery store and the drug store would be on the North Kings Highway side of the development.

Land Use Committee concerns included traffic, storm water management, and parking. Traffic was the major concern as the intersections in the vicinity of Penn Daw are all either Category D or F, the two worst categories on the scale.

The Committee will hear the next presentation on this development in September.

Virginia Hills Citizens Association Meeting

**Tuesday, September 10th – 7:30 PM
Old Virginia Hills School, Diana Lane**

**Speaker: MPO Greg Kotteman
Crime Prevention Unit
Fairfax County Police Department**

The President's Corner
Comment from VHCA President Ralph Zecca

They say the only two things constant in life are death and taxes. I would like to add another, which is less macabre and a tad bit more positive—change. There is a lot of change in Virginia Hills. If you look to your left and your right, you will see that there are a lot of new families moving into our neighborhood. I am willing to bet that they moved here for the same reasons that rest of us did—Virginia Hills is a great place to live!

So what makes us so great? It is not what the realtors say about location, location, location. If anything, it is the people that make this area such a great place to live and raise a family. I am often greeted by a friendly smile or wave when I am outside working in my yard or walking my dog through the neighborhood. I hope you will take some time out and welcome many of our new neighbors and maybe even encourage them to join the Virginia Hills Citizens Association (VHCA)!

That said, I am hoping that someone out there would be willing to help me with setting up a movie night this autumn. A chance for families to meet at the Old Virginia Hills School to chat and watch a family friendly movie. There is very little work to do. All the person will do is set up a time with the school, select a movie and then email the neighborhood. If anyone is interested in doing this, please feel free to contact me or one of the VHCA officers. And do not worry, this is not a ploy to get you to do other work. We are just looking for someone that wants to help build up community spirit and neighborhood pride

With sincerest respect,

- Ralph Zecca.

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The Virginia Hills Echo

Editor Doug Boulter
Graphic Assistance John Drummond
Publisher The Print Shop

Single Issue Advertising Rates

Back page	\$90	Quarter page	\$35
Full page	\$85	Business card	\$15
Half page	\$45		

For yearly discount rate, see www.VirginiaHills.org/Echo.html

Virginia Hills Citizens Association Officers 2012-2014		
President	Ralph Zecca	President@virginiahills.org
Vice President	Warren Suyderhoud	VP@virginiahills.org
Treasurer	Robin Welsh	Treasurer@virginiahills.org
Secretary	Karen Lamb	Secretary@virginiahills.org
Membership	Vacant	Membership@virginiahills.org
Echo Editor	Doug Boulter	Echo@virginiahills.org

How Virginia Hills Voted on June 11th

The statewide Democratic primary conducted on June 11th resulted in the selection of Ralph Northam to be the party's candidate for lieutenant governor and Mark Herring for attorney general. Here are the results for the Virginia Hills precinct (a combination of the former Virginia Hills and Wilton precincts):

For Lieutenant Governor	
Northam	43
Chopra	32

For Attorney General	
Herring	33
Fairfax	41

Turnout was 3.7% of the registered voters.

In the general election on November 5th, Mr. Northam will face Republican E. W. Jackson and Mr. Herring will face Republican Mark Obenshain. None of the four candidates is an incumbent.

The top race on the ballot will be for governor. Republican Ken Cuccinelli faces Democrat Terry McAuliffe and Libertarian Robert Sarvis.

In local races, for Member of the House of Delegates for the 43rd District, Democrat Mark Sickles (incumbent) will face Independent Gail Parker.

For Fairfax County Sheriff, necessitated by the resignation of the previous sheriff, Republican Bryan Wolfe will face Democrat Stacey Kincaid.

Election Officers Needed in Fairfax County

The Fairfax County Office of Elections estimates that it will need 2,200 election officers to staff the county's 238 polling places for the November 5th election. Election officers are compensated for their time and the amount of compensation has been increased this year. Compensation is as follows:

- Election officer \$175
- Assistant chief election officer \$200
- Chief election officer \$250

First-time chiefs will normally have served before as an assistant chief, and assistant chiefs will normally have served before as election officers. All election officers must be registered voters in Virginia. While election officers are identified by party or independent affiliation, they are not partisans. Each election officer must swear to "faithfully and **impartially** discharge all the duties incumbent upon me as an Officer of Election." New election officers are required to complete a training class of 2-3 hours prior to the election.

(continued at top of right column)

Work on election day begins at 5:00 AM and ends when all work has been completed at the polling place (approximately 9:00 PM).

To apply to become an election officer, or for more information:

- Email elect@fairfaxcounty.gov, with your full name, current address, daytime telephone number, and date of birth (used to verify your voter registration).

- Call 703-324-4735, Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

Join the Virginia Hills Citizens Association for the new membership year that began on September 1st.

2013-2014 Membership

**Mail to: VHCA, P.O. Box 10837,
Alexandria, VA 22310**

I'd (We'd) like to join / renew my (our) membership in the Virginia Hills Citizens Association. Enclosed are the annual membership dues of \$7.00 per household. I am also including a contribution in the amount of

\$ _____.

Name (s) _____

Address _____

City _____

Zip Code _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Comments: _____

Checks for dues may be made payable to VHCA or the Virginia Hills Citizens Association.

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Police Warn of Scams and Unlicensed Solicitors

(continued from Page1)


You should never allow a solicitor to push his or her way inside your house, and you should never tolerate abusive or deceptive sales tactics. Solicitors telling you that there is something seriously wrong with your house that needs immediate fixing are rarely being truthful and will often overcharge for any work done.

Licensed solicitors may only solicit between the hours of 9:00 AM and 8:00 PM.

Teenagers may come to your door to solicit for their school, their class, or a school activity. This is a gray area in many ways. News media have reported several scams involving non-existent schools or teenagers who did not attend local schools. The best way to approach such solicitations is to only give to teens from your neighborhood whom you know personally.

Note that the licenses are only good for one year and that the back of the license contains the solicitor's thumbprints. The license must be carried at all times when soliciting.

The front of the license is the top image, and the back is the bottom image.

	NAME Tina Norris		
	ADDRESS 9673 Crafts Boulevard, Fairfax, VA 22030		
HEIGHT 5'5"	WEIGHT 110	EYES Blue	HAIR Brown
DOB 12/10/1982		DRIVER LICENSE # T65-11-1111	



IT IS AGAINST THE LAW

- To not have this license in your possession when peddling/soliciting.
- To refuse to show this license to a purchaser or a police officer.
- To peddle/solicit before 9:00 a.m. or after 8:00 p.m.
- To peddle/solicit upon property where signs prohibit such activity.
- To peddle/solicit from a state highway right of way.
- To violate the provisions of the Virginia Consumer Protection Act or the Home Solicitation Sales Act.

FAIRFAX COUNTY DOES NOT BY ISSUING THIS LICENSE, ENDORSE EITHER THE LICENSEE, BUSINESS OR PRODUCT.

PEDDLERS/SOLICITORS LICENSE

Tina Norris
Director, Consumer Protection Division
Dept. of Cable Comm. and Consumer Protection
CA-136

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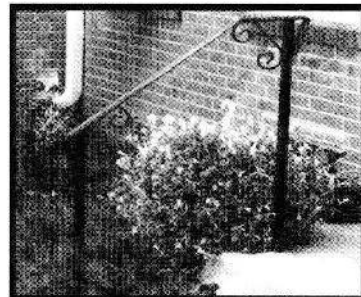
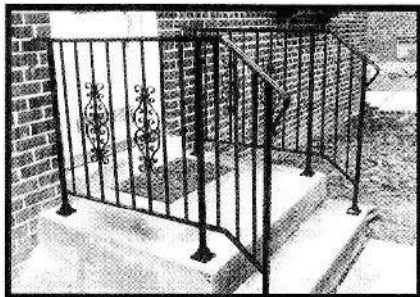
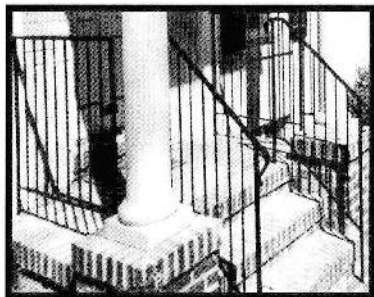


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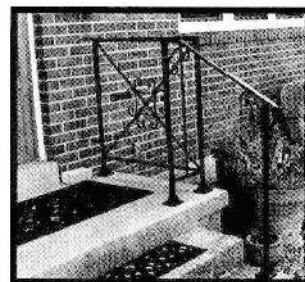
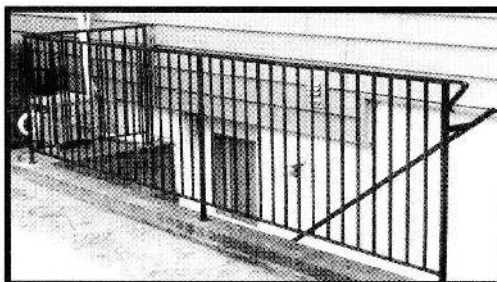
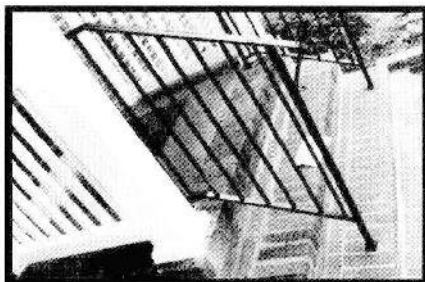
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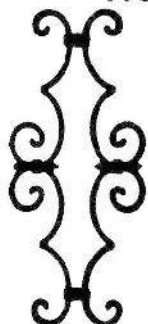




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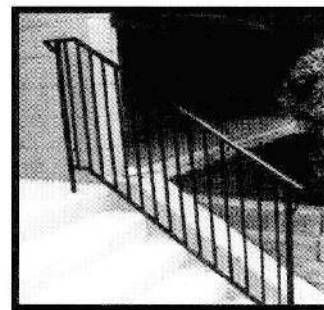
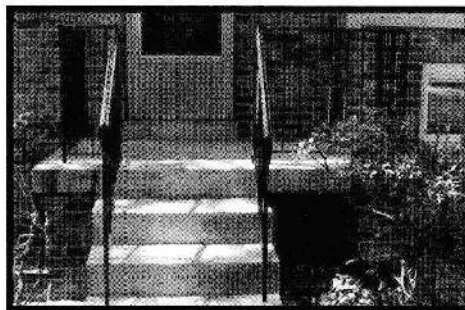
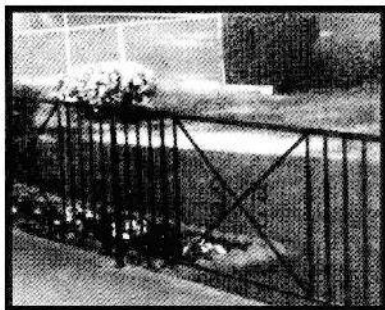
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The Summer Housing Market

This home pricing data for Fairfax County is provided by Spike and Julie Williams of Williams Realty as of July 31st:

Single Family home under \$1M

Average List Price \$638,025
Median List Price \$609,000
Average Days on Market 54.

Condo/Townhome under \$600K

Average List Price \$333,288
Median List Price \$329,000
Average Days on Market 41.

Sales data for Virginia Hills provided in Jimmy Tucker's ad (see back page) shows that house prices in Virginia Hills remain strong, well above the 2008-9 levels. Prices seem to have declined slightly since the spring highs, possibly because of the increase of about 1% in mortgage rates. It is difficult, however, to compare prices because houses of different sizes and qualities are on the market at different times, but homes do appear to be selling quickly, both in Virginia Hills and across the County.

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The County Noise Ordinance

(reprinted from the September 2010 *Echo*)

With cooler weather, more residents of Virginia Hills will be keeping their windows open and be more sensitive to noise in the neighborhood. At all times, please be considerate of your neighbors and keep your noise down. At a minimum, you must follow the requirements of the County's noise ordinance or you are likely to receive a visit from the police.

Lawn mowers, leaf blowers, chain saws and other power tools or equipment may not be used between 9:00 PM and 7:00 AM.

Radios, TVs, musical instruments, loudspeakers, or any other sound amplification devices may not be used between 11:00 PM and 7:00 AM if they can be heard across property boundaries.

Construction or demolition equipment may not be used outside between 9:00 PM and 7:00 AM, and they may not be used before 9:00 AM on Sundays and federal holidays.

Animals may not frequently howl, bark, meow, squawk or make noises that can be heard across property boundaries.

All complaints should be submitted to the police non-emergency number at 703-691-2131.

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Message from Supervisor McKay

Even more than January, September has always felt like the beginning of the year to me and now that my daughter has started kindergarten, my family and I are fully back in the rhythm of the school calendar year.

August was a transitional month for my family—my daughter's last days as a preschooler and a time for my wife and me to adjust to having a child in school. (I sure would like to know how they grow up so fast!) In addition to mulling over that family milestone, I've also been thinking a lot about the role of our government. The fact that just about every August day had a story about congress and the possibility of a government shutdown certainly made me appreciate my board colleagues who work across the aisle, communicate, and compromise to get things done.

I also remembered a discussion I had with a constituent some years back when he called my office to complain about paying County property taxes. He believed we should have a cafeteria form of government where no one should pay for services not used. In his case, he said he used no County services so therefore there was no reason for him to pay County property tax. And then

he told me all about how he runs for an hour early every morning and prefers to do that at Fairfax County parks because of their excellent and well maintained trails.

Fairfax County provides an array of services to its residents, one of the reasons we're known for our high quality of life and stable economy. On September 21, I'll be bringing those services directly to Lee District residents at a resource fair from 9:00 AM to noon at the Franconia Governmental Center. You'll be able to get immediate information and advice from an array of county agencies including such topics as zoning violations and property maintenance, parking, drainage, consumer affairs, road construction, streetlights, trash, building permits, health, and the like.

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Recent Virginia Hills Real Estate Market Activity

Status	Style	Address	BR	FB	HB	List Price	Close Price	Bamt	Gar
Active	Rambler	3708 Heather Ct	4	3	1	\$429,900		Yes	0
Active	Rambler	6301 The Parkway	3	1	0	\$360,000		No	0
Active	Rambler	6309 Virginia Hills Ave	3	2	0	\$380,000		Yes	0
Active	Rambler	3607 Austin Ave	3	2	0	\$396,000		Yes	0
Active	Bungalow	6608 Berkshire Dr	2	1	0	\$340,000		Yes	0
Active	Rambler	4005 Ronson Dr	3	2	0	\$374,500		Yes	0
Active	Bikevel	6508 Berkshire Dr	4	2	0	\$350,000		Yes	0
Active	Colonial	6210 Hillview Ave	4	2	0	\$420,000		Yes	0
Cnko	Rambler	3515 Pike Rd	4	2	0	\$240,000		No	0
Cnko	Rambler	3912 Spect Ct	3	2	0	\$399,950		Yes	0
Cnko	Rambler	8109 Houston Ct	3	1	1	\$377,000		Yes	0
Cont	Rambler	6309 Gentle Ct	3	1	2	\$275,500		Yes	0
Sold	Rambler	8110 Paulonia Rd	4	1	0	\$300,000	\$291,300	Yes	0
Sold	Colonial	6408 Hillview Ave	4	2	0	\$415,000	\$387,000	Yes	0
Sold	Rambler	6125 Hillview Ave	3	1	0	\$370,000	\$371,600	Yes	0
Sold	Raised Rmbler	3713 Austin Ave	4	2	0	\$359,999	\$354,000	Yes	0
Sold	Colonial	6515 Enfield Dr	5	4	0	\$575,000	\$530,000	No	0
Sold	Rambler	8417 Berkshire Dr	3	2	0	\$384,900	\$377,500	Yes	0
Sold	Raised Rmbler	6329 Gentle Ct	4	2	0	\$419,900	\$407,800	Yes	0
Sold	Rambler	6123 The Pkwy	3	1	0	\$325,000	\$331,000	No	0
Sold	Rambler	8204 Houston Ct	3	1	0	\$379,900	\$379,900	Yes	0
Sold	Rambler	3906 Ronson Dr	3	2	0	\$401,000	\$388,450	Yes	1
Sold	Rambler	8405 Gentle Ct	3	2	0	\$419,900	\$420,000	Yes	0
Sold	Raised Rmbler	6108 Houston Ct	4	3	0	\$417,000	\$417,000	Yes	0

All information deemed reliable. Not guaranteed. Derived from Metropolitan Regional Information System for the period 6/1/2013 to 8/31/2013.

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