January–February 2012

JMCA, P.O. Box 4104, Alexandria, VA 22303 • www.JeffersonManor.org

NEXT GENERAL MEETING



Tuesday, January 17, 7:30 p.m.

Location: Telegraph Station, 5735 Telegraph Road

JMCA EVENTS

Tuesday, February 21: **General Board Meeting**

Open to the Public

Location details will be posted on the JMCA website

JMCA ON THE WEB

Website: http://www.jeffersonmanor.org **Listserv:** http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ jeffersonmanor

Parents group: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/

jeffersonmanorparents

Facebook: Search Facebook groups for Jefferson Manor Citizens Association Twitter: follow us @JMCA22303

President's Letter

Happy New Year, Jefferson Manor!

When the calendar flips to a new year, it is a good time to take stock of our surroundings. Last year brought the successful completion of a five-year effort to bring traffic calming to our community. We moved ever closer to the first steps of refurbishing the North Kings Highway corridor into a more pedestrian-centric environment. We strengthened our relationships with our neighbors, both inside and outside of Jefferson Manor. We topped it off with a great party with the folks at Telegraph Station, who continue to go above and beyond for us.

For the next year, we will be taking a step back and working on more long-term goals. The JMCA Board is working on several initiatives that will expand our community building within the neighborhood. Matt Haws and the reinvigorated Neighborhood Watch program will be revamping our ability to disperse information about incidents on our streets. We will be launching a new design of our website in February. Finally, our land use committee will be spending the year working with county staff to create the

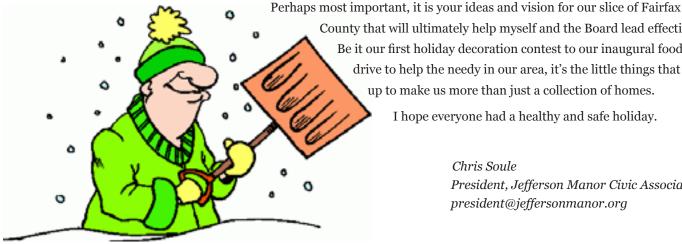
language that will drive the future redevelopment of the site of the current strip mall and Jefferson Garden apartments. Our meeting on January 17 will focus on developing the neighborhood's priorities that will be the driving document for this yearlong effort.

The fuel for these efforts is the same every year. Your membership dues allow us the freedom to provide these services. The last several years have seen a slow but steady decline in our membership base. Any resident of Jefferson Manor, owner or renter, is eligible to be a paying member. We are also in constant need of boots on the ground to help make our events shine.

> County that will ultimately help myself and the Board lead effectively. Be it our first holiday decoration contest to our inaugural food drive to help the needy in our area, it's the little things that add up to make us more than just a collection of homes.

> > I hope everyone had a healthy and safe holiday.

Chris Soule President, Jefferson Manor Civic Association president@jeffersonmanor.org





About JMCA

JMCA is a volunteer citizens' group devoted to the betterment of the Jefferson Manor neighborhood. Membership is \$20 annually, paid at the membership meetings or to JMCA, P.O. Box 4104, Alexandria, VA 22303. JMCA membership is annual, from January to December. For more information, visit: www. JeffersonManor.org or email us at: info@JeffersonManor.org.

JMCA Board Members (4/2011–3/2012)

(4/2011 3/2012)

Chris Soule, President President@JeffersonManor.org

Julie Upham, Vice President VP@JeffersonManor.org

Shawn Ulrick, Treasurer Treasurer@JeffersonManor.org

Richard Ewell, Secretary Secretary@JeffersonManor.org

Roberta Zimmerman, Director

Matthew Haws, Director

Kat Sumida, Director

Maeve Ulrick, Director

Brian Allen, Director

JMCA Activities

Neighborhood Watch watch@JeffersonManor.org

Home Improvement Committee homeimprovement@ JeffersonManor.org

Land Use Committee landuse@JeffersonManor.org

Parents' Group parents@JeffersonManor.org

Social Committee social@JeffersonManor.org

Transportation Committee transportation@JeffersonManor.org

Website Committee website@JeffersonManor.org

Neighborhood News Newsletter

Please direct any requests or questions about Neighborhood News to: newsletter@JeffersonManor.org

Kristina Mann, editor-in-chief Kelly Marshall, distribution

Traffic Calming—Another JMCA Victory!

By a large margin, this fall's balloting for traffic calming was successful. Of the 331 ballots returned, 313 were in favor of the project. That is a 60% return rate, and a 96% vote in favor of the project. The project will now go before the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors for final approval in late February. We should have more information regarding the construction schedule later in the spring.

An enormous "Thanks" to all of our volunteers who handed out the ballots. Without your efforts, we would not be able to cross this long-standing priority off of our to-do list.

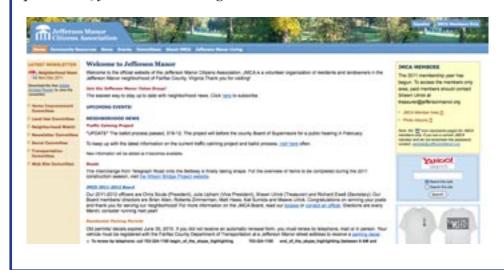
Median Update

At the December meeting, the JMCA

Board of Directors voted to push for a grass-filled median on North Kings Highway. At the time of publishing, we are working with Supervisor McKay's office to ensure that all concerns of both the county and VDOT are satisfied. Thanks to everyone who came down for the November meeting to voice their questions and support for the project. More information will be made available via the JMCA website and Yahoo Group as it becomes available.

Website Redesign—Testers Needed

We are hoping to launch the redesign of our website mid-February. To accomplish this, we need volunteers to help beta-test the new site. While no programming skills are needed, a familiarity with WordPress wouldn't hurt. Those interested should contact Chris Soule at president@jeffersonmanor.org.





New Children's Playground Open to Public

A message from our neighbors at the Pavilions at Huntington Metro Community Association:

We are pleased to share with you news of the completion of the Fairfax County Park Authority's Mt. Eagle Park children's playground. The playground was inspected and accepted by the Fairfax County Park Authority on December 22, 2011, and is now open to the public.

We take this moment to express our appreciation to members of our community and our neighboring communities for their unwavering support over the past few years while we worked to bring this project to our





community park. We are grateful for your support and patience as we waded through what seemed like mountains of red tape.

www.donniedoit.com

Now the children of our community and our neighboring communities will have access to this children's playground area. Today we celebrate this green space that is close by and available for all of us to enjoy. Please take a moment to stop by and visit this area.

There is the children's playground area, sand volleyball court, a picnic pavilion and there is also signage that has been installed describing the Civil War historical site and some of the activities that occurred on Eagle Hill many years ago. For those interested in the civil war history, more information can be found at: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Lyon_(Virginia).

— Cathy Ledec

Seeking ideas for neighborhood improvement!

JMCA is soliciting ideas for ways to improve the appearance of our neighborhood. We may pursue a \$5,000 community grant later this year, but we are also looking for new ways to use small amounts of JMCA funds (or solicit other funding) for projects that will provide a benefit to the neighborhood generally (not just to a specific group of individuals). If we pursue the grant funding, one of the criteria would be some sweat equity by the neighbors (i.e., we get some money that is matched by the value of sweat equity rather than just buying something).

Two ideas that have been proposed are:

(1) Fixing up the triangle of land at the intersection of Fort Drive and Monticello Road. The Board has already explored the process of taking over the maintenance of that property from VDOT through a VDOT program. The process is complicated and entails submitting a design that ensures adequate sight lines for cars, agreeing to maintain the property in perpetuity, and securing a \$10,000 surety bond (the latter has been a sticking point that we are hoping can be solved with some assistance from our elected officials). We

are contemplating having some native plants and a "Welcome to Jefferson Manor" sign. If anyone with experience with native plants has suggestions for what vegetation to place on the island (generally can't be higher than 4 feet), please e-mail Richard Ewell at rewell@yahoo.com. Also, if anyone has sign-making skills, please let us know.

(2) A tree fund. Our neighborhood has lost a lot of trees in the past few years because of storms, construction projects, and other causes. We are thinking about developing a 50-50 match (resident pays half, the fund pays half) for residents who plant new trees or other large vegetation (bushes, etc.) in their front yards. We are looking at partnering with a couple of local nurseries to get discounts for specific types of trees. If you think you might be interested in participating in this program, please e-mail Richard at rewell@yahoo.com / 703-408-0812 or Kat Sumida at ksumida1@gmail.com / 703-625-2010.

So put on your thinking caps and share your other ideas with Richard or Kat!

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Woodpeckers Are Cute!

If you enjoy feeder birds in your yard, consider adding a suet feeder for more variety. Woodpeckers especially love suet. On our suet feeders, we get a steady flow of them—including downy and red-bellied. We also get other interesting birds, such as catbirds and nuthatches (the latter is famous for walking "down" trees headfirst). Winter is a great time to hang suet, because birds like it for a quick burst of energy, when food is scarce.

Suet is inexpensive. You can get a suet cage at Lowe's for less than \$2. Suet usually costs between \$1 and \$2 a block.

It's best to put the suet cage on a tree trunk, because that is where woodpeckers and some other birds would naturally look for insects. Also, the bark gives the woodpeckers a good place to cling, and they like to brace themselves by resting their tale feathers against the trunk. We also have a suet feeder on our shed.

Once you hang your suet feeder, it may take a couple weeks before the birds notice it. If squirrels become a problem, there are two fairly effective ways to beat them:

(1) Buy "hot pepper" suet. This is suet with hot pepper seeds

or oil mixed in. The birds don't mind hot pepper, but squirrels tend to avoid it. (You may have to go to a specialty store like the Wild Bird Center on Duke Street to buy hot pepper suet.)

(2) Try suet without seeds. For example, "Oregon Suet Block" (made and sold by http://www.oregonfeederinsects.



com) has a mixture of insects and suet. It is a little expensive, but I think it can be a better value since squirrels avoid it. (Personally, I would start with suet with seeds, since it seems to more quickly attract birds. Once you have a flow of woodpeckers, switch to the seedless variety.)

-Shawn Ulrick

COLDWELL BANKER © RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

JEFFERSON MANOR'S REAL ESTATE MARKET REPORT FOR THE WINTER OF 2012

Status Address			В	R	ВА	List\$	Sold\$	Settled
Sold	5939	Monticello	2	1	\$3	49000	\$349000	12/19/2011
Sold	5931	Edgehill Dr	3	2	\$3	25000	\$321000	12/02/2011
Sold	2708	Albemarle	3	2	\$3	55000	\$348000	12/01/2011
Sold	2728	Farnsworth	2	2	\$37	9000	\$360000	11/30/2011
Sold	2801	Jefferson	2	2	\$25	59000	\$242000	11/15/2011
Sold	5900	Monticello	2	2	\$3	64000	\$355000	10/26/2011
Sold	6025	Monticello	2	1	\$2	90000	\$270000	10/17/2011
Sold	6004	Monticello	4	2	\$2	95000	\$290000	7/29/2011
Reduce Local Crime — Leave porch lights on at night!								

Information provided by area Metropolitan Regional Information Systems. It may contain sales not made by this Coldwell Banker agent or Coldwell Banker. Information deemed reliable, but not guaranteed.



Tom Rickert is a resident & Jefferson Manor Specialist with over 160+ sales and rental transactions right here in Jefferson Manor!

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Thinking of Selling or Renting? In this market, the most important decision you make is who to work with! Now offering property management & tenant screening services.

JMCA 2010 Budget Report

Here's a look at 2011 JMCA revenues and expenses.

This year, the largest source of funding is from newsletter advertisements. Please consider patronizing merchants and businesses that advertise in our newsletter, in appreciation of their support of JMCA. Tell them you saw their ads in the newsletter! (Another motivation to support our advertisers: many of them live in our neighborhood and often contribute to Jefferson Manor in non-monetary ways, as well!)

Membership was down this year from historical levels. Let's increase the membership rolls in 2012—please contribute to JMCA today! Despite the lower membership numbers, there were several very generous donations to JMCA. Overall, we finished 2011 with more money in the bank than we had at the start.

A solid chunk of our funds paid for the speed hump voting process. JMCA provided all Jefferson Manor households with ballots and postage-paid envelopes. 2011 Total Revenues: \$4545.002011 Total Expenses: \$4055.03

End-of-Year Bank Balance: \$6990.42

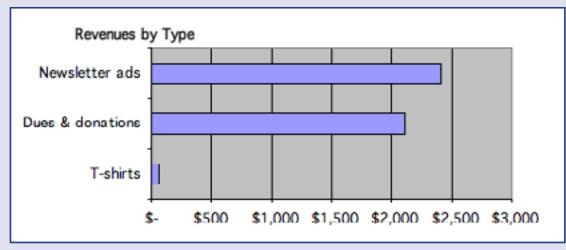
2011 Membership: 86 Households

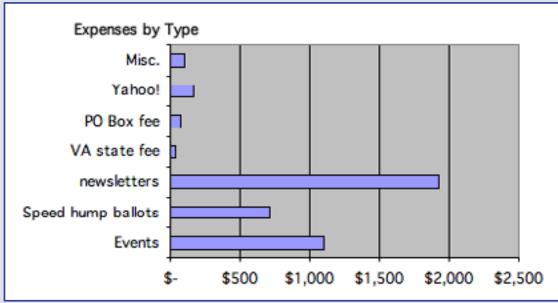
2010 Membership: 100 Households

2009 Membership: 103 Households

2008 Membership: 122 Households

A final note: Sincere gratitude to Tom Rickert and Color Flooring & Bath Design for always being our most loyal advertisers. For several years running, each has purchased a half- or full-page ad.





Green Committee

Other notes:

☐ Neighborhood Watch ☐ Newsletter

2012 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION





Any residents of the Jefferson Manor subdivision over the age of 18 and non-resident owners of property in the Jefferson Manor subdivision are entitled to membership in the Jefferson Manor Citizens Association. Membership dues are \$20 per household (\$10 for seniors) per calendar year. Complete this application & mail with a check or money order to:

JMCA P.O. Box 4104 Alexandria, VA 22303

Visit the JMCA website at http://www.jeffersonmanor.org for a color version of this newsletter.

Renewal (\$20) New Member (\$20) Senior (\$10)								
Name(s):								
Address:								
Paradi.								
Email:								
Phone:								
☐ I have included an additional \$ as a donation to JMCA to help with the publication cost of Neighborhood News.								
TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ Check/money order _ Cash								
☐ I am willing to help deliver newsletters (once every other month).								
I am interested in the following:								
☐ JMCA Website ☐ Social Committee ☐ Home Improvement Committee								

☐ Transportation issues ☐ Land Use issues

Stay Up to Date with JMCA

Want to keep up to date with the latest JMCA news and goings' on? Join us on both Facebook and Twitter.

JMCA has had a Facebook group for a while now; however, we are changing. We have migrated to a new Facebook Fan page. This will make it easier for Jefferson Manor residents to find us on Facebook. Join us today by searching Facebook groups for Jefferson Manor Citizens Association.

Also, JMCA is on Twitter. If you are a Twitter user follow us @JMCA22303.

As always we will post information to the listserv and within our bi-monthly newsletters. These additional avenues allow our neighbors to connect with the community through a variety of different venues.





Weekday Playgroup for Jefferson Manor Tots

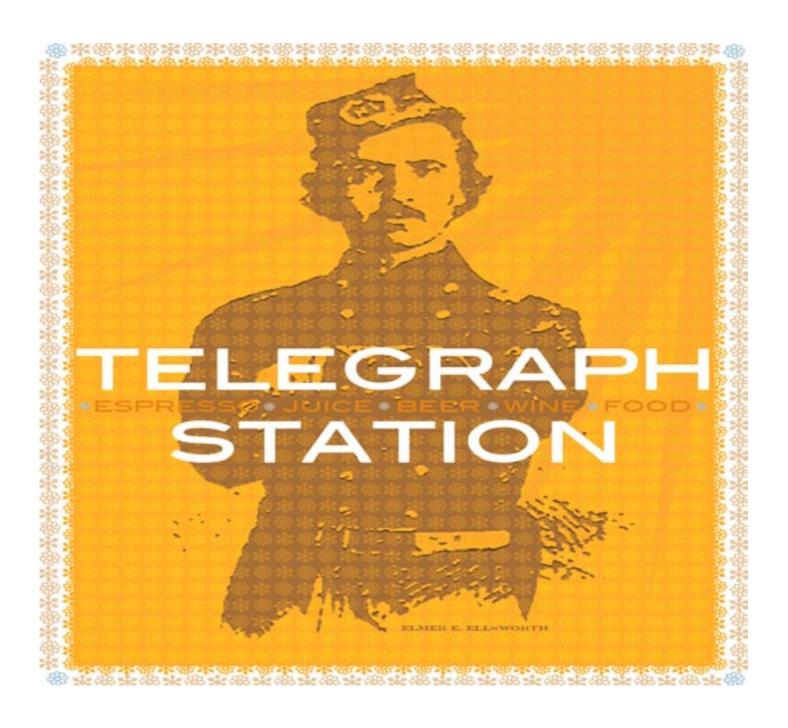


Join other Jefferson Manor parents and kids at Telegraph Station every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. for a drop-in playdate!

Buy a Jefferson Manor T-Shirt!

Want to show your pride in your community? Own your very own Jefferson Manor T-Shirt. Contact president@JeffersonManor.org, or purchase as the next JMCA event. Shirts are \$15 each.





5735 Telegraph Road, Alexandria, VA 22303 www.TelegraphStation.com 703.373.3376

Monday-Wednesday: 7 am - 3 pm

Thursday-Friday: 7 am - 10 pm

Saturday: 8 am - 10 pm