



**Jefferson Manor
Citizens Association
JMCA
P.O. Box 4104
Alexandria VA 22303**

**JMCA is a volunteer
citizens group devoted
to the betterment of the
Jefferson Manor
neighborhood.
Membership is only \$5
annually; paid at the
membership meetings
or to the above P.O.
Box. JMCA
membership is annual,
from January to
December.**

**Please join now to help
keep our
neighborhood
informed!**

**The JMCA July
General membership
meeting is being
replaced with the
neighborhood picnic
this month, so come on
down to the Jefferson
Manor Park on Sunday,
July 31st between noon
and 4 PM to meet your
neighbors and have
some fun.**

Neighborhood News

July 2004 President's Report to Jefferson Manor

Summer time and the living is easy...

With all the pressure of the last few years, I think Gershwin got it right back in 1935. It's summertime and we should enjoy it. There's a war going on that we can't do much about, and this fall more money will be spent pushing politics than at any other time in history. So take a breather—relax while you can. Turn off your TVs and radios; pull out that CD you love, crank it up, and take five. There will be plenty of time for national decisions later. If you're republican, God bless you, If you're a Democrat, get out and vote. The reality is that we all live here and now. Tip O'Neil had it right when he said, "All politics is local".

Speaking of local politics, thanks go out to the 60+ of you who have sent in your signed letters requesting that the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors fund our long overdue road improvements and shame on the 400+ who haven't. If you forgot, just fill out the form letter attached enclosed and send it to the JMCA P.O. Box today. We need *all* 550 Jefferson Manor residents to do this if the county is going to take us seriously. If you think we are going to get over 8 MILLION dollars worth of improvements done without making some noise, you are mistaken. The JMCA has been working with the local politicians and are happy to announce that the refurbishment of Fort Drive is likely to happen within the year, but that is not guaranteed. Yes, the surveyors have been out, but the funding for this is predicated on other projects in the county coming in under budget. I'll believe it when I see it. As for the rest of the neighborhood roads getting repaired, this will depend on a County Bond to be voted on in the future, probably sometime in 2006.

On July 7, 2004 Mr. Gerry Connally, chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and Lee District Supervisor Dana Kauffman came and walked the roads in Jefferson Manor, so they could see the need for improvements that we live with day to day. This was the result of the JMCA's testimony at county budget hearings earlier this year.

JMCA is also pushing for traffic-calming measures to be instituted on Fort Drive and we need volunteers for a committee to oversee these road and traffic issues. Anyone interested in helping should give his or her information to a board member.

Don't forget to come out and meet your neighbors at the JMCA Picnic on July 31st

Tom Rickert for JMCA

Important Telephone Numbers...

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Zoning Enforcement	703-324-1300
Post Office	703-960-4440
Vep-Co (Street lights)	1-888-667-3000

Join your neighbors for a Progressive Dinner!

If you are interested in seeing ideas of the decorating geniuses that live here in the Manor, OR if you simply would like to enjoy the company of your neighbors, please call Sue to get your name on the list. Sue will collect names and organize a progressive dinner for the interested and inquisitive folks. You may reach Sue by calling her home at 703-960-1017.

Jefferson Manor Snapshot Market Report:

In the last 120 days our real estate market continued to be very active. At the time of publication there are 2 houses fully available priced at \$325,000 and \$339,000. Jefferson Manor has had 17 homes sold with an average price over \$305,000 in the last 120 days and there are six homes currently under contract with an average list price of \$315,000.

The relatively low interest rates and strong buyer demand have continued to keep the Jefferson Manor Market robust. If you would like an in-depth market report, please feel free to give me a call or drop me an email. I would be happy to provide you with the Jefferson Manor market report at no expense or obligation.

Tom Rickert works w/ Coldwell Banker in Old Town

*Direct line 703-447-7901
email realtor@crosslink.net*

JMCA Board Members

Officers

Tom Rickert President 703-329-9128
Dana Clabbers Treasurer 703-960-5170
Sonia Torres Secretary

General Board Members

Sue Gass-Burson 703-960-1017
Andrea Corsillo 703-960-4973
Josh Delmonico 703-317-0020
Christian Hanson 703-329-9560
JD & Shannon Tucker - open position
John Luddy
Christine May & Jeff Cridland

Join the JMCA and help make Jefferson Manor an even better place to live!
¡Ensamble el JMCA y ayude a hacer Jefferson Manor un lugar incluso mejor para vivir!

Neighborhood Watch Block Captains Needed

I am working to re-establish a Neighborhood Watch Program in Jefferson Manor. Neighborhood Watch is a network of citizens through which the Police Department can collect and disseminate information about crime. The goals of the program are to serve as a warning to criminals, enhance reporting of suspicious activities, promote neighborliness, provide access to crime data and increase arrests and convictions. The success of Neighborhood Watch depends on the participation of the people that live in Jefferson Manor. Neighborhood Watch programs can involve several different levels - passive observation, window watch, walking patrols and mobile patrols. The initial program in Jefferson Manor will involve passive observation and window watching. In order to implement Neighborhood Watch it is necessary to establish block captains for each block in the neighborhood. The block captains are the most crucial positions in a Watch Program. They coordinate the Neighborhood Watch on their block, maintain a contact information list of block members, notify residents of meetings and training sessions, and designate work assignments as needed. If you are interested in becoming a block captain please contact Josh Delmonico, Neighborhood Watch Coordinator, at 703-317-0020 or by email at Joshua.Delmonico@verizon.net. There will be a sign up sheet at the next JMCA meeting. The program can be as much or as little as we make it. (I don't really get this sentence - as much or as little "work" or "as efficient as we make it?") It's up to us.

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House of the Month

Congratulations to Steve and Susan Nako of 5821 Edgehill Drive!

Double congrats to the Nako's , for being House of the Month and on the birth of their little boy, Simon on June 29th 2004. The Nako's have done a number of improvements to their house including a second bath downstairs, a deck out back, new windows, new roof, French double doors from the dining room to the deck, and a kitchen remodel that included removing the wall between their dining room and kitchen . Great job Steve and Susan.

If you know of a house you think should get this coveted JMCA award, please let us know.

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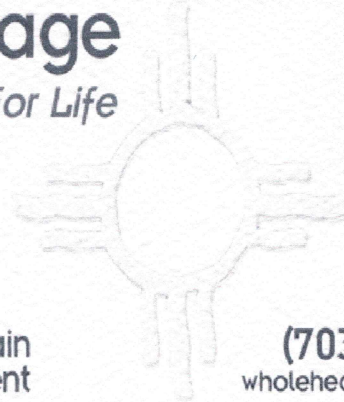
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WE ARE HAVING A PICNIC!

The Board Members of the Jefferson Manor Civic Association are having a **Free Family Picnic on July 31, 2004**. The event will be held at our own **Jefferson Manor Park**. Last year all enjoyed the company of our friendly Manor residents. Please plan on attending, and bring your neighbors!

The neighborhood picnic will be held from noon and 4PM on July 31st. We hope to see you there!

Shannon and JD Tucker are moving to Texas and we want to thank both of them for their help on the JMCA board, particularly Shannon's past help as Newsletter Coordinator. We will miss them both. Good luck in Texas, JD and Shannon!

Your Membership Counts

Your investment of **\$5.00** to the **Jefferson Manor Civic Association** helps preserve the quality of our neighborhood. Your **annual contribution** pays for the bi-monthly newsletter that informs you of local highlights and important phone numbers. Your membership dues also help to purchase Winter Holiday gifts for Police and Fire Department that serve our area. Finally, with your support, the Board members are able to provide a summer picnic for all Manor families to enjoy.

Please use the provided page to send in your membership dues. The Manor is a great neighborhood and we are working toward making it as great a community as we can. **Your financial investment is greatly appreciated!**

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The Honorable Gerry Connolly
12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 530
Fairfax, Virginia 22035-0079

MAY 1st, 2004

Dear Chairman Connolly,

I am writing you on this date as a constituent sending out a MAYDAY for your help in getting the Jefferson Manor Public Improvement Project finished. Jefferson Manor is a highly concentrated population of 550 semi-detached homes with relatively small frontage. Since our location is conveniently close to the Huntington Metro, our tax values are high. We probably pay more real estate tax per foot of pavement than most neighborhoods and we challenge anyone to find worse urban roads in Fairfax County than ours in the yet-to-be-completed phase of Jefferson Manor Public Improvements Project.

Fairfax County's own 1990 survey conducted by the Department of Housing and Community Development revealed *"narrow streets characterized by uneven pavement, pot holes, broken and cracked sidewalks, cracked asphalt, with curbs and gutters in poor condition."* The survey also found that *"storm water run-off not channeled to storm sewers has resulted in home flooding, damaged foundations and greater deterioration of the paved area in the neighborhood."* Fourteen years later, these conditions still exist in the yet-to-be-completed section of Jefferson Manor.

Due in a large part to the efforts of Lee District Supervisor Dana Kauffman, about one half of our roads in Jefferson Manor have been repaired. It took over 10 years to get the help from Fairfax County and the State of Virginia necessary to complete the first half of the Jefferson Manor Public Improvement Project. We really don't want to wait another 10 years to have our remaining (now 53-year old) infrastructure addressed. Hundreds of thousands of tax dollars have already been spent on the engineering plans for the uncompleted section of the JMPIP Road Project. We shouldn't let this investment become outdated and go to waste. Fairfax County has a budget larger than many states and yet it seems we can not find the money needed to repair less than two miles of 50-year old road. The homes in Jefferson Manor have been paying real estate taxes since 1949 and it is hard to swallow the recent increase in our Real Estate Assessments when half of our roads and walkways are hazardous for foot and vehicle traffic.

In the State of the County address on March 22, 2004 your theme was balance. On transportation you said *"I was pleased that the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved my proposal for a comprehensive transportation program. The plan is a balance of specific transit, pedestrian and road projects to be undertaken over the next four years. It commits \$100 million to specific projects, funded through future funding sources and \$50 million in new bond sales. Now that we have an adopted plan, we will be partnering with the VDOT to complete these projects in a timely fashion."* Earlier in the address you mention *"...that Governing Magazine has ranked Fairfax County as the "Best Managed County in the Country," a testament to our efficiency in balancing shrinking resources in challenging times."* You went on to say, *"Fairfax County is one of the most financially sound jurisdictions in the country. Even in these times of formidable challenges, our economy has remained strong."*

Mr. Connolly, please show us, the residents of Jefferson Manor, how well-managed the financially sound County of Fairfax is, by fairly balancing our true need and what we've already paid into the system, with some action. Help us complete the Jefferson Manor Public Improvements Project ASAP.

Thank You in advance for your attention to this matter,

Name(print)_____ Signature_____

Name(print)_____ Signature_____

Address:_____

Alexandria Virginia 22303