

# FARMINGTON

Civic Association (FCA)



SPRING | MARCH | 2008

[WWW.FARMINGTONVA.COM](http://WWW.FARMINGTONVA.COM)

## Letter from the President-*Philip Page, Jr. President – Farmington Civic Association*

At times in our lives, many of us question the things that we're doing. We do this, not because it is bad, but its as if we are pursuing a path that seems odd or, in some way, different from what we had planned. I had this type of moment after the last FCA General Meeting. I thought for a while on how I had come to actually live in, and represent, the best neighborhood in Hampton. Well, the first part is easy for me to understand (I truly believe that God has blessed me to live here and I owe everything to Him). The second part, however, I owe to my mother.

As far back as I can remember,

my mother has served her community tirelessly and with a sense of dedication that seems both innate and contagious. Her mantra is much like that of Marian Wright Edelman, the famous educator and child activist, who said that "*Service is the rent we pay to be living. It is the very purpose of life and not something you do in your spare time.*"

In this issue of the newsletter, you'll see the spirit of service embodied in Farmington's local Girl Scout troop. You'll also see it in Hampton University's fight against cancer. Most importantly, I hope you'll see the spirit of service in yourselves. As you know, the Farmington Civic Association operates entirely on volun-

teers and there are lots of opportunities to participate. If, for some reason, you don't think you have the time to serve then I would implore you to pay your annual \$50 dues or just make a donation to the FCA. The 2008 budget reflects what the members would like to do but that can only happen if we each choose to serve. Let the spirit of service live in you to help keep OUR community great.



## New Look for [www.FARMINGTONVA.com](http://www.FARMINGTONVA.com)

The Farmington Civic Association website has a new look. We upgraded our website in order to stay in better contact with our members and give you additional information. Take a look online and let us know what you think.

# GIRL SCOUTS RULE

Dee Miner - Member - FCA



 Girl Scouts.



Girl Scouts of the USA is the world's preeminent organization dedicated solely to girls—all girls—where, in an accepting and nurturing environment, girls build character and skills for success in the real world. In partnership with committed adult volunteers, girls develop qualities that will serve them all their lives, like leadership, strong values, social conscience, and conviction about their own potential and self-worth. In Farmington, the Girl Scouts are represented by DeLevay (Dee) Miner, troop leader. We are currently working together on a project where our local girl scout troop #1031 can work with Farmington on a community service effort. Stay tuned for updates. For more information (or to buy some world famous girl scout cookies), contact her at 757-272-0681.

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## Hampton Proton Research

It is an unfortunate reality of life that almost everyone has been touched by cancer. Whether it's your father, brother or other loved ones, cancer has affected us all. Well, in case you haven't heard, Hampton University is fighting back by building the nation's largest proton cancer treatment center. At the groundbreaking for this historic center, President Harvey stated "Cancer is the second leading cause of death in Virginia while Hampton Roads leads the nation in prostate cancer deaths."

We would like to celebrate this bold new initiative by HU and solicit your help in battling cancer. Take the time now to talk to your doctor about your risk for cancer and how to be tested. Early detection is your way to strike the first blow in this battle. For more information contact the local office of the American Cancer Society (ACS) at (757) 591-8330 or visit them online at

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

# FARMINGTON ASSESSMENTS

Moses Meadows Board Member – FCA

In our last report to you, we indicated that the Assessor felt he could not address our complaints for redress. Also the Assessor recommended that we become involved with City Council as regard to the "tax rate" as a way of offsetting the increased assessment.

In the fall of last year, the Committee did meet with the Mayor and presented our case – that assessment increases were too dramatic and unaffordable for many of us. The Mayor promised to work towards reducing the Tax Rate to offset the large increases in assessment.

Many of you may be aware that the City sponsored citizen Budget sessions in January of 2008 to ascertain the thoughts of residents with regard to the Budget, spending and Tax Rates. Several of us at-

tended one or more of these sessions and again re-emphasized the need to greatly reduce the Tax Rate to combat the large assessment increases.

We will continue to monitor the City's movement in this regard, and plan on attending the formal Council Sessions on the Tax Rates for 2008.

In the meantime, we need everyone to go the City's website to comment on the budget and make time to vote on May 6<sup>th</sup> for the candidates that support our issues.

## Speed Enforcement Along Farmington Blvd.



At the January 2008 General Meeting, speeding along Farmington Blvd. was discussed as a continuous problem. To look for a solution, we have invited City staff to our April 28<sup>th</sup> General Meeting to discuss traffic calming measures. We ask that everyone attend this important meeting to give input and ensure that everyone is heard. The City could pursue several potential solutions (speed bumps, more enforcement, higher fines, etc.) but the best solution is for everyone to SLOW DOWN and DRIVE 25!

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# 2008 FCA BUDGET

*Fred Whitley, Treasurer FCA*

The FCA serves you but we cannot be successful without financial participation in the form of the \$50 FCA dues. The budget below was approved by the Board and discussed at the January General Meeting. Please know that this budget is based on our *anticipated* level of participation. If we do not receive sufficient dues, we will not be able to carry out the activities listed.

Income	
2008 Member Dues (Anticipated)	\$13,300
City Grants	\$1,000
Donations (Received only)	\$100
Newsletter Ads	\$1,200
Other Income	\$400
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$16,000</b>

Expenses	
Bank Charge	\$100
Gifts Given (Bereavement, etc.)	\$50
Median Capital Improvements	\$1,000
Median Lawn Care	\$6,200
Median materials and supplies	\$300
Meeting Refreshments	\$30
Misc.	\$20
Newsletter	\$2,500
Office Supplies	\$300
Picnic	\$1,000*
Postage	\$550
Scholarships	\$1,800+
Social Events	\$300
Utilities	
VA Power	\$200
Water	\$1,400
Other Utils.	\$0
Youth Events	\$250
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$16,000</b>

\* - Previously funded, in part, by the City of Hampton.

+ - Funded, in part, by donations from local businesses.

# FCA AUDIT

*Philip Page, Jr., President – FCA*

Each year, the financial records of the FCA are reviewed for accuracy. In February, Board Members Tom Mitchell and Alex Norwood reviewed all 2007 transactions and matched them to the backup documentation. Based on this review, all funds expended or reimbursed by the FCA were done appropriately and in accordance with the FCA Bylaws.

## Farmington Canal Maintenance Project

The City of Hampton Department of Public Works will soon begin a project to clear and regrade the Farmington Canal from Big Bethel High School to the New Market/Government Ditch. The work will include clearing woody vegetated growth from the canal sides and top of bank and bank stabilizations. Those property owners adjacent to the canal may be affected by this maintenance work. If you have questions please call Public Works at 727-6346.