



# Colvin's Glen Newsletter

Colvin's Glen Citizens' Association

Colvin's Glen

February 2009

## Special points of interest:

- Next meeting March 24th at 7:30 at 10321 Yellow Pine
- County Faces Huge Deficits
- Big Changes for County Schools

## Inside this issue:

Education News	2
Comings and Goings	3
Around the Neighborhood	4
Halloween Party Epilogue	4

## Fairfax County Tightens Its Belt—MORE

In county budget hearings, the deficit was reported to be approaching \$658 million—over \$200 million higher than reported in June! As one of our neighbors put it—"Holy carp, Batman!" (OK, that's not exactly what he said, but you probably get the idea.)

The most likely outcome is a tax rate increase, possibly 8 to 10 cents per hundred dollars of house appraised value (for this neighborhood, that will be around \$600 to \$1000 more per year). Also, county services will be drastically reduced, approximately 15% across the board.

For the Fairfax County Public Schools, the budget will be slashed approximately \$157 million. In addition, \$39 million expected from Richmond, was part of a \$340 million transfer, cut by the state legislature. The FCPS is looking at possibly cutting summer school, Foreign Language in Elementary School (FLES), all-day kindergarten and

possibly some afterschool activities. Other cuts are possible in bussing, clinic aides, police officer presence and the School Age Child Care (SACC) Program. Also, all construction projects (including Langley High School) and the second FCPS administrative building are on hold or being re-evaluated and prioritized.

Class size will probably increase by 1½ students, which will be needed, because Fairfax is expecting and planning for over 5800 new students in the fall of 2009! Planners attribute this to kids coming from private schools, higher county

birth rates, fewer families leaving the county and an influx of residents leaving Prince William county and areas further out trying to take advantage of the buyer's market and shorter commutes. Many of these additional students are expected to have special education needs which cost approximately \$20,000 more per student per year.



## Neighborhood Directories

The 2009 neighborhood directories are ready. They are free to those who pay their annual dues. Please consider sending your voluntary \$50 dues to Duane Stubbs at 1334 Colvin Forest Drive or to your Block Captain who can provide you with the directory.

The check should be made out to Colvin's Glen Citizens' Association.



## Other School News

### SLEEP Initiative

As of mid-January, it appears that the SLEEP initiative may get implemented. Under this plan the start time for high schools and elementary schools will swap, i.e., the elementary schools will start earlier and high schools later.



School	Current School Hours (a.m. - p.m.)	Proposed School Hours (a.m. - p.m.)
Colvin Run ES	9:15-3:55	7:50-2:30
Colvin Run ES Preschool	9:00-3:40	9:40-4:20
Cooper	7:30-2:20	9:40-4:30
Kilmer	7:35-2:30	9:40-4:30
Langley	7:20-2:10	8:55-3:45

FCPS is soliciting comments from citizens seeking the pros and cons of modifying the school start and dismissal time via a survey at the FCPS website ([www.fcps.edu](http://www.fcps.edu)) or attending one of the seven community dialogue sessions listed below:

#### **Tuesday, February 24, 7 to 9 p.m.**

Annandale High School, 4700 Medford Drive, Annandale  
Longfellow Middle School, 2000 Westmoreland Street, Falls Church  
Oak View Elementary School, 5004 Sideburn Road, Fairfax

#### **Wednesday, February 25, 7 to 9 p.m.**

Herndon High School, 700 Bennett Street, Herndon  
Rocky Run Middle School, 4400 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly

#### **Thursday, February 26, 7 to 9 p.m.**

Providence Elementary School, 3616 Jermantown Road, Fairfax  
Whitman Middle School, 2500 Parkers Lane, Alexandria

For more information, there is a plethora of web sites on both sides of the argument: <http://www.fcps.edu/news/start.htm>, <http://www.sleepinfairfax.org/>, <http://www.sosinfcps.com/>, <http://wakefairfax.googlepages.com/>.

### FAIRGRADE Efforts

As expected, the FAIRGRADE proposals to bump the Advance Placement (AP)/International Baccalaureate (IB), dual enrollment college, and honors courses passed on a unanimous vote at the January 22 meeting of the School Board. The bump for AP/IB and dual enrollment college course will increase to a 1.0 bump added to their grade point average calculation. Honors classes will now get a bump of 0.5. However, a study is underway to determine which classes should be considered "honors" classes. The School Board also directed that variants on the basic ten-point grading scale be examined. This information will be returned to the Board no later than the end of March to enable implementation at the beginning of the 2009-10 school year. For more information, go to <http://www.fcps.edu/news/grading.htm> and <http://www.fairgrade.org/>.



## Comings and Goings

Despite the downward turn in home sales around the country, our neighborhood appears to be faring well thus far. There were eight sales in Colvin's Glen in 2008, up from three in 2007, four in 2006, and seven in 2005. Although it meant we had to say good-bye to some neighbors, we can now say "Hello" to a whole new load o' friends! The following new neighbors (or relatively new neighbors) will be reflected in the updated directory. (Did I tell you the new directories were ready and that you can easily pick one up when you drop off you dues check with your Block Captain??)

Syed Zaman and Rehana Begum at 1329 Colvin Forest  
 Matt and Jeni Brooking at 1332 Colvin Forest  
 Tom and Kerry Follain at 1322A Colvin Forest  
 Stuart and Andrea Itkin at 1322C Colvin Forest  
 Blair and Erika Hanuschak at 1308 Colvin Forest  
 Rosalind Singh at 1215 Delta Glen  
 Rick and Anna Vaughn at 10320 Dunn Meadow  
 John and Kristen Hedstrom at 10111 Mill Wheel  
 Ed and Niki Friedman at 10100 Mill Wheel  
 Melissa Owens Kocharian at 10204 Yellow Pine



We would also like to welcome twins born January 4th to the Hedstrom's—Congratulations!!

We wish well to Joel Maloney, husband of Susan Vangilder, who will be in Afghanistan for the next 6 months. We also wish all the best to Raj Richardson, husband of Lily Richardson, who will be in Afghanistan for the next year.

If you know of any other such comings and goings, marriages, graduations, etc., let me know at [anne@binarystarltd.com](mailto:anne@binarystarltd.com)

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## 2008-2009 Dues

The voluntary \$50 annual dues collected are used to continue the Citizens' Association's effort to communicate issues that affect our community both externally and internally; enhance the quality of life in our community via social activities; coordinate upkeep of entrances to our neighborhood; and improve safety within our community. All residents are encouraged to become active in the Citizens' Association voicing their opinion on the association's budget and how the dues should be spent on behalf of the community.

Many thanks to the 31 families who have already contributed! We appreciate your support to the neighborhood!

If there are any questions, please contact Duane Stubbs at 759-9408.





Questions? Comments?  
Contact Claudia Fraley  
at 703-757-0047 or  
Claudia@Fraley.us or  
10321 Yellow Pine Dr  
Vienna, VA 22182

**We're on the Web!**  
[www.neighborhoodlink.com/  
vienna/cgcf](http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/vienna/cgcf)

Did you know—  
A neighbor donated  
\$250 for the  
Halloween party?  
WOW!!  
And Thank You!

## Around the Neighborhood

For those of you who were interested in possibly cutting back to one trash pick-up per week, we found out a couple things that made us table the idea for now. First of all, the cost savings were not as much as we expected. Second, we learned that the entire neighborhood (those who use AAA trash service) would have to agree to the change. Faced with the monumental task of getting everyone to cast a vote (much less get everyone to agree!), the Board decided to look for other



options.

All this reminds me of a story: I once asked a friend's son what he wanted to be when he grows up and he said, "A garbage collector." When asked why, he said, "Because they only work on Tuesdays and Fridays!" ba-dum-bum (Thank you, Claudia!)

I can't tell you how many times I wanted to stop on my way in the neighborhood and pull some of those weeds around the entrance signs. Well, luckily we had a neighbor willing to put



wishes into action. A big thank you goes out to Bill Moore for cleaning up and removing debris around the neighborhood entrance signs!

Also a big thank you goes out to all the neighborhood watch folks who give their time to periodically patrol the area and help ensure things are as they should be.

Look for a neighborhood survey on social activities in your email. If you didn't get it, send your email address to Claudia@Fraley.us or call Claudia at 757-0047 for a paper copy.

## Halloween Party

The ever-popular Halloween Party was once again a big hit. We had about 50 families come out before heading out to trick-or-treat. There was a costume parade, pizza for all, and lots of just plain runnin' around. Because so many helped make it a success, Sarah

told me not to acknowledge anyone. So-o-o-o, I'll just say "Thank You, Thank You" to Sarah, Joanna and all the folks that helped plan and pull this great party together. If anyone wants to help with next year's party, just let Claudia know.



## Upcoming Meeting

The next Neighborhood meeting will be March 24 at 7:30p at Claudia Fraley's home (10321 Yellow Pine Dr). All homeowners are welcome. We're thinking if we have/bring wine we might get more people interested in attending—what do you think?

