

# Cardinal Crest Chronicle

## Neighborhood Watch

By Robert Gudz

**A**s many of you may know, in the past year, Cardinal Crest has experienced a rise in criminal activity directed at homeowners' property. There have been multiple instances of vehicle break-ins and several home burglaries. In response to this activity, the Cardinal Crest Board has investigated instituting a Neighborhood Watch program through the Prince William County Police Department.

For those of you who are not familiar with a Neighborhood Watch, you will be interested to know that communities who have a Neighborhood Watch have seen the following benefits:

- Homes are 20 times safer from burglary
- Receives direct support of the Police Department
- Increases property value
- Increases in reporting of crime and suspicious activities
- Provides residents with access to crime patterns and trends
- Provides for home security inspections from the Police Department
- Brings communities and

neighbors closer together

Those of you who have been in the neighborhood for a number of years know that a Neighborhood Watch program was attempted about four years ago. Due to lackluster response by the community members, the program never got off the ground, and as such, we are currently without a program. The Board feels that a Neighborhood Watch program will be beneficial to the safety, security and long-term value of Cardinal Crest, and we are focusing our efforts on instituting the program.

In the next few weeks you will be receiving a survey in the mail asking you to indicate your interest in participating in Neighborhood Watch. Please either fill out the survey that is mailed to you, or go to the Cardinal Crest website at [www.cardinalcrest.org](http://www.cardinalcrest.org) and fill out the online form. If there is enough interest, we will need "block captains" who will be responsible for small sections of our community (10 to 12 houses) and will be organizing

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## Crest Update

**S**pring is here and Cardinal Crest has some exciting new things happening!

First, we have a new Property Manager, John Fitch, at Cardinal Management Group (CMG). If you have questions about your payments or concerns in the community, contact John at [j.fitch@cmgmt.com](mailto:j.fitch@cmgmt.com), or 703-569-5797. Second, the Board would like to thank former HOA President Tim Deaver for his time and dedication to the HOA. Tim is moving out of the neighborhood and resigned his post at the February Board meeting. We wish Tim all the best in his new home. Additionally, at the February meeting the Board appointed Erik Wallace to take Tim's place. Erik will be an

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their immediate neighbors into 'Watches' under the direction of the Neighborhood Watch Committee Chair, Rob Gudz. Block Captains will receive special training by the Police Department.

One of the sticking points in getting our neighborhood recognized by the Prince William Police and getting the Neighborhood Watch signs posted in Cardinal Crest, is the Police Department's requirement for attendance of **at least 50%** of the Watch participants at a 2 hour information/training meeting hosted by the Police Department. Your block captains will be contacting everyone in their block to inform them of the time and place of this meeting, and it is very important that each household send a representative to the meeting so that we can have our Neighborhood Watch recognized by the Police Department. Failure of any block to achieve the 50% participation will cause that block not to be included in the area recognized by the Police Department as under the Neighborhood Watch and will not have the Neighborhood

Watch signs posted in that area. We want ALL of Cardinal Crest to be recognized however we will proceed in pursuing recognition for those blocks whose residents have shown the interest and have taken the initiative to participate in the meeting.

Actual participation in the physical Watches will be voluntary. The Board assumes that everyone will want to take part for the safety of you and your neighbors. The Watch times will be at the discretion of the community and can be done in a number of different ways. The Police Department will provide more information at the training meeting. The Neighborhood Watch committee, which will consist of the block captains and any other interested residents, will be establishing Watch schedules and guidelines for each block.

We look forward to seeing a big response from the community. So, don't forget to return the survey by mail, or log on to the website. Together we can work to make Cardinal Crest an unattractive target for criminals and a safer community for our families.

## Calendar of Events

### March

**22** - Board Meeting  
Ferlazzo Building

### April

**8** - Spring Egg Hunt  
**22** - Rain Date - Spring Egg Hunt  
**26** - Board Meeting  
Ferlazzo Building

### May

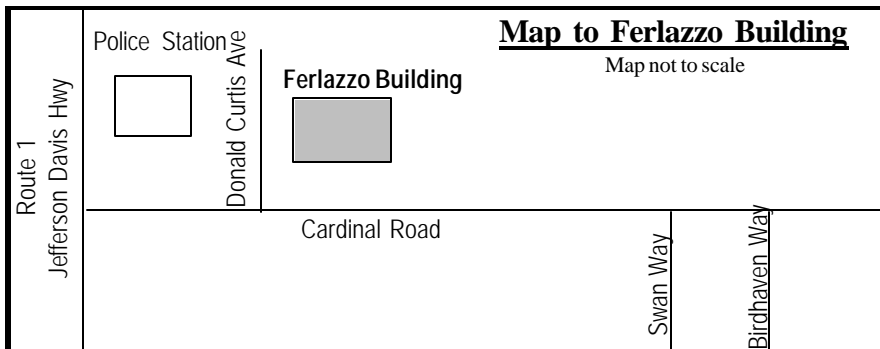
**24** - Board Meeting  
Ferlazzo Building

### June

**28** - Board Meeting  
Ferlazzo Building

### July

**26** - Board Meeting  
Ferlazzo Building



**Cardinal Crest Chronicle**  
April 2006

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# Spring Egg Hunt

April 8, 2006

(Rain Date April 22)

1:00 p.m.

Location: 3849 Wertz Drive,  
Across from the Tot Lot

All Neighborhood Children  
are  
Invited to Attend

***Egg Hunt Volunteers are needed*** to help stuff and hide eggs. Please contact Kathy Schumer via e-mail at [rkschumer@verizon.net](mailto:rkschumer@verizon.net). This is a great volunteer activity for neighborhood teens!

## Grr's & Purr's Pet Sitting Service

703-580-6448/703-307-1712  
[colasmth@aol.com](mailto:colasmth@aol.com)

- Mid-day walking (Between hrs. of 9:30 a.m. & 3:30 p.m.)
- Pet-sitting (6:00 a.m. - 9:30 p.m. with a max. of 5 visits per day)
- Water plants, Bring in mail & newspapers, Alternate lights

Service areas: Manassas, Dale City and Woodbridge

Insured & Bonded  
References available

## ***Place your ad here!***

The Cardinal Crest Chronicle is now accepting ads.

A business card size ad is:  
\$10.00 for HOA members  
\$25.00 for anyone living outside Cardinal Crest.

### **Special Promotion**

Neighborhood teens may advertise for FREE in our July issue. The Newsletter will be listing classified ads for neighborhood teens under 18 years old. If you wish to advertise babysitting, lawn mowing, petsitting, etc. send your information in by **June 1**.

To place an ad send your name, phone number, e-mail address, and ad information to the Editor, Ellen Butler, [ellen@clator.com](mailto:ellen@clator.com) by **June 1**.

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interim Board member until the next election at the 2006 Annual Meeting. The Board elected its officers and the positions are: President, Rob Hepler; Vice President, Rob Gudz; Treasurer, George Vaughn; Secretary, Ellen Butler; Member-at-Large, Erik Wallace.

### ***Special Events***

We need volunteers to help with the Spring Egg hunt being held on April 8. Egg Hunt Chair Kathy Schumer needs two or three volunteers to help stuff and hide eggs. Please contact Kathy via e-mail at [rkschumer@verizon.net](mailto:rkschumer@verizon.net). Don't forget to bring the kids to the hunt on April 8 at 1:00 p.m. The hunt will be held at 3849 Wertz Drive, across from the tot lot.

Second, we need a volunteer to head up our yearly Community Yard Sale. The sale is usually held in May or June and the chair will be in charge of placing an ad in the local paper, and putting up signs on Cardinal

Road to advertise on the day of the sale, and providing a flyer for the neighborhood. If you are interested in volunteering to help organize the yard sale, please contact John Fitch at, [j.fitch@cmgmt.com](mailto:j.fitch@cmgmt.com).

### ***Grounds***

The new footbridge between Towhee Court and Red Bird Lane has been completed. The bridge allows safe passage through the watershed area between the two streets. Additionally, it allows those living in newer section of Cardinal Crest easier access to the Tot Lot and multi-purpose field.

### ***Littering and Dog Poop***

There has been an increase in litter in the Cardinal Crest common areas, including the tot lot, multi-purpose field, front entrances, and the new bridge. Please keep the neighborhood clean by throwing your trash in your own trash can at home! Take your trash with you when you leave the tot lot, and don't

throw trash out your car window. Much of the trash left at the tot lot and multi-purpose field is left behind by kids; be sure to talk to your kids about throwing trash where it belongs.

Don't forget to take a plastic bag with you when walking pets to scoop up after them. Prince William County Code 1965, section 4-26 forbids allowing any dog to relieve itself on any neighbor's yard or common area.

Be a good neighbor and pick up after yourself and your pets!

As always, the Board meets monthly at the Ferlazzo Building and homeowners are encouraged to attend. Dates and directions to future meetings are listed in page two. Cardinal Management contacts are also listed on page two.

## **Cardinal Crest Home Owners Association**

5900 Prince James Drive ● Springfield, VA 22152