

Down in the Valley

President's Letter

By: Mary Tatum 919-493-3934/ marytatum@hvna.org

Greetings Friends and Neighbors,

As you read this letter I hope all of you are enjoying this beautiful fall weather after such a hot and steamy summer. Bright fall colors and the cool crisp air do much to enhance the beautiful setting of our neighborhood.

Your neighborhood Association has been diligently at work to maintain and expand our services to the community. Ongoing endeavors include installing additional historic street signs and expanding areas that qualify for inclusion to the National Historic Registry. We continue to maintain additional police patrols to the extent that our available funds can provide. Please be mindful that our ability to continue on this path is dependent upon the number of dues paying members in our association. You will hear more about our efforts to increase membership after the first of the year.

As we begin this Holiday Season, focusing on family and festivities, I hope all of you are mindful of our "Night of Lights" Christmas luminary project to take place Dec 11th (see below). Also, as in previous years, our street signs will be decorated with season greenery and bright red bows in December.

Wishing you and yours all the Joys and Blessings of the Season.

Mary

The Hope Valley Neighborhood Association
Hope Valley Garden Club
Town & Country Garden Club
&
The Hope Valley Country Club

Invite you to join them in celebrating a Night of Lights in Hope Valley on Sunday, December 11

On Sunday December 11th our
ablaze with the light of hundreds of

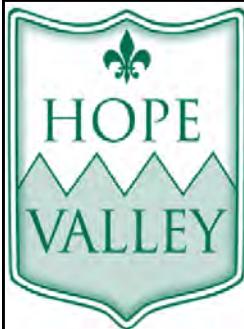
If you have not already ordered
limited number available for
in the HVCC tennis parking lot
last!



historic neighborhood will be
luminaries lining our streets.

your luminaries, there will be a
purchase on Sunday, December 11
beginning at noon - while they

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HOPE VALLEY
Neighborhood Association

HVNA Annual Halloween Parade

- October 31, 2011 -



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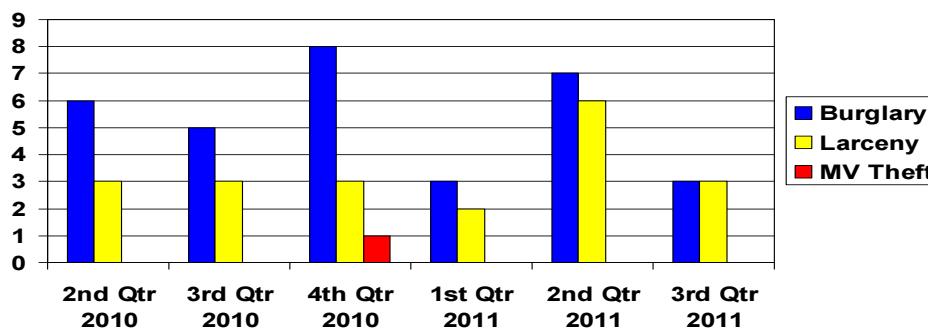
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If you see anything suspicious in the
 neighborhood, the Durham Police ask

Hope Valley Property Crime Statistics

For the first three quarters of 2011, the incidence of reported property crimes in our neighborhood has been slightly lower than other year—total property crimes reported so far this year were 24 versus 29 for the comparable period in 2010. This, with a second quarter that was one of the highest property crime incidents on record. The HVNA and the Durham Police have been working diligently to reduce crime. The HVNA has initiated stepped up private patrols, taken a leadership role with the Citizens on Patrol program (COPS), and our Durham Police friends from District 3 have continued their typically vigilant service to our neighborhood. Over time, we expect these measures to continue to have a positive impact on crime incidents.

During the second quarter of 2011 there were a total of 13 reported property crimes, (seven burglaries, six larcenies, and no motor vehicle thefts), as compared to the second quarter of 2010, when there were a total of nine property crimes (six burglaries, three larcenies, and no motor vehicle thefts). During the third quarter of 2011, there were a total of six reported property crimes (three burglaries, three larcenies, and no motor vehicle thefts).



Our friends at the Durham Police Department tell us that the most effective way to prevent crime is for each of us to be observant and to call “911” if we see any suspicious activity. Also, removing the opportunity for criminals, e.g., our houses should be locked and alarms set whenever we leave our homes (even if we are out working in the yard) and of course, our cars should not be left unlocked and all valuables should be stored out of sight.

As always, the Durham police caution our use of the statistics, warning that the statistics only reflect incidents reported, not necessarily crimes committed. Consequently, these numbers are subject to fluctuation as the reports are investigated. The categories used are drawn from the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Handbook. According to the FBI's UCR Handbook (2004), larceny is defined as ‘The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another.’ Burglary is defined as ‘The unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft.’ And motor vehicle theft is defined as ‘The theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle.’ For additional definitions, please refer to the UCR Handbook available online at: <http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/handbook/ucrhandbook04.pdf>



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How I Accidentally Fell in Love with Hope Valley....

By Linsey Lebowitz Hughes

When my husband told me that we would be moving to Durham for his surgical fellowship, I cried for two days. "What state is that in? But I've never been to North Carolina," were some of the comments that emerged amidst the sniveling. I had never been there and knew no one who lived there. I was a city girl – I grew up in Los Angeles, CA and had been living in Manhattan, NY for the last 13 years. But I wasn't in complete denial as life in NYC was becoming barely sustainable. Our two cute little boys, our not-so cute tiny apartment, the two big jobs, mine including too much travel and his 80-100 hour weeks as a surgical resident. We were spread too thinly. The only person we knew that worked harder than us was our nanny – never a good sign!

So I took a deep breath and we flew down to Durham for the day to scope it out. We thought we'd initially rent to get to know the area, but felt underwhelmed by the rental inventory. After too many years living in squalor in the big city, I didn't feel like renting something that looked like a scene from *The Truman Show*. Call me crazy. So we started to notice some "for sale" signs in some of the neighborhoods we had been directed towards. Suddenly we were buyers and slightly delusional as most nice homes in Durham are the price of an NYC studio apartment.

We were on our way to the RDU airport after our day of speed-dating Durham and my husband suggested we take a quick twirl through Hope Valley to view it in daylight. We heard it was a beautiful old neighborhood and were not disappointed. We were immediately charmed by the unique, sparkly historical homes, the homeowners took pride in their property, and the golf course was an idyllic setting. The neighborhood felt perfectly right-sized – not too big or diluted, not too small that it felt unattainable. The location was very central to major highways, schools, and good shopping and restaurant areas. We were intrigued - there were starting to be signs of a better life in Durham. And then we saw the "for sale" sign outside what is now our house and we slammed the brakes on our mediocre rental car. The three of us locked eyes: me, my husband and the front door of our (soon-to-be) new house. We rudely pulled into the driveway (we are New Yorkers, after all) to see if we could catch a closer glimpse. We called our realtor and the rest is history...

After four months of living in Durham we are very happy here and owe most of it to the Hope Valley community. People have been outgoing, resourceful, inclusive and welcoming. Our neighbors say, "good morning" and lend us eggs. The HV Neighborhood Association brought us a welcome bag. We play tag with our kids on our lawn. This is our happy place. There are lots of long-time Durhamites in HV, but also lots of transplants like us. We realize that both are important to our adjustment here. The locals teach us about the history of the neighborhood, how to pronounce "y'all," and where to buy mulch. Whereas our fellow yankees help us lament the absence of a proper "slice" and together we celebrate living in close proximity to two Super Targets. I guess you put us all together, and we make one helluva charming and (mostly) functioning Hope Valley family!



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Hope Valley has a long tradition of community service and recognition that we enjoy a special life. When lifelong Hope Valley resident Chasie Harris learned about PORCH she knew that this was a project that she wanted to bring to Hope Valley and Durham.

PORCH of Durham is a new, grass roots, community-wide hunger relief organization that was founded after learning about the success of PORCH (www.porchnc.org) in Chapel Hill-Carrboro. Chasie along with Leslie Garrison who lives in Bent Creek, and Jen Meldrum who lives off of Pickett Rd. came together to create PORCH of Durham

Chasie says, "As for Hope Valley we try to keep it to 'streets' so no-one is overwhelmed and we have maybe 12 streets covered within Hope Valley - and would love to have more." She also is pleased that, "Outside of HV we have The Valley, Dunbarton, Croadsdale Farms, Woodlake, part of Woodcroft, and Stonegate, to name a few. We would love to expand those streets already donating, and add new streets and neighborhoods. We have a couple of Churches donating, and a couple of businesses."

"The need is great and we feel that 'we can all make a huge difference in a very simple way - just put a bag of food on your front porch once a month. We do the rest!" Chasie Harris.

For more information about PORCH in Hope Valley contact Chasie at chasieh@nc.rr.com

Tidying Up For Fall? Don't Forget Your HVAC System

Temperatures are dropping along with the leaves this month, and many homes are getting ready for cold winter weather. October is usually when homeowners turn on their furnaces for the first time, to ward off chilly Fall evenings, and every year, my company sees a corresponding rise in calls for HVAC systems that aren't heating homes well, or (worse yet) are refusing to heat at all.

Just Like Your Car, HVAC Systems Need Regular Maintenance

Most homeowners don't think twice about performing regular maintenance on their car, doing oil changes or tune-ups every 2-3 months. And yet, when it comes to their homes, they neglect to perform regular and inexpensive maintenance on key systems like the heating, ventilation and air conditioning system. A visual inspection, cleaning and minor repair tune up for your HVAC system typically costs less than \$90, just twice a year in Fall and Spring, but gives enormous value to your family's comfort and peace of mind.

Keep a Reliably Comfortable Home

Your HVAC unit is the single most important system when it comes to your family's comfort. Although we typically take it for granted that the furnace will kick in when the temperature drops, anyone who has suddenly had their furnace die out on a cold winter day can tell you that scrambling for an emergency HVAC repair service while the family is layering on sweaters in the living room is a terrible experience.

Regular Fall and Spring tune-ups for your HVAC units can not only alert you to potential problems well in advance but also ensure that your system is working at peak efficiency, eliminating cold spots and giving you better air distribution throughout the home. The result - your family is kept warm and comfortable no matter how chilly it gets outside.

Protect Your Biggest Financial Investment

Your home is generally your most significant financial asset, and HVAC systems can cost \$10,000 or more to replace. It makes good financial sense to maintain your systems with bi-annual tune-ups, ensure that you're protecting your long-term investment and making sure this expensive system has a maximum lifespan for your home.

Perhaps more importantly, HVAC systems are the biggest energy consumers in your home, accounting for up to 50% of your total energy expenditures. Aside from the potential long-term costs of replacing a poorly maintained system, inefficient systems also cost you more each month to run. The smart homeowner monitors energy usage on a monthly basis to compare to previous years. It's not uncommon for our customers to report 10-15% savings on their gas or electricity bills after they've had an HVAC tune-up performed.

More Than Comfort, More Than Savings

Aside from the improvements to your comfort and monthly savings that an HVAC tune-up can offer, there's a wider benefit that my Green Horizon customers sometimes forget – an efficient home is better for our community.

All energy produced in North Carolina, in fact around the world, comes with an environmental cost or "carbon footprint". Although utility companies like Duke Energy are making great leaps in producing lower pollution sources of energy like solar and wind power, it makes sense to reduce our personal energy consumption at the home level first, as the easiest and most effective step to improving our environment. A well-maintained HVAC unit consumes less energy and has a longer lifetime before it has to be replaced, making it a green solution for everyone.

Don't Put It Off

Whether you're getting ready to book your regular fall maintenance or you're just realizing now that it's long overdue, use the season's changing as a reminder to have your system serviced. It will pay off over the short and long term. You should also be on the look-out for incentives or rebates for HVAC maintenance. Progress Energy customers can get up to \$90 back if they use an approved contractor to perform a spring or fall tune-up.

About Bobby Ferrel

Bobby Ferrel is co-founder of Green Horizon, with offices in the Triangle and Charlotte, offering home owners and builders a one-stop shop for energy efficiency and green building. Services include home performance assessments, weatherization, closed crawl spaces, all types of insulation, HVAC and geothermal installation and maintenance. Reach Bobby directly at bferrel@greenhorizon.com or visit him online at www.greenhorizon.com



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HVNA Annual Dues for 2012 are due January 1, 2012

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Hello Neighbors!

Crime in Hope Valley has been on the decline., knock on wood!! We'd like to keep it that way. If you have anything that happens at your house, of course call 911 immediately. Some folks don't want their crime on the listserv and I understand that completely. All I'm asking is that you email me thru the HVNA website with some details to put on the listserv. You don't have to give me your name or address. We just need to keep people on their toes and the way to do that is to report all crimes that happen in HV. All we need would be details, like what happened, was it outside or a break-in, what was taken... just some details.

We have been working VERY hard to keep crime down in Hope Valley with the Citizens on Patrol (COPS) as well as paid Police patrols. Any money you can add to your dues payment is very much appreciated and will be used to protect us and our property. You can pay at any time on Paypal or by check. You can pay online at our website: HVNA.org

Thanks in advance for helping!

Chase Teer Loew
HVNA Board Member
ChaseTeerLoew@HVNA.org

HVNA Sign Project Continues

The HVNA Board approved a number of new Historic Street Sign locations and signs will be ordered soon.

If you are interested in a sign for an intersection near you, please contact the HVNA Appearance Committee as soon as possible to make this round of installations.

The HVNA will subsidize the cost of the sign, but donations are needed to make up the balance of the fabrication amounts.

Hope Valley's cut iron street signs date back to the developments earliest days. Landmarked by the City of Durham as Historic Signs, they are protected by the Durham Landmark Sign and Structure Statutes. Designs for all streets are available, including newer areas in Hope Valley (St. Marks, Northampton/Chippenham, etc.)

Contact Tad DeBerry at taddeberry@hvna.org , or at 919 604 1708 for more information.

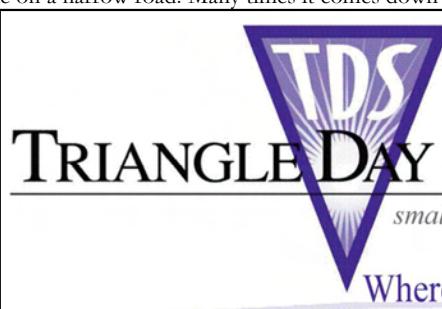
Hello Neighbors! (II)

- * Recently there was a huge response to an email about speeders. Many neighbors have shared and expressed concerns over adult and teenage speeders in Hope Valley. Please have a chat with your child so we won't have an accident. Be mindful of others...
- * Other concerns people had were people walking with strollers or dogs and the drivers are not sharing the road. People walking, PLEASE remember to walk FACING TRAFFIC. We do have sidewalks in Hope Valley nor will we have them. We are an historic neighborhood and our roads are much too narrow and it's too costly to add sidewalks. So, please let's help each other with this.
- * Drivers and walkers expressed concerns with the blind curves that several of our streets have in HV. When the lawn trucks and trailers are parked on our narrow roads it makes for a hazardous situation. If you happen to come up on one of these trucks in the middle of the road please ask them to move to a side street or a driveway. They will park in a spot that's easy for them, but hard for us to navigate on a narrow road. Many times it comes down to a single lane on a blind hill or blind curve.
- * Another point is please don't walk on the golf course with dogs. The Club has expressed that it is against their rules and it is private property!
- * Remember the holidays are coming and it's not a good idea to leave empty boxes on your curb advertising that you just purchased the 62" TV or any other luxury items. Cut up the boxes and put them in your recycle bin.

Maybe we'll get through the holidays with no break-ins!

Thanks in advance!
Chase

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Annual dues are \$25 per household. Go online or mail application and check to: HVNA, P. O. Box 51338, Durham, NC, 27717
Please make checks payable to: Hope Valley Neighborhood Association. Thank you!

- Hope Valley History - The Markham Family Cemetery

Nestled about half-way down the left side of the eighth fairway of Hope Valley golf course is an obscure little cemetery that only catches one's eye if you happen to pull the ball left, as I often do. (For those that do not play golf, the cemetery is located on the west side of Stratford Road, midway between Surrey Road and Avon Road).

According to the cemetery.com, this is the Markham family cemetery. While the head stones are barely recognizable, buried here are eight individuals, only four of whom are identified:

- Markham, Thomas (b. 4 Jan 1752 - d. 13 Feb 1838), husband of Fanny Herndon Markham
- Markham, Fanny Herndon (b. 1754 - d. 1839), wife of Thomas Markham
- Markham, Jane Pearson (b. 1799 - d. 1863), wife of Nathan Markham
- Markham, Nathan (b. 28 Dec 1790 - d. 25 Jan 1868), husband of Jane Pearson Markham

Thomas Markham was the son of John Markham who was born about 1730 in Caroline County, Virginia. John immigrated in 1764 to Orange County, North Carolina (Durham County formed the eastern portion Orange County, prior to its founding in 1853) and he died in 1788. He was a Revolutionary War hero.



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