



SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2020

GreaterFarmland.org
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are living in interesting times. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we've had to radically change the way we live and work by staying at home and tele-working. Some of us have lost our jobs or been furloughed. Our kids are engaged in "distance learning" and teachers are conducting on-line classes (thank you to our dedicated teachers!). Businesses are closed except for grocery stores and pharmacies and restaurants can only provide carryout or delivery. Proms and graduation ceremonies have been cancelled. All of this to help prevent the spread of a highly contagious virus. And your GFCFA has had to cancel Community Day and the July 4th Parade that we so look forward to presenting each year in order to keep us safe.

I'd like to think that, in some ways, this has brought all of us closer together. Families are spending more quality time together. Neighbors have been busily sewing masks for first responders and other neighbors. Others have been leading food drives for those less fortunate. Neighbors are catching up with each other during their daily (or more) walks around the neighborhood. Many of you are looking out for your senior neighbors by doing their grocery shopping or helping them with their chores. Kids spent several days on the lookout for teddy bears during a neighborhood scavenger hunt. The GFCFA listserv has been more heavily used and continues to be an important community lifeline.

As we go forward, let's celebrate our community and continue to support and nourish each other. Your Association is here to strengthen our community and ensure that it remains strong and vibrant. While we may not be able to have our regular events for a while, we welcome your suggestions and comments (info@greaterfarmland.org) for things we as an Association can do to support our community during this difficult time. This is your Association—make it yours. Join today at greaterfarmland.org/membership.

Everyone stay safe and use common sense. Please follow the guidelines with respect to wearing a mask to protect your friends and neighbors and continue to practice social distancing. We'll get through this if we all work together.

Finally, congratulations to the Class of 2020! We revel in your accomplishments and wish you great success in the future!

Ed Rich

IT'S SO IMPORTANT FOR US TO BE ABLE TO COMMUNICATE...

The GFCFA email listserv is our primary tool for sharing information, is free to join, and has over 650 community members. To join the listserv, email GFCFA+subscribe@groups.io. To post to the listserv, email to GFCFA@groups.io. Remember to add a hashtag in the subject line. Tips and rules about how to use it are at greaterfarmland.org/email-listserv.html

GFCFA EVENTS SCHEDULE MODIFICATIONS DUE TO THE PANDEMIC

Due to concerns for our residents because of COVID-19, the Board of Directors of the GFCFA have determined that it is necessary to cancel the annual June Community Day BBQ and our July 4th parade. The Board is following guidance both from the State and County governments and will continue to evaluate whether and when to reschedule events planned for this year. One of the things the Board discussed is whether to sponsor a July 4th house-decorating contest with prizes for the best-decorated houses, so please share your thoughts at info@greaterfarmland.org. We plan on putting up flags where we have brackets to make the neighborhood look festive for Independence Day.

KEEPING YOU SAFE...This blog is especially useful, erinbromage.com/post/the-risks-know-them-avoid-them

THE DIRECTORY WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO PAID GFCA MEMBERS IN JULY

Our vendor, AtoZ Directories, is planning to print our 2020 directory in mid-June. Please check your directory information to ensure that the printing is accurate for your household. Every household has access to the online directory to edit its own information. Email directory@GreaterFarmland.org if you don't have your online directory login credentials.

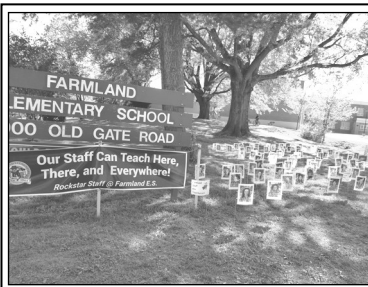
MD'S PRIMARY ELECTION—VOTE BY MAIL BY JUNE 2

Every registered voter should have received a primary ballot by mail. There are complete instructions in the packet, and return postage is pre-paid. It must be post-marked by June 2 to be counted in this election.

For **information about your ballot choices**, you can go to vote411.org and enter your address. It will show your ballot, qualifications, and platforms for each of the candidates.

This is a valuable site to remember for future elections, too!

Questions for the Montgomery County Board of Elections? Go to 777vote.org, the site to verify your voter registration status, request a ballot if you didn't receive one, etc. The deadline for online voter registration is May 27, but you can register in-person on Election Day at one of the four open precincts.



THANK YOU TO OUR FARMLAND SCHOOL STAFF

In the absence of face-to-face instruction, Farmland ES honors its staff on the school grounds with a banner and photos of each team member. We thank and honor the teachers and staff of every school that serves our students.



NEW SIDEWALKS IN TILDEN WOODS PARK

The county is completing work adding access sidewalks & modifying the parking lot at our neighborhood park.



Your Civic Association is an all-volunteer effort by
Neighbors for Neighbors

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