



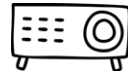
# MIDDLERIDGE NEWSLETTER

MAY 2026

Middleridge Civic Association - - - - - Reaching 578 Homes and Families



## MARY'S MUSINGS



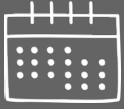
Well... this is my last column as MCA President. (Don't worry—I'm not moving. Just stepping aside, because term limits exist for a reason.) The past two years have given me a behind-the-scenes look at how this neighborhood actually works. Spoiler: it's not magic. It's people. Real people with busy schedules, full calendars, group texts they can't keep up with—and yet somehow, they still show up.

That's the part that gets me. Because let's be honest... life is busy. Between work, family, and the never-ending scroll of emails, texts, and "just one more thing," it would be really easy to stay home. To wave at neighbors from the car. To double-tap a post instead of having a conversation. And yet when it's time for a yard sale, National Night Out, a holiday event, or even just helping with something small this neighborhood shows up in real life.

MCA is 100% volunteer powered. Always has been. And what I've seen is a mix of steady, familiar faces and new neighbors jumping in for the first time. We put out the call (with a little bit of "hope this works..." energy), and every time people show up. That's what keeps things going and honestly, what makes it fun. Somewhere between beignets and drinks, I agreed to step into this role two years ago while on a trip to New Orleans. At the time, it felt like a small yes. Looking back, it turned into something much bigger and something I'm really glad I said yes to. And maybe that's the real takeaway for me: in a world where so much pulls us onto our screens, this little pocket of community pulls us back to each other. It's a pretty great trade. I'm stepping out of the President role, but I'm definitely not stepping away. I'll still be around, still volunteering, and still showing up (you know I can't help myself).

One quick ask before I go, we're looking for someone to coordinate National Night Out on August 4th. It's one of our best events and a really easy way to jump in. If you've been waiting for a sign... this is it. Do it! Thanks for letting me be part of it all. Truly.

Mary



## UPCOMING EVENTS + CALENDAR

# May 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					01	02 YARD SALE
03	04	05	06	07	08	09
10	11	12	13	14 Spring Meeting / Board Elections	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 FCPS Student Holiday	26	27	28	29	30
31						

## UPCOMING MCA EVENTS

- ▶ 5/2: Spring Yard Sale
- ▶ 5/14: Spring Meeting / Board Elections



## BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

# MCA BOARD MEETING MINUTES IN A MINUTE

by Marie Morris,  
MCA Secretary

- Current Member Count: 333
- Newsletter Distribution: Two Block captains (BC) needed for John Turley Pl.
- Newsletter Advertisers Needed!!
- Storage Size Upgrade, Move Happening in Early May.
- National Night Out (Aug. 4): Planning in Progress.
- Upcoming Event: Scholarship Awards Presentation, May 14, 7pm.
- Board Elections on May 14th at the Spring Meeting.
- Candidates for the 2026: Eric Burley for President, Marie Morris for Vice-President, Niamh Minus for Treasurer, and Ashley Campana for Secretary; and anyone interested in running for office should email the Board at [board@middleridgeffx.org](mailto:board@middleridgeffx.org).

### Upcoming Monthly Meeting:

Spring Meeting, Thurs., May 14, 2026, at 7 PM / Location TBD

# ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTES



**The MCA/FCE Pet Parade** was held on April 11, 2026, was a lively and well-attended event and we were blessed with beautiful, sunny weather. The day brought the community together in a fun, festive atmosphere. Special thanks are extended to the event's judges: MCA President Mary Gonzales, former MCA President John Bayer, FCE President Travis Brown, Supervisor Sizemore-Heizer, and Braddock District Supervisor Senior Staff Aide Joon Park. We are very appreciative of BarkBox and Weber's in Fairfax for generously donating fantastic prizes. The event's success was made possible with the help of volunteers Kaavya Tripathi, Evan Roskos, and David Simon, who assisted with setup and kept participants refreshed with popsicles and pup cups. Thank you to Stephanie Altounian and her family for their help with planning and running the event. Thank you to MCA Neighborhood watch coordinator Braham Koodallur and members of h s committee who kept us safe during the event. Following the parade, once we reached the park, the judges' decisions were announced and prizes were awarded. Turn to Page 4 to see the list of the prize winners.

**THANK YOU** to all who came out to support the **Middleridge Park and Woodglen Lake Cleanup** on April 25th. We collected two bags of trash and other assorted items. I also really appreciated the efforts of the Junior Girl Scouts from Bonnie Brae who helped clean up around the lake. I think the lack of trash says a lot about the efforts led by Sarah Mayhew in recent years to keep the park clean and the continuing efforts of all who use these spaces.

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## CALL for VOLUNTEERS

**Block Captain** needed to assist with newsletter distribution for two blocks on John Turley Pl.

Thank you to **Mary Sue France**, who has been a Section Leader for many years and is moving from the area. **Many thanks** to **Bambi Munos** who has volunteered to take over Section B, to **Ebube Utomi** for volunteering to take over a block on Payne's Church, and to **the Minuses** for volunteering for the Francy Adams block!

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# MIDDLERIDGE MEMORIES



## PETS ON PARADE: THE BEST OF THE BEST

**Oldest Pet:** Lucy (the Wright family)

**Youngest Pet:** Evergreen (the Volkert family)

**Best Dressed Pet:** Schroeder (the Wright family)

**Most Unique Pet:** Cornelius (the Williams family)

**Friendliest Pet:** Aspen (the Rushlow/Clark family)



**Best Trick:** Nolan

**Most Well-Behaved Pet:** Lilly (the Landry family)

**Judges' Choice:** Appa (the Mantica family)

**Most Playful Pet:** Rudy Patudy (the Champion family)

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Having grown up in Middleridge, I've helped hundreds of my childhood friends' parents sell their homes. Today, I'm incredibly grateful to be helping the next generation, the kids we watched grow up, make their own moves right here in the neighborhood.

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## ADVERTISING RATES

	Non-member	MCA Member *
Full Page	\$130	\$90
1/2 Page	\$72	\$46
1/4 Page	\$46	\$33
1/8 Page	\$33	\$20

*\*2026 MCA Membership paid*

**Note:** The Jan/Feb, and July/Aug newsletters will be combined; so, a full year = rate x 10.

**Pay via PayPal or make checks payable to:**  
Middleridge Civic Association  
P.O. Box 208  
Fairfax Station, VA 22039

**Deadline:** Content is due by the 20th of the month.

**Format:** For advertisement formatting and size requirements, email a request for the current specifications.

Questions? [Editor@middleridgeffx.org](mailto:Editor@middleridgeffx.org)

# MIDDLERIDGE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

<b>President</b>	Mary Gonzales	<a href="mailto:president@middleridgeffx.org">president@middleridgeffx.org</a>
<b>Vice President</b>	Shefali Ryan	<a href="mailto:vicepresident@middleridgeffx.org">vicepresident@middleridgeffx.org</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Marie Morris	<a href="mailto:secretary@middleridgeffx.org">secretary@middleridgeffx.org</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Niamh Minus	<a href="mailto:treasurer@middleridgeffx.org">treasurer@middleridgeffx.org</a>

## CONTACTS

<b>Webmaster</b>	Joe Landry	<a href="mailto:webmaster@middleridgeffx.org">webmaster@middleridgeffx.org</a>
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Kati Engel	<a href="mailto:editor@middleridgeffx.org">editor@middleridgeffx.org</a>
<b>Membership</b>	Jessica & Gregg Summer	<a href="mailto:membership@middleridgeffx.org">membership@middleridgeffx.org</a>
<b>Welcoming Chair</b>	Smitha Vasudevan and Cathy Rabbit	<a href="mailto:welcoming@middleridgeffx.org">welcoming@middleridgeffx.org</a>
<b>Facebook</b>	Ashley Campana	<a href="mailto:editor_FB@middleridgeffx.org">editor_FB@middleridgeffx.org</a>
<b>MCA Caring Community</b>	Maryn Simon	<a href="mailto:mcc@middleridgeffx.org">mcc@middleridgeffx.org</a>

## OTHER

### POCS

Neighborhood Watch – Brahma Koodallur  
Newsletter Distribution – Maureen Campbell

## WHERE TO FIND US

### MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 208  
Fairfax Station, VA 22039



### MOBILE APP (FOR MEMBERS)



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<https://middleridgeffx.org/>



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