



# Huntley Headlines

*Friends of Historic Huntley*

*Fall 2010*

## FOHH Annual Meeting

Wednesday, December 1, 2010,

7:15 p.m., Sherwood Regional Library  
Meeting Room #2 (2nd Floor)

2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria

Members and guests are urged to attend the annual meeting of the Friends of Historic Huntley. Construction has begun that will return the house to its 1825 configuration. On hand will be descriptions of the work being done, photographs, and future plans for the use of the house. There also will be an election of the Board of Directors for 2010-2011 and a recap of the year's activities. ❖

## Park Manager Walk and Talk

Saturday, November 20, 2010

4:00-6:00 p.m.

Huntley Meadows Park

Join Kevin Munroe on a walk to share questions and learn about the wildlife for which the park is known. Reservations, 703.768.2525. Free. ❖

## Local History Online

Interested in local lore? There's a wealth of information to be found online. For our historic site, google Historic Huntley. For aviation history, try Hybla Valley or Beacon Airfield. Happy hunting! ❖

## Construction Has Begun!

Work is underway at Huntley! A long period of careful and thorough planning by Jim Duncan and a staff team, Fairfax County Park Authority; staff of the Grunley Construction Company; conservators with John Milner Associates; and Deb Robison, architectural consultant, SWSG, Inc., has lead to the actual work. The retaining wall for the pull-off parking is in. It removed a lot of the terraced area, but parking was needed and this was the least intrusive area to place it. The electrical service is in and, thanks to Jim Duncan's creative ideas, caused only minor disruption of the grounds. The drilling for the geo-thermal system that will heat and cool the building is now complete as well.

There have been delays—such as finding yet another pocket of unexpected asbestos that had to be removed, the research and discussion of the best method to get loose paint off the brick walls (soft water bath at a 45-degree angle), and finding the best mix for the mortar to repoint the brick.

After the addition on the west side of the house was removed, the foundation for the original porch was discovered. All were delighted to see it matched in size and shape the remains found by the earlier archaeological dig on the east side of the house. Then the problem was how to preserve the original bricks in the foundation and encase them for future study, yet still have a solid base for a foundation for the new replica porch.

All of this takes research and consideration of all the experts on site and, since the project received a Save America's Treasures grant, also must be approved by staff at the National Park Service. Construction information can be found on the wooden sign structure at Huntley, so go by to read that and see the progress to date. It is hard to believe, but work is really happening! ❖

## Norma Hoffman to Receive Award

**Norma Hoffman**, one of Historic Huntley's founders, will be honored as one of this year's recipients of the **Elly Doyle Park Service Award** on **November 19**. This top Fairfax County Park Authority award recognizes volunteers for outstanding contributions to Fairfax County parks. Starting in the mid 1980's, Norma sought preservation of Historic Huntley by encouraging the county to acquire the property. Her political acumen and perseverance were invaluable in turning the tide on the county's decision to finally purchase and preserve the historic site. Her connections with the political establishment and county staff, and her people skills have been immense assets. Norma has helped to attract members to join the board of Friend of Historic Huntley and she has provided constant encouragement and support

*continued ...*

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## YES! Please sign me up for membership in Friends of Historic Huntley today!

Enclosed is my check for \$10.

New Member       Renewing Member

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I'm also interested in volunteering in the following area(s):

Historic research    Fundraising    Special events    General volunteer

*For FOHH use only:*      *Date received:* \_\_\_\_\_ *Amount:* \_\_\_\_\_

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### Norman Hoffman Award *continued*

to board members. She helped form the organization by writing the articles of incorporation and the bylaws. After every meeting and event, she makes sure to call board members and county staff to praise their efforts. At the biannual open houses that the Friends of Historic Huntley has hosted for nearly 20 years, Norma always served as the greeter. Twice a year, Norma distributed the FOHH newsletter to every townhouse in the neighborhood surrounding Huntley. The nomination of Norma for this award was sponsored jointly by FOHH and the Friends of Huntley Meadows Park. Norma has given of herself in many ways to make this a better place to live. She richly deserves this award and we applaud her selection. The award ceremony will be Friday, November 19, 2010. All are invited to attend. For details please contact the Public Information Office at 703.324.8662. ❖

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### Events at Huntley Meadows Park

#### Huntley Holiday Happening—Sunday, December 12, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Looking for something special for the nature-lover on your list? Enjoy an afternoon of shopping with a 10% discount on merchandise during the event, yummy treats, and holiday crafts. Free entry. ❖

#### Photography Contest Opening—Sunday December 12, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Enjoy this year's winning entries from the Friends of Huntley Meadows' annual photography contest. Sponsored by Friends of Huntley Meadows Park. Free entry. ❖

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### FRIENDS OF HISTORIC HUNTLEY

P.O. Box 7241

Alexandria, VA 22307-0241

Address correction requested

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*Huntley Headlines* is produced by Friends of Historic Huntley, a local citizens group formed to assist Fairfax County in the restoration, preservation and utilization of Huntley and to enhance the public's knowledge of this historic villa.

#### Board of Directors

Barbara Ballentine, President  
Robbie McNeil, Vice President  
Jere Gibber, Treasurer  
Charles O. Davis  
Erica Hershler  
Norma Hoffman  
Susan Escherich, Emeritus  
Frank R. DiPietro II,  
HMHOA Representative  
Norma Hoffman,  
FOHMP Representative

#### Advisors

Annabel Baer  
C. Richard Bierce, AIA  
Harry Glasgow  
Jack L. Hiller

#### Mission Statement

Friends of Historic Huntley is dedicated to working in partnership with the Fairfax County Park Authority to preserve Historic Huntley for the benefit of the community and to:

- Support the appropriate use of the house and its site;
- Encourage and conduct research on its architecture and history; and
- Stimulate appreciation of our heritage through education and interpretation.

**Address changes:** Please send your mailing label with corrections clearly noted to: Friends of Historic Huntley, P.O. Box 7241, Alexandria, VA 22307-0241.

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### Huntley-Related Web Sites

[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/histhunt/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/histhunt/)

[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/gmp/historichuntleyreport.pdf](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/gmp/historichuntleyreport.pdf)

[www.friendsofhuntleymeadows.org](http://www.friendsofhuntleymeadows.org)      [www.fohmp.org](http://www.fohmp.org)

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