



December 2008

Dear Falls Church City neighbor,

Whether you are new to the City, or are a long-time resident, you can't help but benefit from the many contributions VPIS makes to strengthen the fabric of the Falls Church community. VPIS provides ongoing programs like summer concerts in Cherry Hill Park and the Neighborhood Tree Program; offers a strong voice for sensible development; expands community gardens and open space; runs the ever-popular Attic Treasures Sale; and delivers local historical programs.

Just this year, VPIS expanded the Neighborhood Tree Program to help reverse the decline in "tree canopy" across Falls Church and adopted a "community grants program" to support projects to enhance Falls Church's culture and environment. You can read about these and other VPIS activities on the website at [www.vpis.org](http://www.vpis.org).

VPIS is a strong organization with an established record of delivering valuable programs. By joining VPIS for only \$10, your contribution will help keep these community programs vital. And, there is another reason to join VPIS – it's good for your health. No kidding. Researchers at Carnegie Mellon University found that people with rich social networks were four times less likely to come down with illness. The National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute found that people with large social circles had a 23 percent lower incidence of coronary artery disease.

Sadly, there does not seem to be any evidence that larger financial contributions to VPIS will make you healthier than small ones. But you will become a shareholder in a great organization with an outstanding record of service to the Falls Church community. VPIS is a 501(c)(3) organization and donations are tax deductible. A VPIS financial statement is available on written request from the Virginia Office of Consumer Affairs.

Thank you in advance for your response to this membership appeal. Please give us a call if we can answer any questions, or help you find a VPIS program to get involved in. Please be sure to check your areas of interest on the back of the membership card. We look forward to working with you.

Carol Sly, Membership Chair  
703.538.6272

Jeff Peterson, President  
703.532.7635

The Village Preservation and Improvement Society, founded in 1885, is a nonprofit citizen volunteer organization in the City of Falls Church, Virginia. The Society is comprised of concerned citizens who address many important issues that face our community. The Society works to preserve our natural and built environment, historic structures and landmarks, and promotes cultural activities. Members are primarily residents of the City of Falls Church and former residents or neighbors who have an interest in Falls Church City. Members are of all political persuasions and are bonded by their interest in and commitment to improving the City of Falls Church.