Rambler

Newsletter of the

President's Message

County Budget Process Updateto be Discussed by RHCA Tuesday

After seven years, Marty Williams is stepping down as editor of *The Rambler*. Her first edition was in advance of the March 2003 Rose Hill Civic Association meeting. She replaced Elizabeth Lambertson, who had served since 2000. Richard Downey, who grew up in Rose Hill, is taking over as Editor.

Marty and Richard both will be on hand at the RHCA meeting on **Tuesday**, **February 23** beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the John Marshall Library. Plan to attend and thank Marty for her service to the community and welcome Richard as the new Editor.

For the last few years, Marty has edited *The Rambler* although she no longer lives in Rose Hill. She now lives at Belmont Bay overlooking the Occoquan River, Belmont Bay and the Potomac River in nearby Prince William County. She recently became a grandmother and is planning a fall wedding (her own).

There is no formal program for the meeting, although issues have a way of popping up between publication of *The Rambler* and the meeting date. We will update the County budget process (see item below).

Rose Hill Civic Association Meeting Tuesday, February 23, 6:30 pm JOHN MARSHALL LIBRARY

Topics: County Budget Process

RHCA Officers

President: Carl Sell, 703.971.4716, sellcarl@aol.com Vice President: Linda Nichols, 703.971.0755, dovefellow@aol.com Secretary: Beth Kohm, 703.338.4876, beth.kohm@gmail.com Treasurer: Carolyn Slenska, 703.922.4135, carolyn.slenska@lycos.com

Editor, *The Rambler:* Richard Downey, 703.625.7046, richtdowney@

Neighborhood Watch: Woody Betts, 703.971.0520, rosehillwatch@aol.

Webmaster: Jim Sapp, jimsapp7@msn.com

RHCA, P.O. Box 10891, Alexandria, VA 22310

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Refreshments will be served, including Girl Scout cookies if the weather cooperates with the delivery schedule. The temperature will dictate Vice President Linda Nichols' menu. Whatever she selects will be good, so don't miss the meeting!

Budget Deficit

As we heard from Susan Datta, Director of Fairfax County's Office of Management and Budget at our January meeting, this is going to be another tough year budget-wise. The deficit is approaching \$500 million, \$170 million of which is attributable to schools, which consumes 54 percent of the County's total revenues. Don't be fooled by the School Superintendent's proposed budget in which he details cuts. The schools are asking for more money than they received last year while other County agencies are facing drastic cuts. While schools are extremely important, I don't believe they can get by this year without curtailing expenditures. I don't condone cutting support in the classroom, but I do believe there is room for other reductions in school expenditures. Frankly, the school superintendent is playing the same old game, proposing potential cuts which affect the kids while not taking a realistic look at administrative and other costs. That dog won't hunt this time, as far as I'm concerned. At our January meeting, members overwhelmingly supported public safety as their No. 1 priority. Everyone agreed that schools were extremely important, but not at the cost of public safety. The County Executive's proposed budget will be released

on February 23, the same day as our RHCA meeting. We'll discuss his proposed budget in depth at our March meeting. A couple of things to remember: a penny on the tax rate equates to approximately \$20 million. In the Rose Hill Planning District, more than 70 percent of households DO NOT have kids in County schools. Our real estate assessments will be arriving soon and are expected to fall again. It will take a massive tax increase by itself to wipe out the deficit. Expect to see a combination of increased taxes, fees and drastic budget cuts in order to balance the budget.

RHCA Membership

Although the Rose Hill Civic Association depends mainly on volunteers, your support is extremely important if we are to continue several programs. The cost of printing The Rambler is our biggest budget item. Dues pay for the Rose Hill Beauty program, our post office box and contributions to several worthy community serving organizations. Contributions underwrite the cost of maintaining the landscaping at our entrance sign at Rose Hill Drive and Franconia Road and the cost of refreshments at our meetings. A list of those who have joined so far in 2010 is printed on page 3. If your name isn't there, make sure it's included in the March Rambler. Remember, only RHCA members are eligible to receive Rose Hill Beauty signs or have their business endeavors included in the business directory. Special thanks to those who contribute to the general fund above and beyond the \$10 membership fee. Clip out the form on page 3 and send it, along with your check, to RHCA, P.O. Box 10891, Alexandria, VA. 22310.

Edison Mulch Sale

Spring can't be too far off! Edison High School's annual mulch sale to benefit the all-night graduation party in June at Lee District Park Rec Center is in full swing. A 3 cubic foot bag costs \$4.25. The cost per square foot is competitive with the garden centers at the large chains. Orders must be placed by March 10. The pickup day is March 20 at Mark Twain Middle School (the pickup site has changed because of the construction at Edison). Delivery is available for orders within the Edison area for a fee of \$5. An order form is available at myrosehill.com. If you have questions, e-mail Lisa MicKey at ehsclassof2010@hotmail.com. Mail orders to Edison High School, 5801 Franconia Road, Franconia, VA 22310. Attention ANGP Mulch.

Another Civil War Tour

The Franconia Museum is sponsoring the Both Sides Tour III on Saturday, May 1 to the battlefields in the Fredericksburg area. First stop is Chancellorsville, where General Robert E. Lee scored his greatest victory but lost the invaluable General Stonewall Jackson. Then it's on to Spotsylvania and a explanation of the connection between the battle and Franconia. After a buffet lunch at the Golden Corral, the tour visits Chatham Manor, the house overlooking Fredericksburg where Lee courted his future bride, Mary Custis, and President Abraham Lincoln plotted strategy with his generals. The final stop is the famous site of the stone wall at Fredericksburg where a Union attack much like the Confederate's "Pickett's Charge" at Gettysburg seven months later, was repulsed. The tour leaves from the Franconia Governmental Center at 8:15 a.m. for a full day of tours at some of our most important nearby Civil War sites. Information and vignettes will be provided at each site by Civil War enthusiasts Don Hakeson, Gregg Dudding and Carl Sell. Full information is available at myrosehill. com or franconiamuseum.org. Previous tours to the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg, PA and the Gettysburg Visitors Center and Battlefield were well received. References provided upon request.

- Carl Sell

Rose HILL CIVIC Association Members as of Febuary 13, 2010

Nouri & Suham Abbou, 6115 Rose Hill Drive Wilmer & Nancy Anderson, 4500 Appletree Drive Rebecca Bagdasian, 6214 Driftwood Drive Frank & Rayma Bale, 6315 Willowood Land P.G. Bauserman, 4531 Round Hill Road Daniel & Ingrid Bearth, 6417 Rose Hill Drive Connie Beatty, 6428 Rose Hill Drive Sandra Benarick, 6270 Rose Hill Drive Philip & Carol Bishop, 6310 Climbhill Road Jeannette Bottomley, 5003 Eastchester Circle Gary J. Bravy, 6214 Climbhill Road Bob Brown, 4526 Apple Tree Drive Mark Broxterman, 6424 Haystack Road Tracy Campbell, 6402 Cottonwood Drive Maureen & Jason Cardone, 6418 Willowood Lane Ralph & Pauline Carrico, 6112 Leewood Drive Jon & Penn Cashmire, 4907 Silo Road Roger & Carol Christiensen, 6409 Maryview Street Bob Ciccotelli, 6511 Haystack Road Helen Coffer, 6218 Saddle Tree Drive Sally Coler, 6401 Hayfield Place Jane & Margo Cunniffe, 4609 Mayor Place Matthew & Cynthia Dailey, 5009 Eastchester Circle Matt Downey, 6516 Telegraph Road Betty Elliott, 6411 Maryview Street Bernice Evans, 6411 Willowood Lane Susan Feagley, 4705 Split Rock Road Anna Fish, 6301 Cottonwood Drive Trigg Flannagan, 6514 Haystack Road Rati Friend/Michael Smith, 6111 Leewood Drive Rosemarie & Mike Field, 4426 Roundhill Road Larry & Connie Fulk, 6410 Cottonwood Drive Barry & Zoe-Ann Freitag, 6303 May Boulevard Janice Gable, 6404 Willowood Lane Mike & Bonnie Greek, 6330 Willowood Lane Joanna Guccione, 6013 Leewood Drive Chris & Susie Guinto, 6515 Haystack Road Carole, Sal & Joanna Guzzetta, 6407 May Boulevard Theresa Harper, 6506 Carriage Drive Robert & Shirley Herr, 6103 Leewood Drive L. Hestvik, 4515 Sturbridge Place Don & Lynn Hoffman, 5002 Treetop Lane Alice Holloman, 4518 Sturbridge Place Emily Hood, 5012 Treetop Lane D. J. Jamison, 4707 Split Rock Road F. Jencks, 6416 Willowood Lane Marvin & Fran Justice, 6402 Rose Hill Drive Jean & Davood Kalkhoran, 6112 Clovergrass Drive Audrey Kick, 4517 Sturbridge Place

Cedric Lack, 6330 Rose Hill Drive Mildred Lane, 6410 May Boulevard Craig & Jessica Llewellyn, 6011 Leewood Drive Edward & Anna Lewis, 6117 Leewood Drive James Lockwood, 6114 Clovergrass Drive Jamey & David Lord, 6208 Redwood Lane Wellington & Ann Machmer, 6200 Willowood Lane Raymond & Evelyn Market, 4608 Mayor Place Mary Mayo, 61221 Leewood Drive Mike & Jo Ann McLean, 6433 Carriage Drive Dolores McKinney, 6303 Cottonwood Drive George & Susan McKittrick, 6113 Clovergrass Drive Donald & Nancy McMinn, 4804 Apple Tree Drive Marion Messinger, 6603 Cottonwood Drive Mimi Minarik, 6518 Telegraph Road Edna Mitchell, 6305 May Boulevard J. Niedermeyer, 6500 Haystack Road Herbert & Grace Newman, 4910 Silo Road But The Nguyen, 6512 Rose Hill Drive Dave & Linda Nichols, 6416 Rose Hill Drive Conrad & Haydee Oroc, 4703 Split Rock Road William & Janelle Parker, 6417 Willowood Lane Jo Ann Ponce, 6203 Willowood Lane Monica Reed, 6422 Rose Hill Drive Adam & Rita Rice, 6431 Carriage Drive James & Nancy Richey, 4402 Roundhill Road David & Nancy Ridgway, 4609 Cottonwood Place G. Miller, L. Seiss, 6415 Willowood Lane Carl & Marti Sell, 6601 Cottonwood Drive James & Marie Sherfey, 6415 Rose Hill Drive Marlene Hass Smith, 6304 Cottonwood Drive William & Jean Stemple, 6306 Cottonwood Drive Ray Stone, 4528 Roundhill Road Thomas Strah, 6421 Rose Hill Drive Mary C. Stinnette, 4520 Apple Tree Drive Terence Stone, 4522 Apple Tree Drive Tinker & Don Szamborski, 4615 Winston Place Judy Taylor, 6503 Rose Hill Drive Linda & Rex Taylor, 6505 Haystack Road Joanne Thompson Jean Thomson, 6302 Cottonwood Drive James W. Troy, 5004 Eastchester Circle Paul Turner, 4414 Roundhill Road Angie & Derek Vereen, 6222 Thornwood Drive Linda and Lauck Walton, 4900 Silo Road Don & Nina Weber, 6120 Dew Grass Drive Louise Westgate & Rick, 6708 Greendale Road Karen Wheeless, 6709 Greendale Road Jeffrey Williams, 6121 Dew Grass Drive Jamie & Pam Yereb, 4617 Winston Place

To join or renew your membership in the Rose Hill Civic Association...

Please fill out this form or online at myRoseHill.com and mail, along with your check, to the RHCA, P.O. Box 10891, Alexandria, VA 22310.

If you have questions, feel free to call any of the officers.

Name		
Address		
Phone		Email
Enclosed is a check for:		Membership
	<u></u> \$	Donation for upkeep and landscaping of the Rose Hill entrance sign
	<u> </u>	Donation for RHCA General Fund

Rose Hill Community Calendar

Around Rose Hill

- **★ Tuesday, February 23, 6:30pm.** Rose Hill Civic Association Meeting. John Marshall Library. Topics: Open
- **★ Every Wednesday and Saturday.** BINGO! Franconia Volunteer Fire Dept. Early Bird, 7pm. Regular sessions, 8pm.

John Marshall Library

6209 Rose Hill Dr., 703.971.0010. Call ahead to register for events. Hours: M, T, W - 10am-8pm; Th, F - 10am-6pm; Sat - 10am-5pm.

- **★ Ongoing Event.** Personalized Computer Training. Basics for beginners: Internet and Microsoft Word. Call for appointment. Adults.
- ★ February 26. Dr Suess' Birthday. 12:00-12:30 pm. Bring your lunch and hear stories as we celebrate Dr. Suess' birthday. Ages birth-5 w/ adult.
- **★ March 5, 12 & 19.** Lunch Bunch. 12:00-12:30 pm. Bring a lunch and join us for stories. Ages birth-5 w/ adult.
- ★ March 8. Early Reader Book Discussion. 3:30-4:15 pm. Join us for early-reader book activities. Please call for title. Ages 6-8 w/ adult.
- ★ March 9. Fun for Twos and Threes. 10:30-11:00 am. Stories and activities. Age 2-3 w/ adult.
- ★ March 13. Irish Stew. 10:30-11:15 am. Michael Forestieri presents "Tales from the Emerald Isle as Told by an Irish Bard."Great for St. Patrick's Day! All Ages.
- ★ March 13. Irish Social Dancing. 2:00-3:30 pm. Bring your dancing shoes and learn the basics of ceili dancing. Ages 13 & up.
- **★ March 15**. Read to the dog. 3:30 pm, 3:45 pm, 4:00 pm, 4:15 pm. Read aloud to a trained therapy dog. Call or sign up online for a 15-minute session. Ages 6-12.
- * March 16. Mother-daughter book group. 7:00-8:00 pm. Join us for a lively book discussion. Ages 9-11 w/ adult.
- **★ March 17.** Book Discussion Group. 6:30-8:00 pm. "The Lace Reader" by Brunonia Barry. Adults.

Thomas Edison High School

5801 Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA 22310; Office – 703.924.8000; Fax – 703.924.8097

* March 5, 7:30pm. The 2nd Annual EHS
All-Star Basketball Classic in the EHS
main gym. This special event is presented
by the Sports & Entertainment Marketing
program, DECA, and the EHS Marketing Department.
The event includes a round robin tournament between
student classes (ex. 2010 vs. 2011), a multiple event skills
competition, a half court shot contest, all building up to the
main event. The winning student class of the round robin

- tournament will take on the EHS faculty in a hard fought battle of the young hotshots versus the old timers!
- **★ March 10, 7:00 pm.** Sophomore Parents College Admissions Workshop, Lecture Hall.
- ★ March 20. ANGP Mulch Sale, Twain Middle School Parking Lot.
- ★ Volunteer Opportunity. Edison High School is looking for volunteers to help with the All Night Graduation Party - a party to congratulate seniors and to make sure they stay safe on graduation night. Contact Betsy Flanigan at betsyflanigan@aol.com or 703.971.5237 to get involved!

Mark Twain Middle School

4700 Franconia Rd., Alexandria, 22310; Office – 703.313.3700, Fax – 703.313.

- **★ March 2**. 8th Grade Writing SOL multiple choice test.
- ★ March 3. 8th Grade Writing SOL essay test.

Rose Hill Elementary School

Rose Hill

Elementary

6301 Rose Hill Dr., Phone: 703.313.4200 Fax: 703.313.4297

- **★ February 25**. Play Rehearsal, Gym 3:30-5:00 p.m.
- **★ March 1.** Play Rehearsal, Gym, 3:30-5:00 p.m.
- **★ March 2**. PTA Meeting, Library, 7pm.
- **★ March 4.** Play Rehearsal, Gym, 3:30-5:00 p.m. Thursday Evening Tutoring, Library, 7pm.
- **★ March 8.** Play Rehearsal, Gym, 3:30-5:00 p.m.
- ★ March 11. Play Rehearsal, Gym, 3:45-5:00pm. Thursday Evening Tutoring, Library, 7pm.
- **★ March 15**. Play Rehearsal, Gym, 3:30-5:00pm.
- ★ March 18. Play Rehearsal, Gym, 3:45-5:00pm. Thursday Evening Tutoring, Library, 7pm.
- ★ March 22. Play Rehearsal, Gym, 3:30-5:00pm.
- **★ March 25.** Play Rehearsal, Gym, 3:30-5:00pm. Thursday Evening Tutoring, Library, 7-8:30pm.
- * February 15. President's Day School Holiday

Rose Hill Community News & Notes

Snow Thoughts (Again)

The triple whammy of snowstorms so far this winter produced some thoughts and comments on just how homeowners, the county and the state coped with the weather. First, a reminder that a selection of excellent pictures has been preserved on myrosehill. com. We can all laugh about them in July. Thanks to all those who took the time to send in pictures. We used all of them!

THUMBS UP to the Virginia Department of Transportation and its contractors who did an overall excellent job in clearing the snow from the streets in Rose Hill despite two back-to-back whoppers. Yeah, there were some misfires (two plows on one street and none on another) but by and large a good job.

THUMBS DOWN to whoever ordered the Federal Government back to work on Friday, Feb. 11, and those who left cars blocking streets or parked in such a way that the snow plows couldn't get through. In too many cases, people left cars parked blocking the streets. They weren't snowed in, they just parked in the street so they could get out easier. As a result, the streets didn't get plowed until they left. And many main streets were narrowed by a lane making the term 'rush hour' even more ludicrous.

THUMBS UP to all those who were able who cleared their sidewalks, making it less hazardous to walk to the shopping center for milk, bread and toilet paper! A special thanks to those who cleared the sidewalks of their neighbors who were unable to do so.

THUMBS DOWN to those who were able to shovel but didn't make the effort to lessen the impact on the entire community.

THUMBS UP to the emergency personnel who answered several calls for help in our community at the height of the storm. We are indeed fortunate to have such dedicated public servants.

THUMBS UP to the Fairfax Water crew who dug up and repaired a broken water main on Cottonwood Drive in record time.

Finally, THUMBS UP to all of you who persevered during the record snowfall. Lets hope we don't have to go through it again anytime soon! As for me, I'll be looking for a snow blower on sale this summer.

5th Annual Special Education Conference Coming to Robert E. Lee High School

Keynote Speaker: Jonathan Mooney

Saturday, March 20, 2010, the 5th Annual Special Education Conference will be held at Robert E. Lee High School. Featuring keynote speaker Jonathan Mooney, the Conference is geared toward families and educator of students who receive special education services in Fairfax County Public Schools. The Conference runs from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and is broken down into 3 sessions with multiple workshops in each session. Workshop topics to include:

- Assistive Technology
- Help with Homework
- Reading
- Writing in Content Areas
- Behavior Management
- Preschool Transition
- English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Services for Language Learners with Disabilities

Other highlighted presenters include **Cathi Cohen**, founder of In Step, a comprehensive mental health practice. She has worked with children, adolescents and adults in a clinical setting since 1984. Cathi is a leading expert in the field of social skills training with children.

Also presenting will be Behavioral Scientist **Kirk Martin**, founder of Celebrate Calm which has equipped over 75,000 parents and teachers with practical tools to create a calm home; eliminate defiance and disrespect; create stress-free morning routines, homework time and bedtime; improve behavior, focus and attention in school; and much more.

Parents can sign up online or by phone at 703-204-3941. FCPS Educators can sign up through MyPLT.

More information including detailed descriptions of each workshop and presenter bios can be found at:

www.fcps.edu/dss/conference/

www.fcps.edu/dss/conference/bios/index.htm

http://jonathanmooney.com/

Rose Hill Business Directory

Only those residents who are members of the Rose Hill Civic Association or provide services in kind will qualify for a free listing in the business directory. Membership dues are the source of funds for the printing of The Rambler. A membership form for 2010 is included in this issue.

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Fabrications – graphics and designs, LLC. Websites, invitations, flyers, announcements, menus, business cards, brochures, newsletters, mailers, books, proposals, journals, and all your editing, printing, paper, and digital needs. Marty Williams, Desktop Specialist, has more than 13 years experience and can be reached at 703.910.6316, or marty@fabrications.us. She is the former Editor of *The Rambler*.

HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING

Dove Heating and Air Conditioning. We service and install heat pumps, air conditioners, furnaces, hot water heaters, and humidifiers. David and Linda Nichols, 703.971.8897. The Nichols have been in business for 24 years and have lived in Rose Hill for 34 years.

LAWN SERVICES

Fortney Lawn & Garden. David and Jimmy Fortney, 703.960.8869. Although they live in Virginia Hills, the Fortneys work closely with RHCA to maintain the median landscaping on Rose Hill Drive.

Freedom Lawn & Landscape. Matt Downey, 571.218.2881, freedomproviders@ gmail.com. Proud to provide our customers with high quality services at affordable prices. Family has lived in Rose Hill for nearly 50 years. Discount for RHCA members! Free estimates for all. You Deserve Freedom!



Advertising in *The Rambler*

Listing in the Business Directory is free to Rose Hill residents who are members and own their business, but placing an actual advertisement is open to all with rates per month as follows:

★ Business card: 3 ½" x 2", \$10
★ Quarter page: 3 ½" x 4 ¾", \$25
★ Half page: 7 ½" x 4 ¾", \$50
★ Full page: 7 ½" x 9 ¾", \$100

Ads may be bought for either one month only, month-to-month, or as many months in advance as desired. Our newsletter is published 9 times a year, excluding July, August, and December.

Advertising in *The Rambler* is an excellent way to reach the 700+ homes in our community. In addition, the ads are placed on our website, www.myRoseHill.com, for the world to see.

Anyone interested in placing an ad may call me at 703.625.7046. Artwork can be sent to richtdowney@gmail. com in tiff or jpeg format or hardcopy mailed to P.O. Box 10891, Alexandria, VA 22310. Checks made out to RHCA should be included with ads and sent to the P.O. Box.

-Richard Downey



Andrea Day

Owner

5810 Kingstowne Center Dr. #120 Alexandria, VA 22315-5711

M - F 8:30 am - 8 pm Sat. 9 am - 5 pm, Sun. closed 703.924.4201 Tel 703.924.4203 Fax store3532@theupsstore.com

www.theupsstore.com/3532.htm



The UPS Store