

The Rambler

Newsletter of the
Rose Hill Civic Association

Although issues surrounding the development of Rose Hill Reserve continue to be a moving target, we'll try to provide an update on everything at the Rose Hill Civic Association's meeting on Tuesday, September 28 at the John Marshall Library. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

We are returning to our regular meeting time at the Library because of budget shifts that allows the facility to remain open until 9 p.m. Previously, we had to start early because the library's hours had been curtailed.

President's Message

Rose Hill Reserve Update

Over the summer, issues involving truck traffic, noise and dust have been of concern to the neighbors. RHCA has worked with the county and the developer to improve conditions in all three areas. Of course, nothing is perfect, but there has been an effort to improve the situation. For those far away, the 22-acre development of 45 homes is west of Rose Hill Drive and Cottonwood Drive, north of Carriage Drive and south of Silo Road. It previously was zoned for 59 homes.

The overriding issue remains the impact the development may have on adjoining prop-

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erties. The development involves marine clay and there remains concern on the part of RHCA despite assurances from both the County and developer's engineers that adequate controls will stabilize the hillside.

There is a fund set aside to correct problems for those who had their homes inspected at no cost prior to development. Go to myrosehill.com, click on Rose Hill Reserve and scroll down to the development conditions adopted by the Board of Supervisors in 2004. Pay particular attention to conditions 10-14.

The integrity of the slopes and containment of storm water runoff continue to be RHCA's main concerns. It is imperative that the piers to stabilize the hillside be installed as soon as possible. Likewise, RHCA insisted that containment ponds be in place early in the process. The ponds have been installed and meet county standards.

A representative of Stanley Martin Homes will be on hand to introduce the company and update the community on the work done so far and the schedule for the future. Illustration of the style on homes is included as part of the Rose Hill Reserve section on myrosehill.com.

RHCA Meeting Tuesday, September 28

7:00 pm at John Marshall Library

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@gmail.com
- Neighborhood Watch:** Woody Betts, 703.971.0520, rosehillwatch@aol.com
- Webmaster:** Jim Sapp, jimsapp7@msn.com

RHCA, P.O. Box 10891, Alexandria, VA 22310
www.myRoseHill.com

Telegraph/S. Kings Intersection

The Virginia Department of transportation has designed a plan to unclog the intersection at Telegraph Road, South Kings Highway and South Van Street. The plan currently is undergoing review. You can view the plan online at virginiadot.org/projects/northernvirginia/telegraph_road_improvements.asp. The \$10 million project is being funded by Fairfax County.

The planned improvements include: one-turn from northbound Telegraph Road to South Kings Highway; dual right-turn lanes from southbound Telegraph Road to South Van Dorn Street; dual left-turn lanes from South Kings Highway to southbound Telegraph Road; and;

A raised median; two striped on-road bike lanes; a five-foot wide sidewalk on the east; a 10-foot-wide shared-use path on the west; replacement of the culvert carrying Dogue Creek under the road; reconstruction of the Huntley Meadows Park entrance and parking lot on South Kings Highway; storm water management facilities.

The plan raises questions about how the design will fit into the long-term four-lane Telegraph Road that has been tabled because of a lack of funds, a lack of dual lanes southbound on Telegraph Road (one through and one right to South Van Dorn) and the lack of an additional left-turn lane from South Van Dorn to Telegraph (one of through traffic and another for right turns on South Kings).

Other comments are welcome. This is an important issue for Rose Hill because we experience backups at all our entrances/exits on Telegraph Road during rush hour.

Mowing the Median, Landscaping

Remember last spring when the grass in the median on Rose Hill Drive was knee high because the apartments had stopped cutting except across from the complex, VDOT's mowing

schedule was greatly curtailed because of budget cuts and the shopping center owners, as usual, wouldn't cut the grass in the median adjacent to their property? After numerous discussions that failed to result in a combined effort, the Rose Hill Apartments stepped up and resumed cutting the grass all the way to Franconia Road. Thanks to Mona Williams, manager of the apartments, for her efforts to resolve the situation. Mona agreed with RHCA that an overgrown median at the gateway to the community wasn't in anyone's best interest. And thanks to Matthew Dailey, who trimmed and cleaned up the numerous dead limbs that were the aftermath of the heavy winter snows. I hope those of you who contributed to the landscaping at the entrance sign have noticed how good the area continues to look. We pay for new plantings several times a year, but Fortney Lawn and Garden doesn't allow price to get in their way of a job worth notice. And while I'm at it, kudos to Donnie Krause for his help in cleaning up an overgrown property when asked by RHCA.

New Parking Regulations

Supervisor Jeff McKay sends along information on some new parking rule changes recently adopted by the Board of Supervisors. Perhaps one of the biggest changes is the fact that vehicles not registered in Virginia must pay and out-of-state license tax as part of the personal property tax bill. The fee is assessed annually as long as the vehicle remains registered outside Virginia. There are a number of vehicles in Rose Hill with out-of-state license plates. The cost of registration is less than the \$100 fine, so that is an incentive for vehicles to be properly registered. In other changes, taxi and limousines are now limited to one per dwelling, vehicles parked on a public street must have both front and rear license plates and display a current safety inspection sticker, parking is prohibited within 20 feet of an intersection or crosswalk, most commercial vehicles may not park on public streets and the fine for large commercial vehicles on residential streets has been raised from \$25 to \$100.

Problem Properties

We continue to be plagued with a number of properties that make our community look bad. The good news is that our diligence has paid off

with increased County support for our effort to clean up the messes. The only power RHCA has is its ability to encourage the County to enforce its laws. There are laws about trash, multiple occupancy, uncut grass, wrecked or inoperable cars, parking on the grass, noise and health violations. The underlying disdain for neighbors is the most offensive. That cannot be tolerated. We have had some success in recent years, but the job is a continuous one. If you see what you think is a violation that makes the neighborhood look bad, give us a call. We'll try to make sure it is something that is worthy of the County's attention. There are too few inspectors and too many violators, so we concentrate on the major offenders.

Franconia History Day, Tour

The Franconia Museum's annual History Day is scheduled for Saturday, November 6, at the Franconia Volunteer Fire Department. The hours are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Admission is free but there is plenty on sale, including food. The program will honor our area veterans in anticipation of the upcoming Veteran's Day on November 11 when we pause at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month to honor those who died and those who served to protect our freedom. The latest book in the Franconia Remembers series will be unveiled. It honors Joe Davies, a Franconia native and Air Force pilot who was lost in Vietnam and never recovered. On Saturday, November 20, the Museum will sponsor its fifth Both Sides bus tour. This one is to Charles Town and Harper's Ferry with a side trip to the Hollywood Casino built in. The price is \$100 per person and includes a seat on the bus, a buffet lunch, a \$20 FREE play card for the slots at the casino, admission to a museum in Charles Town and a pre-paid fast-food card for a snack stop on the way home. Go to Franconiamuseum.org for more information on both events.

- Carl Sell

Around Rose Hill

- ★ **September 28, 7:00pm.**
- ★ **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, W, F – 10am-6pm; T, Th – 1pm-9pm; Sat – 10am-5pm.

Thomas Edison High School

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



- ★ **October 11.** Columbus Day Holiday.

Mark Twain Middle School

4700 Franconia Rd., Alexandria, 22310; Office – 703.313.3700, Fax – 703.313.3797



- ★ **October 11.** Columbus Day Holiday.

Rose Hill Elementary School

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



- ★ **September 30.** 9:00- 10:00 am. Principal's coffee in the library.
- ★ **October 11.** Columbus Day Holiday.
- ★ **October 15.** School pictures.
- ★ **October 19.** 7:30-8:30 pm. PTA meeting.

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*.

Digital Design. Ron Dillon, 703.971.2125; www.dgdesigns.com. Webpages, registration, scanning services, hosting and custom graphic art work. Ron and Donna Dillon live on Winston Place.

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.

REAL ESTATE

Exit Metro Realty. Angie Vereen, 571-233-6395, angie@exitmetroliving.com. Our extensive experience and expertise in the Alexandria, Lorton, and Vienna real estate market will benefit you whether you are looking to buy or sell a home in the area. Licensed in Virginia and Maryland.

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.

Dans Lawn & Leaf. Daniel and David Bishop, 703.719.7806. Fast, friendly, affordable service. Serving the Rose Hill community for 7 years.

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!

HOUSE CLEANING

Ingrid Hayslip. 703.362.5672. A 14 year resident of the Rose Hill area, I clean houses including move-in and move-outs.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Tisara Photography. Nina Tisara, 703.838.8098. Tisara Photography is a family business with a studio in Old Town Alexandria since 1990. They specialize in portraits and special events. Nina live on Hayfield Place.

Free All Day Yoga Open House



Walk-ins Welcome

Saturday, March 13th

- 9:00-9:15am* - Beginner Yoga
- 10:15-11:00am* - Yoga Flow
- 11:30am-12:15pm* - Fiery Sun Stretch
- 1:00-1:45pm* - Restorative Fitness Yoga (Gentle)
- 2:00-3:00pm - Yoga Reception

* Please arrive 15 minutes before each class.



Free Giveaways!

Hollin Hall Senior Center
1500 Shenandoah Road, RM 218
Alexandria, VA 22308

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Owner

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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

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Rose Hill Business Directory

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Steve Dougherty
Your Rose Hill Realtor
703-746-8720

RE/MAX 100



www.stevedougherty.com

PET SITTING

Welcome Waggin' Professional Pet Sitting. Jonathan and Janelle Welch. 703.819.0809, jlw@welcomewaggin.com. Serving the Alexandria area since 2000.

DECK AND FENCE

B&B Deck and Fence. Cliff James, Owner. 6412 May Boulevard. Quality work, 25 years experience. Telephone: 703.719.7015/703.627.9935, Fax: 703.922.3779.

QUILTS

Hand made quilts. Sally Dankers and her mother, Marjorie Parkyn, make quilts for sale. They are one of a kind and very beautiful. Call 703.971.8064 or e-mail oraclemarjorie@aol.com.

SPEECH-LANGUAGE THERAPY SERVICES

Speech Beginnings, PLC, a speech therapy private practice in Rose Hill provides quality speech-language therapy services (evaluations/therapy/screenings) to children ages Preschool through 5th grades. Owned and operated by a licensed and certified speech-language pathologist with more than 19 years experience. Please visit our website at: www.speechbeginnings.com. You can also contact us at: 571.481.4344.

WELLNESS

We're changing the shape of America one pound at a time. Weight management, targeted nutrition, energy & fitness, personal care, business opportunity. Contact Joanne Thompson, Independent Herbalife Distributor. www.shape-up-usa.com, www.wellness-usa-mall.com, www.fortune-key.com

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 1/2" x 2", \$10
- * Quarter page: 3 1/2" x 4 3/4", \$25
- * Half page: 7 1/2" x 4 3/4", \$50
- * Full page: 7 1/2" x 9 3/4", \$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