

The Rambler

Newsletter of the
Rose Hill Civic Association

President's Message

No More Meetings Until 2018

Enjoy the Holiday Season!

Although there won't be a meeting of the Rose Hill Civic Association until January 24, 2018, this edition of The Rambler is published wish everyone a happy holiday season and remind residents to join RHCA for 2018. There also are a few updates on questions and items discussed at our October meeting.

The Association voted to request the police to increase patrols and utilize radar to help curtail speeding on Rose Hill Drive. As a result, there has been additional police presence on our main street and you never know when the radar patrol will pop up. Please watch your speed so most of those who are stopped aren't from Rose Hill. We encourage enforcement against those who are driving at an excessive speed, not those just a few miles over the limit.

Although there was much discussion, RHCA did NOT vote to ask VDOT to declare Rose Hill Drive as a zone where speeding conviction would involve a fine of \$200 as an additional amount. It was decided to hold off on that issue to see how increased enforcement might

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solve the problem. We also have asked the County Office of Transportation to monitor the average speed on Rose Hill Drive as a result of the installation of the bicycle lanes.

The agenda for the January 24 meeting includes an update from the County staff on the progress for the plan for the proposed development on Rock-A-By Road. As of this writing, a second submission of the plan has NOT been received by the County. The first submission was rejected. We will have to have a new plan before making any comments. A walk with the County arborist is in limbo until a plan is received.

We also will report any new information involving the development on May Boulevard. Residents are reminded to voice their concerns and ask questions as RHCA is in touch with the County inspector overseeing the development. In both the Rock-A-Bye Road and May Boulevard developments, the only way for trucks to reach the site is through our residential neighborhoods. Those who live along the way are encouraged to keep a sharp eye on the traffic and report any problems.

We hope everyone enjoyed Thanksgiving and will have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! On behalf of RHCA and all its members, special thanks to those volunteers who deliver The Rambler nine times a year. A tradition worth applauding!

Don't forget to leave your outside holiday decoration lights on until at least 8 p.m. for a few nights AFTER Christmas Day. We'll be looking for properties to honor, so don't be left out (or off, as the case may be).

RHCA Officers

President: Carl Sell, 703.971.4716, sellcarl@aol.com

Vice President: Linda Nichols, 703.971.0755, dovefellow@aol.com

Secretary: VACANT

Treasurer: Carolyn Slenska, 703.922.4135, Carolyn.slenska@lycos.com

Editor, The Rambler: Susan Jones, scheungjones@gmail.com

Neighborhood Watch: VACANT, rosehillwatch@aol.com

Webmaster: Jim Sapp, jimsapp7@msn.com

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

Why Your Membership is Important

I am constantly amazed when I hear from people about a problem in their neighborhood who think the Rose Hill Civic Association is supported by their tax dollars. We are an independent, community organization that seeks to represent our members' concerns to Fairfax County, Commonwealth of Virginia and Federal Government officials. Often, we find ourselves complaining about residents within in our community who are breaking the law. We take no sides in political contests, but we do support our police and other agencies which look after our well-being. All of the money we collect is spent on items such as publication of The Rambler nine times a year. Since our dues are minimal (\$10 per year), we depend on contributions to pay our bills. For example, the dues we collect are NOT enough to publish the Rambler nine times a year. We distribute it to every household so all residents can keep up with County rules and local information that affects their lives. Mostly, we are about maintaining our property value so the purchase of a home in Rose Hill remains a good investment. We demand that all our residents obey the law and try to make sure that they know what the laws are simply by reading The Rambler. Ignorance of the law is no excuse in Rose Hill.

We are in the midst of our membership drive for 2018. If the coming year is anything like recent ones, less than one-third of the households will join. The burden of maintaining our community and your property value once again will fall on the few who contribute the funds necessary to keep us afloat. The good news is that if more people join, the financial burden will be less on all. Please take time to join RHCA for 2018 and make a generous contribution toward the continued success of our neighborhood.

If you don't think a vibrant civic organization is necessary, think back just a few years ago when Rose Hill was being inundated by short-term renters who overcrowded homes and cared little for our environment. We still have some problems, but they are getting less and less. RHCA has fought hard to convince ALL homeowners to help make sure their properties were well maintained. We are proud of the

many recent arrivals to our community who have upgraded formerly problem properties. All have seen a rise in property value because of their effort. We will continue to report those who haven't yet gotten the word to the proper authorities.

Please fill out the membership form in this edition of The Rambler and return it to RHCA, Post Office Box 10891, Franconia, VA 22310. Take the time to attend one of our meetings and learn about our community. We need your support to remain an effective voice at the County, State and Federal level. If you already are a member, your name will be listed in this issue. We would like a much longer list for the January Rambler.

Reminder /Warning

Fairfax County zoning rules prohibit a number of things that keep popping up on Rose Hill properties. Make no mistake that RHCA will report each complaint from a member to the proper authorities. If you see a violation in your neighborhood, please let us know. The property value of both you and your neighbors are affected by scofflaws in our midst. Overcrowding of both occupants and vehicles at one address is the No. 1 problem in our community. There are laws regulating both. Let the proper authorities sort out the issues. Often, overcrowding involves unsafe partitioning and wiring that doesn't meet the County code. Cars parked in front yards, driveways or on the street without valid tags or inspections are illegal. Out of state license plates must be reregistered in Virginia after 30 days of residence. Failure to pay County taxes on the vehicles will result in a citation. Only one commercial vehicle per residence is allowed and cannot be parked on the street. Report violators parked on the street to 703-691-2131. Rose Hill is part of a residential parking district and commercial parking is prohibited on the streets.

Protect Your Property

As darkness comes early this time of year, set your vigilance clock to match the situation. Turn on your outdoor light as prowlers may appear earlier. Make sure you lock the doors on both the house and parked cars. Don't ever leave a garage-door opener in your car at night. Don't leave valuable items in plain

view in either locked or unlocked cars. Report any suspicious activity to the police non-emergency number at 703-691-2131. If you see a crime in progress, call 911. Keep an eye on both your and your neighbor's property. If you see something, say something. If not, you may be next. Be careful as you back out of your driveway in the early evening. Pedestrians are hard to see. If you are walking, wear bright clothing or carry a flashlight. Most people are in a hurry during the holiday season, so take the time to watch out for others.

Projects of Interest

As many of you know, the federal government office building on Telegraph Road across from Greendale Golf Course has been vacant for some time. Neither RHCA nor the Lee District Supervisor's office has been able to pry any information out of the General Services Agency as to the future use of the building. Past government tenants have included the Air Force and the Defense Nuclear Agency. We will continue to monitor the situation and report any proposed use to the community. We are concerned that any potential tenant be compatible with previous users and therefore our community. Also, I'm sure you have noticed the increase of reverse rush-hour traffic on Telegraph Road as job opportunities at Fort Belvoir have mushroomed. Opening of the new road from Telegraph to Route #1 has added to the volume. At present, plans to widen Telegraph Road from Leaf Road all the way to South Van Dorn Street remain in the unfunded category. The project is broken into two segments. The first, from Leaf Road to Hayfield Road, is estimated to have a cost of \$22-plus million. The second, from Hayfield to South Van Dorn will cost an estimated \$72-plus million. RHCA is on record as supporting both projects. Widening from South Van Dorn all the way to the Beltway involves environmental and driveway access problems that will require some skillful planning. In the interim, Supervisor McKay is working with VDOT to make improvements that will uncork the bottleneck northbound on Telegraph Road at Hayfield Road. Traffic sometimes backs up to Jeff Todd Way, the new

route to Richmond Highway and the main post at Fort Belvoir.

-Carl Sell

Around Rose Hill

Thomas Edison High School

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

Mark Twain Middle School

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

Rose Hill Elementary School

6301 Rose Hill Dr. Alexandria, VA 22310
Office – 703.313.4200; Fax – 703.313.4297

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*.

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

Anyone interested in placing an ad may call me at 703.625.7046. Artwork can be sent to scheungjones@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 advertisement and sent to the P.O. Box.

Donald Camden

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

M - F 8:30 am - 8 pm
Sat. 9 am - 5 pm
Sun. 12 pm - 4 pm

P. 703.924.4201
F. 703.924.4203

store3532@theupsstore.com


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RE/MAX 100

www.stevedougherty.com



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 30 years and have lived in Rose Hill for 41 years.

Real Estate

Re/Max 100. Steve Dougherty, 703.746.8720. www.stevedougherty.com. Steve and his family have lived in Rose Hill and been active in civic affairs for 30 years. He has been a Realtor of 20 years and specializes in service to his neighbors in the community.

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.

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 lives on Hayfield Place.

Need Help?

Pet services (dog walking, vet appointments); errands (pharmacy, dry cleaning, drop off/pick-up product repair); personal shopping (grocery, post office, exchange and item returns); vehicle services (vehicle license and emission renewal, vehicle service repair, vehicle inspection); home services (house sitting, light yard work, wait at home for service personnel); travel and transportation (to and from); medical concierge services (doctor appointments, pre-/post-operation assistance). Contact David Sell at 703.971.4716, or email dksell@hotmail.com.

Handyman

Your honey-do list getting out of hand? Call my honey! Offering free quotes and estimates. Rose Hill references available. Please call Rick (a Rose Hill resident) at 703.943.7102.

Speech Therapy

Speech Beginnings, PLC is a pediatric speech therapy practice serving Alexandria. Our speech pathologists provide evaluations and therapy to children and young adults. We provide services in the client's home and/or private school. Jamey Lord at: 571.481-4344 or www.speechbeginnings.com or speechbeginnings@gmail.com

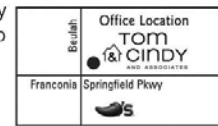


HELP SANTA BRING A GIFT TO EVERY CHILD'S HOME!

GIVE JOY TO AN UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILD THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.

BRING IN NEW UNWRAPPED TOYS AND OUR TEAM WILL MATCH THEIR VALUE UP TO \$2,000.

For the 11th year in a row we are helping the U.S. Marines with the Toys for Tots campaign. It lasts till December 18th. Toys need to be new and unwrapped. Last year's national Toys for Tots Campaign raised 18 million toys benefiting nearly 7 million children in need. We'd love to have you join us.



TOM & CINDY
AND ASSOCIATES

TomandCindy@HelloVirginia.com
www.HelloVirginia.com • 703-822-0207

LONG & FOSTER
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RHCA 2018 Members (as of November 20, 2017)

Lee Anderson, 6319 May Boulevard
 Frank & Rayma Bale, 6315 Willowood Lane
 Connie Beatty, 6428 Rose Hill Drive
 Diane & Daniel Bird, 6611 Cottonwood Drive
 Jeanette Bottomley, 5003 Eastchester Circle
 Bill Braswell, 6307 Climbhill Road
 Lorraine & Mark Broxterman, 6424 Haystack Road
 Helen Cofer, 6218 Saddle Tree Drive
 Steve & Holly Daugherty, 4522 Roundhill Road
 Dennis Dzierzawski, 6210 Thordwood Drive Dawit
 Eyob & Kongit Eyassu, 6206 Redwood Lane Zoe-Ann
 Freitag, 6303 May Boulevard
 Robert & Shirley Herr, 6103 Leewood Drive
 Marvin & Frances Justice, 6402 Rose Hill Drive
 The Kowaliks, 6115 Leewood Drive
 James Lockwood, 6114 Clovergrass Drive
 Jamey & Davey Lord, 6208 Redwood Lane

Ron Machmer, 6200 Willowood Lane
 Madge McKay, 6402 Wayside Place
 H.W. & G.G. Newman, 4910 Silo Road
 James Richey, 4402 Roundhill Road
 David & Dona Rodriguez, 6529 Wayside Place
 Carlos Rolon & Judy Taylor, 6503 Rose Hill Drive
 Arlene & Nathan Shapiro, 6216 Driftwood Drive
 Marlene Hass Smith, 6304 Cottonwood Drive
 Bill & Jean Stemple, 6306 Cottonwood Drive
 Tinker, Don & Billy Szamborski, 4615 Winston Place
 Nina Tisara, 6408 Hayfield Place
 Dorothy & John Thibeau, 6216 Saddle Tree Drive
 Joanne Thompson
 Ijaz Warriach, 6004 Leewood Drive
 Don & Nina Weber, 6120 Dew Grass Drive
 Karen Wheelless, 6709 Greendale Road
 Alan & Sylvia Wilson, 6008 Leewood Drive

