

The Rambler

Newsletter of the
Rose Hill Civic Association

President's Message

Meet Rose Hill's New School At RHCA's April 22 Meeting

The Howard Gardner School is operating on property on Franconia Road between Leewood Drive and the Rose Hill Baptist Church. Eventually, the school will build a 5,500 square foot classroom building on the 1.36 acres. The school will introduce itself to the Rose Hill community at the April 22 meeting of the Rose Hill Civic Association beginning at 7pm in the community room of John Marshall Library. The Howard Gardner School is a small, progressive independent high school for college-bound learners. Currently, the school operates in the vintage farmhouse on the property, a student-built outdoor classroom and environmental workshop and temporary classrooms in the church next door. The school was one of 40 statewide to receive an award for excellence in environmental education. It recently received its third environmental education grant. Tuition and fees total almost \$20,000 per student per year. The school operates on a Special Exception granted by the County of Fairfax. The site plan includes a 25-foot buffer between development and rear of the houses that are contiguous on Leewood Drive.

Rose Hill Civic Association Meeting
Tuesday, April 22, 7pm
John Marshall Library

Topic: Meet the Howard Gardner School

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: Marty Williams, 703.910.6316, marty@fabrications.us
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

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Election of Officers

Unfortunately, we failed to hold an election at our March meeting. We got engrossed in the subject at hand (assessments), and forgot about the election. So, before we convene the April meeting on the 22nd, we'll continue the March meeting in order to hold an election. Hopefully, all of the current officers will agree to join me in another term. It's a tough job but somebody has to do it! The rewards are many and you get to buy your own gas. Volunteers are welcome. The officers are president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. The positions of editor of *The Rambler* and webmaster are appointed and available.

Assessments

By now, everyone should have received a revised tax assessment recalculating the value of the land and the structure. The total did not change from the first notice where the value of the land was more heavily weighted than the value of the structure. We also were told at the March meeting to expect a third notice that would outline a decline in values based on more recent sales information. The Department of Taxation indicated it expected an overall decline in value of 3-5 percent. In any event, you need to file an administrative appeal if you think your property is overvalued. And, if you don't get a satisfactory answer, you can appear

Thankfully, many of you help with your contributions to the general fund. Without your generous extra support, we could not fund all of the activities the membership thinks are important to RHCA...Thanks again for your support! Remember, only members who qualify receive Rose Hill Beauty signs!

to the Board of Equalization. Take note of the deadlines outlined in your assessment notice. There is additional information on the RHCA web site, myRoseHill.com.

Financial Report

The Rose Hill Civic Association's financial report for 2007 is presented on the next page. Thanks to Treasurer Carolyn Slenska for keeping track of all our income and expenses. Please take note of the cost of printing *The Rambler*. It costs in excess of \$450 per edition. If we had to depend on regular \$10 memberships only, we couldn't afford *The Rambler*! Thankfully, many of you help with your contributions to the general fund. Without your generous extra support, we could not fund all of the activities the membership thinks are important to RHCA. It has been suggested that we deliver *The Rambler* to members only as a way to save money. That would be a nightmare for our volunteer delivery people. And, by delivering *The Rambler* to every house, we let the community know what the membership is concerned about and provide notice of concerns before they are reported to the County. In a perfect world, everyone household would join RHCA and we wouldn't have to ask for donations. However, some people don't care and *The Rambler* is the only way we can notify them of County law and community concerns. Thanks again for your support! Remember, only members who qualify receive Rose Hill Beauty signs!

Rose Hill Beauties and Otherwise

We soon will be canvassing the community, searching for those extra special properties that deserve recognition as a Rose Hill Beauty! Please help by nominating your property or that of your neighbor for this prestigious award. Believe me, people who drive through our community take notice. In an effort to save money, we will be adding yearly updates to those signs that are still on display and remain in good

shape. If you have a sign, please don't throw it away. We will have new signs for those that are damaged or misplaced. At the same time we are looking for Rose Hill Beauties, we will be taking note of properties that don't measure up. We particularly will be looking for disabled or abandoned vehicles, piles of trash, overcrowding, etc. Violations will be reported to the proper authorities. If you'd like to help us judge the Beauties and keep an eye out for those that don't measure up, please give any of the officers a call.

Update on Blight

The County is actively pursuing numerous zoning violations and blight in Rose Hill. Recently, the County filed a complaint with the circuit court concerning the situation at 4509 Apple Tree Drive. There is trash, inoperable vehicles, and apparently people are living there without utilities. Other locations also have been cited. Hopefully, they will be resolved without court action. We also have numerous vehicles in Rose Hill that are used for commercial purposes but do not have commercial licenses. You can report them anonymously on-line by contacting the Department of Tax Administration at fairfaxcounty.gov/dta. You also can report the location of vehicles with out-of-state licenses that have been here more than 30 days. Vehicles garaged or parked in Fairfax County are subject to state license fees and county personal property taxes. The police and County can't be everywhere, but we can help make sure everyone pays their fair share of vehicle taxes.

Membership Update

Somehow, we missed Jim & Nancy Richey of 4602 Roundhill Road when they joined back in November. New members added as of April 11 since the March *Rambler* are Kristen Anderson, 6406 Willowood Lane; Jack Blush; Richard & Patti Ballard, 4519 Lark Lane; David & Robin Dodson, 6400 Wayside Place; Theresa Harper, 6506 Carriage Drive; Janice Gable, 6404 Willowood Lane; Joe & Lorraine Hatcher, 6102 Leewood Drive; Lucio & Mery Herrera, 4525 Apple Tree Drive; Kevin & Kelli Hoover, 6314 Saddle Tree Drive; E. F. Khan; Brent & Susan Kroetch, 4700 Flower Lane; Mildred Lane, 6410 May Boulevard; Ronald & Katherine Lender, 6406 Rose Hill Drive; Thakor & Prasanna Patel, 6401 Maryview Street; Bueton & Debbie Slack, 4803 Apple Tree Drive; Dottie & Mark Snyder, 6322 Maryview Street; Stephanie Young and Darrell Springer, 6403 Willowood Lane.

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Painting Sponsors

Hope we have John and Penny Cashmire's name spelled right this time! We have added 'In Memory of Tony Lane' to the list. Tony is a former president of RHCA. The framed explanation of the painting and the list of sponsors will be presented to the library at our April 22 meeting. We also received a contribution

from Carroll and Barbara Shifflett after the deadline and their names will soon be added to the list for the library. The painting is on display in the Gladys Keating Community Room (where we have the RHCA meetings). It is on the wall to the right as soon as you enter the door. RHCA had no input into the placement of the painting.

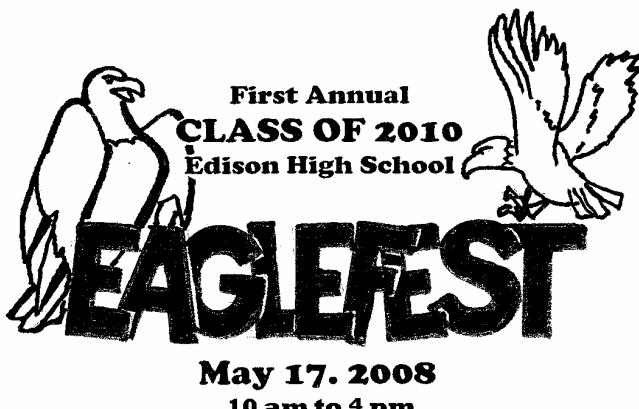
—Carl Sell



Rose Hill Civic Association Budget — Calendar Year 2007

Income		
Dues, donations, <i>Rambler</i> advertisements		
	Total	\$8,468.70
Expenses and Donations		
<i>Rambler</i> printing	\$3,831.66	
Fortney Lawn and Garden	\$195.00	
Treasurer of Virginia (State Corporation Commission)	\$25.00	
United States Postal Service (stamps)	\$7.96	
Ink stamp for bank deposits	\$24.31	
U. S. Postal Service (post office box)	\$106.00	
Meeting Supplies (snacks, utensils, etc.)	\$95.00	
Flag sets	\$102.00	
Edison All Night Grad party donation	\$100.00	
Lee District Association of Civic Orgs (dues)	\$10.00	
Frames, Rose Hill Original certificates	\$164.16	
Reception, March Rose Hill Originals celebration	\$61.99	
Rose Hill Originals sign	\$262.50	
Rose Hill Beauties signs	\$971.25	
John Marshall Library, Virtual Library, donation	\$100.00	
July 4 th picnic, meals	\$168.75	
Rose Hill Raid, framing	\$273.21	
Citizens association, police, holiday dinners donation	\$100.00	
	Total	\$6,598.79
	NET	\$1,869.91





Please come and join us for the fun! We look forward to seeing you there!!

EagleFest will take place behind school in the area between the Baseball field and the Football Stadium if it is sunny. In the event of rain, EagleFest will be moved indoors. Plenty of parking will be available.

There will be games, activities, prizes and entertainment for all ages. Admission is free. Tickets will be on sale at EagleFest for all activities and refreshments.

The highlight of the day will be the dramatic Golf Balls from Heaven.

Fairfax County Announcements/Events

Summer Programs: What You Need to Know

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) is in the midst of a difficult budget year. To help reduce costs, summer school will not be offered in the same manner as it has been in the past. Summer learning opportunities for FCPS elementary and middle school students in 2008 will be school-based. Programs will focus on meeting the identified academic needs of student participants and is tailored for each location. Individual school administrators are completing their plans for summer programs at their locations and will be an excellent source of information about the new summer programs being offered in 2008.

The high school summer program remains similar to last year; four central sites will offer courses for both acceleration and credit recovery. Locations, dates, times, and registration forms can be found in Encore 2008, the summer school programs booklet, which is available in late spring to families of FCPS students. Copies will be available at Fairfax County public schools and public libraries, in FCPS administrative offices, and online.

A limited number of enrichment opportunities will be available for student in grades 4-12. Details can be found in Encore 2008 which will be available online in late April. Note: The elementary, middle, and high school programs are contingent upon final approval of the FCPS budget by the School Board on May 22.

Budget documents, including work session and public hearing dates, are currently available. We encourage you to stay updated by visiting www.fcps.edu/news/ or signing up for the Keep in Touch message system.

Princess For a Night

Are formal gowns or bridesmaids dresses cluttering up your closet? There is a girl who could use one for the prom. This is a great opportunity to clean house and be charitable at the same time! Last year, thanks to the generosity of so many women, over 450 beautiful dresses (as well as shoes, jewelry, and handbags) were donated to the project and girls from 9 local high schools benefited. Unfortunately, after the project, the majority of the left over items were stolen so we are starting the project almost nothing (normally we have a small base upon which to build.)

Dry cleaned dresses, shoes, handbags, jewelry, and unused make-up (for example, sample cosmetics) will be collected between April 1 and 25. We are especially in need of dresses for full figured young ladies (sizes 18+) and very petite young women (sizes 0-4). Donations can be dropped off at five locations:

1. Edison High School, Main Office, 5801 Franconia Rd., Alexandria, VA 22310, M-F, 7am-4pm.
2. Annandale High School, Main Office, 4700 Medford Dr., Annandale, VA 22003, M-F, 7am-3:30pm.

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3. South County High School, Main Office, 8501 Silverbrook Rd., Lorton, VA 22079, M-F, 7am-4:30pm.
4. Gold's Gym, 7770 Richmond Hwy., Alexandria, VA 22306, M-F, 4:45am-11pm; Sat., 7am-9pm; and Sun., 8am-9pm.
5. Hitched Bridal Couture and Creative Planning Salon, 1523 Wisconsin Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20007 (www.hitchedsalon.com), Tues.-Thurs., noon-8pm; Fri., 11am-6pm; and Sat., 9am-5pm.

If you know of a young lady in need of a dress, "shopping" and dress selection will take place at Mount Vernon High School, 8515 Old Mount Vernon Rd., Alexandria, VA 22309, on Friday, May 2, 2:15-8pm; Saturday, May 3, 10am-4pm; and on Monday, May 5, 2:15-6pm.

Students will be served on a first come, first served basis. It is strongly recommended that parents accompany their daughters to participate in dress selection. Dresses are free, but donations will be accepted to support the ongoing project. Please pass this information along to other generous women in your family, neighborhood, places of employment, and places of worship. Together we can make prom a possibility for all young women in Fairfax County!

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to assist with the project, please e-mail Kathleen. Basinski@fcps.edu. Many thanks in advance for your generosity and support.



Original Rambler

My family lived on Rock-A-Bye Road before Bee Street was a thru street. There were the Kings (that's me), the Harris', the Saranos, and the Pulzones.

That acreage was bought by my grandmother Minnie Agnes Lovett, and two acres were given to each of her children. I was told that our house was moved from across Rose Hill Drive to what was then 6400 Rock-A-By Road. I lived there with my family until I got married after my graduation from Thomas Edison in 1972. My parents sold their acreage in 1977 and moved to Hebron, MD. I consider my family one of the first as new homes were being built around us in 1953. I remember my dad taking me to what is now Lee District to look for arrowheads and we used to find quite a few. We also found a lot where the golf course now is. I haven't been back for many years. My childhood consisted of building forts in the woods and walking to the shopping center to get an ice cream on hot summer days. I never regretted a minute growing up in Rose Hill and loved the fresh air and the peacefulness.

Fairfax County Park Authority Events

- * **Friday, April 25.** NEW! Yorktown Battlefield and Victory Center, VA. Visit the Yorktown Battlefield and Yorktown Victory Center and see where America won its freedom during the American Revolutionary War. A guide will narrate a 30 to 45-minute walking tour of the battlefield. Next, enjoy lunch and shopping on your own at Riverwalk Landing. Later in the afternoon, visit President's Park featuring magnificent monuments to all 43 U.S. presidents. The \$86 fee includes transportation, guide and admissions. To reserve, call 703.222.4664.
- * **Sunday, April 27.** NEW! Baltimore Aquarium & Inner Harbor, MD. Experience the wonders of the ocean without getting wet at the National Aquarium in Baltimore. Experience expanded exhibits and descriptions of dolphins, jellies, stingrays and sharks. Watch *Play!* the dolphin show. After the aquarium, browse, shop, and eat lunch at the Inner Harbor. The \$83 fee includes transportation, admission, 4D theater ticket, & dolphin show. To reserve, call 703.222.4664.

Low-Cost Rabies Clinic

The Fairfax County Animal Shelter announces its 2008 low-cost rabies clinic dates for dogs, cats and ferrets. The cost for rabies shots at the clinic is \$10. All dogs should be on leashes and all cats and ferrets in carriers.

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—Carol A. Johnson, Waldorf, MD

Fairfax County 2008 dog licenses will be sold separately at the clinic and cost \$5 for altered dogs and \$10 for unaltered dogs (please bring proof of your pet's spay or neuter).

The clinic is sponsored by the Fairfax County Police Department Animal Services Division and Deepwood Veterinary Hospital. For more information, please call 703.830.1100. Cash or checks only—no credit cards—will be accepted for payment at the clinic.

Each clinic is held from 2-4pm on the following dates: Sunday, May 18; Sunday, July 13; Sunday, Sept. 14; and Sunday, Nov. 16 at the Fairfax County Animal Shelter, 4500 West Ox Rd., Fairfax, VA 22043.

For more information about the rabies clinics, visit the Fairfax County Animal Services Division website, www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/animalservices.

Kingstowne Farmers Market

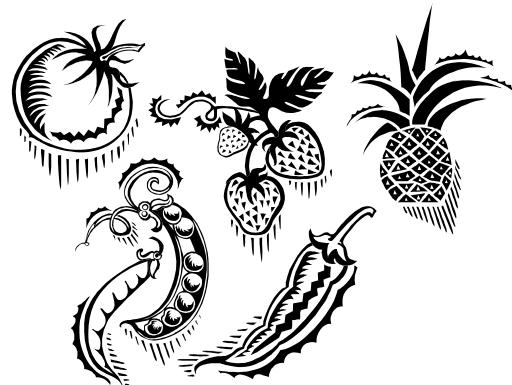
Fridays, 4 to 7pm, starting May 16 and going through October 24 in the parking lot near the Sunoco service station.

All products sold at the Farmers Market are produced by the vendors within 125 miles of Fairfax County. Buy local and support sustainable agriculture in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. You will find the freshest and most desirable fruit, vegetables, plants, baked goods, eggs, dairy, and meats available.

Weekly Incident Summary Report (Announced March 26)

Mark Twain Middle School. In January 2008, two students used markers to scribble gang-related graffiti in a boys' bathroom of Mark Twain Middle School. These writings were identified as affiliated with criminal gang activity taking place across the region. Police arrested two boys, ages 12 and 13, and charged them with destruction of a public building. As a result of this investigation, police were able to develop information surrounding additional gang activity in the community. Police charged three boys, two 13-year-olds and a 14-year-old, with gang participation and recruiting gang members during the week of March 10. The alleged recruitment took place at the middle school. The Fairfax County Police Department trains school staff and faculty on gang recognition. Once gang activity is recognized, officials move quickly to eradicate it. There is a zero tolerance policy in Fairfax County for these activities. Residents are urged to take quick action and contact police officials when they see graffiti appear.

Rose Hill Drive 6100 Block: Liquor stolen from business.



Positions Available — Volunteer, of course

RAMBLER DISTRIBUTOR Requirements: *2-3 hours a month, transportation to Kingstowne and around the neighborhood, ability to count. Contact Marty Williams, 703.910.6316 or marty@fabrications.us.*

RAMBLER EDITOR Requirements: *proofreading, editing, experience with a layout software program. Contact Marty Williams, 703.910.6316 or marty@fabrications.us.*

WEBMASTER Requirements: *knowledge of website design, development, and maintenance. Contact Jim Sapp, jimsapp7@msn.com.*

RHCA LOVES ITS VOLUNTEERS ... IT WOULDN'T BE WITHOUT THEM.

GET INVOLVED ... YOUR COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU!

ALTERNATIVES TO
4-YEAR COLLEGES
ARE ENDLESS!

Pathways to Success!

*Meet with area technical schools,
2-year colleges, apprenticeship pro-
grams & more!*

See page 2 for the complete list!

- Art Institute of Washington
- AKS Massage School
- Automotive Industry
- Aviation Institute of Maintenance
- Baldino's Lock & Key
- Construction trades
- Fairfax County Police
- Fairfax County Public Schools
- Home Depot
- National Court Reporters
- Northern Virginia Community College
- One Stop Skill Source
- PETCO
- Potomac State College of West Virginia

& MANY MORE!

**Resource
Fair!**



**May 8, 2008
6:00—8:00 pm
West Springfield
High School
6100 Rolling Road
Springfield, VA 22152
In the cafeteria!**

**This event is sponsored by the
Lake Braddock SS,
Robinson SS and West
Springfield HS PTSAs!!**



Questions? Contact Margaret Fisher at
jrosenthal2@cox.net or (703)968-2971

Rose Hill Community Calendar

Around Rose Hill

- ★ **Tuesday, April 22, 7pm.** Rose Hill Civic Association Meeting. John Marshall Library. Topic: Meet the Howard Gardner School.
- ★ **Every Wednesday and Saturday.** BINGO! Franconia Volunteer Fire Dept. Early Bird, 7pm. Regular sessions, 8pm.
- ★ **April 25, 6-9pm.** Spring Open House: Eat Your Art Out. Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N Union St. Feast your eyes on spectacular food displays and put your taste buds to work! Food-inspired artwork will be displayed in select studios. A variety of Torpedo Factory studios and galleries will be open throughout the evening, showcasing artwork that is sure to please every taste. Live music by *The Right Nows* and free prize drawings will add flavor to the evening. Celebrate the emergence of spring at this favorite annual event. Free! www.torpedofactory.org/calendar_of_events_.htm 703.838.4565
- ★ **April 27, 3pm.** Children's Chorus of Washington, Old Presbyterian Meeting House, 321 S. Fairfax St. This acclaimed professional choir, which has performed at the Kennedy Center and Carnegie Hall, sings on behalf of the Kenya Project, which helps children in that country. Free-will offering collected. www.opmh.org 703.549.6670
- ★ **May 10-11, 1-5pm Sat., 10am-5pm Sun.** 28th Annual Old Town Arts & Crafts Festival. Market Square in front of City Hall, 301 King St. This popular annual event offers juried hand-made crafts with each artist present. Free! www.alexandriavolunteers.com 703.834.2176

April 24 – Sept. 8. “*Living Legends of Alexandria.*” *The Lyceum: Alexandria’s History Museum.* 201 S. Washington St. This photo-documentary exhibition, featuring the work of **Rose Hill’s own NINA TISARA**, identifies and honors individuals whose vision and dedication have made a tangible difference to the quality of life in Alexandria. Of the 50 individuals nominated in 2006, all of whom are included in this exhibit, 12 were featured in articles published by the *Alexandria Gazette Packet*. Free! www.alexandriahistory.org 703.838.4994. See Nina’s ad in the Business Directory, Pg. 12.

Huntley Meadows Park and Visitor Center

Huntley Meadows Park and Visitor Center, 3701 Lockheed Blvd., Alexandria, VA 22306, 703.768.2525, <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/huntley/>

One of Fairfax County Park Authority’s largest parks (1,428 acres) includes wetlands, forests, meadows,

streams and ponds. It has resident deer, beaver, heron and other animals. Facilities include a visitor center, auditorium, exhibits, and an interpretive trail with boardwalk and observation platforms. Programs for groups by reservation. The Visitor Center is open 9am-5pm, Monday, Wednesday-Sunday (closed Tuesdays).

- ★ **Mondays, 7-9:30am.** Informal Birding Walk. Meet in the Huntley Meadows Park Visitor Center parking lot every Monday morning for this free walk with knowledgeable adult birders. For information, call the visitor center.
- ★ **May 3, 7-9:30am.** Birding at South King’s Highway. Adults. This is the height of neotropical songbird migration. Binoculars and field guides are recommended. Meet at the park’s South King’s Highway entrance. Reservations required. Canceled if rain. FREE.
- ★ **May 4, noon-3pm.** Wetlands Awareness Day. Enjoy an afternoon of wetland interpretation, wildlife presentations, and a Fun Fair for kids. Bring your friends and family to celebrate the importance of wetlands to wildlife and you. There is a modest fee for some activities. FREE
- ★ **May 5, 3:15-4:30pm.** Young Explorers – Ducks and Geese. 6-8 yrs. Through a story and walk, learn about these waddlers and honkers. Reservations required. \$3
- ★ **May 7 and 8, 10-10:45am.** Nature Detectives – Ducks and Geese. 3-5 yrs. Through story, activity, and craft learn, about these waddlers and honkers. Reservations required. \$5
- ★ **May 10, 7-9:30am.** Advanced Birding at South King’s Highway. Adults. This walk is intended for experienced birders. Visit parts of the park known for warblers and other neotropical songbirds. Dress for off-trail hiking. Binoculars and field guides are recommended. Meet at the park’s South King’s Highway entrance. Reservations required. Canceled if rain. FREE
- ★ **May 18, 8-11am.** Birding for Beginners. Adults. Learn about spring migration with a park naturalist. Reservations required. \$2
- 2-4pm.** Historic Huntley Open House. Call Huntley Meadows Park for information. Enjoy this twice-a-year opportunity to visit Historic Huntley, a Federal-style villa built in 1825 for Thomson F. Mason. FREE

John Marshall Library

6209 Rose Hill Drive, Alexandria, VA 22310-6299, 703.971.0010. Open Monday to Thursday, 10am to 9pm; Friday, 10am to 6pm; Saturday, 10am to 5pm.

- ★ **Monday, April 21, 3pm.** Springtime Crafts. After-school activities and crafts. Age 6-12.
- ★ **Mondays, 7pm.** Practice Your English. Conversation group for people learning English. Adults. No registration is required.

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Rose Hill Community Calendar, continued

- ★ **Thursday, April 24, 4pm.** Science and Stories. Stories, activities, and an age-appropriate science experiment. Age 4-6 with adult.
- ★ **Fridays, 12pm.** Lunch Bunch. Bring your lunch and join us for stories. Birth-5 with adult.
- ★ **Thursday, May 1 - Saturday, May 31.** Personalized Internet Training. Learn how to use the Web or increase your skills. Call for an appointment. Adults.
- ★ **Saturday, May 3, 10:30am.** Celebrate Asian Heritage Month! Join us for Kamishibai, Japanese storytelling. Try on a yucata or hoppi coat after the story.
- ★ **Tuesday, May 6, 7pm.** What's New in Picture Books. Learn about new books to use with preschoolers. Childcare certification available. Adults.
- ★ **Wednesday, May 7, 10:30am.** Moms Are Great. Come for stories and activities about Mother's Day. Age 2-3 with adult.
- ★ **Saturday, May 10, 10:30am.** Celebrate Asian Heritage Month! Join us for a paper crane story in Spanish and make an origami paper crane. All ages.
- ★ **Monday, May 12, 3pm.** Early Readers Book Discussion. Join us for early reader book activities. Call for titles. Age 6-8 with adult.
- ★ **Wednesday, May 14, 7pm.** Knit Picks. Bring your needles and learn some new projects. Beginners welcome. Age 10-14.
- ★ **Saturday, May 17, 10:30am.** Celebrate Asian Heritage Month! Join us for The Sadako Story and make an origami paper crane. All ages.
- ★ **Tuesday, May 20, 7pm.** Mother-Daughter Book Discussion. Join us for a lively book discussion. Please call for title. Age 9-11 with adult.
- ★ **Wednesday, May 21, 10:30am.** Small Wonders. Stories, fingerplays, and activities. Age 13-23 months with adult.
- ★ **Wednesday, May 21, 7:15pm.** Book Discussion. Call for title. Adults. No registration is required.
- ★ **Thursday, May 22, 4pm.** Stories and Science. Stories, activities, and an age-appropriate science experiment. Age 4-6 with adult.

Thomas A. Edison High School

5801 Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA 22310,
703.924.8000, 703.924.8097 fax.

Dear parents of juniors, sophomores, and freshmen: We need a few hours of your time to help ensure that this year's graduates are not casualties of drinking and driving after their graduation. Each year for the past several years an "all night grad party" has been held to allow students to celebrate their graduation in a fun filled, safe, and alcohol-free environment. Traditionally this event is staffed by parents of underclassmen

so that parents of graduates can attend the graduation ceremony and other important events relating to the graduation. We need people to put bags of goodies together for graduates to take home at the end of the party. This task involves teams of approximately four people to work two to three hour shifts from 4pm to 5am, June 13 - June 14. Through the evening students will be bringing items to place in their respective bags, and eventually collecting them to leave. Volunteers will need to be there to keep items properly managed and accounted for. Come out, and support this year's seniors so that you can relax in the knowledge that your child is safe after his/her graduation in coming years. If you can help, please sign up with Carolyn Blackman, cblack7376@cox.net and/or relton30857@cox.net. It's a simple job that makes such a difference. Thanks in advance.

- ★ **April 23.** The summer job fair is coming to Edison from 3-5pm in the cafeteria. Check out the list of participating employers on the bulletin board next to the front lobby, and stop in to the Career Center for assistance in creating a resume. Forty-three employers are already registered—that's a record number—and more will be added before the 23rd. Don't miss this opportunity!
- ★ **April 25 and 26.** The Awesome 80s Prom Show. Doors Open at 7:30pm for dancing, games, photos and The Prom begins at 8pm. Prince/Princess tickets: \$10 (includes admission and an 80s Party Favor); King/Queen tickets: \$20 (includes admission, an 80s Party Favor, one free Prom Photo, and a reserved seat at a table if pre-ordered).
- ★ **Sunday, April 27.** March of Dimes Walk-a-Thon. Edison National Honor Society members are participating in the March of Dimes walk-a-thon to raise money to help prevent birth defects. If you would like to make a donation on behalf of the team or register to join the walk, you may do so at the team's webpage, <http://www.marchforbabies.org/441680>. You do not need to be an NHS member to participate.
- ★ **Saturday, May 10.** Edison's 2nd Annual Got Hope Walk-a-thon to raise money for cancer research and suicide prevention will take place from 10am-3pm. Come join the Edison community for a fun and exciting day full of games, music, competitions and much more! It costs only \$10 to register and a t-shirt is included! The registration deadline is May 1 so complete a registration form today. Registration forms are available at www.freewebs.com/gothopewalkathon.
- ★ **Thursday, May 15.** Dramapalooza

Mark Twain Middle School

4700 Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA 22310,
703.313.3765.

- ★ FCPS Announces Best of the Web Winners for 07-08: Mark Twain Middle School!!!! Five Fairfax County schools have been named winners of the 8th annual Best of the Web

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Rose Hill Community Calendar, continued

contest, sponsored by the Department of Communications and Community Outreach. The winners were selected from a group of nominated schools and were judged on the high quality of web-based communication between each school and the community it serves. Web sites were assessed for the usefulness of content, clarity of design, frequency of updates, ease of navigation, and adherence to FCPS web policies. Three elementary schools, one middle school, one secondary school, and one high school are selected for the annual awards. Congratulations, Ms. Arocho and MTMS!!!

- ★ **April 21.** Honor Roll Assemblies
- ★ **April 21-15.** Book Fair!! MTMS Library
- ★ **April 23.** SCA Afterschool Dance
- ★ **April 25.** Solo and Ensemble Orchestra, Holmes MS
- ★ **April 29.** PTA Gang Awareness Prevention Community Program, Officer Paul Alexander
- ★ **April 30.** Spring Pyramid Orchestra Concert, Edison HS
- ★ **LATEST 'testing window' EVER!** For the first time, the SOL testing window has been moved to the very end of the school year. The SOL Testing Window/Final Exam Testing Window is May 19-June 13. Be advised if making any decisions which may cause children to be absent from school. The goal is to protect as much instructional time as possible, prior to students taking exams that impact their educational future. Specific dates coming soon, but note the last day for testing is June 13.
- ★ **Information about Summer School:** As you know, with the current budget situation, summer school for students who need additional academic support to close significant achievement gaps is being redesigned. Identification of students will be based on SOL scores and End of Year Report Card Grades. Our MTMS program will support 75 students from July 21-August 8. For more information, check out: www.fcps.edu or www.fcps.edu/news/fy2009.htm to keep updated on the budget timeline.
- ★ **Institute for the Arts.** Students broaden their horizons through the exploration of dance, music, theatre, or the visual arts at the prestigious Institute for the Arts (IFTA) summer program. This unique FCPS fine arts opportunity is open to students enrolled in grades 6-11 during the 2007-2008 school year. Students select four 60-minute courses to attend daily creating a summer experience to remember.

DATE/TIME: July 7-July 31, 8:15am-1:15pm, weekdays

LOCATION: Robinson Secondary School, 5035 Sideburn Rd., Fairfax

TUITION: \$750 for Fairfax County residents; \$950 for non-Fairfax County residents

Additional information and the registration form for IFTA is available at www.fcps.edu/DIS/OACE/prek12.htm. Act now – spaces fill quickly!!

Rose Hill Elementary School

6301 Rose Hill Drive, Alexandria, VA 22310, 703.313.4200, 703.313.4297 fax.

- ★ **April 21, 9:30-11:30am.** Grade 6 students visit Hayfield MS 10-11am. Grade 1 Tea
- ★ **April 22, 7:50am.** Tuesday Morning Tutoring, cafeteria 9:30-10:50am. Grade 6 students visit Twain MS 4:30-6:30pm. Kindergarten registration 7-8pm. Kindergarten orientation
- ★ **April 23, 2:30pm.** Grade 6 photo
- ★ **April 24.** Grade 6 field trip to Monticello 3:20-5pm. Mexican Dance, pod
- ★ **April 29, 7:50am.** Tuesday Morning Tutoring, cafeteria
- ★ **April 30, 7-8pm.** Strings Pyramid Concert, Edison HS
- ★ **May 1, 10am.** Medieval Celebration, Grade 5, gym 3:20-5pm. Mexican Dance, pod 5-8:30pm. Chuck E. Cheese Night, PTA
- ★ **May 2, 12-1:30pm.** Sound Waves performance, Waterford 2:30-3:05pm. All Children Exercising Simultaneously (ACES), blacktop and field
- ★ **May 6, 7:50am.** Tuesday Morning Tutoring, cafeteria 7pm. PTA meeting, library
- ★ **May 8 2-3pm.** Spring Band and Strings Concert, Grades 3-6, gym 6:30-8:30pm. Artists and Authors Night/Spring Concert, gym
- ★ **May 13, 7:50am.** Tuesday Morning Tutoring, cafeteria
- ★ **May 14, 10:30am-1pm.** Volunteer Luncheon, pod
- ★ **May 15, 1:15-2pm.** Rose Hill Singers, Grades 4-6; 2:15-3pm. Preschool and Grades K-3, gym 3:20-5pm. Mexican Dance, pod
- ★ **May 16, 9am-12pm.** Preschool trip to Clemyontri Park
- ★ **May 19, 7:50-8:20am.** Tutoring Celebration SOL Testing, Grade 3 - Reading
- ★ **May 20.** SOL Testing, Grade 3 - Reading
- ★ **May 21.** SOL Testing, Grade 4 - Reading
- ★ **May 22, 3:20-5pm.** Mexican Dance, pod SOL Testing, Grade 5 - Reading
- ★ **May 23, 9:30am-1:30pm.** Grade 2 trip to zoo 11-1pm. Grade 1 picnic, field SOL Testing, Grade 6 - Reading



Rose Hill Business Directory

Residents who own or operate a company are eligible to have their business listed monthly in *The Rambler* free of charge. Businesses are encouraged to provide Rose Hill residents with quality service and products at a fair price. *The Rambler* reserves the right to print recommendations from consumers, both pro and con. To have your business listed or to provide updates, call Marty Williams at 703.910.6316.

CHILD CARE

Mama High's Pre-School and Day Care. Mrs. Carola High has 16 years of experience in training and caring for children ages 3 weeks through 5 years old. Excellent preparation for those starting kindergarten. We talk with babies and toddlers in simple language. State Licensed, Former Teacher. Full- or part-time. 4613 Cottonwood Place, 703.971.0741.

Llewellyn Family Daycare. 14 years experience providing care for children of all ages. State Licensed, CPR- and First Aid-Certified. Accepting applications for full-time and part-time care. Before and after school care. Transportation provided for Rose Hill Elementary School. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday 6:30 am-6:30 pm. Weekend and evening care available upon request. Year-round preschool curriculum. Fun-filled days of learning and exploring. Every month a different theme. Daily activities include reading, arts and crafts, circle time, letters, numbers, colors, shapes, and outdoor play. Plenty of space for activities! Excellent references. Fairfax County Child Care Assistance Program accepted. To schedule an appointment, call Jessica at 703.765.1661.

DECK AND FENCE

B&B Deck & Fence, Inc. Cliff James, Owner, 6412 May Boulevard, T-703.719.7015, F-703.922.3779.

DIGITAL DESIGN

DG Designs. Web pages, registration, scanning services, hosting, and custom graphic art work. Ronald G. Dillon, 1.877.233.2224, 703.971.2125 or www.dgdesigns.com. Ron, Donna, and their daughters live on Winston Place.

ELECTRICIAN

Electrical Solutions. 703.922.2040. Electrical service upgrades, whole house surge protection, troubleshooting, repairs, additions, & remodeling. Audio/video sales and professional installation (high definition TV calibration), and much, much more! Same day service, FREE phone estimates, Class "A" contractor, licensed (VA, MD, DC), bonded, insured. 24 hour emergency service. Your friendly neighborhood electrician for your home or office.

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Fabrications. Invitations, flyers, announcements, menus, business cards, brochures, newsletters, mailers, books, proposals, journals, and all your editing, printing, and paper needs. Marty Williams, Desktop Specialist, 703.910.6316, or marty@fabrications.us. She is the 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 19 years and have lived in Rose Hill for 31 years.

HOME REPAIRS

Hugh Watts. From a new roof to the smallest of problems, contact Hugh Watts at 703.593.5908 or pearlwatts@aol.com. Pearl, as he is known, grew up on Haystack Road and his mom still lives there. A number of Rose Hill residents provide glowing references concerning work Pearl has performed for them at a fair price.

INVITATIONS/PERSONALIZED STATIONERY

Sicks-Pack Productions. Sara Sicks, 703.922.6299. Sara offers personalized stationery and invitations for every occasion—from weddings to birth announcements to parties—all at 10 to 20% less than what you would pay if you bought the same item at a stationery store. Come by to browse the selection with no obligation. Sara lives on Cottonwood Drive.

KITCHEN REMODELING

Southern Kitchens. Bill York, 703.548.4459. Complete kitchen remodeling. Our showroom is in Alexandria on Mt. Vernon Avenue. Please call for an appointment. Bill lives on Clovergrass Drive.

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.

Dan's Lawn & Leaf Service. Daniel P. Bishop, 703.719.7806. We guarantee fast, friendly, and affordable service. Located in the Rose Hill subdivision and serving its residents for 4 years.

Independence Landscape and Lawn Care. For all your landscape and lawn care needs please call Curt Greene at 703.967.7639. Our services range from mowing, lawn care, leaf removal, and snow removal to patios, landscape design, and construction. Using the latest most efficient methods and equipment gives us the advantage to effectively service our customers at a competitive price. Discounts offered to all Rose Hill residents. Check us out on the web at www.independencelandscape.com. Curt lives on Thornwood Drive.

PAINTING

Sherry and Cindy's Painting. Sherry Matey, 703.921.9422. Exterior/interior, drywall repair, deck staining, pressure washing. Sherry has lived in Rose Hill for more than 20 years and has received well-deserved referrals from many residents [including your editor].

PET SITTING

Welcome Waggin' Professional Pet Sitting. www.welcomewaggin.com, 703.819.0809. Welcome Waggin' is a small company offering extremely personalized service. We do mid-day dog walking as well as pet sitting visits to the home for people who are away on business or vacation. Bonded, insured, and references available. Proud members of the National Association of Professional Pet Sitters and The Northern Virginia Professional Pet Sitters Network. Janelle Welch lives on Sturbridge Place.

Continued on Page 12

Business Directory, Continued

PHOTOGRAPHY

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

PIANO/KEYBOARD

Chris McCay. Chris McCay teaches piano/keyboard in your home. Special discount for Rose Hill residents is \$25 for a half hour lesson. Chris lives with his family on Willowood Lane, two doors down from where his wife, formerly Melissa Anderson, grew up. 571.237.5559.

QUILTS

Hand-Made Quilts. Sally Dankers and her mother, Marjorie Parkyn, make quilts for sale. They are one of a kind and very beautiful. If interested, please call 703.971.8064 or email oraclemarjorie@aol.com.

REAL ESTATE

Exit All Star Realty. Angelique Vereen can be reached at 703.317.0030 (business) or 571.233.6395 (direct). She and her family have lived on Thornwood Drive for many years. The Vereen house always sparkles with holiday lights!

Re/Max Allegiance. Karen Davidson, 703.927.4448. www.homesdatabase.com/karendavidson, www.karen-davidson.com, email: kedavidson@aol.com. Karen lives on Roundhill Road.

Re/Max Metro 100. Steve Dougherty, 703.971.3886 (home) or 642.3380 (office). Steve, his wife Holly, and their 6 children live on Roundhill Road.

ROOFING

Timothy's Roofing Company, Inc. Timothy Jenkins, 703.820.6065. Timothy has installed several roofs in Rose Hill since moving to our neighborhood (Appletree Drive) in 2002. He has a Class A Contractors License and has been in business for 24 years. Free estimates.

TREE SERVICE

Arbor Experts. Brad Campbell, 703.339.6451. Removal, trimming, pruning, etc. Brad lives on Roundhill Road and wants to serve his home neighborhood in Rose Hill. Local references available.



*Heating &
Air Conditioning, Inc.*

Isa 61:1

DAVID F. NICHOLS
President

(703) 971-8897
Fax: (703) 971-0755

Advertising in *The Rambler*

Listing in the Business Directory is free to Rose Hill residents who 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 703.910.6316. Artwork can be sent to marty@fabrizations.us 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.

—Marty Williams

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



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