

The Rambler

Newsletter of the
Rose Hill Civic Association

President's Message

Springfield Mall Redevelopment, Human-Wildlife Conflict Programs Highlight February 24 RHCA Agenda

Because we were snowed out in January, the presentation on the Springfield Mall redevelopment has been rescheduled as part of the February 24 meeting of the Rose Hill Civic Association. In addition, we will hear from Humane Wildlife Service on the issue of control of wildlife in our homes and yards. As usual, the meeting begins at 7pm in the community room of the John Marshall Library.

The Springfield Mall presentation will take place first, starting sharply at 7pm. The Humane Wildlife presentation will follow. We have set aside an hour for each subject, including a question and answer period.

Representatives of the owners of Springfield Mall will outline an ambitious conversion of the area from a retail destination to a combination of retail, office, hotels and condos. The retail portion of the makeover will occur first, with the current mall being converted from an inward-facing development to a combination of inside and outside facing shops. A new street is

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proposed on the mall property with street-front shops. Target will become a one-level store and the movie and food court activities will be joined.

Future phases, depending on market conditions, will bring the offices, hotels, and condos. Access to the Franconia-Springfield Metro Station will be improved and a shuttle bus service will connect the development with Metro and the rest of Springfield. The mall has agreed to participate in the funding of the shuttle service.

Humane Wildlife Services is a private company that offers humane resolutions to human-wildlife conflicts without trapping, relocating, or killing wildlife. They concentrate on evicting and excluding wildlife from homes. A representative will discuss how to inspect our homes for potential wildlife entries and how to reduce food and shelter availability.

The wildlife portion of the program is triggered by a lively discussion last Fall as to how to deal with raccoons, groundhogs, deer, and other animals. Thanks to Stephanie Young for following up and arranging this program.

County Budget, Assessments

The Fairfax County Executive will announce his recommended budget for the fiscal year 2010, which begins July 1, 2009, on Monday, February 23. At the same time, residents will begin receiving their

Rose Hill Civic Association Meeting Tuesday, February 27, 7pm John Marshall Library

**Topic: Springfield Mall Redevelopment
and Human-Wildlife Conflicts**

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

property assessments for the same time period. Your tax bill will be based on that assessment. It is anticipated that assessments will go down an average of 14 percent throughout the County. Therefore, expect the County Executive's proposed tax rate to increase. It was 92 cents last year. The County is projecting a \$650 million budget deficit so there will have to be deep cuts or a hefty tax increase, or a combination of the two, to balance the books. After hearing from the County Executive, the Board of Supervisors will hold a series of public hearings before setting the rate. Those hearings are usually dominated by groups hoping to increase, or this year, retain current levels. By acting as a community, Rose Hill can have a voice in what finally happens. As was the case last year, we will discuss the issue of assessments and the tax rate at our March meeting and then make a recommendation to the County. You will recall we were effective in getting our assessments and taxes lowered last year. Given the huge deficit, it will be tougher this year, but we may be able to limit the increase if that is the will of the members.

Membership Drive

February is the next to last month of our 2009 membership drive. If your name isn't listed on page 4, make sure it is there in the March *Rambler*. It takes the dues of 30 members to print each month's *Rambler*. And the dues of 50 members to finance the Rose Hill Beauty contest. Remember, only RHCA members receive signs or updated stickers for existing signs. We also need funds to pay for:

- * Our post office box
- * Contributions to local groups who enhance our community such as the annual Christmas Eve dinner and Christmas morning breakfast for police who have to work on the holiday when restaurants are closed
- * Koinonia to help the less fortunate among us
- * The Edison all-night graduation party, and
- * Food for the staff at Lee District Park on July 4.

Since dues alone don't provide enough to fund all of our activities, we ask that you consider a donation to our general fund. You can also help pay for the landscaping and flowers at our entrance sign that is updated four times a year with a donation. Fill out the membership form on Page 5 and send it along with your check to RHCA, P.O. Box 10891, Franconia, VA 22310. You also can find the membership form on myRoseHill.com.

Thanks from Carl and Linda

Vice President Linda Nichols and I want to publicly thank those people make RHCA such an effective organization with such a low budget. Without their help, we couldn't produce or deliver *The Rambler* or operate one of the best community websites in the area. Special thanks to Marty Williams, Editor of *The Rambler*, and Jim Sapp, Webmaster for myRoseHill.com. Both are former Rose Hill residents. Marty edits *The Rambler* from her perch overlooking the Occoquan River and Belmont Bay and Jim designs and updates myRoseHill.com from the mountains in Colorado. Thanks to the volunteers who deliver *The Rambler* nine times a year: Margo Cunniffe, Cynthia Thomas, Mark Broxterman, Ginny Pinkham, But The Nguyen, Tom Strah, Dan Bearth, Tom and Alice Mangum, Marie Sherfey, Carolyn Slenska, Theresa Eppolito, Zoe-Ann Freitag, Karen Collins, and Cody Palmer. Thanks for a job well done to Sam Covington, who is retiring from his *Rambler* route. Finally, thanks to Carolyn Slenska, our treasurer who deposits all those membership checks and, most importantly, pays the bills.

RHCA will hold its annual election of officers in March. If you would like to serve, let us know. Only RHCA members can vote in an election. Even if you aren't interested in running for office, there are numerous things you can do to help your community.

March Election

RHCA will hold its annual election of officers in March. If you would like to serve, let us know. Only RHCA members can vote in an election. Even if you aren't interested in running for office, there are numerous things you can do to help your community. We still need block captains for neighborhood watch, particularly on Apple Tree Drive, Willowood Lane, the upper part of Roundhill Road, and Leewood Drive. And, we need a neighbor to deliver *The Rambler* on Saddle Tree Drive and the lower part of Round Hill Road from Climbhill Road to Saddle Tree and Apple Tree Drive from Willowood Lane to Rose Hill Drive (only 58 houses). You can also help with the judging of the annual Rose Hill Beauty and Holiday Lighting programs. Most important, we'll put you in charge of implementing any idea you have that will improve our community. [If anyone would like to volunteer for

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the positions of Editor, Webmaster, or delivery person, the first page has all the contact information. -Ed.]

Beware of Solicitors

Spring is just around the corner and it's not only robins that are among the first to arrive! Watch out for people knocking on your door wanting to repair your driveway, clean your yard, fix your roof, trim your trees, and so on. Make sure anyone you hire shows you a Fairfax County solicitor's license. It will include their picture on the front and fingerprints on the back. If you don't want to be bothered, post a sign that says NO SOLICITORS, and those with licenses will know they are not allowed to knock. Those who

do are illegal. If an unlicensed solicitor knocks on your door, report them to the police non-emergency number, 703.691.2131. Provide any information, description, etc. you can. License plate numbers are especially helpful; that way, if a crime is committed in the neighborhood, the police will know where to start looking. Criminals are resourceful and will use any ruse to gain admittance to your home or personal information. A good rule of thumb is to do business only with reputable firms or those who can have Fairfax County business licenses. Check out *The Rambler's Business Directory* for neighbors who may provide a business service you need.

—Carl Sell

TIPS ON PROTECTING YOUR HOME AND PROPERTY

Immediately call the police whenever you observe something suspicious. Many crimes would be deterred if everyone was alert to suspicious activity and notified the police.

- ★ Maintaining an appearance of occupancy, even when your residence is vacant, is essential to thwarting burglary attempts. Timers which automatically regulate the interior lighting of a home can make it "lived in." Timers can be used while on vacation, when you are out to dinner, or even during the day while at work. A talk radio station on a timer can also deter burglars from entering your home.
- ★ Exterior lighting is extremely important to residential security. Yard lights and entrance lights can be equipped with sensors and timers to turn lights on at dusk and off at dawn. A motion detector can be installed to turn lights on when someone enters your property.
- ★ Many home owners wish to increase their protection by adding an alarm system. Individuals who have been arrested say that an alarm is the number one deterrent that keeps them from burglarizing a residence.
- ★ Keep doorways, windows, and porches clear when planting bushes and flowers. Remember that the bushes which provide you with privacy also give a burglar a place to hide.
- ★ Window locks are just as important as locks on your door. All basement windows and ground floor windows as well as those easily reached from the roof, porch, carport, etc., should be secured. Locks on these windows prevent a burglar from breaking the window and reaching in and opening the latch. Burglars seldom crawl through the broken glass in a window frame.
- ★ Let your neighbors know when you plan to go on vacation. While on vacation:
 - Stop your papers (including the free neighborhood newspaper)
 - Stop your mail
 - Lock up outside ladders
 - Mark your valuable property so it can be identified if it is stolen. Engravers may be borrowed from Fairfax County Public Libraries. Take pictures of your valuables to help with identification if they are stolen.

These home security tips and many more are what a trained officer will tell you when visiting your home to do a security survey. For additional information, call Franconia District Crime Prevention Officers MPO Allie Eggers or PFC Julia Bauer at 703.922.8263.

**To Report Crime Call: 911 (Emergency)
703.691.2131 (Non-Emergency)**

2009 RHCA Members as of February 11, 2009

Nouria & Suham Abbou, 6115 Rose Hill Drive
Wilmer & Nancy Anderson, 4500 Apple Tree Drive
Augusto Alvarez, 6507 Carriage Drive
Nida & Jerry Antonio, 6406 May Boulevard
Frank & Rayma Bale, 6315 Willowood Lane
Rick & Pat Ballard, 4519 Lark Lane
P.G. Bauserman, 4531 Roundhill Road
Margie Beach, 4429 Roundhill Road
Connie Beatty, 6428 Rose Hill Drive
Daniel Bearch, 6417 Rose Hill Drive
Carl & Margaret Bon, 5001 Eastchester Circle
Shirley Bennington, 6405 May Boulevard
Jeannette Bottomly, 5003 Eastchester Circle
Bill Braswell, 6307 Climbhill Road
Gary Bravy, 6214 Climbhill Road
Bob Brown, 4526 Apple Tree Drive
Mark & Lorraine Broxterman, 6424 Haystack Road
Jason & Maureen Cardone, 6418 Willowood Lane
Roger & Carol Christiansen, 6409 Maryview Street
Bob Ciccotelli, 6511 Haystack Road
Sally Coler, 6401 Hayfield Place
Matthew & Cynthia Dailey, 5009 Eastchester Circle
Elaine Davidson, 4609 Roundhill Road
Betty Elliott, 6411 Maryview Street
Bernice Evans, 6411 Willowood Lane
Susan Feagley, 4705 Split Rock Road
Tom Felleisen, 6406 Hayfield Place
Joseph Finnegan, 6409 Hayfield Place
Anna Fish, 6301 Cottonwood Drive
Trigg & Beverly Flannagan, 6514 Haystack Road
Barry & Zoe-Ann Freitag, 6303 May Boulevard
Kae Furneisen, 4912 Treetop Lane
Ed & Shirley Gailliot, 4801 Apple Tree Drive
Marlene Garlick, 6404 Hayfield Place
John & Erica Good, 4604 Roundhill Road
Mike & Bonnie Greek, 6330 Willowood Lane
Johanna Guccione, 8013 Leewood Drive
Chris & Susie Guinto, 6515 Haystack Road
Carole, Sal & Joanna Guzzetta, 6407 May Boulevard
Joe & Lorraine Hatcher, 6102 Leewood Drive
L. M. Hestvik, 4515 Sturbridge Place
Emilie Hood, 5012 Treetop Lane
D.J. Jamison, 4707 Split Rock Road
Marvin & Frances Justice, 6402 Rose Hill Drive
Jim & Lynda Kandul, 6218 Blossom Lane
Audrey Kick, 4517 Sturbridge Lane
Ana & Charles Kimberly, 6504 Cottonwood Drive
John & Patricia Lawrence, 6330 Maryview Street
Jayne K. Letsche, 6502 Cottonwood 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
Mark & Natalie McBride, 4421 Roundhill Road
Madge McKay, 6402 Wayside Place
George & Susan McKittrick, 6113 Clovergrass Drive
Donald & Nancy McMinn, 4804 Apple Tree Drive
Marnie Mesinger, 6603 Cottonwood Drive
Mimi Minarik, 6518 Telegraph Road
Edna Mitchell, 6305 May Boulevard
J.M. Neidermeyer, 6500 Haystack Road
H. & G. Newman, 4910 Silo Road
Dave & Linda Nichols, 6416 Rose Hill Drive
Kimbinh Nguyen, 6711 Greendale Road
But Nguyen, 6512 Rose Hill Drive
Teal Norris & Fred Obermeyer, 6012 Leewood Drive
Lucy & Larry Pettit, 6501 Carriage Drive
Jo Ann Ponce, 6203 Willowood Lane
Orlando & Cristy Ramos, 6303 Willowood Lane
Monica Reed, 6422 Rose Hill Drive
Adam & Rita Rice, 6431 Carriage Drive
James & Nancy Richey, 4402 Roundhill Road
David Ridgway, 4609 Cottonwood Place
Frank Schoenle, 6302 Climbhill Road
G. Miller & L. Seiss, 6415 Willowood Lane
James & Marie Sherfey, 6415 Rose Hill Drive
Lori Scheibe, 5010 Treetop Lane
Diana & Marty Shupack, 6419 Haystack Road
Chris & Sara Sicks, 6606 Cottonwood Drive
Burton & Debbie Slack, 4803 Apple Tree Drive
Michael Smith/Ratri Friend, 6111 Leewood Drive
Mary Stinnette, 4520 Apple Tree Drive
Marlene Hass Smith, 6304 Cottonwood Drive
Terry Stone, 4522 Apple Tree Drive
Thomas Strah, 6421 Rose Hill Drive
Tinker & Don Szamborski, 4615 Winston Place
Judy Taylor & Carlos Rolon, 6503 Rose Hill Drive
Joanne Thompson
Stan & Cynthia Thomas, 4701 Split Rock Road
Nina Tisara, 6408 Hayfield Court
James Troy. 5004 Eastchester Circle
Stein Van Egmond, 6508 Cottonwood Drive
Connie Vincenzes, 6610 Cottonwood Drive
Don & Nina Weber, 6120 Dew Grass Court
Karen Wheeless, 6709 Greendale Road
Charles & Patricia Wimberly, 6506 Haystack Place
Norma Youmans, 6303 Climbhill Road
Stephanie Young/Darren Springer, 6402 Willowood Lane

MODIP: The Fairfax County Police Department offers residents 55 years of age and older enrollment in the Mature Operator's Driver Improvement Program (MODIP). This eight hour course, which provides safe driving information, is sanctioned by the American Automobile Association (AAA) and is presented by certified Fairfax County Auxiliary Police Officers. Upon completion of this course, drivers are eligible for the Virginia State-mandated insurance premium reduction (check with individual insurance carriers for the amount). The classes are normally held the second Saturday of each month at the Franconia District Station. The next seminar is scheduled at the Franconia District Station, located at 6121 Franconia Road, from 8am to 4pm on March 14. Registration is required and can be done by contacting the MODIP reservations line at 703.924.6588. The fee for this course is \$10.00 per person for books and materials.

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: \$10 Membership

\$____ Donation for upkeep and landscaping of the Rose Hill entrance sign

\$____ Donation for RHCA General Fund

Thomas Edison Mulch Sale

Use order form below or call Toni Robertson at 703.307.1271

Place your order by March 1, 2009 to guarantee home delivery of 20 bags or more. Please be sure to add \$5 charge for delivery of 20 bags or more, if applicable.

Make checks payable to EHS ANGP (we will not accept cash as payment through the mail) and submit form with your check to: EHS, Attn: ANGP, 5801 Franconia Road, Alexandria , VA 22310.

All proceeds are used for the EHS Class of 2009 ALL NIGHT GRADUATION PARTY

Name:_____

Phone:_____

Address_____

City / State / Zip _____

Neighborhood _____

Number of Mulch Bags:

\$ ____ x ____ bags = \$____ + \$5 delivery charge if applicable = \$____ (check total)

Payment by Check #_____

Circle One:

PICKUP

DELIVERY (20 bags or more)

Directions for home delivery:

Double Shredded Hardwood in 3 cubic foot bags – \$4.25 each (no chemicals or additives)

Pick up of 19 bags or less, **Saturday, March 7**, 8am to 4pm, and **Sunday, March 8**, 10amto 2pm, at Thomas Edison High School, 5801 Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA.

\$5 delivery charge for purchases of 20 bags or more!

Contact Info: Toni Robertson, 703.307.1271 or toni110226@yahoo.com

Fairfax County School Board Invites Public Comment on School Start and Dismissal Times

The Fairfax County School Board invites parents and interested citizens to comment on changes to school start and dismissal times that are under consideration by attending one of seven upcoming community dialogue meetings in February and by completing an online survey.

A report from the School Board's Transportation Task Force offers recommendations to change school start and dismissal times and to improve the overall effectiveness of Fairfax County Public Schools' (FCPS) transportation system. The changes would affect elementary, middle, and high school students. Because changing school start and dismissal times could affect work schedules, child care arrangements, and after-school activities – including athletics – the School Board wants to hear from the public about the pros and cons of the changes.

Seven community dialogue meetings will be held in February:

Tuesday, February 24, 7 to 9pm:

- * Annandale High School, 4700 Medford Drive, Annandale
- * Longfellow Middle School, 2000 Westmoreland Street, Falls Church
- * Oak View Elementary School, 5004 Sideburn Road, Fairfax



Wednesday, February 25, 7 to 9pm:

- * Herndon High School, 700 Bennett Street, Herndon
- * Rocky Run Middle School, 4400 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly

Thursday, February 26, 7 to 9pm:

- * Providence Elementary School, 3616 Jermantown Road, Fairfax
- * Whitman Middle School, 2500 Parkers Lane, Alexandria

In the event of inclement weather, a makeup dialogue session will be held on Tuesday, March 3, from 7 to 9pm at Jackson Middle School, 3020 Gallows Road, Falls Church. The School Board invites all Fairfax County citizens to share their comments and opinions about changes to school start and dismissal times that the Board is discussing. Besides the above-mentioned meeting dates, citizens can complete an online survey at <http://www.fcps.edu/news/start.htm> (through Saturday, February 28).

Students in grades 6-12 have been invited to fill out a special student survey to share their comments about the proposed changes. FCPS employees will also be able to complete a survey. Responses and comments from all the surveys will be compiled and given to the Fairfax County School Board in time for the Board's work session on Monday, March 9.



Offering Beginner Yoga at

**Hollin Hall Senior Center
1500 Shenandoah Road
Alexandria, VA 22308**

Contact us at 703.863.3607

Level 1 Beginner Classes (ALL AGES) 11:30am-12:30pm

February 14 – March 21 (6 weeks)

March 28 – OPEN HOUSE 11:30am-1:30pm

April 4 – May 16 (6 weeks)

May 30 – June 20 (4 weeks)

**Your First
Class is
Free!**

Paid in Advance: \$12/week

Walk-ins Welcome: \$15/class

Rose Hill Community Calendar

Around Rose Hill

- ★ **Tuesday, February 24, 7pm.** Rose Hill Civic Association Meeting. John Marshall Library. Topics: Springfield Mall Redevelopment and Human-Wildlife Conflicts.
- ★ **Every Wednesday and Saturday.** BINGO! Franconia Volunteer Fire Dept. Early Bird, 7pm. Regular sessions, 8pm.

John Marshall Library

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

- ★ **Sundays.** Personalized Computer Training. Basics for beginners: Internet, Microsoft Word or Excel. Call for appointment. Adults.
- ★ **Thursday, February 26, 4pm.** Stories and Science. Stories, activities and an age-appropriate science experiment. Age 4-6 with adult.
- ★ **Fridays, 12pm.** Lunch Bunch. Bring a lunch and join us for stories. Birth-5 with adult.
- ★ **Saturday, February 28, 10:30am.** Frogs, Turtles and Snakes, Oh My. Meet some local critters in a nature program presented by Hidden Pond Nature Center. All ages. **2pm.** Memory Cookbook Writing. Join award-winning cookbook author Kay Karim for a discussion on crafting and publishing your own family cookbook. Adults.
- ★ **Wednesday, March 4, 7pm.** Girls Night Out. Join us for a book discussion. Please call for title. Age 12-15 with adult.
- ★ **Tuesday, March 10, 10:15am.** Think Green. Come celebrate St. Patrick's Day with stories and activities. Shamrocks, rainbows and leprechauns, oh my! Age 2-3 with adult.
- ★ **Tuesday, March 17, 7pm.** Mother-Daughter Book Group. Join us for a lively book discussion. Please call for the title and to sign up. Age 9-11 with adult.
- ★ **Wednesday, March 18, 10:30am.** Small Wonders. Stories, fingerplays and activities. Age 13-23 months with adult. **7:15pm.** Book Discussion Group. Please call for title. Adults.
- ★ **Thursday, March 19, 4pm.** Let's make a kite. Age 6-12.
- ★ **Thursday, March 26, 4pm.** Stories and Science. Stories, activities and an age-appropriate science experiment. Age 4-6 with adult.
- ★ **Saturday, March 28, 10:30am.** Kaydee Puppets Presents. Join us as Kaydee Puppets perform two favorite stories: "The Little Red Hen's Wacky Week" and "The Princess and the Pea." All Ages.

Thomas A. Edison High School

5801 Franconia Road, Alexandria, 703.924.8000, 703.924.8097 fax.



★ Thank you Edison parents and students for your generosity in donating cupcakes to help celebrate Thomas A. Edison's birthday today. Thank you also to all of the volunteers who dedicated their time to handing out cupcakes during the lunches. The students seemed to enjoy the surprise, and there were even enough cupcakes to treat the staff. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated. Edison was born on February 11, 1847. Happy 162nd birthday! To learn some interesting facts about Thomas A. Edison, check out his biography at <http://www.thomasedison.com/biography.html>.

★ Edison HS has purchased an online SAT and ACT prep class for your use. You can access it from anywhere that you have Internet capability:

- Log on to Blackboard
- Click on the Family Connection icon
- Look in the red menu on the left side of your screen for the "about college" section
- Click on "test preparation."

This excellent class offers lessons and quizzes in the content areas for both the ACT and the SAT, as well as a diagnostic tool and full-length tests. Take advantage of this FREE opportunity by setting aside time each week (or each day?) to improve your skills and maximize your college options by achieving a higher test score!

★ **All Night Grad Party.** In 1987, in response to a Virginia DMV request, the Virginia Dept. of Education developed the project "Virginia Operation Prom/Graduation" to address the issues of youth drinking, drug use, and driving behavior during high-risk events such as graduation and prom. The All Night Grad Party was created as a result.

The 20th annual ANGP will be held on Tuesday, June 16, at the Lee District ReCenter. This is a parent-sponsored event with a goal of providing a safe and memorable celebration for our Class of 2009 graduates. Your help is needed:

- We need your financial support! Please make a tax-deductible donation. The ANGP is funded only by parent and community donations, and through our mulch sale fundraiser. Checks may be made payable to Edison ANGP. For tax purposes, you will receive acknowledgement of your financial support.
- Please contact Carolyn Blackmon at Cblack7376@cox.net to sign up as a volunteer. We are appealing especially to parents of underclass students because

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Rose Hill Community Calendar, continued

graduation day is a busy time for senior parents. Please help out now so you can relax when your student graduates!

- Buy your mulch during the ANGP mulch sale, March 7 and 8. This is the major fundraiser for the ANGP. The mulch we sell is double-shredded hardwood, exactly what you want for your gardening needs! The order form is on Page 5.

Thank you for supporting the 2009 All Night Grad Party!

Mark Twain Middle School

4700 Franconia Rd., Alexandria, 22310, 703. 313.3700, Fax: 703.313.3797



- ★ **Order yearbooks now!** The price is still only \$30. Order forms are available in the main office and in the student services office.
- ★ **Study Skills Group.** The Counseling Staff will begin a Study Skills group focusing on test taking skills, organizational skills, time management, and goal setting. We will be meeting with 8th graders on Mondays beginning in March during ELT. Our target group is students in the C/D range who need additional support in order to be academically successful. Please feel free to contact the counseling staff with any questions.
- ★ **February 23.** Mandatory staff training for writing SOL held during each period
- ★ **February 25-27.** Edison counselors will meet with 8th grade teams
- ★ **February 25.** 3rd quarter interims due
- ★ **March 4.** Distribution of 3rd quarter interims
- ★ **March 3-4.** 8th grade writing SOLs
- ★ **March 14.** Mocha Morning
- ★ **March 10.** Edison counselors will meet with 8th graders in the café from 8-9am and 9-10am
- ★ **March 11 & 13.** Rising 9th grade orientation for Edison High School

Rose Hill Elementary School

6301 Rose Hill Dr.,
Alexandria, 22310,
703.313.4200
Fax: 703.313.4297



- ★ **Multicultural/Wellness Festival.** Mark your calendars!

Please join us on April 16, 6:30pm - 8:30pm, as we celebrate our diversity and our health and fitness with our second annual Multicultural Festival. There will be a variety of games from different countries, food sampling, and a museum with artifacts from various countries. Look for information that will be coming home with details about how you can participate.

- ★ **SOL Test Dates.** The following dates have been designated for SOL testing. It is critical that your children are here for testing. We hope that having this schedule far enough in advance will enable you to schedule appointments for your children that will not impact their testing. Thank you for teaming with us!

- March 3 5th Grade Writing Multiple Choice
- March 4 5th Grade Direct Writing
- May 18 3rd Grade Reading, part 1
- May 19 3rd Grade Reading, part 2
- May 20 4th Grade Reading
- May 21 5th Grade Reading
- May 22 6th Grade Reading
- May 26 3rd Grade Math
- May 27 4th Grade Math
- May 28 5th Grade Math
- May 29 6th Grade Math
- June 1 4th Grade Social Studies
- June 2 5th Grade Science
- June 3 6th Grade Social Studies
- June 4 3rd Grade Science
- June 5 3rd Grade Social Studies

- ★ **5K Run For Autism.** Mark your calendars! The Second Annual 5K Run for Autism will take place on May 9. The race will begin at 8:30am for runners and 8:35am for walkers. Please come out to support this important community event! Look for the flyer/registration form in the next Rocket News.

Positions Available — Please Help!

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*

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, has more than 13 years experience and can be reached at 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.

HOUSE CLEANING

Ingrid. 703.362.5672. I've lived in the Rose Hill area for 13 years. I clean houses in the general area and also do move-outs.

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 10

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.

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
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703.924.4203 Fax
store3532@theupsstore.com

www.theupsstore.com/3532.htm



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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@fabrikations.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

**FREE Gentle
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2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria

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