

The Rambler

Newsletter of the Rose Hill Civic Association

President's Message

New Lee District Park Plan Includes Lighted Ball Fields

The Park Authority staff is proposing a major change in the character of Lee District Park. A new master plan to replace the original plan adopted in 1974 includes the lighting of two large rectangular fields, one directly behind Virginia Hills Baptist Church and the other on the far edge of the park near its boundary with the old Virginia Hills School. Also included are 120 new parking spaces and an enhanced Family Recreation Area near the intersection of Rose Hill Drive and Telegraph Road.

When the park master plan was first proposed, all the communities surrounding the park objected to the lighting of the ball fields. Problems with glare, interference with the night sky, and the traffic generated by added nighttime uses were cited as major reasons. The park staff has chosen to disregard a number of suggestions offered by Rose Hill and Virginia Hills when the subject was first discussed

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at a meeting held March 16, 2004, at Edison High School. The issue was discussed at an RHCA meeting prior to that meeting and the consensus was to again oppose lighted ball fields. That position was reaffirmed at our October 2005 meeting.

Since the traffic entering and exiting the park goes through or on the edge of Rose Hill, RHCA opposes more cars and extension of the use until 10:30pm or later. While the Recreation Center is open late, the traffic is spread out over the additional time since patrons are not trying to reach the park for a specific start time of an event. Most of the proposed 120 parking places are designed to accommodate the expanded uses. Lee District currently has 320 parking spots.

A recent study by the County's Office of Transportation shows that Rose Hill Drive handles a large volume of traffic at speeds in excess of the posted 25 miles per hour. RHCA currently is working with the County to establish traffic calming methods to curtail cut-through traffic and reduce speeds. Therefore, it makes little sense to add another traffic producer on our border. Information on the traffic issue is discussed later in this report.

RHCA suggested that the park staff concentrate on improving access to the park, construct trails on the periphery between Telegraph Road and South King's Highway, and establish a link between Lee District Park and Huntley Meadows Park that would cross over South King's Highway. Other ideas included the upgrading of play areas and the

Rose Hill Civic Association Meeting Tuesday, November 22, 7:00pm John Marshall Library

Topics: Lee District Park and Section III Updates,
Holiday Contributions Vote

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www.myrosehill.com

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addition of revenue-producing facilities to help make sure Lee District Park remains self-sufficient. The Family Recreation Area proposal is a good one.

The new plan proposes a link to Huntley Meadows Park that would involve a long hike along Dorset Drive to The Parkway to South King's Highway to

Harrison Lane and then on to the Huntley Meadows entrance at Lockheed Boulevard.

RHCA pro-

Another feature of the new plan is a proposed but undefined future expansion of the Recreation Center that appears to almost double its size.

RHCA proposed a hiking/biking trail with an overpass crossing South King's to connect Lee District Park to Huntley Meadows; a much shorter and safer route.

Another feature of the new plan is a proposed but undefined future expansion of the Recreation Center that appears to almost double its size.

The Park Authority held a public meeting on the issue on November 15 at Twain Middle School. However, there remains plenty of time for Rose Hill residents to be heard. If you oppose the lighted facilities, email the park staff at parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov or write to Ms. Lynn S. Tadlock, Director of the Planning and Development Division, Fairfax County Park Authority, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 421, Fairfax, VA 22035. Emailers should copy Supervisor Kauffman at leedist@fairfaxcounty.gov. Letters can be sent to Supervisor Kauffman at 6121 Franconia Road, Franconia, VA 22310.

We are going to have to be heard loud, clear, and often if we are to overturn the staff proposal to light the ball fields.

If you would like to see the full proposal, go to the Internet site fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/gmp/leedistrictplan.pdf. After further discussion at our November 22 meeting, RHCA will forward its concerns and suggestions to the Park Authority and Supervisor Kauffman.

Section III Update

Emad Saadeh, geotechnical engineer who represents the owner of undeveloped Rose Hill Park Section III, will update us on the progress of the site plan at our November 22 meeting. If your property borders Section III, plan to attend this important meeting. If you are involved with any of the other

proposed infill development throughout Rose Hill, you can learn much about the process by attending this meeting. All of the proposed projects involve marine clay, the problem soil that can be greatly affected by new development. Emad will explain the latest findings after additional drilling on the 22-acre-site located west of Rose Hill Drive and Cottonwood Drive and north of Carriage Drive. He will outline the proposed tree save area outlined by the white tape on the property and update us on any plans to submit the site plan to the County for review. RHCA has forwarded its concerns about the development to the County engineers. Remember, no plan that will allow construction on the property has been approved by the County. To recap, the property owner is operating under a Special Exception approved in July 2004 by the Board of Supervisors. That approval reduced the density from 59 homes to 45 and established a buffer between the new and existing homes. It also includes a recurring fund to repair existing homes from any damage caused by the new development during its construction. The next step is to provide detailed engineering as part of a site plan for development.

Rose Hill Originals

The RHCA is looking to add to the list of original residents who have lived in the community for 50 years. So far, the leader is Connie Beatty, who has lived on Rose Hill Drive for 51 years and counting. Connie's friend, Twila Noble, who passed away August 4, 2005, lived at the corner of Rose Hill Drive and Apple Tree Drive for 50 years. On October 27, 2005, Well and Ann Machmer celebrated 50 years in their home on Willowood Lane that backs up to the power lines. Well was the post master at Fort Belvoir.

Kae Furnison and her late husband, John, moved into the first house built on Treetop Lane almost 49 years ago with their two-year-old son and two-week-old daughter. He was a Metropolitan policeman and later a Fairfax County zoning inspector.

The plan is to honor these long-time residents by inscribing their names on a monument to be placed at the base of the historic sign facing Rose Hill Drive at the John Marshall Library. If you have lived here

The RHCA is looking to add to the list of original residents who have lived in the community for 50 years.

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50 years, or know someone who has, please contact me at 703.971.4716 or at sellcarl@aol.com.

We also want to honor original residents who still reside in the same house since it was built. Since Rose Hill was built out over a period of years and there are numerous sections, we're not looking for any arbitrary longevity, just 'originals.' Don't you or your neighbors be left out in this important honor. Old-timers are Rose Hill's "Greatest Generation" and we want to recognize each and every one of them. Their names also will be on the monument.

Traffic Calming

RHCA has received preliminary feedback from the County's Office of Transportation concerning our request for the installation of stop signs and traffic calming strategies on Rose Hill Drive and several of our neighborhood streets. We are printing the information verbatim:

"Because the request from Rose Hill community concerns many streets and intersections, and includes traffic calming devices as well as multi-way stop signs, FCDOT has conducted engineering reviews for each of the streets listed in the request.

Studied streets included Rose Hill Drive, Willowood Lane, Bee Street, Cottonwood Drive and Leewood Drive. The Residential Traffic Administration Program (R-TAP) traffic calming guidelines require traffic volumes between 600 and 4,000 vehicles per day, with average speeds at least 5 mph over the posted limit (i.e. 30 mph) or 85th percentile speeds at least 10 mph over the limit (i.e. 35 mph).

FCDOT has found that both speed and traffic volume were insufficiently high to qualify the following streets for traffic calming: Bee Street, Leewood Drive, and Cottonwood Drive east of Rose Hill Drive. Speed on Willowood Lane was not high enough to qualify that street for traffic calming either.

On Rose Hill Drive, speed did reach the required threshold, but volume (over 10,000 vehicles per day) was too far over the maximum for traffic calming. Preliminary indications are that Rose Hill Drive could qualify for traffic calming devices under the cut-through traffic restriction program. An official petition would have to be circulated

throughout the community before the analysis could be undertaken to determine if 150 cut-through vehicles use the road in a peak hour and if that traffic is greater than 40% of the total traffic for that hour.

Cottonwood Drive west of Rose Hill Drive does have sufficient speed and volume to qualify for traffic calming on its own. It could also be considered as part of a Rose Hill Drive cut-through restriction initiative.

Ineligibility for traffic calming does not preclude a street or streets from consideration for multi-way stop signs. FCDOT will work closely with the Virginia Dept. of Transportation to review the listed multi-way stop requests for compliance with R-TAP and traffic engineering guidelines. Findings from this undertaking will be provided to your community shortly.

Results of speed and volume counts referenced above will be sent to Joan Clark of Supervisor Kauffman's office to share with the community. Thank you for your interest in the R-TAP residential traffic programs."

We are continuing to discuss how to proceed with the program. I presume traffic calming will be forthcoming on the section of Cottonwood Drive. It appears we have some work to do before we can slow cut-through traffic on Rose Hill Drive. If we are successful in doing that, the other streets such as Leewood, Willowood, and Bee should benefit. We'll keep you advised and will pass on additional information. I have offered the County help in circulating petitions and conducting surveys. Nothing is easy, but we'll continue to push for solutions. I'll need your help and know I can count on it!

It appears we have some work to do before we can slow cut-through traffic on Rose Hill Drive.

Dilapidated House

For several years, RHCA has been complaining to the County and the owner about the house that is falling down before our very eyes at 4612 Round Hill Road. The neighbors have been complaining for even longer than that. Each time we have complained, there is a flurry of activity but no results. It's time for all of us to get together and help rid our community of this eyesore. It's not fair for people to have to live next to such a mess. It affects property values and produces unhealthy visitors, both two- and four-

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legged, or more. Please take a ride or walk past the house at the corner of Round Hill and Willowood Lane and you'll see what I mean. In our most recent conversations, the folks at the Blight Abatement agency report they are on the horns of a dilemma. The next step would be demolition of the house by the County. However, they are reluctant to proceed because the 'house has value' and therefore a court may intercede. Another problem is that it has not yet been condemned by the Health Department. Over the next few weeks, RHCA will try to work with the Health Department in an effort to get the house condemned. We'll report on our progress via email. If you are a member and have provided your email address, you are on our list. You should be getting meeting notices and other information. If not, please join by using the form on page 5. Be sure to include your email address.

Holiday Contributions

Each year, RHCA makes a \$100 contribution to Koinonia to help support the organization's food baskets at Thanksgiving and food baskets and toys for youngsters at Christmas. RHCA also contributes \$100 toward the cost of the Christmas Eve dinner at the Franconia District police station for the police who work that night. Since most restaurants are closed Christmas Eve, the Citizens Advisory Committee prepares a generous spread at the precinct for

those on duty. Firefighters from Franconia also are invited. We will need to vote to continue these yearly contributions. In the case of Koinonia, individual Rose Hill residents can participate in either the Holiday Basket Program or the Christmas Wishes Program. You can donate either a Holiday Basket or Christmas gifts for the needy. Call Gail Barr, the Basket Coordinator, at 703.971.6181 or via email at fgbarr@cox.net. If you are interested in adopting a family for the Christmas Wishes program, call the Koinonia office at 703.971.1991. Any resident who is involved with a local charitable organization is encouraged to attend the November 22 meeting and give us an outline of the good work.

Holiday Plans

RHCA will not meet in December. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 24, 2006. Don't forget the Holiday Decoration and Lighting program. RHCA will recognize those houses in the community that have outstanding or unusual lights and decorations for the holiday period. If you would like to help as a judge, get in touch with one of the officers. The judges will make their rounds between Christmas Day and New Year's Day. In an effort to make sure no house is missed, we urge residents to contact one of the officers to nominate a neighbor who has added to our Christmas cheer. Winners will be announced in the January *Rambler*.

—Carl Sell



Stay Tuned

Way back in the '80s, back when a rising star named Madonna climbed the radio charts, microwave ovens invaded U.S. homes and Atari transfixed a generation, the Fairfax County Public Library began operating cable TV channel 44. Our TV studio was located in our Tysons-Pimmit branch, and our staff produced original TV programs about library services that could be seen in homes throughout the county.

Unfortunately, the Go-Go '80s became the slow-go early '90s. The library lost the TV studio during a round of budget cuts. We did retain the spot on the TV lineup, so instead of original programs we ran text announcements about library services and activities. This "video bulletin board" aired for about a decade on channel 44.

Fast forward to 2005. A few months ago, Verizon won the right to compete against Cox for cable TV subscribers in Fairfax. Cox has therefore consolidated some of its government channels. Channel 44 will be converted to a commercial station showing network TV programs; the library announcements that used to run on channel 44 now run on the Fairfax County government TV channel 16. Our video bulletin board airs Sundays at 7:30pm, Tuesdays at 3:30pm, and Thursdays at 11am.

Channel 16 will also continue to air the library's award-winning live-action TV program, "Information Avenue." For this show's broadcast schedule, or to watch it via streaming video, go here: http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cable/channel16/information_ave.htm.

—FCPL

Help Keep Rose Hill Great By Joining RHCA in 2006

Rose Hill is a great community because of the efforts of many folks who band together as members of the Rose Hill Civic Association. You can support our efforts by joining RHCA for 2006. We welcome both long-time residents and our new arrivals. Together, we will continue to improve our community. Fill out the membership application below and mail it, along with your check, to RHCA, PO Box 10891, Franconia, VA 22310.

Your membership covers the cost of printing *The Rambler* which is delivered free of charge nine times a year by our small army of volunteers. It also covers the costs associated with Neighborhood Watch, the Rose Hill Beauty signs, contributions to area charitable organizations, the Christmas Eve dinner for our police and firefighters, and the Edison all-night graduation party designed to help keep our youngsters safe.

We also solicit contributions for the upkeep of the plantings in front of our community sign at the corner of Rose Hill Drive and Franconia Road. If you like, you can add to our general fund to help pay for special events or needs that arise during the year. One of such efforts this year will be honoring our long-time residents by placing their names on a plaque at the base of the Rose Hill historical marker at the library.

Last year, our special fund involved contributions toward the beautification of the library flowerbed

facing Rose Hill Drive. We turned over \$400 to the Friends of John Marshall Library to purchase mulch, fertilizer, and flowers for the project which was completed by a number of volunteers. Take a look at the result the next time you visit the library.

This year, we are establishing a fund to help the teachers and staff at Rose Hill Elementary School. Often, things come up at the school that cost money and the teachers usually dig into their own pockets to pay for them. We can help by establishing a fund for the school to help finance those unforeseen items. Terri Czarniak, the new principal, will work with us to make sure the money is spent wisely for the benefit of the school and its students.

Finally, our strength is in our numbers. The County listens to us because we are many and we are highly organized. This is evident in the support we get to help solve problems in the community. We are embarking on a concentrated push to rid the blight at 4612 Roundhill Road and the larger our voice, the more successful we will be. If you want to see what is happening to the residents near this address, ride by and take a look. They need our support!

Our 2006 membership drive will continue through the first quarter. As usual, we will print an updated list of our members in each issue between now and April.

—Carl Sell

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 listed on the front page.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Enclosed is a check for:

- \$10 for membership
- \$_____ Donation for upkeep and landscaping of the Rose Hill entrance sign
- \$_____ Donation for Rose Hill Elementary School
- \$_____ Donation for RHCA General Fund

Thank you!

Rose Hill Community Calendar

Around Rose Hill

- ★ **Tuesday, November 22, 7pm.** Rose Hill Civic Association Meeting. John Marshall Library. Subjects: Lee District Park and Section III Updates, Holiday Contributions.
- ★ **Every Wednesday and Saturday.** BINGO! Franconia Volunteer Fire Dept. Early Bird, 7pm. Regular sessions, 8pm.
- ★ **Any Day. Give Blood—the Gift of Life.** Inova Woodburn Blood Donor Center, 3289 Woodburn Road, Annandale, VA. Monday thru Friday, 8am-8pm; Saturday, 9am-5pm. Help save up to three lives in just one hour! Blood donors are needed year round, and especially type O donors. For more information or to make an appointment to donate at a donor center or community blood drive, call 1-866-BloodSaves (866.256.6372) or visit www.inova.org/donateblood. Thank you for helping save lives in our community!
- ★ **November 24.** 30th Annual Turkey Trot. Work up an appetite for dinner with this 5-mile race. Starts at 10am at Cora Kelly School in the Del Ray neighborhood, corner of Commonwealth and W. Reed Avenues. Cash prizes for tops winners. Entry \$10, \$5 for ages 12 and in advance, \$15 race day, \$10 for ages 12 and under. www.turkeytrot.pwba.org
- ★ **November 25.** City of Alexandria Holiday Tree Lighting. Musical entertainment with greetings from the Mayor and Santa Claus in Market Square, 301 King St. 7-9pm. Free! 703.838.4844
- ★ **November 25-27, December 2-4, 9-11.** Mount Vernon by Candlelight. Learn about the Washington's Christmas traditions, meet historic characters, and tour the home by candlelight, including the rarely seen third floor. George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate & Gardens. 5-8pm. \$ www.mountvernon.org 703.780.2000
- ★ **November 25-27, December 3-4, 10-11, 17-18.** Pictures With Santa Claus. Santa appears for pictures at the House in the Country shop, 107 N. Fairfax St. This is the Santa who appeared in Animal Planet's "The Littlest Reindeer." 10:30am-2pm. Free! 703.548.4267
- ★ **November 26-28.** Holiday Festivities at Market Square. Check out the City of Alexandria's huge holiday tree while listening to music in front of City Hall, 301 King St. Free! Canceled in case of inclement weather. 703.838.4686
November 26: The Nighthawks play holiday swing 2-3pm.
November 27: Pasaporte Latino performs Christmas music 2-3pm.
- ★ www.funside.com for a great calendar of local events.

Huntley Meadows Park

Huntley Meadows Park and Visitor Center, 3701 Lockheed Blvd., Alexandria, VA 22306, 703.768.2525.

Fairfax County Park Authority's largest park (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. In December, the Visitor Center is open 9am-5pm, Monday, Wednesday-Friday; noon to 5pm Saturday and Sunday. In January and February, the Visitor Center is open 9am-2pm, Monday, Wednesday-Friday; noon to 5pm, Saturday and Sunday. The Visitor Center is closed Tuesday. Grounds open dawn to dusk.

- ★ **November 19, 1-2pm.** Video—Cardinals Up Close. Meet the northern cardinal, Virginia's state bird and a familiar backyard visitor, during this 50-minute video. FREE
- ★ **November 20, 7:30-10:30am.** Birding for Beginners—Seasonal Transitions (Adults). Observe the transition of our bird community as the summer breeding population moves south and winter residents arrive. A park naturalist will help you sharpen your bird identification skills. Reservations required. FREE
- 1-2pm. Video—Cardinals Up Close. See 11/19.
- ★ **December 3, 4:30-6:30pm.** Owl Outing (Adults). Learn about the secret lives of the park's resident owls. Following the slide presentation, we will take an off-trail walk in search of these nocturnal birds of prey. Sponsored by FOHMP. Reservations required. Canceled if rain. \$5
- ★ **December 10, 4:30-6:30pm.** Owl Outing (Adults). See 12/3.
- ★ **December 12, 3:15-4:30pm.** Young Explorers—Holiday Crafts (6-8 yrs.). Join the fun of making holiday gifts, ornaments, and cards with a nature theme. Reservations required. Canceled if rain. \$5
- ★ **December 14 and 15, 9:30-10:15 or 10:45-11:30am.** Nature Detectives—Holiday Crafts (3-5 yrs.). Listen to a winter tale, and then make a holiday ornament. Reservations required. \$5
- ★ **January 7, 8-10:30am.** Birding for Beginners (Adults). Winter is a great time to begin birding. Program starts with a discussion about field guides and optics, then we'll walk to look for resident birds. Reservations required. Canceled if rain. FREE

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Rose Hill Community Calendar, continued

John Marshall Library

Events are free unless noted. Reservations are encouraged for library activities; call 703.971.0010.

- ★ **Monday, November 21, 1:30pm.** School's Out Fun. After-school activities and crafts about Native Americans. Age 6-12.
- ★ **Tuesdays, 6:30pm.** Personalized Internet Training. Learn how to use the Web, or increase your skills. Call for an appointment. Adults.
- ★ **Thursdays, 7pm.** Practice Your English conversation group for people learning English. Adults. No registration is required.
- ★ **Thursday, December 1, 7pm.** Teddy Bear Time. Bedtime stories and activities. Bring your favorite stuffed animal. Age 2-5 with adult.
- ★ **Friday, December 2, 12pm.** Lunch Bunch. Bring a lunch and listen to stories. Birth-5 with adult.
- ★ **Saturday, December 3, 2pm.** Cartooning With Chris Flick. From comic books to the Web: a hands-on workshop. Age 12-18.
- ★ **Wednesday, December 7, 10:30am.** Winter Fun. Stories, activities, and a craft about wintertime. Age 2-3 with adult.
- ★ **Friday, December 9, 12pm.** Lunch Bunch. Bring a lunch and listen to stories. Birth-5 with adult.
- ★ **Wednesday, December 14, 10:30am.** Small Wonders. Short stories, fingerplays, and activities. Age 13-23 months with adult.
- ★ **Friday, December 16, 12pm.** Lunch Bunch. Bring a lunch and listen to stories. Birth-5 with adult.
- ★ **Saturday, December 17, 2pm.** Nutcracker Fantasy. Enjoy a classic presented by Bob Brown Puppets. Sponsored by the Friends of the John Marshall Library. All ages.
- ★ **Wednesday, December 21, 10:30am.** Jingle Bells. Stories and activities about winter. Age 2-3 with adult.
7:15pm. Book Discussion Group. New members are welcome. Adults. No registration is required.

Edison High School

- ★ **Support the All Night Grad Party!** It's not too early to start thinking about the holidays! Order your poinsettia today & support the Senior's All Night Grad Party! These big and beautiful plants come in pink, white, red, or marbled and they cost just \$15 !!! Delivery date is Dec. 3 —orders must be in by Nov. 23. E-mail orders to maggiebritvec@hotmail.com, phone orders to Bonnie Kempfer 703.971.3782. Thanks for your support!!

- ★ November 23. Students dismissed two hours early
- ★ November 24-25. Thanksgiving holidays

Mark Twain Middle School

- ★ **Touching Bases.** On Thursday, December 1, you will have an opportunity to touch bases with each of your student's teachers from 2:45 - 4:00pm. Please limit your time to 3-minute mini conferences. If you feel you need extra time with the team, please call the guidance department to arrange a conference with your student's guidance counselor.
- ★ In order to **stay on top of homework assignments**, please check your student's planner daily, or check Blackboard at <http://fcps.blackboard.com/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp>.
- ★ **Donations are needed** for the annual PTA Thanksgiving Custodian Appreciation baskets. Please contact the coordinator, Janice Gardner at 703.924.6975 for more details.
- ★ Anyone who has headed a volunteer effort for Twain is being asked to write up an **"After Action Report"** so that the person who handles that same event next year will have some guidance. These reports should be emailed to the PTA Volunteer Coordinator, Peggy Hammett, at peggyhammett@cox.net.
- ★ **Information Update Form.** If there are any changes in your child's personal information such as a new address or telephone numbers, please stop by the Mark Twain Guidance Department to pick up a student information update form. The update form must be completed before any information is entered into our computer system. A student's information may not be updated over the telephone.
- ★ **Organization/Time-Management and Study Skills.** During the next few Mondays, counselors and peer helpers will be in each fifth period class working with all students on organization/time-management and study skills. Each student will receive a packet of helpful information on such topics as using the daily planner, time management tips, weekly and monthly calendar use, tips for successful note taking, and goal setting. Also included will be a student/parent homework contract. Counselors hope that these timely and important topics will help all students to become more efficient in their short and long-term academic goals.
- ★ **The Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth (CTY).** The Johns Hopkins University CTY, a world leader in gifted education, conducts national and international talent searches to identify, assess, and

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Rose Hill Community Calendar, continued

recognize outstanding academic talent. CTY seeks to develop the talents of our nation's brightest children by offering an array of academic services and programs. Johns Hopkins University staff is committed to finding and nurturing academic talent in all of America's neighborhoods and around the world. Students are identified for participation in the Talent Search by scoring at or above the 97 percentile on a nationally-normed, standardized aptitude or achievement tests. These scores are obtained from previously taken tests. This opportunity is open to both 7- and 8-grade students. Students interested in participating in this program should contact their counselor. For more information, go to <http://cty.jhu.edu/>.

★ **Honor Roll Assembly.** Our first quarter Honor Roll Celebrations will be held on Tuesday, November 29, in our cafeteria. The 7th grade ceremony will begin at 8:15am and the 8th grade ceremony will begin at 9:15am. Students earning all A's or A and B grades are awarded a certificate and invited to come to the stage to receive it from their grade level principal. No reservations are necessary in order for family and friends to attend. Please join us for coffee and donuts following the celebration.

★ **Permission to Ride a Different Bus.** When a student requests to ride a different bus other than their regular bus, BOTH parents must provide a written note to the Guidance office. The note must include a working phone number where you can easily be contacted during the school day. A school official will contact each parent to confirm the note contents. Your student will not be issued a bus pass until we reach you via telephone. Be aware that certain buses are often overcrowded (especially, bus #3, 11, and 15); therefore, a note does not guarantee a seat on the requested bus. A new note is required for each request. No "standing notes" will be accepted. We appreciate your cooperation in helping us ensure the safety of your student.

★ **Student Arrival Time at Twain.** Students are allowed entrance into the building at 7:15am. Between 7:15am and 7:30am, students are supervised in designated locations by staff assigned morning duty. The remainder of our staff is not required to arrive until 7:30am. As we experience dark, cold winter mornings, it is essential that students arrive at the appropriate time, and not before. There is no adult supervision or crossing guard for those students who arrive prior to 7:15am. If you transport your child to school, or if they walk or ride a bike, they should time their arrival between 7:15 and 7:30am to ensure that they have breakfast and arrive in classes by 7:40am.

★ **Cell Phone Usage.** Middle School students will be allowed to possess a cell phone on school property, including school buses, during the school day and while in

after-school activities; however, the device must be out of sight, turned off, and used only with authorization from the principal or her designee. In addition to other disciplinary action, violations will result in confiscation by school officials and returned only to the student's parent (as stated in SR&R, page 14, section m).

★ Calendar in a snapshot:

November 18. Aces Student Recognition Breakfast, 8:00am, Lecture Hall
November 21. Sexual Harassment/Bullying Presentation—7th grade
November 22. Eagles Team Thanksgiving Luncheon, Noon
November 23. Two hour early closing for students, NO LATE BUSES
Quasar Team Activity
November 24-25. Thanksgiving holiday
November 29. Honor Roll Assembly: 7th grade ceremony, 8:15am; 8th grade ceremony, 9:15am
November 30. Fundraiser collection through 2nd period classes
December 3. TJHSST Admissions Test, 8:30am
Poinsettia pick up date, Cafeteria
December 2. Fundraiser collection through 2nd period classes
Twaingram deadline
December 5. Mark Twain Birthday Celebration—cupcakes
December 6. Band Winter Concert, 7pm, Twain Cafeteria
December 7. Orchestra Concert, 7pm, Twain Cafeteria
December 8. Chorus Winter Concert, 7pm, Twain Cafeteria
December 10. All District Band Auditions, Stuart HS
December 13. PTA Meeting, 7pm, Cafeteria
December 23. Winter vacation begins; students return to school on Tuesday, January 3, 2006

Rose Hill Elementary

★ November 23. Students released two hours early
★ November 24-25. Thanksgiving holidays
★ The Rose Hill Singers are working hard to prepare their winter concert scheduled for Wednesday, December 7. Please mark your calendars, for their presentation entitled "A Fire Within."
★ December 23 - January 2, 2006. Winter Vacation
★ January 16, 2006. King's Birthday Holiday

Business Directory

Rose Hill 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, call one of the officers listed on the front page.

CHILD CARE

Mama High's Pre-School and Day Care. Mrs. Carola High has 15 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.

DIGITAL DESIGN

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

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Fabrications. Invitations, announcements, flyers, menus, business cards, brochures, newsletters, mailers, books, proposals, journals, and all your light editing, printing, and paper needs. Marty Williams, Desktop Specialist, 703.924.7192, or marty@fabrications.us. Marty is the Editor of *The Rambler* and lives with her husband, Dwight, on Cottonwood Drive.

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

HOME REPAIRS

Hugh Watts. From a new roof to the smallest of problems, contact Hugh Watts at 703.593.5908. 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 landscaping for the Rose Hill entrance sign at Rose Hill Drive and Franconia Road and donated mulch for the new trees in the median.

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 3 years.

LICENSED NOTARY PUBLIC

Chrissy Blackwell. 703.971.5840, after 6pm and on weekends. Chrissy lives on Willowood.

MEMORY BOOKS

Creative Memories. Sally Dankers, 571.331.7245. Get your precious photographs out of the drawer and organized in a beautiful photo-safe album. Sally has lived on Carriage Drive since 1990.

PAINTING

Painting by Sherry. Cheryl Matey, 703.921.9422. Exterior/Interior. Cheryl has lived in Rose Hill 19 years.

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.

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.

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 703.924.3704 or email oraclemarjorie@aol.com.

REAL ESTATE

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.

Continued on Page 10

Business Directory, Continued

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 1/4 page: 3 1/2" x 4 3/4", \$25
1/2 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 703.924.7192. Artwork can be sent to marty@fabrications.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



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A historical dairy farm transformed into a school, this hidden treasure offers a swimming pool, tennis courts, library, gymnasium, and a great learning environment for ages 2 1/2 to 12.

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Marty A. C. Williams
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Franconia Museum Items For Sale



★ Franconia Remembers Vol I \$10.00

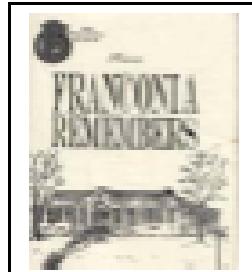
Includes pictures and stories about:

Franconia Elementary School

Families Mentioned in this book

Apperson, Cooke, Cooper, Facchini, Glover, Lee,

*Nalls, Peverill, Staples, Sullenburger, Weller,
and Wise*



★ Franconia Remembers Vol II \$20.00

Includes pictures and stories about:

Ashland

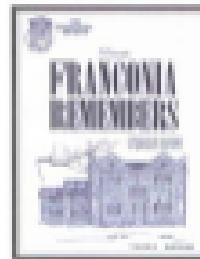
Old Franconia School

Ward's Corner

Families Mentioned in this book

Broders, Fitzgerald, Goodheart, Higham,

Schiute, Smith, Starry, and Tharpe



★ Franconia Museum Ball Cap \$18.00

Available in both

Denim Blue or Khaki



★ 2006 Calendar \$10.00

Includes pictures of:

Bather Simons House, C. W. Block Station (Railroad Tracks near Franconia Station 1920's), Henry Wise Store 1935, Franconia Volunteer Fire Department (Labor day Parade 1951), Ward Corner 1949, Franconia Fire House 1940's, Franconia School Baseball Team 1947, Franconia School (May Day Celebration 1947), Laurel Grove Baptist Church, Ashland, Old Franconia School 1929, Franconia School (WWII War Bond Sale)



★ Newsletters (when available) \$5.00 Assorted Photo's Priced As Marked

**** Price Includes Sales Tax ** -**

Call Jac Walker at 703.971.2463

501 (c) (3)
Organization