

The Virginia Hills Echo



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Mount Comfort Cemetery Improvements

Mount Comfort Cemetery has submitted a site plan to Fairfax County proposing to build a second mausoleum on the opposite (left side) of the center chapel, mirroring the one on the right side. As part of the plan, the cemetery proposes to do plantings that will provide additional screening from South Kings Highway and for the residents of Memorial Street. It proposes a rain garden to handle storm water from the new mausoleum. The rain garden, which is designed with water-tolerant plantings, will allow storm water to infiltrate into the ground as opposed to running off. An example of a functioning rain garden can be seen at the back of the South County Government Center.

The County has not yet approved the site plan, and construction cannot begin until that takes place.

From the Editor

This is the last Echo I'm editing, and I wanted to thank the members of the Virginia Hills neighborhood for their continuing interest and support. The Echo has come a long way since its origins in 1953, and I'm proud to have been a part of that. I want to also thank our advertisers. Without them, there would be no paper copy of the Echo, and I think that still serves a useful purpose.

Most importantly, I'd like to thank our delivery people. VHCA could never afford to mail out the Echo, and without these people we'd have an online Echo only that would never reach all the residents. I intended to thank my delivery people individually, but as always, I'm short on space. So thanks to each of you! You've done terrific job!

Finally, I ask for your support for my successor who has excellent qualifications and, I'm sure, will provide Virginia Hills with an even better *Echo*.

VHCA Officer Elections This Month

The major item of business at the June meeting will be the biennial election of officers for the Association as required by the bylaws. The executive committee of the Association, consisting of the current officers, is required to present a slate of officers to the membership, and nominations for the various positions may also be made from the floor.

The executive committee is proposing the following slate:

For president, **Warren Suyderhoud**. Warren is currently serving as vice-president and was previously membership director. He lives on Virginia Hills Avenue.

For vice-president, **Ralph Zecca**. After two terms as president, Ralph would be returning to this position in which he formerly also served two terms. Ralph lives on Prospect Terrace.

For secretary, **Juliana Sharp**. Juliana has volunteered for this often vacant position. She lives on South Kings Highway.

For treasurer, **Robin Jones**. Robin is currently serving as treasurer and has held the position for two terms. She lives on Prospect Terrace.

For membership director, **Akiko Zecca**. While Akiko has not served as an officer before, she has assisted in several membership campaigns. She lives on Prospect Terrace.

For Echo Editor, **Leah Buckley**. Leah has not previously served as an officer. She lives on Gentile Court.

Only members in good standing may vote or serve.

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Virginia Hills Citizens Association Meeting

Tuesday, June 10th – 7:30 PM
Old Virginia Hills School, Diana Lane

Speaker: TBA

The President's Corner

Comment from VHCA President Ralph Zecca

Coming from a tight knit community, I have always valued the idea of knowing my neighbors. On a social level, it is just nice to see someone smile and wave to you as you go off to work or school. On a selfish level, it is nice to know there is someone there that can offer you help or lend you a tool. In any case, Virginia Hills really is such a community. This can be seen not only as you walk around our neighborhood, but also at the Virginia Hills Citizens Association meetings.

At our last meeting a few of our fellow neighbors graciously volunteered to help out. With your vote at our meeting on June 7, these brave and generous folks will become your new executive board for the association. I hope that you will show them the support you have given me during my tenure as president and encourage more of you to step up and make this place that is not just a place to live, but a community that we can all be proud of. So with that I thank each and every one of you and wish you the best.

One final note, the Rose Hill Players, made up of K-6 students from Rose Hill Elementary School, are putting on the musical production *Princess Whatsername* on Friday, June 13th at 7:00 PM and Saturday, June 14th at 1:00 PM and 7:00 PM at Thomas A. Edison High School (5801 Franconia Rd, Alexandria).

The story follows a girl lost in the forest who cannot remember anything, not even her own name! On her journey to discover her identity, she meets Hansel and Gretel, Rumpelstiltskin, Goldilocks and the Three Bears, Snow White and the Seven Dwarves, Cinderella, Rapunzel, and other beloved fairy tale characters who help her find her true identity as a princess.

So please come on out and show your support for our neighborhood children. Not only will you support our local school, but who knows? Maybe you will meet a new friend.

With sincerest respect,
- Ralph Zecca

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www.VirginiaHills.org**



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Virginia Hills Citizens Association Officers 2012-2014

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Vice President
Treasurer
Secretary
Membership
Echo Editor

Ralph Zecca
Warren Suyderhoud
Robin Welsh
Karen Lamb
Vacant
Doug Boulter

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VP@virginiahills.org
Treasurer@virginiahills.org
Secretary@virginiahills.org
Membership@virginiahills.org
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Lee Districts Concerts in the Park 2014

June

- 11 The Pietasters (Ska)
- 18 Jon Carroll Band (Pop/Rock/Soul)
- 25 Leroy Justice (Classic Rock)

July

- 2 Washington Saxophone Quartet (Jazz)
- 9 Frank Solivan and Dirty Kitchen (Bluegrass)
- 16 Lox & Vodka (Jewish and American Music)
- 23 Nora Jane Struthers & Party Line (Bluegrass)
- 30 Russikye Musikanti (Russian Dance/Music)

August

- 6 Cathy Fink & Marcy Marxer (Folk)
- 13 Sierra Hull (Country)
- 20 The United States Navy Commodores (Jazz)
- 27 The Nighthawks (Blues)

Concerts take place in the Lee District Park amphitheater at 7:30 PM. Admission is free. If there is a threat of bad weather, call 703-324-7469 after 6:00 PM for cancellation updates.

Hayfield High School Mega 70s Reunion

This October 10th and 11th will see the third year of the combined classes reunion for Hayfield High School grads of the 70's (and early 80s).

On October 10th the classes will have a pre-party for the Hayfield homecoming game starting at 5:30 PM at Bungalow's at 7003 Manchester Blvd.

On the 11th there will be a Reunion Night party at 6:00 PM at Paradiso Italian Restaurant, 6124 Franconia Road.

For more information, visit the Facebook page "Hayfield High School Alumni from the 70's", visit the Paypal link at www.hss71-74.com/1974/links/reunionnews.html, or call Chris Harney, '76, Reunion Chairman, at 703-929-8191.

Get a jump on the new membership year!
Join the Virginia Hills Citizens Association
for 2014-2015 that begins on September 1st.

2014-2015 Membership

**Mail to: VHCA, P.O. Box 10837,
Alexandria, VA 22310**

I'd (We'd) like to join / renew my (our) membership in the Virginia Hills Citizens Association. Enclosed are the annual membership dues of \$7.00 per household. I am also including a contribution in the amount of

\$ _____.

Name (s) _____

Address _____

City _____

Zip Code _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Comments: _____

Checks for dues may be made payable to VHCA or the Virginia Hills Citizens Association.

The Law on Stopped School Buses

From Greg Kottemann, FCPD

School is still in session! To clarify the school bus law:

ALL drivers must stop when a school bus is loading or unloading when there are no raised medians or walls between their travel lanes and the school bus regardless of how far the swing-out stop sign has been extended on the bus. Drivers must stop when the red lights begin flashing! When you see the yellow lights flashing on the bus, assume that the red lights are about to start and be ready to stop when the bus stops.

Police follow the school buses and are ready to issue reckless driving tickets. The penalty includes \$2,500 in fines and loss of license for 6 months/180 days in jail.

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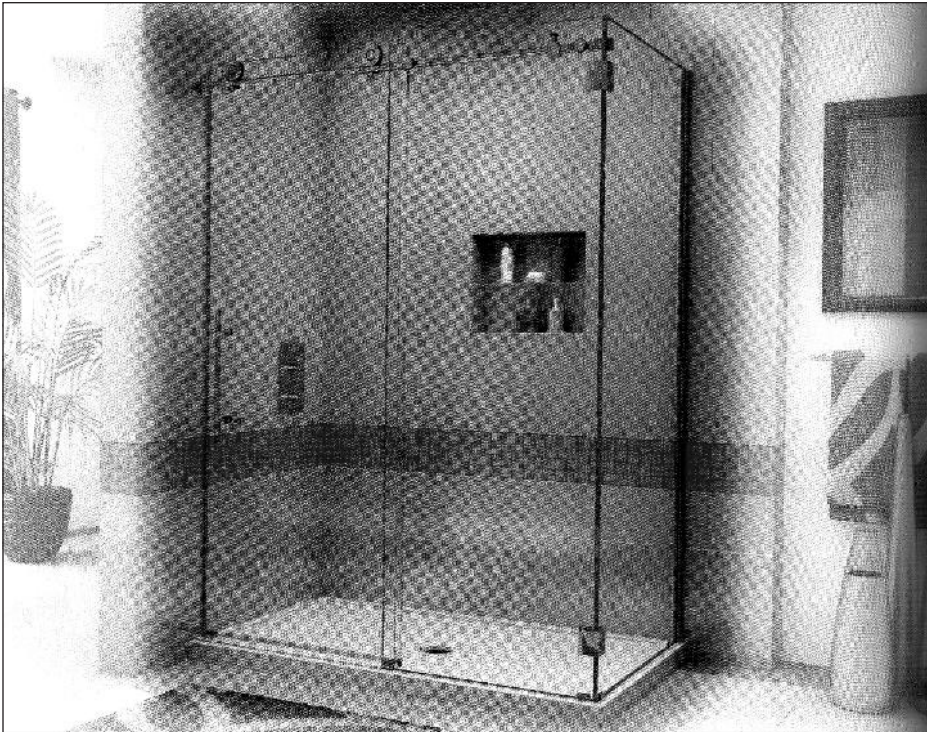
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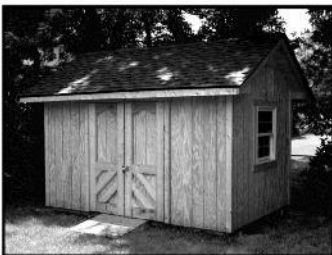
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Message from Supervisor McKay

I recently visited every school that serves Lee District children—19 elementary, 4 middle, 5 secondary, and 1 special center. What I saw and heard reinforced my belief that our educators are dedicated professionals who care deeply about their students. You can read my full report at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/lee/>.

Most commonly heard from teachers and principals were concerns about a lack of time to accomplish educational basics and the high cost of living in Northern Virginia. Our educators have the same day-to-day financial and family pressures as county employees and residents.

Two issues with community implications are the significant spike in student mental health needs and the number of students who attend schools outside of their boundary, increasing use of Kiss and Ride lines, more traffic congestion, and community safety issues.

Funding our school needs is especially challenging in a time of economic and political change and especially when we are disadvantaged by the State funding formulas. It will take the sustained efforts of both the County and Schools to persuade the General Assembly to provide our fair share of educational funding. Consider this example: in FY2012, Fairfax County taxpayers

provided \$9,905 per pupil but received only \$2,764 per pupil from the State. Compare that to the Prince William figures where their local taxpayers provided \$4,812 per pupil and the State provided \$4,813 per pupil—almost twice what Fairfax County gets.

I'd like to thank every school principal and staff member who enthusiastically responded to my request to visit their schools. I know we can meet any challenge if we continue to tackle the tough issues and ensure that every child is given the chance to learn regardless of school, race, gender, religion, or economic status.

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Current Virginia Hills Real Estate Market

Status	Style	Address	BR	FB	HB	List Price	Close Price	Bsmt	Gar
Active	Rambler	6119 The Parkway	3	1	1	\$425,000		Yes	0
Active	Rambler	3701 Austin Ave	4	2	0	\$445,000		Yes	0
Active	Rancher	6608 Berkshire Dr	3	2	1	\$424,900		Yes	0
Active	Bilevel	6229 Virginia Hills Ave	4	2	0	\$439,900		Yes	0
Active	Rambler	6211 The Pkwy	3	2	0	\$459,000		Yes	2
Active	Rambler	3613 Heather Ct	3	1	0	\$349,000		No	0
Active	Rambler	6508 Enfield Dr	3	2	0	\$379,000		No	1
Active	Rambler	6511 Berkshire Dr	3	2	0	\$400,000		Yes	0
Cnko	Colonial	6401 Dorset Dr	4	2	0	\$418,900		Yes	0
Cnko	Traditional	6301 Gentele Ct	3	1	0	\$359,000		No	0
Cont	Rambler	6309 Gentele Ct	3	1	2	\$275,500		Yes	0
Sold	Rambler	3715 Logan Ct	3	1	0	\$359,990	\$349,000	No	0
Sold	Rambler	6106 Houston Ct	2	2	1	\$465,000	\$460,000	Yes	0
Sold	Rambler	6311 The Pkwy	3	1	0	\$359,990	\$360,000	No	0
Sold	Rambler	3711 Trigger Ct	3	1	0	\$355,000	\$359,000	No	1
Sold	Rambler	6615 Berkshire Dr	3	2	0	\$408,000	\$405,000	Yes	0

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