



The Grove Homeowners Association, Midlothian, VA

Volume 3, Issue 3  
June—July 2006

# THE GROVE MINER

www.thegrovehoa.com



## Home from Iraq: The Grove Community thanks Lt. Col. Joseph

By Lisa Kopecko

When Lt. Col. Joseph McClain returned to his home from Iraq, he never imagined the community support he would witness. “He was very moved and surprised by how many people showed their support. As I drove him around the community he was counting how many homes displayed yellow ribbons. He said ‘he couldn’t believe that it was all for him.’ We must have driven around at least 6 times, it was awesome.” his wife Tina says.

Dealing with Joe leaving for Iraq was difficult for Tina, “The first week I watched the news constantly and was driving myself crazy, so I stopped watching and got busy,” says Tina. And busying herself she did; while Joe was over in Iraq, Tina attended graduate school full time at VCU, worked part time at VCU hospital, took care of their two children, 9 year old, Megan, and 2 year old, Joseph II, and moved their family from Hawkins Wood to Coalbrook.

Joe joined the Army when he was 17 and spent the next 19 years training to become a cardiothoracic, trauma and general surgeon. Joe left for Iraq in October 2005 for a six-month rotation. He was stationed in Baghdad at Ibn Sina Hospital with the 10th Combat Support, which is the country’s busiest trauma center.

The seven years he spent working at Brooke Army Medical Center, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, in trauma surgery and the last three years working as a cardiac surgeon and professor at McGuire VA Hospital and Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, (continued p. 4)

### **INSIDE:**

<b>State of the Community</b>	p. 2
<b>Welcome New Neighbors</b>	p. 3
<b>New Grove Phone Book</b>	p. 4
<b>GROVE YARD SALE</b>	p. 5
<b>Abbey Village</b>	p. 6
<b>#1 Mom in Midlothian</b>	p. 7
<b>Classifieds</b>	p. 9
<b>Committee News</b>	p. 10
<b>Hey Teenagers !</b>	p. 10
<b>Social &amp; Pool News</b>	p. 11
<b>Easter Egg Hunt Pics</b>	p. 12

### **We’ve heard you!**

In response to many comments regarding the size of the stickers, please find the enclosed new smaller version of the “No Solicitation” sticker. We hope this will encourage everyone to put this sticker on your door. *Thanks.*





## PRESIDENT'S STATE OF THE COMMUNITY REPORT

Many of the community beautification projects that we began in the beginning of the year have been completed and overall, the community is looking great. Please don't forget to thank your friends and neighbors who volunteered their time and energy to make things happen. One way we can all help is by adhering to the rules and regulations that protect the value of our homes and common areas.

The most recent major issue that has arisen is related to the increased outdoor activity as we all do our spring gardening and sprucing up. Please remember that the common areas are for everyone's use, as are the walking trails, and they are not to be used for the disposal of debris and brush. We have received numerous complaints of dumping and will begin enforcing the rules against violators. Also, be advised that the parking of inoperable vehicles (this includes vehicles with expired tags or inspection stickers) in public view is not allowed. So if you are restoring or just storing a vehicle, please put it in your garage.

The on-going mailings and reminders concerning dues have had a good result with many more homeowners paying their annual assessments and late fees. Collecting these fees is a monumental task and I would like to thank Jonathan Jackson, Treasurer, and the rest of the board members helping him for a job well done. The remaining delinquent homeowners have had enough time and notice to pay and if arrangements were not made with the board, liens are being placed on their properties.

With summer upon us, and the increased outdoor activity, I along with all of the other board members welcome your input and ideas. So please feel free to approach us at the pool or on walks or any of the community events.

Thank you to all The Grove residents, as at the end of the day, you are what make The Grove such a great place to live.

*Don McHale*

### **The Grove Homeowners Meetings:**

2nd Thursday of each month  
6:30pm at the clubhouse.



The next newsletter will come out August 1st.  
Deadline for submission is JULY 15.

Questions, Comments, or Submissions: send to Mike Burnette at [newsletter@thegrovehoa.com](mailto:newsletter@thegrovehoa.com) or 897.0377

The Grove Miner is a publication of  
The Grove Homeowners Association of Midlothian, Va., Inc.

# Welcome New Neighbors

## **Scotter Hills**

Kristen Crosby

## **Kingham**

John & Carolyn Amstein

Brian & Cordia Hennaman

John & Kristin Riley

Daniel & Melissa Schultz

Neil & Julie Smith

Edward & Julia Trebour

Mike Greenfield & Suzanne Morris

## **Krim Point**

Larry & Roselle Thornton

## **Coalbrook**

John, Maggi, Kendall, Kasey and Morgan  
Lewis

We really want to 'welcome' new neighbors as they move into our neighborhood. We do hear about new homes being sold, but resale's are harder. If you know of a neighbor that has moved into a 'resale' home or if YOU have moved in and haven't been 'welcomed', please notify us at [GroveWelcome@comcast.net](mailto:GroveWelcome@comcast.net).

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**2006**

## **Board of Directors**

[boardofdirectors@thegrovehoa.com](mailto:boardofdirectors@thegrovehoa.com)

### **President**

Don McHale, 379.5079

[president@thegrovehoa.com](mailto:president@thegrovehoa.com)

### **Vice President**

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[vicepresident@thegrovehoa.com](mailto:vicepresident@thegrovehoa.com)

### **Secretary**

Ben Owings, 378.0067

[secretary@thegrovehoa.com](mailto:secretary@thegrovehoa.com)

### **Treasurer**

Jonathan Jackson, 794.7041

[treasurer@thegrovehoa.com](mailto:treasurer@thegrovehoa.com)

### **Operations**

Sheldon Ross, 794.6207

[operations@thegrovehoa.com](mailto:operations@thegrovehoa.com)



**Thomas Olivero, D.D.S.**

112 Walton Park Lane

Between Walgreen's & the Goddard School

**804-794-2802**

## HOME FROM IRAQ (Continued from front cover)

did not prepare him, as Joe was not accustomed to seeing so many of his patients die.

Joe expected to treat more Americans, but in fact, 75 percent of the patients at the hospital were Iraqi, “which means the Iraqi army is standing up and fighting back.” However, the stream of U.S. troops and their injuries moved him unexpectedly. “I didn’t think it would emotionally drain me because I’ve been doing this for so long,” said Joe.

In February while Joe was in Baghdad, Tina’s cousin, Ted Schwinn, was in the Red Zone and was injured badly. When Tina finally got in contact with Joe and asked him to track down Ted, they learned that Ted was actually Joe’s patient. Prior to their fateful meeting, the two men had never met in person. Joe expedited Ted’s return back to Washington DC, where he has made a remarkable recovery. Ted and his family are planning to visit the McClain’s this summer. “Sometimes, things happen for a reason. It was good that Joe was there for a family member in need – both professionally and personally.” Said Tina

“Overall, the entire experience was good,” Tina says. “It brought our family closer together and Joe really values his experience in Iraq, especially now that it is finally behind us.”

Joe and Tina want to thank the entire Grove community for the outpouring of support and kindness shown to them while Joe was in Iraq and when he returned. “Our neighbors were really there for us.”



Yellow ribbons covered the Grove



*Welcome home Joe; we are all proud to be your neighbor!*

**As we approach Independence Day,**

**we also pay recognition to all those in the Grove that have served our country in the armed forces.**

*We thank all of you!*

If you have a military story to tell, we want to hear it. Contact us at [newsletter@thegrovehoa.com](mailto:newsletter@thegrovehoa.com) or 897.0377. We’d love to do a story on your military experience.



**NEW GROVE PHONE BOOK:** You should have received the new phonebook with this newsletter. If you did not receive one, contact [publicity@thegrovehoa.com](mailto:publicity@thegrovehoa.com).

If you have **changes** to your listing or to add a new listing, Email [treasurer@thegrovehoa.com](mailto:treasurer@thegrovehoa.com). We’ll update changes in the next newsletter.



# The Grove Community-Wide Yard Sale

Rescheduled for June 10  
**8am-12 Noon**

Thank you for your patience in the canceling of the previous date. We found in the past that when we have it on the same day as Walton Park and others, the crowd does not have enough time to get to all the yard sales in the area. So, at the last minute we decided to cancel. Sorry for the inconvenience. Congrats to Hawkins Woods and others for already organizing their subdivision's own yard sale.

*For events such as this, always check out our website at [www.thegrovehoa.com](http://www.thegrovehoa.com) for most up-to-the-minute details.*

The Grove Homeowners Association will advertise in local papers for this event. On June 10th, we'll put up signs at Coalfield and N. Woolridge Roads. We'll also put red & white directional arrow signs pointing inward at each cross street inside the community along Grove Hill Road.

### **It's easy to participate:**

- + If you plan on having a yard sale on June 10, drop the form below in the mailbox at 1101 Kingham Dr. by June 5th. We'd like to know how many houses are participating and put this # on the entrance signs that day.
- + On Sat. June 10th, bring your stuff out onto your driveway or property front. Early-birds have been known to come an hour early to buy up your best stuff.
- + To help people find your house, **put up your own signs** leading people from Grove Hill Rd. to your house.

Questions: [publicity@thegrovehoa.com](mailto:publicity@thegrovehoa.com)

**YES, I plan on having a yard sale at my home on June 10. Put me on the list!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Drop this form off at 1101 Kingham Dr. by June 5th**

*If you decide to have a yard sale after June 5th, NO PROBLEM. You can still participate!  
This "reservation is just to help us put out the directional signs.*

<input type="checkbox"/>	Ridgemoor	<input type="checkbox"/>	Scotter Hills	<input type="checkbox"/>	Coalbrook	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kingham	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mitford
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gravity Hill	<input type="checkbox"/>	Krim Point	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hawkins Wood	<input type="checkbox"/>	Biggin Pond		

# What's Going on at Grove Hill & Coalfield??



You've seen the trees cleared,  
You've seen the roads and  
infrastructure been put in place.

*Now you know .....it's a 55+ Community.*



It's the next community of Charter Colony called Abbey Village.

98 families will call this plot of land home as the building and sales have begun. You may have noticed the RV parked there throughout the week. That is Style Craft Homes sales center for now. These town homes start at \$285,000 and are 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, and all have first floor master bedroom suites and a one car garage.

## Want to advertise in the Grove Miner Newsletter or on the website?

Bus. Card size - \$20, Quarter page - \$35

Half page - \$65, Full page - \$125

Back cover - \$150

(non-profits get 50% off!)

Website - \$80 per month

Ad design: \$35 if needed.

Call Carol Gottschalk at 897.6121

or [gottschalk@comcast.net](mailto:gottschalk@comcast.net)

**LOOK!  
750 HOMES**



## August 1st is National Night Out!

Check our website out this summer on details how The Grove will participate in this event. McGruff the Crime Dog will be here!

*If you would like to help with this event email Kristen at [hollandkma@yahoo.com](mailto:hollandkma@yahoo.com)*



# MidlothianExchange.com Votes Krim Point Mom #1 Mom in Midlothian

By Lisa Kopecko

In October 2004 just a few months after he moved into Coalbrook, Mike Burnette thought he was getting the flu. Four days later he couldn't even hold a toothbrush on his own. He was victim of a very rare yet potentially deadly side effect to a statin cholesterol lowering drug called Crestor. Some 20 months later, he has recovered nearly 100%.

Fortunately, his mom Joyce Johnson of Krim Point lived just a short distance away. She came every morning and stayed with him and helped Mike's wife Kathy get son Carter off to daycare and then care for Mike throughout the day.

But, how do you thank a mom who came out of retirement as a nurse, to be a 24 hour nurse and mom all over again? He entered her into Midlothianexchange.com's BEST OF MOM's contest. They won first place! Joyce now gets to spend a day at the spa courtesy of Spa Epidauros.

"It's the least I could do," said Mike. "How do you thank someone who gives constantly to others and won't allow you to do anything for her?"

Here's the letter he wrote

**MOM takes care of me.**  
*An open letter to my mom, Joyce Johnson of Midlothian, after I fell critically ill at age 35.*

Dear Mom:

A year and a half has passed since my illness began. I know now that I am better or close to it. But during that time, I was glad you were there to take care of me.

There were many nights when I was genuinely scared that I wouldn't wake up, but morning always came and you were right there to make sure I was ok. Thanks for the wonderful Isaiah 40:30-31 verse which I have kept by my side ever since. It was you and God that got me through all this mess.

Thanks for the countless hours you spent taking care of me, my family, and our house. Thanks for the store runs, the meals, and the warming of my heating pads, just to name a few things.

Though I don't show it often, I love you very much and am very thankful you are my mom. At this stage of life, I should be taking care of you, not the other way around.

You have been so giving to me and everyone all your life. It seems you never spend a nickel on yourself and give so much of your time to everyone else.

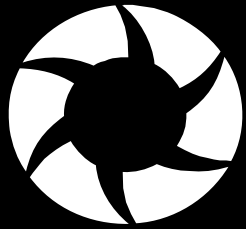
Thanks Mom.

Mike

**Have a story  
you want to tell?**

Submit it to:  
newsletter  
@thegrovehoa.com

We like to print  
good stories about  
your neighbor, child,  
or parent in the Grove



## **House Tips: Benefits of Ventilation Systems**

Ventilation in your house is ineffective during Virginia's hot, humid months, where temperatures don't change much during day and night. However, **attic ventilation** can help in this situation.

Ventilating your attic can greatly reduce the amount of accumulated heat in your attic, which can easily reach 150 degrees in the summer months. Eventually, that heat works its way in to the main part of your home, causing your air conditioning unit to run more. Ventilated attics are about 30 degrees cooler than unventilated attics.\* Properly sized and placed louvers and roof vents help prevent moisture buildup, which can cause mildew and overheating in your attic. In addition roof vents can extend the life of your roof by reducing heat damage.

For more information on the benefits of installing ventilation systems in your home, contact Steve Kopecko at Family Electric 804.357.1984.

\*Information provided by the U.S. Department of Energy

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Are you passionate in your support of a non-profit?

Next issue: we will have a feature on **Giving Back to the Community**  
and want your input, your stories, and your help. Please email us at [newsletter@thegrovehoa.com](mailto:newsletter@thegrovehoa.com)

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# Neighbor to Neighbor FREE Classifieds

**THANK YOU!!!** Hannah and Taylor Read send out an enormous "Thank you" to all residents of the Grove who sponsored them in the 5K Race for Hope. They were able to raise over 1,000 dollars which was donated to missionaries in their church. Your generous spirits are appreciated and an encouragement.

**Babysitting:** Amy Obarski, age 15, home number: 423.6554, Red-Cross Certified, references available on request.

**Sitter needed:** I need a sitter for 6 hours every Tuesday during most of the summer. I have two, well behaved, children ages 6 and 9. If interested please call 379.4297.

**Summer babysitter Needed??** Katie Kenney (16) is available this summer to watch your kids while you are at work, daytime or evenings. She is an experienced sitter with previous positions as a summer sitter. Please call her at 378.4697. Carl Kenney (15) is also available for periodic babysitting.

**For Sale:** Table/4 Chairs & Hutch - \$950 Perfect for grand morning room or breakfast nook. Call 357.1769



We've got a small **Grove jam band** going over on Goswick Ridge Road and we're still looking for some additional musicians. We already have drums, 3 guitars, bass and a female singer. We'd like to get a male singer to sing lead on the male vocal songs and we need a keyboard player. Don't be shy. This is all for fun and there's absolutely no pressure. We are all busy with our normal routine (work, family), so we are all pretty flexible and as long as we all have fun, that's the main thing. We'd love to play some Grove functions if we were able to assemble a full band, but if not, it's just a way to play different styles of music for fun. Give me a call or E-mail at:  
work phone 398.5542  
home phone 379.3154 (my wife's name is Sarah)  
work E-mail [Brian.Legere@wachoviasec.com](mailto:Brian.Legere@wachoviasec.com)  
home e-mail [TheLegeres@comcast.net](mailto:TheLegeres@comcast.net)

**For Sale:** Cherry Mahogany Upright Piano with Bench. 10 years old. Recently tuned. Like New. \$1,500. If interested, please call Luz 221.7338. Will be happy to send you a picture via e-mail. [luzsheppard@yahoo.com](mailto:luzsheppard@yahoo.com)

Hi! My name is Sarah Sheppard "Need to get out for awhile? **I would love to babysit your kids** while you and your spouse enjoy a nice evening out." I am 15 1/2 years old. I have lots of experience with kids. I live in the Scotter Hills. If interested, please call: 380.8384.

**Looking For A Housekeeper:** Can any Grove Resident recommend someone they have been using to clean their home and are happy with their work. Thanks! Please Call Annette 794.6062.

**SEEKING HOST FAMILIES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS!**

I am a Grove resident and an area representative for the Center for Cultural Interchange inviting you and your family to join thousands of other families across the U.S., who enjoy the enriching and rewarding experience of hosting! If interested, contact me via email ([soomie.ahn@gmail.com](mailto:soomie.ahn@gmail.com)) or telephone (475.2560). Also, here is the link to the CCI website: <http://www.cci-exchange.com/default.htm> for more general information.

**Have a classified ad (no businesses) for our August 1st issue?**

**Email it to [newsletter@thegrovehoa.com](mailto:newsletter@thegrovehoa.com) or call 897.0377 by July 15.**

**NO charge for Grove Residents.**

# COMMITTEE NEWS

## **Gravity Hill Neighborhood Watch:**

Section coordinators have contacted or tried to contact each neighbor in their group. The Gravity Hill neighborhood watch is set up to run. If you have **NOT been contacted** by your section coordinator, we may have been trying to reach you and have not been able to. If you would like to participate in the Gravity Hill neighborhood watch simply email your mailing address, email address, and phone number to [gravityhillnw@yahoo.com](mailto:gravityhillnw@yahoo.com).

Just a quick reminder, if a non-emergency incident occurs please email Kristen at [gravityhillnw@yahoo.com](mailto:gravityhillnw@yahoo.com) or call her at 794-7256.

If there is an emergency incident that needs immediate action please contact your section coordinator and/or Kristen so that the phone tree can be activated. Please remember the neighborhood watch does not replace calling the authorities for help in a true emergency.

*Want to start a Neighborhood Watch within your subdivision of The Grove? Take the initiative and make a difference! Don't wait until an incident happens to motivate you to make your neighborhood safe.*

**Hey teenagers of the Grove!**

**Want to earn some spending cash  
for the summer?**

**Post it on  
[thegrovehoa.com](http://thegrovehoa.com)**

**Simply go to "discuss a topic" and  
post your listing on the section  
called  
"Services by our Youth"**

**Babysitting, lawn care, bake sale,  
Carwash, etc....**

**Whatever it is...post it there!**

## **2006 GHOA Committees**

### **Architectural Modifications**

Steve Kellner, 594.2340

### **Grounds**

John Romano, 379.1238  
[wildcats63@comcast.net](mailto:wildcats63@comcast.net)

### **Clubhouse**

Sue Allen, 897.6820  
[sueallen101@comcast.net](mailto:sueallen101@comcast.net)

### **Publicity**

Lisa Kopecko, 379.2700  
[lisa@familyelectric.net](mailto:lisa@familyelectric.net)

### **Women's Club**

Donna Jarratt, 379.2828  
Denice McHale, 379.5079

### **Pool**

Jim Collins, 513.7728  
[jimcollins1130@comcast.net](mailto:jimcollins1130@comcast.net)

### **Social**

Leah DiPofi, 897.3916  
New! [dipofi@comcast.net](mailto:dipofi@comcast.net)  
John Romano, 379.1238  
[wildcats63@comcast.net](mailto:wildcats63@comcast.net)

### **Gardeners in the Grove**

Amy Zolad or Brent Sinnett  
897.8520  
[amy@era.com](mailto:amy@era.com) or [brent@era.com](mailto:brent@era.com)

# SOCIAL AND POOL NEWS

## POOL IS OPEN !



### **Pool Schedule:**

From now to June 30th and August 19th to Sept. 4th the hours are 10:00 to 8:00 except on public school days when the hours are 2:00 to 7:00, because of limited staff. From July 1st to August 18th the pool will be open until 9:00 on Fridays and Saturdays. The pool will closed at 7:00 on holidays.

**Pool committee volunteers** are needed: Email jimcollins1130@comcast.net if you can help make our pool fun, safe, and looking good! Also email Jim with suggestions or comments about the pool.

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### **A recap of the wine tasting that was held at the Clubhouse on May 13.**



There were 25 people in attendance. Chris Mitchell from Total Wine conducted the tasting on Italian wines. We sampled five different varieties. We learned about the different regions in Italy that produce wines and some background on each of those we tasted. The food was excellent--no one left hungry. It was a very informative & casual affair and was enjoyed by all those that attended. If you missed this event, you missed a wonderful evening.

## **Clubhouse Reservation Online!**

***Before you book the clubhouse, check its availability online at [www.thegrovehoa.com](http://www.thegrovehoa.com)***

## **Clubhouse Help Needed!**

***Looking for help to assist in clubhouse rentals.***  
Please contact Sue Allen at [sueallen101@comcast.net](mailto:sueallen101@comcast.net) or 897.6820

# Fun Times at the Easter Egg Hunt

THANKS TO ALL WHO MADE THIS DAY HAPPEN



100+ kids.....600+ eggs

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