



The Grove Homeowners Association
www.TheGroveHOA.com

Volume 9, Issue 6
December 2012-January 2013

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Grove HOA Board Election Results

On Thursday, November 8, 2012, The Grove HOA held its annual meeting and election of Officers. Up for consideration were two seats on the Board. Having reached a quorum, the election was conducted.

Results: John Romano and Gary Powers, Jr. were elected to the Board to serve two year terms. Continuing to serve are Gerry Mancuso, Kathy Morris, and Earl Nunnally.

We would like to thank our outgoing Treasurer, Maria Collins, for her years of dedication and service.

Community Group After Hours Coverage

To report urgent or life threatening issues after normal business hours (after 5 p.m. and before 9:00 a.m.), please contact Community Group, 804-270-1800 and follow the prompts for the 24 hour On Call Manager. Please DO NOT call Board members or leave messages on the regular Community Group inbox – those calls are not returned until the following business day. The On Call Manager can handle any urgent request immediately.

Items needing immediate attention are: Irrigation zones running for long extended periods of time, broken irrigation heads, fire or damage to the Clubhouse or common areas, etc. Any questions or concerns please contact Carolyn Grimes at 804-270-1800 or cgrimes@communitygroup.com.

This After Hours number and contact information will remain available on the 2nd page of the newsletter for your convenience.

Get in the Know!

Next HOA Meeting

January 10, 2013

6:30 p.m.

@ The Clubhouse

Standards and Guidelines Violations

By Carolyn Grimes

Thanks to all homeowners who have complied with our requests to clean up and spruce up!

Over the past two months we have sent 139 letters for Standards and Guidelines Violations. These letters have covered a variety of areas including: home and yard maintenance, signs, landscaping, vehicle parking, fencing, mailboxes and posts, sports equipment, and yard debris. Homeowners who don't respond to our requests will face a hearing before the Board of Directors. If you have received a letter and have not been able to complete the requested repair, please contact Community Group Manager Carolyn Grimes at 804-270-1800 or cgrimes@communitygroup.com. Inspections are conducted throughout the year. Please check the Standards and Guidelines at thegrovehoa.com Covenants & Bylaws tab for information about mailbox color, mailbox posts, and other maintenance questions.

2011-2012 Board of Directors

(2012-2013 Contact Details Forthcoming)

boardofdirectors@lists.thegrovehoa.com

Gerry Mancuso, 897-0853
president@thegrovehoa.com

Earl Nunnally, 379-4493
vicepresident@thegrovehoa.com

Gary Powers, Jr., 477-2102
secretary@thegrovehoa.com

Maria Collins, 240-7939
treasurer@thegrovehoa.com

Kathy Morris, 543-4249
director@thegrovehoa.com

The Grove's Full Service Community Manager

Community Group
3901 Westerre Pkwy, Ste 100
Henrico, VA 23233

270-1800

email: cgrimes@communitygroup.com

www.communitygroup.com

For neighborhood violations, repairs,
assessments, architectural modifications,
vendor management, etc.

Grove Contacts

Architectural Modifications

Carolyn Grimes
cgrimes@communitygroup.com
270-1800

Clubhouse

clubhouse@thegrovehoa.com

Newsletter

Cathy Allen, 379-1862
newsletter@thegrovehoa.com

Pool

Doris Dunham, 794-6126

Grounds

Susan Kiger, 794-3954
kiger2obx@verizon.net

Social

socials@thegrovehoa.com

Neighborhood Safety

TBA

HOA Connection



Holiday Lights & Architectural Review Rules

"Tis the season" to celebrate, but please remove all holiday lights by the 20th day following the event.

Any changes or additions to your home or landscaping need prior ARC approval. For complete details see thegrovehoa.com Covenants & Bylaws tab.

HOA Assessments Due!

Annual Grove HOA assessments for 2013 will remain at \$385.00. Please watch your incoming mail for a statement from Associa in early December. Assessments must be paid by January 31, 2013. To avoid penalties please remit promptly. Note: Homeowners in Krim Point, Ridgemoor, and Scotter Hills must pay assessments to their individual HOA as well as dues to The Grove.

Disclosure Package Required For Grove Home Sales

ALL SELLERS in the GROVE must provide a CURRENT disclosure package to ALL Buyers during the contract period. New homeowners have the right to cancel a contract without an updated package. Order it TODAY at www.communitygroup.com by clicking "Selling & Refinancing" tab, then "Place Order Here" tab.

Sellers of properties in Krim Point, Ridgemoor, and Scotter Hills must purchase a disclosure package from their neighborhood HOA in addition to The Grove disclosure package.

For questions or help call Community Group, Owner Services 270-1800 or visit the "Contact Us" tab.

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Ads and submissions for the
Feb - Mar issue are due Jan 15th

Submit all ads and articles to:
Cathy Allen, Editor
newsletter@thegrovehoa.com
or call 804-379-1862

Make checks to: Grove HOA and mail to:
13436 Mitford Dr., Midlothian, VA 23114
(Note: This address is for newsletter only.)



The Grove Miner is a bi-monthly publication of The Grove Homeowners Association of Midlothian, VA, Inc.

RATES FOR 2012-2013

Bus. Card size - \$30
Quarter page - \$60
Half page - \$90
Full page - \$145
Back cover - \$170 (sold out)

10% off for six issues prepaid.

Advertiser provided insert \$90
(780 copies needed)

Ad design: \$40/hr if needed.

See website for details.

Social Committee Update

By: Marielle Pool, Social Committee

“Oh what fun!” Stay tuned to the *Grove Residents* listserv and Facebook page for upcoming Winter and Spring activities.

To serve on the Social Committee or assist at events contact us at socials@thegrovehoa.com.

The Ghosts of Halloween Past

We had a great turnout at the Halloween Social. All our “ghouls and goblins” enjoyed warm pizza before Trick or Treating in the cold autumn night!

By Marielle Pool, Social Committee



For the latest on Socials and other Grove News join our groups! Sign up for the Facebook group **on thegrovehoa.com through the “join here” link at the middle of the webpage. This takes you to Facebook. Request permission from the administrator (Mike Burnette). The neighborhood listserv can also be accessed on thegrovehoa.com. Click the “join here” link and complete the form. The password is the same as needed to rent the Clubhouse and “Discuss a Topic.”**

Vandalism Hits Homeowners' Budget

By Carolyn Grime

Over Halloween and in recent months there has been increased vandalism within the community. The following areas have been damaged: 3 bridges-broken/damaged pickets; 3 "Children at Play" signs in the park broken beyond repair; and RipRap removed and misplaced at the creek near Biggin Pond causing \$1500.00 in repairs to the drainage area. In addition, kids have been placing debris in the creek area off of Coalbrook Drive. Although probably innocent in nature, this debris is creating drainage issues and will have to be cleaned up at homeowner expense. Please caution your kids about playing in and around the creeks for safety's sake.

News from Scotter Hills/Ridgemoor

By Kathy Morris and Doris Dunham

Scotter Hills homeowners wish to thank the Grove Homeowners Association for the beautiful roses planted recently at the entrance to the townhomes and the landscaping of the other common areas.

Front and back doors are being painted in Scotter Hills and Ridgemoor. If you have not been contacted please call Stellar Management to sign up (804-273-1333). We don't want to miss anyone's home.

Has your irrigation system been winterized? It's that time again.

We are continuing to have parking problems. If you have possible solutions please contact either a board member or Stellar Management.

If you have news to share from our community, or wish to write an article, please contact Kathy Morris (804-543-4249) or Doris Dunham (804-794-6126).

Hope everyone has a happy holiday season!



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Your Grove Neighbor



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Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeon
watson@oralfacialurgery.com

Southside Office

11319 Polo Pl. | Midlothian, VA 23113
804.794.0794 | 804.379.2858 - Fax

Brandermill Office

6031 Harbour Park Dr. | Midlothian, VA 23112
804.608.3200 | 804.608.3201 - Fax

West End Office

7650 Parham Rd., Suite 110 | Richmond, VA 23294
804.270.5028 | 804.747.3599 - Fax

“Dashing Through The Snow”?

Please slow down!

The posted speed limit is
25 MPH
throughout The Grove.

To report speeding or other moving violations
call 318-8084 or e-mail
speeding@chesterfield.gov

Clubhouse Rental Tips

The Clubhouse is a perfect place to entertain for special occasions and host group functions. To reserve go to the Clubhouse tab on <http://thegrovehoa.com/>. New users need to click on the “Subscribe” link in the News and Alerts section of the webpage. This brings up a form requesting your residence information. Once you submit the form, you’ll get a confirmation page. Within 48 hours you should receive an email with the user name and password. Access the Clubhouse online reservation system directly at <http://thegrovehoa.com/clubhouse/clubhouse-rentals>. Scroll down the page midway to the calendar section and click on the 31 day icon at the right. The calendar appears at the bottom. You can move forward or back through bookings by using the “month” arrows. Note: the Clubhouse is booked only once per day. To reserve a date, click “add new booking,” then log in with the user name and password. Click on the + sign to the right of the date you want. This brings you to the “Add a booking page,” which defaults to “Clubhouse.” Click on the “Add” button to get to the “Add Booking” form. Complete the form and press the save button. You will get a confirmation email within 48 hours. The date appears orange until confirmed, then it changes to green. Clubhouse rules, fees, and booking can be found at the links on the Clubhouse tab <http://thegrovehoa.com/clubhouse>.

Grove Pond Safety

With cold weather soon arriving, it's tempting for kids to go skating on the ice. Parents, please advise your children NOT to go into the pond. Parts of it are quite deep so do not venture in regardless of weather. Even when covered with ice, a breakage in the surface may cause drowning.

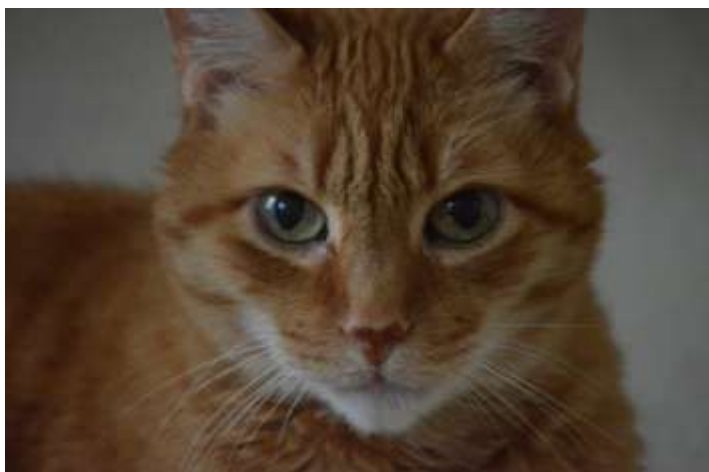


Welcome Committee Leadership Needed

If "making spirits bright" is your passion, please join our Welcome Committee as Chair or Co-Chair. Responsibilities are shared with volunteers already in place. To learn more, email Gerry Mancuso at president@thegrovehoa.com or Mike Burnette at burnette@uronline.net.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Now that the Watch is official, we need your help to keep it going! For more information, or to get involved, please contact Gerry Mancuso at president@thegrovehoa.com.



Wanted: Your Name In Print!

Our Co-Editor Logan is always on the prowl for stories! If you have a "yarn" to share with the neighborhood please send it to:

Cathy Allen

The Grove Miner

newsletter@thegrovehoa.com

or netallen@verizon.net

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**References from your neighbors at
The Grove!**

804-852-5544

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Holiday Shopping Safety

During the holiday shopping season, please be aware of your surroundings and follow these simple safety tips:

- If possible, shop during daylight hours.
- Avoid wearing excessive or expensive jewelry.
- Choose parking spaces in well-lit, high-traffic areas and as close to entrances as possible.
- Do not leave valuables visible inside your car. Purses, laptops, cameras, GPS units, portable music players and cash attract attention and tempt thieves.
- Always lock your car, even if you are leaving for only a short period of time. Make sure all windows, including the sunroof, are completely closed.
- Stay alert. Be aware of those around you. Offenders may try various methods of distracting you with the intention of taking your money or belongings.
- Never leave your purse or wallet unattended in a shopping cart.
- Avoid carrying multiple credit cards and large amounts of cash.
- Conceal your credit card numbers and personal identification numbers (PIN).
- Walk facing traffic so you can see approaching cars.
- Have keys in your hand as you approach your vehicle.
- Check the back seat of your car before entering.
- Never place packages or your purse on top of your vehicle.
- Immediately report suspicious persons and activities to police or mall security.

Online Shopping Tips

Know your merchant. Confirm the online seller's physical address and phone number before you buy. It comes in handy if you have questions or problems later.

Know what you're buying.

- Read the seller's description of the product and even though it can be painful, the fine print.
- Check out the terms and conditions. Can you return the item for a refund if you're not satisfied? Who pays the shipping costs? Is there a restocking fee? Print and save records of your online transactions, including all emails to and from the seller.
- Buy gift cards from sources you know and trust. Avoid buying cards from any online auction sites because they could be fake.

Be stingy with your personal information.


- Don't give out your credit card numbers or other financial information in exchange for an offer of the newest tech toy, a free gift card, a seasonal job or a holiday vacation rental.
- Don't email your financial information. Email isn't a secure way to transmit numbers—your credit card, your checking account or your Social Security number.
- Don't click on a link in an email. Legitimate companies don't ask for your financial information via email or pop-up message.

Check the privacy policy. It may be long, but it can give important information: for example, what personal information the website collects, why and how the operators are going to use it. If you can't find the privacy policy—or understand it—consider taking your business elsewhere, and letting the site know what you think.

Pay by credit or charge card. Under federal law, you have the right to dispute charges under certain circumstances and withhold payment temporarily while the creditor is investigating. And if your card is used without your authorization, your liability generally ends at the first \$50.

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We invite your family to join ours this holiday season. Tree lot is open 9-8 M-Sat & 9-6 on Sunday.



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The Gift of Giving

By Marianela Macedo, Coalbrook Resident

The gift of giving starts with a small idea. For a few years, my daughter Andrea and her friends from the Grove were involved with a Girls Scouts Daisies and Brownies troop. As a social event the troop met before Christmas and exchanged gifts. But as the girls grew older, they were not able to participate in the Brownies anymore. So to **continue the tradition, I decided to host our first "Mom and Daughter Hot Chocolate Party". I invited Andrea's friends and their mothers from our neighborhood and Brownies. We all enjoyed a fun afternoon with hot chocolate, cookies, and candy canes while our girls swapped presents.**

But something was missing. After the party, I talked to my daughter about the meaning of Christmas and the gifts. **We realized that it would be more "blessed" for our girls to "give" to children in need than "receive". I believe that some of our youth have too much and do not realize the extent of poverty in our neighboring communities. A gift forgotten in the closet can make a difference in another child's life. As a social worker in our community, I knew a lot of kids that would benefit from our children's generosity.**

I shared the idea with the girls and their moms. We agreed to meet next year and bring a new or gently used gift to wrap and donate to the list of needy children. Ahead of **time, I emailed the moms the children's names, genders, and ages. In December 2009, our second "Mom and Daughter Hot Chocolate" gathering met at my house.**

Forming our group were Chloe Martin, Molly Morgan, Sophie Rysedorph, Emily Smith, Kathryn Phillips, Jordan Vonderharr, and Andrea Macedo. The girls brought toys, board games, books, pajamas, socks, gloves, and hats as well as wrapping paper, and card supplies to create personal Christmas cards. Together mom and daughter wrapped the gifts. In the days following the party, some of the girls delivered the toys to the houses of children who were hoping Santa would come.

Since the beginning, I have kept contact with the families who told me their needs and wishes. Now that I am a **foster care worker, I've expanded the list of children we can help.**

In 2011 we added two new girls to the group: Julia Clark and Ella Grace Bazemore. 2012 marks the fifth anniversary **of our "Mom and Daughter Hot Chocolate" gathering. We would like to keep growing the cause. On December 16, 2012, we will meet and vote for the best name for our team. Any mom and school age daughter are welcome to attend, or donate toys and books. Please feel free to join us!**

I believe that we are making memorable Mother-Daughter connections and contributing to a good cause. I am afraid that our girls are growing up so fast, but hope we can continue to hold this event every year. Andrea has known these girls ever since we moved from California in 2003 and to The Grove in 2004. It is so beautiful to keep such a wonderful friendship for so long.

The gift of giving lies in its power to change not just others' lives but your own!



What Should You Do to Get Ready for Winter Weather?

In late October, Hurricane Sandy brought heavy rain, wind, flooding and, yes, even snow to Virginia! It's not too early to get ready for winter weather.

Here are important tips for protecting yourself and your home:

- **Get where you need to be before the weather gets bad.** It's always best to stay off roads during winter storms. Most traffic crashes happen within the first two hours after a storm starts. Get road conditions by calling 511 or visiting www.511Virginia.org.
- **If you heat with a fireplace or wood stove:** Have a professional check it, especially if it has been a long time since the last cleaning. Residue can build up and cause fires.
- **Safe use of space heaters:** Never plug them into extension cords; plug into wall outlets. Keep space heaters at least three feet from other objects, and turn off before going to bed.
- **Stay informed during power outages.** Be sure you have a battery-powered and/or hand-crank radio (and extra batteries). Get one with the NOAA Weather Radio band so you can hear winter weather reports directly from the National Weather Service as well as local radio stations. These are available at electronics, discount and sporting goods stores, and online from many retail outlets. Models are available for those with special needs.
- **Don't use candles during power outages:** Many home fires in winter are caused by candles. Flashlights are much safer. Be sure to have plenty of extra batteries.
- **Most importantly:** You need a family emergency plan. If your family cannot return home because of severe weather or closed roads, you need to decide now on where you will meet to reunite. You also need an out-of-town relative or friend to be your family emergency contact. Learn more about **making a plan** for winter weather and all emergencies – and get a free family emergency plan worksheet – at www.ReadyVirginia.gov.

Prepared by the Virginia Department of Emergency Management, November 2012

(804) 897-6510

pio@vdem.virginia.gov

www.ReadyVirginia.gov

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How to Keep Warm Through the Winter

Cooler weather doesn't have to mean sky high energy bills. By taking simple and inexpensive actions, you can save energy and money.

Air leaks are a waste of your energy dollars, and a quick way to save energy and money is to seal all seams, cracks and openings to the outside. New EnergySaver.gov Savings Projects make it easier with step-by-step guides to caulking and weather stripping around doors and windows.

Don't just stop with sealing around doors and windows. Unsealed air ducts in your attic and crawlspaces could be costing you money on your energy bill. Check out our tips for sealing your air ducts at energy.gov.

For optimal energy efficiency, your home should be properly insulated from the roof down to its foundation. When selecting the right insulation for your home, you should consider climate, home design and budget.

While windows provide natural light and ventilation, during cooler months they can also account for 10-25 percent of your heating bill by letting heat out.

Another popular way to save money without sacrificing comfort is to only heat the space you use. Consider installing a programmable thermostat, and set it back while you are away to see savings on your heating bill. Also, schedule a service check-up on your heating system to get the most warmth for your buck.

(article courtesy of energy.gov)

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Mailbox Repair

Mailbox 911 - Biggin Pond resident Dale Murphy offers mailbox repair or replacement services to Grove neighbors. Post repair available in wood or vinyl. Call Dale at 405-1023.

Hawkins Wood resident **John Romano** offers vinyl mail box replacement to Grove home owners. Wood is nice but vinyl is final. Call John at 379-1238.

Child Care Services

Babysitter - Thirteen year-old eighth grader provides babysitting services. Coalbrook resident with lots of experience with children ages two through nine. Call Sami at 897-9375.

Babysitter - Fourteen year-old Gravity Hill resident provides childcare services for ages toddler and over. Contact Dana Legere at 972-0694 or thelegeres@comcast.net.

Babysitter - High School Junior enjoys watching children of all ages. Can do diapers. Kingham resident who regularly works at church nursery. Call, text or email Laura at 804-519-0350 or lauragottsgum@gmail.com.

Child Care - Are you a stay at home parent that needs to run errands or keep appointments from time to time without children? I can provide daytime child care in these instances. Please call Marielle Pool at 464-2836.

After School Tutoring/Homework Help - Certified Special Education Teacher looking for after school tutoring opportunities including homework help in The Grove! For more details, please contact Marielle Pool at 464-2836.

Pet Care Services

Pet Sitting - Retired Krim Point resident is available to do pet sitting. Call Linda at 897-0764.

Pet Care - 7th grade Grove teen with past job experience as a dog walker & (cat & dog) pet sitter looking for a job in that field. For more details, please call (804) 379-3595. and ask for Aaron or e-mail at gracehou4@yahoo.com.

WELCOME TO THE GROVE!

V. & S. Chandramohan, 13712 Grove Pond Dr.

James & Cinthya Duke, 1326 Gravity Hill Rd.

Stephanie L. Perkins, 543 Ridgemoor Pl.

Michael & Claire Phibbs, 542 Coalbrook Dr.

Daniel & Joan Rossi, 654 Krim Point Lp.

Dejuan & Misha Brown, 13814 Biggin Pond Ct.

Just moved in? Let the Welcome Committee
make you feel right at home!
Contact us at grovewelcome@thegrovehoa.com



Photos courtesy of Arthur Allen

Cake Making Services

Local cake makers create custom designed birthday cakes or cupcakes. Contact Emma & Claire Cullen at rossieleven@verizon.net or 379-4710.

Personal Training Services

Specific Sports Conditioning and Running training/coaching for all ages. AFFA Certified Trainer with over 23 years of collegiate coaching experience. Discount to Grove residents and small groups. Contact Rick Wagenaar at (804) 739-9207.

Lawn Care Services

Reliable young man in Coalbrook available for lawn care in The Grove. Prices based on service desired and size of yard. Contact Ryan Stuck (804.931.9937).

Why Choose Primrose®?

Just Ask a Mom.®

"My son began in the infant room and has happily progressed through each class. I have been consistently pleased with the teachers as well as the directors and owners. They are kind, caring, and nurturing, and I am thankful that we chose Primrose of Midlothian Village as the place for my child to begin his education. He has thrived at Primrose and continues to love to learn. I would absolutely recommend Primrose of Midlothian Village."

Garrett's Mom
Primrose School of Midlothian Village Parent

- Degreed lead teaching staff
- Dietician approved meals and snacks provided
- Call today and schedule an appointment

Primrose School of Midlothian Village

13801 Village Place Drive
Midlothian, VA 23114

804.378.8773

PrimroseMidlothian.com

*Educational Child Care
for Infants through Private
Kindergarten and After School*



Primrose Schools®

The Leader in Educational Child Care®

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