



The Grove Homeowners Association
www.TheGroveHOA.com

Volume 8, Issue 6
December 2011-January 2012

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Lack of Proxies Delays Board Election

On November 10, the scheduled election of Board members did not occur due to insufficient proxies. Without the required number of proxies (25%) to constitute a quorum, the election could not be held. Thus the meeting was not adjourned but will continue until the next HOA meeting on December 8. If you have not done so already please submit your proxy/ballot to any Board member or to Carolyn Grimes at Community Group by December 7.

Whether you choose to vote or not vote in favor of any Board members, YOUR PROXY is essential to establish a quorum, and hold the election. Let's keep moving forward! Download a proxy on The Grove's website <http://thegrovehoa.com/>.

Connector Causes Extensive Damage in Coalbrook Home

This past October, a home in Coalbrook suffered significant water damage as a result of a cracked plastic connector to a toilet. The cracked part caused a main water line break in their upstairs bathroom, ruining walls, floors, and carpets. Residents are strongly advised to replace these connectors to prevent possible damage to homes.

Temporary Fence Installed to Build Ampitheatre

My brother and I manage the company that owns the lake, trails and parkland north of Woolridge Road. We are just beginning construction of the lakeside amphitheatre and replica coal mine headstock and have erected a temporary fence to keep people out of the construction area and also secure materials and equipment. Our ultimate goal is to dedicate this land to Chesterfield County as an annex to the existing Mid-Lothian Mines Park, which, of course, will connect via the pedestrian tunnel.

Please post the attached notice or in some way disseminate this to your residents. This parkland will be better than ever when it reopens in early spring.

Thank you.
Tom Garner
Tak Tent, L. P.

Next HOA Meeting

December 8, 2011

6:30 p.m.

The Clubhouse

Please turn in your
completed PROXIES!

2010-2011 Board of Directors

boardofdirectors@lists.thegrovehoa.com

Gerry Mancuso, 897-0853
president@thegrovehoa.com

Steve Judd, 379-9197
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

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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

Terry Cullen, 379-4710
clubhouse@thegrovehoa.com

Newsletter

Cathy Allen, 379-1862
newsletter@thegrovehoa.com

Pool

president@thegrovehoa.com

Grounds

Susan Kiger, 794-3954
kiger2obx@verizon.net

Social

socials@thegrovehoa.com

Neighborhood Safety

Marina Leneave, 897-4627

HOA Connection

ARC Reminders: Holiday Lights

Per covenants, ALL Holiday decor must be removed 20 days following the event. Please take down all illuminations by January 20, 2012.

Other guidelines concerning exterior modifications can be viewed at <http://thegrovehoa.com/covenants-by-laws/architectural-landscape-review>.

PHONE DIRECTORY UPDATE

The Grove neighborhood directory is currently being updated. Please check your listing in the 2011-2012 directory and email any additions, changes, or corrections to Diana Garbera at garbera2@comcast.net or use the directory change form that will be included with your annual dues notice in December. If your listing is correct, you do not need to do anything. The deadline for directory updates is February 1st, 2012. Thanks.

Diana Garbera
Phone Directory Chair

Disclosure Package: The Gift that Keeps on Giving!

All home sellers in The Grove MUST buy a NEW disclosure package for the buyer during the contract period. New homeowners have the right to cancel a contract without a current package. Order disclosure packages at www.communitygroup.com, by clicking the "Selling & Refinancing" tab, then the "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 contact 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 15

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
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of Midlothian, VA, Inc.

RATES FOR 2012
(increased due to printing costs)

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

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See website for details.

"There's no place like home," for an outstanding Halloween Social!



"Sabrina and the Raves" blew off the roof at the neighborhood Happy Hour! Stay tuned for more events on The Grove Residents Facebook, Listserv, and newsletter. Contact: socials@thegrovehoa.com.



*Happy Hour
Photos*

*By
Caryn Persinger*

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

*The Spirit of Giving: Meet
Amber Atkins*

Grove resident Amber Atkins has always wanted to make a difference. So to raise money and help a good cause, the eight year old opened her first lemonade stand at The Grove Clubhouse.

Immediately customers lined up to buy lemonade for charity. "It was amazing, within two hours Amber had raised over \$30," said Amber's mom, Stacey Atkins. Once the proceeds were calculated, Amber had to decide which charity would benefit.

Since Amber's Mom, Stacey, donates blood frequently and avidly supports saving lives

through blood donation, Amber chose Virginia Blood Service to get all of the \$37.50 profits. Amber stated, "Since I am not old enough to donate blood yet, I will donate my lemonade money instead."

Virginia Blood Services is not the only recipient of Amber's generosity. She recently gave 12 inches of her own hair to Locks of Love.

(From information contributed by Stacey Atkins.)



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A Piece of Tuscany: By Mitford residents
Terry and Mike Mathisen

We are so excited to share our Italy experience with our Grove neighbors. Mike's maternal grandparents (Orfanelli) grew up in Italy and came to America in their late teens. We always wanted to go and our first opportunity was this past summer when we joined other family members for this fantastic 2 week adventure.

One of Mike's cousins decided to organize the trip, and 15 family members were able to go. We both retired recently so time was not an issue. Mike and I are those tourists with gusto, wanting to see it all. Since Mike and I went to Rome ahead of the others, we worked with a travel agency and asked questions of visitors to catch all the "must see" things.

Our trip began with 3 1/2 days in Rome. We saw ancient ruins including the Colosseum, the Forum and the Pantheon. We also visited the Spanish Steps and Trevi Fountain (tossed coins over our shoulder to insure our return). Rome has a lot of fountains. Then we visited Vatican City, and explored the Sistine Chapel and St Peter's Basilica. We experienced Rome by "hop on, hop off" tour buses, taxis and *lots* of walking.

On day 4, we got lost in Italy. We left Rome headed to Sette Bagni to meet Mike's uncle at the train station to drive to Tuscany. A schedule change landed us on a local bus. Our bus left us on the side of the highway with our luggage in tow, having to find the train station. Outside of tourist areas, English is spoken less, and we did not know Italian; but, folks were helpful and we finally made it there. We can look back and laugh about it now!

We stayed for a week in a 7 bedroom villa south of Florence in the Tuscany region, our hub for day trips. Italy is the world's largest wine producer, so one day we took a guided wine tour in the Chianti region. We traveled first to Florence to

experience where the Renaissance began. We visited the Uffizi Gallery and saw all the masters' works, such as Michelangelo, Leonardo and Botticelli. Next we took a high speed train to Venice for the day...what an interesting and unique city of water canals and its impressive San Marco's square. Venice is also famous for its Murano glass, sold in all their stores. Mediterranean cruise ships also dock here. The next several days, we visited unique "hill" towns or "walled cities" like Orvieto, Radda, San Gimignano and Cortona.

We returned to Rome for 2 nights, then headed south by train to Naples for the day. Our tour guide met us at the train station and drove us to the Amalfi Coast (Sorrento and Positano) where we had a delicious lunch on the side of the cliffs overlooking the ocean. Then we stopped at Pompeii to see the ruins caused by the eruption of Mt Vesuvius 2000 years ago. The drive along the coastline was breathtaking from high up on the cliffs. Pompeii was interesting...a city buried by volcanic ash 2000 years ago, and for 300 years they have been excavating and recovering its remains.

The food was fantastic; especially the 2 nights a chef cooked for us at the villa. We also enjoyed the great vino (wine) and gelato (Italian ice cream). I thought Mike was going to turn into a gelato as he could not pass a gelato shop without ordering. The countryside was beautiful; from the huge fields of sunflowers to the picturesque rolling hills. It is mindboggling the history we saw, going back 3000 years vs. 300 years in the US. We hadn't even gotten home before wanting to return.

A few tips: Buy your tour tickets before you go to avoid standing in long lines (called "Skip the Line"). Purchase a tour book (we used Rick Steve's Italy) for maps, tips, tour hours, food suggestions, etc. Rick Steve's also has free Apps to download. We had tours most days, but left a few open for unexpected trips. To "see it all," get in shape due to the amount of walking and climbing...take comfortable shoes. Be relaxed and "go with the flow", so you will enjoy every minute!



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Babysitter Directory

Pam Connelly compiled the latest neighborhood babysitter directory.

Due to privacy issues, this very valuable resource was not published online but only in the hard copies of The Grove Miner.

Wishing
You and Yours
a Happy
Holiday Season!



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December 24 th	5:00 PM	Living Nativity Family Service
	7:30 PM	A Celtic Christmas Cantata
December 25 th	11:00 AM	Christmas Day Worship

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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.

Lawn Care Services

Lawn Care - Reliable young man in Coalbrook available for lawn care in The Grove. Prices based on service desired and size of yard. For regular service or occasional cuts during vacation, please contact Ryan Stuck (804.931.9937).

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.

Cake Making Services

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

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

A petition is currently circulating to launch a Neighborhood Watch in the Grove. We need 60% of homeowners to approve its installation. To sign the petition or volunteer for the Committee please email Gerry Mancuso at president@thegrovehoa.com.

WELCOME TO THE GROVE!

Michael & Yilin Rogers, 813 Biggin Pond Road
John & Kelly Rosato, 500 Heth Court

New to the Neighborhood? The Welcome Committee has a smile and a gift bag just for you!
Contact us at grovewelcome@thegrovehoa.com

HELP WANTED: Welcome Committee Chair

After years of dedicated and much appreciated service as Welcome Committee Chair, Judi Ryan-Phillips would like to step down. Please consider taking on this vital role in our Community! To learn more or volunteer, contact Gerry Mancuso at president@thegrovehoa.com or Mike Burnette at burnette@uronline.net.

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