



The Grove Miner



The Grove Homeowners Association
www.TheGroveHOA.com

Volume 7, Issue 3
June - July 2010



2010 Pool Hours

May 29 - June 18

Monday through Thursday 2pm - 7pm

Friday and Saturday 10am - 9pm

Sunday 10am - 8pm

June 19 - August 14

Sunday through Thursday 10am - 8pm

Friday and Saturday 10am - 9pm

August 15 - September 6

Everyday 10am - 8pm



Free to all those who have paid their HOA dues!



Uh-Oh

I forgot to get my
pool pass validated.
Now what do I do?



What time is it???



Summer
Summer
Summer
Summer

For those residents who did not validate their pool passes on the scheduled dates in May, please note in order to receive your 2010 validation you must arrange an appointment via email only. Email: president@thegrovehoa.com. **(no phone calls please.)** These appointments will be available once per week.

New residents: If you are a new resident since May, we will get you new pool passes ASAP. Email: president@thegrovehoa.com.



Mailboxes!

It is all about curb appeal.
Please take the time to spruce up your box!

We have covenants to keep the boxes green and posts white. Please do not put decorative coverings, stickers or magnets on your mailboxes.

Dale Murphy (Biggin Pond Resident) offers repair, re-painting or vinyl replacement. 405.1023.

John Romano (Hawkins Wood Resident) offers vinyl replacement. 379.1238.

Need a new green mailbox? Search for item # E1600G00 at www.homedepot.com. The pre-painted green box is not available at Home Depot stores.

Need new numbers? Dale Murphy in Biggin Pond has cases of them. 405.1023.

www.thegrovehoa.com

Grove Homeowners Meetings

Meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm at the clubhouse unless otherwise posted.

THE GHOA, THE GROVE MINER AND EDITOR ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY TYPLOS OR OMISSIONS, NOR DO WE NECESSARILY ENDORSE THE PRODUCTS, PEOPLE, ISSUES AND/OR SERVICES OFFERED IN THE NEWSLETTER OR WEBSITE THROUGH ARTICLES, PAID ADS OR FREE CLASSIFIEDS.

Note: There is new contact information for The Grove Newsletter!!!

Thank you Cathy Allen for assuming the editor position!

Ads and submissions for the Aug. - Sept. issue are due July 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 publication of The Grove Homeowners Association of Midlothian, VA, Inc.

RATES FOR 2010

Bus. Card size - \$25
Quarter page - \$45
Half page - \$75
Full page - \$130
Back cover - \$155 (sold out)

10% off for six issues prepaid.

Advertiser provided insert
\$80 (800 copies needed)

(Non-profits get 25% off)

Ad design: \$40/hr if needed.

See website for details.

2010 Board of Directors

boardofdirectors@lists.thegrovehoa.com

Gerry Mancuso, 897.0853
president@thegrovehoa.com

Steve Judd, 379.9197
vicepresident@thegrovehoa.com

Gary Zyla, 897.5934
secretary@thegrovehoa.com

Maria Collins, 240.7939
treasurer@thegrovehoa.com

Gary Powers, Jr., 477.2102
operations@thegrovehoa.com

The Grove's Full Service Community Manager

Carolyn Grimes, Community Group
4222 Cox Road, #110
Glen Allen, VA 23060
270.1800
email@communitygroup.com
www.communitygroup.com

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

GHOA Committee Chairs

Architectural Modifications
Carolyn Grimes, Community Group
270.1800

Clubhouse
Terry Cullen, 379.4710
clubhouse@thegrovehoa.com

Newsletter
NEW → Cathy Allen, 379.1862
newsletter@thegrovehoa.com

Pool
president@thegrovehoa.com

Grounds
Susan Kiger, 794.3954
kiger2obx@verizon.net

Social
Michelle Quiram, 379.2325
Julie Smith, 379.3886
socials@thegrovehoa.com

Neighborhood Watch
Marina Leneave, 897.4627

Things you need to know in The Grove

We Need 5 minutes of your time...please!

Bylaws Proxy - All owners must return this ballot.

The Grove Homeowners Association held a special meeting of the membership on Wednesday, May 12, 2010 at 7pm at the community clubhouse. The meeting was called to vote on a bylaws amendment to increase the term for Board members from one year to two years.

The Association documents require two-thirds (66.6%) or 500 of the 750 homeowners in the community to approve a Bylaws Amendment. At the time of the meeting on May 12, only 220 proxy/ballots had been returned. Therefore, the meeting was recessed instead of adjourned to continue the process of obtaining additional proxy/ballots to approve this important amendment. **The May 12th meeting will continue in recess until the required number of proxy/ballots has been received.**

If you have not already returned your proxy, please see if you still have it or simply go to www.thegrovehoa.com and print one off. You have several ways to return it. Mail it to Community Group at 4222 Cox Road, Suite 110, Glen Allen, VA 23060. Fax it to Community Group at 346-8640. Deliver it to Steve Judd (Grove Vice President), 1513 Hawkins Wood Circle.

Proxies must be signed by all legal owners of the unit to be valid.

Thank you for your help in passing this important amendment. If you have any questions, please contact any board member or email boardofdirectors@thegrovehoa.com.

**PLEASE
DO NOT
FEED THE
GEESE**

The Grove HOA is working hard to humanely control the goose population.

You need to do your part! Please do not feed the geese! This only increases the "remnants" left all over the walking paths.

DISCLOSURE BOOKS \$250

If you are planning on selling your home, a NEW disclosure is required to be purchased for the new homeowner during the contract period. The new homeowners do have a right to cancel a contract if they do not receive a current copy of The Grove Disclosure Book. They are available for a cost of \$250 from The Grove's Manager at The Community Group. Please call 270.1800.



FENCE REPAIR

Fence repair and staining continues along Coalfield.

18 HOMEOWNERS STILL OWE THEIR 2010 HOA DUES. THE HOA IS TAKING ACTION TO ENSURE PAYMENT.



Grove residents Lilly Cox, Elli Perkins, and Maria Scarpa participated in the American Red Cross Baby Sitting and First-Aid Class 04/19/2010 and these young ladies are now certified in baby sitting. Give them a call!



NEIGHBOR-TO-NEIGHBOR FREE CLASSIFIEDS

Mother's helper - I'll help you at home with your children. Eleven year-old Grove resident available to be a mother's helper. Call Kate at 897.2421.

Lawn Service - Services available include lawn mowing, mulching, edging, fertilizing, seeding, and more. Call Tom at 291.6377.

Need musical entertainment for any private parties or functions in the Grove? We have a 5 person neighborhood band (2 guitars, bass, drums and vocals) with full PA/equipment that can provide a few hours of music for your party/event here in The Grove. We play musical styles ranging from 60's-70's Classic rock/blues (Elvis, Van Morrison, Doobie Brothers, The Band), the Big 80's (John Mellencamp, Georgia Satellites), 90's/ current pop/rock (John Mayer, Pink), some Country (Sugarland, Miranda Lambert) and a whole lot more. For inquiries, please e-mail Brian Legere at thelegeres@comcast.net.

Want to place a free neighbor-to-neighbor classified ad?
Email it to newsletter@thegrovehoa.com

WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS

Matthew & Katherine Chafin
854 Coalbrook Drive

Just moved in?

We want to welcome you with a Grove gift bag!

Email us at:
grovewelcome@thegrovehoa.com
or call
Judi Ryan-Phillips, 594.2655.

**NO SWIMMING IN
THE POND**

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Architectural Review

A reminder that the planting and removal of trees requires approval!

ARTICLE VII - ENVIRONMENTAL COVENANTS: In order to protect the natural beauty of the vegetation, topography or other natural features within the Subdivision, the following environmental controls are hereby established.

7.01. Trees. To the extent reasonably practical, the clearing of mature trees on Lots shall be limited to those areas required to accommodate the residence to be constructed thereon and its normal and customary accessories, open front yard areas and those areas required to permit utility services and driveways. No trees measuring six (6) inches in diameter at a point two (2) feet above ground level which are located more than twenty (20) feet away from the residence or structure constructed on the Lot, shall be removed without the prior written approval of the Architectural Control Committee.



Some other things that need ARC approval are: changing paint colors, additions, sheds, play equipment, swing sets, decks, landscaping changes, irrigation, new driveways and sidewalks, etc. Basically anything you do to alter the outside of your home including anything on your property.

HOW THE ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW PROCESS WORKS

In an effort to streamline the exterior modification application process, the Modifications Committee is now using a new web-based service to review modification requests. Requests are now loaded onto the web-based program, where committee members and the HOA board may review, discuss and decide on applications as they are received. Owners are then notified of decisions via email, so please be sure to include your email address on your application. This new system also provides for better record-keeping of approved requests.

Owners can download applications from the Grove website and then mail the application to: The Grove Homeowners Association, c/o Community Group, 4222 Cox Road, Suite 110, Glen Allen, Virginia, 23060. For faster processing, owners may (and are encouraged to) scan and email their applications and supporting documentation directly to Carolyn Grimes at email@communitygroup.com. Photos may be emailed in any format. Faxed applications are also acceptable at 346.8640 but may be more difficult to read. Please be sure to include The Grove's application along with any requested documentation.

Applications are available here:
thegrovehoa.com/covenants-by-laws

We need neighbor stories!

Please give us tips on things that your neighbors or family members have done so that we can tell everyone about them! In addition, if you have story ideas you would like us to explore, please email us at: newsletter@thegrovehoa.com.



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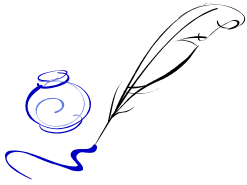
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Passing the Quill

By Mike Burnette



Back in the stone ages of early 2006 BFB (Before Facebook), I took on this newsletter beast. I did it in part because I love doing it and secondly I love my community where I live...really! I have gotten to meet so many new people because of it.

But after 4.5 years and 27 issues later, this June issue will mark my last issue (for now) as it is time for me to let some new energy take over. I am sounding like a politician when I say "I want to spend more time with my family," but it is true. I have taken on one too many projects and commitments over the last few years and I have decided that my family has settled for second fiddle long enough. So, hopefully now you'll actually see more of me hanging at the fishing pier with my son, jogging on the paths, or bronzing my killer body at the pool! :)

One of the stipulations of my golden parachute agreement with The Grove HOA (after long behind-door negotiations) was that I can write one little article a year in the "April First Edition"....wink wink!!

Since I will have more time now, I am looking forward to eating at Cracker Barrel for the early-bird specials, tending to my hibiscus garden, and enjoying my needlepoint even more, not!

Cathy Allen of Mitford has agreed to take the "quill" and run with the newsletter. (See her bio below). We will work together to make sure the transition is made smoothly.

I would also like to thank my predecessors who have made the newsletter of The Grove a success over the last 10+ years: Marie O'Kleasky, Kim Fiebelkorn, Carol Gottschalk and Lisa Kopecko. Gail Gilmore has been my expert proofer and I thank her for helping me along the way. Susan Austin will remain as the volunteer coordinator for the delivery of the newsletter. If you can help deliver even if just once a year, call Susan at 378.8004. So, thanks for allowing me to be the "town crier."

Mike Burnette

burnette@uronline.net

facebook.com/mikeburnette

MEET CATHY ALLEN



Please join me in welcoming Cathy Allen to The Grove Miner Newsletter. Cathy has enjoyed living in The Grove for over eight years. She is an active member of the Midlothian community and has been a volunteer with The Midlothian High School Band Boosters Board and Boy Scout Troop 811 Parents Committee. Cathy is currently the Editor of James River Writers' Online Literary Calendar and is a Cultural Event Journalist with an e-news periodical, Examiner.com. She has recently become a Program Committee member with a new local chapter of Sisters in Crime writing organization. Cathy is a graduate from the University of Maryland. She likes spending time with her family and friends. Favorite activities include traveling, writing (with her cat Logan), reading, walking, and gardening.

Cathy is very excited to serve as the new Editor of The Grove Miner. Please feel free to contact her with story ideas and articles by phone at 379.1862 or email at netallen@verizon.net or newsletter@thegrovehoa.com.

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 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

Did you Know ?

Did you know you are typically most alert between 10 am and 11am?

So that may be the best time for things such as a crossword puzzle.



Americans spend \$15 billion a year on bottled water yet 44% of it comes from a municipal source (tap water). So, next time you are buying a case of bottled water, check the source.

Save These Dates



National Night Out - Ice Cream Social
August 3, 2010
The Grove Clubhouse
7-8pm

Labor Day Picnic

This will be a community-wide family event.

Make plans to enjoy the last day of the pool and picnic with your neighbors.

Volunteer needed for the sandwich boards

The board is needing a volunteer to help with the sandwich board announcements. You would just need to respond to board requests for announcements and place letters on boards and then put one sign at each entrance.

If you can help, please email Gerry Mancuso at president@thegrovehoa.com

Thanks to Sarah Zyla for her past volunteer service in this position!



MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR - SARAH TURKALY

An Opportunity to Help

*By Grove resident Sarah Turkaly
Midlothian High School Junior*



This February, I went on a life-changing trip to Haiti. My church has a twinning relationship with a small town called Cerca Carvajal on the central plateau. The church has been making yearly trips to Haiti for the past ten years, conducting a medical clinic, restocking medical supplies, taking individual pictures of the 700 school children there, and spending time in solidarity with the people.

We arrived in Cerca Carvajal on February 25. The people there were extremely welcoming and went out of their way to offer their best hospitality. The group from our church consisted of two nurses, a dental hygienist, a pharmacist, and a doctor to run the clinic as well as five others including myself. As a high schooler, I wasn't sure how much help I could offer but when the children went out to play after school, I was able to spend a lot of time talking to them and playing games. They don't have playgrounds or toys, but the children of Cerca are never bored. We brought soccer balls and jump ropes for them, and they were extremely grateful. They all go to a cleared field of dirt and rocks after school to play soccer and jump rope. They also make up games and tell jokes and laugh constantly. Despite their poverty, the children of Haiti never stop laughing. Even though the native language of Haiti is Creole, I did not have any problem communicating with them. In school, they speak and learn in French which is the language of the educated in Haiti, and study English and Spanish. They also taught me how to count in French, and enjoyed laughing at me when I forgot a number. I made many friends there, and plan to return next year to see them.

Because this trip had such a huge impact on my life, when I got home I wanted to do something more. I



Sarah jumping rope with her Haitian friends



read an article about a freshman at William and Mary, Danny Yates, who was in Haiti during the January 12 earthquake. He had become friends with some Haitian university students, whose school has collapsed in the earthquake. Without their school, these students would not be able to finish their education. Since the earthquake, Danny has secured six spots at Barber Scotia College in North Carolina for the students he met. The school has offered them scholarships equivalent to 2/3 of tuition.

However, the students still need money for room and board, books, clothes, etc. Danny talks to the students every day and will go to Haiti in early August to bring the students here so they can start school in the fall. His goal is to raise \$30,000 by August 1. These students are eager to learn and have been working on their English daily. They intend to use their education to help rebuild Haiti. Some of the careers the students are pursuing are in the field of medicine, dentistry, and engineering, which are in great need in Haiti. To learn more about the students and Danny's project, you can go to his website www.hincherelief.wordpress.com.

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BEAT THE SUMMER TIME BLAHS AT THE LIBRARY

With summer break fast approaching, now is the time to check out fun, free activities at the Chesterfield County libraries. They offer no-cost access to thousands of book, movie, and music titles and kid-oriented entertainment.

The summer reading program for all Chesterfield Libraries launches at the Central Branch with a Carnival from 11:30am to 3pm on Saturday, June 19. Festivities include an aquatic touch tank courtesy of Virginia Maritime Museum. The official start date for reading logs is Monday, June 21. For each completed log kids can draw a prize from the "Treasure Chest."

The library also hosts special programs like story time and family-friendly shows. You will need to register in advance for some events. As of press deadline, exact dates and times for June and July events were not available, so call ahead to confirm.

Need beach lit?

NextReads is a new e-newsletter service providing book advice and lists based on age and interests to kids, teens, tweens and adults. A newsletter for county library events is also available. To sign up, go to www.library.chesterfield.gov and click on the NextReads logo. You will need a password to subscribe.



Are we there yet?

Shorten a long road trip by borrowing DVD movies and music CDs from the library. With the card barcode and PIN, reserve titles online and pickup at your convenience.

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If you're still bored, consider volunteering at the library. Recent county budget cuts caused a 20% reduction in staff.

Starting July 1, all branches except Central will be closed on Thursdays.

For further details on programs and services visit www.library.chesterfield.gov or call the Central Branch at 748.1603. You can also contact the Midlothian Library at 794.7907.

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