

# Rutherford Civic Association

www.rutherfordcommunity.com

April 2006 Newsletter



## Rutherford Residents Step Up to Improve their Community

**Thank you** to the many community volunteers who recently stepped forward with offers to help. With many people working together, we can do more for Rutherford and not overburden just a few individuals. Here is the proposed slate of new officers. Election of officers will take place at the Spring Meeting on May 4:

### Rutherford Board Members

- President- Mary Ann Beck
- Vice President – Erin Deer
- Secretary – Rob Calderon
- Treasurer – Fred Zamon
- Newsletter Editor – Linda Zack
- Directory Editor – Mary Rizek
- Neighborhood Watch – Jack Lockwood
- Member at Large – Cindy Kronlage

### Rutherford Project Coordinators

- Newsletter Distribution – Mike Rugar
- Directory Records – Gil Braun
- Yard Sale – Jeannine Braun
- Playgroup– Melinda Van der Ploeg Fallon
- Pool Liaison – Sheryll Bruder
- Median Strip – Lois Semerad, Chris Miller, and Angie Anderson

Thank you also to new Area Vice President Artie Negrin. Artie will also be helping to represent Rutherford at Braddock District Council Meetings.



**Want to lend a helping hand?**  
**The following positions are still open:**

**Fall Festival Coordinator**-A great job for one person, or two people as co-chairs. Coordinator(s) work with the existing volunteer pool to plan and carry out activities for Rutherford's fall festival.

**Website Editor** –The editor posts the Rutherford newsletter on the website and add updates to Civic Association and Pool activities and information as needed.

#### Suggestions Welcome

If you have an idea for an activity or event of potential interest to the Rutherford Community--and you are willing to volunteer to organize that activity--please contact one of the officers listed above. Contact numbers are listed on page 2. We welcome your ideas!

## Mark Your Calendars

- Ivy Clean Up Day.....Sunday, April 30
- Spring General Meeting.....Thursday, May 4
- Community Yard Sale.....Saturday, May 20
- Rutherford Park Celebration...Sunday, May 21

### Ivy Clearing at Rutherford Park Sunday, April 30



Please join your neighbors on Sunday April 30 from 1:30 to 4:00 p.m. for an afternoon of clearing English ivy from the trees behind the tennis courts in Rutherford Park. English ivy is a very harmful invasive plant that chokes out native vegetation, including tree seedlings for new growth. Join us behind the tennis courts any time from 1:30 p.m. on to help save the beautiful stand of trees in this area. See page 2 for more information.



### Spring General Meeting

Thursday, May 4, 7:30 p.m.  
Little Run Elementary School

Come join us for the election of our slate of officers and for a discussion of proposed changes in the comprehensive plan for Olley Lane.



### Spring Yard Sale Saturday, May 20



The Rutherford Yard Sale will take place Saturday, May 20

from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. We are coordinating our sale with the Long Branch Community to increase traffic through our neighborhood. The Civic Association will advertise in the Washington Post and place signs at neighborhood entrances.

If you would like a packet of pre-printed Yard Sale signs to direct people to your sale, you can pick up a packet at Jeannine Braun's home at 9304 Shari Drive starting Sunday, May 14. Look for the box outside in front marked "Yard Sale." For questions, her phone number is 703-425-9016.



### Rutherford Park Celebration Sunday, May 21



Come Celebrate! On Sunday, May 21 from 2 – 4 p.m., we will dedicate the new playground equipment at Rutherford Park and provide children's entertainment, activities, and refreshments. Look for more details in a flyer to be distributed in early May.



## Get Ready for Summer!

**On Monday, May 29, the entire community is invited!** Please join us for the opening pool party on Monday, May 29. Members, as well as families who have not yet joined the pool, are all welcome.

Join your friends for all day swimming and fun. Hot dogs, burgers, chips and drinks will be provided by the pool from 5-7 p.m. Please bring a dessert to share.

There will also be surprises for the kids. Come try out the new slide. We look forward to seeing you there! Call Barb Tiffin for more information at 703-323-1823. (Note: there will not be an evening adult party at the Pool on May 13<sup>th</sup>.)

## Rutherford Pool News

The Pool Board is pleased to announce that we have hired Splash Aquatic to manage our pool this summer. For information on lifeguarding, contact Splash Aquatic at 703-796-9526, or at [Splashaquatic.com](http://Splashaquatic.com) to apply on line.

We look forward to another enjoyable season of swimming, volleyball, swim and dive practice and meets, and socializing during the season and at scheduled events. Please join us for our first activity on Monday, May 29 (see above) open to all families. The installation of our new 11 foot slide is almost complete, and pool landscaping has started. Our Spring Clean Up days are scheduled for Sunday April 23, and May 6, from 9 to 4. Stopping by and helping, even for a short time, is a way to meet and socialize with others and adds to the great sense of community that we enjoy in Rutherford. --Paul Tiffin, Pool Board



## Little Run Plant Sale

The Little Run PTA is holding our annual plant sale on April 22 from 9-2 at the school. For a continuous burst of color - you can't miss with our beautiful annuals. We have flats, hanging baskets and 4" pots. Thank you for your support! --Amy Mackay, Plant Sale Chairperson  
Little Run PTA, 703-426-8445

## Rutherford Civic Association Reference Numbers

<b>President</b>	Mary Ann Beck	703-978-2157
<b>Vice President</b>	Erin Deer	703-503-7856
<b>Treasurer</b>	Fred Zamon	703-425-8098
<b>Secretary</b>	Rob Calderon	703-323-1363
<b>Neighborhood Watch</b>	Jack Lockwood	703-323-0865
<b>Directory</b>	Mary Rizek	703-323-1627
<b>Newsletter</b>	Linda Zack	703-425-2035
<b>Play Group</b>	Melinda Van der Ploeg Fallon	703-323-1227
<b>Rutherford Pool</b>	Sheryll Bruder	703-978-4634
<b>Rutherford Website</b>	Karmela Johnson	703-503-1273
<a href="http://www.rutherfordcommunity.com">www.rutherfordcommunity.com</a>		

## We Need You to Clear Ivy in Rutherford Park Sunday, April 30

Please mark your calendars for Sunday, April 30 from 1:30 until 4:00 p.m. to clear ivy behind the tennis courts in Rutherford Park.

Tearing ivy from trees requires no skill, and is a great activity for people of all ages. Little ones can help bag the ivy, and teens and adults can work off the tensions of the school and work week. Please wear long pants, long sleeve shirts, closed toes shoes, and work gloves, and bring your pruning shears or small hatchets or hand saws. Screwdrivers are also useful for prying thick vines off the trees. Information on alternatives to English ivy that we can plant in our backyards will be distributed.

English ivy vines slowly kill existing trees from the base upwards by enveloping branches and twigs and blocking sunlight, causing branch and eventual tree death. The added weight of vines also makes trees susceptible to blowing over during storms.



The Park Authority has no funds for ivy removal; however, they will provide large plastic bags for our clean-up effort, and will also provide native plants this fall to replace the ivy. Light spring rain will not cause this event to be cancelled; however, in case of heavy rain, the ivy pulling will be re-scheduled to coincide with other park celebrations planned for May 21.



## Meet New Moms and Children

The Rutherford playgroup meets Tuesday mornings. Please drop in to meet new playmates and neighborhood moms. Call Melinda van der Ploeg Fallon at 703-323-1227 for more information.



## Fresh Air Fund Needs Host Families

Each summer the Fresh Air Fund provides free summer vacations for thousands of inner-city children from New York City. Children visit host families for two weeks across 19 Northeastern states and Canada.

This summer children will be visiting in Northern Virginia from July 1-15. For information on becoming a host family, please call Cindy Kronlage at 703-426-1616.

## Kevin Duff, KC & Company Professional Lawn Service 703-608-9348

*Serving Rutherford for More than 18 Years*

- \* Lawn mowing
- \* Leaf Cleanup
- \* Fertilization
- \* Aeration
- \* Mulching



## Braddock District News

### **Grand Opening of the County Connector Trail, May 6**

The County is planning a day of celebrations on Saturday, May 6 to mark the completion of the Cross County Trail (CCT). The CCT is a more than 40 mile multi-use trail that stretches from Great Falls Park in the North to Occoquan Regional Park in the South. For those who have not discovered it yet, we have a beautiful feeder to the trail running along Long Branch Creek, from Guinea Rd (entrance across from the parking area for Rutherford Park) to Wakefield Chapel Rd.

#### Wakefield Park Events

Numerous activities are planned for Wakefield Park, including a ribbon cutting ceremony behind the Recreation Center at 11:30 a.m., and many other events from 9 a.m. on, including displays on native plants, backyard habitats, and trail animals; as well as bird walks, family bike rides and bicycle maintenance demonstrations; fun runs for children in grades 1 through 6, a moon bounce, reduced fees at the Skate Park, and information on Native American and Civil War history of the area. The complete schedule of events is now being developed and can be found in the future by going to the web site:

[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/trailfest](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/trailfest) and clicking on the interactive map to the right on the home page.

#### Conclusion and Fireworks

The day will conclude with a 7 p.m. ribbon cutting at the Laurel Hill Recreation Center (formerly the Lorton Prison site), followed by fireworks at 8 pm.

#### Volunteers Needed

In connection with this event, Wakefield Park is looking for volunteers to help with stream clean-up and native plant restoration on May 6<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to help with either of these efforts, please contact Tom Kennedy, the Volunteer Coordinator at Wakefield at (703) 321-7081.



### **Coming Soon to Wakefield Recreation Center**

A new farmers market is coming to town!



Beginning in May 2006, the Wakefield Recreation Center will begin its new venture.

Come one, come all to the marketplace – every Wednesday from 2:30 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. – for freshly picked and locally grown produce, delicious baked goods, and a potpourri of other colorful and mouth watering open air market products.



### **Cardboard Boat Regatta at Lake Accotink Park on June 4**

Join the fun at the annual Cardboard Boat regatta at Lake Accotink on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

Judging of the colorful and creative--if not always seaworthy-- craft begins at noon, and the races begin at 2 pm. Admission for all activities is free; \$4 per vehicle parking fee.



## **Board of Supervisors Endorses Proposal to Ban Through Trucks on Guinea Road**

On February 27th, the Board of Supervisors held a public hearing to discuss a proposal by Supervisor Sharon Bulova to close Guinea and Wakefield Chapel Roads to through trucks. Trucks are already banned from Olley Lane. Civic Association Board Members Mary Ann Beck and Mary Rizek spoke in support of the Guinea Road proposal. The Board of Supervisors was receptive to resident concerns, and voted unanimously to ask the state to enact such a ban.

The final decision rests with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), which has nine months to complete their study of the recommended changes. If VDOT does approve the truck restrictions, they will then advertise a period for additional public comments.

The Civic Association will be sending a letter to VDOT, urging their prompt consideration of this matter. Input for this letter is particularly sought from residents who live on or near Guinea Road or from anyone who has observed large trucks, e.g. from the oil storage facility on Pickett, using Guinea Rd as a cut through. Information on the number of trucks observed and time of day would be particularly useful, as would any other observations on the hazards caused by such vehicles using residential streets.

Please email your comments to Mary Ann Beck at [maryannb1@verizon.net](mailto:maryannb1@verizon.net) Or, if you prefer, you may write directly to Mr. Hari Sripathi, District Traffic Engineer, VDOT, 14685 Avion Parkway, Chantilly, VA 20151-1104.



### **Preserving the Rural Character of Olley Lane**

A citizen task force appointed by Sharon Bulova has recommended, and the County Planning Staff has endorsed, changes to the Comprehensive Plan for the Olley Lane corridor between Braddock Rd and the lots fronting on Athens Road. The proposal would emphasize the maximum density limit of 1 dwelling unit per acre and state that the corridor should retain its current low density and rural character. The proposed text further recommends that any new development should be sensitive to the environment, including the preservation of mature trees and the contour of the land. The purpose of these amendments is to ward off pressures for high density development, as well as increased traffic, along Olley Lane.

Comments from Rutherford residents can be given at the Spring Meeting on May 4 at Little Run. Rutherford's response to the proposed changes will be formulated after the May 4 meeting

### **AAA Trash Information**

The attached AAA sheet gives complete information on trash, yard waste, and recycling pick ups. Note that AAA is now accepting mixed paper, including magazines and cardboard, for recycling.

## Rutherford E-mail Discussion Group



**Keep informed of neighborhood news by joining the free Rutherford e-mail service.** You can use this service to request or send information to other Rutherford residents who have also signed up.

Follow these 3 easy steps to sign up:

1. Send an email to this address:  
RUTHERFORDCA22032-subscribe@yahoogroups.com with no subject or message in the e-mail.
2. You will then receive a message back which says, "Please confirm your request to subscribe to RutherfordCAyahoogroups.com.."
3. Simply reply to this message, again with no subject or message, and that's it. You are now a member.



## Rutherford Resident Reaches Out to Others

Only four months after losing her father (Shawn Bentley) to non-smoker's lung cancer, Katie Bentley, 10, of Rutherford put her knowledge of cancer's hardships to work for good. Aware of another family who was not only fighting a difficult battle against the disease but also in dire financial trouble from inadequate insurance, Katie decided to have a fundraiser for them.

Unbeknownst to her mother, she went to Little Run Elementary to see if the school would sponsor her fundraiser. When the answer understandably came back "no", she was undeterred. So, Katie started a word-of-mouth campaign to gather funds for the family's food and mortgage payments.

She went door-to-door passing out fliers, talking with folks about the need to help. Neighbors, teachers, and classmates dipped into their piggybanks and donated over \$1,500 so far to her cause. Katie followed up by sending each person a thank-you note and baking them cookies.

When asked why she did this, she said that so many people helped out her family when they needed it over the last year by bringing in meals, taking care of her and her sister Samantha and pitching in at her home.... She simply wanted to do they same for someone else. Also, her father had role-modeled extreme generosity toward others (during his years working with Sen., Orin Hatch and having started The Betterment Foundation which helps one person at a time). Clearly, he rubbed off on her. She thinks people regularly just do these things for others in need.

Her selflessness has become the talk of her community. She has raised cancer awareness! Now neighbors are talking about getting exams they've been putting off. She has people talking about the necessity of long- and short- term disability insurance and financial safeguards many had ignored as unnecessary. More importantly, she has inspired her neighborhood to make this world just a little bit better.

For more information:

Viv Goldstein, neighbor [Thegoldsteins@att.net](mailto:Thegoldsteins@att.net)  
703-764-8056

Becky Bentley, mom [bdbentlye@cox.net](mailto:bdbentlye@cox.net)  
703-503-9605

Janet Johnson, principal [janet.johnson@fcps.edu](mailto:janet.johnson@fcps.edu)  
703-503-3500



## Rutherford Directory Information Update

The Rutherford Civic Association will be publishing a new neighborhood directory in fall 2006. If you are a new Rutherford resident and wish to have your name listed in the directory, or have any changes to your information, please complete the form below and return to Mary Rizek.

**Name** (Last Name, First Name(s)) \_\_\_\_\_ **New Resident**

**Street Address** \_\_\_\_\_ **Updated Information**

**Telephone Number** \_\_\_\_\_

## Odd Jobs Listing

A list of Rutherford young people willing to work at the following jobs will be included in the directory. Please complete the following information if you would like your name included in the listing.

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Gender** \_\_\_\_\_ **Age** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

Check all jobs that apply:

Baby Sitting  Pet Sitting  Mother's Helper  House Sitting  Yard Work  Snow Shoveling

**Please send this information to:  
Mary Rizek, 4303 Braeburn Drive, Fairfax, Virginia 22032**