



# The Reflection Homes Association Community Newsletter

November 2022



## RHA Board & Committee News:

### Upcoming Meetings:

#### Board

Annual Meeting Nov 8  
online & in-person

ACC Nov 7  
Recreation Nov 9  
SA Nov 2

Until further notice, all meetings will be **online** at 7pm & are subject to change.

The RHA website has instructions on attending online meetings.

[www.rha-homes.org](http://www.rha-homes.org)

### Important Dates:

Oct 31 Halloween  
Oct 31 *fcps student holiday*  
Nov 1 All Saints Day  
Nov 2 All Souls Day/Dia de Los Muertos  
Nov 6 Daylight Saving Time ends  
Nov 8 **RHA Annual Meeting**  
Nov 8 Election Day   
*fcps holiday*  
Nov 11 Veterans' Day   
*fcps student holiday*  
Nov 23-27 *fcps Thanksgiving holiday*  
Nov 24 Thanksgiving Day  
Nov 27 Advent begins

### RHA Board

#### President:

Don Nuss

#### Vice President:

Charlie Marts

#### Treasurer:

John Hanchulak

#### Secretary:

Colleen Ward

#### At Large:

Mike Olson

\*\*\*\*\*

FirstService Residential (FSR):

703-385-1133

800-927-4599 (24 hour)

### Board of Directors: by Don Nuss, RHA Board President

The Board this past month discussed and addressed several end-of-year requirements, such as finalizing the annual budget (*we are in good fiscal shape -- a copy of the budget is in the annual meeting mailing from FSR*), preparing for the RHA Annual Meeting, and preparing for the turnover of Board members following that meeting. Normal business, of course, continued, ranging from labeling TH recycling bins, coordinating Dominion's install of LED "shoebox" lights for the TH parking lots, and finalizing notices sent to owners for TH common area trash violations.

**Recreation Committee:** The Board appointed six volunteer homeowners to serve on the Recreation Committee for 1-year terms starting November 1, 2022. The committee members are: Earl Blaas, Derek Briggs, Eugene Harper, Georgette Nuss, Lourdes Umana, and Colleen Ward.

**Annual Meeting:** The RHA annual meeting will be held as a hybrid meeting on November 8, 2022. As such, homeowners can attend the meeting remotely via Zoom or in-person at the pool house. The primary purpose of the meeting is to elect two directors to serve 3-year terms on the Board. Two homeowners, **Nick Viau** and **Mike Olson**, have declared their candidacy for these positions. Packets that include proxy forms allowing homeowners to vote for these candidates or write-in

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## 2022 Annual Meeting is Online & at the Poolhouse!

November 8, 2022 7:00 pm Sign In 7:30 pm Meeting Starts

(info on RHA-Homes.org, and in FSR mailing to homeowners)

The five members of the RHA Board of Directors each serve terms of three years, which are timed so that there is overlap among the members. This year at the annual meeting (November 8, 2022) our community will elect two new members. Statements from the two declared candidates are in your annual meeting mailing: **Nicholas Viau** and family moved to RHA this past summer. He currently works as a Sales Manager at Diligent Corporation, "a software as a service company". He wants to put down roots here, bring a fresh perspective, and serve the community. **Mike Olson** is a retired US Air Force officer and photographer who has lived in RHA for 31 years. He is a current board member, and can claim a fair amount of institutional memory and knowledge of our neighborhood. He intends to continue promoting the Board's managing of RHA's physical assets as well as its social infrastructure assets so our community can flourish.

candidates of their choosing have been sent via U.S. mail. As an alternative to submitting a proxy, homeowners can choose to cast a ballot in person at the poolhouse starting at 7:00 p.m.

**Good Neighbor of the Year Award:** Nominations have been received, and the winner will be  announced at the Annual Meeting.

**Thank You to Board Member Colleen Ward:** Ms. Ward's term expires following the Annual Meeting, and we sincerely thank her for her several years of hard work for RHA, and look to her continuing to support the community as a newly reappointed member of the Recreation Committee.

### Architectural Control Committee:

by Georgette Nuss, ACC Chair

At the last regularly scheduled meeting of the ACC, the Committee approved 2 applications. There was one application for a new roof and siding, and there was one application for a new fence. The next meeting will be **MONDAY**, November 7 at 7:00 PM. The Committee normally meets once a month on the first Monday of the month unless there is a holiday. If you wish to submit an application for change, please do so 2 to 3 weeks prior to the meeting so that any questions can be cleared up before the meeting.

**DID YOU KNOW...** Temporary holiday decorations, including but not limited to lights, flags and banners that commemorate a specific holiday and are seasonally appropriate, do not need approval but are permitted to remain on the exterior of the home and the Lot for only thirty (30) days prior to

(continued on page 2)

**ACC** (continued from page 1)

and after the specific commemorated holiday. Please plan accordingly.

**DID YOU KNOW...**Grass clippings must be removed from sidewalks immediately; snow must be removed from sidewalks within 24 hours from end of snowfall. That does not mean you take a shovel's width down your sidewalk. It means you shovel the entire width of your sidewalk.

**DID YOU KNOW...**In accordance with the Board's policy granting townhome owners the right to plant small gardens in the front yard, it is time to clean up those gardens. Pay particular attention to cleaning up any dropped veggies. They are instant attractions for rats.

**DID YOU KNOW...**The next ACC meeting is scheduled for **MONDAY**, November 7, at 7:00 PM, via Zoom. If you are using a computer, use this link, <https://rha-homes.org/>, and scroll down to the paragraph **Architectural Control Committee (ACC) Meeting** to join the meeting with one click. No ID or passcode needed. Just click on the word **HERE**.

To join the meeting by phone, please call (301) 715-8592. The Meeting ID is 880 5015 0929, and the Passcode is 491674.

**Recreation Committee, Inc. (RCI):** by Gene Harper, RCI Treasurer

The committee met via Zoom on Oct. 12. Seven members were present, along with Sequoia Community Manager Dale Edwards. One community resident observed the meeting.

Members received an update on the project to reduce costs by changing the poolhouse telephone landline service to a broadband internet connection, known as Voice over Internet Protocol (VOIP). Also discussed were further steps toward the request for proposals for upgrades to security cameras in RCI.

The committee spent time on parts of the 2023 budget, with a final draft review at the next meeting to meet a scheduled mailing deadline to residents by Dec. 1.

Members scrutinized the poolhouse rental agreement and voted to adopt changes including to boost cleaning practices after rentals and to develop easier key pickup and return processes for rentals.

The committee also agreed to place signs at key entrances throughout RCI areas to inform people about no trespassing, enhanced security monitoring, and enforcement of state and county laws.

The next meeting date is set for November 9. The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

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**Is Your Home Ready for Fall?**

by Charles Marts, Board Vice President

Fall is a good time to take care of outdoor home maintenance items before cold weather and snow arrive.



Clean gutters. Clogged gutters can cause damage to your roof, siding, foundation, yard and more.



Rake leaves. Keep your lawn healthy by raking leaves to prevent mold from forming in wet leaves and to allow your grass adequate sunlight.



Check furnace. Prevent costly repairs and increase efficiency by hiring a professional to service your furnace (and humidifier if you have one).



Trim branches near chimney. Prune tree branches at least 15 feet away from the top of the chimney to prevent fires.



Reverse ceiling fans. Switch the direction of your ceiling fans to clockwise and run them at low speed to push warm air down, which will save on energy bills.



Inspect your roof. Have a licensed professional check for the warning signs of potential leaks, such as missing shingles or granules filling the gutters.

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**RHA Decorates for Fall & Halloween!**





## At Last! Metro and RHA!!

by Gene Harper, RCI Treasurer

By the time you read this, Metrorail will be almost at RHA doorsteps.

Officials were on the verge at the end of October of announcing when Phase 2, the Silver Line extension, will start service to six new stations, including Reston, Herndon, Dulles Airport and eastern Loudoun County.

Train stops at the **Herndon Metro Station (HMS)** (on the property of the current Herndon-Monroe bus station) or the new **Innovation Center Station (ICS)** along the Dulles Toll/Access roads near Rt. 28 will serve RHA residents. And you can get to either in 10 minutes or less.

Let's use a single, central starting point for the journey: the Fairfax Connector bus stop across from Hutchison ES, near the intersection of Springer Rd. and Parcher Ave.

### Bus

The **937** will continue its current route, but will now include stops at the south sides of both **HMS** and **ICS**. The **937** will have midday service on weekdays and all-day service on weekends with service every 40 minutes. The trips to and from RHA and **ICS** south are both direct and will take just six minutes!

The **921** route, dubbed the *Herndon Circulator*, is all new and will follow the same Parcher Ave./Springer Rd. ring bordering our RHA neighborhood as the **937**. From there this new service will follow a looping route that includes Parcher Ave., Worldgate Drive, Spring/Van Buren Sts. and Elden St. The **921** will run every 40 minutes every day from roughly 7:40am to 7:40pm. The ride to the north side of **HMS** will take only 10 minutes, while the ride from **HMS** to Parcher Ave. will take less than 20 minutes.

The **950** will continue to cross the gateway to our community, the Elden St./Centreville Rd./Worldgate Dr./Parcher Ave intersection all day every day, but will do so more frequently than ever – every 15 minutes during rush hour, every 20 minutes non-rush hour, and every 20-30 minutes on weekends. From the Centreville Rd. stop heading south, the **950** will get you to the south side of the **HMS** station in 20 minutes or less.

There is no bus service link to our RHA community from the north side of the **ICS** (Rock Hill Road side).

### Walking/Biking

There's a relatively short 1.5-mile distance between the Parcher Ave. bus stop and the **HMS** north entrance near Herndon Parkway. That 30-minute walk starts at the Parcher Ave. bus stop and goes along a sidewalk route that will empty onto a new 8-foot-long pathway at the Worldgate Dr./Van Buren St. intersection and will travel between existing commercial buildings and onto the station entrance. Construction began on that foot/bike path in September (*official completion July 2023*). Until then, it'll take a few more steps or more pedaling along Van Buren St. and Herndon Parkway to arrive at the north side entrance to **HMS**.

That station side has 30 bike racks and five fully enclosed

bike lockers; the **HMS** south side features a fully enclosed Bike Room with 120 racks. If you don't want to pedal the roadways to the south side bike rack setup, accessing it



The eerily quiet Herndon Metro Station north entrance awaits up to 30 bikes to fill its racks, and five cycles to be deposited inside the bike lockers in the foreground. Rail service could start by Thanksgiving.

from the north side will require using the elevator (not the escalators) to get up to the Metro station-level and walking your way through the station above the Dulles road and Metro tracks to the south side walkway. From there, it's down the elevator back to ground level and onto the Bike Room on the south side's premises.

Walking/biking to the south side of the **ICS** also is 1.5 miles away and takes about 30 minutes on foot, but only 10 minutes by cycle. The route is east along the Parcher Ave. bike lane, right onto Centreville Rd., under the Dulles roadway, and right onto the recently opened 10-foot wide, paved and lighted Innovation Trail, which leads right to the **ICS**. There are 10 bike racks near the south station entrance, plus another 177 bike racks and 10 bike lockers nearby on the premises.

Of course, Metro riders can take their bikes with them onto trains, following guidelines at this site:

<https://www.wmata.com/service/bikes/guidelines.cfm>.

Fairfax County has plans to build a walking/biking path from the north side of the **ICS** that will empty onto Apgar Place in RHA's townhouses and Farougi Ct. in RHA's detached homes. Its planned completion date is in 2025.

### Vehicle

There are passenger drop-off points on both sides of the **HMS** and **ICS** stations. There are separate passenger drop-off lanes plus Fairfax Connector bus stops on Herndon Parkway for **HMS** north. There will be a designated Kiss and Ride area at the **ICS** south passenger drop-off less than a 10 minute drive from RHA (...all "right-hand" turns: Parcher to Centreville, to Sunrise Valley, so if I'm dropping someone off at Metro, **ICS** south will be my favorite!).

On **HMS** south are two parking garages that will hold 3,700 vehicles. The garage at **ICS** south holds 2,000.

During several weeks in October, the emptied trains at the Wiehle-Reston East station have been continuing on to the new stations, eerily pretending to pick up and drop off passengers. Once they returned to Wiehle Ave. station, they resumed normal service toward Tysons and beyond.

At press time, Metro administrators and other officials responsible for the absolute safety of the system have agreed that the banished 7000-series cars can return to service at a faster rate than previously adhered to. That could lead to the new stations opening before the end of November, possibly near the Thanksgiving holidays. That announcement could come any day.

**November 6**  
**FALL BACK**  
**End of Daylight Saving Time**  
 Turn clocks back one hour at 2 a.m.

\*\*\*\*NOTES\*\*\*\*

Nov 6th: Turn clocks BACK one hour

Change your clock,  
  
**CHANGE your batteries**

Car Seat Inspections Nov 3 & 17. Sully District Police Station, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd in Chantilly. 5-8:30pm. 1st come, 1st serve. Masks & social distancing observed. Install the child car seat yourself for the inspection. Proper installation will be taught if necessary.

Town of Herndon Veterans' Day Observance. Friday, 11:00 am, Nov 11, on the Town Green (...behind the Herndon Library). "The 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month" marks the anniversary of the end of WWI in 1918.

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Take a walk in the park....The sunny tree pictured on page 1 is in the south end of our park, near where the 3rd stream bridge used to be.



Fall-blooming Japanese anemone



RHA Newsletter submissions: Inputs/comments/suggestions for the December 2022 RHA newsletter are due by November 20. Send inputs to: [newsletter@rha-homes.org](mailto:newsletter@rha-homes.org)

# November 2022

**NOVEMBER** IS National **DIABETES** Awareness Month  
 FINDING THE **CURE** STARTS WITH AWARENESS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 (October)	31  feeps holiday <b>HALLOWEEN</b>	1  All Saints Day	2 7:00-9:00pm ★ SA online meeting <b>Dia de Los Muertos</b>  All Souls' Day	3  <b>NATIONAL SANDWICH DAY</b>	4  <b>Love Your Lawyer Day</b>	5  <b>GUY FAWKES DAY</b> Remember Remember The fifth of November Gunpowder, Treason and Plot
6  Daylight Saving Time Ends	7 7:00-9:00 ★ ACC online meeting	8 7:00-9:00pm <b>RHA Annual Meeting</b> online + live  feeps holiday <b>Election Day</b>	9 7:00-9:00pm ★ Recreation online meeting	10	11  feeps holiday <b>VETERANS' DAY</b>	12
13	14  <b>NATIONAL PICKLE DAY</b>	15	16  <b>NATIONAL FAST FOOD DAY</b>	17  1970 <b>Great American Smokeout</b>	18  <b>NATIONAL TAKE A HIKE DAY</b>	19
20  1954 <b>universal children's day</b>	21 Guten Tag  HELLO Shalom Bonjour HOLA 1973 <b>World HELLO Day</b>	22	23 feeps holiday	24 Thanksgiving Day  <b>THANKS GIVING</b>	25 feeps holiday  <b>BLACK FRIDAY</b>	26  <b>Small Business Saturday</b>
27  <b>Advent begins</b>	28  <b>CYBER MONDAY</b>	29  <b>Giving Tuesday</b>	30	1 (December)  <b>World AIDS Day</b>	2	3

This newsletter is created by the Board of Directors of Reflection Homes Association in order to inform you about its work, and to keep you updated on things important to our neighborhood. If you have any questions, suggestions, or contributions to this newsletter, please email them to: [RHAboard@RHA-Homes.org](mailto:RHAboard@RHA-Homes.org) and/or [newsletter@RHA-Homes.org](mailto:newsletter@RHA-Homes.org)  
 Visit: <http://rha-homes.org> to read past newsletters, or to request email newsletter delivery.