BYLAW BALLOTS STILL TRENDING YES

The 2017 Amended & Restated Bylaws continue to receive a lot of notice by Rotonda residents. But we haven’t heard from everyone yet. Have you voted?

Owners who haven’t voted should come to the Front Desk to pick up their ballot and vote today. The changes being proposed by the Board are very important and the participation of all is needed.

As of November 2, 589 total valid ballots have been received. Of those, 554 have voted yes (48.37%) and 35 voted no (2.90%). The votes have been received from 388 on-site owners and 201 off-site owners. To have a say, turn in your ballot now!

MAJOR PROJECTS UPDATE
SEALCOATING COMPLETE BUT FACADE STUDY HALTED

Concrete repair, including drainage, was the first part of this project to be completed.

We had three major projects underway on property this fall. Following is a quick update on each.

Asphalt Sealcoating and Concrete Repair Project – This project is complete! The contractor (Dominion Paving) first finished all the concrete work, which included repairs at the drive circles in front of each of the five buildings. Steps, curbs, sidewalks and drainage areas that required repair were also broken up and replaced at that

continued on page 4…

RCUOA ANNUAL MEETING
SET FOR DECEMBER 4 AT MARSHALL HIGH SCHOOL

The Rotonda Condominium Unit Owners Association election process for seats on the Board of Directors is well underway. And that means the 2017 Annual Meeting for isn’t far behind. The meeting will be conducted on Monday, December 4, 2017 at a new location this year – Marshall High School, 7731 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22043. The move from the McLean Community Center is due to renovation at that facility.

The Annual Meeting will begin at 7:00pm, but guests and residents can begin arriving at 6:00pm. Shuttle bus service will be provided to the meeting starting at 6:15pm, and back to the Rotonda until 30 minutes after the meeting adjourns. Like last year, refreshments at the meeting will include coffee, lemonade and a variety of cookies.

The primary purpose of the Annual continued on page 5…

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Do you want to make a difference where you live, or see your ideas for improving the Rotonda actually happen? It is possible. Read on to see how some owners are affecting change at the Rotonda.

For at least the 25 years that we have lived here, the Rotonda has always had committees and some of them, like the Landscape Committee, have always been very active. In 2017, however, we have a number of very active committees staffed by homeowners who are eager to participate in their community and make a difference. These homeowners are empowered by the Board to make changes and they are taking full advantage of the opportunities.

It is a real pleasure to watch the committees at work. For example, the new Children’s Activities Committee created indoor and outdoor play spaces, set up dates for interactive play and others for book readings, and they have established online connections to keep the parents of children informed about events and new amenities geared for children. Another great example is the work our Facilities Committee did on the renovations of the Mezzanine Level of the Community Center. This Committee decided how it wanted the Mezzanine to look, conducted a competitive selection for a designer, presented the design to the Board for approval, and finished the job done on time and on budget.

Another new committee this year is the Welcoming Committee, which came about from a Covenants Committee suggestion in 2016. This Committee had to start from zero to come up with a plan to reach out to new residents, extend a hand of fellowship, and find a way to gently remind them that we are a structured community with rules that make the Rotonda a great place for everyone. The Committee hosted its first “Welcoming” event in October and it has plans for more. A third new committee in 2017 is the Library Committee, which came into existence at the suggestion of an owner. Although the Committee was only chartered in September, it has already reorganized our library and has plans for future changes.

The 2017 Covenants and Finance Committees also made considerable contributions to the community. Covenants offered several motions for Board consideration, and the Finance Committee reviewed and made recommendations to the Board on the 2018 Budget and Five Year Plan. The Finance Committee also reviewed the General Manager’s final report on the Community Center Renovation Project. Last, but by no means least, the Landscape Committee did its annual amazing job of overseeing and guiding the planting and maintenance of 34-acres of flowers, shrubs, ground coverings, and trees. This Committee has a sizeable discretionary budget, which it uses for new projects and special needs.

You too can make a difference here at the Rotonda. The call is already out for the 2018 Committees and we need as many participants as possible. We are planning to have the same committees next year, but we don’t have to stop there. If you have an idea for another committee, put it on the Committee Application form and we will see if there is enough interest to staff it.

Sincerely,
Douglas Doolittle, RCUOA President
SIGN-UP TO JOIN A 2018 ROTONDA COMMITTEE
RESIDENT INVOLVEMENT HELPS THE COMMUNITY GROW

The Rotonda has had many active Committees over the years. And that activity keeps growing. Now the call is going out for volunteers for the 2018 Committees.

**Children’s Activities Committee** determines planned regular activities for youth, and suggests to the Board possible new areas on property for outdoor and indoor activities.

**Covenants Committee** regulates appearance/maintenance of the common elements, deals with owners and others in violation of governing statutes or Association documents and reviews and revises Association Resolutions.

**Facilities Committee** researches projects, makes recommendations relating to buildings, structures, equipment, and recreation areas throughout the property.

**Finance Committee** participates in review of Association budget and investment policy, and assists the Treasurer and General Manager by making recommendations.

**Landscape Committee** inspects the grounds regularly, suggests landscaping improvements throughout property, and assists the Facilities Director in overseeing many of the contractor activities.

**Library Committee** keeps track of books coming into and going out of the Library, and organizes the books in the best manner for searching while keeping them up-to-date.

**Welcoming Committee** welcomes all new residents through events, and then meets with residents to answers questions about living on property.

The Board is always open to suggestions. So, if you have an idea for a new Committee, find at least three other owners who would like to serve, and suggest it.

Committee applications are available at the Front Desk or can be downloaded from the BuildingLink Library. Keep in mind that all volunteers from 2017 Committees must reapply to be on a 2018 Committee.

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time. Next came crack sealing, and then two layers of sealcoating done in segments around the property. The final step was striping of the parking space lines and other directional signals back onto the pavement.

Repairs and sealcoating were paid for out of Reserve Funds and should last many years. Thank you to all residents for your cooperation during the weeks of scheduling, which required moving of many vehicles.

**Facade Laser Study** – Facades are the brick coverings of our high-rise buildings. As buildings of this type of construction age, there are slight changes in the vertical alignment of the facades and repairs may be needed including fixing or repairing water and air infiltration, replacing rusted or broken anchors and struts, balcony damage, and window flashing issues. Technology offers a way to measure the effect of these changes relatively quickly and cost-effectively through laser scanning.

To accomplish this task, the contractors (Facility Engineering Associates and Maser) were onsite for a couple weeks setting up control points and running laser scanning equipment to measure any displacement. This study has been completed. A few weeks ago we were told there would be a delay from Maser on providing their scanned data to FEA so they could analyze and report. Maser had three offices affected by the recent hurricane in Florida and that meant other teams, including ours, had to be down in Florida assisting with repairs.

In the meantime, Management was alerted to a secondary issue. Until recently the responsibility for anchoring scaffolding rested with the scaffolding company. But a recent OSHA standard change provides that certified anchors become the responsibility of the building owner. This immediately impacts the laser study as it included physical inspections of “hot points” using scaffolding. After presenting this information to the Board at the November 14 meeting, that work has been suspended until we have certified anchors. A three-phase plan is being created to get this work done.

**Fire Sprinkler and Pump Replacement Project** – The engineering information for the work on this project was submitted to Fairfax County on July 1, 2017. The contractor is still waiting for the County’s approval of the permit so we can begin work.

More detailed information will be published to all residents as soon as the permit is approved.
CONT’D - ANNUAL MEETING

Meeting is to elect four members to the Rotonda Board of Directors with terms to begin in December 2017. Terms include three, three-year terms expiring in December 2020 and one, one-year term expiring in December 2018. Any unit owner or spouse of a unit owner in good standing is eligible to be elected to the Board of Directors. Nominating petitions were collected through October 27, 2017. Proxy ballots were sent out to all unit owners on November 9 and will be collected until December 4 at 2:00 pm. After that, you must attend the Annual Meeting in order to submit a ballot.

To encourage participation by all owners in the election of Directors and the meeting itself, two special drawings will be conducted as in years past. Each of the two drawings will award a refund of one month’s condominium fee, plus garage space if applicable, to the lucky winners!

1. The first drawing will be conducted from all the proxy envelopes returned to the Association in time for counting. To enter the drawing, simply return the completed envelope in the postpaid mailer. While you are encouraged to vote via the paper ballot, all completed envelopes will be eligible for the drawing. You need not be present at the Annual Meeting to win. All off-site owners are encouraged to participate in this drawing.

2. A second drawing will be held from the ballots submitted at the Annual Meeting. To enter, simply attend the meeting, complete your ballot, and put it in the voting box for your building. You need not remain at the meeting to win. The rules are pretty simple. No member of the Board of Directors or a member of their family, and no employee of the Association or their family, are eligible to win the drawings. Any owner who wins the first drawing will be excluded from winning the second drawing. Both drawings will be conducted by Goldklang Associates, the independent voting management firm, and their decision is final.

The evening’s agenda is shown. Plan now to attend the Annual Meeting and participate in electing your Board.

AGENDA FOR RCUOA
ANNUAL MEETING

6:00pm - REGISTRATION begins
7:00pm - MEETING IS CALLED TO ORDER (or when quorum present)
- Proof of Notice of Meeting
- Approval of Minutes of Preceding Annual Meeting
- Designation of Parliamentarian
- Appointment of Inspectors of Election
- Unfinished Business
- Introduction of Candidates
- Closure of Balloting
- Guest Speaker
- President’s Annual Report
- Announcement of Preliminary Election Results
- Announcement of Organizational Meeting
- Drawings for Condo Fee Refund
- Adjournment

Cookies, coffee and lemonade will be served.

Vote for your 2018 Board of Directors.

Cookies, coffee and lemonade will be served.

Join your friends and neighbors at the 2017 Annual Meeting to hear speeches, vote for your Board of Directors, and possibly win a December condo fee refund.
SNOW REMOVAL AT THE ROTOnda
UNDERSTANDING THE PROCESS CAN MAKE THE EXPERIENCE SAFER FOR EVERYONE

The calendar has turned to November. And that means the inevitable start to the winter season will be here before we know it. Not far behind that will be snowy and icy weather that often begins its descent into our area early in the season. Prepare ahead. Now might be the time to pick up the updated Winter Weather brochure at the Front Desk in the Community Center, or download it from the BuildingLink Library.

Rest assured, once wintry precipitation begins to make its way into northern Virginia, the Rotonda staff will do everything possible to ensure sidewalks, streets and access points are safe for passage. Once the primary areas are clear, they will concentrate on the perimeter sidewalks on International, Westpark and Greensboro.

Depending on the specific conditions, the following steps will be taken:
• Spot Salting – Salt is applied where needed to all roads and walkways.
• Full-Scale Salting – Salt is applied to the length of all roadways.
• Plowing – When snow accumulates to approximately two inches, plowing will begin. First the main drive lanes throughout the property will be cleared, followed by the drive circles and parking lots.

Major Snow Removal – When conditions are very bad, special equipment may be required to handle the snow emergency. At that point, staff may need to leave temporarily to get this equipment, but one lane of traffic will be open on all roadways before crews return to clear the roads entirely.

When plowing is dictated, there are several things to remember. First, plows cannot remove all the snow. The job of a plow is to push the snow out of the way so it doesn’t impede traffic. Additionally, if snow becomes hard-packed by traffic, the plows cannot exert the needed downward force to dig through it.

The Rotonda’s contracted snow removal team is not authorized to clear vehicle windows or snow from around your personal vehicle.

If you need a shovel to dig your car out, you may check one out at the Front Desk in the Community Center. A driver’s license is required to be left in order to obtain a shovel. Shovels must be returned within two hours to make them available to other residents who also need to clear their vehicles of accumulated snow.

Please use caution when walking during the winter! Staff will make every effort to ensure the property is cleared of ice, as well as snow. However, conditions could still be hazardous as the temperature fluctuates around the freezing point, or when the sun sets.

Maybe most importantly, parents please instruct your children not to attempt to play on ice that may form on the top of the ponds. It is never safe for anyone to walk on! There are signs posted at the ponds that prohibit any playing near the water. Please heed this advice.

If we all take a few small safety precautions, we can enjoy a wonderful winter season at the Rotonda.
PARKING IN SNOW AND ICE CAN BE DIFFICULT
FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES TO MAKE THE WINTER SEASON EASIER

Parking properly is always important. But in the winter, safe parking takes on a whole new meaning. To help you know what to do when the snow and ice arrive, we have put together a few general guidelines regarding parking on Rotonda property when winter weather is, or could be, occurring.

- If you have a garage space, please use it! The fewer cars parked in the outdoor lots, the better job our staff can do. In addition, keeping your car away from the roadway will protect it from salt spray, being plowed in, or even being accidentally hit by a passing vehicle that loses traction on the ice.
- Always park in designated parking areas and never park in the fire lanes or no parking zones. These areas are needed for emergency vehicles. This will also allow the plows greater ability to move around and clear the area.
- Unless you are parked in a properly marked handicapped space, you may have to shovel a little snow from behind your vehicle to get out. Staff will make every effort to clear behind vehicles in handicapped spaces as they are completing sidewalk snow removal.
- Piles of snow will be pushed into areas of the parking lots adjacent to storm drains. Please do not park in areas barricaded for storing snow.
- Remember to always yield to snow removal equipment as it moves around the property.

Residents are responsible for clearing their own vehicles.

If you have a garage space, please use it to keep the parking lot as open as possible.

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‘Tis the season. Well, almost. It will soon be that time of year when many Rotonda residents get into the holiday spirit and want to decorate their units. Seasonal decorations are permitted on the outside of entry doors without application for approval, so long as they are tasteful and timely for the season and meet the following criteria:

1. Are on the door only and do not protrude more than six inches from the door;
2. Do not make any sound;
3. Are not attached in such a way as to mar the finish on the door;
4. Are not offensive.

Please make a note on your 2017 calendar to remove wreaths and other seasonal decorations from outside your unit door by January 31, 2018.

Thank you for your assistance.

---

OPEN BALCONY USERS
BE COURTEOUS TO YOUR NEIGHBORS

Many residents spend a lot of time enjoying their open balconies. We just ask that while doing so, please be courteous to your neighbors.

The Management Office sometimes receives complaints about residents throwing food and other debris off their open balconies. Please do not throw food, cigarette butts, trash, or other debris over the edge of your balcony. The debris can land on neighboring balconies or the landscape and can cause a mess or even become a fire hazard.

The other complaint received more often is that water is spilling over from the balcony above onto below open spaces. You are welcome to enjoy plants, flowers or other items in your outdoor space. But if you must water plants or use water in some other way, please make sure water does not run over the edge. Though not intended, this water run-off can easily ruin items on below spaces and discolor the balcony slab facing.

Thank you for your assistance.

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COMMUNITY CENTER SURVEY OF RESIDENTS SHOWS WHAT’S IMPORTANT ABOUT FITNESS CENTER, POOLS, MEZZANINE & MORE

The Board approved release of the Community Center Survey at the September Board Meeting. The survey closed at midnight on October 31, 2017 having been open for more than a month. A total of 364 owners and renters completed the survey. This compares to 410 owners and renters who completed a similar survey in 2012. A copy of the 2017 survey results is available in the BuildingLink Library or printed copies are available for borrowing at the Front Desk.

Of the 364 responses, almost 71 percent were from on-site owners, 7 percent were from off-site owners, and 22 percent were from renters. The time on property was somewhat evenly distributed, with those who have been here more than 15 years responding the most at 29 percent. More females, 58 percent, then males, 42 percent, responded. Units with one or two occupants made up 74 percent of the responses. And those in the 51-70 age range made up the largest age segment, with 39 percent.

Responses to specific areas are noted below:

**General Store** – 55 percent of respondents wanted to continue the General Store, 18 percent didn’t, and 27 percent were unsure. At the same time only 48 percent have shopped there since it reopened. The top three reasons for not shopping there are “never bothered to look,” “too expensive,” and “don’t have what I want.” Of possible replacements for the General Store, the top two suggestions were “café/coffee shop/restaurant” and “party room.”

**Fitness Center** – 53 percent of respondents had used the Fitness Center in the past 30 days. More than half of those used it 5-10 times per month or more. The treadmill is by far the most popular, followed by the stationary bike and free weights.

**Yoga Studio** – 14 percent of respondents use the Yoga Studio 5-10 times per month or more. Of those, a majority consider it to be more than adequate. Wellbeats gets even higher marks.

**Vending Machines** – 22 percent of respondents have used the vending machines. Of those, 42 percent want to continue, 47 percent were indifferent, and 11 percent would like them removed. Of those who would like them removed, 71 percent think they are inappropriate to the setting, while 29 percent see them as too expensive. Suggested changes were “different items,” “more healthy items,” and “cheaper items.”

**Library** – 39 percent of respondents have used the Library. Of those, 29 percent did so to read, 20 percent to talk, and 6 percent to play. Suggested changes were to “provide different offerings,” “restrict use by children,” “add computers.”

**Digital Game Room** – About 10 percent of the respondents had used the Digital Game Room, while 13 percent planned to in the future. 77 percent of respondents would like to have more items added to the selection.

continued on page 14...
The outdoor swimming pool was closed for the season after Labor Day.

Chinese government and business training delegates visited the Rotonda as part of a U.S. study trip in late September. They met with Management to hear about decision-making, emergency management and working with local government.

The south end of the Community Center is now lush with grass and landscaping making it a welcoming second entrance.

The innermost ramps on both sides of the Community Center were demolished in October and replaced with concrete terraces. This will be a new platform for planter boxes filled with trees, bushes and flowers.

Stop by the Mezzanine Level and take a look at the new Chickering baby grand piano in black matte finish with adjustable bench.
MORE PICTURES OF EVENTS AT THE ROTONDA

The Welcoming Committee hosted its first event in early October in the Community Center. New Rotonda residents from the previous three months were invited, but the event was open to the entire community.

Three new HVAC units were installed on the rooftop of Building 2 in early September. This was the final building to receive new energy efficient units.

Windows Plus brings Excellence to The Rotonda

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The Welcoming Committee hosted its first event in early October in the Community Center. New Rotonda residents from the previous three months were invited, but the event was open to the entire community.

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continued from page 11 ...

Respondents had not used it. Of the 10 percent who had, 42 percent do so to watch TV, 39 percent to use the WiFi, and only 20 percent to play digital games. Suggested changes were unclear, but the most reported comments were “don’t care,” “get rid of it,” and “kid problems.”

Traditional Game Room -- 46 percent of respondents had used the Traditional Game Room. The most popular game was ping pong followed by pool/billiards. Foosball was third and air hockey was last. Suggested changes were to “expand the space” and “kid problems.”

Swimming Pools/Hot Tubs -- In the last six months, 73 percent of the respondents had used the Pools. 39 percent used it weekly or more often. The outdoor pool rates higher in satisfaction than the indoor pool, however, both pools were viewed favorably by most. There were 157 positive comments about the pools generally focusing on cleanliness, staff, and convenient location. Suggested changes were to “extend the hours and season,” “go back to kids break and allow adults to swim,” and “warmer water.” About 40 percent of respondents had used the Hot Tubs in the past six months.

Men’s and Women’s Spas -- 36 percent of respondents had used one of the Spas. Overall they were viewed very favorable. There were a small number of suggested changes mostly for “better cleaning.”

Saunas -- 34 percent of the respondents had used one of the Saunas. Suggested changes included “expand the size of the sauna,” “not hot enough,” and “not clean enough.”

Old Office Space -- 41 percent found the concept of an indoor children’s play area attractive. 64 percent found the idea of more lounge space attractive. Many selected both.

Overall Comments -- There were a wide variety of overall comments, but several were: Hooks in the showers - these have been installed in each shower/changing area as well next to the lockers. Hours for Fitness Center - the hours have been expanded from 5:00am until 10:00pm. Business Center - computers and a printer are on order.

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BIKE: The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors brought the Capital Bikeshare system to Tysons in an effort to help get cars off the road, boost local economy, and contribute to a healthier community. Bikeshare allows you to check out a bike and ride short to moderate distances from Bikeshare station to Bikeshare station. Closest station to Rotonda is Route 7 and Westpark Drive. A limited number of codes for one free ride under 30 minutes are available at the Front Desk.

CARPOOL: The RideSources Program is operated by the Fairfax County Department of Transportation. Visit the Commuter Connections website at www.commuterconnections.org or NuRide at www.nuride.com to register into a regional database, which will match you with neighbors who share similar work schedules and travel patterns. Or call the Fairfax County RideSources program at 703-877-5900 for assistance. By sharing the ride with just one other person, you can cut your commuting expenses in half, use the HOV lanes to travel faster, and enjoy a less stressful commute.

BUS: Fairfax Connector now uses BusTracker, a global positioning system (GPS) technology to provide real-time information on the arrival times and locations of buses. By using your smartphone, tablet or a computer, you will be able to access the scheduled and estimated arrival time (ETA) of your bus. You can also sign-up for real-time notifications and receive emails and text messages about your bus at specified times, stops and routes.

METRO: The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) operates Metrorail transit services within Fairfax County. WMATA provides the Metro Trip Planner on their main web page to help you plan your travel using these and other regional transit services. There are Metrorail stations in or near Fairfax County on the Orange, Blue, Yellow and Silver lines. All Metrorail stations in Fairfax County are served by Metrobus and the Fairfax Connector. Many of these stations also offer daily parking facilities and bicycle racks.

Brochures on Commuter Connections, NuRide, Capital Bikeshare, Metrorail and Biking are available at the Front Desk by the Rotonda Brochures.

More details, including information on VanStart and VanSave, can also be found at www.fairfaxcounty.gov and clicking on the Transportation Tab.
Five Facts You Probably Didn’t Know About Thanksgiving

1. In 1953, someone at Swanson misjudged the number of frozen turkeys it would sell that Thanksgiving by 26 TONS! Some industrious soul came up with a brilliant plan: Why not slice up the meat and repackage with some trimmings on the side? The first TV Dinner was born!

2. No shopping on Black Friday if you're a plumber. That's the busiest day of the year, according to the nation’s largest plumbing service. After all, someone has to clean up after household guests who “overwhelm the system.”

3. When Abe Lincoln declared Thanksgiving a national holiday, it was thanks to the efforts of magazine editor Sarah Josepha Hale. Her other claim to fame? She wrote the nursery rhyme, “Mary Had a Little Lamb.”

4. Only male turkeys, called toms, gobble. Females, called hens, cackle.

5. If Ben Franklin had his way, the turkey would be our national bird. An eagle, he wrote in a letter to his daughter, had “bad moral character.” A turkey, on the other hand, was a “much more respectable bird.”

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