RCUOA ANNUAL MEETING

SET FOR TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2019

It may seem like December is still a long way off, but planning for the 2019 Annual Meeting has already begun. The venue for the Rotonda Annual Owners’ Meeting continues to be the Marshall High School Cafeteria. Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) Community Use Program is an appealing location both in cost and ease of use, and the Board voted at the May 28, 2019 meeting to have the annual event at the same location for a third year.

The Rotonda’s Annual Meeting has been set for Tuesday, December 3, 2019 at the Marshall High School cafeteria, 7731 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22043. This venue works well because it provides adequate space, the necessary audio-visual equipment, and a separate space for tallying votes. It also allows us to continue to offer a variety of cookies, coffee, and lemonade.

For those new to the property, the main event at every Annual Meeting is the election of members to the Board of Directors. This year there are three Directors positions to be filled.

Candidate Nominating Petitions have been distributed to all unit owners and extra copies are available at the Front Desk. Those who live on property will have received the Election Letter with Candidate Information and Nominating Petitions under their unit doors. Off-site owners were mailed these same documents. This is the beginning of the election process, which culminates at the Annual Meeting. This is your chance to participate and make a difference in your community.

If you are an owner and think you would like to run for one of the three seats on the Board, but have a question about the work involved, time commitment, skills needed, areas of upcoming decisions, or others, feel free to call or email General Manager Colin Horner.

As in the past, we will provide the two Concierge Shuttle Buses to quickly get people to and from the Rotonda. Rotonda Concierge Shuttle Buses will run round trips, starting from 6:00 PM until 30 minutes after the meeting adjourns.

Mark your calendar to attend on Tuesday, December 3. Registration and voting open at 6 PM. Additional instructions about the evening’s events will be provided in a few weeks. All owners are encouraged to attend the Annual Meeting. It’s not just a business meeting, but a great opportunity to visit with neighbors and learn about community projects, and special events of the past year.

There will also be two drawings for Refund of One Month’s Condominium Fee. One drawing will take place among all the proxies submitted before the 2019 election. A second drawing will take place among all ballots submitted at the Annual Meeting.
PROPERTY-WIDE POWER OUTAGE SCHEDULED
BE PREPARED FOR YOUR BUILDING’S OUTAGE DATE

Management is coordinating electrical preventative maintenance on all power distribution systems for all common areas that will result in a property-wide power outage. The project does not include any work inside any unit.

While the actual outage durations may vary residents should anticipate the power outages will shut down the entire building as scheduled, including all units for the full outage time.

Residents who have electrical power requirements for medical devices must make prior arrangements.

- Please inform your contractors, movers, or other guests that are affected by the power outage.
- Traffic signals at the intersection of Spring Hill and Greensboro Drive may also be affected by the power outages.
- No moves or deliveries will be scheduled for buildings during their power outages. Only one elevator will remain operational in each building during the outage period.
- Community Center facilities will be closed during the Building One outage. The management office will remain open. Once power is restored, the indoor pool will open as soon as the water quality is within acceptable levels per our pool management contractor.
- Please do not coordinate electrical service repairs in your unit on your power outage date.

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<th>Property-Wide Power Outage Schedule</th>
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PEDESTRIAN SAFETY
WATCH FOR OTHERS WHILE DRIVING OR WALKING

When we are walking around at the Rotonda in lovely weather, enjoying the beautiful landscape and feeling the warmth of the sun, it is easy to not be as aware as we should be of the cars driving around in our parking areas. Here are some tips for pedestrian safety:

• Use the sidewalks than run in front of the buildings to the maximum extent possible.

• Keep children close and under control.

• Dogs should always be on a leash and preferably close to you. Sometimes drivers may see you but not a dog that is on an extended leash.

• Look both ways before walking out into the lanes between where cars are parked and watch out for cars backing up.

• Avoid distractions such as looking at your phone.

Drivers please observe the 15 miles per hour speed limit and the stop signs and be on the watch for pedestrians.

DRIVE CAUTIOUSLY
NOW THAT SCHOOL IS BACK IN SESSION

Children throughout the community are back in school. Please keep this in mind and take extreme caution while driving around the property, especially during the early morning hours. You may come across kids of all ages dashing in between cars in the dark trying to reach the school buses.

Pick-up points are inside and outside both gates, and also just outside both gates. High school and middle school students must wait for the buses outside of the Greensboro and International Gates. Elementary and preschool buses pick up inside the property near Building 6 and behind International Gate adjacent to the fountain.

Access and Patrol guards sometimes notice that residents running late will try going around school buses while children are loading or unloading the buses. Keep in mind all the same laws apply to buses on Rotonda property, as must be adhered to on the city streets. To avoid getting stuck behind the buses, plan to leave the property before 8 am.

Residents who try to pass a loading bus are in direct violation of Virginia Code 46.2-859 – Passing A Stopped School Bus in Virginia Is Reckless Driving. Virginia Reckless Driving 46.2-859 is class 1 misdemeanor in Virginia. The maximum penalty for a conviction of VA Reckless Driving 46.2-859 is 12 months in jail, $2,500 fine, six months loss of license in Virginia, and six points on your Virginia driving record.

Rotonda staff will write down the license plates of all residents who violate this Virginia law, and turn the information over to the Fairfax County Police for further enforcement.

Likewise, children trying to catch their bus should also be mindful that they are walking in a roadway where cars must drive. Parents, please encourage your children to watch for vehicles and keep as far off the roadways as possible when walking to and from the bus.

If everyone works together, we can keep our children safe this school year.
TO CELEBRATE A WONDERFUL SUMMER SEASON AT THE OUTDOOR POOL

RECORD NUMBERS ATTEND ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Labor Day is a much-anticipated holiday on its own. But at the Rotonda, Labor Day also means the Board-sponsored ice cream social!

The Rotonda’s Annual Ice Cream Social on Labor Day, Monday, September 2, once again celebrated another great summer at the outdoor pool. And just like every other year, the ice cream was delicious and refreshing on a hot summer day.

Cherry Garcia, Chocolate Fudge Brownie, Chunky Monkey, Strawberry Cheesecake and Vanilla were available for residents to feast on. And then there were the toppings of chocolate syrup, caramel syrup, strawberries, rainbow sprinkles, M&M’s, Oreos, cherries, walnuts, and whipped cream. If you attended, you surely found something to satisfy your sweet tooth.

Ben & Jerry’s Ice Cream was hired to be on site for the 10th year in a row, doling out bowls of delicious ice cream. Hundreds of residents attended this year’s event. And when all the containers were empty, almost five hundred servings of ice cream had been consumed.

Have you ever wondered how the Ice Cream Social got started? At a Board meeting 11 years ago, the Directors were discussing Rotonda activities. In doing so, they realized there wasn’t a purely social activity that would appeal to everyone. After discussing a few ideas, one director came up with the idea of an old-fashioned get together for family and friends. And, the Ice Cream Social was born. Each year since, the Board has voted to continue the event for residents’ enjoyment.

The best part of the afternoon was that people from all age groups took time from their busy schedules to socialize with friends and neighbors, while eating deliciously cool ice cream. Many noted it was a great time. Thank you for celebrating with us!

SHRED DAY - OCTOBER 12TH

GATHER YOUR OBSOLETE DOCUMENTS FOR SAFE DISPOSAL

The Fall Shred Day is Coming! By popular demand the Rotonda offers a second shred day in fall for residents to gather their sensitive documents for shredding by a professional contractor. Regain space within your units and remove obsolete documents from your life by having them safely shredded away.

Bring your documents ready to be shred down to the B-2 level of your building at the time listed on the chart on the right and load the documents into the trash can provided. Then watch as the documents are shredded away.

If you miss the fall shred day, don’t despair! After tax season ends in April 2020 another date will be schedule for the Spring shred day.
DISPOSE OF GREASE PROPERLY TO KEEP PIPES CLEAR

Grease is a natural byproduct of some cooking. But do you know what to do with the grease that’s left over after the meal is complete? Many people put it down the drain. This is the absolute worst thing you could do. Why? The number one cause of sewage backups at the Rotonda is… grease! And when the drains and sewer lines get clogged with grease, everyone pays the price. With a few simple tips, we can help our system work better and with fewer issues.

The easiest way to solve our grease problem, and to help prevent overflows, is to keep certain materials out of the sewer system. Doing so will also help you as a resident. Owners are responsible for all drain lines that serve only their unit. This means all plumbing from the sink to the main line connection, even if the line is not visible and is behind your wall, is your responsibility.

Let’s start with this important tip -- never pour grease down the drain! Why? If you pour cooking grease down your drain, as the grease cools, it will coat the interior surface of the pipe and begin to build up. Over time, this build-up will eventually block the passage of water.

Additionally, pouring grease down drains causes odors and costly maintenance repairs. Starchy foods, such as potato peels, turn into a pasty substance and can quickly line walls of pipes. Fried foods don’t just clog our arteries, they clog our sewer lines too! Grease, a byproduct found in food varieties, is found in meat fats (beef, chicken, pork), food scraps, baked goods, cooking oil, cooking sauces, vegetable lard or shortening, butter/margarine, and dairy products.

You can help in this way:

• Never pour grease down any drain.
• Scrape grease and food scraps into a can or old plastic bag, then dispose in the trash.
• Use sink strainers to catch food scraps.
• Wipe excessive grease from cookware.
• Commercial additives in detergents only dissolve grease in part.
• Inform the entire family about the grease problem, so everyone is aware and helps.
• Use a plunger to clear any clogs.

Dispose of grease in three easy steps:

1. Prepare an empty coffee can or similar container with cover. You can also use cans from canned vegetables and soups, or even milk containers.
2. Let the grease cool. When it gels, pour into the can/container.
3. Place closed can/container inside your regular trash receptacle and dispose of with other trash.

Safety Note: Use caution when pouring hot grease into a collection container or wait for it to cool slightly. Hot grease burns.

Help Keep Our Pipes Clean

Items you should NOT put down the drain:

• Grease Products
• Egg Shells
• Celery
• Rice
• Potato Peels
• Shrimp Peels
• Coffee Grounds
• Corn Husks/Cobs
• Chemicals of Any Kind
• Paints or Drywall Compounds

This is Why... Rice and other products swell and block drains, leading to water back-ups that affect everyone.
Rotonda Trick-or-Treating

Set for Thursday, October 31 from 6-8:30 PM

Trick or Treat! It may seem like the summer has just ended, but before you know it, little princesses, cartoon characters, super heroes, and of course a multitude of simply the nicest ghosts and goblins will be knocking on your door with the familiar refrain… Trick or Treat! Children dressed up for Halloween will be roaming the Rotonda property Thursday, October 31.

If you would like to entertain these costumed resident children with treats, please make sure to stop by the Front Desk in the Community Center beginning Monday, October 14, to pick up an orange-colored ribbon. Tying this ribbon on your front door knob from 6-8:30 PM on Halloween signifies you are participating in Trick-or-Treating, and children can feel free to knock on your door. If there is no ribbon, children should leave your door undisturbed.

When you pick up your ribbon, you will also be asked to put your name and building/unit number on a list which will be handed out to children wishing to trick-or-treat as an added help for them in distinguishing which units are participating. Children wishing to trick-or-treat should pick up this list during the day on October 31.

When purchasing treats to distribute, please choose only wrapped and sealed candy or snacks to hand out to spooky visitors to ensure their safety.

Drivers on property will also want to be on the lookout that evening as children will make their way from building-to-building. We also ask children who are participating to be alert for cars driving on property. This way, everyone on property can have a very Happy Halloween.

Open Balcony Users
BE COURTEOUS TO YOUR NEIGHBORS

As the weather changes and the air cools, 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, discolor the balcony slab facing, and stain windows on units below.

Thank you for your assistance.

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Stop by the Front Desk to pick up an orange ribbon for your unit door if you will be handing out candy to trick-or-treaters.
The old saying is true: “Leaves of three, let them be!” While there are other plants which have leaf clusters in threes, both poison ivy and poison oak share this trait, making it best to avoid plants with this feature altogether.

What you’ll most likely encounter with poison ivy is a stem with a larger leaf at the end, and two smaller leaves growing off the sides. The leaves can be notched or smooth on the edges, and they have pointed tips. The plant is reddish in the spring, green in summer, and yellow/orange in the fall.

At the Rotonda we try to remove the plants as often as possible, but this is one resilient plant and complete removal is impossible.

The American Academy of Dermatology recommends the following treatment plan if you do encounter the plant oil (urushiol oil) that can alleviate the rashes:

• Immediately rinse your skin with lukewarm, soapy water. Urushiol is an oil, so if not washed off, it can continue to spread.

Note: there are special washes out there that claim to remove urushiol more effectively and to lessen the severity of a rash once a reaction has set in; Zanfel is a popular one, but Mean Green Scrub uses the same ingredients composition and costs less per ounce.

• Wash your clothing and anything else the oil may have touched, including tools, pets, car seats, etc.

• Do not scratch; doing so can open the skin and possibly cause an infection.

• Leave blisters alone; do not peel overlying skin, as it protects the wound underneath from infection.

• Apply calamine lotion or hydrocortisone cream/lotion.

• Apply a cool washcloth to skin to ease burning and itching.

In the winter, dormant poison ivy and oak plants may lose all their leaves and berries, and it can be difficult to tell if the plants are still alive. Even with dead poison ivy, all parts of the plants, including the roots and stems, contain rash-causing urushiol. A tiny amount of urushiol can turn into a full-blown reaction to those who are sensitive to the plants, and it will remain intact and does not evaporate after the plants die. If you think that you have encounter poison ivy on the premises of the Rotonda, please advise the front desk of the location.
PROPERTY-WIDE POWER OUTAGE CONT’D

- There will be limited hot water. Expect lower water pressure, which will be most noticeable on the upper floors.

- The Schedule is subject to change by Dominion Energy, if that happens a new schedule will be posted within the Buildings in key locations.

- Building 4 units from Tiers -1 thru Tier 12 may also be affected when Building 3 loses power, and should prepare for an outage accordingly.

WELCOME TO THE ROTONDA - OCTOBER 26TH
AN EVENT FOR NEW RESIDENTS TO MEET AND MAKE NEW FRIENDS

The Rotonda Welcoming and Social Committee is hosting a get-together for all new Rotonda residents in the Community Center. On Saturday, October 26 at 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM new residents can meet other residents, learn about volunteering opportunities, exchange information about activities in Tysons, and meet the General Manager, Colin Horner. Bagels along with coffee, cold drinks, and desserts will be available but in amounts expected by the number of RSVP’d individuals.

If you are interested in refreshments please RSVP the number of adults and children attending by email (afields@rotonda.org) by Friday, October 18, 2019. 

LOCAL FALL EVENTS
HOSTED BY MCLEAN COMMUNITY CENTER AND SPONSORS
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McLean 5K
$35 through October 3, $40 till Race Day cut off
The McLean 5K is back this fall! Competitive runners, casual runners, walkers, strollers and well-behaved pets are welcomed and encouraged to participate in a race course through the heart of McLean!
Saturday, October 5 • Race beings at 8:00 am
McLean Center Shopping Center, 6631 Old Dominion Dr., Mclean

MPA Artfest
Free Admission
Celebrate McLean’s only juried arts festival! This event features contemporary art, Children’s Art Walk, hands-on art studio, STEAM experiences, and local food vendors. Local musicians will be performing live on stage all day.
Sunday, October 6 • 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean

McLean Pet Fest
Free Admission
Learn valuable information and get tips on pet products and services that can enhance your pet’s quality of life. Join the fun for the Howl’oween Pooch Parade! Bring your leashed pets to show off their best costumes. All dogs must remain on leash and have their license and rabies tags on display.
Sunday, October 20 • 11:00 am - 4:00 pm
McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean

The speed limit on property is 15 mph
Because of the large numbers of walker, bicyclists and other cars, driver are required to keep their speed below 15 MPH.

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The Rotonda Welcoming and Social Committee is hosting a get-together for all new Rotonda residents in the Community Center. On Saturday, October 26 at 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM new residents can meet other residents, learn about volunteering opportunities, exchange information about activities in Tysons, and meet the General Manager, Colin Horner. Bagels along with coffee, cold drinks, and desserts will be available but in amounts expected by the number of RSVP’d individuals.

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Gas, electric, water and sewer are expensive, though necessary utilities, no matter where you live. But when you live in a large condo complex such as the Rotonda, the utility costs that are paid by the Association can add up quickly.

Take water and sewer for instance. At the July 24, 2018 Board meeting during the first draft discussion of the 2019 Operating Budget, one Director said the utility costs were “out of control,” especially noting the ever-increasing sewer charges. The Board discussed what might be done to reduce the water and sewer charges, and leaking toilets quickly rose to the top of the list. That’s when a suggestion for making test tablets available to all residents surfaced.

How many toilets could be leaking on property, causing our sewer bill to continue to rise? To answer this question, the Board asked Management to explore and then implement a process for testing toilets at the Rotonda in an effort aimed at reducing leaks and thus the Association’s water bills.

Test tablets are available and free to all residents, but repairs/replacement of valves will be done and charged under the In-Unit Services (IUS) program. Or, as always, owners are free to hire a local plumber of their choosing.

A brochure has been prepared and will be handed out with the tablets. Simply come to the Front Desk to get enough tablet packets for all of the toilets in your unit. If you end up having a leak, follow the directions in the brochure and either call the Maintenance Coordinator to set up an IUS appointment, or call a local plumber of your choice.

After dropping the tablets in the tank on the back of your toilet, wait 15 minutes. If you get blue coloring coming through into the toilet bowl, you have a leak. Call the Maintenance Coordinator or a local plumber.

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PHOTOS OF HAPPENINGS AROUND PROPERTY

The retaining walls in front of Buildings One and Two were replaced.

The final fire pump was installed in Building Five.

As Fall arrives keep an eye out near the Community Center for butterflies making their seasonal migration.

New light fixtures were installed within the B-2 Garage of Building One.

The temporary gym in Building Three on the B-1 level is available to residents.

Within the Community Center, a volunteer-run library of donated books is available to residents.
10 FUN FALL FACTS

1. Americans typically refer to this time of year as “fall,” while the British use the word “autumn.”
2. Fall is caused by the Earth’s tilt, not our distance from the sun.
3. Weight gain at this time of year may not be from food. Researchers found that lack of vitamin D reduces fat breakdown and triggers fat storage.
4. Fall colors are caused by the amount of sugar in leaves. The more red in the leaf, the more sugar that leaf is storing.
5. Ancient people wore Halloween costumes to hide from ghosts.
6. Birds spend most of the fall migrating.
7. Children born in the fall are statistically better students and live longer.
9. More people go from “single” to “in a relationship” or “engaged” in fall than any other season.
10. Pumpkin spice has nothing to do with pumpkins. Pumpkin spice is the spice mix used for pumpkin pies.

JUST FOR FUN

MATCH THE PICTURES TO THEIR SHADOWS

DIRECTIONS:
Using stairs and ladders try to find the way from the point 1 to the point 2. Do not jump or climb up!

ANSWER:

Answer: 1-5, 2-7, 4-6, 8-3