

RUTHERFORD: Where Neighbors Become Friends

October 2021

It's Been Quite a Year (and a half)

Happy fall, neighbors! This past year and a half has been filled with so many ups and downs, and I know that I personally am eternally grateful for the support of this community. As we emerge cautiously and optimistically from the pandemic, I'm hoping for easier smiles, more joyful news, and happier gatherings. The Rutherford Civic Association board met recently to gather some information and plan some events to help bring us out of this hibernation—just in time for winter! That may sound a bit backwards, but we all deserve some neighborhood fun, time with friends, and CANDY, HOLIDAY LIGHTS and more. It's all here.

Treasurer's Report

The Civic Association annual dues drive is here! You should find a pre-addressed envelope with your newsletter this month. We want to make it as easy as possible for you to send in your annual suggested contribution of \$25 (or more if you choose!). Two easy ways to pay:

1. Electronic (preferred): **Zelle or Paypal** (rutherfordtreasurer@gmail.com works for both)
2. Use the envelope provided to mail or deliver your dues to RCA Treasurer Renee Faulkner at 9239 Kristin Lane, Fairfax, VA 22032

Your Civic Association dues support:

- Fun community events such as Trunk or Treat, National Night Out, and our annual Visits with Santa/Toys for Tots drive
- Mini grants that were designed to help neighbors become friends (up to \$100 available for your event that is designed to bring neighbors together)
- Median and sign maintenance on Braeburn Drive
- Community directory printing
- Braddock District Council dues
- Charitable contributions to the local schools, fire department, and pool

Questions about RCA finances or want to request a mini grant for your event? Contact Renee Faulkner at rutherfordtreasurer@gmail.com or 703-945-3499.

October Events

This fall, we will celebrate the harvest season and Halloween with both Trick or Treat AND Trunk or Treat events!

Trunk or Treat was traditionally created as an alternative to traditional trick or treating, but here in Rutherford, we love both. So we are going to do BOTH! We do what we want!

Join us at the pool parking lot on Saturday, October 30 for TRUNK OR TREAT! This is a fun, safe event for families (with or without kids). It's a great way to mingle with neighbors, express your creativity, and have some fun. Two Smooth Dudes Food Truck will be on site, so come hungry! Please see below for more information—and please send any questions you have to Erin Hildreth (erin514@gmail.com or 703-615-4331). Thank you to Capital Car Care, Let's Smile Dentistry, Debbie Dogrul & Associates, and Mundy Development for signing on as sponsors of this event!

Volunteer to help make this even a success here:

<https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/10c0e4facaa2fa2f49-rfdtrunk>

Join us for one of Rutherford's favorite family events

TRUNK OR TREAT

Saturday, October 30 | Rutherford Pool Parking Lot

3PM: Parking lot opens for vehicles

4PM-5PM: Trunk set up and prep

5PM-7PM: Games for kids of all ages and food available for purchase from **Two Smooth Dudes food truck**

6PM-8PM: Trunks, candy, prizes, and more fun!

8PM: Family friendly movie

Please note that for safety reasons, no cars will be allowed in or out of the parking lot between the hours of 4PM and 8PM.

All are welcome! You don't need to RSVP, you don't need to decorate a trunk!

Prizes will be awarded for the best trunk and the best group theme.

Interested in sponsoring games, prizes or another fun part of Trunk or Treat?
Please contact Erin Hildreth at erin514@gmail.com.

Trick or Treating will take place on Halloween, Sunday, October 31. Last year, in the midst of the pandemic, we saw so much community spirit and creativity—let’s embrace that and do it again! Build your candy delivery shoots! Set up your candy table with spooky décor! Invite some neighbors over for a firepit and some cocoa! And of course, if you will be out of town or choose not to participate for any reason at all, please keep your porch light off so others in the neighborhood know to respect your privacy.

What’s Happening at Woodson?

Take a look at some of the events taking place at Woodson High School this fall and winter. Perhaps you can plan to watch some football under the Friday Night Lights! Get some holiday gifts at the craft show! Or take in a concert from some of our young talented musicians.

Woodson Homecoming Parade:

- Friday, 10/15 - 4:30- 5:15PM
- Cheerleaders, Marching Band, Homecoming Court. They will be marching down Olley Lane from Weirich Rd. and through the Olde Creek neighborhood. Find your spot early!

Woodson Fall Fest:

- Saturday, October 30 - 12:00 - 3:00PM
- This community event is great for younger children - wear your costumes and come to the outdoor basketball courts for Halloween activities, treats, moon bounce, and more.

Woodson Concerts:

- Pyramid Concert: 10/13 - 7PM
- Tiny Tots Band Concert: 12/1 and 12/2 - 10AM (Enter through Woodson Gymnasium by the large painted rock)
- Winter Choral Concert: 12/2 - 7PM
- Winter Band Concert 12/9 - 7PM in Woodson Auditorium
- Music Showcase Concert: 12/14 - 7PM

Woodson Football Schedule:

- 10/15- Home vs Fairfax--HOMECOMING! Wear your Red, White and Blue!
- 10/20- Away at Robinson
- 10/29- Away at Lake Braddock

Woodson Craft Show

W.T. Woodson High School's 28th Craft Show is returning this year on Saturday, November 6, from 10am-4pm (9525 Main St., Fairfax VA 22031). This exceptional show features juried handmade arts and crafts with a diverse selection that include: fine art, gourmet foods and confections, fabric art and crafts, jewelry, fiber and textile crafts, knitted, crocheted, needle felted and macrame items, acrylic art flow, pottery, wreaths, pet accessories, cedar birdhouses, hand painted home decor items, bath and body products, as well as hundreds of holiday collectibles/decorations. Many of the exhibitors have returned from previous years and admission is ALWAYS FREE for shoppers. *All proceeds benefit the W.T. Woodson Crew Team. For more information go to: <https://wtwcrew.org/craft-show/> or contact: woodsoncraftshow@gmail.com.

For more information about Woodson events go to: <https://woodsonhs.fcps.edu/events> and follow on Twitter: @WTWoodsonHS

Pool Season Highlights

Summer at RFD made a comeback with 206 member families - including 45 new families! Welcome, welcome, we're so glad to have you. New to RFD? For more information about membership please contact Killian Kelly at membership.rfd@gmail.com.

Self-managing this year gave us the opportunity to stay open two extra weekends and enjoy those last rays of sunshine. Many thanks to all of the members who made this season possible - at clean-up weekends, landscaping, furniture moving, painting, party planning, meat smoking, pancake flipping, hamburger grilling and so much more! Keep an eye out for more RFD fun: fall movie nights, football viewing nights, and trunk-or-treat (mentioned above).

The RFD Water Rats swim and dive teams returned with a splash! Hosting the relay carnival and sending several swimmers/divers to Divisionals AND All Stars made the jump back into the deep end so exciting! Winter swim is in full swing, and we're conditioning for an amazing 2022 season.

The annual RASCC membership meeting will take place in November. Date, time, and agenda will be coming at the end of October. See you there!

Turkey Trot-tastic!

The 2021 Rutherford Foxes Turkey Trot is on!! Join us Thanksgiving morning for 3.1 miles of appetite building excitement.

Time and route TBD; we will post more information on the neighborhood site and Facebook page when available.



Holiday Happenings

Before you know it, the holidays will be here! We have two events planned for this winter, and hope as many households as possible can and will participate!

Light Up Rutherford

Show your holiday spirit by decorating your home for the holidays! Bring comfort and joy to your family and neighbors and make the neighborhood merry and bright! Seeing the lights last year was so heartwarming—whether driving around, taking a walk, or even just going to and from running errands. If you remember, there was a contest too! Let's do it again! More info will be shared on the Facebook page and over email through the Google Group.

Holiday Singalong

It's become a tradition in Rutherford! The holiday singalong is a fun way to get into the holiday spirit and meet up with friends for some comfort and joy. The Faulkner Family on Kristin Lane will again host this lively event in mid-December, and more details will be shared in the Google Group email listserv and the Facebook Group. Stay tuned!

Is Santa coming to Rutherford?

We hope Santa will be able to return for personal visits with the children of Rutherford. Right now we are on hold depending on the status of Covid-19. We want to be sure not only is Santa safe, but everyone in the households he visits is safe as well. The Civic Association will make a decision at the beginning of December and advise the community. If we have Santas available and willing, the dates will be December 17, 18, and 19 from 5:30 - 8PM. And don't worry, if you've been a good human this last year, and you believe in him, Santa will come on Christmas Eve with some holiday cheer!

What a Sweet Neighbor!

Looking for some holiday treats?

Hey, friends! My name is Elise Kent, and I am an RFD gal born and raised. I currently run a dessert blog and freelance food photography and recipe development business and have been lucky enough to do some local orders as I have been home from college. I'll be back in Fairfax from Clemson in December and would love to do some baking or talking of all things baking, so please feel free to email me at sweetsbyeliseblog@gmail.com, leave a comment at sweetsbyelise.com, or reach out via Instagram or Facebook (@sweetsbyeliseblog)!



For now, give this Pumpkin Spice Whoopie Pie recipe a try! These are basically two pumpkin cake cookie disks with marshmallow filling sandwiched in between. They can be made with two bowls, a whisk, and 35 minutes of your time, meaning this is the easiest and most flavorful fall recipe which serves 16. Happy Baking!

INGREDIENTS

For the Pumpkin Whoopie Pies

- 2 3/4 cups (385g) all purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon (4g) baking powder
- 1 teaspoon (5g) baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon (4g) salt
- 2 teaspoons (5g) cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon (2g) nutmeg
- 1/2 teaspoon (2g) ginger
- 3/4 cup (150g) vegetable oil
- 2 large eggs (100g), room temperature
- 1 teaspoon (4g) vanilla extract

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- 1 cup (240g) light brown sugar, packed
 - 2/3 cup (140g) granulated sugar
 - 1 1/2 cups (390g) canned pumpkin puree

For the Marshmallow Filling

- 1/2 cup (110g) unsalted butter, room temperature
- 3/4 cup (90g) powdered sugar
- 1 cup (130g) marshmallow fluff
- 1 tablespoon (15g) heavy whipping cream

INSTRUCTIONS

For the Pumpkin Whoopie Pies

1. Preheat your oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. This is extremely important, as the whoopie pies will stick to the pan if you do not line or spray the pan properly.
2. In a medium bowl, whisk all purpose flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, cinnamon, nutmeg, and ginger together until combined.
3. In a large bowl, whisk vegetable oil, room temperature eggs, vanilla extract, packed light brown sugar, granulated sugar, and pumpkin puree together until smooth.
4. Carefully, add the dry ingredients to the wet, using a whisk to mix the batter together. Only mix until you see all of the dry ingredients disappear into the batter. Stir just a few more times until smooth, as mixing past this point will dry out your whoopie pie disks.
5. Let the batter sit for 5 minutes, as this step is critical in slightly thickening the batter. This helps the whoopie pies rise rather than spreading as they bake.
6. Use a tablespoon to measure the batter into 1-1/2 tablespoon size dollops. Place the circles of batter at least 2 inches apart, as they will spread and rise.
7. Bake the whoopie pies for 7-11 minutes. The tops should spring back when slightly poked in the center, and a toothpick inserted into the center of one will come out with just a few moist crumbs. The tops should look shiny in color and should not look wet in the center.
8. Let the whoopie pies cool on the pan, but run a spatula or knife under each whoopie pie after about 5 minutes of cooling to ensure they do not stick to the pan or paper.

For the Marshmallow Filling + Assembly

1. In a large bowl with a hand mixer or in the bowl of your stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment, beat butter on medium speed until smooth.

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2. Slowly, add the powdered sugar to the butter while mixing on low speed. Use a spatula to scrape down the sides of the bowl as needed.
 3. Add marshmallow fluff to the mixture on medium speed and beat until smooth. Pour the heavy whipping cream into the frosting and beat on medium high speed for one minute until smooth and velvety.
 4. If desired, transfer the filling to a piping bag with a round tip or large Ziploc bag with the corner of the bag cut off. This will make the filling of the whoopie pie sandwiches easier, but you are more than welcome to use a spoon or knife.
 5. Top half of the disks with marshmallow filling on the flat side. Then, top each with another pumpkin cake disk with the flat side down.
 6. Individually wrap each whoopie pie in cling wrap to ensure they do not stick to one another when storing. Store the whoopie pies at room temperature or in the fridge for up to 4 days. Whoopie pies can be frozen, individually wrapped, for up to 3 months after assembly.
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New Neighbor Welcome Kits and How to Update Your Contact Information for the Directory

The Rutherford Civic Association has put together a “welcome kit” for new neighbors, as a way of saying hello and making them feel like a part of our community as soon as they move in. If you have a new neighbor on your block, please let your Area Vice President or Block Captain know, or email Anne Prior at annesprior@cox.net so we can make sure they receive a Welcome Kit and are included in the community directory. To make changes to the directory or to clarify information for your own household, you can also contact Anne at the above address.

Google Group Offers Easy Connections with Neighbors

In December 2020, we said “goodbye” to our long-standing Yahoo! Groups email listserv and “hello” to a new Google Groups email community. This is a free and easy way to get the latest neighborhood news, updates, and happenings. As a member, post questions or comments and use the forum to discuss our neighborhood and community.

To become a member of the community, please email Erin Hildreth with your request and home address in Rutherford.

Welcome Median Strip Manager Noelle Locke!

We would like to recognize and thank Noelle Locke (Argonne Dr) for volunteering to be our new median strip manager! Over the years, we have had many helpers donate their time, effort, and resources to keep our neighborhood looking clean and fresh. Anyone looking for a volunteer opportunity can surely find one here! We appreciate everyone who is so generous with their talents and hobbies. Thank you, Noelle! We can't wait to see our median strip come back to life to welcome neighbors and friends into Rutherford!

More Resources

Rutherford Facebook Page: www.facebook.com; search “Rutherford Community Fairfax VA” to find our Facebook page. This is a closed group with only community members included. Please note: You may be asked to prove that you are a resident or homeowner in the Rutherford neighborhood in order to join.

Nextdoor.com: www.nextdoor.com; click on “Join Nextdoor” to get started.

Instagram.com: Follow us on Instagram to see some of the beauty that our neighborhood brings. You can also tag us @RutherfordNeighborhood.

Rutherford Civic Association Contacts

President: Erin Hildreth | erin514@gmail.com | 703-615-4331

Vice President: Killian Kelly | killiankelly2025@gmail.com |

Secretary: Sandra Honeysett | slhoneysett@verizon.net

Treasurer: Renee Faulkner | rutherfordtreasurer@gmail.com | (703) 945-3499

Directory: Anne Prior | annesprior@cox.net | (703) 764-0466

Rutherford Website: Evan Flint | evanflint@gmail.com

Rutherford Pool Membership: Killian Kelly | membership@rutherfordpool.org

Special THANK YOU to Our Trunk or Treat Community Sponsors



If you or your business are interested in sponsoring any Rutherford Civic Association event or the next edition of our newsletter, please contact Erin Hildreth at erin514@gmail.com or 703-615-4331.