



The Lyon Village

Bulletin

December 2003

Lyon Village Citizen's Association
Arlington, VA
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How to Prevent Blowups over Homework

The Lyon Village Women's Club sponsored an excellent program on Nov. 17 at the Lyon Village community center for parents looking for ideas to help children manage their homework responsibilities. Todd Sain of the Huntington Learning Center and a veteran homework expert gave an hour-long presentation on the common pitfalls that cause parent-child blowups over homework. Some highlights:

- * Homework is not supposed to be about learning new material—it should be a reinforcement of what the child learns in school.
- * If the child continues to spend many more hours than he or she should, contact the teacher to find out whether the child is falling behind in skill areas.
- * Establish one area of the house where homework is done on a consistent basis and minimize distractions. Keep supplies handy. Set a schedule and keep to it.
- * Eliminate distractions—if possible, turn the TV off from Sunday through Thursday.
- * Too much parental involvement, such as correcting answers so that homework goes back to the teacher done perfectly, can hinder a child's growth.
- * Children who do homework on a regular basis in elementary school tend to do better academically than those who do not.

For more information on the program for those who could not attend, contact Meg Mackenzie at 703-482-4484.

LV Directory Deadline 12/31

Do you want to be in the new Lyon Village directory? **No one will be listed without consent.** For renters and owners alike, this is a good way to know who your neighbors are and let them know who you are

To be listed drop a note to Ditty Boaz, 3113 Key Blvd. or dittyboaz@aol.com

Come to the Lyon Village Holiday Party, December 21, 4-6 pm, at the Community House

Please join us at the Lyon Village Community House for our annual holiday party, Sunday afternoon, Dec. 21, 4-6 pm.

Fun for all ages, from kids on up. Plenty of good food, and live music. And Santa will appear.

Volunteers are still needed. Call Mileva Hartman (703) 841-9287 (mhartman@nsf.gov) to help with activities from cookie decorating to dreidel spinning, serving, set-up and clean-up. Cookie and snack contributions are welcome. Mileva could still use help with Hanukkah activities

Other Neighborhood Developments

New Stores in Clarendon. Several new stores have recently opened or are about to open in Market Common II in Clarendon. The Cheesecake Factory and Orvis are already open. Just opened or opening soon are the Framing Guild, Palm Beach Tan, ComfortOne Shoes, Nextel, Baja Fresh, Riggs Bank ATM, Domicile (furniture), Papery, Best Cellars (wine), All About Jane (lingerie), My Eye Doctor, and Bowie and Peare.

Also, Granite Source, a local privately owned natural stone fabricator/installer, has opened a new showroom at 2701 Wilson Blvd., opposite Fresh Fields. They will give free estimates on tile and countertop work.

Snow and the snowplow drivers. Please help the snowplow drivers when it snows by using your driveways or other off-street parking if you can. If you have no choice but to park in the street, try to avoid parking opposite another car. That really slows the plow operators, and also puts your car at risk of being hit by another car sliding on snow or ice. Otherwise, stay warm and safe!

Clarendon Developments

Baptist Church. We understand that the church is moving forward with plans to tear down the church (but not the Sunday School building with the daycare center), in order to build an apartment building. At this writing, our executive committee was tentatively scheduled to meet with their representatives on December 15. They have not yet told us how they plan to address zoning, land use, and sector plan issues relating to height and density. Earlier they had indicated a desire to build a 9-story apartment building with bonus heights and density for "affordable" housing units.

The Hartford office building at the corner of Highland and Wilson still has no office tenant. We understand that the developer was the runner up in an effort to secure AES as a major tenant. AES decided to lease space in the "point" building under construction in Ballston next to the Hecht Co. store. We understand that a furniture store has signed a lease for ground floor space in the building, and that a restaurant is also looking at space.

BF Saul plans for the Hard Times and Clarendon Center blocks. No change from the last report, other than that the plan is still moving through the site plan process.

Fireside Chat...

With the coming of winter's chill, a blaze in the fireplace is quite appealing. Yet many of us don't credit the potential danger in this inviting warmth.

Did you know that fire, not road rage, is the greatest accidental killer in the US? Over 4000 people die a year due to fire, and another 22,000 are seriously injured. Yet many of us don't have ready the simplest fire safety plans to protect our families and property.

This month's column encourages you to be prepared for fire:

- * Install smoke alarms.
- * Change alarm batteries annually.
- * Clean out storage areas.
- * Check electrical wiring including extension cords.
- * Clean furnaces and chimneys annually.
- * Use a secure fire screen and don't leave a roaring fire to put itself to bed.
- * Avoid space heaters.
- * Keep matches away from children.
- * Don't smoke.
- * Sleep with your door closed.
- * Know the location of gas valves and circuit breakers and how to turn them off.
- * Teach children how to call 911.
- * Install ABC fire extinguishers for wood, grease, and electrical fires.
- * Check fire extinguishers annually and take them to the fire department for recharging.
- * Make 2 evacuation plans for your house and rehearse them.
- * Set up a place away from your house where the family will meet.
- * Set up local and long-distance phone numbers with friends or family members as a central location for family emergency updates.
- * Ask your local fire department to inspect your house for fire safety and prevention.
- * Make an inventory of your household goods for insurance claims.

Then sit back and enjoy the comfort of burning logs or their gas equivalent.

Lyon Village Dues

Dues envelopes should be with your December *Bulletin*. If you have not paid your 2003-04 dues, please enclose a check for \$10 for a family, \$8 for an individual, payable to LVCA. Send to —

LVCA Treasurer Carl Mattick
1428 N. Fillmore St.
Arlington, VA. 22201

Clarendon Sector Plan Developments

As we have reported earlier, a special task force (that we are a member of) is reviewing the Clarendon Sector Plan.

Recently the group has focused on traffic and streets. Our executive committee has been following developments closely and is advocating that the entrances to each of the Lyon Village streets that enter Clarendon be no more than two travel lanes wide, with nubs, both to choke the entrances and enhance pedestrian safety (this has already been done on several of the entrance streets, such as Fillmore and Edgewood at Wilson).

We are also advocating that the County consider narrowing Highland to two travel lanes in front of Hard Times. This would make Highland the same as all other cross streets in the commercial area, and give it the same number of travel lanes as Wilson and Clarendon Blvds. It would also reduce the number of travel lanes that pedestrians would have to cross to get to the Metro entrance.

We are also looking at ways to enhance the new 12th St. (between the Hartford office and condo buildings, and continue it to Washington Blvd. in place of 13th St., to facilitate traffic movement in the commercial area and keep traffic away from the neighborhood edge. We are exploring some ideas with the new owners in the Bromptons, who share many of our concerns and have their own concerns with Washington Blvd.

We have expressed concern about suggestions to narrow travel lanes on Wilson and Clarendon Blvds. and on the commercial area cross streets to 10 feet from the current 11 or more feet. We think 11 feet should be the minimum to accommodate trucks and buses, to avoid gridlock and traffic diversion into Lyon Village.

Flower Arranging Class

LV Women's Club's flower arranging class is Tues. Dec. 9 at 7pm in the Community House for members and prospective members. Donna Granahan of "Granny's Garden" will teach. Each participant will come home with an original table arrangement (cost about \$17). To attend RSVP by 12/3/03. call Claire Brown 703-465-8393 or [e-mail LWVC@comcast.net](mailto:LWVC@comcast.net)

Free: 2 tall, narrow, forest-green **bookcases** (approximately 6' x1'x1'), and a student **desk/bookcase** corner unit (light-colored wood). Call Fran Gedney 703 527-4584.

Village Market

Table and 4 chairs: 70" oval maple, 2 expansion leaves. Chairs recently recovered. \$300. Call Doug 703-528-4770.

Free Feathered Friends: Your chance to talk to the animals! Good home wanted for two cockatiels. \$25/pair 703-524-2882.

Stroller Peg Perego Pliko with canopy. Carries both an infant and toddler. Excellent condition. \$75. 703-524-2882.

Nanny Needed: LV family with future infant looking for family with infant/toddler to share live-out nanny services starting May/June 2004. Call Lori (703) 405-2620

Housekeeper ISO: Wonderful, English-speaking housekeeper/nanny is in search of extra cleaning jobs on a regularly scheduled basis. Call Flor 703-241-2168.

Petfeeding/ Walking: Experienced, responsible students available to feed or exercise your pets over the holidays. Call Lydia or Abby. 703-528-3731.

Do you have a service to offer? Snow shoveling, pet sitting or walking, baby sitting, errand running? Send your name, phone number, and service to the Bulletin email address below. We will run a list in the January Bulletin.