



The Lyon Village Bulletin

www.lyonvillage.org

May 2005

*Lyon Village Citizen's Association
Arlington, VA
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Arlington Hospital Seeks Volunteers

Please call Del Funk (703-527-7277) if you have 4 hours a week to serve the Auxiliary. It's a great way to contribute to your community.

Come to the COMMUNITY YARD SALE

Help support our neighbors in the fight to stop illegal zoning changes in our neighborhood. Come to the **Community Yard Sale at on Saturday, May 14** at the Lyon Village Community House from 9am to 2pm. If you'd like to donate items, Bring your wares (no clothes please) to the Community House on Saturday, May 14th at 8:30 AM. For info or to arrange pick-up call 703-522-3952.

The Yard Sale will help to raise funds for the legal battle to prevent the County from violating their own zoning regulations and allowing the construction of a 10-story tower at the site of the First Baptist Church of Clarendon, across from the Clarendon Metro station.

This tower is to include a percentage of affordable housing, a proposal fully supported by the LVCA. Lyon Village supports affordable housing and neighbors urged the First Baptist Church of Clarendon to build 100% affordable housing. This would have provided more affordable housing, with less cost to the County, and been within the zoning law. This proposal was rejected as it would not provide the FBCC with a new two-story church along with three stories of luxury apartments to generate income for the Church.

Lyon Village neighbors continue to fight the County to prevent construction of a 10-story building where zoning is limited to 5 stories. This project will create a precedent that will affect the edges of Lyon Village and other neighborhoods in the Metro corridor. For more information or to contribute to this cause, please contact Mary Renkey at mrenkey@verizon.net. The LVCA is not involved in this lawsuit, but by community vote supports the view of the neighbors' involved in opposing the construction of any building larger than the zoning allows on the FBCC site.

Items for the LVCA Bulletin

For the June Bulletin only, please send items to lvec2005@msn.com. Thank you!

Meet your neighbors and be informed about your community, Attend the LVCA General Meetings!

General Meeting Monday May 9th at 8pm At the Community House

We have an extensive slate for this month's General Meeting. We have several exciting topics to be covered:

Selection of LVEC Officers for '05-'06

At last month's Executive Committee Meeting we selected the nominating committee for the LV Executive Committee Elections to be held at our General Meeting on May 9.

Lyon Village Real Estate and the State of the Market

We will have two local Real Estate agents to discuss the local market with us at May's General Meeting. Ingrid Wooten and Don Guthrie will briefly present the continued hot Real Estate in our area. They will also be on-hand to answer questions on how the proposed Lot Coverage Zoning changes could effect the value of your home.

Lot Coverage Part II

The County Board is scheduled to vote on a significant change to the Zoning Ordinance that will reduce the allowable footprint size for homes and the allowable overall lot coverage in our neighborhoods. At last month's General Meeting we had an extremely informative presentation led by Martha Moore with Bill Gearhart and Jackie Snelling. At this month's General Meeting we will have Part II of this presentation focusing on the direct effects to Lyon Village. Come and find out more; and learn if your lot is "Undersized" or "Oversized." Many within LV are one or the other, and it is important to learn what that means for your property. See related article below.

Executive Committee Meeting Monday May 2nd at 8pm

At this month's EC meeting we will have a presentation by Barnes Lawson on the Condominium project under construction across Lee Hwy from our LV Community Center. We will also have a presentation by Faison on the proposed project at Washington Blvd and Irving St that may include a Harris Teeter Supermarket. All LVCA'ers are invited to attend and hear these presentations. Also at this meeting Nominees for the '05-'06 LVEC will be announced.

Neighborhood News

Please let us know your thoughts on the issues at lvec2005@msn.com

Your Home and Lot Coverage in Arlington County

At our General Meeting in April, we focused on the proposed new rules for Lot Coverage in Arlington. These rules would reduce the size of new homes and additions to homes in Lyon Village and throughout the county. This highly attended meeting covered a tremendous amount of important information on how the proposed Arlington County zoning changes might effect single-family housing in our neighborhoods. At our upcoming May General Meeting, we will focus on an analysis of how the proposals directly impact Lyon Village. Those attending will be asked to complete a survey expressing your views.

There is a consensus in our neighborhoods that overly large homes can have a negative affect on the community's appearance, and that this issue needs to be addressed. There are a number of means to limit this perceived overbuilding. It is important to note that the current proposal being advertised by the County in no way will effect the height of these homes. That issue is to be addressed by the County at a future time. The current proposal is limited to the amount of your lot you may actually build upon.

You are encouraged to download Lyon Village information from the County's website: 1) Excel spreadsheet of properties; 2) Map showing undersized, standard, and oversized lots; 3) Map showing properties that would become nonconforming due to the size of their home footprint; 4) Map showing properties that would become nonconforming for their overall coverage. The link for this information:

www.arlingtonva.us/Departments/CPHD/forums/lotcoverage/CPHDForumsLotcoverageLotCoverageMain.aspx Look to the section titled, "Civic Association Lot Coverage Information." Downloads of the presentations and handouts from the April 23 Civic Federation Public Forum on Lot Coverage can be found at: <http://homepage.mac.com/mooretraining/FileSharing1.html> This issue effects you and your home. Do not let these proposed changes be enacted without understanding how you will be effected.

Gardening Delights

WINDY HILL PLANT FARM--- This article is from a LV garden enthusiast. It comes from the Landscape Design Group March Newsletter. "Despite the credit given to Karen Rexrode and her Windy Hill Plant Farm with the Golden Trowel Award by *Garden Design* magazine, and despite its quality rating of 100% in the Washington *CheckBook* magazine, this wonderful resource for unusual perennials, annuals, herbs, and even some rare trees and shrubs is in danger of closing if business is not good this year. If Karen doesn't have what you need, she may be able to order it. This is an exceptional nursery which deserves saving for its merits, but its loss would also serve as a warning that all small, independent nurseries are in danger of being killed by large chains, which often sell only plants that are guaranteed money-makers. We have to pay a little more to preserve the opportunity to create truly interesting gardens." Visit 40413 John Mosbey Highway, Aldie, VA.

FREE Potomac Harmony Concerts

Come Wednesday June 15 at 8:00PM for a "Concert Under The Stars" at Lubber Run Amphitheater, featuring Potomac Harmony Chorus with a guest performance by Greater Harrisburg Chorus.

Additions to the LVCA Directory

Joseph & Jean Delahaney; 1308 N. Hartford Street; 703-528-1717.

Ted Lauer & Suzanne Cragon-Lauer; 1501 N. Highland Street 703-862-3137.

John & Suzanne Basalla; 3134 18ty Street, North; 703-243-0111.

"Neighborhoods Connect People"

Is this year's theme for the 9th Annual Neighborhood Day, scheduled for Saturday May 14. Lyon Village residents have long cherished their friendly, active neighborhood life.

Check the County web site for details and join the festivities. There will be Community Hero's Awards, a Walk for Animals, Fort Myer's Twilight Tattoo Ceremony. The Neighborhood Parade takes place at 2 p.m. from Clarendon Metro to Courthouse. Come out and join this fun event!

Community News

Changes to Neighborhood Zoned Parking

Arlington County is proposing a number of changes to neighborhood zoned parking. The proposed changes would effect: Who is eligible to participate in zoned parking; What areas may be zoned; How the program is managed and enforced; Visitor passes; Hours that zoned parking is in effect. For further information, the website is www.parkarlington.com. There is a link to leave a comment at this site as well.

Backyard Habitats

Along with the Lot Coverage debate in the County, our April General Meeting included a terrific presentation on Backyard Habitats by Marc Messing and how you can create one in your garden. Please contact lvec2005@msn.com for websites that explain how to create your own Backyard Habitat. Many thanks to Marc.

Jackie Snelling Sun Gazette Trophy Winner

Frances Fina, Awards Committee Chair, honored Lyon Village's own Jackie Snelling for her community service. Jackie serves as the LV delegate to the County Civic Federation and was one of the first Arlington Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members. She is also a nominee for the LVEC for '05-'06.

The County web site also states that Arlington was named one of 50 semifinalists for the Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government Innovations in American Government Awards for creating "a cross-disciplinary approach to homeland security." Jackie Snelling was credited for helping this happen. Congratulations and thanks, Jackie.

Stewardship of LV Community House Land

Lyon Village has a piece of hillside land by the Community House that needs our attention. English ivy, which is on the invasive plant list, is strangling plants and crawling up trees. Let's be good stewards of our land and pull the ivy. Contribute an hour or whatever amount of time you can donate to this worthy project—when it suites your schedule. Contact Angela Manning at 703-527-7729, or admanning7729@comcast.net to let her know that you are willing to help.

Spring Financial Seminar Series

Learn about Financial Matters at these seminars at the Arlington Central Library auditorium at 1015 N Quincy Street. The seminars are taught by professionals their fields. Come on Tuesday May 10, from 7-9pm for *How to Evaluate Stocks*. On Saturday, May 21 from 1:00 to 3:00 take the opportunity to attend *7 Secrets to Financial Independence*. For more information or to register, call 703-228-6417. These programs are sponsored by Virginia Cooperative Extension.

Arlington Parks

In coordination with the Park and Recreation Commission and the Open Space Master Plan Task Force, Arlington County has released the Public Spaces Master Plan Draft for Public Review. The Draft Public Spaces Master Plan (PSMP) is the update to the 1994 Open Space Master Plan, an Arlington County Comprehensive Plan element. The PSMP is designed to guide decision making for Arlington County's public spaces including administration, funding, operations, maintenance and capital projects. The recommendations identified in the plan are organized around four guiding themes: expansion, optimizing use of public space, connectivity and accessibility. During the collaborative planning process undertaken by staff and residents to update the plan, the theme of "Where the Community Comes Together" emerged. Public Meetings are on Wed, May 4 from 7:30 to 9:30pm at the Central Library auditorium at 1015 N Quincy St; Thursday, May 5 from 7:30 to 9:30pm at the Aurora Hills Community Center at 735 18th Steet S, and Saturday, May 21 from 10am to 12pm at the Fairlington Community Center, Room 10, 3308 South Stafford St. For further information go to www.arlingtonva.us or call 703.228.3322 or email prcr@arlingtonva.us.

Village Market

Housekeeper Available: to clean your home on a weekly, bi-monthly or monthly basis. Spanish/English speaking. Supplies and equipment provided. Ten years working for Wendy Iversen. Call Maria 703.243.1274.

Great Nanny Available: Rebeca is an intelligent, wonderful caregiver as well as an experienced and loving mom to her own kids. Rebeca's qualifications: She's an LVCA resident with 10 years experience and outstanding references, she's bilingual (English/Spanish), a licensed driver with her own minivan, and Red Cross First Aid certified. Contact Karen or Wes kfahlgren@yahoo.com or 202.797.6198.

Bulletin items due by **June 20** to: lvec2005@msn.com
Please Note the Change in Email Address For June Only