



The Lyon Village Bulletin

www.lyonvillage.org

September 2007

*Lyon Village Citizen's Association
Arlington, VA
Mark Weinress, President
markweinress@msn.com
(703)516-0956*

Visit the improved Website at www.LyonVillage.org

Our website keeps getting better and better thanks to the efforts of our Webmaster, Greg Willis.

In other news, an updated Lyon Village Directory is being prepared for publication. Please send your email address to maw123@gmail.com to have your email included in the Directory.

Join our listserv opportunities. We have a Police Reports listserv, a School Board Notices listserv, and a Broadcast listserv which provides important neighborhood notices. Please let us know if you'd like to be included on any of these.

Finally, if you're new to our neighborhood, "Welcome!" And please send in your name, address, phone, and email for the Directory. And, if you'd like, your info can be placed in the Bulletin, so folks can pencil you into their current Directories.

Lyon Village Dues Are Due

With the start of our fiscal year, we ask that Lyon Village Citizens Association Members make their annual contribution to the neighborhood. Dues are \$7 Individual, \$10 Household. This keeps you an active voting member of the neighborhood. Please mail or deliver your 2005-2006 LVCA dues payments to: Carl Mattick, 1428 N. Fillmore St. Call 703-525-0819 or email cmattick@cmattick.com with any questions.

Fitness For the Brain

Arlington Learning in Retirement (ALRI) is "Gold's Gym" for the minds of Baby Boomers. ALRI offers folks age 50 and over the chance to share interests, learn something new, and socialize. ALRI develops non-credit courses and lecture series that keep synapses snapping. Groups attend films, gather at restaurants, hold book discussions, play bridge, and even go abroad. Offering sessions at nominal cost on some thirty subjects each fall and spring at convenient Arlington locations, such as GMU's Virginia Square campus, it's a fun way to stay mentally fit. They welcome volunteer instructors who need only know and love their subjects. For more info, phone 703-228-2144, or email ALRI@ArlingtonLRI.org, or visit www.ArlingtonLRI.org.

A Breath of Fresh AIRE

Fresh AIRE (Arlington's Initiative to Reduce Emissions) is a program created to reduce emissions that cause climate disruption. The County has committed to reducing emissions from its operations by 10% from 2000 to 2012. They plan to achieve this goal through various actions, such as setting green-building policies for public buildings, planting trees, installing solar energy projects, and more. A large part of this effort involves you. To help make a difference, view the tips for reducing your environmental impact at <http://www.arlingtonva.us/portals/topics/ClimaticTipCards.aspx>.

Art Show

On Sept 28-29 the Arlington Artists Alliance will host "The Arts at Overlee" fall show & sale featuring works in oil & water-media, ceramics, and woodturning. Overlee Clubhouse, 6030 Lee Highway, Arlington. Opening reception, Sept 28, 6:30 - 9:30pm. Show and sale, Sept 29, 12pm - 5:00pm. Free and open to the public.

General Meeting on Monday, September 10 At 8pm at the Community House

At our General Meeting this month we will be discussing important upcoming improvements to our Neighborhood. Many have probably noticed the work that has gone on in the narrowing of two blocks of North 13th Street at our neighborhood edge.

The LVCA worked with the County to put together funds to move this long-planned project forward. In the future, further blocks of 13th St will have the median removed and the roadway narrowed. The additional land gained from this narrowing is to provide a planting strip on the Lyon Village side of the street. The hope is that the changes will help to slow traffic and improve pedestrian access from Lyon Village to downtown Clarendon.

At the meeting, Tom Hutchings, Capital Projects Manager of the Department of Environmental Services, DOT, will present the proposed plans for the plantings along 13th Street. Mr. Hutchings will also discuss the long awaited plans for the 13th Street Park (also known as the "dog park") and a Tree Placement grant for the park.

In addition, Puddy Blunden will provide a summary of the completed survey results from our Lyon Village NCAC survey completed by LV residents. Please come to the meeting and bring your thoughts on these important issues.

Next Executive Committee Meeting on Tuesday October 2nd, 8pm at the Community House—All Are Welcome to Attend

Please note that LVEC meetings will take place the first Tuesday of the month this year.

Clarendon Developments

Gathered from Reliable Sources...but things could change...

Big changes around Clarendon Metro. BF Saul is currently working on the southern portion of a major project at the Clarendon Center block; bounded by Clarendon Blvd, Highland St, 11th St and Garfield St. This block will contain a residential tower and an office tower. Demolition is proceeding on the Clarendon Center Building, which faces Metro. The building containing Clarendon Grill, located in this block, will not be affected.

BF Saul will soon be moving forward on the Northern portion of this project in the Devis Building block; bounded by Wilson Blvd, Highland St, Clarendon Blvd and Garfield St. The entire Devis Building, containing the Hard Times restaurant will be preserved, as well as the facade of a former A&P that faced Wilson (now the tobacco store and shoe repair store), and a facade on the Clarendon Blvd side, adjacent to the Devis Building. An office building is going up on this site.

In a minor change near our Metro station, Commerce Bank has leased ground floor frontage at the Hartford Office Building previously occupied by Vesta furniture store.

Another CVS in Clarendon. A CVS is going into several vacant properties on Wilson Blvd, in the portion of the block between Public Shoe and the Hudson St corner. CVS has stated that they will use an architectural plan that preserves the appearance of the separate storefronts, while internally connecting all the buildings to accommodate their large new store. The CVS at Washington Blvd behind Sala Thai will remain in operation.

More Eats. Continuing down Wilson, at the corner of Hudson St, at the opposite end of the block from Liberty Tavern, another new restaurant is soon arriving. Located in the 2-storey red brick building, currently under renovation, the new eatery is associated with partners in Tallulah's and Clarendon Grill.

Yet Another Drugstore. NTB is leaving their Wilson Blvd location, across from Whole Foods, and a Walgreen's drugstore is planned for the site. The historic structure, slated for full-building preservation by the County, originally contained Kenyon-Peck Chevrolet. The dealership later relocated to the recently shuttered Bob Peck Chevrolet on Wilson Blvd in Ballston.

13th Street Park Forum on Sept 25

The second public forum on the park at 13th Street and Herndon Streets will take place on the evening of Tuesday, Sep 25, at 7pm in the Francis Scott Key Elementary School Multi-Purpose Room at 2300 Key Boulevard. This is the park often referred to as the "Dog Park," located at the edge of Lyon Village. This will be a public meeting to present and discuss the preliminary Master Plan for the park. The plan is for a mixed-use park to include an area for dogs. Learn more and see proposed plans by visiting the PRCR website at www.arlingtonva.us/prcr. For further information, please contact: Scott McPartlin, Urban Planner, Park Development Division at smcpartlin@arlingtonva.us or 703-228-0929.

Another Colony House Sale in Roslyn

Colony House Furniture sale again? Yes, but this time it's the entire location. Colony House Furniture is on the block to be sold, along with the Mar-Lee Apartments next door. The two lots that contain Colony House Furniture and the 45-unit Mar-Lee Apartments, which total 2.3 acres, are listed for sale by Transwestern. The combined parcels are valued at around \$10 million. The plan calls for the new owner to tear down both structures and build a mixed-use project. Colony House is expected to remain in business until it finds a new home. The site is zoned for retail, service and offices and its floor-area ratio is 2, which allows for medium density development on the site. The location is also considered conducive to residential high-rises in sync with the rest of the neighborhood. There is no clear-cut direction from the Arlington County sector plans describing what the county prefers for future development on the site.

A Name For North Tract Park

Since it's inception, the project to develop a new 28-acre park & recreational area has been called *North Tract*. With dirt moving on the site, it's time the community got to the heavy lifting: helping select an appropriate name for what will be Arlington's new signature destination. Provide your input before the recommendation is made to the County Board. Go to www.arlingtonva.us/Departments/ParksRecreation/forums/northtract/ParksRecreationForumsNorthtractNorthTractParkName.aspx.

Organic Lawn and Garden Care

The Happy Gardener, a Richmond-based company, is now being represented in Arlington by Colette Crabill. Their products are certified for organic lawn, garden, and plant care, and are made from sea vegetables and grains. Safe for use around children and pets, these products will not contaminate the groundwater and are now being used by institutions such as The U of Richmond and Colonial Williamsburg. Look for The Happy Gardener at the Clarendon Farmer's Market. Info: www.thehappygardener.info/colettecrabill.htm, email gardenhealthy@gmail.com or call 703-241-5827.

A New Concept Pet Store

PetMAC (the Pet Marketplace and Adoption Center) is a pet store that has only adoptable pets where you can support rescue just by buying pet food & supplies. It also offers space to relax with your critters and friends. PetMAC is a partnership with local animal rescue group; Homeward Trails (see www.homewardtrails.org).

PetMAC hosts adoption events, seminars, social events, trainings for volunteers, and donates a portion of their profits to Homeward Trails to rescue more animals. Cat & Dog adoptions take place several times per month. The third Thursday of the month is Happy Tailwaggin' Hour from 7-9pm, dogs welcome but not required.

The shop has all-natural foods, made with human-grade ingredients, home-baked treats, doggie ice cream, toys, collars/leashes, beds, bowls and gifts for people who love animals.

Visit them and bring in this LV Bulletin listing to receive a free doggie or kitty treat. PetMAC is located at 822 N. Kenmore St, off Wilson Blvd at the west edge of Clarendon. Phone 703-908-7387 or visit www.petmac.org.

Influenza Preparedness

Join a public health community forum on Pandemic Influenza Preparedness, Thursday, September 13th, from 7pm to 8:30pm, at 2100 Clarendon Blvd., 3rd Floor. A variety of panelists will address preparedness in Arlington County. The forum will be broadcast on AVN 74.

New Clarendon Shop

Looking for a cool gift? Check out the delightful Mrs. McGregor's Garden Shop at 2610 Wilson Blvd. This small shop specializes in eye catching merchandise. Welcome it to our neighborhood.

Arlington E-CARE

On Saturday Oct 6th, from 8:30am to 3pm the Dept of Environmental Services will hold an Environmental Collection and Recycling Event (E-CARE) at Thomas Jefferson Middle School, 125 S Old Glebe Rd. At the event, the County will accept household hazardous materials for disposal; computer and electronics for recycling; shoes and eyeglasses for programs in developing countries; and bicycles for collection by Bikes for the World. There is a handling fee for computer monitors (\$15) and televisions (\$20) and a donation of \$10 per bike is requested. For more info see the E-CARE section of the Arlington County Web site.

Neighborhood News

Burglaries & Robberies in Lyon Village

Over the summer, number of homes have been robbed or burgled in our neighborhood. One event took place at a home near Lyon Village park, another was a couple of blocks in from Wilson Blvd. These crimes appear to have been committed by professional thieves.

There are a number of steps you can take to protect your home. Locking doors and windows when out and at night is a must. Other protections when away include: canceling newspapers, leaving a light on inside the house (try a warm white compact fluorescent for this), keeping gates locked, closing garage doors and using window treatments on garage windows to conceal whether the car is in or out, leaving a radio playing in the house, and keeping an eye out for suspicious activity on your block.

You can set up a neighborhood watch with your neighbors and get signage through the police department. A popular option is an alarm system. Alarm systems don't eliminate theft, but they do make a home less attractive to criminals. Be sure to have signs/stickers warning of the system.

Recently in the metro area, there have been cases of burglars setting up a ladder behind the home and entering through a second storey window. Many homes with alarm systems have motion sensors only on the first floor. Be aware of all access points to your home. In an encouraging note, the Arlington Police are carefully monitoring the situation and arrests have been made. Stolen goods often show up on the Craigs List website.

It seems so long ago...

We all owe a big thanks to Janice Gallant for organizing our wonderful Lyon Village 4th of July Parade & Picnic. The event was terrific! Thanks also to: John Carten, Bill Brydges, Bill Gearhart, Joan Rohlfing, Norm and Laura Lemley (Parade); Madison Gallant (Publicity); Alisa Cowen, Kathleen Pous Haines, Darcy Gruttadaro, Doug Harpel, Don Gay (Set-up); Caroline Hall, Shane Storm, Alex and Elizabeth Seff (Decorations); Don Gay and Amelia Thompson (Food Purchasing); Alan Sobba, Alan Probasco, Bill Brydges (Grill Team); Barbara Angus, Kathleen Pous Haines, Susan Auerhan, Myris Dierlich, Paul Gallant, Bill Gearhart, Madeline Grossman, Caroline Holt, Brad and Ann James, Meg MacKenzie, Alison Miller, Jackie Pippin, Emily Renkey (Food Service); Alan Probasco, Pete Marsh, Doug and Ellen Harpel, Jane Miller, Richard Holliday, Paul Gallant, Tania Bollman (Clean-up); Warren Nelson, Mileva Hartman, Pat Newman, Pat Miller (Ticket Sales).

West Nile Alert in Lyon Park

Sadly, the season's first human case of West Nile Virus in Arlington was reported on Aug 31. The case involves a resident from Lyon Park. There have been 4 cases reported in Virginia this year. It is vitally important for people to eliminate mosquito breeding areas around their homes and protect themselves against mosquito bites. The sources that can breed mosquitoes include bird baths, children's toys, and other water-holding containers. In addition, it is important to repair damaged screens that have holes, and to keep grass and shrubs properly trimmed. Standing water on County property is routinely treated using an environmentally-friendly larvicide to eliminate mosquito larvae. For more information about West Nile Virus and mosquito control visit the County website.

Letter to the Editor

As many of you in the community already know, the Arlington County Circuit Court has dismissed our zoning case challenging the ten-story high-rise proposed by the First Baptist Church of Clarendon. After taking another look at the merits of our case and considering our options, we have determined to petition the Virginia Supreme Court to hear our appeal of the dismissal.

We appreciate all of the support we have received from the Lyon Village community and, indeed, from all of Arlington. It remains our biggest regret that the Church and County have been completely unwilling to work with us to bring the project within the five story height limit that should have applied to the property. We were enthusiastic supporters of a five-storey affordable housing building on the site and we believe that, if the Church and County had been more flexible, such a building could already have been built. We believe the main reason we do not already have such a building on the site is because the Church and County subordinated the goal of affordable housing to the Church's desire to build a much larger building in order to construct both a new religious sanctuary for free and luxury apartments to provide itself with substantial future cash flow.

As so many of you know, fighting to uphold our laws is not cheap. While the County can afford to spend hundreds of thousands of our tax dollars on outside lawyers and experts to defend conduct we believe to be illegal, arbitrary and capricious, our efforts have been funded by us and by you. We truly appreciate all the donations and pledges that people have made to help us fight for this cause. If you would like to make a contribution or make good on your pledge at this time, it would really be helpful. Thanks for your continued support!

If you would like to make a contribution, please make your check payable to *Blankingship & Keith* and deliver to Mary Renkey at 1423 N. Highland St.

Thank you,
Mary Renkey

Please send your letters to the Editor to maw123@gmail.com

Village Market

Nanny: Loving, mature, caring, reliable nanny is available for a full time position beginning in mid-Sept. Wonderful with infants & toddlers. Enjoys taking your child out to the playground and on playdates. She is legal, speaks English very well, and is extremely reliable. She does not drive. She knows Lyon Village and has worked for two families in Lyon Village for about eight years. If interested, please call 703-760-0657.

Daycare: Clarendon Neighborhood Day Care in Arlington has openings. Spanish speaking environment. No TV or video games. Planned activities for the kids. If interested, call Lisa at 703-807-0797. CPR and first aid certified.

Housecleaner: Neighborhood housecleaner looking for one more client to clean for on Mondays, starting in September. Excellent work and attention to detail. Great neighborhood references. Cleans weekly for 3 households in Lyon Village. If