



The Lyon Village Bulletin

www.lyonvillage.org

November 2007

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

Lyon Village Holiday Party!

See Neighborhood News on the next page for this exciting upcoming event!

Holiday Greens

The Washington-Lee Crew Boosters are selling poinsettias, wreaths and roping again this holiday season. This fundraiser provides a great way to decorate homes and businesses; to acknowledge a friend, employee or client; and to support a great Arlington tradition.

Nearly 100 young men and women participate in W-L's crew program, which began in 1949, and includes rowers from H.B. Woodlawn. The boys' Varsity 8 boat finished in the top five at the 2005 Stotesbury Cup Regatta in Philadelphia; both boys' and girls' teams placed second in state competition in 2006. The team attracts some of Washington-Lee's and H.B.'s strongest scholars, and it sends rowers to top college programs across the country.

W-L Crew Boosters are responsible for providing scholarships for low-income students, renting storage space and purchasing equipment. The Boosters represent rowers, their families and friends. By placing a holiday plant order, you and your business can help them continue to offer a program committed to excellence. We depend on and appreciate your support!

Please go to www.w-crew.org and click on "Fundraising" to print out a holiday plant order form and receipt. If you have any questions, please contact us.

Park Survey

Sometime over the next couple of months, the LV Bulletin will be publishing a survey to get folk's reactions to some new ideas for the Lyon Village Playground Park. One of these issues is providing permanent public restrooms.

The park is a wonderful resource for those in the community, but has also been a source of annoyance for neighbors of the park due to noise and traffic/parking issues. There are folks who are unhappy with the water feature. These issues have been previously surveyed in the community and discussions continue with the County. Questions regarding these issues should be directed to the County and will not be included on this new survey.

Among the questions for the new survey is whether there should be a public restroom facility at the park. This is an issue that has been discussed and rejected by Lyon Village in the past for a variety of safety and other reasons.

Now, due to the increased use of the park by young children, there is renewed interest in providing public restroom facilities. There is also interest in providing shade over the play area through some sort of trellis or screen.

What issues do you see in need of exploration for the park? We are looking for other park issues to include in this survey. Please send your thoughts to Nancy Gaito at gaitogang@msn.com.

Go to www.LyonVillage.org for the latest neighborhood news!

General Meeting on Monday, Nov 12 at 8pm Police and Master Transportation Plan At the Lyon Village Community House

The first part of the Monday's program will focus the new organization of the Arlington Police and how it relates to Lyon Village. One of the officers assigned to our neighborhood will be there to discuss the new organization and answer police related questions that residents have.

The second part of our program involves a presentation and possible resolution on the County's proposed new Master Transportation Plan (MTP). The street map that is part of the new plan poses some potential problems for Lyon Village as it relates to arterial streets along our borders, such as Lee Highway, Kirkwood Road, and N. Veitch Street. We have invited County staff member Rich Viola to present an overview of the plan. The County Board is considering adopting two of the three elements of the new plan, the overview and map, at its meeting on November 13.

While the plan does not appear to have any significant impact on streets within Lyon Village, the plan would, for the first time, seek to link the design of arterial streets, such as Lee Highway, Kirkwood Road, and N. Veitch Street along our Lyon Village boundary lines, to land use designations for properties along those streets as set out in the County's General Land Use Plan (GLUP). The map would use GLUP terminology to describe six types of arterial streets, and text in the MTP would state that the map designations are consistent with the GLUP.

In reviewing the latest MTP map made available by County staff, we have noticed a number of inconsistencies between the land use designations on the MTP map and the actual land use designations for adjacent properties in the GLUP. In all of the inconsistencies, the map indicates a higher land use designation than the GLUP. These inconsistencies in our view, if allowed to stand, will invite land owners and developers in the future to assert either that the map is the more recent County statement on land use policy for those sites or that it reflects changes that the County will favorably consider if a request is made, along with requests for higher zoning and more dense development. Come to the Monday's General Meeting to become fully informed on this important issue.

Next meeting of the Lyon Village Executive Committee on Tuesday, December 4 at the Community House at 8pm. All are Invited to Attend.

Get Green - Plant a Tree in Lyon Village

Some call grass lawns nature's desert. This surely may be an exaggeration, but it is true that fields of turf generally require a lot of water and chemicals, while creating waste that more often than not winds up in landfill. Leaves work far better in most compost systems than grass cuttings.

This is not to say that we should all remove our lawns, just that planting a tree in that lawn, surrounded by mulch with some ground cover, hostas a few large stones and some summer impatiens or other plantings can be a way to create a small wildlife habitat in your front or back yard. Biodiversity is important for our environment.

What sort of tree should you plant? A lot depends on your space available, soil and light. The recommendation is to plant medium to large trees that will contribute to our areas diminishing tree canopy. Here are some suggested species: Willow Oaks (not Pin Oaks which suffer leaf scorch and breakage); Native Red Maples; Red White or Black Oaks (native, but slow-growing); Black gum (native with great fall color).

For evergreen, Green Giant Arborvitae are recommended. They are a good replacement for the problematic Leyland Cypress and are native. Hybrids are likely not native.

Among the smaller trees, good native to the area choices include: Fringe trees; Carolina Snowbells; Serviceberries; River Birch (not White Birch); Koosa Dogwood (these are non-native but do well here). Right now is the season to plant a tree!

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I am writing to you as a long-time member of the Lyon Village Citizens Association. I am writing for the many older members of our community who live in the Village.

The Spaghetti Dinner held on October 13, is an example of our needs which are not being met. My husband and I have not been able to attend this function lately because of a walking handicap; the walker which he uses does not allow him to enter the front door. We were urged to purchase tickets this year and were promised by a ticket seller that someone would be at the back door to let us in and would help us find a seat for the 7pm sitting. When we arrived, none of this happened, and with difficulty we got in the front door to long lines of folks buying tickets. We finally got a seat, but had to wait in lines again for food.

Thanks to Richard Pons, a former neighbor who went back to the kitchen to fill our plates; we were finally able to eat our supper.

We seniors wish to remain a part of our much loved Lyon Village Community. We draw your attention to this matter in hopes that a creative way will be found to bring many of us back.

In special appreciation for your efforts in this regard,

Sincerely,

Dr. and Mrs. Sidney Lyons

Please send *Letters to the Editor* to maw123@gmail.com.

Fantastic Spaghetti Dinner

Lyon Village has hosted another wonderful Spaghetti Dinner at our Community House. This annual event presents a terrific opportunity to meet your neighbors and learn more about your neighborhood. You also get a great meal.

We need to thank all the special people who made this event possible. Without their contributions, there would be no Spaghetti Dinner. Many of these same folks contribute time and energy over and over again to make our Village events occur. They are heroes in our neighborhood. Please think about volunteering yourself to help out at the next event; the December Holiday Party is coming up very soon! Special thanks go to Maryann Lilly and Angela Manning and all the other volunteers for making this year's terrific Spaghetti Dinner happen!

Captiva Island Vacation

This past month at the Lyon Village Spaghetti Dinner, the generously donated silent auction items for vacationing on Captiva Island Florida raised \$2,650 for the Lyon Village Community House fund. The donors, Lyon Village residents, Agnes Davis and Pat Newman of American Realty of Captiva, now offer another fund-raising opportunity for the Community House.

Take the opportunity to rent one of the following vacation homes on lovely Captiva Island, between now and December 15 and 10% of rental proceeds will go to the Lyon Village Community House fund. In addition, mention upon reservation that you are a Lyon Village resident to receive a 10% discount off the rental rate. Go to www.captiva-island.com to check availability for these specific properties: Laika Lane, Pool House, Bay House, Bayside Tropical Cottages (#3,4,6 or 8) and Bay Breeze. Call 800-547- 0127 to reserve.

For further info contact Agnes Davis or Pat Newman at 703.276.1200.

Annual Holiday Bazaar

Washington-Lee High School's 48th annual Holiday Bazaar, a long-standing tradition to support the Senior Class, will take place on Saturday, Dec 1, from 10am to 4pm. This will be the last Holiday Bazaar in the existing W-L building, located at 1300 North Quincy Street.

Unique and handmade jewelry, fashion accessories, holiday gifts, home decorations and collectibles, as well as artwork, will be available for sale by artisans from around the local area. In addition, holiday greens and fruit will be available. A rich assortment of ethnic foods, that represent the diversity of W-L, Arlington's oldest high school, can be purchased to enjoy. W-L's highly acclaimed "Madrigals" a cappella singing group and other student musical groups will entertain.

This event is free and open to the public. Ample free parking, with convenient access into the Bazaar, is provided in the I-66 parking garage.

For more information please contact Elizabeth Cotsworth at elizabeth.cotsworth@verizon.net or 703-527-6976.

GPS Thefts from Autos

GPS units in cars are a popular item, with owners and thieves. These units are routinely being stolen from vehicles in our area. Since the beginning of the year there have been 68 reported cases in the County; and probably a lot of unreported thefts. In most cases the rear passenger windows are broken to gain entry. Most of the thefts have occurred while the victims were at work or shopping. The thefts occur during all time frames, but it appears that afternoon and early evening are the preferred times.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Neighborhood News

Lyon Village Holiday Party on Sunday, December 9th

Please join us at the Lyon Village Community House for the annual Holiday Party from 4 to 7pm. This event for family and friends welcomes Santa to the Village. This is always a fun time! Donations for Toys for Tots will be collected. If you would like to participate, please bring an unwrapped toy for donation to this terrific organization. We are looking for volunteers and ideas for publicity, setup, baking treats, serving punch or clean up. The party is Potluck (folks can bring cookies or a dish to share), please let us know how you'd like to help and/or what you would like to bring. Please contact Kim Beg at kimbeg@comcast.net or Michelle Sitrin at michelle@villado.com to volunteer.

New Second District Commander

Last month, Captain Reardon, our Second District Commander was assigned to a new position on Intelligence/Homeland Security reporting to the Chief. Captain Reardon had been Second District Commander/Operational Support Commander since 2005. Our neighborhood established a good working relationship with Captain Kevin Reardon and he will be missed. The neighborhood was never better informed or kept more up to date than during his tenure.

The two positions, Operational Support and Second District that he held, will now each be commanded by a separate captain providing us with someone who will be able to devote more time to issues in the Second District.

Lyon Village would like to welcome Captain Brian M. Berke, our new Arlington County Police Second District Commander. As Second District Commander, Captain Berke will be most responsible for issues in our neighborhood. We look forward to working with Captain Berke to keep our neighborhood safe and serene.

Metro Station Sexual Battery Assaults

Second Division Commander, Captain Berke has made us aware of a recent and ongoing crime issue. From Nov 2 to 5, at least 5 sexual batteries have occurred in our area. In each case an unknown white or Hispanic male grabbed a woman's buttocks. No one was physically injured. Several of the assaulted women verbally confronted the attacker and he fled. Please remember to be aware of personal safety. If at all possible, do not walk alone at night; stay on higher traffic, well lit routes; be aware of your surroundings; keep your cell phone at the ready in case you need to call 911; and please, call in suspicious activity and people. The suspect description in these cases varies. He has been described as a white male and a Hispanic male, stocky build, 20's - 30's, 5'7" - 5'10".

Lyon Village Leaf Bag Collection & Leaf Vacuuming Schedule

Fall leaf collection has begun. To recycle your leaves, place leaves in biodegradable bags only. Do not use plastic bags! Leaf bags will be collected on the next business day after your regular trash collection day from now through Jan 11, 2008, on Mondays - Fridays including holidays, except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. Note: Friday customers are collected on the following Monday. No collection on Jan 14. The biodegradable bags will not be collected at other times of the year. Get free leaf bags at several locations around the county while supplies last. The bags are available at eight locations around Arlington from now through Dec 28, 2007. Check Bag pickup locations at: www.arlingtonva.us/Departments/EnvironmentalServices/swd/EnvironmentalServicesSwdLeafCollection.aspx#bag.

Separately, Leaf Vacuuming in Lyon Village and Clarendon will take place on the following dates: Nov 19, 20, 21, 23, & 24. These are the only scheduled dates for leaf vacuuming in our neighborhood.

Receive free vacuum schedule updates by e-mail at www.arlingtonva.us/subscriptions/subscribe.asp. The schedule can be viewed at: www.arlingtonva.us/departments/EnvironmentalServices/swd/EnvironmentalServicesSwdLeafCollection.aspx#bag. You can also call the Leaf Collection Information Line at 703.228.6565. In addition, look for large, bright yellow Leaf Collection signs in your neighborhood 2 to 3 days before crews arrive.

Get Your Pizza, Subs, & Ice Cream

Clarendon now has a source for hand-dipped Gifford's Ice Cream at Goody's. Gifford's ice cream, a local favorite, originates in Bethesda, MD. Goody's is a recently opened, family-owned carry-out shop offering pizza, salads, subs and other treats. Ma Ma Goody, owner of the shop along with her husband, grew up in Arlington and graduated from Washington & Lee. In fact, her father once owned the deli across from W & L. This is a real family business currently staffed solely by the Goody's and their son. Visit Goody's at 3125 Wilson Blvd (near Clarendon metro in the former Little Tavern Hamburger shop) for a yummy treat!

Arch Steiner Former LVCA President

In April of this year, former long time Lyon Village resident Arch Steiner passed away in Tennessee at the age of 95. Arch grew up in Tennessee on a farm. He later moved to the Washington area and worked for the US Dept of Education for 45 years. Arch was President of the LVCA from 1966-1968. His late wife, Fay, and his sons, Bob and Rick lived on N. Herndon St. in the Village.

Village Market

Tutor Available for grades K-12. Specializing in English, Spanish, French and other subjects. Please contact Elle at (703) 861-4820.

Seeking Apartment in LV Area: Husband and wife would like to rent an apartment in a house or small apartment building in Lyon Village or Ballston, no high-rises please. Middle-aged quiet professionals. Please contact with info: nddurham@sc.rr.com.

House Cleaning Services: Looking for houses to clean every week or every other week. Excellent work and attention to detail. Reliable and trustworthy. Neighborhood reference available. Please call Lizeth (703)439- 0630.

Responsible Babysitter Wanted to take care of 17-month old boy on occasional Saturday nights while he is already asleep. If interested, please contact Christiana at ccampus1911@hotmail.com or 202-494-4527.