



The Lyon Village Bulletin

www.LyonVillage.org

March 2009

*Lyon Village Citizen's Association
Arlington VA
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Speeding Taxis

If you spot a Red Top Cab operated in an unsafe manner, write down the date, time, location, cab number and violation and call Charlie King at Red Top Cab at 703-525-0900 to report it.

Arlington Kid's Stuff Sale

The Arlington Kids Stuff Sale is scheduled for Sat March 28 from 8am to noon. The sale features used, kids clothes, toys and gear, plus maternity clothes, books, videos, kids furniture and more. The sale shares profits with local charities through cash donations to Arlington Food Assistance, AHC Inc. and Art for Humanity. Unsold goods are donated to Arts for Humanity and other causes. The consignment sale is held at St Andrew's Episcopal Church at 4000 Lorcom Lane, at Military Rd. Plenty of parking & free admission. For more info see www.kidsstuffsale.com.

Active Arlington Seniors

All seniors of 55 years of age and older are welcomed to participate in activities by registering with the Office of Senior Adult Programs. There is a \$15 annual fee which includes a bi-monthly publication, *Arlington County 55+ Guide*. Applications are available by calling 703-228-4744 or by visiting a Senior Center. Additional info at www.arlingtonva.us, click on [seniors](#).

Nearby Senior Center locations include:

Culpepper Garden, 4435 N Pershing Dr, off Geo. Mason Dr, call 703-228-4403 or cbulford@arlingtonva.us.

Langston-Brown, 2121 N Culpeper St, corner of Lee Hwy, call 703-228-5321 or emayor@arlingtonva.us.

Lee, 5722 Lee Hwy, corner N Lexington, call 703-228-0555 or kobrien@arlingtonva.us.

Rodent Problems?

The Arlington County Vector Control Section with the Environmental Health Bureau works to prevent and resolve rat infestations through community education. They do this by providing information to all residents, property owners and managers. They believe the best way to prevent rat infestations is for the community and vector control to work together as partners to eliminate food, water, and shelter that is available to rats. The website provides info regarding conditions that attract rodents as well as steps to eliminate those conditions: www.co.arlington.va.us/Departments/HumanServices/services/health/envhealth/HumanServicesRatControl.aspx.

Neighborhood Church

Clarendon Presbyterian Church located at 1305 N Jackson St in Lyon Village is looking to become more visible to other members of the community. When they were founded in the early 1920's, Arlington was sparsely settled, there were no sidewalks, the streets were often muddy and few families had cars. Electric streetcars served the Clarendon community. Presbyterians in and near Clarendon wanted their own church. There was a building recently vacated by the Methodists on Irving Street. The Presbytery of Washington City purchased this simply constructed, white, New England type building for \$5,000 and gave authorization for a church to be started. Although the congregation outgrew their building by 1940, they were unable to build a new building until materials were available again after World War II. The current stone sanctuary building was dedicated in September 1947.

Lyon Village Citizen's Association General Meeting 8pm Monday March 9th at the Community House Representatives from County Staff And Walgreens Drug Stores to Attend

Two issues with neighborhood impact will be the main feature of our March General meeting. Both of these items have direct consequences for the quality of life in Lyon Village.

The first of these is a proposal for the DHS Parking Garage. Our March meeting will feature a presentation by County Staff on a proposal to start charging for parking at the Department of Human Services Parking Garage located in the DHS Building on the corner of Wilson Blvd and Highland Street. Currently the garage is available for free parking in the evenings for people visiting the Clarendon area. County Staff will talk about why they want to start charging for the parking. We will have the opportunity to provide input to County Staff on our reaction to this proposal and the impact that it will have on Lyon Village and Clarendon. A potential issue is that more people will look to our neighborhood streets for parking rather than paying a fee at the formerly free parking garage. Use this opportunity to voice your opinion on the proposal.

A new Walgreens Drug store will soon open adjacent to Lyon Village. The new store, located at the former NTB site, makes up the second topic of our March meeting. Representatives from Walgreen's Drug Stores will be here to discuss the impact of the new store on our neighborhood and on traffic. The convenience of the new store located on Wilson Blvd backing to Lyon Village must be looked at with its potential negative impact if things such as trash collection, deliveries and illumination are not handled properly. The store opening is anticipated for late spring of this year. The new Walgreens will be housed in a structure deemed historic by Arlington County and worthy of full-building preservation. Walgreens will respect the County's designation in their design.

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The monthly Executive Committee meeting takes place on the first Monday of the month at 8pm at the Community House. This month's meeting is on March 2nd, all are welcome to attend.

County Proposed Zoning Change Includes Walgreens and Revolution Cycle Blocks Potential for Greater Density Backing to Lyon Village Other Clarendon Neighborhoods Also Impacted

There is concern in Lyon Village about a proposed zoning change for our Clarendon edge along Wilson Blvd between Fillmore and Danville Streets. County staff has proposed a new zoning category for several of these edge blocks along Wilson, and for edge blocks that adjoin Lyon Park and Ashton Heights. While the building heights would be consistent with heights under current zoning, the allowance of possible bonuses for affordable housing, building/facade preservation, and green design far exceed anything that could be built on these blocks while still adhering to the new rules staff is drafting for building height, set-back from abutting residential property, and upper floor tapering. Height, set-back, and tapering are all issues that our neighborhood has fought repeatedly in numerous sites adjacent to Lyon Village in order to prevent undue intrusions into the neighborhood.

These are among our most sensitive neighborhood edge blocks as the commercial frontages back to single-family Lyon Village homes without an alley or natural buffer. One recent purchaser of a single-family home along this edge of Lyon Village was shocked to discover that there could be potential for a much larger commercial building behind his new home than the zoning would indicate. Our edge is what protects the neighborhood and prevents higher density and commercial uses from creeping into the neighborhood. We are in the process of finalizing a joint letter with the Lyon Park and Ashton Heights civic associations that lays out our serious concerns about the proposed zoning.

A chief concern is that the rights implicit in the bonus densities will be used to trump the height and set-back limitations in the zoning provision. Developers seeking to use the extra densities would be able to make hardship or zoning inconsistency arguments that could prevail in Circuit Court; or the County Board could simply acquiesce to increased height, particularly if it likes the community benefits offered, or fears the result of litigation.

Moreover, the proposed zoning regulation appears to be an anomaly. No evidence has been found of a zoning district in the County code that is drafted so as to provide for more density than can reasonably be accommodated on the majority of sites covered by that zoning district. While the proposed zoning regulation would allow extra density to be transferred to other unnamed sites; that is unlikely to be viewed as economically feasible, and could create other problems. The LVEC will continue to work with County staff to try to address these serious concerns.

Cycling Skills & Bicycle Maintenance Classes

Arlington is offering Cycling skills and bicycle maintenance courses taught by Allen Muchnick, a nationally certified League of American Bicyclists (LAB) Cycling Instructor. Most of the classes meet on weekday evenings from 6:30-9:30pm. The courses are:

Cycling with Confidence (LAB Traffic Skills 101), the essential, comprehensive, and very practical 9-hour cycling skills course.

Bicycle Maintenance & Repair, a 3-hour lecture and demonstration.

Bicycle Mechanics Workshop, a 3-hour hands-on sequel to any course listed above. For registration contact Arlington Adult Education at 703-228-7200 or www.arlingtonadulthood.org. To view the class times, dates, and locations go to the Arlington Public Schools website:

<http://tinyurl.com/2dv57s> or contact instructor, Allen Muchnick, at allenmuchnick@yahoo.com or 703-271-0895.

School & Summer Camp

Keshet Child Development Center, a neighborhood pre-school at 758 S 23rd Street in Arlington is celebrating its 30th birthday this fall. They are now enrolling students for the 2009-10 school year. In addition, registration is now open for their Creative Arts Summer Camp. If you would like to meet the director and learn about the pre-school program, curriculum, community services and registration policies, please call Ilisa St. Pierre, Director at 703-535-5525 or email keshetcdc@yahoo.com.

Website:

www.keshetcdc.com.

Get The News First

Go to www.LyonVillage.org for the latest news and earliest viewing of the Lyon Village Bulletin.

Lyon Village Community House

The Lyon Village Community House is owned and fully supported by our neighborhood. One of the means of raising money for the Community House is through rentals. Outside groups and Lyon Villagers (at a reduced rate) can rent the Community House for events or meetings. For Community House rental information, please contact 703-528-4904.

The Community House has its own Board separate from the Lyon Village Executive Committee that oversees civic association matters. These hard-working neighbors keep the Community House available for our use. Necessary upgrades are funded solely through money raised by the Community House Board through rentals, the annual Spaghetti Dinner, other events, and donations. Recently, the Community House was redecorated and it looks great! Thank you to the Lyon Village Community House Board for all they do.

A Reason to Lock-Up, Even When at Home

Most of us regularly lock our doors when we leave our house. Some of us have alarm systems. But how many lock their doors when at home, especially during the day?

A Lyon Village neighbor on Jackson Street recently had an experience that can serve as a reminder of how easy it is to be victimized. Our neighbor was at home on the afternoon of Thursday, Feb 18th, and was expecting a local friend to drop by. He heard a knock at the door and called "come in". When he got out to the entry, he was surprised to find a woman he did not recognize. She asked in accented English if he was considering selling his home. It so happened that he was. She implied that she represented a firm interested in purchasing local homes.

She then asked for a couple of paper towels. Our neighbor went into the kitchen to get the towels. While he was in the other room, she apparently rifled through his desk, taking a couple hundred dollars in cash and his bank cards. She then left.

A short time later, our neighbor realized his loss and called the police who came promptly and took a report. Happily, there was no significant loss other than the aggravation of having to change all his account numbers with the bank. It was a lesson though, in how careful we all must be.

In the time since the incident occurred, our Jackson Street neighbor has installed a deadbolt lock and a chain on his front door. The door is kept locked at all times. When he opens the door for a stranger, he keeps the chain on. During times of economic uncertainty, crime becomes even more of an issue to watch out for.

At the Arlington Public Library

Class: Online Job Hunting, Wed Mar 11, 2 pm, Arlington Central Library CyberCenter. This class will show you how to use the Internet to help you with your job search. Keyboard and mouse skills along with knowledge of the Internet are required.

Film: "Under the Bombs" (2007), Thu Mar 19, 6:30 pm, Arlington Central Library Auditorium, Directed by Phillippe Aractingi (98 minutes, Arabic with English subtitles). Official Selection Sundance Film Festival. Under the Bombs explores the developing relationship of Toni, a Christian cab driver, and Zeina, a Shiite woman who lives in Beirut, as they search for Zeina's son. The feature was filmed in 2006 in war-torn Lebanon and used only two professional actors.

Speaker Series: Reading Food Labels, Become a Savvy Shopper, Mon Mar 23, 3 pm, Arlington Central Library Auditorium. Learn how to read labels and what information to use when purchasing and consuming food. Food safety, label dating and shelf life will also be discussed. Speaker Herbert Weinstein has 37 years of industrial experience in most technical aspects of food manufacturing, distribution, product development, quality assurance and management. Today he is a consultant, working on projects related to nutrition with less developed countries around the world. For more info, call ALRI at 703-228-2144 and press "3" or call the Library at 703-228-5996.

Author Event: "Stand the Storm" by Breena Clarke, Mon Mar 23, 7pm Arlington Central Library Auditorium. Breena Clarke's book was named one of the 100 Best Books of 2008 by the Washington Post Book World. Set in antebellum Washington, D.C., the book chronicles the lives of the enslaved Coats family and their efforts to buy their freedom. The author describes a rare and complex view of relationships between slave and master, free black and whites in a 19th century urban setting.

Village Market

Part-Time Nanny Available: My family's wonderful nanny is looking for a new part-time position. Currently, she works for our family on Tuesday and Thursday. She would like to find additional employment for Monday, Wednesday and Friday. She is loving, caring and very responsible. She has worked as a nanny in Lyon Village for over 15 years and has outstanding references. She is legal and English-speaking. If you are interested, please contact Shannon at 703-465-1308 or spmccarter@hotmail.com.

Pet Care. For pet care during the day or evening, during the week or on weekends call Ben, Abby and Katherine at 703-528-3731 or cell 202-437-8257. We can feed and walk your pets all hours of the day.

Seeking Part-Time Nanny/Babysitter for two children this summer. Looking for someone available to babysit twin 3.5-year old boys this summer in our home 3-4 days a week (some flexibility on days; no weekends) from approximately 8am-4pm. One parent works from home. No driving is required; position may be ideal for experienced high school-aged babysitter who enjoys playing with kids, walking them to the playground, and reading lots of books. If interested contact Danielle at 703-248-0925 or danarigoni@yahoo.com.

Big Sale, Many Items: Portable Briggs & Stratton Generator on wheels, 5500 rated watts, excellent condition with all documentation, current cost \$800, yours for \$400. Precor Rowing Machine w/directions for \$25. Ladders: 28' and 20' aluminum extension ladders, very good condition, 6' step ladder very good condition with paint spots, \$35 each. Weber round charcoal grill, very good condition, \$15. Large bags of charcoal \$25. Motorola 2-way radios T4500 and 5000 (1 pair each) with charger, \$20. If interested, call 703.522.9074.

Enjoy your nice clean home after work! Maria Soriano has been cleaning for Lyon Village residents since 1990. Great references and great service guaranteed. Call for a free estimate at 703-495-8045 or 703-992-4818.

Exceptional Nanny Available: Energetic, fun, creative, responsible, and loving nanny available late summer for full-time employment. Glowing references available. Please contact Gladys at 571-216-8375.

Piano Lessons at Home: My piano teacher, a retired Navy musician, is seeking more students in the local area. He uses an original approach to motivate students of all ages, increasing their competence and confidence. He also offers reasonable rates and reliable references upon request. For more info contact Tony Bautista at 703.768.6551 or e-mail aboutist@gmu.edu. For Lyon Village reference, call Sally at 703.527.1337.

Pearl Drum Set for sale for \$400.00. Excellent condition. Call 703-527-7729.

Send Your Bulletin Items to markweiness@msn.com by **March 23, 2009.**