



# The Lyon Village Bulletin

[www.LyonVillage.org](http://www.LyonVillage.org)

May 2009

Lyon Village Citizen's Association  
Arlington VA  
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## Elections in June

At our June General Meeting, the Lyon Village neighborhood will be electing our officers to the Executive Committee for the 2009-10 fiscal year which begins in September. Please plan to attend this meeting to place your vote. Nominations for LVEC officers can be sent to [maw123@gmail.com](mailto:maw123@gmail.com). Consider nominating yourself! It's a great way to serve your community.

## Sidewalk Reminder

Now that spring is here and plants, trees and bushes are growing rapidly, please note that the County requires residents to keep their sidewalks clear of brush on the sides and overhead so pedestrians can easily walk by. Overgrown branches can create a safety hazard for pedestrians as they walk through the neighborhood. Please take time to trim any overhanging branches from the sidewalk in front of your house.

## May Events at Arlington Central Library

All events are at Arlington Library main branch at 1015 North Quincy St.

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Film: *Patsy Mink: Ahead of the Majority*, Wed, May 6, 7pm. This 2008 film explores the remarkable story of Patsy Mink, an Asian American woman who redefined American politics. She began her life on a Maui sugar plantation and rose to become the first Asian American woman and woman of color in the United States Congress. She transformed America's schools as the co-author of Title IX, the landmark legislation that opened up higher education and athletics to women.

Author Event: Former Washington Post Executive Editor Leonard Downie Jr, Tues, May 12, 7pm. Former executive editor of the Washington Post, Downie discusses his novel, *The Rules of the Game*. His first work of fiction is a thriller set in Washington that explores political complexities of the nation's capital.

Tech Class: Online Job Hunting, Sat, May 16, 10am, CyberCenter at Central Library. 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.

Cross Cultural Cinema: *A World Without Thieves*, Thurs, May 21, 6:30pm. Feng Xiaogang's award-winning Chinese action-drama about a naive young apprentice who does not believe in thieves.

Film Event, Meet the producer of *Vincent Who?*, Thurs, May 28, 7pm. Following the film, a Q&A Session will be hosted with producer Curtis Chin. The film retells the events surrounding the death of Vincent Chin, a Chinese American draftsman who was beaten to death by two white autoworkers in Michigan. After a judge sentenced the two to probation and a \$3,000 fine, Chin's case became a rallying point for the Asian-American community. For more info call 703-228-6331.

See the complete Library calendar at [www.arlingtonva.us/departments/Libraries/LibrariesEvents.aspx](http://www.arlingtonva.us/departments/Libraries/LibrariesEvents.aspx).

## Lyon Village General Meeting Monday May 11<sup>th</sup> at the Lyon Village Community House at 8pm

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### Discussion on Historic Designation Part II

At last month's General Meeting, the neighborhood discussed some of the issues that enacting local Historic Designation for Lyon Village would entail, including means to encourage preservation of the overall appearance of our community. Our neighbor Bill Gearhart ably led this interesting discussion. Continuing this topic at our General Meeting this month, we have invited Michael Leventhal, the County's Historic Affairs Coordinator, to provide an overview of the County, State and Federal Historic Designation programs.

Most of Lyon Village has been designated by the state of Virginia as a Historic District, and our neighborhood is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. These designations provides no legal means for preventing the destruction or radical alteration of homes that are contributing structures to the neighborhood's historic designations. Mr. Leventhal will talk to us about the County's program for local historic designation and the range of choices available. This is an important presentation about the options that are available, including enacting means to preserve the homes and the character of streets in Lyon Village. The Association has never taken a position on historic designation.

A historic preservation overlay for portions of Lyon Village would have to be considered very carefully. Many at the April Meeting expressed grave concern at the number of teardowns that are changing the character of some of our streets. Standard home sizes are larger than they were in the period when most of Lyon Village was developed, and some feel that the newer homes are not always sympathetic to existing neighboring homes.

On the other hand, there are those in the neighborhood who would have serious concerns about too much limitation on what could be done to make maximum use of a property. There is a balance that can be reached to address property value concerns with streetscape preservation. Many communities have historic covenants that seem to work well for almost everyone; the models are out there and may require research beyond what has been pursued in Arlington County. Maywood is the only neighborhood in Arlington with historic covenants protecting the exterior appearance of homes.

Issues of siding, window types, roofing materials, and more are generally specified for renovations in neighborhoods with historic covenants.

Come out to the meeting to learn more about these issues and help decide where we go from here.

**Lyon Village Executive Committee Meeting  
Monday May 4 at 8pm at the Community House  
Discussion of Nominations for 2009-10 LVEC Officers  
All Are Welcomed to Attend**

## Last Chance to Check Out Your Listing in the 2009 Lyon Village Directory Before it Goes to Print!

The 2005 Lyon Village Directory has been updated and is online at [www.lyonvillage.org](http://www.lyonvillage.org). Please review your listing along with your neighbor's listings and send additions and changes to [directory@lyonvillage.org](mailto:directory@lyonvillage.org) as soon as possible. The online version will be updated and published based on corrections received by the end of May. As seen in the Introduction to the Directory, periodic revisions will be made to the online version until the next printed version is published. This means that if you want your correct information in the published version, it must be fixed now or wait several years!

If you are concerned about your information being available via the Lyon Village website, please consider:

- Most of the information in the Directory is easily found on the internet in a variety of sources, such as [whitepages.com](http://whitepages.com) and the Arlington County website. Unlisted phone numbers that were provided recently or were published in previous versions of the Directory are a possible exception.
- It is easy to mitigate concerns about making your email address public. The solution is to simply create an address that you are comfortable with using more publicly. Many folks maintain multiple addresses for varying degrees of privacy. It costs nothing to maintain additional email addresses at one of the many free sites online, such as Google, Yahoo, Hotmail, AOL, etc. This is particularly useful for people who don't want excess personal mail at their work email address.
- The Directory is somewhat buried in the Lyon Village website, and because it is a PDF, it cannot be searched until it is found and then opened.

The directory offers important contact information for neighbors, especially in an emergency. If you prefer not to be listed, your listing will be removed in the alphabetical section, as well as your personal information in the street listing section.

### Neighborhood Book Swap

Pick up summer reading for your children and yourselves at Clarendon UMC (606 N Irving St, Arlington). As part of Arlington Neighborhood Day on May 16th, CUMC will collect your used, good quality children's and adult books, and give you a ticket for each book donated. We will collect books beginning May 11th from 3 to 5pm at the entrance on Ivy Street, and continue every day that week. On Saturday, May 16th from 1 to 5pm, you can come by and pick out books with your tickets, free of charge. If you have questions, please contact Jane Dixon 703.465.0341 or [jdixon580@aol.com](mailto:jdixon580@aol.com).

### Artisans & Crafters Market

The Columbia Pike Farmers Market is looking for local artisans interested in selling their quality items at the Farmers Market, located in front of the Rite Aid at Columbia Pike & S Walter Reed Drive. The Market is held every Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> through November 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 9am to 1pm. There is space for two arts & crafts vendors per Market. For info call Amy at 703-892-2776.

### Café Scientifique

Discussion, "Sustainability and the Environment", Tues, May 5, 5:30-8pm, Front Page Restaurant, 4201 Wilson Blvd. Scientists are monitoring global environmental trends of the human ecological footprint. Evidence that our species is exceeding Earth's biocapacity has profound relevance for sustainability. Café is held each month on first Tuesdays at the Front Page in Arlington. For info see [www.arlingtonvirginiausa.com/bsta](http://www.arlingtonvirginiausa.com/bsta).

### New Book Group

The Faithful Readers will have its first meeting on Tuesday, May 19th at 7:30pm at the Central Library 2nd floor conference room with discussion of *The Shack* by William P. Young. This popular novel of a man facing "tragedy while confronting eternity" will astound you and hopes to provide lively discussion. This group, sponsored by Clarendon UMC, will focus on books of spiritual nature that feed the soul and challenge the mind. For more information, contact Jane Dixon, LV resident, at [jdixon580@aol.com](mailto:jdixon580@aol.com).

## Lyon Village Property Overview

The Lyon Village Directory (see previous page) is created from the Arlington County listings of all properties within the boundaries of Lyon Village (Lee to Wilson and Kirkwood/Washington Boulevard to Veitch). Here are some insights about Lyon Village gained from updating the database:

- Residential properties include: 777 single-family detached homes, 10 duplexes, 69 townhouses, 10 garden apartments, and several high-rise apartment/condo buildings. About 17 single-family homes and 1 duplex on Adams, Wayne, Veitch and Lee Highway are on property zoned RA8-18, which can have small apartment buildings or townhouses if enough property is consolidated.
- Commercial properties include three high-rise office buildings along Wilson Blvd, along with many properties along Wilson Blvd, Washington Blvd, and Lee Highway zoned C-2 or C-3 that have small buildings or parking lots that could be replaced by something much bigger.
- About 125 of the single-family homes are not occupied by the property owner. Several Lyon Village residents own additional homes in Lyon Village, which they rent.
- Property ownership records indicate that developers, partnerships, and limited liability corporations have bought clusters of single-family home properties in various part of Lyon Village: on Franklin, Lee, Veitch, Wayne, and 16<sup>th</sup> Street.
- R-5 zoning currently requires a minimum lot size of 5,000 square feet and R-6 zoning currently requires a minimum lot size of 6,000 square feet. This was not the rule when many Lyon Village homes were built on R-5 and R-6 lots. Seven R-5 lots and 216 R-6 lots do not have the minimum lot size. 48 R-6 lots have less than 5,000 square feet and 168 have between 5,000 and 6,000 square feet.
- One R-5 lot and 16 R-6 lots have more than double the minimum size and might be eligible to be subdivided into two lots, provided they have the required street frontage.
- Two churches (Clarendon Presbyterian and Community United Methodist) and the Lyon Village Community House occupy property zoned R-6.

## Sand Storage Status on Kirkwood Road

As many may have noticed while driving by on Kirkwood Rd, the green area in the 1600 block of Kirkwood Rd has contained a large amount of tarp-covered sand stored there for the past year or so. This area, in back of Science Focus School, received the special sand in preparation for removal to the county's water treatment facility in South Arlington. This has been something of an eyesore in what is generally one of the greener portions of Kirkwood Rd. With all the construction for the underground power conduit on Kirkwood this issue has been less noticeable lately.

Mr. Loar, from the county's Department of Environmental Services has informed the neighborhood that current sand deliveries are now being made directly to the water treatment facility. While the facility is not completed, it is getting closer. It must be operational by the end of the year per the county's agreement with the state. The county plans to start moving the sand from Kirkwood Rd area to the facility in the coming weeks, though it may take 4-6 months to complete that process. Mr. Loar can be contacted at [ploar@arlingtonva.us](mailto:ploar@arlingtonva.us) or 703-228-6867.

The School Board granted the county use of this land for sand storage until the end of this year. The county in return agreed to restore the area to pre-storage conditions. Mr. Loar has no plans to seek an extension of the storage time and does have a plan to restore the area. After the sand is removed, the county will replace the trees that were killed by failing to maintain the proper safe areas. They will also lay seed. This would likely occur next spring. Due to the trunk lines for the pump station which run underground on the north side of the park, no deep tree roots can be tolerated.

The county is continuing to pursue permanent transfer of the school property to the county. This transfer was initiated 20 years ago but not consummated. The property is being used to house and service a pump station and is maintained by the county, not the schools. There is concern that if the school board cedes control of the land to the county, the county may continue to use the land as a convenient dumping ground. While it is unlikely that any structures would be built do to the necessity to keep the area above the pipe lines unimpeded, the kind of unsightly and disruptive storage we have witnessed with the sand is possible. At one point, the county was considering using the area as a recycling center. This would have led to the paving of a large portion of the area and the location unsightly waste storage containers. The county rescinded this concept after brief consideration.

School representative, Steve Larson, [slarson@arlington.k12.va.us](mailto:slarson@arlington.k12.va.us), has offered to keep the community apprised of the consideration by the School Board and county of such a property transfer. Mr. Larson noted that in the 1980s, a prior School Board had approved the transfer and thus the likelihood of it occurring would be impacted by that action.

According to Mr. Loar, from the schools essentially already transferred the property 20 years ago, but there was some final paperwork remaining unsigned. Persons wishing to maintain the area under the control of the School Board are advised to contact individual School Board members. In addition to other members, Abby Raphael ([air3018@comcast.net](mailto:air3018@comcast.net)) who has a child at the school and was ASFS president when the sand storage was approved in 2006, and Ed Fendley (202-647-2764), are well apprised of the situation.

## Village Market

**Tutoring Services Available:** High school teacher available for one-on-one academic tutoring in middle/ high school subject areas and SAT prep. Masters degrees in English and special education. Email [eck537@gmail.com](mailto:eck537@gmail.com) to discuss availability and rates.

**Seeking Yorktown HS Yearbooks:** Yorktown HS Alumni Association seeking yearbooks from '61, '62, '63, '64,'66, '70, '71, '73, '74, '75, '77, '78, '79, '80, '81, '82, '83, '84, '85,'86, '87, '92, '93, '95, '97, '99, '01, '02, '08 for reference library. Located near E Falls Metro or Smithsonian. Send email to arrange a convenient place to meet. Contact: [afyhsi@verizon.net](mailto:afyhsi@verizon.net).

**Housekeeper Available:** My housekeeper of 25 years needs more work. Gloria is reliable, trustworthy and a fast worker. For reference please call Barbara 703/841-0324.

**Vacation Rental Homes:** Offered by Lyon Village resident. One-bedroom condo in Coral Gables Florida and one-bedroom apartment in Paris, France, for rent by owner. More economical and comfortable than a hotel! Owner lives in Lyon Village and has LV references from previous guests. Email Lee at [alnesq@yahoo.com](mailto:alnesq@yahoo.com) or 202-903-8550.

**Moving Sale:** Small roll-top maple-colored desk, good condition, 9-drawers, \$25. Gump fire screen, bronze tone, curved, simple design, excellent with natural stone FP, original price \$400, will sell for \$200. Two to three gallon humidifier with lots of filters, water conditioner, \$10. Gorgeous 1930 Kennebec canoe restored in 1990s, spruce finished wood, two cane seats, dark green high quality canvas, original paddles, great father's day gift to the whole family. Contact Hatch: 703-522-9074.

**Seeking Toddler Nanny Share** in Lyon Village or Vicinity for August. This summer we will sadly say goodbye to the family with whom we share our nanny. We are looking for another family to join our share starting around August, full or part time. Our son is 2 and we live in Lyon Village. We are ideally looking to find another family nearby with a child of similar age. Our nanny is a superstar. Please contact [alison\\_teres@yahoo.com](mailto:alison_teres@yahoo.com) if interested.

**Yoga Classes at the LV Community House:** On Wednesdays, beginning May 13th, Yoga classes will be offered at the Lyon Village Community House, from 10am to 11:15am. Classes will be taught in the Vinyasa Flow style, an all-level practice with a flowing style that links movement with breath. Benefits include stretching, strengthening and core body workout. Classes will be taught by Yvette Carlucci, a Registered Yoga Teacher who has been practicing for 15+ years. First class is free! After the initial class, \$20 for Drop-in, or 8 classes for \$120. Bring a yoga mat, towel, and wear comfortable clothing.

Send Your Bulletin Items to [markweinress@msn.com](mailto:markweinress@msn.com) by **May 23, 2009.**