



The Lyon Village *Bulletin*

www.LyonVillage.org

January 2010

*Lyon Village Citizen's Association
Arlington VA
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Rent the Community House For Your Function

Our new contact for Lyon Village Community House rentals is Kathleen Pons Haines at kaphaines@hotmail.com or call 703.525.5525 (before 8pm only). We offer our thanks to Kathleen for taking on this duty and our special thanks to Sharon Snyder for her many years of hard work handling rentals at the Community House.

The following information is required for rental reservations:

Full name, phone number(s), email, and address.

Whether contactor is a Lyon Village resident or nonresident.

Event type (wedding, party, meeting etc).

Event date, time, and time needed for set-up/clean-up.

Extended Leaf Collection

As a result of the December snowstorm, county leaf bag collection will be extended through Jan 29, 2010. Leaf bags will be collected on the next business day after your regular trash collection day. Free biodegradable bags will be available until Jan 22.

In addition, areas that did not receive a second vacuum collection prior to the snowstorm, will receive their second pass sometime through the month of February. For further info, please call 703.228.6750 or visit www.arlingtonva.us/des.

Tree Steward Volunteer Training Course Offered

The 60 hour Tree Steward training program is set to begin in February, and is open to Arlington residents on a first-come, first-served basis. The cost of the course is \$120.00.

The 2010 Tree Steward Training Class is scheduled to run from Feb 16 to April 27 on Tuesday nights, plus three Saturday sessions on March 13th & 27th, and April 24th.

The 2-1/2 hour classes will be held at Walter Reed Community Center beginning at 7pm and pre-registration is required. The registration deadline is January 15 2010. For more information and to download a registration brochure, please visit www.arlingtonextension.org/treestewards/TS_Class2010.pdf or call 703.228.6414.

Computing a Bargain for Lyon Village Residents

Metro Area Technologies, a nearby computer sales and service store located at 2415 Wilson Blvd is offering Lyon Village residents a \$49 virus-removal and tune-up special and 10% off all service and sales (non-sale items). Call 571-522-3402 for further info.

Happy New Year!

General Meeting

***Monday January 11 at 8pm
At the Lyon Village Community House***

Arlington Police Chief to Answer Questions Regarding Late December Homicide in Lyon Village

Our January General Meeting will begin with an update by Dominion Power on the Kirkwood Road undergrounding project (see below). For our main topic, Chief Scott and Captain Burke of the Arlington Police will discuss the homicide that recently took place on 13th Street along with other recent serious incidents that have recently occurred in and around Lyon Village. They will also provide recommendations about how the neighborhood can be more vigilant and assist in preventing crime in our area. This is a major issue for our Lyon Village neighborhood and the local Clarendon businesses. The recent crimes are bad for the neighborhood as well as for the businesses that need to attract patrons.

On Tuesday December 29, Medic Units and Police responded to a 2:50am call regarding an injured man found lying along the street at the 3200 block of N 13th St. It soon became apparent that the man was dead. It appears that he suffered upper body trauma, probably as the result of a blow to his body. The victim has been identified as Carl Diener, 57, of Arlington. Mr. Diener lived near to Lyon Village.

The Arlington County Police Department's Homicide/Robbery Unit is currently investigating this case. As part of the investigation, the police are requesting that anyone who might have any information about this death or the identity of the suspect contact Detective Rosa Ortiz at 703.228.7402, or by email at rorthiz@arlingtonva.us.

Witnesses can also call the Arlington Police Tip-Line at 703.228.4242 or Arlington County Crime Solvers at 866.411.TIPS (8477). Crime Solvers offers a reward of up to \$1000 for information leading to an arrest. Callers to Crime Solvers do not have to give their name, and do not need to testify in court.

Our neighborhood has had a number of serious armed crime incidents in the past few months. On November 24th, a mugging and car-jacking at gun-point occurred in the 1200 block of N. Highland Street, one block from Clarendon Metro. That evening at 11:50pm, near the intersection of Highland and Hartford Streets in Lyon Village, a woman's purse and car were stolen at gunpoint.

The victim reported to police that she was sitting in the front seat of her car, when a stranger approached displaying a black semi-automatic handgun and demanded that she give him her purse. The victim complied with his demands and turned over the purse. She was then told to put her car keys into the ignition and move away from her car. The suspect got into her car and drove away. The car was last seen heading northbound on N. Highland Street. The suspect was described as a black male, thin build, in his 40s, wearing a black hat and black jacket.

It will be important to have neighborhood input and questions at this meeting. Please consider attending to discuss the safety of our neighborhood.

Dominion Virginia Power Kirkwood Road Project

As many residents have noticed, the Dominion Virginia Power electrical conduit project has dragged on far longer than anyone could have imagined. The purpose of this project is to add underground high-tension lines to connect the Clarendon substation with the one in Roslyn to meet our area's increasing electrical needs. At our November General Meeting, we were assured by representatives from Dominion Power that the project should be completed by the end of the year.

Today, the construction appears no closer to completion than it did three months ago, and serious traffic disruptions continue on Kirkwood Road. We have asked Dominion officials to visit us at our January General Meeting to provide another update on this project and an estimate of when they will finally be finished. We have asked that an engineer from the project attend to explain what the problems are that are causing such delays in the Kirkwood portion of the project that was initially projected to be completed within three months of its initiation.

The Lyon Village Executive Committee Meeting Takes Place the First Monday of the Month at the Community House at 8pm. All Are Encouraged to Attend.

The Arlington County Budget In Tight Times

The Acting County Manager, Barbara Donnellan, and the new Superintendent, Dr. Pat Murphy, were recent guest speakers at the Arlington County Civic Federation in December to discuss the county budget. After their opening comments, the two executives answered questions prepared by the Federation's *Revenues & Expenditures* and *Schools* committees, as well as questions from Federation delegates.

Donnellan and Murphy noted that the county is looking at every possible means to reduce spending in order to close the projected budget gap. The continuing decline in real estate values, particularly in the commercial sector is going to make the situation very difficult this year. The 2011 property tax assessments should be finalized soon, at this time the full extent of the budget shortfall will be known.

Average residential real-estate values are expected to decline 5 percent. County Board members have directed Donnellan to close any budget gap with an equal mix of higher taxes and fees, along with further program reductions.

The result for homeowners is likely to be an increase in the real-estate tax rate of approximately 8 cents per \$100, (about 10 percent) to make up for the decline in values. As a result, average residential tax bills will rise slightly despite the decline in assessments.

The slumping commercial real estate sector is going to have a large effect on the county budget. A look at the decline in demand for office space in the county points to the current problem. Back in the third quarter of 2008, the office absorption rate was almost 391,000 square feet. That is in sharp contrast with a *loss* of almost 420,000 square feet in the third quarter of 2009.

Master Gardener Volunteer Training

A limited number of spaces are still available for this 13 week training that begins on January 12th, and continues through the middle of April. Classes are held at the Fairlington Community Center on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9am to noon. Residents who want to improve their gardening skills, enhance their knowledge and, most importantly, share what they have learned with others through volunteer work should reserve their place in the 2010 Master Gardener Volunteer Training Program quickly.

Additional information and Application Packets can be attained at the Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia website at www.mgnv.org, or by emailing the Master Gardener Help Desk at ex013mg@vt.edu, or through Arlington County Horticulture Technician Kim Haun, at khaun@arlingtonva.us.

The Arlington Philharmonic Needs Your Help

Since the Philharmonic began a few years ago, their mission has been to build a first-rate symphony in Arlington, and to make its concerts of classical music, professionally performed, accessible to every citizen. Since 2006, the Philharmonic has offered three free concerts each season. Last year, a children's education program of another three free concerts was added.

The Philharmonic's next concert, at their new larger venue is planned for the afternoon of April 11, at Kenmore Auditorium. To give high-quality performances is expensive and individual donors provide the lion's share of funding.

Though staff and management are unpaid, the music director and musicians must be paid for. There are also some smaller-but-unavoidable costs such as venue rental, advertising materials, and mailings. If you wish to contribute, go to www.arlingtonphilharmonic.org or send your contribution by check to the Arlington Philharmonic Association, PO Box 101103, Arlington VA 22210, or call (703) 879-5716. Besides contributions, the organization needs volunteers, administrators, and board leaders.

Neighborhood News & Events

A Terrific Holiday Party!

Our annual December Holiday Party was a great success! It provided a great opportunity to meet and have fun with Lyon Village neighbors; there were new families, tons of kids, and many long-time neighborhood members. We even had a visit from Santa Claus! We offer a huge thanks to Santa for joining our party.

Thanks go to all who attended and assisted with the event. Special thanks to the Hardy, Glassman, and Winters families for setup, the Bollman, Nordlinger, and Rados families for cookies & crafts, and to the Briere/Weismueller, Beg/Goeke, Carten, Winters, Norman and Holt families for clean-up.

We want to offer a big neighborhood thank you to Lyon Village residents and co-owners of Liberty Tavern, Kirstin Gibbs and Steve Fedorchak, who provided delicious Liberty pizzas, lots of wine and beer for merriment, and secured the naughty Rockland's' macaroni & cheese and pulled pork as well. Make sure to check out the new coffee bar with wi-fi at Liberty Tavern opening mornings, available until murky coffee reopens under their ownership in 2010.

Also thank you to Andrea Briere for contacting and to Restaurant 3 for donating a huge vat of delicious cheesy noodles. Make sure to thank them yourselves next time you stop in; these aren't great economic times for small businesses, so their generosity is greatly appreciated.

Thanks to everyone who donated salads, sides, baked goods and of course the canned harvest for the Arlington Food Assistance Center. We collected 30 lbs of canned goods. It was definitely a great community effort!

Lyon Village Sunday Nights At the Movies!

Mark your calendar now for our newest community event for 2010; neighborhood Movie Nights! Our first Movie Night will take place on Sunday, January 24 at 5pm. Movie Nights will take place at the last Sunday of the month at 5pm, at the Lyon Village Community House.

Come hang out with friends for G-rated movie nights. This will be a great event for kids! BYO non-sticky snacks and covered drinks, along with your blanket to spread on the Community House floor. Please plan to stick around a few minutes after the movie for cleanup. Be sure to let us know what family movies you may have in your movie library to share. Please contact Caroline Holt at walsh2holt@gmail.com for further info, or with ideas for neighborhood events that you would like to help execute.

New: Lyon Village Listserv Marketplace Listings

The Lyon Village listserv is available for Marketplace ad listings. All dues-paying member of the LVCA, can now post free advertising notices on the listserv for nannies, housecleaning, garage sales, and other local services and items. These notices will appear along with important listerv updates as they are sent out to our email community. advertising notices will not be sent on their own; they will appear only with other neighborhood information. It is therefore not possible to predict precisely when an ad will appear.

This new resource is completely separate from the *Lyon Village Bulletin* Marketplace. If you would like to utilize both resources, you must send your information to both contact email addresses. The information for the listserv should be sent to HK Park at hkpark100@hotmail.com. If you haven't joined the Lyon Village listserv, you should consider contacting HK now to sign up. Information is also available at www.lyonvillage.org.

To place advertising notices in the *Lyon Village Bulletin* Marketplace section, please send your copy to markweinress@msn.com. Neither the *Lyon Village Bulletin* nor the listserv accept paid advertising.

If you are not sure if you are up to date on your dues, you can contact the Lyon Village Treasurer, Carl Mattick. Dues are \$7 Individual, \$10 Household. This keeps you an active voting member of the neighborhood. Please mail or deliver your LVCA dues payments to: Carl Mattick, 1428 N. Fillmore St. Call 703-525-0819 or email CarlMattick@verizon.net with any questions. You can now pay your LVCA dues online using PayPal or credit card. Access \$10 or \$7 payment links from our homepage at www.lyonvillage.org.

Village Market

Pet Care. Going out of town? For pet care during the day or evening, during the week or on weekends call Ben or Katherine at 703-528-3731, or cell 202-437-8257.

Informal Bridge Club: A retired neighborhood resident is interested in having occasional bridge games during the week. Players at all levels are encouraged to reply. Please contact George Ruppert at 703.243.0931.

Historic Maine Cottage Summer Rental: Historic, turn-of-the-century stone cottage and stand-alone boathouse for weekly rental on Androscoggin Lake, ME. Cottage sleeps 10 and offers a taste of "the way it used to be." Beautiful lakeside sunsets, lots of toys. Contact arlingtondiver@verizon.net for more info.

Send Your Bulletin Items to markweinress@msn.com by **January 24, 2010.**