



# The Lyon Village Bulletin

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

February 2010

Lyon Village Citizen's Association  
Arlington VA  
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## Crime Prevention Tip Sheet

The Crime Prevention Tip Sheet distributed with this month's Bulletin is also available at our neighborhood website: [www.LyonVillage.org](http://www.LyonVillage.org). Visit the website for the latest Lyon Village news. Call 911 or the non-emergency number 703-558-2222 whenever you see something suspicious on your street or in neighboring properties. The police find that such calls often provide early warning of a crime.

## Dog Etiquette Reminder

Be sure to keep your dog on a leash at all times and pick up after your dog. Please dispose of bags in your own trash can and remember to keep your dog from barking. Thank you from your Lyon Village neighbors!

## Striking the Right Balance

How do you help your child develop balance in his or her academic, extracurricular and social life? Join Dr. Melissa Sporn for a thoughtful and engaging discussion of how you can help your child find the right balance. The event will be held Thurs, Feb 11, 7pm-8:30pm in the Little Theater at Washington-Lee High School, 1300 N. Stafford St, Arlington. For more info contact Lynn Shotwell at [andy\\_lynnshotwell@yahoo.com](mailto:andy_lynnshotwell@yahoo.com).

## Wi-Fi Now Available at all Libraries

With recent installations at Glencarlyn and Cherrydale, free, unlimited wireless Internet access (Wi-Fi) is now available at all Arlington Public Library locations. Come check it out.

## February at Arlington Central Library

Author Event: "K Blows Top" by former Washington Post Writer, Peter Carlson on Tues, Feb. 23, 7pm. Nikita Khrushchev's 1959 trip across America was one of the strangest exercises in international diplomacy ever conducted--"a surreal extravaganza," as historian John Lewis Gaddis called it. Peter Carlson captures the times in "K Blows Top: A Cold War Comic Interlude Starring Nikita Khrushchev, America's Most Unlikely Tourist" as the Soviet leader threw tantrums, sparked a riot in a San Francisco supermarket, wowed coeds in Iowa, and ogled Arlington's own Shirley MacLaine. Books will be available for sale and signing at the conclusion of this event.

Author Event: "On Hallowed Ground: The Story of Arlington National Cemetery" by Robert M. Poole on Thurs, Feb 25, 7pm. Poole traces the founding of Arlington National Cemetery on what had been the family plantation of Robert E. Lee. Initially, there was no honor in interment at Arlington as it served as a simple military burial ground, but the rites, rituals and reverence associated with the cemetery evolved over the next century.

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

## Lyon Village General Meeting Monday, February 8, 8pm at the Community House

This month's General Meeting will begin with a brief police update on recent incidents in and around Lyon Village. The police will be available to answer your questions. If you would like to receive the monthly police report by email, please contact [maw123@gmail.com](mailto:maw123@gmail.com).

## Lyon Village "Green House" Audio-Visual Presentation

Thinking about renovating at home, and perhaps collecting some of Obama's cash for caulkers? Josh Fitzhugh and Naina Mistry will discuss the recent green renovation of their 1925 Spanish bungalow in Lyon Village. This should provide of font information and ideas for anyone considering a green renovation to their own home.

The original house, purchased by Fitzhugh and Mistry in 2003, was a 1-story, 1,300-square-foot home with leaky windows, poor insulation, and a cramped kitchen. In 2008, Josh and Naina enlisted the help of a green architect, Marta Layseca of EnviroHome Design, and a green builder, SAI Contractors, to transform the house into a 2,600-foot eco-friendly, energy-efficient home, while retaining the character of the original house. The result is a beautiful home that completely fits its setting and actually improves the façade by enlarging on the original design while keeping the scale of the home.

Completed in the summer of 2009, the house was awarded several green certifications, including LEED, Energy Star, and the Arlington County Green Home Choice; and is a finalist for a Contractor of the Year Award: Green Remodeling from the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI). The house contains an amazing array of "Green" features. Come join us for this fascinating presentation and pick up some ideas that you may be able to use in your home.

## At the January General Meeting...

At our January meeting we received an update from Dominion Power on the power cables being buried under Kirkwood Road. Dominion now estimates that construction will be through by the end of February.

We also received an update from Arlington Police Chief Doug Scott and Captain Brian Berke on the homicide that took place in the 3200 block of N. 13th Street in the very early morning hours of December 29th. They outlined what the police are doing to investigate the homicide, prevent crimes in Lyon Village and Clarendon and also shared what the neighborhood can do to help be additional eyes and ears for police and prevent future incidents. HK Park asked for volunteers to join the LV Street Light Task Force to improve our street lighting. This effort is currently underway. Please read and keep the attached TIPS sheet on ways that the community can support police efforts.

**The Lyon Village Executive Committee Meeting takes place the first Monday of each month at the Community House at 8pm. All are Welcomed to attend.**

## Welcome To Our New Residents of Lyon Village!

The welcome wagon may not have yet pulled up to your door with a basket of muffins, but due to a joint effort by members Ruth Boyer, HK Park, Pallav Das and Caroline Holt on the LV Executive Committee, it soon will! If you have bought your home since January 2008, you should be receiving a welcome basket in the next week or two, complete with an overview of our community and community association, our neighborhood directory, recent bulletins, and FAQs. If you bought your home via private sale (i.e., not available on public record) and/or you have bought in the past few years and would like to receive one, please email Ruth Boyer at [ruthboyer515@gmail.com](mailto:ruthboyer515@gmail.com).

## Checking the Streetlights for Safety

As part of our fight against crime, we need to take stock of the Lyon Village street lights and make sure they are all functioning. Everyone in Lyon Village is encouraged to check out the streetlights on their block and report any nonfunctioning, blinking, or dim lights to the county. You can use the online Street Light report form at [www.arlingtonva.us/departments/environmentalservices/dot/traffic/streetlights/index.htm](http://www.arlingtonva.us/departments/environmentalservices/dot/traffic/streetlights/index.htm). Or you can call the county at 703-228-6511.

The information you should have is (1) the exact location of the light; (2) the type of light (the different types are pictured on the form but most of the lights in the neighborhood are the arching overhead Cobra lights or the traditional Colonial pole lights); (3) whether the pole is wood or metal; and (4) the pole number, which is engraved on a metal plate that is usually around eye level on the pole (if you can't figure out which of several numbers is the pole number, just report them all). Thank you for helping to keep the neighborhood safe!

## Fun & Film in Lyon Village Come Out on Sunday Feb 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm

Thanks to the 15+ families who came out for the first installment of Lyon Village family movie night at the Community House on January 24th. We spread blankets out--Wolf Trap style--munched on popcorn and ate our BYO dinners, and the kids were riveted to the screen. Special thank you to Lisa & Mike Rados for their tech wizardry and to the Community House board for donating the space.

Grownups: mark your calendars for a night out; come as a single or with your spouse/spice! On Sunday, February 28th, at 7:30 pm, come to the Community House for BYO wine and snacks, while you catch up with old friends and new before we watch "Away We Go". BYO beverages and snacks or dinners, and low-backed seating or picnic blankets for the movie. "When slacker thirtysomething couple Burt (John Krasinski) and Verona (Maya Rudolph) discover that his parents are moving overseas, the duo -- who expect their first child in a few months -- set off on a cross-country tour to figure out where they should lay down some roots in Sam Mendes' poignant comedy Away We Go." Please contact Caroline Holt if you need an escort or ride from a neighbor in order to join us!

Caroline is also looking for other ideas or suggestions for community building events in the neighborhood. Our community's past presidents have compiled a great list to work from based on what we have done in days gone by, but is wondering what our community would like to do. Specifically, we hope to hear from the empty nesters and retirees how we can get you out and connected, if you desire to be. Drop Caroline Holt, our Neighborhood Building Chair, an email at [walsh2holt@gmail.com](mailto:walsh2holt@gmail.com) or 703-522-6343. She looks forward to hearing from you!

## County Budget Concerns

Many in the neighborhood have expressed concerns about reductions in the Arlington County budget that have resulted in the elimination of the Clarendon Police Detail as well as the further cuts projected for next year that would significantly change our Community Policing. County Board members Mary Hynes and Barbara Favola, both of whom live in Lyon Village, were invited to our January General Meeting.

Mary Hynes indicated at our meeting that resident letters, emails, and public testimony will be important as the County Board considers how to close an anticipated \$100 million budget gap. Barbara Favola was ill and unable to attend but called to get a meeting summary and express support for our concerns. The County Staff prepares a binder of budget emails and letters for County Board members. To weigh in via email, send your thoughts to [countyboard@arlingtonva.us](mailto:countyboard@arlingtonva.us) and put "budget" in the subject line.

The County Manager's draft budget will be out on Tuesday February 23rd. The Board will conduct public hearings on expenditures on March 23rd & 24th, and a hearing on revenues on March 25th. People can sign up to testify at the hearings up to 5 days in advance.

If you are interested in assisting any of these efforts, please contact H.K. Park at [hkpark100@hotmail.com](mailto:hkpark100@hotmail.com).

## Arlington County Tax Dollars to Build a Church

How did Arlington County end up funding the rebuilding of a church and why does it matter to you? Arlington County, in the midst of an historic budget crisis, has authorized the funding of a Clarendon church-rebuilding project in the name of "affordable housing". By dedicating \$13.1 million dollars of taxpayer money to the First Baptist Church of Clarendon's "Views" apartment tower development and partnering with the state to cover all but a fraction of the cost of the project, the County will gain 70 designated affordable units at an eye-popping average cost of \$666,000 per apartment. This at a time when the County is projecting a \$65 million budget shortfall, putting many services including schools and our police department at risk.

If this project is allowed to continue, it could be done anywhere in the County. The County has already made it clear that they see this as a viable model for other affordable housing developments with faith-based groups. The issues at stake have an impact beyond the nearby neighborhoods to the entire County, and beyond.

How did we get here? In 2003, the church found its building in disrepair and its congregation dwindling. With the help of a set of very well connected advisers, the church came up with a financial bail-out plan involving the construction of an apartment tower. Though the church land was zoned for a seven-story building, they proposed to the County that in return for a commitment to include affordable housing in their plans, they be allowed to build to ten stories, insisting that this height was necessary to make the project economically feasible. They convinced the County to change the zoning and got a \$4.5 million commitment for their then-\$30 million project.

After losing a legal challenge from neighbors who opposed this ten-story building facing their historic two story houses, the County simply changed the law to accommodate its position. And since 2003, as the private financing for the church project has virtually dried up, the County has increased its funding twice. As a result, the cost per affordable unit is about two-thirds more expensive than comparable new construction in the same neighborhood.

This project abuses important affordable housing funds and enriches a church. The County has shown an unwavering pattern of assuring the success of the church financial rescue plan. The extreme and unprecedented preferential treatment of and entanglement with the church violate both the First Amendment of the US Constitution and the Virginia Constitution and are the basis for a federal lawsuit seeking to stop the development.

For more information, go to: [www.askthecounty.com](http://www.askthecounty.com), or email: [contact@askthecounty.com](mailto:contact@askthecounty.com) or write to: First Amendment Defense Fund, 1408 N. Hartford St, Arlington, VA 22201.

## Village Market

**Nanny Available:** Incredible nanny with 7 years experience with LV family needs a new full-time position. She is a US citizen, speaks English and Spanish, owns her own car, and is very familiar with the Arlington area. Excellent caregiver and housekeeper. Prefers a newborn and/or very young child or children. Extremely reliable, kind, and responsible. If you would like to find out more, please contact her at 571-426-2003, or you may contact current employer at 703-525-1739.

**Renovations, Additions, Remodels, & New Homes:** If you are contemplating alterations to your Lyon Village home or lot, contact DW Ricks Architects + Associates, PC for a free consultation. Longtime Lyon Village resident. Professional service discount for LV residents. Call David W, Ricks, AIA at 703-525-0156 or visit [www.dwricksarchitects.com](http://www.dwricksarchitects.com) for more info.

**Long-Time Lyon Village Nanny Available:** Full-time or part-time work in the morning. Vicky Galindo has been with same LV family for 8 years and has cared for their 3 children flawlessly. Previously worked for 2 other Lyon Village families for more than 5 years. Available anytime between 8:30am and 3pm part-time, or full-time. Extremely reliable, US citizen, great English and Spanish, drives, and more. Please call Jenny Verdery at 703-528-4422 or cell 202-431-2890 if interested.

**Looking For Caring, Enthusiastic & Dependable Nanny:** Or to participate in a nanny share in Lyon Village. Beginning date is somewhat flexible, but ideally late April or early May for an infant baby girl who will be 3 months old. Days and hours can be somewhat flexible to accommodate schedules, but looking for about 40 hours a week. Contact Jeanne or Paul Wood at [woodstrom@yahoo.com](mailto:woodstrom@yahoo.com) or 703-906-1020.

**Need Your House Cleaned?** Wonderful housekeepers who have been with Lyon Village family for years and are looking for more work. For more information, please call Lizeth at 703-439-0630.

**Pet Care:** For pet feeding and dog walking, at any time during the day or evening, call Ben or Katherine at 703-528-3731 or cell 703-732-0990.

**Downsizing, too much stuff, moving???** Estate cleanout, internet and/or consigned sales. Will purchase for cash. Call Bonnie at 240-338-6214.

Send Your Bulletin Items to [markweiness@msn.com](mailto:markweiness@msn.com) by **February 22, 2009.**