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**Next Meeting of the
CHERRYDALE
CITIZENS
ASSOCIATION**

**Wednesday, January 21
7:30 pm
Cherrydale Fire Station**

Agenda:

*New Cherrydale Fire Station # 3
Construction Update from Arlington
County.*

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A WORD FROM OUR CCA PRESIDENT

Thank you Cherrydale, for electing me President of the Cherrydale Citizens Association once again. You knew, of course, that meant I'd be recruiting you for volunteer work, didn't you? Yes, we need YOU to help us revitalize, represent, encourage and protect our community. Did you know that we have at least one Cherrydale volunteer on every street in Cherrydale? They need your help. You knew I'd be asking!

For officers, we've got an experienced team, as well as fresh talent, too. For experience and insight there's **Jim Todd**, doing double duty both as CCA Vice President and Editor, along with his wife, **Kyra**, of the *Sweet & Sour News*, and **Katherine Christensen**, Cas CA Treasurer for the seventh year in a row. **Harry Spector** continues as both our Neighborhood Conservation Representative and our Fire Station # 3 construction representative. Three volunteers, **Margie McKelvey**, **Cynthia Hilton**, and **Peg Cajati**, are serving as Secretary on a rotating basis. **Mikel Koon** is heading up our Cherrydale Welcome Wagon, a position created when I was first President.

We have decided that for this year we will focus our serious attention on two main issues - sidewalks and parks. But we will still count on our dedicated neighbors like **Scott Springston** and **Layla and Marty Hogan** for community-spirited events like the Cherrydale Parade, Cherrydale Yard Sale, and Cherrydale July 4th Block Party.

Remember the Cherrydale Art Show? If you have interest, we can help resurrect that too, and even a dance, or a music event. It's just a matter of volunteering. And don't forget we need volunteers to join our CCA Parks Committee so we can keep developing our vision for our parks, and, in the mean time, raw muscle power to remove invasive vines in Cherrydale Valley Park. The Cherrydale Tree Stewards could use your help maintaining our public trees in Cherrydale, too.

We also need someone to help us with construction-related issues. **Joel Blumstein**, who held the position for years, would be glad to pass on what he learned. Is someone out there willing to take this on? Call me!

(Cont'd p. 2)

CHERRYDALE FIRE STATION - CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

At the next Cherrydale Citizen's Association Meeting, on Wednesday, January 21st, County staff will update the community on the next phase of construction for the new Cherrydale Fire Station. The next phase is sheeting and shoring (digging out the dirt and installing supports) for both the fire station and the new, County-funded Koons garage, as well as building the Koons garage. County staff will also take questions. Come and learn and bring your recollections about the County's promises. Last time, the County's presentation was how we found out the County had forgotten about their promise to put the Cherrydale logo on the new Firestation. Who knows what they've forgotten now.

CHERRYDALE CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

2009 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Have you paid your dues for 2009? It helps cover the cost of community events and this newsletter. Cherrydale merchandise is also available! Just include payment with your membership and we'll deliver the items to your home.

\$5 Household \$10 Business \$1 Seniors (Age 60 or Over) Donation \$ _____

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____

Phone (evening) _____ Phone (day) _____

Please include me in the Cherrydale Phone Directory (Your information will remain private)

Please add me to the Cherrydale Listserve

I'd like to help by volunteering for: _____

I've added \$ 5, please deliver a drinking glass. Please include me in the CCA phone book

I've added \$10, please deliver a hat! Please add me to the list serve (this will remain private)

I've added \$10, please deliver a 100 % cotton tee-shirt! Adult sizes: S M L XL XXL (limited edition black shirts in size XL) Children's: S M L or Infant (circle size) and 50/50 poly/ cotton t-shirts in beige or blue, variety of sizes and cuts (French or Crew), \$5 each or 3 for \$10

Contact Katherine Christensen, at 703.841.0692 for details. Make checks payable to: *Cherrydale Citizens Association* and send to Katherine at 1909 N. Randolph St. Arlington VA 22207

FREE MEMBERSHIP TO NEW RESIDENTS- LET YOUR NEW NEIGHBORS KNOW!

A WORD FROM OUR CCA PRESIDENT (CONT'D)

And we need a curmudgeon for each street, or even better, for each block! Yup, we need folks to walk around finding sidewalk obstacles, construction problems, or code violations, and complain about them to me. Take a picture, send it to me, and I'll make sure County is accountable to fixing the problem. A picture is worth a thousand words, but combine that with letters and phone calls and the Cherrydale community behind us, and we're a force to be reckoned with.

So, got a passion? Share it with us. Ideas? Come on over to talk. Questions? Let's see if we can find answers. YOU can make a difference when WE work together. Thanks, everyone.

-Maureen Ross

CHERRYDALE CAROLING PARTY SUCCESS

Many thanks and congratulations to **Katherine Christensen** for organizing yet another wonderful Cherrydale Caroling Party!

Katherine brought in a few ringers, and several neighbors knew how to harmonize. CCA President **Maureen Ross** thinks they sounded better than ever before. (Maureen says that normally with her singing, that's not saying much but really, they sounded pretty good this year!) Rumor has it that this was the fourth year in a row, or maybe the fifth?

It was great to see everyone, even some neighbors who moved away came back just for the caroling (the Wades!).

Thank you, Katherine! We had a great time.

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CHERRYDALE LIST SERVE

The Cherrydale Listserve is a great tool for keeping abreast of local community issues on a daily basis, as well as tapping into community knowledge for referrals or advice.

Go to cherrydale.net to sign up. You can elect to receive emails from the Listserve one at a time as they are posted or in one email that arrives each day.

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CHERRYDALE LIBRARY HAPPENINGS 2190 N. Military Road; 703-228-6330

Website: <http://home.comcast.net/~suza1/library.htm>

Monday: 10:00am - 9:00 pm. Tuesday & Wednesday: 1:00 pm - 9:00 pm. Thursday: 10:00 am - 6:00 pm. Friday & Saturday: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm. Sunday: Closed.

Childrens Story Hour Winter Sessions

"**Read to Me: Family Stories**" is a fun and interactive program with stories and songs for all ages. No registration is required for this quarterly program.

Held on two days:

Wednesdays 1/28 - 3/25 at 4:00 pm

Thursdays 1/29 - 3/26 at 10:15

"**Baby Steps**" for babies up to 12 months and an accompanying adult. This early literacy experience focuses on songs, nursery rhymes, and various manipulatives to introduce babies to the joys of both language and literature. **This 4-week program requires pre-registration, and we ask that if you register for this series you make every effort to attend all four weeks of the program. Call to register.**

Mondays 2/2 - 3/2 at 10:30 am.

"**Wobbly Walkers**" for toddlers from 12-24 months and an accompanying adult. This early literacy experience focuses on songs, nursery rhymes, and various manipulatives to introduce toddlers to the joys of both language and literature. **This 4-week program requires pre-registration, and we ask that if you register for this series you make every effort to attend all four weeks of the program. Call to register.**

Mondays 3/9 - 3/30 at 10:30 am.

Book Discussions for Adults

Call to sign up for a discussion or to reserve a title.

Monday, January 12 (7:30 pm): **Candide**, by Voltaire. Amazon reader rating: 4-1/2 stars (out of a possible 5 stars); 112 pages. "Witty and caustic, *Candide* has ranked as one of the world's great satires since its first publication in 1759." -- *Merriam-Webster Encyclopedia of Literature*.

Monday, February 9 (7:30 pm): **Manhunt: The 12-Day Chase for Lincoln's Killer**, by James L. Swanson. This month is the Bicentennial of Lincoln's birth. Amazon reader rating: 4-1/2 stars (out of a possible 5 stars), published 2006: 388 pages.

CCA MEETING SURVEY

In an effort to be sure to maximize the participation of Cherrydalers in the Cherrydale Citizens Associations at our every-other-month CCA meetings at the Firehouse, we are gathering information from a short survey. You can also fill it out online at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=PgpuExyoczJKH_2bfg3GZa7A_3d_3d or just retype and email your responses to president@cherrydale.net. If you do not have access to email, just cut out this section and drop off or mail to Maureen Ross, 2005 N. Monroe St.

1. Please rank your preferred evening for Cherrydale Citizens Association Meetings:
 - a. Monday
 - b. Tuesday
 - c. Wednesday
 - d. Thursday
2. What two issues are most likely to keep you from attending a CCA meeting?
 - a. Conflicts (kids/work)
 - b. Don't know when it is
 - c. Not interested
 - d. Too Long
3. What would make you interested in coming?
 - a. Guest speakers
 - b. Shorter meetings
 - c. Different time, specify _____
 - d. Other _____

IF YOU ARE WILLING TO VOLUNTEER SOME TIME ON THE FOLLOWING ISSUES please contact Maureen Ross, at president@cherrydale.net

- **Cherrydale commercial properties:** awards and complaints, recognitions, need for improvement, communication, promotion;
- **Finding local speakers** - Cherrydalers to speak about their passions (non political, non religious);
- **Finding local musicians** to jam at the Firestation as part of a social event;
- Someone to research how **Cherrydale homeowner taxes** compare with commercial property taxes; and to monitor how our taxes change this next year.
- **Parks - invasive vine, native plants** - need teams to work on this once a month on a Saturday

CONFESSIONS OF CHERRYDALE VOLUNTEER by Tom Korn

You may be wondering what happened to the Christmas wreaths that are usually on the Cherrydale entry signs during the Holiday season. I totally forgot them and didn't think about it until nearly New Years. The reason shows what a slave to routine we can all get. Generally my cue is breaking out my house decorations a couple of weeks before Christmas. I run around and put up the wreaths and go home and do the harder job of stringing lighted garlands and wreaths on my porch and balcony railings. Only this year I painted the house well into November and ended up deciding to replace the railings rather than doing quicker repairs. Then Kathy and I took off for London and India December 12th not returning to Christmas chores till the 23rd. Did get a tree up (sure get cheap about that time), but passed on jury-rigging the house decorations. So no cue, no Cherrydale wreaths.

I've been sporadic about the other two annual Sign decorations. For Valentines Day I finally found good big red mylar balloons only to have most of them shredded in a wind blown ice storm. I was doing pretty good at the Fourth of July, but the last few years have more often been on the Vineyard, meaning that we miss the Cherrydale Neighborhood Block Party as well. For a while I was also doing flags on Memorial day and September 11. Never have gotten anything up for Halloween. The sings announcing the every-other-month CCA meetings at the Firehouse have been inconsistent as well.

But there's hope if I can find help. I would enjoy hearing from any perspective sign stewards. Contact any Cherrydale officer and he or she will contact me.

I've also noticed that the paint on the older two signs is overdue for attention. Maintenance by Cherydaleres was always the County's intent. The signs were not designed to be decorated, but have proved to be a wonderful seasonal display platform. Lots of opportunities.

By the way, I noticed that solar powered LED spotlights are finally getting cheap enough to light the more remote signs. (Bought a three LED solar powered key fob in London for \$12 and expect to see it for half that price any day now.) While I think the spotlight guys going after price point rather than electronic durability, I just bought a couple to give it a try. Had to cable padlock the flags after initially losing a couple of expensive ones. Guess I'll need to be concerned about the light fixtures as well.

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NEWS ABOUT CHERRYDALERS

Bob McAtee, Maywood's oldest resident and the person who has lived in the neighborhood the longest, is back at home now after spending several weeks first in the Arlington Hospital and then at the Cherrydale rehab center. At 95, he's defied the odds. He has almost constant care these days, but he is somewhat mobile with a walker, and his mind is clear. He's interested in helping as he can in celebrating the centenary of Maywood. Rumor is that he's lived at his house at 3200 N. 22nd Street since 1916! Some of you know he's a fount of information about Maywood over the decades. He likes to tell stories of the old days. **He welcomes visitors:** late morning or the afternoon seem to be best.

Congratulations to Cherrydaler **Ray Caputo**, who works at the Army Topographic Engineering Center and received the U.S. Geospatial Intelligence Foundation's Geospatial Intelligence Achievement Award in October. Ray was recognized for his exceptional support, promotion, and development of GeoPDF. GeoPDF allows soldiers to print easy-to-read maps "on demand" and access detailed, up-to-date information.

BROMPTONS UPDATE

And so the abandoned Bromptons condo building remains . . . In September 2008, the County Board authorized the County Attorney to institute all necessary legal action to compel compliance with the order of Building Official and to recover any costs incurred by the County in doing so. The County Attorney filed a Complaint for Injunctive Relief in the Circuit Court of Arlington County in October.

As of today, the court has not set a date to hear this case. At the County Board meeting on December 13, the Board deferred consideration of declaring this Bromptons a blighted property, which would allow the County to demolish the building without going through the courts, until the June Board meeting. This is because if the County were to demolish the building without going through the courts, the likelihood is very limited that that the County would recover the cost of demolition. And so the abandoned Bromptons condo building remains . . .

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THE VIEW FROM MY PORCH – MAY YOU LIVE IN INTERESTING TIMES

by Andy Murphy



It's too cold to sit on the porch, and I'm finally putting Josephine, our wooden cow, in the garage before the snows begin; but I muse, porch-like, on the following:

When my first wife, the mother of my two daughters, and I wanted to get married 45 years ago, Virginia and 18 other states had made it against the law. We were of different races: She was Black; I was White. (I wonder about capitalizing those two words.)

Those anti-miscegenation laws legitimized other forms of discrimination too, making it very difficult, for example, to find housing.

We not only had to go into Washington DC to get married, we also had a hard time getting anyone in the entire metro region to rent us an apartment.

Three years later in 1967, a Supreme Court decision triggered by a Virginia couple's suit ruled such laws unconstitutional, and as we know, subsequent decisions and laws outlawed school segregation, opened voting booths, and generally aimed us toward a less color-based society. No longer would we get turned away at a motel or come across a restaurant with a separate Colored Entrance. The couple's name was Loving; who says irony is dead?

And now we have a Black president. Wow!

P.S. She and I have since remarried, but our large blended family spends most holidays and some vacations together; it works well for us. My daughters and their children are proud of us. My younger daughter, Tara, once offered the following toast at a large Christmas dinner gathering here on Pollard Street: "To all the parents you can get!"

May we all continue to live in interesting times.

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