

# SWEET&SOUR NEWS

DISTRIBUTED TO 1350  
CHERRYDALE RESIDENTS  
AND BUSINESSES

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## CHERRYDALE CITIZENS ASSOCIATION 2010 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Have you paid your dues for 2010? 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.

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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

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# SWEET&SOUR NEWS

THE BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CHERRYDALE CITIZENS ASSOCIATION • November-December, 2010

### Next Meeting:

**CHERRYDALE  
CITIZENS  
ASSOCIATION  
NOVEMBER 17, 2010  
7:30PM**

### AGENDA:

**1. CHERRYDAYLE CITI-  
ZENS ASSOCIATION  
ELECTION OF OFFICERS:  
NOMINATIONS FROM  
FLOOR**

**2. BROMPTON'S UNDER-  
GROUNDING UPDATE  
AND SITE CHOICES**

**3. COUNTY TIMELINE  
FOR UNDERGROUND  
UTILITIES-OR NOT.**

**4. NEIGHBORHOOD  
CONSERVATION UP-  
DATE**

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### Lee Hwy Undergrounding - A Brief History of Time, A 10 Year History of Decline? In 3 parts.

contributed by Maureen Ross

The undergrounding process along Lee Hwy from Kenmore/I66 to the 5-points intersection at N Quincy St has taken over 16 years. Around 1999 /2000 Lee Hwy was widened by cutting back the medians, and all trees thereof cut down and replanted. In 2003 the undergrounding process began on the southeastern-most side of Lee. It remained a construction site by the 66 on-ramp for 7 years and is still unfinished. Who knows how the mess impacted the business there (BONO films)? AHC has their sidewalk ready for undergrounding. But the Bromptons section has been endlessly delayed. N Pollard Street is narrowed to almost 1 way egress, and has a dangerous and substandard sidewalk on the fire station side without curb protection for pedestrians. The County still hasn't determined how to finish the undergrounding to the 5-points intersection though we have some ideas. Left behind as a result of the long undergrounding process are pedestrian obstructions on N Lincoln, loss of well over 40 trees, opportunities for adding canopy, inadequate operation of a new street (Pollard), and a sense of long neglect. Here then is the story, believe it or not, greatly shortened.

#### Part 1: Pollard Street

As early as February, 2011, the twenty-four 2-bedroom units at the Bromptons condos could be occupied as well as the moderate sized retail space below. Parking will be tight. There are 27 residential parking spaces (24 units + only 3 for visitors). The retail was deliberately under parked by the County which adopted "revitalization" regulations halving the parking requirements for the Lee Hwy/Cherrydale area. Already N Pollard Street is around 80% fully parked on many if not most days. Parking therefore is likely to be tight once this building is occupied. The street parking plan includes 6 metered on Oakand St west-side, 5 meters on Lee, and 14 unmetered on Pollard. East-side parking remains the same on Oakland. Pollard St needs a certain number of spaces reserved for fire fighters. The County will likely review the parking meter concept when the Brompton condos open, as with Pollard St already heavily parked it might need meters as well, at least during the day. This street parking was counted on to make up for underserved retail. Swiftly on the heels of the 2003 County approval of the "Bromptons at Cherrydale" site-plan, the CCA voted unanimously to "request that the County Board amend the terms of the Lee Highway/Cherrydale Revitalization District to the effect of denying any developer of any proposed future development

(see page 2-Lee Highway Undergrounding)

### Candidates Debate

Let's give a cheer for Margie McKelvey CCA secretary and our organizer for the well- attended Candidates Debate October 20th. Believe it or not Margie had to leave for Chad the night before the event but it all ran smoothly because of her planning. For the past several years we have combined with fellow near-by associations so I want to extend a big thanks to folks from Donaldson Run, Dover Crystal, Chain Bridge Forest and Maywood for attending. John O'Reilly and Katherine Christensen collected and organized the questions, I (Maureen Ross) moderated. Our timer Mike Green wielded the cowbell! Harry Spector once again videoed, edited and YouTube'd the evening's debate. CB debate He will posted the direct links daily on the listserv. People can also search "CherrydaleVideos2" on YouTube. If any of the other civic assns. want him to forward the links to them when available let him know who to email! Thanks Harry! The two candidates for the School Board and the three for the County Board all confirmed early on. School Board candidates were Sally Baird and Miriam Genari and for County Board we had Chris Zimmerman, Kevin Chisholm, and Mark Kelly. The Congressional candidates were already booked for an event down near Telegraph Rd. and but Mr. Murray's campaign always talked about hoping to attend and called Monday to say he could indeed. We never heard from Congressman Moran, and we heard just the day before the event that Capt. Ron Fisher of the Green Party would attend. However he got lost and arrived after 9:20PM when we ended. Congressman Moran attended our first 2 debates, coming late the 2nd time. Too bad he didn't attend this year as the attendance was one of our best. (see page 3-Candidates)

Swiftly on the heels of the 2003 County approval of the “Bromptons at Cherrydale” site-plan, the CCA voted unanimously to “request that the County Board amend the terms of the Lee Highway/Cherrydale Revitalization District to the effect of denying any developer of any proposed future development in this Lee Highway/Cherrydale Revitalization District any "special exception" rights or special zoning rules to provide fewer parking spaces for such development than allowed by-right in the County for such development....” Experience has shown that successful Cherrydale retail must have easy access to parking. The exemption is Dunkin Donuts, a fast food spot that flourishes via short drop-in visits, just about doubling traffic on N Monroe St. much to resident consternation.

Complicating the anticipated parking problem on N Pollard St. is the narrowed egress by Lee Hwy, where a phone pole sticks 12.5 feet into Pollard St. In 2008 just as we finally got County to make Ed Peete move the chain link fence away from the old sidewalk on Lee, VDOT contractors added a handicap ramp narrowing Pollard street by an additional 3 feet. At the deepest “pinch” Pollard is now only 19.2 feet wide, even encroaching 6 inches into the “sidewalk” by the firehouse. The nonconforming sidewalk at that spot is only 39 inches wide. It lacks curb and gutter, and provides no defense from cars, which frequently run over part of the walk when turning onto Pollard from Lee heading southeast. (See Photo) Already it is challenging for 2 small cars to pass each other, one waiting to exit onto Lee Hwy and the other to enter Pollard. But for 2 SUVs or trucks it is almost impossible and certainly even dangerous if there are also pedestrians on the Pollard sidewalk. (See photos.) County plans to remove the handicap ramp but that will add only 3 feet, and after all, no car wants to ride just 2 feet from a pole in order to navigate a turn so removal of the ramp helps only a little. Note the CCA has repeatedly asked for this action for 2 years.

**Part 2: Undergrounding History - “a brief history of time”**

The stunning frustration in all this is the sheer number of times County ignored our protestations about the narrowing of Pollard St. and the dozens of inquiries made about the entire Lee Hwy utility undergrounding process. In November 2004 County Engineer Robert Froh informed us, “The undergrounding of overhead utilities on the south side of Lee Hwy from Oakland to I-66 is in progress” and estimated completion in 6 months! The County will perform ... service connections while Dominion builds the new electric facilities necessary to "energize" the new underground electric facility. The Dominion work includes work such as installing pad-mounted switches and transformers and connections to the main electric lines.” The switches discussed are the controversial ones placed at the entrance to Bono films, on the downhill a few feet from sidewalk. Here the county insisted on placing the large switches, mounted on a raised platform, where (3) 4x5 foot boxes will loom 7-8 feet over pedestrians just where the bike path meets Lee Hwy. This is the site Cherrydale had chosen for several shade trees for this long hot treeless block.

Bono films owner spent \$8,000 in legal fees defending his property. The CCA asked County to move the switches back 8-10 feet, still on VDOT land but County engineers refused giving varying estimates of cost for moving. (see photo). Undergrounding was planned by the County as early as the 1994 Lee Hwy/Cherrydale Revitalization Plan. The earliest emails I can find about any action taken would be 2003. We’ve had numerous promises of near completion, including Mr. Froh’s above in 2004, and last year by County Chief Engineer Luis Aroya (August 10, 2009), “DES is currently working on finalizing the design plans for undergrounding the utilities along Lee Highway . Dominion Virginia Power and Verizon are actively working with the County to resolve the final design issues that should enable the project to move forward sometime in the spring of 2010.” In fact it was only this past summer that engineers reopened the files and started once again working on the plan. They resumed in part because the CCA ratcheted up the inquiries. What has County done with all the extra time it had to resolve planning issues so that the undergrounding would occur before occupancy of the condos? It’s a mystery. We do know that as a result of the undergrounding “process” we have a hundred pound loop of cable tied to a phone pole on N Lincoln St, which often leans into the sidewalk. (see photo). We have a NEW phone pole actually blocking the center of the sidewalk just 30 ft up, set in place despite 2-3 years of CCA objections. (See Photo). We have lost well over 30 trees (half the sites along Lee Hwy have been replanted twice already, killed due to combination of construction, salt and lack of maintenance). We’ve sent countless requests for better monitoring of construction clean up or lack thereof. Lee Highway is a rundown sorry mess with few exceptions. Ten years of intermittent ineffective stop-and-start construction has provided us with a perfect example of the broken window theory. Allow a dirt, debris and disorder, an air of neglect, and it sets an example for businesses and even pedestrians to not care about their surroundings. But worse, it allows the County to think about Lee Hwy and Cherrydale as an unimportant afterthought to development elsewhere. County is responsible for planning and supervising construction along Lee Hwy and it has done a pitiable job. (see Photos)

**Part 3: The End?**

Now they tell us it will take another 2 years to complete the undergrounding. Last month we met with engineers to discuss one of the options - take the underground south down Quincy a block then turn right on 21st, west a block and right again on Quebec for final undergrounding. There are several reasons for choosing this option. But there is an old church there, which has no parking. County would insist on widening the sidewalk, (where there are no residents) and that one mean loss of on-street parking on one side. Or there could be an exception to widening but they still need room for a straight row of phone pole, somewhat in the street. A way around that is to insert phone pole “curbs” which would allow a few spaces for parking at least. This is a little used street except on Sundays for services. But if there is reduced parking the churchgoers will have to use the residential blocks. We’ll be presenting the options at the November meeting. Your input is needed. We will post a fairly exhaustive list of communications with the County on our website. If you are interested in this list and can’t find it on the website contact Maureen Ross and she will email it to you.

**NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION UPDATE**

contributed by Harry Spector  
Changes are coming to Neighborhood Conservation (NC) programs and projects. At its October meeting, the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC ) voted to established a new “micro projects” program and expand Missing Links.

Here are the details about each:

**1. New Micro Projects Program**

Nearly every Arlington neighborhood has a NC project “wish list,” but because so much effort goes into bringing projects to fruition the low dollar ones get tossed to the wayside.

The Micro Projects program seeks to mitigate this consequence by only funding projects under \$10,000.

Each NC affiliated neighborhood will be able to choose one NC type project every two years. Unlike conventional NC projects, however, no “points” are needed to obtain funding. The only requirement is that the civic association votes and approves the project.

NCAC has allotted \$100,000 from its bond funding to pay for these projects. Therefore, the number of projects that can be accepted in any given bond period is limited, and projects are built out on a first come, first serve basis.

If you have an idea for a micro project stay tuned. CCA will soon be asking for your ideas as well as taking a vote at an upcoming CCA meeting. Keep in mind that \$10,000 is a tiny amount of money as far as a capital project goes so do not let your ideas get too big.

**2. Missing Links Expansion**

The corner of Quebec and 20<sup>th</sup> St. is a great example of the good work the Missing Link project does. Last spring the sidewalk on 20<sup>th</sup> St., which stopped 30ft or so before the end of the block, was extended to Quebec and an ADA ramp was installed. Now school kids do not have to walk in the street.

But the program has limitations that are intended to keep the projects low cost in order to complete as many missing pieces as possible. However, from time to time modifications are made to expand the field of feasible projects.

The Missing Links program was modified to now include the following:

- 1) Missing curb and pedestrian curb cuts
- 2) Cover the cost of shrub removal (owner permission still required for removal, but owner doesn't have to pay for removal as previously required)
- 3) Allow projects to connect to an opposing corner or other ADA accessible point. (Staff also seemed amenable to completing sidewalk where there are non-contiguous gaps. This is not "official" but it was indicated that these types of projects would now be considered if the gap was within the three home range).

If you know of a block that could be eligible as a Missing Links project under either the “old” rules or that now falls within the current ones please email **Harry Spector** or **Maureen Ross**. (see next column)

**3. Cherrydale Missing Links Projects**

Thanks to the very hard work of a lot of volunteers like Steve Lent, Phil Vitale, Jim Todd, and everyone who helped update the Cherrydale Neighborhood Conservation Plan to earn Cherrydale project points the neighborhood now has three fully funded NC Projects. 18<sup>th</sup> St. finally looks to be overcoming the engineering entanglements that have hobbled it for years. According to NC staff this project should be a GO for next year. This project will be full paving, curb, gutter, sidewalk, and Carlyle street lights.

N. Randolph (between 17<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>) has never skipped a beat and is ready to start as soon as the contractors are, which should last spring or early summer ’11. This is another full paving, curb, gutter, sidewalk and street light project.

N. Kenmore St (between Lee Hwy and 20<sup>th</sup> St). This project is also ready to go pending availability of contractors and scheduled for summer ’11. If that occurs it will be an approximate one year turn around from funding round to construction, which, if not a record is pretty close to being one. This project will install sidewalk, curb, and gutter on the west side of N. Kenmore to 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Street Lights**

contributed by Maureen Ross

Persistence wins! **Shaudy Ridgway** was happy to get a better street light at 2066 Lincoln Street and 3445 20<sup>th</sup> St N. First she put in her request, then she had to get a petition signed by nearest neighbors. Finally, when the improvement project lagged behind she sent a few inquiring emails. “I sent mine too and Voila!” says Ms. Ridgway, “I'd like to thank everyone and especially Vivian for their persistence with this effort. I noticed last night that the light on our street was nice and bright similar to those on other streets. I'm glad to no longer live on a dark street where safety could be an issue for us and our guests. I'm very glad that this was taken care of before Halloween as we've had very few trick or treaters and I've often wondered if the dark street contributed to children not visiting our street.’ So if you have a street light problem, contact Vivian Li <[Vli@arlingtonva.us](mailto:Vli@arlingtonva.us)> and copy president@Cherrydale.net.

To those of you who made Cherrydale Street Light Requests, here's the process you have to complete: get 51% of neighbors approving the light, so if you live at a corner that's about 8 neighbor households; send the petition to Mr. Sarma, copy me; he sends to VA Power and about 2 months later you get the light.

**An Evening with Odds Bodkin  
Master Storyteller**

Odds Bodkin, storyteller extraordinaire, is visiting Arlington for the 8th time from his home in New Hampshire. Spend an evening with Odds at Kenmore Middle School in Arlington on Friday, November 19. The performance starts at 7 p.m. and will feature stories from all over the world. Tickets are \$10/person or (\$8/person for groups of 10 or more) in advance and \$12/person at the door. Tickets can be purchased by: calling 703-528-5406; visiting Potomac Overlook Regional Park in Arlington; or visiting Silver Diner in Clarendon (3200 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22201).

This is not one of those kids events parents dread and must suffer through – Odds Bodkin keeps kids age 6 and up as well as the adults who love them enthralled! An amazing musician, Odds alte nately jams on his electric guitar, plays gorgeous harp music and keeps the beat with all manner of percussive instruments to aid his fabulous storytelling. Odds Bodkin has performed live, on recordings and on TV and radio all over the United States and several foreign countries as well. Find out more about him at <http://www.oddsbodkin.net/>.

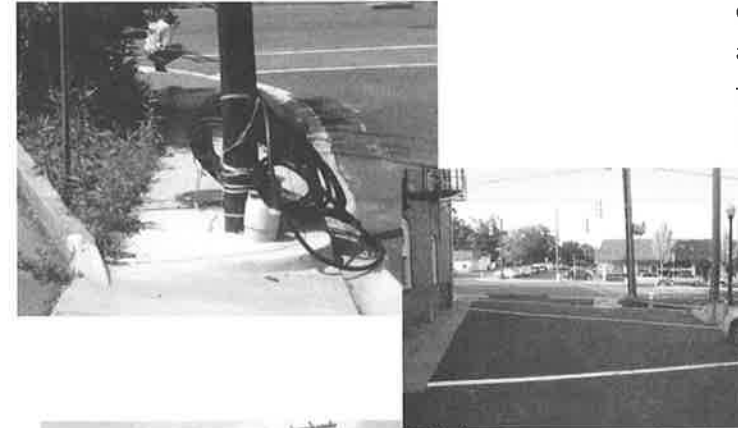
Potomac Overlook will be the site of a storytelling workshop – “The Door to Imagination” – for parents, educators, children and youth leaders, and anyone else (14 or older) who would like to learn and experience the wonderful world of storytelling from a master. The workshop will be held on Saturday, November 20, 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. and the cost is \$55/person. Call for information and a registration form. For information about the park, please see <http://www.nvrpa.org/park/potomacoverlook/>

Kenmore Middle School, site of the performance, is located at 200 S. Carlin Springs Road in Arlington. For more information or to purchase tickets for the performance or workshop, call 703-528-5406 or visit Potomac Overlook Regional Park (located at 2845 Marcey Road, off of Military Road, in north Arlington).

**Alice Ashin, Cherrydale Resident and Artist**

Alice Ashin, who lived on N. 17th street for the last 7 years, died peacefully this summer. She was 90 years old. Alice was born in Villisca, Iowa in 1920, graduated from the University of Iowa, and lived most of her life around the University of Chicago, where her husband Mark was a professor of English. After his death, she moved to Arlington to be near her son, Paul, who lives in the Virginia Square area. Alice trained at the Art Institute of Chicago school and was an avid painter as long as her eyesight permitted. She showcased some of her work at the Celebrate Cherrydale Artist event 2007. Even after that, she kept up with her second avocation of gardening, and could often be seen hard at work among the irises. Paul is planning a memorial showing of her work sometime later in the year and would welcome any friends and neighbors from Cherrydale who would like to attend. Information will be provided through the newsletter. Tentative planning is for January 15, 2011 at the Arlington Arts Center.

**Photos From Page 2 Undergrounding Article**




(candidates from page 1)

Being the only candidate showing for congress Mr. Murray was allowed an opening statement and 15 or so minutes of Q&A. During this last part we stopped collecting and he took questions from the audience, which went very well until one person seemed to belabor a personal question rather too long. That's why we collect questions rather than take for the audience but I suppose a tough moderator can keep order. What would YOU like to see at the next debate? Finally, let's all mark our calendars and record the PROMISE delivered by CB Chris Zimmerman in regards to the Bromptons condos and undergrounding - question - "Will you commit to a strict timetable like the one your chief building inspector used to keep the Bromptons reconstruction on time this past year? They did that by turning around ANY action they were responsible for within a week of each submission." Mr. Zimmerman said, "YES". Let's hold him to it!



**Woes and Welcomes**

Our welcomewagon@Cherrydale.net address just will not work. So Janet Herrmann advises you to email her about new residents at [jherrmann@SaintAgnes.org](mailto:jherrmann@SaintAgnes.org). She'll deliver a warm greeting and welcome packet to any new resident you tell her about. Janet gets most of her referrals from Evan Lacopo, who checks the real estate section every month. Since August we know of only 2 finalized home purchases hence just 2 packets have gone out.



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# CHERRYDALE PARADE 2010

contributed by Maureen Ross

Once again we had a wonderful parade organized by the **Springston/Holt family**. Thank you **Scott, Kathy and Dakota**. They organize this event every year starting months in advance so we can get the marching band. It's a lot of work! Thanks also to near neighbors especially **John MacEachen** and **Anthony Martinez** who both towed some of the kids in tractors while the children threw candy. **Gloria Hurdle** took pictures which we'll use in the newsletter and our website. The **Fire Department** and our own dear **Cherrydale Volunteer Fire Dept** marched with us too as well as a police car lead. **Katherine Christensen** and her daughter **Erika** carried our banner.

This year the band disappointed us by not showing up. Huge bummer. We are going to work on this issue of commitment for next year... It seems we can never get a solid commitment, even when we base the date solely on when the band says it's available.

*I have asked the School Superintendent, Mr. Murphy for his help in ensuring the band's ability to participate in our parade. I also invited him to attend. I understand he is a cherry pie lover.*

We awarded costume awards to best group, best pet, best car, most scary, youngest member, oldest member, you get the picture. I can't recall who won the cherry pie eating contest. If you recall the names of our various winners email me. Mark Kelly running for county board came by to meet folks, but unlike previous years this year we didn't have the presiding County Board member stop by. (Sometimes candidates do and sometimes they don't, no biggie.).

Next year I would like volunteers willing to post yard signs advertising the parade. We'll also use our Cherrydale Business Liaison to talk with near businesses about joining the parade. AND, I would love to have volunteer costume designers for decorating bikes and tractors. Funny marching groups would be amusing too (lawnmower precision team, snow shoveling brigade). If you have ideas AND FOLLOW THRU contact Scott and Kathy. We love help!

SO again, thank you Scot and Kathy for this labor of love every year. I love you guys!



(more photos see page 5)



# MORE WORK NEEDED IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD



# Oct 2 Park Improvement Event

contributed by Maureen Ross

We thank participants **Tom Korns, Grey Borys, Chief Scott Pardi** (Cherrydale Volunteer Fire Dept) and his daughter **Emily, John O'Sullivan**, (also a volunteer with the CVFD) and myself **Maureen Ross**. **Rob Beckman** labored with county parks expert Pat Wengeng in a different area planting trees. Sorry no pix of them!

This park event was part of the master plan from our, yes, Cherrydale Master Plan for Parks and Open Spaces approved unanimously by the CCA in 2004. We have conducted at least 3 major park clean up events a year since then, slowly but surely transforming the 2 pond areas from scary inaccessible weed piles shrouded by invasive vines to more open space that is still habitat for local fauna, yet welcoming to people. We've also had at least 4 major eagle scout events, each one building on the other. Most recently **Jack Beckman's** team established a trail on the residential side of the pond.

**Tom Korns** has kept the upper and lower sides of the pond mowed to keep the vines from creeping back. Maureen and Tom cleared the path further a few weeks ago in preparation for this past Saturday event where we continued the path around Hidden Pond, removed more invasive vines and opened the pond entrance area. More is yet to come. If you would like to volunteer call Maureen at 703 675 3035. You can check out more photos at our website [Cherrydale.net](http://Cherrydale.net)



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**Cherrydale Branch Library Happenings**

**2190 N. Military Road; 703-228-6330**

Citizens for Cherrydale Library Website: [www.CherrydaleLibrary.org](http://www.CherrydaleLibrary.org)

**Hours:**

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

**Fall Kids' Storytimes. No Registration Required.**

**"Stop in for Stories": Wednesdays at 4:00 pm, through Nov. 17.** For children of all ages and an accompanying adult. This fun and interactive program combines activities such as read-aloud stories, songs, rhymes, fingerplays, and flannel boards and introduces children to listening skills, picture books, the library, and the joy of reading. The Library encourages full and active participation of the accompanying adults.

**"2 & Under": Thursdays at 10:30 am, through Nov. 18.** For children ages two and under and an accompanying adult. Singing, dancing, clapping to nursery rhymes and simple stories will introduce young children to the joys of language and literature. The Library encourages full and active participation of the accompanying adults. **(No storytime on Veterans Day, Nov. 11.)**

**\*\*Check with Library in mid-December for information on Winter Kids' Storytimes, beginning in January.\*\***

**Book Discussions for Adults**

Usually held on the second Monday of the month with books available a month in advance. Please call the library to sign up for a discussion or to reserve a title.

Monday, December 13 (7:30 pm): **The Woman Behind the New Deal: The Life and Legacy of Frances Perkins, Social Security, Unemployment Insurance, and the Minimum Wage**, by Kirstin Downey, winner of the Pulitzer Prize. Published 2009. . . Amazon reader rating: 4-1/2 stars (out of a possible 5 stars). . . 398 pp of text **(Five weeks will be available to read this title).**

Monday, January 10 (7:30 pm): **Unaccustomed Earth: Stories**, #1 National Bestseller, by Jhumpa Lahiri, winner of the Pulitzer Prize and author of *The Namesake*. Published 2008. . . Amazon reader rating: 4-1/2 stars (out of 5) . . . 352 pp.

*A New York Times Book Review Best Book of the Year. "Starred Review. The gulf that separates expatriate Bengali parents from their American-raised children and that separates the children from India [is] Lahiri's subject. [The results are again stunning. . . [The lives of Hema and Kaushik intersect over the years. . . Lahiri's stories of exile, identity, disappointment and maturation evince a spare and subtle mastery that has few contemporary equals." --Publishers Weekly.*

Monday, February 7 (7:30 pm): (first Monday, because of Valentine's Day) **The State of Jones: The Small Southern County that Seceded from the Confederacy**, Nonfiction by Sally Jenkins and John Stauffer. Published 2009. . . Amazon reader rating: 4 stars (out of 5) . . . 316 pp. of text.

"Moving and powerful. . . An important story that personalizes what remains abstract and counterintuitive in much of our received history of the Civil War, even as we approach its 150th anniversary." --*The Washington Post*

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## Check Out the Great Wall of History At the Pasha Café

Drop by the Pasha Café to feed body, mind and soul. The owner, our own Bill Hamrock, sometimes guided by neighbors like Greg Embre, Kathy Holt and the reference staff at Central and Cherrydale Libraries to create a wall of Cherrydale history along the entire west side of the restaurant. Visit to learn some terrific Cherrydale history.

According to Bill, "When I first started doing the research for historical photos of Arlington I really was not sure what I would find or what I was looking for. I knew I wanted to keep it local. I wanted it to be interesting and fit in with our neighborhood. I wanted something that Cherrydale could relate to. The more research I did the more interesting the project became. The Virginia Room at the Arlington County Library is a great resource. They are extremely helpful. The Library of Congress also has a great site with a lot of history. In addition to my historical photos I also wrote up a page of local facts. Did you know in 1912 there was a 400 hundred seat theater in Cherrydale???"

Some of the photographs he's used you too can find.

1. go to Library of Congress web site
2. click on digital collections
3. click on prints and photos
4. Type in Arlington Beach

About 19 photos will come up. They are all already prepared in files to save. His favorites are 13935-14148 and 08884.

So thank you Bill Hamrock for preserving Cherrydale History, serving great food, and creating a great neighborhood café we love to visit. If you are interested in more, or café hours, call 703-528-1111.



### Cherrydale Business Liaison Update

A few months ago we started a Lee Highway Improvement Process. Laurel Gowan, Advertising Director for SSN, is a key actor as we work to improve the street- scape, tree canopy and local business success. Laurel is in the process of contacting Cherrydale businesses in hopes of forming a stronger neighborhood alliance. As Laurel writes, "We would like to present a unified voice to the county government, and improve our ability to cultivate Cherrydale."

Part of our goals communicated by Laurel are described, "Our most pressing concerns are caring for the new saplings the county will be planting. We need businesses to step up to keep them alive (mulch, water, weed, even plant bulbs). We are also seeking assurance from Dunkin' Donuts' that they'll keep their fire hydrant clear this winter. Red Top Cab, the owners of the dilapidated Cherrydale Auto/Ivey Welding property, are looking into maintenance projects we suggested, and are working hard to find a new tenant who will instigate renovations. They will continue to keep the CCA updated."

Laurel attaches a few photos of the owners property when she sends our letter asking for support and neighborliness. We have promised to praise the businesses that improve their properties and maintain the street scape in front of them. We'll be posting before and after pictures, hopefully, in one of the Spring newsletters. In the meantime, we are also asking businesses to shovel the sidewalk when they plow their parking lot. Thank you Laurel!

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### Farewell to a Family Owned Business

Tim Bono says farewell and welcomes you to stop by Bono Films at their new site in College Park. An established Cherrydale business, Bono Films had its 49th anniversary this year. They've been at the Cherrydale site on Lee Hwy at the 166 entrance since 1986. Specializing in film restoration, digital conversion and digital assistance management, Bono Films does work for the Smithsonian, National Archives, NIH and numerous other agencies preserving history. He preserved my mom's record album too! Bono Film had a run of hard times in the past few years: Several huge old trees crashed thru their roof from the hillside above; the County made the entrance to their parking lot a construction site for about the past 5 years as part of the undergrounding of Lee Hwy utilities; and the taxes were exorbitant. They paid 16,800\$ yearly in real estate tax and 7,000\$ a year in property tax on the expensive computers they used for work. County charges a minimum of 20% of the cost of the machines at original price, so that depreciation can never bring the tax lower. Hmm and we thought the car tax was tough. Finally family concerns forced a decision to move to Maryland.

The move has been good for them. Lower taxes and they are right next door to major customers. But they still give the individual excellent care too. You can visit them at Bonofilm.com, Bonolab.com, or 9215 51st Ave, No 11, College Park MD 20740, or call 703 243 0800. Their property is for sale.

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### Signs of the Times

contributed by Maureen Ross

Are you tired of seeing sign ads cluttering the public spaces along street medians and sidewalks? There is an effort afoot to get the County to "deputize" citizen volunteers to help remove illegal signs along public spaces. There just really aren't enough inspectors and they don't work weekends when the most signs are placed. Last year a citizen collected illegal signs along local roads and was sued by the business who had erected the signs!

In response County has proposed an amendment that "would strengthen the enforcement process by explicitly stating that a firm, corporation, owner, agent, or occupant, (in addition to a person) may be responsible for violations and additionally makes it unlawful for the party responsible for causing or, with knowledge, to permit the three specific types of criminal violations as set forth in Section 37.G of the Zoning Ordinance and provides that the firm or corporation can be cited and held criminally liable for that violation. To the extent staff can ascertain a responsible person who caused or permitted with knowledge another person to post a sign, they could proceed against the responsible party to enforce the violation.

Well, it's a start. But the proposal fails to allow for citizens to remove the illegal signs along public spaces. We need an inexpensive way to remove the clutter - volunteers! We are not talking about LEGAL signs, such as political ad and real estate signs. Thus volunteers would have to be trained as to what was legal, and when so that the law was followed fairly.

This item will come before the Board for action at the December 11, 2010 meeting. Interested? Show up!



(Pictured L to R) Firefighter-Recruit Mike Herren, Firefighter-EMT Arnab Sinha, Firefighter-EMT John O'Sullivan, Firefighter Jeff Perry, Firefighter-EMT Jack Baber, CCA President Maureen Ross, Recruit Alex Doumas, Firefighter Fred Kukelhaus, Firefighter-EMT Mike Doyle.

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