



Sweet & Sour News



THE BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CHERRYDALE CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
MARCH 2012

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, March 21, 2012
The Historic Cherrydale
Volunteer Fire Department
Fire Hall
3900 Lee Highway, 2nd floor
7:30 p.m.

AGENDA:

Art Project Presentation &
Vote 7:30 sharp
NCP Presentation & Vote
8:00

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CIRCLE THE DATE:

May 16, 2012
CCA Meeting
June 9, 2012
Annual Cherrydale Yard Sale

Neighborhood Conservation Project Vote

At March's Cherrydale Citizen's Association meeting, we will be voting for our favorite NCP (Neighborhood Conservation Project) which will be submitted to the NC Board for funding. **THIS IS A VERY IMPORTANT MEETING**— don't miss it! Only paid up CCA members can vote!

The NCP selection process has been underway for a few months. Proposals for improvements to our community, to be paid for with taxpayer funding, were submitted to the Cherrydale Citizens' Association (CCA) during February. A brief description of each proposal accepted by the CCA Board, as well as a more detailed description as to how the voting will proceed, can be found on page 4 of this newsletter. The accepted proposals are also available for viewing at our website: WWW.CHERRYDALE.NET

At our March meeting these four proposals will be narrowed down by the repeated vote of the members of the CCA — make sure your dues are paid, only one vote per dues paying household! We will select just one project. Be there to insure your views on these projects will be heard! Projects are:

1. Oak Grove Park Improvement
2. Cherrydale Park Improvement
3. Trees and parking nubs installed on Randolph Street
4. Sidewalk access on Monroe Street

Art Contest Vote

The Cherrydale Citizens' Association, along with Maywood and Maywood Mews, in conjunction with the Christopher Companies, sponsored a competition to create a work of art that will be placed in the median of Lee Highway opposite Christopher Companies' new building under construction at the corner of Lee Highway and North Monroe Street. Residents of these three communities will vote to award 1st and 2nd place winners at the CCA meeting March 21. You will have the opportunity to view the top six choices at the Cherrydale Library from March 1-20. The award goes to the artist whose proposal we like best, who can also create and install the work by August 30th, 2012. The restrictions for the art are quite strict and unchangeable.

Six submissions have been accepted:

1. Alan Binstock, a sculpture of glass and steel
 2. Mark Cooley and Elizabeth Hall, a sculpture of railroad ties
 3. Jarrett Ferrier, an historical mural, mounted on railroad ties
 4. Rob Lindsay, a mosaic sculpture of a frog on a fountain
 5. Gaines W. (Pat) Monk, a tubular steel sculpture
 6. Valerie Theberge, a mosaic sculpture
- See page 5 of this newsletter for more details.

THE SOUR

Lee Highway Pedestrian Safety Walking Tour Findings

On January 24, 2012 our president Maureen Ross lead another tour of Cherrydale's downtown along Lee Highway for representatives of our Country Manager and County staff. Here is a brief summary of problems which were noted on the walk, along with the answers from Arlington County in italics. For full report and photographs, see our website WWW.CHERRYDALE.NET

Problem - clogged storm sewer - Bottom of North Monroe Street corner at Lee Highway,
Issue was forwarded to the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and they are following up on this matter.

Problem - Recently broken curb and storm sewer 3212 Lee Highway.
Issue was forwarded to VDOT and they are following up on this matter. Anticipated timeframe for repair is spring/summer.

Problem - Lee Highway Bus Stop between I-66 underpass and car repair shop - permanent mud puddle, reported three weeks before the tour.
Issue was forwarded to VDOT. There is debate as to who is responsible.

Problem - Weeds, debris, along entire sidewalk underpass to end of concrete wall.
Issue was forwarded to VDOT and they are following up on this matter.

Problem - Debris blocking stairs up to Maywood at end of concrete wall. Reported weeks ago also.
Issue was forwarded to the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and they are following up on this matter. Arlington removed much of the debris.

Problem - Our "new" brick sidewalks are uneven, creating puddles, yet diverting water away from Tree aisles, look unprofessional and pedestrian unfriendly. Trip Hazards.
Pavers do not meet VDOT's standards, so VDOT will not maintain this sidewalk. Maintenance at this location is the responsibility of the property owner. County staff met with Safeway's manager on February 3rd and asked him to update us on his progress within 30 days.

Problem - Pothole repairs on our cross walk N Military crossing Rt 29/Lee Hwy - This cross walk lasted about a year after installation and has been a repair patch ever since. Did the County not plan for repairs for new sidewalk by replacing bricks?
The County's Water/Sewer/Streets Bureau is considering the best option for rehabilitating this sidewalk. Once research is complete, staff will provide information to the Citizen's Association.

Unresolved Problems - Tree pits -who is responsible for maintaining them in front of retail? What are the sign rules for posting on VDOT property? Who is responsible for trash removal along Lee Highway? One bus stop lacks trash can, another one is blocked by the trash can.

Street Milling and Paving for 2012

It's almost Spring! That means road work!! Arlington has just released the list of roads that will be milled and repaved this season. Francis Soulamany is Arlington's project manager for the preventive maintenance program which is scheduled to start in mid March 2012 and will end around November 2012, weather permitting. Our neighborhood will be inconvenienced during field operation. A flyer will be mailed out to each of the addresses on the affected streets ahead of the operation. A door hanger, which provides some information about planned activities and suggestions for residents, will be sent before performing work on each street. A detailed area map showing the proposed work locations can be accessed via the Internet at: <http://www.arlingtonva.us/Departments/EnvironmentalServices/cpe/pave/EnvironmentalServicesPaving.aspx> If you have comments or concerns, Soulamany can be reached at (703) 228-7822 between 7:00AM and 3:30PM, and by e-mail at fsoulamany@arlingtonva.us

Lee Highway Undergrounding Arlington County Report

By Shannon Flanagan-Watson

Cherrydale Phase I (I-66 to N Monroe St)
Dominion Virginia Power (DVP) continues their construction to transfer customer services to the new underground lines to allow for the removal of the poles. The latest schedule from DVP is listed below:

* DVP continues to coordinate outages and service cutovers with the County electrician and customers. Dominion is coordinating directly with the customers of the impacted properties. The planned outages will be isolated to the impacted properties where the conversions are occurring as part of the project.

* Outages and service cutovers are scheduled for five (5) businesses this week - (02/22/12 - 02/25/12). More outages and service cutovers are scheduled during the week of March 5-16.

* Removal of poles and overhead lines are scheduled during March 19-30.

Cherrydale Phase II (N Oakland St to west of N Quincy St)

The contract for construction of the duct banks was approved by the County Board at their February 11 meeting. County Purchasing staff is now working with the contractor (Trafford) to execute all of the necessary contract paperwork. It is anticipated that construction will begin in April. The duct bank construction will be completed near the end of 2012, at which point DVP will install the new cables and facilities, transfer the customer services, and remove the poles. This construction is expected to be completed by the end of 2013.

Reconfiguration of the east side of N Quebec St between 21st St N and Old Lee Hwy (which will accommodate required utility facilities) is scheduled to begin in March, and should continue for approximately three weeks. This work had been scheduled for January, but was delayed due to other construction needs. The re-scheduling does not have impact upon the undergrounding project schedule.

For additional information, please visit www.arlingtonva.us and search "Cherrydale Revitalization Program."

Or visit www.cherrydale.net

Lee Highway Undergrounding

By Maureen Ross





The idea of undergrounding utilities was great, but the follow thru has been deplorable, an unwise and wasteful expense of money and time, which has blighted our neighborhood for 10 years, contributed and probably caused the death of many of our street trees and made a stroll down our main street an even worse pedestrian experience! We hope by 2013 that we will no longer feel this way; by then Arlington County may, finally, have completed the long overdue project and will be maintaining the improvements on a regular basis.

Currently, at I-66 we have huge utility boxes where we didn't want them, forever preventing shade trees where we most needed them and obstructing views of the bike path. We have brick pavers that even acrobats can trip over. We have light poles narrowing 8 ft sidewalks to just 5 1/2 due to poor placement, and 3 ft walks narrowed to 24 inches. Streets trees have been replaced three times in the last 15 years. I do not believe there is a single tree older than 12- 15 years along Lee Highway in Cherrydale. We've had endless meetings, emails, and promises. Slowly Arlington has begun to meet deadlines. But, we were promised in 2001 that this project would be completed in 2003!! I offer several solutions to keep these problems from recurring:

- 1) County engineers MUST meet with neighborhood associations and WALK the project before the first dirt is dug.
- 2) County Engineers MUST meet with neighborhood associations mid way and at the end of the construction, to assure that the areas are tidied up.
- 3) Delays in construction MUST be explained and documented, and Arlington County MUST report every 2 months on progress or lack there of — via the associations newsletter (*see this month's Arlington County Report on left sidebar*).
- 4) If you build it, make sure you can maintain it. Lee Highway is not maintained adequately. If our county lacks the staffing to keep up what we have, then stop new projects until it can maintain what Arlington County already has.
- 5) Underground wires come back above ground at Quebec Street, which would allow the sidewalk to be widened and an 18 inch grass strip and curb added.

Neighborhood Conservation Plan Projects

By Harry Spector

Project Name	Current Picture	Project Description	CCA NC Points (Advisory Only)
Oak Grove Park Refurbishment		Refresh park grounds to include new play equipment and half basketball court (space permitting).	10 – Park Project
Cherrydale Park Refurbishment		Refresh park to include modern equipment and improve landscaping	10 – Park Project
N. Randolph St. Tree Nubs		3 to 4 tree nubs on west side of N. Randolph between two St. Agnes parking lot driveways	10 – Block resident participation in previous NC Plan update
N. Monroe St. Sidewalk Access/ Telephone Pole Relocation		Relocate position of poles in center of sidewalk for increased accessibility	10 – Block resident participation in previous NC Plan update

Voting for your Favorite Project

A proponent of each Neighborhood Conservation project proposal will have 5 minutes to make a presentation. At the conclusion of the last presentation, there will be a 15 minute question and comment period directed to the project presenters, CCA officers or NC Representative. Following the question and comment period, voting shall take place in multiple rounds with the project with the least votes dropped from consideration after each round until a project obtains 51% support. The project to first obtain 51% shall be Cherrydale's Number One Priority NC project., which will then be sent to Arlington County's Neighborhood Conservation Project board for further action. Remember, one vote per active CCA member's household only! Dues must be recorded as paid the day before the meeting at the very latest!! Don't mail it, drop off your dues to our Treasurer, Katherine Christensen — at 1909 Randolph.

THE SWEET

Art Contest

We have six finalists! Voting for the best will take place at the March 21st meeting at precisely 7:30 p.m. You can view the six entries at our Cherrydale Branch Library up to March 20, when they will be moved to the Cherrydale Volunteer Fire Hall. Details are available on our website. Here is a brief description of each proposal:



Alan Binstock proposes a sculpture of “glass matrix – shattered tempered glass,” “set in a painted steel construction, anchored to a raised concrete slab with perimeter footings.” His project, titled “Io,” (the moon of Jupiter) would “create a sense of place on the median and be compatible with the development context.”

Mark Cooley and Elizabeth Hall offer a sculpture of iron and earth depicting “a railroad track emerging from the ground, as if a lost track has been uncovered from the earth. The track climbs upwards and intersects with two additional tracks 30” above the ground and transforms into a sculpture symbolizing the past, present and future of the intersecting neighborhoods that share this space. The artist will conduct interviews with new and old residents of the three neighborhoods and selected quotes representing the memories of the past and hopes for the future will be engraved on the three tracks. Short stemmed perennial flowers will be planted between the tracks that emerge from the ground creating an above ground garden ...”

Jarrett Ferrier, a muralist, felt the best way to celebrate our communities would be through an historical six panel mural depicting the “spirit and high marks” of our communities. The artist plans on creating a mural to capture the attention of both pedestrians and drivers. The walls of the murals would be joined by actual railroad track (using Cherrydale’s own Ivey Welding Company’s prowess with iron) to create an attractive, yet powerful reminder of how the railroad was “an instrumental factor in molding your community into what it is today.” A “small stand would also be erected to provide greater detail” on the murals content.

Rob Lindsay sculpture’s is entitled “Bull Frog on a Lily Pad.” It would be “a geometric abstraction of a frog constructed of cast concrete,” “with a colorful mosaic facing.” “The frog will be a signature landmark to the neighborhood; as enigmatic as the Sphinx, yet whimsical as Kermit.” “The sculpture will sit on an integrated lily pad” fountain, “emblazoned with a Cherrydale 2012 inscription.”

Gaines W. (Pat) Monk would not install the art, but offered a scaled down version of a sculpture completed a year ago, which consists of twelve separate M shaped pieces, ranging in size from 55 to 6 inches tall, made of square steel tubing, painted with apple red acrylic. The base widths vary from 12 to 24 inches. Depending on installation, the sculpture would be about 16 feet long.

Valerie Theberge, a mosaic artist, felt that mosaics would be perfect for this site. “these sculptural shapes are organic pieces that retain a calm and fluid atmosphere.” “This is meant to be a reflection of our internal and external worlds, life in our homes, balancing lives in our communities. The shapes are solid sturdy objects that evoke a feeling of confidence and security and have a lightness to them that gives the viewer a sense of whimsy.” Materials would include polystyrene, mortar, fiberglass, mosaic tile and cement. The sculptures would be mounted on breakaway posts to minimize the impact to a vehicle.

Lincoln Street Utility Boot

As part of the Lee Highway electrical undergrounding, this pole on Lincoln Street, which had long blocked the sidewalk, became an even worse problem. An additional pole was added, 20 feet up the hill, which also blocks the sidewalk. Photo 1 is of the pole before the work, photo 2 is of the gravel left last winter, and 3 is the latest, with the cable gone and a huge utility boot attached, which narrows that part of the sidewalk to less than 24 inches.



#1



#2



#3

PITS AND STEMS

Signs

By Maureen Ross

On Tuesday January 24th at 11 a.m. County code inspector Shawnell Harrison joined members of the CCA for a tour of the Lee Highway retail area to demonstrate where the newly approved sandwich signs are allowed. These apron signs are only allowed for businesses with entrances on the street where the sign will be, and the sign must be taken in when the business is not open. Many parts of Lee Highway are not wide enough to maintain the minimum passage and allow for signs. Because the regulations are confusing, the CCA asked that retail managers be given copies of the regulations with clear guidelines. We also took photos of where signs will and will not be allowed. If you think you've spotted a violation, or just have a question about the new Ordinance, email one of the Officers (see back page for contact info) or post it on the listserve.

Arlington is marching relentlessly forth on it's goal to allow more signs everywhere. This impacts Lee Hwy and Quincy, where every business within a half mile will be allowed to post a temporary sign on weekends. If you want to keep our medians clean, instead of holding signs for Sport&Health, Nail Salons and Psychics (all illegally posted already) call the County Manager and the County Board (703-228-3139) and ask them not to enact these proposed new regulations. <http://www.arlingtonva.us/departments/Commissions/plancom/2012/file85228.pdf>

Have You Heard our President Speak about Cherrydale??

President Maureen Ross spoke to National Public Radio in 2006 about our great hometown! Here is the URL if you want to hear this program: http://wamu.org/programs/metro_connection/12/01/06/door_to_door_bellevue_dc_and_cherrydale_va

Potholes

It's spring! That means potholes!!! Philip Pollard, who is in charge of pothole issues for Arlington County, reminds us that the 24 hour pothole reporting number is 703-228-6555. You may want to list this number on your speed dial, to report as you go. Just be sure not to text while driving!

Five Points Intersection Progress Stalled

By Ann Beckman

Progress on improvements to the "Five Points" intersection has stalled. Despite indications from the county in December that the "puppy paws" markings would be removed, a dispute with the designated contractor has prevented any action. According to Patricia Bush, of the Department of Transportation Engineering, the county is "working diligently to resolve the contract issues and get our contractor back to work ... this location will be the first one sent to the contractor as soon as our issues are resolved." Unfortunately, in the mean time, drivers must continue to negotiate the confusion that the markings have created, while trying to turn left. County engineers also reported that adjustments were made to the timing of the light at Old Lee Highway, but from the continuing emails from residents commenting on how few cars actually get through a green light, not much seems to have improved. Elizabeth Diggs of the Department of Transportation encourages people to call the county hotline to report on concerns about traffic signal timing. The hot line number is 703-228-6511.

PARKS AND TREES

Library Tree News

After many people showed concern over the historic Chinese chestnut tree in front of the Cherrydale Library, Greg and Suzanne Embree had our County's urban forester examine the tree: Here is a condensed report on his findings, courtesy of Suzanne and Greg: "Our notable tree is basically healthy for its age, and anything we do to try to prevent erosion is likely to do more harm than good. The tree appears to be in its last stages of life, but this means it could last at least another 10 or 20 years. In ideal conditions they can live 100-200 years. He estimates that our tree is about 100. He recommended that we do nothing other than keep watch on the health of its branches and trim the dead or dying ones as necessary; these trees can endure periodic prunings. There is no evidence of fungus on our tree, but a little decay — the bottom of the trunk is bulbous, a possible sign of infection or other distress. Nevertheless, the fact that the tree is still dropping chestnuts is a sign of its fundamental good health. Erosion that exposes the roots of a Chinese chestnut is not a problem; it's normal for Chinese chestnuts to have exposed roots. Adding dirt over the exposed roots could cause them to rot. The act of planting a ground cover would endanger the tree's root system. Planting grass under the tree would not be wise. There's an ideal soil acidity for grass and an ideal soil acidity for trees, and they're not the same. Leave the tree be. He thought that a low ornamental fence might be useful to keep lawn mowers away from the tree area. The worst thing we could do to the tree would be to excavate along the sidewalk and build a retaining wall. A low border of landscaping timbers along the sidewalk is unlikely to make much difference in the tree's health or longevity. Installing such a border could jeopardize the tree's roots. If the tree falls over, it won't be on the library. It will fall toward Military Road. There probably will be ample signs that the tree is approaching that stage. The tree can be removed before that happens."

It has been suggested that the Cherrydale Citizens' Association start a repopulation program — gathering the nuts and raising the seedlings. The Springston family [have] has long been doing this with our original cherry trees! Would you like to take part in this tradition? Let the CCA know, we'll help you get started!

Cherrydale Park

After recent complaints about the condition of the Cherrydale Park (behind 7-11 on Pollard Street) the CCA had a conversation with Hoffman-Boston-Woodlawn (HBW) school Principal Haltiwanger and Mary McBride, Vice Principal. A little later, a Town Meeting was held at the School, and the decision was reached (by the students) to cleanup the park, and try to take better care of it. Principal Haltiwagner would appreciate it if you notify him of any related problems in the park. He will be stopping by the park sporadically during lunch hours for a few weeks just to set a new tone.

Kudos to the principal and students of HBW for their speedy resolution of this problem!

Cherry Valley Park

Below is a copy of the proposed new sign for Cherry Valley Park (on Quincy Street, between 17th and 18th). As many of you know, the old sign is rotting. Arlington County has not set a date to install the new sign, but the CCA will let you know. A larger view of the sign can be seen at

http://www.cherrydale.net/?page_id=157



THE SWEET TIDBITS

Welcome Wagon News

By Janet Herrmann

The CCA Welcome Wagon delivers welcome packets to new residents of our community. Packets include information on Cherrydale, vehicle registration info, maps of Arlington and more! The CCA would like to thank Marcia Bowlds, Realtor with McEneaney Associates, for providing the information about new residents — two since December! If you know someone who has recently moved into Cherrydale, (renters, or homeowners) please e-mail the address to the Welcome Wagon at jherrmann@saintagnes.org.

This is your newsletter — send us announcements — marriage, birth, death, anniversary, special birthday, awards, whatever — notes, recipes, pictures, gripes, thanks, congratulations, etc!! They are due to the Editor on the 30th of the even months, (see page 12 for contact info) and will be printed as space permits.

Recent Hot Topics on the Listserv:

Real Estate Assessments, taxes, critter control, lost pets, free stuff, baby and pet sitting, exposed wires on telephone poles and utility boxes, police reports, parks, contractor recommendations, and much more!

What have you been missing??

To subscribe to Cherrydale's Listserv, sign in at:
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CherrydaleCitizens>

Get your Running Shoes Ready!! Saint Agnes Will Hold Its' 4th Annual Fitness Festival on May 19th!

On May 19th, 2012 St. Agnes Church and School will host the 4th Annual Fitness Festival. Events will include 10K and 5K races as well as a Kids 1 Mile Fun Run. Perfect for a family outing and serious competitors alike. The scenic and hilly courses wind through the trails and neighborhoods of historic Cherrydale. Promoting charitable giving, fitness and community involvement--come on out, get involved and set a new PR! More details can be found at: <http://www.active.com/running/arlington-va/st-agnes-fitness-festival-2012>. Any questions, please email Jim Casey at jimcasey52@yahoo.com. See you there!

Time to Start Gardening!!

It may still be (a little) cold outside, but now is a great time to plant seedlings indoors, as well as trim and transplant your bushes and shrubs! Mark your spring bulbs, so you can dig and divide them when the leaves die down. Why not try a little vegetable patch? Most of the homes in Cherrydale (even the apartments/condos have balconies) have room for a row or two of greens and a couple tomato plants. Absolutely no space — or sun, no problem! There are tons of cool things that don't need much space or sun. Experiment! Let the kids plant something unique in a big flower pot — have you ever seen cotton grow? How about taking on the care of one of Cherrydale's street trees, or Adopt a Lots? Get out and get growing!! Need help — ask a neighbor, the listserve, or one of Arlington County's Master Gardeners.

Cherrydale Library in the News

A recent issue of "I Love Libraries," the digital newsletter of the American Libraries Association, featured a story about our community's celebration last July of the 50th anniversary of Cherrydale Library. You can click on <http://www.ilovelibraries.org/fifty-years-cherrydale-library> to read about the celebration if you missed the festivities last July.

MORE SWEET TIDBITS

Cherrydale Missing Links Report

By Bill Novak
March 5, 2012

A review of missing sidewalk sections in Cherrydale was recently undertaken by the CCA's Sidewalk and Street Canopy Committee (aka The Dream Team) to find eligible sites for sidewalk completion through Arlington County's Missing Links Program. The Dream Team consists of Bill Nocak, Erik Miers and Ron Kampeas.

The key guidelines for the program as stated in the county's application are: *"This program is intended for the quick installation of curb, gutter and sidewalk in front of three or less properties for the connection of existing sidewalks. Civic Association approval is required for each application. Removal of small trees (up to 4" caliper) is allowed and small coping walls are permitted. Applications that will be considered will have NO utility relocation, No street light installation involved, and No easement purchases."*

The Cherrydale sites with missing sections of sidewalk are:

1. 4246 15th Street North to Utah Street corner (3 houses, south side)
2. 4225 19th Street North (2 houses, north side)
3. 4044 20th Street North to Quebec St. corner (2 houses, south side)
4. 3900 block of Vacation Lane (1 house facing Pollard St., north side)
5. 4003 Vacation Lane (1 house, north side)
6. 1809 to 1823 Monroe Street North (3 houses, east side)
7. 1600 block of North Taylor Street, adjacent to 4300 17th Street N (1 house West side)

Sites #1, #2, #4, #5 and #6 were rejected, mostly to preserve mature trees, the Cherrydale Citizens' Association recommends, and will file applications to the Missing Links Program, for the construction of missing sidewalk sections at the two remaining locations:

- #3 4044 20th Street North to Quebec Street corner (2 houses, south side)
- #7 1600 block of North Taylor Street, adjacent to 4300 17th St. N (1 house west side)

In addition the committee has listed all the sidewalks in need of repair for the County's Maintenance Program. A full report (with photos) is available at our website: www.Cherrydale.net

Arlington Garden of the Year

Rock Spring Garden Club is holding its 2012 Garden of the Year competition. One Arlington residential garden will be selected. Gardens can be nominated by a homeowner, neighbor, friend or relative. Applications are now available from RSGC's website: <http://rockspringgardenclub.com/> Application deadline is May 1. Judging will take place in mid-May.

Arlington County Neighborhood Day is May 12th!

Our County has been celebrating Neighborhood Day for many years. The idea is to honor each community's heritage, celebrate its' present or plan for its' future. Activities traditionally have included parades, block parties, tours, fun runs, dog walks, public space cleanups etc. How would you like Cherrydale to celebrate this special day this year?

We can't have a major event, like the parade — Arlington requires a permit to be filed three month before such a large event, but block parties, (or whatever) permits can be filed as late as 30 days before the event. Many events don't even need a permit! Suggestions?

CHERRYDALE BRANCH LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

2190 N. Military Road; 703-228-6330

Citizens for Cherrydale Library Website: www.CherrydaleLibrary.org

Cherrydale Library Hours:

Monday: 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

Tuesday: CLOSED

Wednesday: 1 p.m.-9 p.m.

Thursday: 10 a.m.- 9 p.m.

Friday & Saturday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Sunday: CLOSED

Book Discussions for Adults

New participants are always welcome, even if you read the book some time ago. Books are usually available a month in advance on the Wednesday after the previous meeting. Discussion participants can pick them up the night of the meeting. Call the library to sign up for a discussion or to reserve a copy from the special discussion collection.

Mon., March 12 (7:30 pm): *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, nonfiction by Rebecca Skloot. Selected for more than sixty Best of the Year Lists including: *New York Times* Notable Books, *Washington Post Book World* Top Ten Books of the Year, and *Publishers Weekly* Best Books of the Year. Amazon reader rating: 4-1/2 stars (out of 5), published 2010. . . . 328 pages of text. (Our May book will be available at this meeting.)

April: No Meeting. Participants can attend Arlington Reads authors' programs at Central Library and W & L auditorium. Information TBA.

Mon., May 14 (7:30 pm): *Country Driving: A Chinese Road Trip*, by Peter Hessler. 2010 *New York Times* Nonfiction Book of the Year (the hardback's title was: *Country Driving: A Journey Through China from Farm to Factory*). . . Amazon reader rating: 4-1/2 stars (out of five), published 2010. . . . 424 pages of text.

Recommended by a friend of a group member, who said: "I got into the book right away from the very first page. The author brings you into a world vastly different from urban America. He makes you feel like you're actually there in a dusty Chinese village at the foot of the Great Wall. His portraits of the people he meets and the places he visits are vivid and fascinating."

"In the summer of 2001, Peter Hessler, the longtime Beijing correspondent for *The New Yorker*, acquired his Chinese driver's license. For the next seven years, he traveled the country, tracking how the automobile and improved roads were transforming China. Hessler writes movingly of the average people---farmers, migrant workers, entrepreneurs---who have reshaped the nation during one of the most critical periods in its modern history."--Harper Collins Book Description

"The best yet from Peter Hessler, whose two earlier books, *River Town* and *Oracle Bones*, were exemplary forays into the genre. . . . Told with his characteristic blend of empathy, insight, and self-deprecating humor." - *Time*

Winter/Spring Kids Storytime Programs

Under 2 Storytimes. Mondays at 10:15 am. through May 21. Note: No Storytimes Mar. 26 & Apr. 2 (spring break). 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. **No Registration Required.**

Family Storytimes. Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. through May 23. Note: No Storytime on Mar. 28 & April 4 (spring break). For families with children of any age to enjoy together. 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. Families are encouraged to participate together and to borrow related materials to enjoy at home. **No Registration Required.**

CHERRYDALE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Cherrydale Volunteer Fire Department (CVFD) is Arlington County's oldest fire fighting company, owns the Historic Cherrydale Fire Hall, and remains very active in Cherrydale! Most of the current members are shown in this photo (taken in December 2011). Photo courtesy of Phil Charles, a Life Member and retired Fire fighter. To join this active group in helping our community visit www.cherrydalevfd.org or contact Chief Scott Pardi at scott.pardi@zurichna.com.



Did You Know??? ... A Little History

Cherrydale has such a great, and well documented history, yet there appears to be a lot of misinformation circulating! Therefore, the “Did You Know???” column, which was a popular feature of the Sweet and Sour News for many, many years has been brought back! Every month a topic of Cherrydale's past will be discussed, or a question answered. If there is something you are aching to have explained, (the truth, not just rumors) let us know! This month the topic is basic — how did Cherrydale “happen?”

The first people to live in what is now Cherrydale were Native Americans, artifacts indicate these peoples were here over 5000 years ago. The first European pioneer was Andrew Donaldson, a farmer and husbandman (animal raiser), who moved here from his native Scotland before the American Revolution. Andrew settled in the undisturbed forest along what is now Military Road. His was a prolific, active, and important family — and still has members here — (one, a 7th generation Donaldson, still owns his grandfathers house on Quebec Street). Andrew's grandson, Dorsey, married and moved to the intersection of Donaldson Road and the Road to Rosslyn (now Lee Highway) in 1855. Dorsey's two story log house stood until 1959, when Arlington County tore it down to allow the rebuilding of the Lee Highway/Military Road/Quincy Street interchange — our now infamous 5 points. Dorsey's daughter married Ernest Shreve (of another pre Revolutionary war family). The Donaldson's had planted orchards throughout our community — apples, peaches and cherries! When Ernest and Dorsey requested a post office (under the newly created Rural Free Delivery mail system) in 1893, the U.S. Post office nixed their first choice for the name of the growing community that had sprung up around Dorsey's home at the cross road, because another community in our Commonwealth had the name of Donaldsonville. As the family story goes, it was spring and the cherries were blooming so Dorsey naturally thought of his rows of blooming fruit trees and pronounced our name as Cherrydale! Dorsey not only grew cherries for market, did you know he developed a variety? It was a dark red sour cherry with a slightly smaller pit than other Carnation Cherry varieties. There are still saplings from Dorsey's trees in our community.

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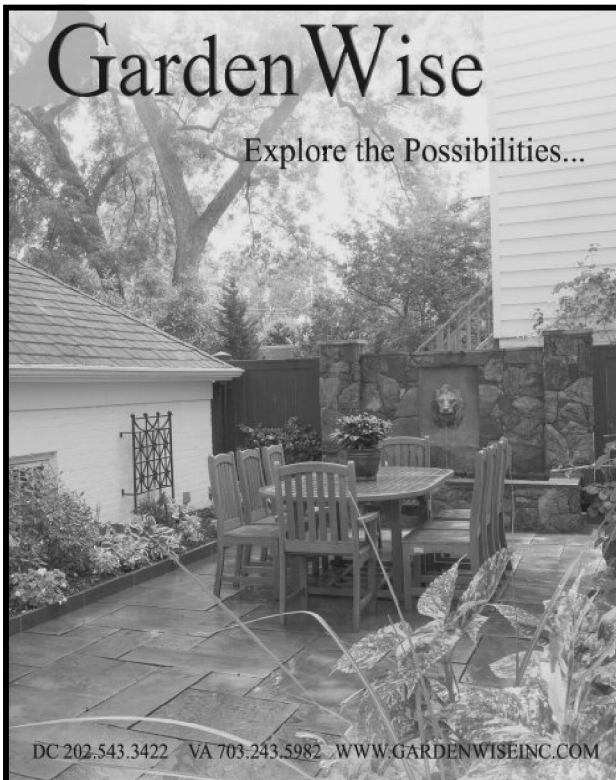


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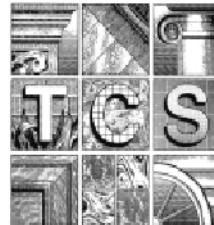


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Candidates Debate — A Success

At the January meeting of the CCA, before the special election to fill a vacant seat on our County Board, the Cherrydale Citizens' Association held one of our popular Candidates Debates. Among those candidates attending were: Libby Garvey, Audrey Clement, Melissa Bondi, Terron Sims, Kim Klingler and Peter Fallon. Ninety six Cherrydale citizens attended the meeting. We look forward to working with our newest Board member. Libby Garvey, who served on Arlington's School Board for many years.

Get Ready — It Is Almost Time for the Annual Cherrydale Neighborhood-wide Yard Sales

The great annual Cherrydale yard sales are fast approaching! Start pulling your stuff together to be part of this tradition! Email Scott Springston sdakss@aol.com for more info. Tentative date June 9th.

W-L Use Amendment Change

Arlington County Public Schools have scheduled a community meeting in the Library at Washington-Lee at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 27 to present a proposed minor use amendment. The neighbors immediately surrounding the school are invited. There will be a presentation on this issue on March 26, at the Ballston-Virginia Square Civic Association. For more info: John C. Chadwick
Arlington Public Schools
john.chadwick@apsva.us

OFFICERS OF THE CHERRYDALE CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION

(AND CONTACT INFORMATION)

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<p>SSN EDITOR KATHRYN HOLT SPRINGSTON 703-528-1548 <u>SDAKSS@AOL.COM</u></p>	<p>HISTORIAN KATHRYN HOLT SPRINGSTON 703-528-1548 <u>SDAKSS@AOL.COM</u></p>	
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CHERRYDALE CITIZENS ASSOCIATION 2012 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Have you paid your dues for 2012? 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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