SWEET&SOURNEWS

DISTRIBUTED TO 1350 CHERRYDALE RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES

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CHERRYDALE CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

2009 MEMBERSHIP FORM

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SWEET&SOURNEWS

THE BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CHERRYDALE CITIZENS ASSOCIATION • March/April 2009

Next Meeting of the CHERRYDALE CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

Wednesday, March 18 7:30 pm Cherrydale Fire Station

Agenda:

Neighborhood Conservation Proposed Procedure

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Neighborhood Conservation Proposed Procedure

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Say your street cries for affection. Curb, and street light is gutter, sidewalk, paving, it needs it all at 15th are more after years of traffic, weather, pothole tant to what NC

NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION NEEDS

NEIGHBORHOOD PARTICIPATION

fill-ins, and little maintenance. Or perhaps you are fed-up your loved ones must risk their lives each time they jog or bike on your pitch-black street. A few elegant Carlyle street lights would add both safety and some character to the neighborhood. Maybe you are lucky and your block is near perfect except for the constant speeders. A gateway and other traffic calming measures would be a great way to give drivers a hint they are far from the autobahn. You and your neighbors would be ecstatic to have these improvements but whom do you ask? In Arlington the primary way to get

Neighborhood Conservation, or "NC," as it is commonly referred, is a bondfunded program that offers member civic associations, like CCA, funding for small capital projects. The not-too-old brick wall around the electric sub-station at Monroe and Lee is a prime example of a NC beautification project. Other projects like the curb, gutter, sidewalk,

your street (and parks) modernized is

program. Say who?

through its Neighborhood Conservation

and street light improvements on Stafford at 15th are more typical, but just as important to what NC means to Cherrydale. Soon 18th St. from Quincy to Nelson will become safer for pedestrians and more eye-catching too thanks to NC proceeds.

There is a problem though. For all the good NC does it is heavily burdened as the chief means of neighborhood street improvement in the county. Growth in NC, now with about 54 neighborhood association members, is steadily increasing with little other funding available to obtain basic street maintenance and improvement. With the average project costing \$400,000, and NC funds set at approximately \$6 million annually, the number of projects any civic association can get is limited. Cherrydale's recent NC project pace is about one a year, but only because so many Cherrydalers toiled to update our NC plan, which is a tedious endeavor at best. An updated plan allows us to receive extra funding points so our projects rise to the top of the line quicker. Obviously there is not enough money available for every neighborhood to get a new project each year so the hard work it vital and does pay off.

(Cont'd p. 2)

COUNTY PROPOSES CUTS IN CHERRYDALE LIBRARY'S OPERATIONS

Seventy-three cents per year. That's how much each citizen of Arlington County would save if the County Manager's proposal to cut Cherrydale Library's operation from six days per week to three becomes County policy. The cut would affect the library that serves not only Cherrydale, but the 15 other neighborhood associations north of Lee Highway and east of Glebe Road. In fact, Cherrydale serves the largest expanse of neighborhoods of all the County's branch libraries. Such a cut, moreover, would come at a time when patron visits to Cherrydale Library were rising 10-percent annually.

Those who value Cherrydale Library and who wish to oppose the County Manager's pro-

(Cont'd p. 7)



Neighborhood Conservation (CONT'D)

Even with the sweat put in to get extra NC points, in a neighborhood as old as Cherrydale there is a virtually unlimited number of possible NC projects. If the NC budget were four times current level it would take decades to attack all of Cherrydale's infrastructure and park woes.

CCA's current process for approving new projects is unwritten and mostly "first come, first served." While all of Cherrydale's NC projects are terrific and worthwhile, the current procedure inherently favors blocks with residents "in the know" about the program. Cherrydalers who may not have the time or desire to wallow in the minutia of county programs, but still care about their block or park, are for all practicality left out even though their tax dollars support the program. It also creates an information vacuum making it difficult for CCA members to objectively evaluate each project proposal on its merits rather than being first to file.

For years NC had a construction backlog causing many projects, like our own on 18th St., to take nearly a decade to get funding. It also halted acceptance of new projects. To alleviate this, NC took measures to remove inefficiencies causing the backlog and resumed accepting new projects last Spring. I am pleased to report all of Cherrydale's previously voted-on projects have been funded or will be this June.

In light of this occasion, as Cherrydales's NC Representative, I proffered to CCA's Officers that this rare cleanslate made it an ideal time to craft a new, more open, NC project selection procedure. They agreed and the text of the draft, subject to CCA approval, is on the facing page. The immediate goals of this procedure are three-fold: 1) to give the entire Cherrydale community notice of the opportunity to nominate a project; 2) to give all participants the same set of rules in which they may nominate a project, and 3) to give CCA members an objective guideline of what projects benefit not only the respective

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block, but Cherrydale as a whole, while still ensuring that members have the final vote, based on nothing but their own judgment and desire.

I will explains the "whys" of proposed procedure's details at March's CCA meeting followed by an open discussion. Attending CCA members will have the opportunity to propose changes, and then vote on a final official procedure. The NC program is tiny, yet, has a tremendous positive impact on Cherrydale as one of the few mechanisms to get basic infrastructure and park improvements. So I hope you will come to the March meeting and support a new fairer and more democratic NC project selection procedure that benefits all of our Cherrydale neighbors.

Harry Spector



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NEWS ABOUT CHERRYDALERS

Cherrydaler Nicholas Apseloff, 11th grader at Washington-Lee, became a National high school champion on January 25, 2009, in Scranton, PA, in the 181 pound weight class, in the USA Powerlifting Association. He lifted a total of 1036 pounds including: 320 pound squat, 303 bench press, and 413 deadlift. His mom, Barbara Shaffer, step-dad Bill Shaffer, and sister Natalie Apseloff are very proud of him!

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 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 through 3/25 at 4:00 pm
- -Thursdays through 3/26 at 10:15 am

Check with the library in April about dates for Childrens Story Hour Spring Sessions.

Book Discussions for Adults

Call first to sign up for a discussion and to reserve a copy of the book. Limited copies will become available on April 14.

Monday, May 11 (7:30 pm): The Yacoubian Building, international bestseller by Egyptian author, Alaa Al Awany. . . 272 pages. "At 65, Zaki Bey El-Dessouki spends his days seducing women, dining at once-grand French restaurants and pining for the elegant, pre-Nasser Egypt of his youth. Ten floors above Zaki's office in the Yacoubian Building, Taha el Shazli lives in poverty in a small converted storeroom, his hopes for a decent job thwarted by his lowly social position. The two never meet, but their destinies nonetheless become entwined in the course of this intriguing and highly charged novel. . . . Based on a real-life building in downtown Cairo, Alaa Al Aswany's eponymous structure is a microcosm of modern Egyptian society. . . . superbly crafted feat of storytelling."--Telegraph.Co.UK

COUNTY PROPOSES DRASTIC CUT IN CHERRYDALE LIBRARY'S OPERATIONS (CONT'D)

posal to curtail its days of operation can sign an on-line petition, available at http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/Cherrydale_Library/index.html. Library supporters can also write members of the County Board at 2100 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 300 Arlington, VA 22201. Phoning is a strong alternative. The number to call is 703-228-3130. E-mailing the County Board at countyboard@arlingtonva.us is another option. Individual members of the County Board can be reached at * bfavola@arlingtonva.us (Ms. Favola)

- * <u>jfisette@rlingtonva.us</u> (Mr. Fisette) * <u>mhynes@arlingtonva.us</u> (Ms. Hynes)
- * <u>wtejada@arlingtonva.us</u> (Mr. Tejada) * <u>czimmerman@arlingtonva.us</u> (Mr. Zimmerman).

It is important that supporters register their opposition to this proposed cutback *before* the public budget hearings begin **on March 24**.

The latest information on the fate of Cherrydale Library can always be found at http://home.comcast.net/~suza1/library.htm. Please bookmark this Web site; it cannot be found on Google.





GARDENKEEPERS

There is a new business on the block! Gardenkeepers is the brainchild of two garden lovers from the area, Susan Gurney and JoAnne McKey. Susan, a Cherrydale resident for over 26 years, and JoAnne, a Glebewood resident for nearly as many, have combined their collective knowledge about all things gardening and garden design to offer their services to others. The roots of this endeavor began 14 years ago when their children were in kindergarten at Glebe Elementary. The mothers began a friendship based not only on their mutual experiences with the children but with their growing love for and work in their home gardens. Many years of dreaming ensued before the idea finally sprouted into Gardenkeepers in 2008. The first season was a valuable experience, rewarding in the transformation of clients' garden spaces, and a real workout! Trees and shrubs were trimmed, garden beds established or embellished, plants divided and bulbs planted in drifts to await the warmth of Spring.

JoAnne and Susan are enthusiastically ready for a new season. In addition to garden bed design and plant selection, these two energetic ladies prune, plant, weed, water, deadhead, stake, divide, and embrace any other garden activity needed to make your garden flourish. To learn more about them and the services offered, they invite you to look at their website www.gardenkeepers.net or call them at 703-525-2009. They welcome the opportunity to meet with new clients and help assess their needs on a one-time or ongoing basis. Think weekly or bi-weekly upkeep, vacation/out-of-town watering visits, seasonal clean up, bed definition, mulching, pruning, planting or anything else that needs doing in the garden. An added plus - their services are quiet and environmentally friendly. No loud equipment or chemicals are used. Theirs is a truly "green" service company in every sense of the word.



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Neighborhood Conservation Project Selection Procedure

I. Purpose, To facilitate a fair process in which all CCA Members have the opportunity to nominate a NC project, and which the CCA Membership may vote its preference on all nominated projects as to which will be designated CCA's "number one priority project," to submit to the NCAC for funding

II. Nominating Procedure. At a time deemed appropriate by CCA Officers, it shall call for nominations for NC projects. Such calls for nomination shall be announced at a CCA Meeting as well as published in official CCA communication organs including the CCA newsletter, website, and listsery, as well as any other later established.

A. The announcement shall include the following information:

1. brief description of the NC project program including the types of available

a. street, curb and gutter; b. beautification; c. park improvements

2. any street or park project may be nominated as long as it meets the following qualifications:

a. The person proposing the project, i.e., the block captain, is a CCA member in good standing and also commit to volunteering, or appointing a representative, to work on the next or current Neighborhood Plan Update, whichever is

b. For street projects, 70% of the affected street must sign a petition in favor of the project. The petition must have a complete description of the project. The petition must also state that with few exceptions, Arlington County RE-QUIRES sidewalk with new curb and gutter projects. The addition of sidewalks may necessitate the county using its right of way on owner's property, which could require that fences be moved, and trees removed.

c. A brief statement why the proposed project is vital to the street and how it might benefit the Cherrydale community.

d. NC Representative receives the statement and signed petition by the published deadline date.

3. Deadline date when nominations must be submitted as well as contact information for the NC Representative, who shall collect all nominations. CCA shall give members a minimum of three months to submit nominations after the notice has been published in newsletter.

B. CCA Officer's shall certify the nominations at the conclusion of the nomination deadline period and assign the following points, modeled on NCAC's point system,



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to each certified nominated project:

- 1. Nominating Rounds Without Obtaining "number one priority project" status: 5 points per round, up to a maximum of 10.
- 2. Alternate source funding: 10 points.
- 2. Sidewalk project that abuts an arterial as described in the Arlington County Master Transportation Plan, types A-F: 10 points.
- 3. Sidewalk project within 1/4 miles, as the crow flies, of a school with 100 or more students: 10 points. (Private schools must be cleared with NC staff.)
- 4. Curb/Gutter/Sidewalk project where none currently exists: 10 points.
- 5. Park project: 10 points.
- 6. Participation in an NC Plan Update by any resident of the nominated project's street: 10 points.
- C. Once points have been assigned each project, along with the project statement submitted by the block captain, shall be published in the CCA newsletter, the web site, and the listserv.

III. Voting Process. At the regularly scheduled CCA meeting immediately following the publishing of certified nominees CCA members shall discuss and vote on which project the NC Representative shall forward to NCAC staff as CCA's 'number one priority project," Discussion and voting shall take place as follows:

A. Discussion

- 1. The CCA President or NC Rep shall describe each certified nominated project and its point total and how that total was computed. Points are for reference and quantification only and are not binding in any way.
- 2. Each block captain may make a presentation no longer than 5 minutes, as timed by the CCA Secretary.
- 3. General CCA membership discussion and question and answer period my begin and last for no longer than fifteen (15) minutes, as timed by the CCA Secretary, or other officer as assigned by the CCA President.

- 1. At the end of the fifteen (15) minute discussion and question and answer period the CCA President shall take a vote of all CCA members on their preference. Voting shall take place in accordance with CCA voting rules as written in the CCA by-laws.
- 2. The project with the most votes shall be designated as CCA's number one

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WHAT'S GOING ON AT PASHA CAFÉ? 3911 Lee Highway, 703/528-1111, www.pashacafe.com

Mon-Sat, 11:30-2:00 and 5:00pm-Closing Sun, 2:30-5:00pm

Since 2001, when Bill Hamrock first took over the Pasha Café, he's managed to keep the original chefs and continue to turn out a fine variety of well-spiced dishes in comfortable surroundings at the "new" more Mediterranean Pasha Café, now tucked between Cherrydale Autoparts and 7-Eleven on Lee Highway. Hamrock hopes "to have a truly everyday, neighborhood place where people will come once a week either to eat here or carryout." Bill has a knack for nurturing homey, familyfriendly eateries: "do more, introduce new things, and keep prices affordable," he says...a good thing in these times. If you haven't been there recently, here are some innovations he's introducing:

- Expanding the menu with lots of new choices, running from soups and salads, to pizza and pasta, kabobs to moussaka, lots of fish-- shrimp, crab cakes, trout and more, along with tangy vegetarian dishes and a tidy list of Mediterranean type appetizers, plus a pleasing, well-priced menu for kids.
- Offering discounts—probably for a limited time. Carryout is 20 percent off Wednesdays and Sundays and wine by the bottle is half (!) price on Thursdays and Saturdays.
- Introducing Sunday Brunch—with a bountiful fixed menu—from 10:30am to 2:30 pm.
- Adding sandwiches to the dinner menu so you can eat for around \$10.
- Serving fabulous gelato, which comes from Boccato Gelato in Clarendon. (Gelato is also sold in the Cherrydale Deli next door, which Bill manages. Bill is extending the Deil's hours (7am to 9pm) and sprucing it up as well. Just in time for spring there will be a dairy bar with soft ice cream, shakes, sundaes, cones, etc. It already serves breakfast, hot and cold sandwiches, salads, coffee, and slices of pizza.)

Pasha seats 60 in its comfortable polished cherry wood booths and tables. It also has bar-height tables and a cozy bar with flat-screen TV. In summer there's room for 26 diners on the airy patio. The day my husband and I visited we had the hearty Tuscan vegetable soup, Ribollita, a very well seasoned crab cake sandwich, and an extraordinary lamb shawarma, both of which included fresh salads and perfect fries. We ended with mango sorbet, pistachio gelato and espresso coffee. Not bad for a midweek Cherrydale lunch!

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http://www.artofhealthmassage.com/features/greenhealing.php

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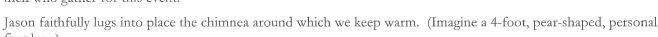
THE VIEW FROM MY PORCH - TRADITIONS

by Andy Murphy

Don't you just love it when a planned or spontaneous event comes together so perfectly that you want to do it again? You say, "Let's have a parade through Cherrydale every yea around this time." And a tradition begins. The good ones. Like Christmas caroling or the 4th of July picnic become splendidly regular, adding to the quality of our life.

Or "This was so much fun. How about the eight of us have dinner like this once a montl say on the first Sunday. We can rotate houses." And a neighborhood potluck dinner traction begins.

A tradition begun on our street a few years ago honors the first serious snowstorm of the winter; thus, Mother Nature determines the date. Women are welcome, but it's mostly men who gather for this event.



Ernest tirelessly feeds and stokes it with small branches from our yards. (And doesn't cherry wood smell great!)

Bart assiduously assures that each of us has something liquid with which we both toast and ignore the falling sleet. (olive-garnished Tanqueray 10 martinis are a smooth favorite.)

Derrick unselfishly reports on his efforts to keep abreast of the latest in Arlington restaurants. (Ray's the Steaks in Rosslyn gets high marks.)

David, Matt, and I (along with a half-dozen or more other usual suspects) bravely face the elements, telling of our exploits of the week just past, how we slew dragons, and how our FIOS is working, all the while inwardly thankful for a universe both safe and exciting. (Of course, no one ever exaggerates.)

Here's to all our grand traditions.







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