



Sweet & Sour News

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Maintenance

Quincy Street at Lee Hwy
Bill L'Hommedieu
Lee Hwy Median (Monroe - I66)
Darrick Washington & Jim Meiers
Tom Jensen
Tim Fleming
Power Substation
Anne & Brian Quinn

Won't you help keep our parks and open spaces in beautiful shape? Please sign up to be a steward – contact **Maureen Ross** – 703.527.7692



Sweet & Sour News

A Bi-Monthly Newsletter

of the Cherrydale Citizens Association

Issue 1

January - February 2007

Cherrydale Citizens
Association Meeting

Wednesday, January 17, 2007
7:30 pm

Cherrydale Fire Station

AGENDA

7:30 Announcements
7:45 Open to discuss issues
8:00
8:15

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The Sweet & Sour News welcomes short, informative articles and notices about Cherrydale residents and events. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions, as needed. For more information, contact **Jim Meiers** at newsletter@cherrydale.net.

New Officers Elected at November CCA Meeting; Let's
meet Bonnet, Lacopo, Hurdle and Christensen

Cherrydale Citizens Association held its annual election of officers at its November 15th meeting. Three new officers were elected - **Brian Bonnet**, President; **Evan Lacopo**, Vice President; and **Gloria Hurdle**, Secretary. Re-elected as Treasurer was **Katherine Christensen**.



Brian Bonnet.

Brian has been in this area all his life, living in Cherrydale for the past nine years. He lives on Stafford Street with his girlfriend Sonia and her two

children – Vicky and Tony. He's had an active voice in Cherrydale and is very familiar with the key issues that face our community.

Brian currently runs a mortgage banking company based in Arlington. He previously served in the Navy and as a professional staff member on the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee.

Brian states "A community requires people who care. A vibrant community requires people who are involved. I ask that you be both. Take notice of what's going on around you, know your neighbors, and when help is requested, consider lending a hand. I look forward to continuing the work of all the officers and volunteers who came before me."

Continued, p. 2

Commission Approves
Parks Amendment

On November 27th, the Arlington Planning Commission approved the Parks and Open Spaces Plan as an amendment to Cherrydale's Neighborhood Conservation Plan.

This is the outcome that Cherrydale's Parks and Open Space Committee had hoped for! Led by **Kate Trygstad**, the group met throughout 2006 to put down in black and white what Cherrydale's vision of its parks and open spaces is. This effort becomes the blue print for all the work that will be done in our parks in the future.

Congratulations to you and your committee, Kate, on a job well done!



Santa made an early trip to Cherrydale and brought smiles to a record-setting number of children - see p. 4 to read more about it!

Cherrydale Citizens Association

2007 Membership Form

Have you paid your dues for 2007? It helps cover the cost of community events and this newsletter. Cherrydale merchandise is also available! Just include payment with your membership and we'll deliver the items to your home.

\$5 Household \$10 Business \$1 (Age 60 or Over) Free to New Residents Donation \$ _____

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____ Phone (evening) _____

Phone (day) _____

I'd like to help and volunteer with: _____

I've added \$ 5 — please deliver a drinking glass Please include me in the CCA phone book
I've added \$10 — please deliver a hat Please add me to the list serve (this will remain private)
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The Inside Line – Carolers singing, a Santa sighting, and a new business to service your cars. Volunteers lauded, park clean-up's applauded, and a chance to dance like the stars!

Meet the New CCA Officers (Continued from p. 1)



Evan Lacopo. Evan is a native Washingtonian - he grew up in Great Falls, and before moving to Cherrydale lived in McLean. Evan was CCA's Events Coordinator in 2006 and is pleased to now serve Cherrydale as CCA's Vice President.

During "normal" business hours (morning, noon, night, weekends and holidays) Evan is a Realtor

with W.C. & A.N. Miller in McLean. In addition to volunteering in Cherrydale, Evan actively participates in fundraising efforts for The Ronald McDonald House and Habitat For Humanity. In his spare time, Evan enjoys golf, tennis and spending time with his wife Krissy and German Shepherd Wasabi (who they always curb and pick up after!!!).

Evan's goal as Vice President is to support Brian and his initiatives as President. Evan will help continue making our community a great place to live in.

Gloria Hurdle. Gloria and her husband Jim live on Randolph Street and have been in Cherrydale for 26 years. The Hurdles moved to Washington to pursue careers in economics. Gloria worked at the Dept. of Justice Antitrust Division and is now at Economists Incorporated - a consulting firm made up primarily of



former FTC and DOJ economists. She loves to snow ski, camp, travel (she's visited all 50 states), bicycle, and sing - in her church choir, Potomac Harmony Chorus, and a quartet called the Washingtons.

Gloria and Jim have two children - Susan and Will - both graduates of Washington-Lee.

Due to time constraints, Gloria will serve as CCA secretary on a temporary basis until a new one is named at the January CCA meeting. But Gloria will remain involved as a "back-up" whenever the CCA needs one!

Katherine Christensen. Katherine has lived in Cherrydale since 1991. She's a New York state native by birth, but a Cherrydale resident by choice! She's a Product Manager for British Telecom in Reston, but most of the time works out of her home on Randolph Street.



Katherine was formerly a U.S. Foreign Service officer and served in Sweden, Belize, and Washington. Katherine has a daughter, Erika, who's now enrolled in kindergarten at Taylor School.

Besides keeping the CCA solvent, Katherine volunteers in her church (running employment counseling programs) and at her job (running the charity matching funds program). Katherine enjoys gardening, swimming, politics, knitting and travel (she visited Burkina Faso last year, and she'll give you two cherries if you can find Ouagadougou on the map!).

Katherine has been CCA treasurer for several years, and she notes that "it's a good excuse to get to know many of you." She encourages Cherrydale residents to get more involved in our community - not necessarily with the CCA (though help is welcome and needed!), but in whatever is your passion."



Calendar of Events

January

- 15 **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (observed)**, Thank you for your dream!
- 17 **CCA Meeting**, Cherrydale Fire Station, 7:30 p.m.

February

- 14 **Valentine's Day**, show some love!
- 16 **Sweet & Sour News deadline**, for Mar-Apr 2007.
- 15 **Once Upon a Mattress**, W-L musical production at Kenmore Middle School, doors open at 7 pm, show starts at 7:30 pm. See p.10 for details.
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- 19 **President's Day**, happy birthday, Abe and George!



Important Contacts

County Board

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County Manager

Ron Carlee	rcarlee@arlingtonva.us
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Police

Non-emergency 703.558.2222
 Sgt. Mike Watson 703.228.4119 mwatson@arlingtonva.us
 Graffiti - David Munn 571.641.0462 dmunn@arlingtonva.us
 Graffiti - Cynthia Hilton 703.525.4782 chilton@verizon.net
 Neighborhood Watch - Heather Herlock 703.228.4057
 ** Always email Brian Bonnet a copy of what you reported to the Police - send to president@cherrydale.net**

Other

Parks Maintenance Howard Hudgins 703.228.6523
 Replace Streetlights www.arlingtonva.us/departments/
 EnvironmentalServices/dot/traffic/streetlights/index.htm
 Report Traffic Signal Malfunctions: 703.228.6511
 Wildlife Rescue League: 703.440.0800
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703.228.6330

Hours: **Mon:** 10 am - 9 pm **Tues & Wed:** 1 pm - 9 pm **Thurs:** 10 am - 6 pm **Fri & Sat:** 10 am - 5 pm **Sun:** Closed

Children's Winter Story Hour Sessions

Call for more information. No registration required. Join us for stories, songs, finger-plays, and a craft.



Toddler Time. For 2-year olds with an adult. Thursdays at 10:15 am thru March 29.

Threes and Fours Together. For 3- and 4-year olds with an adult. Thursdays at 11:15 am thru March 29.

For All, with an adult. Drop in for Stories, Wednesdays at 7 pm thru March 28.

Book Discussion Group for Adults

Meets at 7:30 pm on the second Monday of each month, except for unusual circumstances (note April). Facilitated by Joan Marik. New participants are welcome, even if you've read the book some time ago. Email **Suzanne Embree** (suza1@comcast.net) to learn more. Call to sign up for a discussion or reserve a title (available a month in advance).

Monday, Feb. 12: **March**, by Geraldine Brooks. Winner of the 2006 Pulitzer Prize for Fiction. 304 pages. "Brooks' luminous second novel ... imagines the Civil War experiences of Mr. March, the absent father in Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women*. An idealistic Concord cleric, March becomes a Union chaplain and later finds himself assigned to be a teacher on a cotton plantation that employs freed slaves, or "contraband." - Publishers Weekly ... "*March* is an altogether successful book, casting a spell that lasts much longer than the reading of it." - Washington Post.

Monday, Mar. 12: **His Excellency: George Washington**, by Joseph J. Ellis. Amazon reader rating: 4.5 stars (out of 5). 275 pages. "Lively and engaging ... an accessible portrait ... Ellis writes simply but eloquently. His prose is lucid, graceful and witty, his book is hard to put down ... Should be required reading." - LA Times. " ... [W]ill appeal to both lay readers and scholars." - Library Journal.

Monday, Apr. 2 (a week earlier than usual): **So Long, See You Tomorrow**, by William Maxwell (American Book Award winner). Amazon reader rating: 4.5 stars (out of 5). 144 pages. "On an Illinois farm in the 1920's, a man is murdered, and in the same moment the tenuous friendship between two lonely boys comes to an end. In telling their interconnected stories, Maxwell delivers a masterfully restrained and magically evocative meditation on the past. A small, perfect novel". - Washington Post Book World ... "This is one of the great books of our age. It is the subtlest of miniatures that contains our deepest sorrows, truth and loves - all caught in a clear, simple style in perfect brush strokes". - Michael Ondaatje (Booker Prize winning author of *The English Patient*) ... "What a lovely book, utterly unlike any other in shape I have ever read". - John Updike.

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County Staff Discuss Construction Plan for New Fire Station

Cherrydale Citizens Association and Arlington County staff held a special meeting on December 6th to provide an overview of the construction project for the new fire station. In attendance were Troy Harris (Real Estate Bureau of Arlington County), Kimberly Pruitt, Leo Dizon (Engineer, DES Engineering and Capital Projects Division), CCA officers, and about 20 Cherrydale residents.

The following are excerpts from the meeting minutes provided on Cherrydale's listserv by CCA Secretary **Gloria Hurdle**.

CCA President **Brian Bonnet** opened the meeting at 7:35 pm, explaining that County staff will present some of the aspects of the project, including easements, street closure, and traffic patterns during construction.

Kim Pruitt provided an overview. Overall, the multiphase project should take about 2½ years.

Construction will begin in late spring or early summer. 21st Road will be moved west and sit on the residential



The new fire station will replace the one pictured here that now stands on the corner of Lee and Pollard.

property that County acquired through eminent domain. The two houses will be demolished. The site of the new fire station will be dug out, and then Koons will begin construction of its new three-story garage, using the fire station site for a staging area. Dirt from the excavation will be hauled away, and rodents will be exterminated. Cars from the dealership will be relocated, though a site has yet to be determined. Garage construction should take three to five months to complete. At the same time, construction of the new 21st Road will begin. This will include laying new curbs and sidewalks.

When the Koons garage and 21st Road are done, work on the new fire station will begin. One lane of 21st Road is to remain open at all times. Electric utility undergrounding will be done on Old Lee Hwy from the Five Points intersection to the entrance of the new fire station. When the new station is complete, fire trucks will exit onto Old Dominion, and the parking entrance will be on Old Dominion. Access to the station will be on 21st Road

and is a walk-in door, not a garage door. The new fire station will have three bays and hold six emergency vehicles.

Leo Dizon: There are 14 parking spaces on 21st Road right now, and when the project is done there'll be 16 spaces. Right now, Koons has 93 parking spaces, and they will have 113 spaces in the new garage. The 21st Road sidewalk will be 4½ feet wide. County will rebuild retaining walls for several homes, and add stairs.

Parking on 21st Road will be first come, first served. County has no control over who parks in public spaces, unless neighbors decide to adopt permit parking. Neighbors are warned that construction workers and Koons employees could vie for these spots.

The intersection of Stafford Street and 21st Road is considered dangerous, so County will build a larger radius curve and lower it by six inches. County will build wider driveway aprons to improve access for those residents. Overall, it should take about a year to build the new road, depending on how long it takes to do the undergrounding.

A resident asked about improved street lighting. Kim said there will be six Carlyle lights on the fire station property and along 21st Road near the new park.

Troy Harris handed out packets to all 21st Road residents present for the meeting. The packets included temporary construction easements for 12 houses and wall construction easements for five.

Temporary construction easements specify the easement area needed; identify the parts of lots work will be done on, and what that work is; and allow workers to trespass on property to construct curb, gutters, and sidewalk. Property will be restored by reseeding disturbed lawn areas, and County will replace nursery stock (one year guarantee). These agreements must be notarized. Construction issues may be addressed with the County Inspector (to be determined) or Troy Harris.

Wall construction easements state the square footage and location of the lot and the retaining wall to be built. Once built and accepted by County, maintenance of these walls transfer to the property owner. Owners must maintain the retaining walls in accordance with local, state and federal Code (this obligation is binding with the property's title). Same reseeding and replacement of nursery stock will be done.

Issues remain. Is the project under funded? What provisions will there be in the new fire station for the volunteer firemen? County hasn't received the land from Koons, though an agreement is underway. This is needed to keep the project on schedule. What about trees that County promised but aren't yet in the plans? The CCA will continue to work and negotiate with County for these and additional issues as they may arise.



Santa Claus Makes a Special Visit to Cherrydale



On December 17th, children in Cherrydale and Maywood grabbed their Christmas wish lists, donned their gayest apparel, and with their parents in tow, rushed over to Cherrydale Fire Station. Why? In what's become an annual Christmas tradition at the station, the firemen invited the quintessential spirit of the season himself - Santa Claus - to take a break from his North Pole workshop and visit the neighborhood children.

And few youngsters were going to pass up this opportunity to have a personal session with the jolly old elf himself!

With a sack of toys and an elf to assist, Santa made his anticipated visit to the fire station. One by one, children

bounded onto his lap and whispered into his ear their list of toys and goodies they hoped he'd leave under their tree on Christmas morning.

The *Sweet & Sour News* is proud to report that Santa stayed longer than originally planned, because a record-setting number of children (275 altogether!) came to visit him that afternoon! As you check out the photos below, it's clear to see that in these modern times, this magical holiday figure continues to make glad the heart of childhood for so many!

*[The Cherrydale community thanks **Scott Pardi**, Chief of the Cherrydale Volunteer Fire Department, for organizing this wonderful event!]*



Santa and his elf gave each child a gift



Karen Thivierge, Arlington County's 911 dispatcher, was Santa's toy assistant



Julia, Margaret and Elizabeth Norsworthy share Santa's lap



Sofia Heller of Taylor Street gets ready to hug Santa



Twins Teddy and Henry Saybolt share a laugh with Santa

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Cherrydale Carolers Keep a Holiday Tradition - in Key!

The Cherrydale Carolers jump-started the holiday season on Sunday, December 3rd. Led by **Gloria Hurdle** (our "ringer" since she sings with

Potomac Harmony Chorus), the carolers bundled up, grabbed their flashlights and song sheets (put together by **Katherine Christensen** and Gloria), and sang their way down Randolph and chorused up Stafford. They caroled on Quebec to enjoy the Springston's fantastic Christmas decorations. Then they choroled down 18th, Nelson, Monroe, and Lincoln. They even hit Kenmore to carol the Fagnoni's who hosted the carolers last year!

For the third year in-a-row, their reward was a warm, wonderful welcome at **Elizabeth and Marty Wagner's** (the Wisteria Home, some call it). Fantastic cookies, hot mulled cider and a roaring fire. Wonderful! And **Jim Hurdle** ordered pizza so it was ready when they arrived.

Did they miss your house? Should they do it next year? Wouldn't it be neat if, with every street, the number of carolers grew so that when they reached Quincy, 100 carolers were singing *Peace On Earth, Good Will To All*? Join the carolers!

*[Note: Thanks to **Gloria Hurdle** for keeping the group in tune, and to **Maureen Ross** for helping organize the event! Thanks to the thoughtful Cherrydale neighbors who received the carolers!]*

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No Bah-Humbug About It - The Springston Residence is a Christmas Wonderland! And was selected as one of the top three best-decorated holiday homes on NBC4's website



The Springston's House at Christmastime. Just one question, Scott. Where the HECK do you store all of this?????

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Ask Your Pharmacist

... Fiber



Christina, I've been told to increase my fiber intake. I've started to eat a bran muffin each morning. Is that enough? From, Bland Bran

Here's the scoop on fiber, Bland. A good diet contains about 25 to 30 grams of fiber a day. Bran muffins contain about five grams of fiber. While you're starting the day off with a nice serving of fiber, you still have a ways to go to get all the benefits of added fiber in your diet.

Foods high in fiber can help treat constipation, hemorrhoids, diverticulitis, and irritable bowel syndrome. Dietary fiber may help lower your cholesterol and may reduce your risk of heart disease, diabetes, and certain types of cancer.

There are two main types of fiber - insoluble and soluble. Soluble fiber forms a gel when mixed with liquid, while insoluble fiber doesn't. Insoluble fiber has a laxative effect. Whole-wheat flour, wheat bran, nuts, and many vegetables are good sources of insoluble fiber. Soluble fiber is thought to have beneficial effects on the body and may lower cholesterol and blood sugar levels. Soluble fiber can be found in oats, peas, beans, apples, citrus fruits, carrots, barley and psyllium.

It's best to eat a wide variety of high-fiber foods. If you eat a minimum of five servings of fruits and vegetables and six servings of grain products (at least three of which are whole grains), you'll be closer to meeting your daily fiber requirements. While the best sources of fiber are plant foods, fiber supplements like Metamucil, Citrucel, and FiberCon may be useful in helping you reach your daily goal.

A sudden increase in fiber in your diet may cause significant gas and abdominal discomfort. Increase fiber in your diet gradually over a period of a few weeks. You should drink more fluids like water when increasing your fiber intake, because fiber works best when it absorbs water.

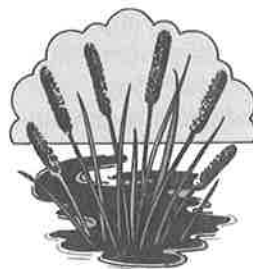
Always ask your pharmacist or doctor about what changes in diet and what medicines, including vitamins and dietary supplements, if any, may be appropriate for.

[Editor's Note: Columnist Christina L. Benner, Pharm.D. is the pharmacist in Safeway. Do you have a question for Christina? Send it to newsletter@cherrydale.net]



Is Vitamin V in your diet?
It's a new vitamin called Volunteerism.
It's good for you!

Volunteers Continue Clean Up of Cherry Valley; Boy Scouts Join In



We love our parks volunteers! On December 2nd, our vine-mauling park crusaders (about 20 in all!) filled two dumpsters full of invasive vines that had shrouded trees in Cherry Valley Nature Area! The area they focused on was just west of the Inner Pond. Not only did they uncover trees

from the vines - but an old stone fireplace as well! Given its proximity to the pond, it might be a great site to hold community bonfires!

A few weeks later, **Boy Scout Troop 111** joined in the effort. Led by **Will Beckman**, the troop removed more invasive vines, laid new trails, and laid the groundwork for reforesting the park.

It really is an amazing transformation at Cherry Valley - come see it! And come volunteer to reclaim this park land - there's still more work to be done! Watch the listserv for future park cleanup announcements!

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\$1 - age 60 or older

Your dues support this newsletter, the annual parade, the July 4th block party, the Home & Garden Tour, the annual yard sale, caroling parties, neighborhood dances, and much, much more! Please - support these programs by paying your 2007 dues today! See the back page of this newsletter for more information.



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When: Saturday evenings
6 - 7 pm **Standard Ballroom** (waltz, fox trot, tango)
7 - 8 pm **Latin/Rhythm Dance**
8 - 9 pm **Practice and Social**

Light refreshments will be served.
Cost - \$15 per person (\$10 senior citizens)

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Some believe volunteers are the soul of a community. If that's true, then Aretha Franklin or James Brown might agree that Cherrydale has plenty of S - O - U - L.

And it's time to recognize the soul of volunteerism here in our community.

In 2007, the *Sweet & Sour News* will celebrate the spirit of Cherrydale volunteerism in every issue. The reason is simple – volunteers provide the care and concern that make a community vibrant. We'll recognize and thank as many volunteers as possible, beginning with the east Cherrydale newsletter distributors.

But, to make that happen the newsletter needs to know of volunteer efforts so we can report them and provide some well-deserved recognition. This can only be done if someone takes a moment to let us know! Just email the editor – newsletter@cherrydale.net.

Let's all make an effort this year to not only thank our volunteers, but also sign up to volunteer in a community project! Let's keep Cherrydale vibrant – and *Viva las Volunteers!*



Thank You! East Cherrydale Newsletter Distribution Volunteers



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Be Part of the Cherrydale Listserv and Stay Informed!

The Cherrydale listserv began in August 2000 and, since then, has helped keep people informed about the Fire Station, parks clean up, caroling and other important community events and topics. It has provided information exchange between neighbors, reunited lost dogs with their owners, and provided recommendations regarding handymen and cleaning services. It helps people stay in touch with their community and what's going on. This is an important thing in today's busy and hectic world.

With 327 subscribers, the listserv is at an all-time high in membership! We add folks every week, and the more people that use the listserv to share information, the better. But, with over 1,300 households in Cherrydale, that means many still aren't a part of it! At the end of this article is information on how to subscribe. Please send it to your neighbors so that they know how to join.

The Basics. The moderators (**Conrad Rehill**, **Bill Roman** and **Eric Dobson**) and CCA President **Brian Bonnet** thought it would be a good idea to remind people of listserv etiquette and management items. There are few rules, and we intend to keep it that way. Self-regulation of the listserv has worked well, so there's no reason to make more rules. So, here we go:

1. **Membership** is intended for those who live and work in Cherrydale and/or adjacent neighborhoods. All new membership requests are screened to make sure this criteria is met. (Each year we screen out dozens of inappropriate email addresses belonging to spammers).
2. **Email attachments** are NOT allowed on the listserv and will be magically removed by YAHOO. We do this as they may contain viruses and jeopardize computers. All listserv members can post files to Cherrydale's section of www.egroups.yahoo.com, but you need a YAHOO account to do that.
3. **You can post community events** to a Cherrydale calendar at www.egroups.yahoo.com. This is a computer-generated calendar based on information put on it. Any listserv member with a YAHOO account can



post to the calendar. Be sure postings appeal to the community at large. A cool feature - you can set reminders (like CCA meeting announcements).

4. **Replying to messages** - Our system encourages dialog. When you "reply" to a message, you may be sending it to EVERYONE. If your message is only meant for the sender, please reply only to the sender.

5. **Moderators may remove inappropriate material** or refuse access to members who abuse our service. Everything you post is viewable by the public at large.

6. **Too much email?** You can change your preferences to receive a daily digest, or even turn it off and just read messages as they're archived on the site. Also, if you go away for a few days, turn off the email. Many people have auto replies and those tell the listserv that you're out of town. Again, go to www.egroups.yahoo.com and check your preferences. If you have problems changing your settings, let one of the moderators know.

7. **Don't be afraid** to try the listserv. If you make a mistake, don't worry – everyone goofs. The moderators – and even the listserv community – coach folks who have questions about posting or reading emails.

8. **What can you post?** Our listserv, despite what it may seem, is NOT restricted to emails about development and fire stations. If you have a yard sale, need a nanny, have babysitting skills or handyman services you want to offer, that's all okay to post.

9. **Email archives** – We've archived 4,400 emails posted to the listserv at www.egroups.yahoo.com. Wow! All were important to open discussion in our community.

10. **What are appropriate topics?** Good question. The general rule of thumb is: "Does this apply to the general community?" The listserv is for Cherrydale and Cherrydale stuff. Politics can be a touchy topic, so postings should be limited to general non-partisan topics.

To join, send an email to CherrydaleCitizens-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. Include your name and address. Send the email from the address you want to send and receive messages from. Folks are "approved" for the listserv within a few days.

To send messages, Send an email to CherrydaleCitizens@yahoogroups.com.

To unsubscribe, send an email to CherrydaleCitizens-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Any questions? Contact any of the listserv moderators: **Eric Dobson** – (eric.dobson@ericdobson.us), **Conrad Rehill** – (conrad@rehill.org), or **Bill Roman** – (unklbill2u@aol.com).



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Business Pulse - Cherrydale Motors is Under New Management



The newsletter is pleased to announce the grand opening of **Cherrydale Motors**, now under new management. The business is located at 3412 Lee Highway, at the intersection of Lee and Kenmore.

The shop provides complete repairs for both foreign and domestic autos.

They also provide Virginia inspection and emissions tests. Cherrydale Motors also offers towing services.

To learn more about the repair shop or to schedule an appointment, call 703.527.5511.

Update on Crime in Cherrydale

[Editor's Note: This is a listing of criminal activity in Cherrydale and Maywood since the last newsletter. Always, always! Report suspicious activity in Cherrydale. Depending on the nature of the crime, call the Police at 911, Sgt. **Mike Watson** (703.228.4119), or the non-emergency phone number (703.558.2222). Then, email **Brian Bonnet** at president@cherrydale.net and a copy to newsletter@cherrydale.net. We're sharing our news with Maywood and Waverly Hills civic associations, and they're doing the same with us.]



On December 12th, detectives with Arlington County Police Department's Special Victims Unit released a computer sketch of a suspect in a series of suspicious incidents. On at least eight occasions since November 21, a man carrying a laptop computer approached females on the street in North Arlington and showed them pornographic movies on the computer. County detectives have talked with Fairfax County police regarding similar incidents that have taken place in that county.

Several of the victims were high school students. As a precaution, parents are urged to remind their children to walk in pairs or groups, to and from school. They should walk in well-lit areas, if at all possible.

Anyone who is approached by this man should call 911 immediately.

The suspect is described as a Hispanic male, between 25 and 40 years old, 5'7" tall and about 170 lbs with a medium build. In some of the incidents, the suspect wore a gray-hooded sweatshirt and jeans.

Anyone with information about the suspect's identity should call Detective Jim Stone at 703.228.4245.

Here's a resolution you'll feel good about -
Become a volunteer today!

Be a tree steward! (Call Maureen Ross)
Help with parks clean-up! (Call Maureen Ross)
Work on a community event! (Call Evan Lacopo)



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A Friend in Need

About this time, I got a call from a friend in Cherrydale that one of my dearest friends, Dean, was hospitalized in Virginia with a serious illness. I needed to get there as soon as possible to see him. It was hard to abandon my clean up work, but I knew Dean needed me. I arrived in Virginia on October 21st. I had hoped to care for him at his home after he was discharged. But the gods weren't kind and Dean passed away a week after I arrived. I'm fortunate to have shared that time with him.



Why Not Cherrydale?

My other Virginia friends urged me not to return to Louisiana. I had lost almost everything. "Why not start over in Dean's house?" they implored. It was an inviting offer. I mulled it over on my trip back to New Orleans. After much thought, I finally had to admit that I could no longer live in the Big Easy – a place I had come to call home. I was seething with anger over the way things were being handled, or mishandled, or not handled at all. Rent increases were astronomical because there were so few properties that were habitable. My landlord decided not to rent but sell what was left of the house, so I had no place to live. All I had was my truck, my dog and cat, and a bird I had rescued – along with a few personal belongings. Months after the storm had hit, there were still no schools, banks, gas stations, grocery stores, libraries, and only sporadic electricity. Sigh.

Hearts 'n flowers for Valentine's Day!

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Between November and March, I drove back and forth between New Orleans and Cherrydale six times. By March, five months after Katrina, the Big Easy was still a big disaster area. I'd had enough. I decided to stay in Dean's house in Cherrydale. It was so strange being there without him. But he gave me a great gift — a wonderful place to stay in a warm neighborhood, complete with old friends I made from my days in the military.

Epilogue

I still love New Orleans, and I tried to do my best to help the city recover. I helped get two old men to safety. I tried to salvage the homes of my clients and provide some paid work for returning evacuees. But being there became more than I could bear. I'll return to help my daughter leave. She lasted longer than I did, but she's finally thrown in the towel, too. It's simply too hard to live there.

I talk to friends almost every day. They echo my frustration and want to leave, but they have nowhere to go. And sometimes, no matter how bad things are, the familiar is just better - or, at least, easier - than the unknown. Thanks, Cherrydale, for welcoming me. I now have a new place to call home, and it feels so good. So very good.

Welcome home, Linda. It's good to have you.

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A Year Later – A First Person Account of Hurricane Katrina, Part II

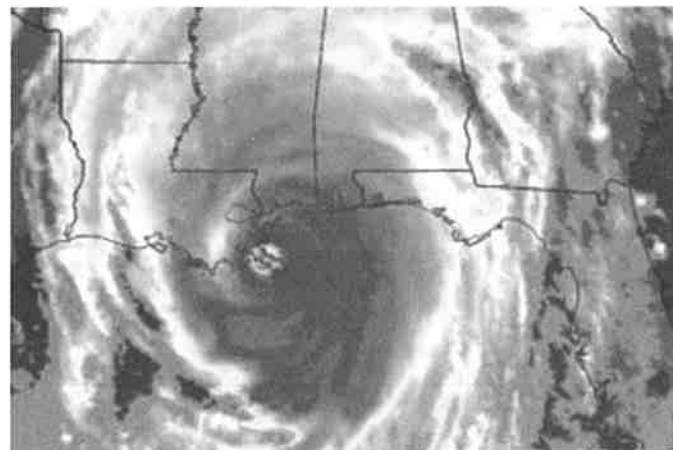
[Editor's Note: This is the last segment of a two-part series detailing the life-changing events of **Cherrydaler Linda Horton**. As you read in the last issue, Linda's life dramatically changed when Hurricane Katrina laid siege to New Orleans in August 2006. Here you'll learn if she found her friend Ralph ... if she restored her home, business, and personal life ... and the circumstances that brought her to Cherrydale. Remember that, even now, folks still struggle to live in New Orleans. This story is one of continued despair, and yet one of hope. Find both, and count the blessings you truly have. This is Linda's story, in her own words. – The Editor]

Send in the Ex-Marine (cont'd)

About 10 p.m. one night, I learned that my friend Ralph was sitting on his front porch, shotgun in hand, vowing never to be taken alive. I got in my car to drive into New Orleans to rescue Ralph. My friend was a humanitarian who worked with "Doctors without Borders" and was supposed to have left that weekend to take medical supplies to a children's hospital in Cuba. That was why he had refused to evacuate.

I got to the city around 2 a.m. but National Guard troops stopped me and told me to turn around. I was taught in the military never to accept "no" from anyone without the authority to order "yes," so I demanded to see the officer in charge, a young lieutenant. He told me there was nothing he could do to help. I then asked him why he had been deployed to New Orleans. He replied, "to help you". I insisted that now would be an ideal time to do just that. After all, the Guardsmen were only sitting around playing cards. I convinced the lieutenant to help me rescue Ralph. We sat down with a map, and I showed him where Ralph's home was. I told the lieutenant that Ralph was hard of hearing and armed to the teeth. The poor guy gave me a look, picked up a bullhorn, and told his troops to put on their bulletproof vests.

I couldn't go with them, so I gave the lieutenant a note for Ralph along with my driver's license so Ralph would know that I was behind the rescue. Twenty Guardsmen departed in six vehicles to rescue my friend. Two hours later, the troops returned - with Ralph and an older man



that Ralph had rescued from the storm! There was laughter, hugging and photo ops. Everyone rejoiced in being part of something positive! The older man had been washed out of his home in Chalmette when it was completely submerged by flood water. He was left with only the clothes on his back - even his shoes had been washed away by Katrina! After talking with him, we learned that he had family in Florida. I began the task of contacting them and arranging their reunion.

Ralph had to hook up with his "Doctors without Borders" compatriots, and the man he rescued had to get to his family in Florida. I ended up taking them both to a Louisiana town near the Texas border. The town had a small, functioning airport. Through ways I won't mention, I managed to get to Ralph's house and we found his passport. Everything was in order. I got both men on appropriate flights and their new journeys in life began.

We Try to Clean Up

Since I was so close to Texas, I decided seek help from FEMA. They were nowhere to be found in New Orleans, and Texas had just been hit by Rita, so I thought I'd give it a try. I crossed the border and found an office where I could register with FEMA. A week later, I drove my 50 miles from home to buy gasoline and pick up a phone signal to make necessary calls. I found an ATM and discovered that FEMA had deposited \$2,000 in my bank account. It was time, I thought, to start my cleanup.

I tried to prevail, working daily from dawn to dusk trying to salvage what I could of my clients' homes. I hired local people as they returned to town and paid them with my FEMA money. I ripped out sheetrock. I owned a 20" chainsaw and even hired two loggers from Oregon to cut trees off people's houses. Without success, I tried to find out how to access the federal money that was supposed to be pouring into the city so I could continue to save my clients' homes from further ruin. The more I did, the more there was to do, and the less money there was to do it with. The frustration was palpable.

Continued, next page



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Sweet & Sour News Salutes Brown's Honda for Good Citizenship

Employees sponsor food drives and Salvation Army Angel Program

Many people like to help the less fortunate during the holidays, and the employees at Brown's Honda are certainly no exception. Two wonderful programs they sponsor are the Salvation Army Angel Program and a Food Drive.

Salvation Army Angel Program. This year, the employees adopted 75 "angels" from the Salvation Army. Each angel has information of a child who might not have such a merry Christmas due to family circumstances. That information includes the child's name, gender, age, and clothing size. Employees select one or more angels and then buy a toy or clothing appropriate for the child listed on the angel(s). The employees bring in the items, and all are wrapped and then delivered to the Salvation Army on Glebe Road.

There's quite a bit of coordinating involved to ensure that all the angels are spoken for, and that each child listed on the angels will actually receive gifts. Christa Joy Nuss is pleased to report that this year's Angel Program was a wonderful success, and Brown's employees purchased toys and clothing for all 75 angels!

Food Drive. Once or twice a year, employees are



Gifts for the Angel Program grace the Christmas tree at Brown's Honda

encouraged to bring in non-perishable items for food drives to benefit local food pantries. Congratulations, Brown's employees, on your charitable efforts!

Show yourself off this coming Spring.



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Pits & Stems

Brown's Ready to Ensure Safe Sidewalks. Even though January has been more like May, winter weather may still be coming. If so, Brown's Honda management wants you to know they're committed to keeping their sidewalks free of snow, ice and sleet. If a winter event does happen, please give Brown's staff a chance to properly clear their sidewalks. If after they've cleared their sidewalks and you notice some ice has formed or snow has begun to cover them again, please call Brown's at 703.522.8808 and ask for one of the department managers and kindly let them know. They plan to keep their sidewalks hazard-free to ensure your safety.

Volunteers Needed to be Tree Stewards. Our young trees in Cherrydale are vulnerable to drought and need your help! With the trees we have now, and more that will be planted in the next year, there'll be more "at-risk" trees than people to help keep them alive. It's not hard to do, and the community will reap the benefit of your stewardship years from now when a gorgeous green canopy graces our streets, parks, and open spaces! Please, we need your help. Don't let our trees die of thirst - become a steward by contacting **Maureen Ross** - 703.527.7692.

DirecTV Subscribers Help Support Washington-Lee High School. DirecTV is supporting a new fundraising opportunity for W-L High School. Quite simply, DirecTV will contribute \$100 to W-L for every new or existing customer who signs up or extends for 12 months of service. There's no cap on how much money W-L can earn! FYI - DirecTV programming packages start at \$29.99/month, and there are no start-up fees or equipment to buy. When a family signs up under this offer, it can choose one of three free gifts - an Apple iPod shuffler, a portable DVD player, or a \$50 Best Buy gift card. And that family will be entered into a sweepstakes to win a \$100,000 college scholarship. To enroll, call 888.388.4724 and use W-L's special code S6HQ. You may also contact **Cynthia Hilton** - chilton@verizon.net - to request a DirecTV information package.

A Special Lincoln Street Delivery. Congratulations to **Tom and Sarah Jensen** on the birth of their son, **Carter Sterne**. Carter joined his Lincoln Street family on November 18th, weighing in at 7 lbs 6 oz. With Tom and Sarah's hands full, neighbors were almost assured that the Jensens wouldn't play any good-natured tricks with their Christmas lights this year!

Lincoln Street Christmas Display Pranks. The newsletter editor's neighbor **Tom Jensen** didn't seem to think that the holiday light display on Lincoln Street was complete without a little Griswold Family Christmas touch. It seems the seasonal shenanigans involved plugging an inflatable snow globe about five

Continued, next column

Washington-Lee High School Presents
Once Upon A Mattress
 Written by Jay Thompson, Dean Feller, and Marshall Barer
 Music written by Mary Rodgers
 Lyrics written by Marshall Barer



February 15, 16 and 17
 Doors open at 7:00 pm
 The show starts at 7:30 pm
 Tickets in Advance:
 \$7.00 for Adults (ages 18+)
 \$5.00 for Children and Students
 Tickets at the Door:
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Kenmore Middle School
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 For more information call (703)228-6200

Washington-Lee Presents Winter Musical. W-L High School proudly presents *Once Upon a Mattress* - the hilarious, critically acclaimed Broadway musical comedy adapted from the fairy tale *The Princess and the Pea*. The comedy regales us with the life of King Sextimus the Silent, who is put under a curse and can't speak. His devious wife Queen Aggravian takes control of his kingdom. In order to find a wife good enough to marry her son (Prince Dauntless the Drab), the Queen decrees that only a princess who can pass her test may marry her son. And no one in the kingdom can marry until Prince Dauntless does! Come and see if a princess is found, what all the castle intrigue is about, learn the King's fate, and find out whether all those in love live happily ever after!

The show runs Feb. 15-17, 2007 at Kenmore Middle School, 200 S. Carlin Springs Road. Tickets are \$10 at the door. Advanced tickets are \$7 and \$5 for children and Arlington Public School children with ID. Call for tickets - 703.288.6200.

feet tall into the light display at the editor's house. But, poor Tom, the editor had left home earlier that evening for a few days R&R in Annapolis. Only the editor's housemates and Lincoln Street neighbors suffered the tacky tannenbaum display. Better luck next year, Tom!

Pits & Stems - for Seniors



Scramble for Scrabble! Scrabble enthusiasts are invited to Walter Reed Senior Center every Friday, 10:15 a.m. to play this classic game. Don't know how? Come learn! No fee - just call to register - 703.228.0955.

Looking for Picasso. Join in the fun of oil, acrylic and watercolor painting by taking classes at the Lee, Walter Reed, or Culpepper Garden Senior Centers. Beginners welcome! Cost is \$3.50 per class. Call for dates and times - 703.228.4721.

Dig! Block! Volley! Join the fun - beginners welcome! Volleyball for seniors every Tuesday at Langston-Brown Senior Center, 1:30 pm practice, 2 pm game time! Call for details - 703.228.6300.

Music Appreciation Group. Join us when we meet every Friday at the Culpepper Garden Senior Center from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Call for information - 703.228.4403.

Pump Up and Tone Up! You can enjoy exclusive seniors hours at the fitness rooms of Langston-Brown and Madison Senior Centers. Certified fitness professionals will be on hand. Cost is \$56 for 16 sessions. Call for details - 703.228.4745.

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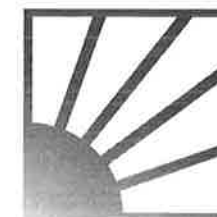
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Life's battles aren't always won
 By those who are stronger or faster.
 Sooner or later the person who wins
 Is the person who thinks he can.



Cherrydale Recipes

from the kitchen of Katherine Christensen

Ingredients

- 1 package white raisins
- 1 C orange juice
- 3 C sifted flour
- 1 quart pecans (1 lb)
- 1 box coconut
- 1 package candied cherries (16 oz)
- 1 small bottle green cherries
- 1 small bottle red cherries
- 2 C sugar
- 1/2 C butter
- 6 eggs

Preheat oven to 250 degrees.

Grease 4 small bread pans and line with wax paper.

Combine white raisins and orange juice.

Combine sifted flour, pecans, coconut, candied cherries, green cherries, and red cherries.

In separate bowl, stir sugar and butter together until creamy. Add eggs, one at a time, beating mixture after each egg has been added.

Add all combined mixtures into sugar/butter/egg mixture, using juice (approximately 1/2 C) from the cherries.

Pour into greased pans. Bake for three hours.

Place pans of water in oven along with fruit cake for steaming.

Makes 4 small loaves. Enjoy!

Cherrydale Fruit Cake