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THE BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CHERRYDALE CITIZENS ASSOCIATION • Nov-Dec 2011

**Next Meeting:**  
**CHERRYDALE  
CITIZENS  
ASSOCIATION  
16 Nov. 2011**

**AGENDA:**  
\*ANNOUNCEMENTS  
\*NOMINATE/VOTE FOR  
OFFICERS  
\*UPDATE ON 5-POINT  
INTERSECTION  
\*THINKING ABOUT NEXT  
NC PROJECT  
\*BEAUTIFICATION PRO-  
JECT ON LEE HWY ME-  
DIAN  
PLACE: CHERRYDALE  
VFD BUILDING

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# Annual Cherrydale Parade Set for 12 November

The theme of this year's Cherrydale Parade is "Veterans—Today and Yesterday." If you are a veteran or if someone in your family is a veteran, please plan to participate in the parade at 10:00 am on November 12th. If you have questions, please contact **Scott Springston** at 703-528-1548 or sdakss@aol.com Scott is Cherrydale's leader of this effort.

## Neighborhood Conservation

By Harry Spector

It has been a busy year for Cherrydale Neighborhood Conservation (NC) projects. 18th Street (between N. Quincy and N. Nelson) and North Randolph (between 15th St. North and 17th St. North) received new underground plumbing, curb, gutter, sidewalk, and fresh paving as full NC projects. Further north on N. Randolph at 20th Road, missing sidewalk was installed to complete (continued on p. 4)

## Candidates Debate at Cherrydale VFD, Oct. 19th

Below, left to right: Virginia House of Delegates candidates Bob Brink, Janet Murphy, and Kathy Mallard listen to a question from the audience during the debate. Details on the debate are on page 2.



### CHERRYDALE CITIZENS ASSOCIATION 2011 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Have you paid your dues for 2011? 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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# Candidates Debate: A Success

More than 100 residents of Cherrydale, Maywood, and Donaldson Run listened to seven candidates for public office speak at the Cherrydale Volunteer Fire Department on October 19<sup>th</sup>. Asking voters for their support were County Board candidates Mary Hynes and Audrey Clement, Virginia Senate rivals Barbara Favola and Caren Merrick, and Virginia House of Delegates candidates Bob Brink, Janet Murphy, and Kathy Mallard. Walter Tejada, running for County Board, had to decline due to previous engagement.

Maureen Ross of Cherrydale and Bill Richardson of Maywood orchestrated the debates (Cherrydale has hosted a debate every year since 2003). They made sure that all the candidates had the same amount of limited time to speak. By keeping the candidates' statements brief, Ross and Richardson held the total time for the whole event, which included questions to the candidates from the audience, to just under two hours.

"We set the ground rules that volunteers working on campaigns could not ask questions (with the goal to keep the questions local and less partisan) but a few snuck in there, so we'll have to do better next time," says Maureen. She advises everyone to check out the candidates' websites.

A number of important issues were aired. For example, the future of development in Arlington County was discussed by Mary Hynes and Audrey Clement, and the two candidates answered questions about neighborhood sidewalks, street repairs, the local farmers' markets, cars speeding on neighborhood streets, and hours for the County's branch libraries. Ms. Clement believes strongly that Arlington is growing too fast and too densely and objects to "white elephant projects" like the Artesphere, the Columbia Pike trolley project and others. Ms. Favola is on the other hand proud of these projects.

The debate between Caren Merrick and Barbara Favola focused on two issues: abortion and the creation of new jobs in northern Virginia. Ms. Merrick stressed that she was not running as a partisan litmus test candidate and argued that the economy of the 31<sup>st</sup> state Senate district was too dependent on federal government employment. She wanted to attract more private business firms to the area. She and her immigrant husband developed their own business here in Virginia and employ hundreds of people.

Ms. Favola agreed on the need for jobs but also said she wanted to go to Richmond to protect a woman's right to an abortion. The debate between the two candidates was lively, and it grew even more lively when members of the audience asked about their positions on regulating private gun sales in the state.

The debate among House of Delegates incumbent Bob Brink and challengers Kathy Mallard and Janet Murphy was less contentious than that between the state Senate candidates, but it touched on some of the same issues, including balancing the state budget, protecting Chesapeake Bay, and dealing with the increasing number of automobiles on the region's highways. The issue of gun sales and whether or not college students should be allowed to have guns on campus also came up.

Both the candidates and the residents who attended the debate seemed to think that it was a worthwhile event. Organizers Maureen Ross and Bill Richardson deserve our thanks for the time they spent organizing the evening's debate.



*Left: Candidate Caren Merrick looks on as her opponent, Barbara Favola, answers a question from the audience at the debate.*

## Join the Dream Team

Join our leaders **Bill Novak**, **Ron Kampeas** and **Erik Meyers** in mapping and documenting our sidewalks, tree canopy, and preserving our street trees.

### Jobs and functions

A. Mapping and documenting our sidewalk problems: **Bill Novak** (west) and **Erik Meyers** (east). Block by block help them describe if there is a sidewalk on your block (and how wide, 3 ft, 5 or 6). Document utility obstructions, take a pix. (document address,) Document any hole, other infrastructure problem. Feel free to document a good thing too if you want it repeated elsewhere, like a better way to keep a phone pole upright without having a cable block the sidewalk. Document too if there is a high voltage line on your street (reducing tree canopy on that side of street).

I suggest you program your cell phone with my email address [president@cherrydale.net](mailto:president@cherrydale.net). Then you can take a pix and send it directly to me. I'll send directly to county engineers as well as our team.

B. Street Tees – preserve and add more. **Ron Kampeas** (north) Part 1. Ron and family are going to continue the work on getting our Lee hwy and Quincy Street trees adopted by local businesses. That's the first priority.

Part 2 – Tree Canopy and Dominion Ron and Maureen Ron if possible, can reestablish my contacts with Dominion. to get a program here in Cherrydale for planting trees in private lots, within 8 ft of sidewalk, so that sections without canopy WILL have canopy eventually. This is esp. important on the side of street that has power lines, the high voltage kind. Dominion hacks those trees to death. So we need to work on canopy that won't get in the way. I already spoke this summer a Dominion liaison, and we can only hope they might help with the planting of more trees, as recommended by TREE LINE USA.

*Help us document your block. Send a note to Ron [ronkampeas@msn.com] for North Cherrydale (above Lee Hwy), to Erik [erikjmeyers@verizon.net] for East (of Quincy) and to Bill [Wjnovak99@aol.com] for west.*

## Traffic Accident Updates

By Maureen Ross

Immediately at the end of our candidates' debate October 19th a neighbor from the Cherrydale Rehab Center was hit crossing Lee Hwy by Oakland St. He was in a motorized wheelchair, heading back from 7/11 at 9:30 PM. Several street lights were out, it was rainy, and he was in dark clothes. A west bound car struck him, rather lightly I believe as he is out of the hospital at this time. However the wheelchair is ruined. I have asked County to look into better cross walks, and to repair the street lights. Per Shannon Flanagan Watson assistant county manager, "As a follow-up, 22 County lights have been repaired in the area. Six (6) lights have been reported to Dominion Power for repair. We will track status and follow-up if necessary with them."

The teenager who struck and killed a pedestrian on Quincy St has pled guilty. We've asked for details of the accident, so we can understand if any structural improvements could have prevented the incident.

## 5-Point Intersection Lee/Military/Quincy Streets

by Maureen Ross

I asked **Ann Beckman** to head a committee to work with Traffic Engineering regarding the 5-Points intersection problem. Anyone interested in being on the committee should contact both of us.

(beckmans.va@verizon.net and president @Cherrydale.net) We will be meeting with Elizabeth Diggs, Capital Projects Management Coordinator, Department of Environmental Services - Division of Transportation as soon as she recovers from hand surgery. Most likely day is a Wednesday evening as we have the fire station for meetings.

## Pot Hole Reporting

By Maureen Ross

It took 6 months but we got the pot hole on the intersection of Kenmore and 20th fixed. If you are having trouble with a pothole repair, would you let me know. Citizens are supposed to be able to call in a request 703 228 6570 DES customer services call center 8-5pm (which works for trash collection, e-wast collection, mulch as well as potholes). I always do it this way, and speak directly with someone, or you can use the automated line which I have not found helpful. Finally you can access the website too. That means you have to remember to report the pothole later. If you have used the proper channels for report and had no luck, contact Mary Strawn [Mstrawn@arlingtonva.us] or 703-228-6508 and then let me know you had to make the 2nd call.

## PARK CLEAN UP HIDDEN POND/Cherry Valley Nature Area

We need YOU to help with invasive vine removal and park clean up at Hidden Pond November 19th, Saturday 9-1 pm. If you plan to show up, wear long pants, sturdy shoes, a hat and work gloves. If you have a spare rake, we can use that too. PUT YOUR NAME ON WHATEVER YOU BRING!! Long sleeves do protect your arms from the environment, but tend to get hot.

Please contact Maureen Ross (703-675-3035) if you can come, or if you just want to bring hot coffee and or snacks.

LOCATION: Hidden Pond is located near the end of North 17th street off of Quincy Street (East side) between Washington-Lee High School and Lee Highway, right alongside the bike trail that parallels Route 66.

When you drive down North 17th street, the project is located at the end of the street, on the right side, on the far side of the hill.

We will have signs to direct all attendees. ANY HELP IS WELCOME!

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## Fire Stations Hold Open Houses, 15 Oct.

On Saturday, October 15th, Arlington County Fire Station 3 and the Cherrydale Volunteer Fire Department held open houses for area residents and their children. The Cherrydale volunteers had a 1952 American LaFrance pumper in excellent condition that attracted attention, and Station 3 hosted Arlington County's bomb squad and the squad's new collection of robots. Also on display at Station 3 were a modern pumper and older bomb disposal equipment. The Cherrydale volunteers had the emergency services truck that they share with the Arlington Fire Department plus the new Arlington Police Department's armored car. The new bomb disposal equipment and the police armored car were purchased with grants from the Department of Homeland Security.

There was also a large inflated "moon bounce" alongside the Volunteer fire house for children to play in, and both fire stations had literature for children of all ages—and cookies, too.

*Below, left: The Arlington County Police Department's new security vehicle. The "armored car" is shielded against explosives and bullets. It will protect police officers if they have to apprehend an individual or gang carrying powerful automatic weapons or hand grenades.*



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## Cherrydale Library Happenings

Cherrydale Library: 2190 North Military Road, 703-2286330

### Hours:

**Monday: 10:00am - 9:00 pm.**

**Tuesday: Closed.**

**Wednesday: 1:00 pm - 9:00 pm.**

**Thursday: 10:00 am - 9 pm.**

**Friday & Saturday: 10:00 am - 5 pm.**

**Sunday: Closed.**

**Note new Thursday hours.**

Since July, each branch library has regained three hours of service a week.

For details and future news on our library's new schedule, see the Citizens for Cherrydale Library Web Site:

[www.CherrydaleLibrary.org](http://www.CherrydaleLibrary.org)

## Fall Kids' Storytime Programs

**"Under 2" Storytimes. Mondays at 10:15 am through November 14th.** For children ages 2 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 7 pm through November 16.** Kids can attend in their pajamas! For families with children of any age to enjoy together. The 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.**

**Check with the Library in mid-December for information on Winter Kids' Storytimes (beginning in January).**

## Book Discussions for Adults

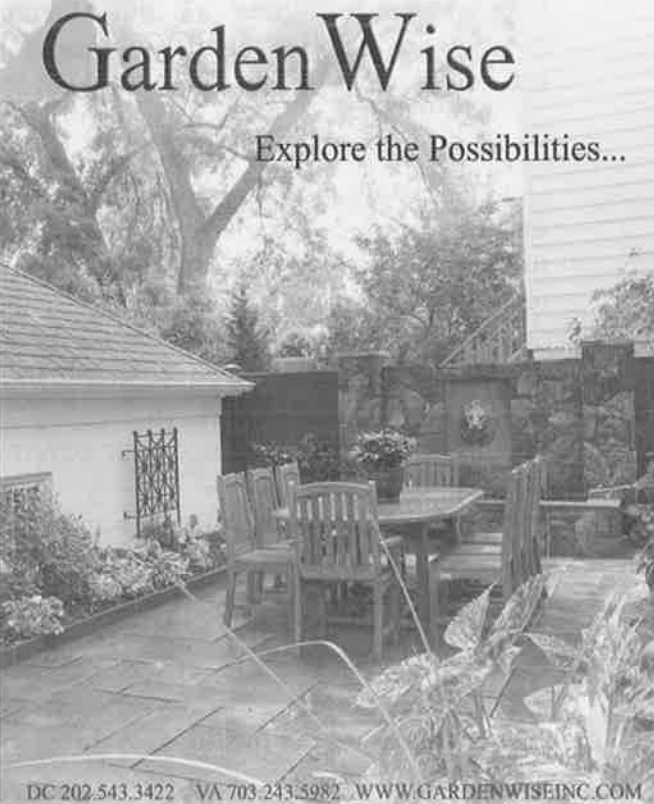
New participants are always welcome, even if they read the book some time ago. Books are usually available a month in advance on the Wednesday after the previous meeting. Discussion participants can pick up the next book the night they discuss the prior reading. Call the library to sign up for a discussion or to reserve a book in the special discussion section.

**Monday, Nov. 14 (7:30 pm): *Pride and Prejudice*,** by Jane Austen and published in 1813. Amazon reader rating: 4.5 out of a possible 5. 256 pages.

**Monday, December 12 (7:30 pm): *Pearl Buck in China, Journey to The Good Earth*,** by Hilary Spurling, a New York Times Notable (nonfiction) Book of the Year in 2010. Amazon reader rating: 4 out of a possible 5. 254 pages.

**Monday, January 9, 2012 (7:30 pm): *Song of Solomon*** by Pulitzer Prize and Nobel Prize winning author Toni Morrison. Amazon reader rating: 4.5 out of a possible 5. 1977. 352 pages.

Harold Bloom, in his *How to Read and Why*, said he preferred *Song of Solomon* to Ms. Morrison's acclaimed *Beloved*. A reviewer for the Washington Post said that *Song of Solomon* was a novel that "would endure."

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Left: A mother helps her child down from the cab of an Arlington County Fire Department pumper at the new Fire Station 3 during the Stations' open house on October 15th.



Above: Lt. Kenney Williams of the Arlington County Bomb Disposal Squad shows curious youngsters one of the new robots housed in the new bomb disposal truck. The larger robots can examine potential bombs and even move them while under the control of Lt. Williams and his subordinates. During the open house, children were encouraged to "pilot" the smallest robot.



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## School Superintendent Speaks to CCA

The evening of September 21<sup>st</sup>, Dr. **Patrick Murphy**, Superintendent of Arlington Public Schools and a resident of Cherrydale, spoke to residents about his plans for the schools during our September CCA meeting. He also answered questions from the audience.

His main theme was that “We want our students to have choices and opportunities as they move through our schools.” Dr. Murphy’s point was the world has changed dramatically in recent years, and it is essential for young people to become “lifelong learners” so they can take advantage of new jobs and new types of careers.

Murphy stressed that it would take a partnership between the schools and parents in order to make students aware of the importance of lifelong learning. He noted that parents need to recognize important opportunities in education and then to help their children take proper advantage of them. When asked if the Arlington schools have become a “factory for churning out lots of college-eligible graduates,” he answered that the longer a student spent in Arlington public schools, the better able that student was to benefit from *any* opportunities for education, training, and personal growth.

The Superintendent noted the number of students was increasing at a rate of about five percent per year, and therefore capacity—measured in terms of classrooms, desks, labs, assembly areas, and cafeterias—is a problem. The Arlington

County Board is trying to hold down the County’s debt while still providing adequate educational facilities, but the County needs one more new high school and a number of new elementary schools, so some way has to be found to fund their construction. Murphy noted that financial concerns are a “huge driver” of overall school policy.

At the same time, he discussed the overall goal of making sure that progression through Arlington public schools opens choices and opportunities to students. Superintendent Murphy explained that he and his staff looked at a student’s whole time in the schools—from pre-kindergarten through elementary and middle school to high school and even beyond high school. He noted that decisions about class sizes, facilities, teachers, and courses of study were based on a comprehensive view of a student’s school experiences. This comprehensive approach was paying off, and the positive results were clear from standardized measures of student performance and from the number of Arlington students who excelled in advanced placement academic programs.

When asked what he thought of the Cherrydale neighborhood, where he and his family have lived since 2005, Dr. Murphy smiled and said he “wasn’t home enough” to be able to say for sure, but that he and his family enjoyed the quiet and stability of Cherrydale. As he noted, “People often decide where to live based on the quality of the local schools, and those of us in the school system want to make sure that people want to move to Arlington.”

## The Story of a Restaurateur: Bill Hamrock and Pasha Cafe

Bill Hamrock, the owner of both the Pasha Café and the new Billy’s Cheesesteaks right next door, started his life in restaurants as an 8th grader working at Three Pigs Barbecue in McLean. He continued to work in restaurant kitchens during high school and after graduation gained training as a chef. He later worked for four years as a chef and general manager of a hotel restaurant, and that work gave him the confidence to begin thinking about opening his own business—which he did after working as *sous chef* for two years at the Carlyle Grand restaurant in Shirlington.

Bill knew the Cherrydale area and bought the old Pasha Café, which had specialized in Egyptian-Middle Eastern cuisine. He replaced the old Pasha Café with today’s Portabellos, and then decided to reopen the Pasha Café in its present location, but with a Mediterranean menu. Bill sold Portabellos after opening a third restaurant—Allisons—with his brother in Crofton, Maryland. His two chefs at the “new” Pasha Café—Husham and Abdul—had been chefs at the original Pasha Café in the mid and late-1990s.

Billy’s Cheesesteaks is, according to Bill, just a neighborhood sandwich shop with a typical American neighborhood name (his own). Although he stole the name “Cheesesteaks” from the well known Philadelphia sandwich, his shop is definitely an “Arlington” business. His goal at Pasha Cafe is to “improve the quality of the food and the variety of dishes on the menu,” and get “just a little busier and busier.” He takes his motto for both the Pasha Café and Billy’s Cheesesteaks from an old photo of the former Peck Chevrolet dealership in Arlington: “Service is our business.”

The walls in both the Pasha Café and Billy’s Cheesesteaks are decorated with photographs of Arlington from many years ago. Bill has found photos in the Virginia Room of the Arlington County Library, the Library of Congress, and even from some customers, including **Greg Embree**. If you have old photos that Bill might use, please let him know.



*Left: Bill Hamrock and chefs Husham and Abdul in front of the Pasha Café, 3911 Lee Highway.*