



The Lyon Village Bulletin

DECEMBER 2019

Lyon Village Citizens' Association (LVCA)
Arlington, VA

www.lyonvillage.org

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Calendar

Dec. 15 **Holiday Party**

Holiday Food Drive: November 1 - January 4

Once again the Arlington County Fire Department is teaming up with Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC) to help collect non-perishable food items for the holiday season. Food collection bins will be dropped off at Arlington County firehouses starting November 1 and will remain until January 4th. Last year AFAC was able to collect over 84,000 pounds of food for our neighbors. Please help those in our own community who are experiencing a food crisis by bringing nutritious supplemental groceries our firehouses.

Lyon Village Women's Club, Jan. 12

The January business meeting will take place on Sunday, January 12, at the home of Leslie Ludwig, 1801 N. Herndon Street from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. New members are always welcome! RSVP to pgagnon@alum.mit.edu most appreciated.

Police Update: Armed Robbery Near LV Park

At approximately 3:36am on November 16, police were dispatched to the report of an armed robbery on N. Highland Street. Upon arrival, it was determined that the victim was walking in the area when he was approached by three unknown suspects, who each displayed a firearm and demanded the victim empty his pockets. The suspects stole the victim's personal belongings and fled prior to police arrival. The suspects are all described as black males, 18-20 years old, 5'10"-6'0", wearing dark-colored hoodies, dark pants, and dark masks. The investigation is ongoing. Remember to report any suspicious activity to the non-emergency number, 703-558-2222. If it is an emergency, call 911 immediately.

County Board Approves E-Scooter Regulations

Close to a half-million trips were taken on rental e-scooters in Arlington during the first 10 months of the pilot program. Trips during the summer averaged about 80,000 per month. After receiving staff's evaluation of the year-long demonstration project, the County Board approved new regulations for e-scooters and other shared mobility devices at its November 16 board meeting. The staff report found: "Scooters appear to improve accessibility, particularly to public transit. About 10 percent of respondents reported using transit more frequently than before, suggesting that the devices help bridge the last-mile gap."

LVCA Holiday Party, Sunday, December 15, 4:00 to 6:00pm, Community House

Mark your calendars for the Lyon Village Holiday Party on Sunday, Dec. 15, beginning at 4:00pm until 6:00pm at the Lyon Village Community House. We ask Lyon Village neighbors to bring appetizers, finger foods, and/or desserts – and the Citizens Association will provide the beverages. We will have cookie decorating and holiday crafts for the kids. Come join the fun for the whole family! Please register to volunteer at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805094ca8a62faaf94-lvca>

Recap from November 11 General Meeting

Reid Goldstein, member of the Arlington County School Board, discussed current issues facing Arlington Public Schools, including two options that school staff are currently considering for redrawing elementary school boundaries. Much of the meeting was devoted to question and answers about these options.

Thanks to Spaghetti Dinner Volunteers

The Board of the Community House thanks all the volunteers who helped with this year's Spaghetti Dinner: Ana Nicole, John, Lilly, Frances, and Adelaide Armstrong; Nickie Athanason; Natasha Atkins; Will Atkins; Michelle Brydges; Andrea Briere; Heather, Graham, and William Buck; Dan Danik; Dan Dixon; Dave and Alex Franz; Gary Huber; Thomas McCarthy; Leanna McEneaney; Sandra, Gabby, and Lexi Moglica; Norina Moy; Heidi Morrison; Sharon Park; Kathleen Pons-Haines; Loria Porcaro; Lynne Ross; Rick Schweigert; Rich Visek; and Sasha Weismuller.

Thanks to those who donated goods the night of the dinner...

The Law Offices of Sher, Cummings, and Ellis for the wine. Ruth Boyer O'Dea & Sheri Grant of TTR Sotheby's International Realty, Don Gay of Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation, Billy Buck of Buck & Associates Real Estate, The Italian Store, Mexicali Blues, Kinder Haus Toys, and South Block for the raffle items. The Brizeks; Amanda Hickman; Lisa Himes; Naina Mistry; Susan Omberg; Brandy Quinn; Mindy Rudell; Anne Shekleton, and all the other bakers who generously donated desserts for the bake sale.

And a particular thank you to Lynne Ross and Will Atkins, who delivered meals to our elderly neighbors the night of the dinner. And a gracious thank-you to those who made tax-deductible donations to the Community House. Finally, a thank-you to anyone else we've neglected to mention. Many thanks to all who came, donated, and worked to make the night a success. See you next year!

Vehicle Decals No Longer Needed

The Arlington County Board voted last year to eliminate the requirement to display a decal. You can remove your old decal and dispose of it. The annual motor vehicle license fee (\$33 for cars) has not been eliminated.

Reminder: Contractor Hours

There is a lot of residential construction going on in Lyon Village. Please note that loud construction work cannot begin before 7:00am on weekdays and not before 10:00am on Saturday, Sunday, and holidays. If you hear or see a contractor doing loud work before 10:00am on weekends and holidays, call the non-emergency police number at 703-558-2222 and they will send an officer out to put a stop to it.

Village Market

Yard work, rake leaves, shovel snow etc. Call Peter at 703-314-8666. Responsible adult who lives in Lyon Village.

Home and commercial cleaning services available. With references from Lyon Village residents. Call Marta at 571-499-0660 with inquiries.

Leaf raking. Would you like to have your leaves raked this fall while helping support W-L high schoolers? The W-L High School Ultimate Frisbee team is looking for neighbors who need their leaves raked. On the first three weekends in December, 3-5 high schoolers would come to your home and rake your leaves, and in exchange you would make a donation based on what you think the work was worth. This will fund the team to participate in tournaments at home and away. If you would like your yard raked or have questions, please contact Joel Brown, joelb2021@gmail.com or 703-244-1162.

Lyon Village residents are invited to send their notices of garage sales, nanny searches, and more to the Village Market by the end of the 3rd week of the month.

Clarendon Circle Construction Update

Paving of the entire intersection has been completed, and new pavement markings, including green markings for bicycles, have been installed. Thanks for everyone's patience during this work. New traffic signals are now in full operation, and all street lights at the intersection are working. Ninety percent of the street furniture - benches and bike racks - has been installed. Tree planting is scheduled to start this week.

As a reminder, there are some permanent traffic pattern changes:

- The Irving Street connection to the Clarendon Circle intersection is permanently closed.
- The left turn from westbound Washington Boulevard to Wilson Boulevard is permanently prohibited.

Report Potholes

Be sure to report any potholes that you see in the neighborhood to the County. You can call 703-228-6570 or go online to <https://topics.arlingtonva.us/reportproblem/>

Lyon Village Dues Are Due!!

Dues for the September 2019–August 2020 fiscal year are due. The dues support LVCA activities, such as Holiday parties, the Spaghetti Dinner, and 4th of July picnic. Dues are \$7 for individuals or \$10 per household. Mail or deliver your payments to Don Gay at 1803 N. Highland St. (make checks payable to "LVCA") or go to lyonvillage.org to pay via PayPal.

Real Estate Corner How to Unlock Hidden Equity in Your Home

A question we get quite often is, "How do we get the most money from the sale of our home?" In some cases, the answer is not just in aesthetic updates. Arlington County has been updating its policy on ADU's--Accessory Dwelling Unit, commonly referred to as a mother-in-law apartment, granny-flats, guest house, etc. They are dwellings either attached to, or detached from, a main house with their own kitchen, bathroom, and living space, on the same lot.

ADU's can offer myriad benefits, such as:

- Increase the value of your lot;
- Create secondary income through rent;
- Promote Arlington's affordable housing master plan;
- Create options for people who may have once needed a large home, but can now move into a smaller home and rent out the main home.

Did you know your home might be a viable candidate for an ADU? Arlington will consider applications from zoning districts R-20, R-10, R-8, R-5, R-10T, R-15-30T, and R2-7. For reference, most of Lyon Village falls in R-5, R-6, and R-8 zoning. In May 2019, the County Board adopted new standards that permitted the establishment of new detached accessory dwellings and increased flexibility for homeowners to convert their existing accessory building into a detached accessory. In Arlington, accessory dwellings can take place: a) within a detached accessory, such as a detached garage or guest house; or b) within, or attached to, the main dwelling, such as a basement apartment or addition.

You must apply for an ADU permit in person at the Arlington County Permit Office. The permit application and review process are anticipated to move online in 2020, as part of Permit Arlington. The process involves completion of an Accessory Application Packet and application for a residential building permit. Once the permit is approved, construction can proceed. It is strongly recommended that you hire a professional architect or an experienced contractor who is familiar with Arlington's building codes. Taking this step will save you time and money.

Even if you don't end up building an ADU on your property, it may be in your best interest to see if you qualify for this "hidden equity" in the value of your home. This is a perfect example of how websites like Zillow's automated valuations fail because the intrinsic value is not unlocked. If you have any questions regarding this issue, or any real estate-related question, don't hesitate to call or email Ruth or Billy at lyonvillagerealestate@gmail.com.
– This article is presented by Billy Buck of Buck and Associates, Inc. and Ruth Boyer O'Dea of TTR Sotheby's International Realty. Ruth and Billy can also be reached at lyonvillagerealestate@gmail.com