



Over the Fence

News for Neighbors from the Arlington Heights Civic Association Winter 2010 Edition

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Join our yahoo group: ahca-subscribe@yahogroups.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Juliet Hiznay

Happy New Year!

It is with mixed feelings that I write this column, my last as president of the civic association. Three years ago I joined the executive committee, serving first as a vice president for Jim Gill, then for two years as president. Over these three years neighborhood volunteers – both veteran members and new members – have made a tremendous difference in Arlington Heights. My thanks to all our volunteers, and to the many neighbors who have offered their appreciation and encouragement.

Recently I have taken on a caretaker role for an elderly relative, which will absorb much of my time and attention. My work for the neighborhood has been very satisfying, and it has been a great learning experience for me. I will be sad to leave this role, but I know that new leadership will bring new ideas and new energy. My work as the Neighborhood Conservation Representative will continue, so I will still be engaged in community matters, though to a much lesser degree.

In 2010, Arlington Heights will continue to see improvements sought by the community. The neighborhood will surely see new development in the future, particularly on public property and along Columbia Pike. Change offers opportunities and challenges. The civic association can help preserve those things we love about our neighborhood, and ensure that improvements are community-friendly. We cannot know the future, but we can shape it through civic engagement.

Please join the civic association, participate, and bring your energy and your ideas!

Fondly,

Juliet Hiznay

AGENDA – AHCA Annual Meeting, January 27, 2010, 7-9 p.m.

Patrick Henry Elementary Library, 701 South Highland Street

Tentative Agenda:

- Election of 2010 Officers
- Approval of AHCA Funds for Park Improvement/other use of funds from fundraising projects
- Executive Committee Recommendations (Vote on Conflict of Interest Policy; Vote on Recommended Changes to Yahoo Group Rules)
- Meet the Neighbors – Thomas Jefferson Middle School

Upcoming meetings:

Special AHCA Meeting: Thurs 2/18/2010, 7-8 pm Vote on Irving St/Arlington Blvd Phase II *tentative*

Spring AHCA Meeting: Tues 4/13/2010, 7-9

Summer AHCA Meeting: Tues 7/13/2010, 7-9

Fall AHCA Meeting: Tues 10/12/2010, 7-9

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR CIVIC ASSOCIATION – JOIN FOR 2010

SEND TO: AHCA, c/o Lisa Bongardt, Treasurer, 319 S. Irving St., Arlington, VA 22204

Full Name(s): _____

Address: _____, Arlington, VA 22204

Phone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

- Enclosed is \$20.00 for a 2010 Family Membership
- Enclosed is \$25.00 for a 2010 Business Membership
- Enclosed is an added donation of \$ _____

I would like to help the civic association by (check all that apply):

- Serving as an officer Helping with community social events
- Volunteering for park beautification Distributing the quarterly newsletter
- Contributing articles of interest

2009 Civic Association Officers

President: Juliet Hiznay, 703-685-2596,
strangefruitblues@yahoo.com
First Vice-President: Stacey Whyte, 703-271-2681,
kandswhyte@gmail.com
Second Vice-President: Joy Helring, 703-979-1987,
ghelring1@verizon.net
Secretary: Mike Sobola, sobolas@verizon.net
Treasurer and Ad Manager: Lisa Bongardt, 703-851-1561,
lisabergenty@hotmail.com
Neighborhood Conservation Representatives:
Juliet Hiznay, 703-685-256, strangefruitblues@yahoo.com
Tony Halloin, 202-486-0617, ahalloin@yahoo.com
Lisa Hopkins, 703-979-5967, torylisa@yahoo.com
Social Committee Chair: Sara Snow, 703-979-3487,
sara@mail2Beach.com
Garden and Tour Hosts: Rebecca and John Mashaw, 703-892-0162, rmashaw@comcast.net
Newsletter Editor: Megan Booth, 703-553-9712,
jjmegan@verizon.net
Newsletter Distributor: Adrienne Wood, 703-685-4303,
adrienne.wood@gmail.com
Webmaster: Richard Bullington-McGuire, 703-979-4380,
rbullling@obscure.org
Yahoo Group Moderator: Jay Jacob Wind, 703-920-5193,
jay.wind@att.net

Insert business card ad

**You could be next! Volunteer for a Civic Association Officer position!
Nominations now being sought!**

Arlington Career Center: Delivering “Real Skills for Real Life”

By Suzanne Klett

Did you know there are high school students learning how to fly airplanes, treat sports injuries, shoot movies, bake croissants, and even attend college classes—all right in your neighborhood? These activities and much more happen every day at The Arlington Career.

In an unassuming two-story, concrete building adjacent to Columbia Pike Branch Library, the Career Center, since 1974, has offered high school students throughout Arlington Public Schools academic programs, and Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs. Last year, the Career Center also was designated a Governor’s Career & Technical Academy by the state and has begun offering classes in which students can dual-enroll to earn college credits for Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA). College-level classes include IT, architectural drawing, early childhood education, photography, automotive technology, emergency medical technician, and heating/air conditioning/refrigeration. In all, the Career Center offers more than 20 CTE programs to 10th through 12th graders who either travel there by bus from other high schools, or who attend its full-time academic programs.

The mission of the Career Center is to prepare students to realize their potential in a changing technological society. The Career Center does this by providing students with the opportunity to develop hands-on skills, earn industry certifications and college credits, and gain career experience through internships and client projects. The Governor’s Career & Technical Academy, in particular, encourages student involvement in solving highly technical real-world problems. For example, IT students wrote a program that allows scientists to monitor the activity inside beehives using microphones, so they can determine when bees are diseased. Construction students recently completed a one-room house on a trailer using recycled and environmentally-friendly materials and construction processes. The “Little Green House” project, designed as a public education exhibit on building “green,” will go on tour this spring.

The Career Center also has forged partnerships with more than 100 businesses and community groups who provide resources, mentoring, volunteers to support school activities, workplace internships, and student employment. Each year, more than 75 volunteers help the Career Center put on the “Reality Store,” a three-day,

Arlington Career Center: Delivering “Real Skills for Real Life” (continued from previous)

school-wide financial management simulation activity for high schools students. The activity teaches students how to budget for real life expenses such as paying rent, buying a car, taking out a loan and buying insurance. Through partnerships around the county, students also serves as interns in veterinary clinics, physical therapy and sports medicine clinics, auto dealerships, day care centers, hair salons, and TV production studios. One partner, the Arlington Community Federal Credit Union, has even trained banking students to operate an in-school branch of the credit union to gain hands-on experience. The investment in students has paid off. Several Career Center graduates have continued working at the credit union’s main branch while attending local colleges.

Whether students are college bound or planning to enter the workforce directly after high school, the Career Center strives to give them the best chance of achieving success by providing them with “Real Skills for Real Life.”

For more information about the Career Center and its programs, call 703-228-5800 or visit

<http://www.apsva.us/careercenter/site/default.asp>.



Insert two ½ page ads

Neighborhood Conservation Update

By Juliet Hiznay

Arlington Heights continues to be blessed by funding of long sought street improvement projects. Three years ago, we had three street improvement projects in our queue of projects that had been languishing for many years, as well as three streetlight projects. After a 2-year funding hiatus for proposed projects due to a project backlog in the program, Garfield Street (0-100 block, now completed) was finally approved for funding by the county's Neighborhood Conservation Program in December 2007. With the completion of our Neighborhood Conservation Plan update (approved in January 2008), we were able to get both of our other street improvement projects funded through Neighborhood Conservation – Fenwick Street (0-100 block) in December 2008, and most recently Irving Street/Arlington Boulevard Phase I (0-100 block) – which still requires County Board approval, expected in February 2010.

As one of three crossings connecting the neighborhood to points north and bordering public land, Irving Street has special importance. As such, the entire phase one project description is reprinted here:

The streetscape improvement project will include roadway and curb/gutter and completion of sidewalk on the east side. The street will be widened from approximately 24' to 28.5' to accommodate two travel lanes and a parking lane on the east side. The existing sidewalk on the west side will be removed. The existing sidewalk on the east side will be preserved with an approximately 7.5' utility strip to accommodate existing street trees. New street trees will be planted where space allows. Carlyle street lights will also be installed in the utility strip on the east side. Traffic calming speed cushions are requested and subject to separate resident petition and Neighborhood Traffic Calming Committee approval. A drainage analysis will be performed during the final design and storm sewer structures and mains will be added accordingly. A crosswalk and gateway treatment will be added to the north end of the block south of the feeder road. The gateway treatment will consist of an approximately 20' wide asphalt strip imprinted with a brick design and then painted red and edged with white striping. Driveway aprons within the project limits will be replaced.

Our first priority proposed project is now Irving St/Arlington Blvd Phase II, which addresses the intersection at Irving and Arlington Blvd, the bike trail and beautification (landscaping improvements) along Arlington Blvd between the pedestrian bridge and Fillmore Street. The design concept for that project is still under county staff review and will require VDOT approval. Under Neighborhood Conservation rules, Phase II will require only a civic association vote, not a petition, since it is classified as a beautification project. The county plans to hold an informational meeting this winter, followed by a civic association meeting to vote on the proposed project.

Our second priority project is currently a consolidated streetlight project – which is still in the petition phase. It encompasses South Ivy and South Highland from 7th to Columbia Pike and Ninth Street South from Glebe Road to Walter Reed Drive. **We need a volunteer from South Highland Street (7th Street to Columbia Pike) to obtain signatures for the petition on those blocks. Please call Juliet Hiznay at 703-685-2596 to volunteer, or email strangefruitblues@yahoo.com.**

PLEASE NOTE: Votes on Neighborhood Conservation projects are taken at civic association meetings. Priority order for projects is established at such meetings. Projects can be proposed by any resident, but must be approved by the civic association and meet Neighborhood Conservation criteria and rules. By county policy and under AHCA bylaws, you do not need to be a member of the civic association to vote on Neighborhood Conservation issues. If you have further questions about the program, there is more about it on the county website, or you can contact your Neighborhood Conservation Representative.