April '11

The Warwick VillageVoice

Warwick Village Citizens Association ■ 3000 Mt. Vernon Alexandria VA 22305 ■ www.WarwickVillage.com

Warwick Village Earth Day Spring Clean-Up, Saturday, April 23

Don't Forget – Tell Your Neighbors

Saturday, April 23, 2011

Warwick Village Earth Day Spring Clean-Up
10:00 a.m.

Clean Up Party at the Warwick Poolhouse
1:00 p.m.

The snow is gone, the ground is brown and there is litter all around!

Calling all willing and able Warwick Village Residents! We need your help!

If you've been walking around the neighborhood lately you've seen lots of litter on the streets and medians, and maybe even in our parks. Many hands make quick work! So, if we all pitch in, we can clean up the bits of broken glass, plastic, paper, metal and wood on our streets, and maybe even scoop out the leaves and sticks from the drains.

What do you have to do? On Saturday, April 23, around 10:00 a.m., meet up with your neighbors, don some gloves (if you want), grab a trash bag (paper or plastic, your preference) and work together to clean up your street for an hour or two. What you pick up will need to be put into your personal trash bins or just put out with your trash the following week.

Our Warwick Village parks will need some attention, too! (So far I only have ONE volunteer!!!) If you are interested in parks clean up on April 23, please email Shanie at shanie_bartlett@hotmail.com and let her know your Village park preference.

What's in it for you? A litter free street, exercise, socializing with neighbors, and a chance to mingle over light snacks at the Warwick Poolhouse!

If you have questions, ideas or comments, please contact Shanie.

–Shanie Bartlett

School News – Big Flea is Back

Mark your calendar for the Mount Vernon Community School Annual Big Flea.

The MV Big Flea will be held on Saturday, April 30, at the Mount Vernon Recreation Center, 2701 Commonwealth Avenue, Alexandria.

Early admission at 8:00 a.m. requires a $10 entry fee. General admission, beginning at 9:00 a.m., is free. At noon, all merchandise is priced at 50 percent off the original price. At 2:00 p.m., everything remaining is free.

Registration

Kindergarten registration for the 2011-2012 school year begins March 28, 2011.

According to Virginia law, your child must be five years old on or before September 30 to register for kindergarten. There is no deadline for registration, but Alexandria City Public Schools urges parents to register early. To be admitted, a child must meet all documentation and health requirements.

For more information contact the Alexandria City Public Schools at (703) 824-6600.

–Merikokeb Wondafrash

Warwick Village Meeting

Monday, April 18, 2011

Meet and Greet begins at 7:15 pm,
Call to Order at 7:30 pm

Featured Speaker

Chris Love
Manager – Development
Calvert Building

WVCA meetings are held at the Warwick Pool House at 3301 Landover; located a short distance down the hill from the entrance to Aspen Apartments.

Landover Street!

WVCA is seeking a new Street Representative for Landover.

Minimal volunteer time required!

Contact WVCA President Glenn Christianson if you're interested: glennrc@verizon.net

Web Site Update

Have you seen it? Have you gone to it? You won't believe your eyes!! The Warwick Village web site has been updated with even more features and a new look! Check it out at

www.warwickvillage.com
or
www.warwickvillage.org.

Thank you Jack C. for all of your hard work!!

President's Column

Hi Neighbor,

We have so many great people living here. I know of neighbors who regularly get together on front porches, and even some that vacation together. We all aren't best friends and nor should we, but if you look around there are probably some good friends out there.

One way for you to meet some neighbors is to participate in the Warwick Village Earth Day Spring Clean-up. It will only take an hour or two on Saturday, April 23. An added benefit is improving our environment. We will have a "Thank You" party at the pool house on Landover Street following the clean-up at 1:00 p.m. We will also have a membership table there to make it easier to pay your dues for 2011.

We also have our Adopt-A-Park program from April—November. WVCA volunteers clean our parks some time on Sunday and the City will donate money to us based on how well we score. We use the money for projects like Luminaria, improvements to our parks, and National Night Out. We are seeking neighbors who can clean one park for just one month. It only takes a half hour of your time a week and the village gets so much benefit; not only clean parks but funds that we use to put back into the community.

This last month I have gotten complaints about parking and neighbors not being considerate of each other. There is very little WVCA or I can do to correct these things. We can all do something together and just be considerate to our neighbors. Let others enjoy their right to peaceful existence.

In closing, next time you are heading out of your home and see one of your neighbors, just say "Hello". It could be the start of a great neighborly friendship.

– Glenn Christianson

WVCA Leadership & Street Representatives

WVCA Officers

President
Glenn Christianson • 1 Ancell
703.549.8842 • glennrc@verizon.net

1st Vice President
Flora Buckalew • 228 Burgess • 703.836.6599
fcbuckalew@aol.com

2nd Vice President
Aaron Shriber • 2904 Sycamore Street
571.483.0408 • aaronshriber@yahoo.com

Secretary
Maryjo Baxter • 203 Guthrie
703.519.3668 • mjobaxter@hotmail.com

Treasurer
Harry Falconer • 44 Kennedy
703.405.5399 • harrymfalconerjr@hotmail.com

Committees

Adopt-a-Park
Robbin Christianson • robbin@rgbiz.com

Event Planning/Pool House
Kathy Sugrue • Burgess
703.549.2718 • kgsugrue@comcast.net

Neighborhood Watch Liaison
Frank Sokolove • Kennedy
202.298.0800 • frank_sokolove@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor
John Kirchhofer • John_Kirchhofer@yahoo.com

Parks Assessment
Shanie Bartlett • shanie_bartlett@hotmail.com

Schools
Merikokeb Wondafrash • mewondafrash@yahoo.com

Traffic & Pedestrian
Rob Maccubbin

Trees & Transit
Bill Cook • 2940 Sycamore • wmtcook@yahoo.com

Garden Club
Flora Buckalew • 228 Burgess • 703.836.6599
fcbuckalew@aol.com

Welcome Wagon
MaryJo Baxter • 203 Guthrie
703.519.3668 • mjobaxter@hotmail.com

Youth Assessment
Darryl Francois • 212 Guthrie
703.548.5624 • darrylkf@aol.com

Street Representatives

Street Rep Coordinator
Craig Moran • 241 Tennessee
703.203.2938 • cmoran241@yahoo.com

Ancell
Alice Falk • 35 Ancell • 703.836.3295
afalk@afalk-editing.com

Aspen
Ann & Bill Stat • 241 Aspen • 703.549.8057

Burgess
Shawn Ferrara
706.461.1661 • shawnferrara@gmail.com

Commonwealth/Mt Vernon
Glenn & Robbin Christianson • 1 Ancell
703.549.8842

Gentry
Patty Moran • 209 Gentry
703.824.6810 • pmm68@msn.com

Guthrie
Gretchyn Meinken • 220 Gentry
703.549.3932 • gretchyn_gay@hotmail.com

Hickory
Diane and George • 2949 Hickory Street
diane_dutra@hotmail.com

Kennedy
Frank Sokolove • Kennedy • 202.298.0800

Landover
Michelle Rief • 3110 Landover
703.931.9375 • mrief@comcast.net

Mosby
Marc Walowac • 3001 Mosby
703.217.7308 • marcwalowac@gmail.com

Sycamore
Niki Badzik & Linda Robinson
2942 Sycamore • 703.548.3214

Tennessee
Craig Moran • 241 Tennessee
703.837.0039 • cmoran241@yahoo.com

City Liaisons

Code Enforcement
Wendy Baden • 703.519.3300 x127 • 703.746.4200

Police
Sgt. Bill Mayfield • 703.838.6360 x1903
william.mayfield@alexandriava.gov

Recreation
Sheila Whiting, Director, Mt. Vernon Rec.
703.838.4825 • sheila.whiting@alexandriava.gov

Sheriff's Office
Lt. Tom Dumproff • 703.746.5036
Tom.Dumproff@alexandriava.gov

Village Voice is sponsored by Village real estate expert Jen Walker, McEnearney Associates, Inc. Jen@JenWalker.com

Parking in the Village

We appeal to each Villager's sense of common courtesy to ensure that parking in the access roads is available to Village residents. Villagers have a strong tradition that respects the property line of individual residences, allowing each resident the use of the parking space in front of their house. Residents park in the space(s) in front of their house. Residents do not park in front of their neighbor's house.

Additional vehicles of residents and their guests must park on the main road. Residents are responsible for informing their guests of this policy. If a car is parked in violation of this policy, please talk to your neighbor or the car's owner. As a resident you also reserve the right to notify proper authorities of violations.

Gadsby's Tavern Family Tour Days

Special Tour Days Feature Junior Docents

This spring and summer, Gadsby's Tavern Museum, 134 North Royal Street, is welcoming families with special tours hosted by its Junior Docents. Family Tour Days will be held on designated Sunday afternoons from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., on May 8, June 5, June 19, July 3, July 24 and August 21.

On these dates, families are invited to tour the historic tavern as Junior Docents, volunteers from grades 3 through 7, share their enthusiasm for history with your family. Let your kids be inspired by their peers as they tour the tavern where George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and others made history! Junior Docents will be stationed at each stop on the tour, including the taproom, bedchambers, ballroom, assembly room and dining room, so visitors can tour at their own pace.

Gadsby's Tavern Museum is offering free admission to visiting mothers on Mother's Day, May 8, and to visiting fathers on Father's Day, June 19. Junior Docents will also be involved in Tavern Day, the museum's annual open house on Saturday, August 6.

In the late 18th and early 19th centuries, Gadsby's Tavern was the center of social and political life in Alexandria and the new Federal City of Washington. The tavern served as the premier gathering place for residents—including George Washington—and visitors to eat, drink, learn, and influence history.

For more information, please call (703) 746-4242 or visit www.gadsbystavern.org.

Keep Four Mile Run Clean!

Remember that what goes into Village storm drains ends up in Four Mile Run, untreated. A single quart of motor oil down the storm drain can contaminate up to two million gallons of water. Please keep hazardous waste and trash out of the storm drains.

Summer Job Opportunities

The City of Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities offers a variety of job opportunities for the summer of 2011. Positions offer flexible schedules, competitive wages, and range from camp leaders to lifeguards, and cashiers to pool managers.

To see what the Department offers, visit www.alexandriava.gov/recreation. Positions are open until filled. For additional information, call Wendy Irving, Human Resources Technician, at (703) 746-5513.

Teens: Get Talking, Get Tested!

"Get Yourself Tested" Month

Did you know the following facts about Chlamydia?

- It is a common sexually transmitted disease (STD) which can damage reproductive organs
- The highest rate of Chlamydia among persons aged 10 to 24 in Northern Virginia last year (2010) was in the City of Alexandria
- Most people who have Chlamydia do not know they have it
- There are ways to protect yourself from Chlamydia…and there are tests and treatment for it

April is officially "Get Yourself Tested" (GYT) Month at the Teen Wellness Center, located at 3330 King Street on the campus of TC Williams High School. The GYT Campaign runs every weekday from April 4 to April 29 – during April there will be "Lunch Block Testing" for STDs, such as Chlamydia, Monday-Friday, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. This will allow you to get in, get tested, and get out. No appointment is required.

For these **free and confidential** services, you must be 12 to 19 years old and live in the City of Alexandria. You do not need to be a TC Williams student to come to the Teen Wellness Center (enter the Center from the King Street side of the building). The Wellness Center's regular hours will still be Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. The Center will also be open during Spring Break, April 18-22. (Let your friends know about this!)

To learn more about the GYT Campaign go to www.gytnow.org. For questions about Getting Yourself Tested or the Teen Wellness Center, contact Andria Smith at (703) 746-4935 or email andria.smith@vdh.virginia.gov.

Monthly Meeting Minutes

March 22, 2011

WVCA President Glenn Christianson called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and distributed an agenda. He noted there were copies of the *Voice* with the minutes from the February 28, 2011 meeting at the back of the room. The minutes were approved.

A quick poll around the room showed a number of new meeting attendees. As a reminder, all Village residents are welcome to our monthly meetings!

Police Report

Sergeant Mayfield introduced his "backup" for the evening, Officer Panesar, a community policing specialist. Officer Panesar noted that a foot patrol took in someone who had been loitering in Hillside Park just the previous evening.

He reported that there had been 60 telephone calls since January but only 14 were reportable possible offenses. But when in doubt, call the non-emergency number. Try to provide a detailed description of the persons and the direction they are traveling.

While Warwick Village has not been severely affected by thefts, our adjoining areas have been hit hard. Be sure to take valuables out of cars. He handed out a "Help Stop Stealing from Vehicles" card.

Officer Panesar encouraged some actions to make neighborhoods safer: 1. Turn on lighting around one's home, even low wattage; 2. Ensure visibility of house numbers. Bad weather may have made the numbers fall off or fade; and 3. Ensure proper upkeep of shrubs and trees to avoid creating hiding places.

A resident remarked that since its renovation, Landover Park has many teens hanging out there after the 10:00 p.m. closing time.

Other Business

Glenn Christianson reported on behalf of the Treasurer that we have $13,936.08 in our accounts. Membership for 2011 is up to 51 members.

The Adopt-a-Park sign up list was passed around. Volunteers who help tidy up our parks on Sunday evenings/Monday mornings are an important source of WVCA revenue. If the parks pass an inspection by the City, WVCA receives a grant of between $1600-1800 at the end of each year. The three parks that need to be cleaned weekly are Goat Hill, Hillside and Landover. Please contact Robbin Christianson to sign up for a one month commitment.

Earth Day 2011

Shanie Bartlett is organizing an Earth Day Clean-Up for the Village, taking place on Saturday, April 23. Our city-wide clean-up will be Saturday, April 2. Shanie will be organizing the Parks group in April and work with the City on improvements to our parks. Watch eNotes for details.

Warwick Pool

WVCA supports the Friends of Warwick Pool, an offshoot of the Parks Assessment Committee. Friends of Warwick Pool has now evolved into a city-wide group aiming to maintain and improve the Warwick Pool for all city residents. WVCA's focus is on improving the meeting room in the pool house.

Craig Moran asked if National Night Out will be moved back to Warwick Pool and Landover Park. Glenn confirmed that this is likely. One reason moving NNO back up the hill would be to show we are vested in the pool, pool house, and Landover Park area.

Featured Speaker: State Delegate Adam Ebbin

WVCA welcomed Adam Ebbin, our delegate to the General Assembly in Richmond. February 26, 2011 marked the end of its 46 day session. Ebbin is a member of three committees: Education; Health, Welfare and Institutions; and Transportation.

Delegate Ebbin briefed the meeting on some of the numerous bills recently considered in Richmond such as privatization of state-owned ABC stores (defeated), a requirement for health insurance to cover Autism Spectrum Disorder (passed), provision of services to victims of human trafficking (passed) and establishment of an independent Office of the Inspector General (passed).

Ebbin took questions from neighbors on other concerns, including the Mirant Coal Plant and his opinion on the state of pensions for state employees.

Warwick Village and Del Ray are currently located in the Arlington District 49. Redistricting takes place every ten years, and will occur in 2011. It is not yet known where the new district lines will be. What is sure is that we will be voting for a new delegate come November as Delegate Ebbin has announced he is running for State Senate.

Featured Speaker: Flora Buckalew, Gardening in Small Spaces

Flora introduced our neighbor Mike, who lives just across from the pool at Landover and Burgess in a flat-roofed house. Last summer he grew a prolific rooftop garden using pots and window boxes. The flat, sunny roof top gives him a large clear area to work in.

Mike discovered that lettuce and bell peppers thrive in small containers; squash—not so much. He irrigated the garden from his drain pipe and used chicken wire to dissuade the squirrels and birds. The next time you're over by the pool or Landover Park, look up—you may see Mike cultivating his veggies two stories above you.

Flora reminded us that the Master Gardeners are glad to assist home gardeners. Do stop by their Help Desk, where someone is on duty every Saturday at the Del Ray Farmers Market.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 .pm.

–Maryjo Baxter

2011 General Assembly Session Report

by Delegate David Englin, 45th District

With the 2011 General Assembly Session behind us, here is an update on some of our legislative work. Please note that the General Assembly addressed nearly 2,000 pieces of legislation this year, and you can look up information about specific items of interest online at lis.virginia.gov.

Investing in our future with a fiscally responsible balanced budget

After extending the legislative session by a day, the General Assembly on Feb. 27 passed a final version of the state budget that is consistent with the fiscally responsible, socially progressive values of the people of Alexandria, Arlington, and Fairfax. The final negotiated budget is fully balanced, and it uses a combination of savings from cuts and efficiencies and new revenue from growth to add $75 million into public education, more than $100 million into higher education, and make major increases to health care services for the poor and to critical community-based services for the intellectually and developmentally disabled. Locally, the budget adds money that will allow us to fill an imminent vacancy on the Alexandria Circuit Court, and it increases public safety money for our community that is equivalent to the salary and benefits of several additional police officers.

Transportation plan addresses a critical local need but fails to deliver long-term funding solution

Governor McDonnell's transportation plan relies on $2.9 billion of bond debt. $1.8 billion of that is an acceleration of bonds the General Assembly had already approved, so the debt service is already built into the budget. The additional $1.1 billion in new bonds will be backed by Federal highway money, and I remain concerned that this debt is tied to an unpredictable Federal appropriation. However, these particular bonds are also our community's best opportunity to pay for the road improvements necessary to mitigate the impending traffic crisis from the Department of Defense's new building at the Mark Center. Additionally, while Governor McDonnell's initial proposal would have taken $150 million from core services like education, health care, water quality, and public safety to build roads—an approach I strongly opposed—the final version of the plan will be funded only with existing transportation resources.

Since the final transportation plan will address a critical infrastructure need in our community without taking money from schools to build roads, I voted for it. However, this short-term—albeit necessary—infusion of transportation funds expends the state's bond capacity and leaves us with few transportation resources after Governor McDonnell leaves office in 2013. We must continue to press Governor McDonnell to support one of the many bipartisan plans on the table that would deliver the $1 billion or more per year Virginia needs in new, sustained transportation dollars.

Progress on protecting consumers, supporting small businesses, and creating economic opportunity

Water Consumer Protection Act: Responding to numerous complaints from constituents about aggressive cutoff practices from Virginia American Water, which serves the City of Alexandria, I tried for several months to work with the company to address this issue administratively. However, the utility ultimately was unresponsive, so I had no choice but to protect my constituents through legislation. The Water Consumer Protection Act will require private water utilities to give customers at least 10 days written notice before cutting off home water services, and it will prohibit them from cutting off home water service sooner than 20 days after a bill is past due. Additionally, it requires the State Corporation Commission to develop regulations to prevent utilities from cutting off water service to a person with a serious medical condition.

"Accelerated Sales Tax" Repeal: Last year, the General Assembly embedded the "Accelerated Sales Tax" gimmick into the state budget to shift money between fiscal years, falsely inflating state revenue and letting legislators avoid making tough choices either to cut spending or raise taxes. This placed a major cash-flow burden on small businesses by requiring them to remit sales taxes to the state before having collected that revenue from their customers. Therefore, this year I proposed budget language to exempt small businesses from this rule. The final budget included my language with a minor variation, eliminating this burden for 80 percent of Virginia businesses.

Streamlining Business Paperwork: Streamlining various administrative processes is an important way to make it easier to start and grow small businesses in our community. Working across party lines, I passed successful legislation this year that moves Virginia in the direction of "one-stop shopping" for business paperwork by allowing businesses to register with Commissioners of Revenue or local finance departments—rather than the state—to collect sales taxes at the same time they file other necessary forms.

Virginia Cider Act: Representing an ecologically conscious community, I try to find ways to strengthen the market for locally grown and locally made agriculture products. Therefore, I was pleased to carry the Virginia Cider Act, which creates a major economic development opportunity for Virginia apple growers and cider producers by allowing naturally fermented cider without artificial caps on alcohol content. According to industry experts, the Virginia Cider Act opens the door for Virginia to become the world's leading producer of traditional hard cider—the kind of cider George Washington and Thomas Jefferson served at their dinner tables—and it will create new opportunities to attract tourism dollars to the Commonwealth.

Contact me if I can be of assistance throughout the year

While the regular legislative session is over, my goal is to provide open, responsive, energetic leadership that makes your government work for you—all year long. Therefore, please take a few minutes to look up my website, www.DavidEnglin.org, where the "Constituent Toolbox" section can connect you to a variety of state agencies and services. If you have a problem that involves a state agency, contact me at DelDEnglin@house.virginia.gov or 703-549-3203, and let me know how I can help.

The Warwick VillageVoice
April '11
Warwick Village Citizens Association ■ 3000 Mt. Vernon Alexandria VA 22305 ■ www.WarwickVillage.com

Visit our web site at www.WarwickVillage.com or www.warwickvillage.org

Warwick Village Pet of the Month

April Showers Bring May Flowers… and a welcome to one of our newest doggy residents, Charley!

Everyone needs a friend, even our pets. From the day we brought home our Labradoodle, Ziva, we noticed how much she enjoyed meeting and playing with other dogs. Shortly after her second birthday, we decided it was time for Ziva to have a brother or sister. Having seen the many fine rescue dogs that Shanie and the Homeward Trails program matched with families, we decided to select a rescue dog.

We have always admired the smart, proud poodle! So, Ziva and her two moms, Elaine and Elaine, met with new friends at the Mid-Atlantic Poodle Rescue to see if there might be a standard poodle that needed a home and was a match for us. (No, not one with a goofy hairdo!) After an interview and home visit, we were called to visit some dogs recently rescued from a neglected kennel in West Virginia. We loaded Ziva in the Jeep, and drove to the Annapolis-area to meet some of these rescue poodles.

We introduced Ziva to the dogs and the choice was clear, at least in her mind! She selected a silver, 2-year-old male, whom we've named Charley. Charley jumped in the back of the Jeep with Ziva (albeit a bit reluctantly), laid down next to her for the ride home, and hasn't left her side since.

The transition has been far easier than we anticipated. For a fella who had spent all of his time outside or in a crate with other dogs, Charley has made the transition to indoor living with people and a sister much easier than anticipated. After just two months, Charley and Ziva are best friends. When they come in from playing in the backyard, they often lie down next to one another for a nap. They have become the Dynamic Duo of Guthrie Avenue. You might see them walking with one or both of the Elaines or with one of the Capitol Heel Dog Walkers. Ziva and Charley do love their walks so they can say howdy to all their many Village friends-dogs and humans.

Exercise and training have enriched not just our own, but also our pets lives! Life with Charley and Ziva is full and fun. For those of you considering bringing a cat or dog into your home, we would heartily recommend considering a rescue pet. Everyone wins!

Calling all Warwick Village superstar pets—cats, dogs, iguanas, fish, birds and all pets alike—we would like to feature you in the Voice! Please send a high resolution picture and write up to Shanie at shanie_bartlett@hotmail.com.

Are you looking for a pet of your own? Adopting saves lives. Homeward Trails is one of the many great sources for adoptable pets looking for their forever home, www.homewardtrails.org.

–Shanie Bartlett

Want to make a difference in our neighborhood?
Join the Warwick Village Citizens Association Today!

Warwick Village
established 1953

Start 2011 off on the right foot. Your membership helps the Association achieve positive change and gives you the opportunity to have a greater voice in what goes on in our neighborhood and the City. Just $15.00/person, $5.00 for seniors, gives you that voice.

Name (1): _____

Name (2): _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Address: _____

Mail this coupon with your check (payable to WVCA) to WVCA, 44 Kennedy St., Alexandria VA 22305, or bring to the next meeting. Membership is good for the entire calendar year.

Get involved! It only takes an hour or two of your time here and there. Please list volunteer opportunities that interest you (i.e., parks, street rep, etc.).

_____

_____

What's on your mind?

Let us know what your main concerns are for the Village this year.

_____

_____