



# Lyon Park Citizen

March 2020

**Please pay your annual dues.**  
**See page 4**

Lyon Park's listserv, located on NextDoor, is a secure, private social network and an easy way for neighbors to connect and share information. It's free.

Lyon Park neighbors use this app and/or website to:

- Find a "kitten sitter"
- Discuss water and wastewater charges
- OH NO! Learn that a neighbor's car was stolen
- Find a bookkeeper, attorney, or HVAC contractor!

Join here:

[www.nextdoor.com/join](http://www.nextdoor.com/join)

**Code: SBCFNC**

**Next meeting:**

**Wednesday,**

**March 11, 7:00 PM**

**Lyon Park Community Center**

**Next not-just-for Woman's Club:**

**Thursday,**

**March 26, 12 Noon**

*-Note date change-*

**Lyon Park Community Center**

## President's Message

With spring knocking at the door, the thoughts of many Lyon Park residents are turning to gardening. This, coupled with the fact that our centennial celebration is behind us and the renovation of the community center is paid off, makes it the perfect time to start planning how to keep our beloved community flourishing well into its second century. Recognizing this, the Lyon Park Citizens Association, (not-just-for) Woman's Club, and the Lyon Park Board of Governors are holding a joint meeting on Wednesday, March 11, to begin sowing the seeds needed to produce a bountiful harvest that benefits all residents.

Do you have ideas for how the community center and park could be used to better meet neighborhood needs? How about suggestions for changing the structure of the LPCA and other organizations so that they better reflect the diversity and interests of our beloved community, or recommendations for community activities and how to engage more residents in them? If so, please bring them to the meeting.

Even if you haven't given these issues any thought, you should plan to attend. The meeting will be an excellent opportunity to learn about the operation of the community center and park and the stakeholder groups that oversee them. Hearing the challenges and opportunities we face may spark ideas for building a better community.

This meeting, which begins at 7:30 PM, is just the first step in planning the road ahead. It will take time for the ideas it generates to germinate and take root, and whether that happens is fully dependent on the level of community involvement. Make a commitment to help Lyon Park to continue blooming! (If you have ideas or concerns but can't attend the meeting, contact Aaron Schuetz, LPCA Vice President for Development, at [ajschuetz@yahoo.com](mailto:ajschuetz@yahoo.com).)

*Peter Zirnite, LPCA President*



# Classified Ads

**GET SOMEONE'S ATTENTION!** The *Citizen* is hand delivered to 1,900 households every issue.

## TEEN SERVICES

Interested in including your free teen ad? Visit [www.lyonpark.org/library](http://www.lyonpark.org/library) to share your information!

- **Kenna Geary**, 16, babysitter and mother's helper - Red Cross Babysitting Certified, pet and plantsitter, too! Text: (571) 353-9259 **E-mail:** kennageary8@gmail.com
- **Timmy Geary**, 12, pet and plant sitter. Text: (571) 525-8612
- **Abby Kant**, 14, babysitter, dog walker, mother's helper, odd jobs, plant sitter. **Text:** (703) 626-4531
- **Toby Kant**, 16, babysitter, dog walker, plant sitter, shoveling, pet sitter, yard work. Experienced sitting exotic pets (turtles, guinea pigs) as well as dogs. **Text:** (703) 626-0453
- **Max Kiriakou**, 15, yard work, shoveling, lawn mowing, trimming, yard work. I have my own equipment! **Phone/Text:** (703) 587-927
- **Kate Kiriakou**, 13, Babysitter, mother's helper, odd jobs, plant sitter. Red Cross certified. **Phone/Text:** (703) 587-9277
- **Delaney Loughney**, 13, Babysitter, odd jobs, plant sitter, dog walker, pet sitting.. **Text:** (571) 458-0512
- **Finn Loughney**, 16, Odd jobs, dog walker, plant sitter, shoveling. **Text:** (571) 289-4823 **Email:** finnloughney@gmail.com
- **Ella Bomberger**, 14, Babysitter, Mothers' Helper. Red Cross certified. Text: (571) 775-9205
- **Mae Seward**, 13, babysitter, mother's helper. Red Cross certified. Available Fridays after 3 PM and Saturdays after 12 PM. Phone/text (703) 473-3378.
- **Josie Whitaker**, 12, babysitter, mother's helper, odd jobs, plant sitter, pet sitter. Red Cross certified. Phone/text (703) 717-1993



## LAST CALL: Grumpy Adults Will Remove Toys on April 1 (No Joke)

Last month, our park managers made a plea for families to remove broken toys and take toys home from the playground. Little changed, although we received feedback from many neighbors indicating they agree that a spring cleaning is warranted.

**So, if your children use the playground, please start removing your toys. On April 1, we will conduct spring cleaning, and remove old, broken, and neglected toys.**

The Lyon Park Citizens Association  
P.O. Box 100191, Arlington, VA 22201

## LPCA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### President

Peter Zirnite

LyonParkPresident@gmail.com

### Vice-President/Neighborhood Conservation

Thora Colot

thora.colot@gmail.com

### Vice-President/Development

Aaron Schuetz

ajschuetz@yahoo.com

### Vice President, Communications/Social Media

Sky Adler

sky.x.adler@gmail.com

### Treasurer

Bill Anhut, Jr.

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billanhut@yahoo.com

### Secretary/Historian

Annemaries Selvitelli

astanz10@hotmail.com

### Membership Chair

Darcy Rosenbaum

darcy.rosenbaum@gmail.com

### Sargeant at Arms

John Goldener

goldener@gmail.com

### Member at Large

Vicky Hush

vhush@yahoo.com

## COMMUNITY CENTER

### BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Jeannette Wick, Chair (703) 524-8531

jiwickrph@aol.com

## IMPORTANT CONTACTS

### Community Center Rental Agent

Cindy Stroup (703) 527-9520

rent@lyonpark.info

### Clarendon Alliance Representative

Debbie Kaplan

debbiekaplandk@gmail.com

### Civic Federation Reps

Steve Geiger (703) 522-0026

Erik Gutshall (703) 276-0809

Larry Juneer (703) 525-8921

Natalie Roy (703) 819-4915

Jim Turpin (703) 248-6988

### Doorways for Women and Families Liaison

Saif Amin

saiful.amin@gmail.com

### Newsletter Editor

Daniel Holland

Jeannette Wick

### Submissions

Send photos and articles to

lyonparkeditor@gmail.com

### Distribution

Helen White (703) 527-2977

hmwhite33@verizon.net



*It'll be a cold day in March without a little Chili.*

## **CHILI COOK-OFF**

There'll be heat in the Community House on  
**MARCH 28, 2020!!!**

### **HOT NOTES TO KEEP IN MIND!**

- Cash or check only
- BYOB (The tradition is 3-Buck Chuck, but whatever...)
- Contestants, bring chili by 5 PM, please!!

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**  
**FUN STARTS AT 5:30 PM**

Contact Betty Perfall (bperfall@yahoo.com) or Arshia Arvandi (arvandi@yahoo.com) to volunteer.

Contact Arlingtones at [onlinemedia@arlingtones.com](mailto:onlinemedia@arlingtones.com)



### **Valentine's Cupcake Sale: Tasty & Melodious**

The Valentine's Day Cupcake sale was a big hit, with Cookies & Cream leading sales, followed by the Dark Chocolate. The Cupcake Team was surprised and delighted when a group from the Arlingtones delivered two singing telegrams. Pictured above are Carrot Cake (John Reece), Peach Melba (Nico Hernandez), German Chocolate (Todd Minners), and Red Velvet (Paula Reece).

### **NEXT CUPCAKE SALE: April 11**

More news in the next newsletter  
Watch the Listserv!!!

## **Lyon Park Fellowship's EASTER EGG HUNT**

Saturday, April 11, 2020

11:00 AM at Lyon Park

Hundreds of candy-filled eggs

Lunch served afterward

**Who can participate?**  
**Walking age through age 10!**

A fun, family-oriented event!!!





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## Please Pay Your LPCA Dues!

**\$10/year, \$20/two years, \$250 for life**

Please complete this form (Hint: use a return address label!) and mail it with your check to: LPCA Membership, P.O. Box 100191, Arlington, VA 22201

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Preferred phone \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

May we add you to the community listsevr? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Community Volunteer Interests (Check all that apply):

- ☐ Neighborhood Conservation
- ☐ Community Center and Park
- ☐ Development issues
- ☐ Social Events (Holiday Party, Halloween)
- ☐ Homes and Gardens Tour
- ☐ Spring Fair
- ☐ Traffic issues
- ☐ Newsletter
- ☐ Trees/Conservation
- ☐ All-purpose volunteer

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

**WHEN** April 18, 8:00 a.m.

**WHERE** Clarendon United Methodist Church  
606 N. Irving St., Arlington, VA 22201

**WHO** Competitive Runners, Fitness Runners, Joggers, Walkers, Strollers, Children, & Dogs...Costumes encouraged!

**ONLINE REGISTRATION is open now!**  
Discounts are available through March 15.

### **FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENT**

Children welcome in strollers or as runners! Discount rates for under 17 years old.

All children who cross finish line receive medals.

Block party after the race offers free food, bounce houses, characters, & live music.

### **ALL PROCEEDS GO TO ARLINGTON CHARITIES**

*Bridges to Independence* is a local leader in housing and support services for families experiencing homelessness.

*OAR (Offender Aid and Restoration)* supports men and women returning to the community with both reentry services and community services.



## Advertise in The Lyon Park Citizen

The Lyon Park Citizen is hand delivered to 1,900 homes around the 10th of the month from September through June (10 issues), with artwork and copy due the 20th of the previous month. These are our advertising rates:

Ad size	Measures (in inches)...	Cost
Business card	3.5 by 2.3	\$85/month color \$59/month B&W
Quarter page	3.5 by 4.5	\$130/month color \$89/month B&W
Half page	7.5 by 4.5	\$210/month color \$149/month B&W
Full page	7.5 by 9.5	\$350/month color \$249/month B&W
Full page free-standing insert	8.5 by 11	\$450/month color \$400/month B&W

We offer a 5% discount for residents who have paid their LPCA dues, and an additional 10% discount for advertisers who commit to three or more months in a row. A designer will draft artwork for an extra 10% charge. Contact [lyonparkeditor@gmail.com](mailto:lyonparkeditor@gmail.com) to reserve space.

## Your Lyon Park Real Estate Specialist



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Realtor, MBA  
Keller Williams Realty

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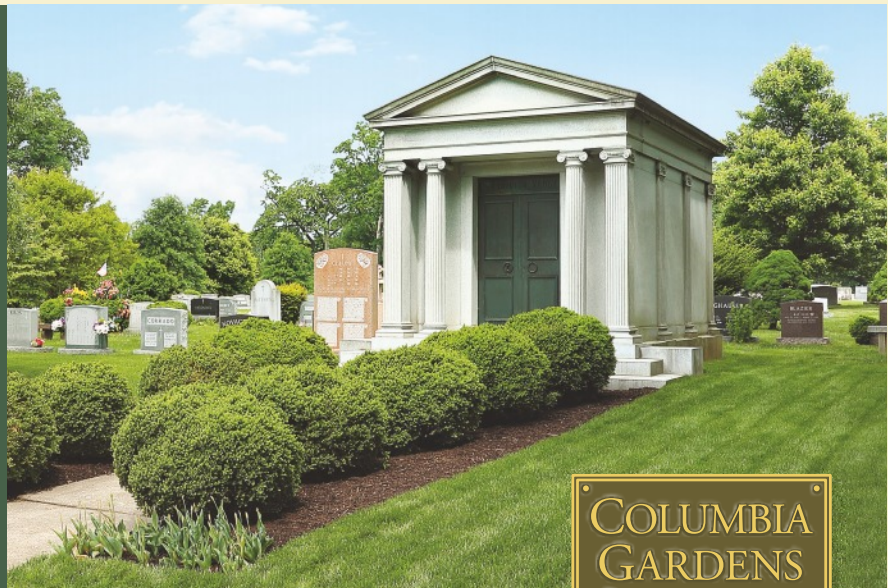
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## Pre-Planning Gives You and Your Family Peace of Mind



Planning ahead for funeral and burial arrangements relieves your family of the burden of having to make decisions at a stressful time. Pre-planning is a true gift of love for your family—both emotionally and financially. Columbia Gardens Cemetery is approved by the State of Virginia to accept pre-payment for funeral and burial services. If you have not yet decided what arrangements you would like, we are here to guide and support you. We will explain burial, cremation, memorialization, options for funeral services and more.



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## Community House Rental Rates

Lyon Park and Ashton Heights residents are eligible for resident rates, but cannot sponsor non-resident events.

### Monday – Thursday (8 AM–5 PM, 4 hour minimum)

<75 guests, \$50/hour resident; \$100/hour non-resident

≥75 guests, \$75/hour resident; \$100/hour non-resident

### Monday – Thursday evening (6–10 PM)

<75 guests, \$200 resident; \$400 non-resident

≥75 guests, \$300 resident; \$400 non-resident

### Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Holidays

#### HALF DAY (8 AM–2:30 PM or 3:30–10 PM):

\$400 resident; \$900 non-resident

#### WHOLE DAY (8 AM–10 PM):

\$750 resident; \$1,600 non-resident

**Children's Birthday Rates for children 10 and under, maximum 40 attendees, booked <2 months in advance:**

**Four consecutive hours ending before 2 PM, small kitchen use only–** *Includes the time you will need to set up and clean up.*

\$200 resident; \$400 non-resident

### Grounds preservation fees:

- \$30/inflatable (can only be rented from Arlington TEAM)
- \$100/floored tent, \$30/pole tent
- \$100 grounds fee for ponies and petting zoos

Use of inflatables and/or tents must be approved in advance and specified in rental contract.

A security deposit is required for all rentals.

### MAKE A RESERVATION TODAY!

Check online calendar for availability and complete the online reservation form at [www.lyonpark.info](http://www.lyonpark.info)



Find news and more pictures on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/lyonparkcommunitycenter>

## Plan To Sell? Buy? Rent? Invest?

- Proven Negotiation Techniques
- Expert Communication skills
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- 20 Years Real Estate Experience
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### Chris Rhodes

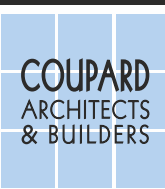
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Saturday, May 16, 2020

# LYON PARK

## SPRING FAIR

Learn more & sign up to volunteer at [lyonpark.org/fair](http://lyonpark.org/fair)



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(for news and events)

email: [kinderhaus@comcast.net](mailto:kinderhaus@comcast.net)

**7 DAYS A WEEK 703-527-5929**



## Lyon Park Advisors



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[bnelson@lyonparkadvisors.com](mailto:bnelson@lyonparkadvisors.com)

We are a fee-only advisor employed directly by clients and receive no commissions.

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# United States<sup>®</sup> Census 2020

Every 10 years, the United States Government counts each person living in the country through the U.S. Census.

Results of the 2020 Census will help determine how much federal money Arlington, neighboring communities, the Commonwealth of Virginia and other states will receive every year for the next decade. These funds shape the future of roads and transportation, local schools, health care, housing assistance for older adults, fire prevention, wildlife in our parks, and much more.

Key dates in 2020:

- **March 12 – 20:** Arlingtonians and others will receive official Census Bureau mail that includes detailed information on how to respond to the 2020 Census online and by phone.
- **March 30 – April 1:** The Census Bureau will [count people who are experiencing homelessness](#) over these three days. This includes people in shelters, at soup kitchens and mobile food vans, on the streets, and at non-sheltered outdoor locations such as tents.
- **April 1: Census Day:** Tell the Census Bureau where you live as of April 1, 2020 and include everyone living in your home.

Watch this short video,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Syg4zqb0iCU&feature=youtu.be>. It's less than a minute.

Stay up to date and learn how to get involved with the census:  
[www.arlingtonva.us/census](http://www.arlingtonva.us/census).

Everyone Counts!



**Arlington County's new shared micro-mobility device ordinance** went into effect on December 31, 2019. Users can now ride e-bikes on all trails. E-scooters on Arlington County trails and sidewalks unless signed or marked otherwise. Visit [ridedockless.com](http://ridedockless.com) for a comprehensive list of where you can operate dockless devices in Arlington. All users of Arlington streets—whether you drive, walk, bike or use a scooter—are reminded to be a PAL: Predictable, Alert, and Lawful.

The County will install new signage prohibiting sidewalk-riding next to protected bicycle lanes, where people biking are separated from drivers with a parking lane or other physical barrier. When a protected bike lane is available in the same direction of travel, shared e-scooter and e-bike riders must use it instead of the sidewalk. In Lyon Park, this signage will be posted on North Pershing Drive between Washington Boulevard and North Barton Street.

## The Pussy Willow (*salix discolor*)

*Jeannette Wick*

The Pussy Willow, an American native that thrives in hardiness zones 4 through 8 (Arlington is zone 6 or 7), is a curious plant. Its silly name comes from Polish legend. The story says that long ago, a litter of kittens fell into a river. The heartbroken mother cried on the banks, helpless to prevent her offspring from drowning. Sympathetic willows dropped their long branches into the water, creating lifelines for the kittens. Ever since, the pussy willow's buds bloom early in spring with furry "catkins" at their tips.

Pussy Willow, like many willows, root seasily. Stems form roots in just a few weeks in a glass of water. Similarly, sticking pencil-thick, foot-long cuttings from new growth directly into a pot of rich dirt does the trick, too. Just keep the cutting right end up (as it grew) with one or two buds above ground. Pussy Willow loves water, so it's a great plant for a damp area of your yard.

Pussy Willow is dioecious (dī-'ē-shəs), meaning plants are either male or female. Males have larger, showier catkins, and females are smaller and greenish. The fussy growths are the plant's flowers, and they warm the plant's reproductive gear. The Willow cannot be wind-pollinated. It needs insect pollination, and its strongly scented nectar attracts insects well.

Pussy willow produces copious nectar and pollen. Its early blooms provide valuable food source for wildlife. Early March catkins are first-of-the-season nectar sources for pollinators. The pollinators, in turn, are protein-rich food for songbirds, especially chickadees and goldfinches. Some birds, especially hummingbirds, use the Pussy Willow's fur to line their nests.

Several butterfly species love the Pussy Willow. One, the Viceroy, looks almost exactly like a Monarch but has a thin, black line that runs across its lower wings like a necklace. The large Mourning Cloak also favors the Pussy Willow. Its dark brown/maroon wings have a cream-colored ragged edge.

It seems like this willow is a decorator's favorite dried flower—or at least Martha Stewart's. To use them as decoration, cut them before the pollen appears and do not put them in water. They will dry and be lovely for years.

The Chinese decorate with pussy willows at the lunar New Year, believing it brings prosperity for the coming year. The Pussy Willow substitutes for palms on Christianity's Palm Sunday in many countries, capitalizing on its propensity to bloom around Easter. In Latvia, the sixth Sunday in Lent is Pussy Willow Sunday; children carry Pussy Willow bouquets symbolizing new life. In Iran, celebrants decorate with Pussy Willow on the Haft-Seen table during the Nowruz New Year celebration on the first day of spring.

Pussy Willows' bark extracts contain salicin, a compound similar to aspirin, which when prepared properly, can relieve pain and substitute for quinine as a fever remedy (but we hasten to say we have better medicines for these ailments these days).





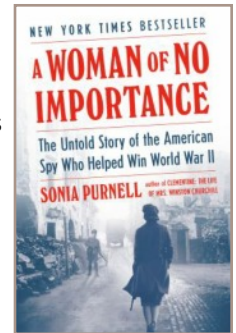
## A Woman of No Importance

Margaret Dean

Purnell has produced and well-documented her account of Virginia Hall's life and heroic actions. Hall visited and studied in Europe prior to the Second World War, much to the despair of her mother who wanted her attractive and vibrant daughter to marry very well and stay home.

With her extensive knowledge of France, including her experience driving ambulances, and her dynamic personality, Hall convinced the Brits to let her lead a small group in making contact with nascent French resistance. Early on, this resistance was almost non-existent but it slowly grew. Virginia was leery of the Vichy who come across as craven, cowardly, and conforming to Nazi pressures.

Perhaps Purnell refers to discrimination against women in general and against Hall, fearless and intrepid, in particular too often. The Foreign Service only accepted Hall as a clerk, even after she proved her mettle in the field. Similarly, every new position, every new activity, required Hall to prove that she was more than competent to run her own show. Even after the War when working for the CIA, she did not receive assignments worthy of her talent. Her job evaluations cited her as 'frank and outspoken,' which in the 40s and 50s was unacceptable behavior for a woman. Her job appraisals were sometimes a 'subtle, classic undermining of a female officer' who had coolly and competently avoided capture by the Gestapo for three long years while running operations like organizing one of the war's most successful prison breaks at Manzac prison camp. Or when she instigated deadly sabotage. Perhaps Purnell feels the same way given the extensive bibliography and footnoting, as if readers would not believe Hall's incredible actions without third party verification.



CIA Director Wild Bill Donovan, a strong supporter, presented Hall the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism. Hall was the only civilian woman in the second World War to be awarded the DSC. She received similar recognition from the British and some what later from the French.

Purnell has provided a list of the characters, needed because most of Hall's contacts have cover names (sometimes more than one, as Hall did herself) and Purnell sometimes uses one name or sometime another. Hall was one of the first to realize the abominable state of Allied spy craft. She lobbied the British early on to train their spies better because they were being captured/killed before they could even begin operations.

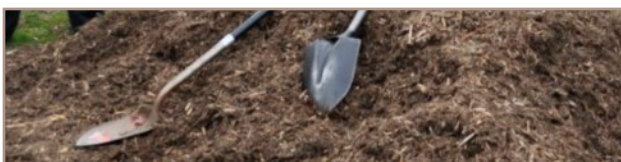
*A Woman of No Importance, The Untold Story of the American Spy who Helped Win WWII by Sonia Purnell.*  
Viking Press, NY, NY. 2019. ISBN 978-0735-2253-05 (e-book).



### Lyon Park Mulch Party Rescheduled!!

We do not want to interfere with the wee ones who will participate in the Easter Egg hunt on Saturday April 11, so the Lyon Park Mulch Spreading Party has been moved one week later to Saturday, April 18, from 9:00 AM to noon. Of course, we will reward volunteers with coffee, cocoa, cider and donuts!!!

We especially need volunteers who can provide muscle, wheelbarrows, pitch forks, hard rakes and brooms (laughs will be appreciated too!).

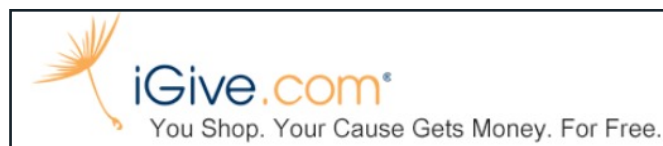


## AmazonSmile



**AmazonSmile** is an Amazon program that donates 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to charitable organizations. AmazonSmile is a simple, automatic way for you to support Lyon Park Community Center (LPCC) every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com. Go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. Select LPCC as your charity and then start shopping. It's that easy. You may also want to add a bookmark to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com).

## iGive



**iGive** works similarly. It's free. iGive partners with more than 1,700 online stores. It donates an average of 3% what you spend to your selected charity. The stores pay for it all. You never pay more, and often you pay less with coupons and deals. A typical shopper raises more than \$100/year. Go to [igive.com](https://igive.com) from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. Select LPCC as your charity and add the iGive button. This automatically tells participating stores that you want your shopping to support LPCC. You can also download the iPhone/iPad or Android apps.

### Community Engagement Opportunities, Arlington Public Schools

Arlington Public Schools has several events coming up that may be of interest to you!

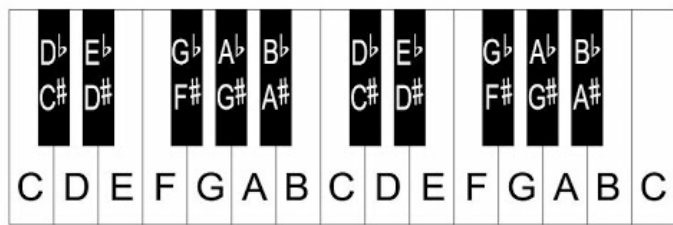
Tuesday, March 10 7 PM	School Board Budget Work Session** # 2 (Meeting with Employee Advisory Groups 5 – 6 p.m.) Syphax Education Center, 2nd FL School Board Room, 2110 Washington Blvd. 22204
Thursday, March 12 7 PM	School Board Meeting*. Full agenda posted one week prior. Syphax Education Center, 2nd FL School Board Room, 2110 Washington Blvd. 22204
Tuesday, March 17 7 PM	School Board Budget Work Session** # 3 Syphax Education Center, 2nd FL School Board Room, 2110 Washington Blvd. 22204
Tuesday, March 24 7 PM	School Board Budget Work Session** # 4 Syphax Education Center, 2nd FL School Board Room, 2110 Washington Blvd. 22204
Wednesday, March 25 7 PM	School Board Meeting*. Budget Public Hearing: Interim Superintendent's Proposed SY 2021 Budget. Syphax Education Center, 2nd FL School Board Room, 2110 Washington Blvd. 22204
Thursday, March 26 7 PM	School Board Meeting*. Full agenda posted one week prior. Syphax Education Center, 2nd FL School Board Room, 2110 Washington Blvd. 22204
Tuesday, March 31 7 PM-	School Board Budget Work Session** # 5 Syphax Education Center, 2nd FL School Board Room, 2110 Washington Blvd. 22204
Thursday, April 2 7 PM	School Board Meeting* Full agenda posted one week prior. Syphax Education Center, 2nd FL School Board Room, 2110 Washington Blvd. 22204
Friday April 3 Time TBD	Joint County Board/School Board Budget Meeting Work Session Location TBD

\*View Board meetings live online or on Comcast Channel 70 or Verizon Channel 41.

\*\* Watch Work Sessions live online at <https://www.apsva.us/school-board-meetings/school-board-work-sessions-meetings/>.

Work sessions are opened to the public but no public comments are accepted.

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## Travel and The Carbon Footprint

*Aboli Ghatpande*

The average annual carbon footprint per American is 16.4 tons of carbon dioxide. After taking a carbon footprint quiz, I scored an embarrassing 15.4 tons. Thankfully, I found very useful information on how to lower this number through the World Wildlife Foundation website.

The website divides your carbon footprint into 4 sections: travel, food, home, and stuff. I scored 54% in travel, 10% in food, 22% in home, and 14% in stuff. I was surprised that the travel percentage was so high. I honestly thought I was doing well by driving my shiny red Prius that gets 50 miles per gallon (44 mpg according to this morning, probably due to my terrible breaking and speeding habits).

I read more into the travel section on the website and realized my score was so poor due to the number of flights I take per year. My first defensive thought was, "What am I supposed to do? Take a sailboat around the world like Greta Thunberg?" I did more research and found out that many nonprofits allow people to purchase a carbon offset equivalent to how much carbon your flight is producing. For example, one man spent less than the total cost of a checked bag to preserve prairie land in the US and old growth forests in Peru. While this isn't practical for me right now as a student pressed on funds, I will be spreading this knowledge to my parents and older folks that have the ability to donate.

### Myclimate Offset Your Flight Emissions

[https://co2.myclimate.org/en/flight\\_calculators/new](https://co2.myclimate.org/en/flight_calculators/new)

Editor's Note: Offsets vary based on your seat. Consider a trip from DCA in the District of Columbia to LAX in Los Angeles:

- For Economy class, the offset is \$34.00
- For Business class, it's \$65.00
- For First Class, it's \$101.00

## Balancing the Carbon Cycle: The Difficulties

*Ian D. Rowe*

In simple terms, the carbon cycle can be thought of simply as *things living and subsequently dying, and in the process transferring carbon between each other and the environment*. Plants grab carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) from the atmosphere and turn the carbon into carbohydrates; organisms like you and me can use this new form of carbon. We eat this carbon to make all kinds of stuff (like fats and proteins) and to generate energy. Via our metabolism, we also burn these carbohydrates to generate energy and produce CO<sub>2</sub>, which is then released back into the atmosphere as we exhale and can be quickly fixed again by plants. A beautiful cycle!

This cycle starts to get more interesting when we begin to consider what happens to carbon after organisms die. Generally, other organisms eat the carbon and release it back into the atmosphere as CO<sub>2</sub> again. However, under certain geologic conditions, carbon from plants and animals is instead stored within the Earth's crust. Such "fossil" carbon can take the form of



natural gas, petroleum, and coal and resides underground. This carbon stays locked away for millions of years until something (like us!) reintroduces it to the atmosphere. This is the situation we are in today that is driving climate change by drastically increasing atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>.

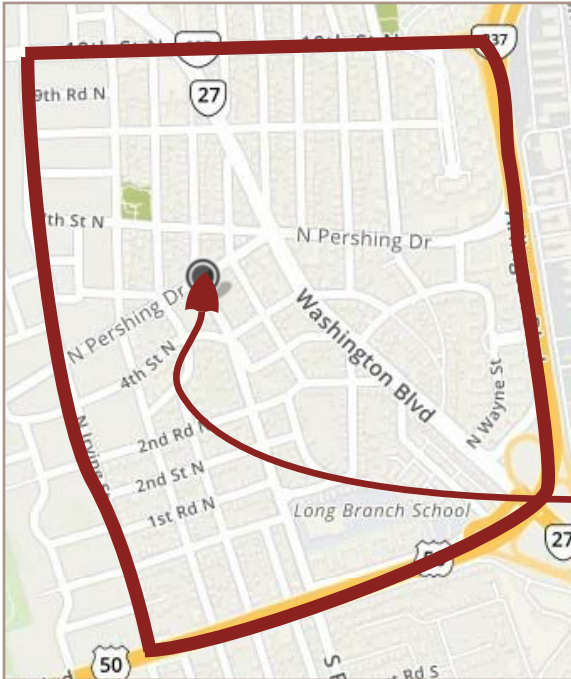
Recently many companies have stated they plan to reduce their carbon footprint or even go "carbon neutral." One way to achieve this is to stop burning fossil fuels and drive your cumulative emissions to zero. That's the best solution. Unfortunately, many companies cannot stop emitting. Airlines, for example, currently rely on burning petroleum to fly jets and thus cannot stop emitting CO<sub>2</sub>. To get around this and still achieve neutrality, companies rely on some type of greenhouse gas reduction somewhere else that compensates for the CO<sub>2</sub> they emit. This is called a "carbon offset."

Offsets can take many forms, such as planting trees, paying for a renewable energy project, or protecting a forest. All such options should be encouraged to combat climate change. However, the overall effect of "offsets" is inherently difficult to measure because a) the permanence is difficult to measure (how long will the trees be there?) and b) would such efforts actually offset the same amount of CO<sub>2</sub> that was produced in the original activity?

There are other technologies that are "carbon negative" and remove carbon from the atmosphere instead of just avoiding emissions or planting trees. Some use machines that suck carbon out of the air (termed "direct air capture") and some involve growing plants, converting them to energy, and burying the resulting CO<sub>2</sub> deep underground. Such approaches are currently very expensive and are not quite ready for widespread use to remove carbon. However the longer we wait to get serious about this, the more we'll need to rely on carbon offsets and carbon negative technologies to ensure that we avoid the worst effects of climate change.

# LYON PARK NOW

## Lyon Park: The Places



**Lyon Park** is one of about 60 Arlington neighborhoods.

- Almost 5000 residents live here.
- Though traditional homes occupy the most real estate, the stereotypical single family household is in the minority. We have many condos and apartments.
- More households are rental than owner-occupied.
- The most common household size is one person.
- While we are a majority white neighborhood, diversity is an important and growing part of our identity.

The Lyon Park Community owns and maintains **Lyon Park**.

- This is a unique feature of our neighborhood. When the neighborhood was founded 100 years ago, the park was established as a community benefit for the residents. While other communities had similar parks, very few remain independently owned and maintained by their residents.
- Many donations of time and money help keep the park and playground looking nice for all of us to enjoy.



The **Lyon Park Community Center (LPCC)** is located in the park.

- This wonderful building is a unique neighborhood feature. It is one of three centers in Arlington that are resident owned and maintained.
- Thanks to very generous donations from many residents, we paid off the million dollar renovation costs incurred in 2014 early.
- Rental income helps pay for maintenance of both the park and the center itself. Discounted rental rates are available for residents of Lyon Park to help them celebrate special events, hold meetings, and more.
- The LPCC's primary function, however, is to be the center of our community. The Center and Park host many events throughout the year to build a sense of community among residents. This focal point has helped make Lyon Park one of Arlington's most active neighborhoods.

## Lyon Park: The Organizations

**Lyon Park Citizens Association (LPCA)** is a Civic group like those in other Arlington neighborhoods and around the country.

- This nonprofit, non-partisan organization represents the Lyon Park's interests at public hearings and meetings, and distributes information on issues of community concern.
- Membership is open to all Lyon Park residents, both renters and homeowners. LPCA holds elections every fall for leadership positions.
- Our Citizens Association also strives, through monthly meetings (second Wednesday) and special events (like the Food Truck Festival) to increase resident participation in being part of our neighborhood

The **Lyon Park Woman's Club (LPWC)** is a social and service group in Lyon Park that has been around as long as our community center.

- It isn't just for women, and has taken on the task of organizing a great many social and fundraising events like the Pancake Breakfast, Spaghetti Dinner, Cupcake sales, and more!
- LPWC meets monthly at lunch (third Thursday), and attracts a big crowd!

The **Lyon Park Board of Governors (LP BoG)** is comprised of members of the Lyon Park Citizens Association and the Women's Club. This group oversees the financial and logistic matters pertaining to the park and community center.

**Our Neighborhood currently has several official organizations. Each is open to all residents, and these groups welcome newcomers.**



# LYON PARK IN THE FUTURE

## What Might Lyon Park be in the Future?

Our neighborhood has changed considerably in the last century, and continues to change rapidly. How will we structure our Lyon Park groups and organizations to make everyone feel that Lyon Park is a place for them? Do we need additional clubs or groups? Do we need special outreach initiatives? How will we find neighborhood volunteers and donors to make desired changes? What would make *you* show up? What about your *neighbor*? What about *that other neighbor*? How can the neighborhood work together?

**Organization:** Does the leadership structure of the Board of Governors, Citizens Association, and Women's Club make sense going forward? Does it need to be expanded? Reorganized? Do we need to rely less on volunteers and more on paid employees?

**Enhancement:** How do we take something good and make it even better? Having our own community center and park gives us an exceptional opportunity to shape our neighborhood in ways that other communities can only imagine. To get the ball rolling, below are a few ideas that residents have suggested to enhance the community experience in our neighborhood.

- Progressive street parties. On different weekends, a different street in Lyon Park is blocked off for a neighborhood street party. Designed mostly for the nearest residents, it would be a chance to gather and mingle with near neighbors.
- Start a Parent Club. For parents with pre-school age kids who clearly have similar interests and struggles, and want to widen their network.
- Start an Empty Nest Club. For those who don't have kids around, and want to be involved with similar adults in the neighborhood.
- Host a recurring Study Hall. Use the LPCC on an occasional basis for evening study hall sessions for middle or high school kids. Tutors could be on hand to help kids. Dinner could be provided.
- Saturdays at the Park. Some type of regular, recurring time when the park and community center are open specifically for certain groups. Maybe young kids for music or art. Maybe a teen night. Maybe an adult game night.
- Neighborhood watch, CSA dropoff, cooking classes, book clubs, neighborhood music groups, etc.
- Something better. Let's face it, these are great ideas, but it takes time (and sometimes money) to get these things together. Bring your ideas. You might find huge support.

**Come talk about all of this at the special Joint BOG, LPCA, and LPWC meeting on Wednesday, March 11th. At the Lyon Park Community Center. Social at 7, meeting starts promptly at 7:30. At this meeting we'll solicit ideas, share concerns, and start building a path together for our wonderful neighborhood. Come be a part of it!**

## Lyon Park Community Center and Park Financial Situation

**Current situation:** Having just paid off the construction loan, the Lyon Park Community Center has a clean balance sheet. The LPCC brings in about \$110,000 of revenue annually through rentals. Our operating expenses are about \$94,000, including nearly \$20,000 annually for park upkeep. Donations and fundraising efforts have diminished since our community center renovation was paid off, but volunteer-driven fundraising (through special events like the spring fair, chili dinner, etc) still brings in around \$7,000 each year. This means we have an operating profit of around \$20,000. This is comfortable, but not large. If we continue renting the center at this rate, we will be able to build a nest egg slowly for larger expenses that will come later.

**Future Financials:** What comes next? How do we plan for the next five, 20, or 50 years? Our entire community needs to have this important conversation.

- Do we want to create an endowment to secure the future of our park and community center?
- Do we want to go month-to-month and rely on just community center rentals to generate income to meet the needs of the park and center?
- Do we decrease LPCC's rental use and step up neighborhood donations to meet the operating needs?
- Do we want to use the park and center to start new initiatives to engage more community members? If so, how will we support these?



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Thank you for the continued welcoming into your community. We look forward in servicing all of your automotive needs.

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