



# Lyon Park Citizen

April 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 items in short supply
- Discuss how to make cloth masks and donate
- Learn which restaurants are open
- Chit-chat about happy things

Join here:

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

**Code: SBCFNC**

## President's Message

I hope this issue of the Lyon Park Citizens Association newsletter finds you and your family healthy. In these tumultuous times, I find solace knowing that the community in which my family and I live is full of caring and compassionate people, eager to assist their neighbors in need. You can see proof of this in the postings on Nextdoor from people offering to run errands for elderly residents and others susceptible to novel coronavirus. It is even more clearly demonstrated by all the residents I have witnessed practicing social distancing, the most effective way of slowing the spread of this pandemic.

While the vast majority of Lyon Park residents appear to have taken health officials' recommendations to heart, I have also seen a few outliers in action, defying the call to maintain a safe distance and avoid gatherings of more than a few people. They apparently have conflated confidence with immunity and need to be reminded that, while they may have the former, no one has the latter. They also need to consider the fact that even though most COVID-19 cases produce mild symptoms, some people down the chain of transmission will require emergency hospitalization to keep them alive, and others will certainly die.

Social distancing is an enormous challenge because it runs counter to our normal response to a crisis, which is to come together as a community. Although unsettling and unfamiliar, it doesn't have to be unpleasant; just check out the Lyon Park Scavenger Hunt on pages 8 and 9. If you are looking for some exercise, you can also maintain your commitment to keeping a healthy distance while participating in the Lyon Park Mulch Party on Saturday, April 18, from 9:00 AM to noon.

*Peter Zirnite, LPCA President*

P.S. I urge you to support the Lyon Park businesses that remain open, as long as you can do so safely.

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**The Next LPCA meeting will be Virtual.**

**Please join us at this link:**

**<https://zoom.us/j/448339945>**

**Wednesday April 8th at 7:30 PM**

**(social time starts at 7. Bring your own snacks and drinks)**

**If you haven't used Zoom before, it's easy, but start connecting early. You will need to download an app or extension. You can connect with a computer or tablet. Your choice if you want to keep your camera off.**

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# 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) 587-9277
- **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

## Legislation on Racial Covenants Passes

*Toby McIntosh*

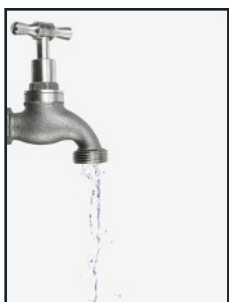
Legislation passed unanimously by the Virginia Assembly would make it easier for landowners to disavow racial covenants in their deeds. Such clauses are now unenforceable, but their continued existence in deed sparked a nationwide effort to help those who wished to expunge them.

The bill (HB 788) sponsored by Rep. Lamont Bagby would create a "a Certificate of Release of Certain Prohibited Covenants" as a simple mechanism for property owners who wish to make a small statement against racial covenants. The process could be done without fees, taxes or an attorney. A short form is dictated by the bill.

This topic arose recently in Lyon Park as we celebrated the centennial milestone. Many deeds, in Lyon Park and also in other neighborhoods, included a "Caucasians only" clause. Such a restrictive covenant exists in the deed for the Lyon Park Community Center.

The governor is expected to sign the bill.

## Tuning Up Our Tap Water Network



The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Washington Aqueduct will temporarily switch from chloramine to chlorine to help clean the pipes and maintain system flow.

Through May 4, drinking water may taste slightly different or have a slight odor. Running the cold water tap for about two minutes, using a water filter, or letting water sit in a container in the refrigerator helps remove chlorine taste and odor.

Staff will start flushing fire hydrants systematically at the same time.

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

## LPCA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### President

Peter Zirnite  
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### Vice President, Communications/Social Media

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### Sargeant at Arms

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## COMMUNITY CENTER

### BOARD OF GOVERNORS

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## IMPORTANT CONTACTS

### Community Center Rental Agent

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rent@lyonpark.info

### Clarendon Alliance Representative

Debbie Kaplan  
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Natalie Roy (703) 819-4915  
Jim Turpin (703) 248-6988

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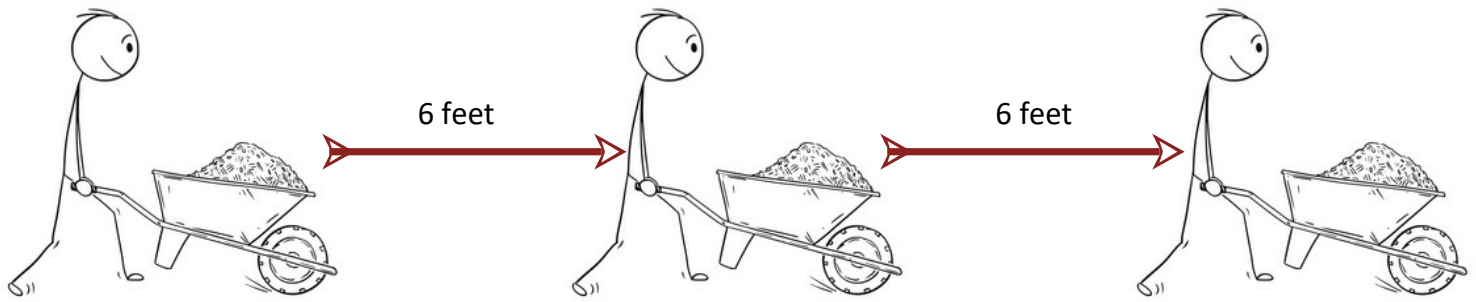
Daniel Holland  
Jeannette Wick

### Submissions

Send photos and articles to  
lyonparkeditor@gmail.com

### Distribution

Helen White (703) 527-2977  
hmwhite33@verizon.net



## Lyon Park Mulch Proceeding as Scheduled!!

Our trees can't wait! The Lyon Park Mulch Spreading Party will proceed as scheduled on Saturday, April 18, from 9:00 AM to noon. We will practice "wheelbarrow distancing" (pictured above) to ensure the safety of all involved.

We especially need volunteers who can provide muscle, wheelbarrows, pitch forks, hard rakes and brooms (laughs will be appreciated too!). Of course, we will reward volunteers with coffee, cocoa, cider and donuts!!!



# LYON PARK

## SUMMER FAIR & FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL

Date TBD.

See you as soon as we can!



Dear Fellow Community Members,

We hope everyone is staying safe and healthy during these confusing and unprecedented times. We know no words will do justice to everyone's individual experience over the last couple weeks.



As our world faces historic challenges, we understand that real estate services are not necessarily an essential service, but please know that we care about you and are committed to continuing to serve you in a safe and responsible manner.

If you'd like a market update, referral for a refinancing lender, a professional opinion, or more, we stand ready to help you. Stay well.

Sincerely,  
Bob Mathew



TheMathewGroup.com | 800.495.8470  
4201 Wilson Boulevard 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Arlington, VA 22203



## 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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## 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



**Ron Cathell**  
Realtor, MBA  
Keller Williams Realty

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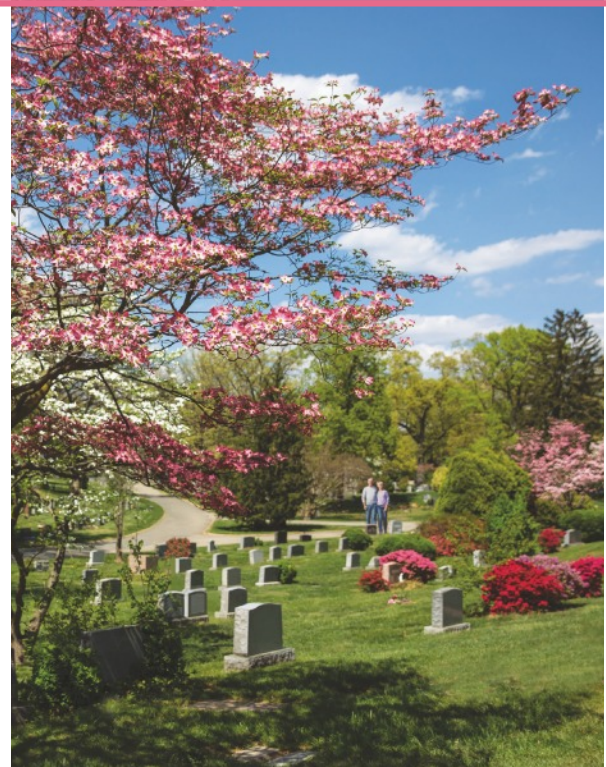


## Our Arboretum is **Beautiful** in All the Seasons of Life

Columbia Gardens Cemetery has been awarded Level I Accreditation by The ArbNet Arboretum Accreditation Program and The Morton Arboretum. This prestigious national arboretum recognition is based on the care of our grounds, preservation of our trees, and management of our environment. Our towering trees and flowering shrubs make Columbia Gardens a beautiful oasis, a place for a moment of peace in the middle of these stressful times. You are welcome to enjoy walking throughout our grounds from daylight to dusk.



ESTABLISHED 1917



3411 Arlington Blvd., Arlington, VA 22201 ♦ 703.527.1235 ♦ [columbiagardenscemetery.org](http://columbiagardenscemetery.org)



## 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
- Adherence to REALTOR's Code of Ethics
- Guarantee Stress Free Transaction
- 20 Years Real Estate Experience
- Northern Virginia, Lyon Park Resident 37 years

**Text/Call for FREE MARKET ANALYSIS**



### Deborah Bash

REALTOR®

Licensed in DC, MD and VA

703-405-6069

[deborah.bash@LNF.com](mailto:deborah.bash@LNF.com)



### Chris Rhodes

REALTOR®

Licensed in DC, MD and VA

571-438-0111

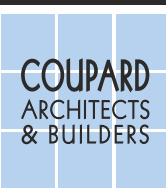
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# 1st Lyon Park Family Scavenger Hunt



So, you think you know Lyon Park? These fifty photos come from all corners of the neighborhood. Some are easy to recognize. Some are downright challenging! How many can you identify? Are you up for the challenge? Whether you want to challenge another family in the neighborhood or try to beat every single person in Lyon Park, this is a great way to stay isolated while you stay engaged and enjoy being outside.

**Challenge Level 1:** Try to identify as many as possible. Make a list. Remember, there's more than one "Speed Hump" sign in Lyon Park. Do you know where the one in the photo is located?

**Challenge Level 2:** Go out and photograph as many as you can. The team with the most matching photos wins!

Connect with your neighbors through NextDoor to challenge each other and/or provide hints.

Go to [sites.google.com/view/LPhunt](https://sites.google.com/view/LPhunt) to find full resolution photos, hints, and eventually a map with full solutions for each photo. Good luck! The winner gets to imagine a crowd applauding for them.







# LOVE LYON Park





## Beginners Guide to Stock Options Aaron Wang

Traditional stock market investing involves buying stocks to own yourself. Owning stocks is a long-term investment that can only be profitable if you have enough money to invest. For example, Amazon's stock has had enormous success over the past 5 years. In September 2015, Amazon was worth around \$500 per share. Today, it values at \$1750 per share which is approximately a 373% gain. If you could only afford to buy two shares of Amazon, you only made \$2500 in five years. Blue-chip stocks are extremely expensive but one of the least volatile and safest ways to trade.

Buying a stock option is a different approach. Stocks are something you own indefinitely, whereas an option is a contract between a buyer and a seller. Unlike a stock, each option contract has a set expiration date. Options give you the power to control shares of a stock without ever owning them. Let's review two major types of options: call options and put options.

When you purchase a call option, you are betting that the stock will increase in value. A call option gives you the right to buy 100 shares of a stock at a designated strike price. For example, today is 3/17/20 and stock XYZ is valued at \$100. If you think the stock will go up to \$110 before 4/17/20, you would purchase the "\$110 call option" with that expiration date. If it does not reach that price in 30 days, your option is worthless. If the stock performs really well and goes up to \$140 per share on 4/17/20, you have the right to buy 100 shares at \$110 (strike price), but it is worth \$140. You would make \$30 per share which is a profit of \$3000 from this call option. You can exercise this contract (purchase and own the stocks for future investing), but most people sell the option to someone else and make \$3000 immediately.

Put options work the opposite way; you are betting the stock will decrease in value. Purchasing a put option gives you the right to sell 100 shares of a stock at a designated strike price. People purchase put options when they are concerned that the stock market will fall. Due to the Covid-19 outbreak, many stocks have fallen drastically and put options have skyrocketed in value. Using the same example, if you think stock XYZ will fall to \$90 before 4/17/20, you would purchase the "\$90 put option" with that expiration date. Hypothetically the stock performs worse than you expected and goes to \$60 per share on 4/17/20. This means you have the right to sell 100 shares of stock XYZ at \$90 while it is worth only \$60. You would make \$30 per share which is a profit of \$3000 from this put option.

Understand what stock options are is important during times of volatility. The Dow Jones Industrial Average swung 1000 points every day recently. Eventually, the market will re-stabilize and stocks will return to their original values. The risk of trading stock options during this time is we don't know how long the outbreak will last, as every option has an expiration date. We also do not know how long it will take for stocks to correct back to their normal values.



## Unleash Your Inner Creativity

Jeannette Wick and Daniel Holland have led the editorial charge for *The Lyon Park Citizen* for several years and are looking to handoff the baton. The Lyon Park Citizen is our monthly newsletter produced September through June. We distribute it to 1,800 households and businesses. It is one of several tools used to communicate about events in our neighborhood and Arlington County. Newsletter editor is a team effort so more than one editor is ideal! Grab a neighbor to team up and work with advertisers and volunteers supplying content. Interested? Please email [lyonparkeditor@gmail.com](mailto:lyonparkeditor@gmail.com).

## Peanut Butter Oatmeal Energy Bites



1 cup oats  
2/3 cup toasted shredded coconut  
½ cup peanut butter  
½ cup mini chocolate chips  
1/3 cup honey  
1 Tbsp. Chia seeds  
1 tsp vanilla

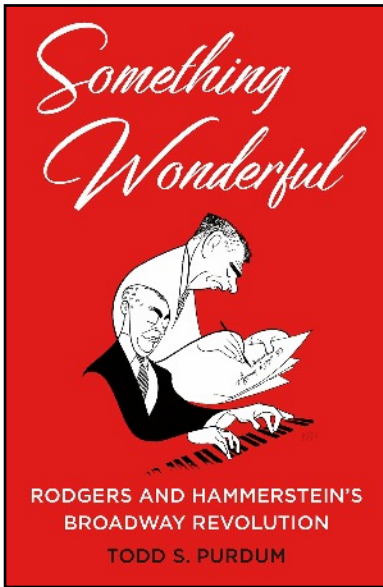
### Instructions

Combine all ingredients in a large bowl. Roll and compress the mixture into 1-inch rounds and place on parchment paper. Refrigerate a few minutes until firm and then transfer to an airtight container. Refrigerate and enjoy for up to one week.



## Something Wonderful

Margaret Dean



Something Wonderful is just that: wonderful. Well researched and well-written, this account puts the music of Rogers and Hammerstein into a historical frame. After a slow start, Wonderful shows how *Oklahoma*, their first major success, changed the essential nature of stage shows from singing a string of melodies to telling a story where music plays a critical role in advancing the plot. *Oklahoma*, produced before the end of the Second World War in 1943, tugged on the heartstrings of America, an America weary of war, an America desirous of a longed for homeland. *The Sound of Music*, their last collaboration, began recasting those who had lived in German occupied areas and drew on the popular Trapp Family Singers.

In addition, Rogers and Hammerstein were prepared to consider serious themes in what might appear to be light musicals. They addressed suicide in *Carousel*, prejudice in *South Pacific*, cross cultural conflict in the *King and I*. At the same time, they reversed the order in which the music and words were created; in later musicals the words came first; the music followed.

Purdum is not reluctant to show the sometimes rough working relationship between the two men, defining the different personalities. Similarly Purdum captures the lack of a close relationship between Hammerstein and his children, not abusive but cold. On the other hand he was a good friend and sponsor of the young Stephen Sondheim. Purdum is also clear spoken on what were probably described then as 'peccadilloes' but were clearly molestations of dancers and singers dependent on Rogers for employment in whatever new show he was producing.

Because Rogers and Hammerstein were familiar with stage activity and good money managers, they learned quickly to retain copyright authority, making themselves extremely wealthy. Rogers and Hammerstein produced a major hit every two years: *Carousel*, *South Pacific*, *The King and I*, etc. for 14 years. Their income was in millions of today's dollars from stage productions. Then came the movies.

*Something Wonderful* by Todd S. Purdum. Holt Publisher, NY, NY. ISBN 978-1-62779-834-1. 320 pp, hardback \$32. Notes 26 pp; Bibliography 6 pp, acknowledgements 12pp, index 22 pp

## Lyon Park Advisors

Your independent financial advisor



Brad Nelson  
(571) 357-8981  
[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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## 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

At this time, all APS schools are closed until further notice. APS is working closely with the Arlington County Public Health Division to monitor coronavirus (COVID-19) developments and following the CDC's guidance to protect our school community.

Thursday, April 16 7 PM	School Board Meeting*. Full agenda posted one week prior. <i>Virtual until further notice!</i> Syphax Education Center, 2nd FL School Board Room, 2110 Washington Blvd. 22204
Tuesday, April 28 7 PM	School Board Budget Work Session** # 6 <i>Virtual until further notice!</i> Syphax Education Center, 2nd FL School Board Room, 2110 Washington Blvd. 22204
Thursday, April 30 7 PM	School Board Meeting*. Public Hearing* on School Board's Proposed SY 2020-21 Budget. <i>Virtual until further notice!</i> Syphax Education Center, 2nd FL School Board Room, 2110 Washington Blvd. 22204
Tuesday, May 7 7 PM-	School Board Meeting*. School Board action on School Board's Adopted SY 2020-21 Budget. Full agenda posted one week prior. <i>Virtual until further notice!</i> Syphax Education Center, 2nd FL School Board Room, 2110 Washington Blvd. 22204

\*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.

Visit [www.apsva.us/Engage](https://www.apsva.us/Engage) to stay up-to-date on engagement opportunities.

**2020 APS Honored Citizens – Call for Nominations.** Each year, the Arlington School Board recognizes volunteers who have made outstanding contributions to APS. This honor recognizes individuals who have committed significant time and energy to a broad range of volunteer activities throughout the Arlington school community. See details about award and nomination criteria at <https://www.apsva.us/about-the-school-board/aps-honored-citizens/>, or contact the School Board office at 703-228-6015.

**Writing Contest Honors 100th Anniversary of Arlington Naming.** Arlington Historical Society, in partnership with Cherrydale-Columbia Lodge 42, is hosting essay contest for students grades 8-12. The topic focuses on identifying a person or group who has made a significant contribution to making Arlington a better place in the last 100 years. (Deadline May 1). Find information here: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1r9ewknXldvAkr-DNkDP88N7FsmRzq0Md/view>

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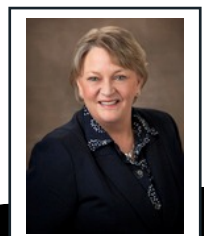
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Licensed in VA

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## Where in the World is Lyon Park?

*Deborah Barber*

If you spend much time in Lyon Park you might be approached by someone pointing to our community center who asks, "Is this Lyon Village Community Center?" You might tell them no, that Lyon Village Park and Community Center are a mile north on N. Highland Street, not far from the Italian Store. Before they rush off to their event they might glance around and say, "This is really nice." You might respond that yes, Lyon Park and Lyon Park Community Center are the only ones in Arlington owned and maintained by the community rather than the County; that we privately fundraised for a large renovation a few years ago; and that we're very proud of our community center.

I've had further opportunity to reflect on other "Lyon" places around the world. As I was setting up the Facebook page for the native plant garden that surrounds our community center (<https://www.facebook.com/lyonparkgarden/>), I checked on similar names to avoid confusion. Along the way I found the Jardin Botanique de Lyon, the Botanic Garden in Lyon, France. Like many places today, the botanic garden has temporarily closed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Still, the park is open for locals to enjoy, and the Facebook page is there for all of us, whether we can get to France or not! You can gawk at the spectacular Victorian greenhouse and savor the orchid, spice, and carnivorous plant collections online. If you crave description of the beautiful photos, you can dust off your high school French or throw yourself on the mercy of Google translation. What an adventure! [www.facebook.com/Jardin.botanique.de.Lyon/](https://www.facebook.com/Jardin.botanique.de.Lyon/)

I also found the Lyon Park Indigenous Garden near Cape Town, South Africa (<https://www.facebook.com/Peopleoflyonpark/>). Exploring its page, you'll recognize many of our flower shop favorites (like protea, calla lilies, agapanthus, acidanthera, and pelargonium--the bright red potted plants we call geranium), which are native to southern Africa. That garden, framed by the backdrop of the spectacular Hottentots Holland Mountains, goes into winter just as our garden is bursting with spring. Despite those differences, it's surrounded by the suburbs of Somerset West, similar to our garden. I reached out to its Facebook page owner to let her know about our little Lyon Park Virginia native plant garden.

We've since then enjoyed a years-long correspondence. We've found that although we're on different sides of the planet, we have a lot in common. We've passed photos back and forth of our plants in the milkweed family, which have an unmistakable, unique flower form wherever they occur worldwide. We've both experienced gratitude for the opportunity to have our hands in the soil and foster life during the illness and loss of loved ones. We've both enjoyed fellowship with the community volunteers who help with planting and watering the gardens.

As we hunker down to slow the spread of coronavirus, I hope you can enjoy the expanded horizons that the Internet offers us. I also hope that you get outside and enjoy nature's grace and beauty. As for me, I'm out of self-quarantine from a potential exposure a couple of weeks ago—and I'm heading outside!



*Lion's tail, above, in Lyon Park Indigenous Garden, South Africa. Photo: Sally-ann Wagner*



*A South African milkweed (right) called starfish flower or carrionflower because of its fly-attracting...fragrance. Photo: Sally-ann Wagner*



*Butterflyweed, a US native milkweed in Lyon Park Garden. Photo by Deborah Barber*



*Swamp milkweed, a sweetly scented US native, in Lyon Park Garden. Photo by Deborah Barber*





#### **For our younger readers:**

### **RED BIRD SINGS**

This is a story of a remarkable young girl. Born in 1876 on the Yankton Sioux reservation in South Dakota, Gertrude Simmons was sent to a Quaker missionary school away from her mother and family when she was only eight years old. At the time she left her village, she was excited about going to learn in the “Land of Red Apples.”

The book follows this young girl’s journey as she attended White’s Manual Labor Institute in Indiana, where she learned reading and writing. The school also taught the children public speaking, which “Gertie” excelled at! She especially loved music, and learned to play the piano and the violin very well. Read the book to find out how Gertie’s love of learning and music helped her live in the Anglo world and become a renowned Native American author, musician, and activist.

#### **For parents:**

This children’s book captures beautifully how a joy of learning can bring fulfillment to one’s life. The authors combine Zitkala-Ša’s writings with additional commentary and add primary sources from the time period. It’s a perfect book to read with your third to sixth graders and discover more fascinating facts from playbills, letters, and newspaper articles. Red Bird’s story and the way the book is written can fuel conversations on myriad topics, and is a perfect segway into explorations of history, Native Americans, music, activism, and citizen’s rights.

The book is available at Arlington’s library, and also on Amazon.com for \$8.17.

*Thora Colot & Toby McIntosh*

### **Red Bird Lived in Lyon Park**

Gertrude “Gertie” Simmons Bonnin and Zitkala-Ša, which translates to the name Red Bird, are all names for the same Native American author, musician and activist. She and her husband came to the Washington, DC area and bought a house in 1925. They lived there until she died in 1938.

Discover Lyon Park - The beautiful house this renowned author lived in is in our neighborhood and still stands today.

Below is a poem written by Zitkala-Ša in November, 1898. When she wrote this poem, using her Native-American pen name, she was 22 years old and teaching at the Carlisle Industrial School in Pennsylvania. We hope that it will gladden many weary hearts.

### **Iris of Life**

Like tiny drops of crystal rain,  
In every life the moments fall,  
To wear way the silent beat,  
The shell of selfishness o’er all.

And every act, not one too small,  
That leaps from out the heart’s pure glow,  
Like ray of gold sends forth a light,  
While moments into seasons flow.

Athwart\* the dome, Eternity,  
To Iris grown resplendent, fly  
Bright gleams from every noble deed  
Till colors with each other vie.

‘Tis glimpses of this grand rainbow,  
Where moments with good deeds unity,  
That gladden many weary hearts,  
Inspiring them to seek more Light.

- *Editor’s note: the word “athwart” is a preposition or an adverb meaning from side to side to another, or crosswise. It’s from Middle English. Authors like Herman Melville (Moby Dick) and William Shakespeare (Much Ado About Nothing) used this word.*







*This Get Well card features Band-Aids as the “stickers,” and googly eyes—a craft essential.*

*Looking around for ideas for cards is like a scavenger hunt!*



*Iris folding is a form of weaving from the back of an “aperture.”*

## You’ve Got Mail!

*Jeannette Wick*

Years ago, a four year old in Phoenix, AZ, had a job: Bring in the mail daily. One day she complained, “Why do I have to do this? I never get mail!” Her mother said, “To get mail you have to send mail.” (Smart woman, that mom!) The little girl said, “Who would I send mail to?” Her mom said, “Aunt Jeannette. She loves mail and will write back.” Thus started a correspondence that acquainted me with my grand nieces (her younger sister joined us almost immediately) and helped me see them grow through the years. Seeing their card progress from mere scribbles with random embellishments to always creative and sometimes three-dimensional works of art has been astonishing. It’s also developed their artistic and mathematic abilities (geometry and arithmetic are critical in a good card).

As families learn to stay home and many at-risk individuals are isolated, sending and receiving mail is one way to add a drop of happiness mid-day. It also helps reduce isolation.

I’m a prolific card maker—there’s no occasion for which I can’t envision a card. I have an endless supply of fancy hoo-dickies and gizmos, but you don’t need all this clutter to make wonderful cards. All you need is paper, scissors, a ruler, glue, and other common art supplies. Here are a few tips to engage your kids (or yourself) and help them learn as they craft:

- Start with your envelope size, and measure to ensure the card will fit.
- Keep the recipient in mind. Use grandma’s favorite color, or include fishing rods or tools on a favorite uncle’s.
- Think in three dimensions. It’s easy to make cards that pop up, fold out, or have moving parts.
  - ❑ One of the easiest is called a waterfall card. <https://tinyurl.com/y7ceaduh>
  - ❑ Iris folding makes a gorgeous card (fish, above right) and looks far more difficult than it is. <https://tinyurl.com/rvbzle4>
  - ❑ A card with tea bag folding, which is similar to origami, is slightly more difficult (Flower, right), but still easy. <https://tinyurl.com/rkb6e4c>
  - ❑ Need more challenge? Try a twist-and-pop card! <https://tinyurl.com/yx5ola5s>
- Embellish! Use stickers, gems, pipe cleaners, or any small item to add depth—see the button on the chrysanthemum? You can also find foam glue dots that lift parts of your card enough to provide depth.
- Recycle. Many boxes have interesting designs, and you can use magazine pages for pictures or for paper folding, as I did on the fish.
- Look for ideas on card blogs and YouTube videos. Hundreds of cardmakers have blogs, and Pinterest or Google Images can be sources of inspiration.
- Play greeting card tic-tac-toe (pictured right). Make a card and enclose a tic-tac-toe sheet. Ask your pen pal to choose a row, make a card using those elements, and send it back.



*Tea bag folding is very simple, and creates a 3-D effect.*

<b>Pink</b>	<b>YOUR CHOICE!</b>	<b>Buttons</b>
<b>Crayons</b>	<b>Stickers</b>	<b>Yellow</b>
<b>Sparkly things</b>	<b>Blue</b>	<b>Markers</b>

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