

General Membership Meeting
Tuckahoe Elementary School
Cafeteria
Thursday October 2, 7:30 PM
Bring your neighbors!

THE POINT

ARLINGTON-EAST FALLS CHURCH
CIVIC ASSOCIATION



FALL 2014

Bike Arlington

In Arlington, the goal is a "bikeable" community, to make that happen. Here in East Falls Church we have noticed lanes painted green to designate bike lanes, more bike lane stripings, and sharrows — areas where bikes and cars share the same lane. Many of us are not comfortable with the official integration of bicycles on our streets. Some are confused about new rules of the road. We worry that the new road markings are not convenient or safe for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians, who must now share our "complete streets."



There is no simple or single answer to what makes any community bikeable. However, there is someone who will speak

on this topic. Please join us **this Thursday** to meet David Goodman, Arlington County's Bike and Pedestrian Program Manager. Mr. Goodman will give a presentation on Walk Arlington/Bike Arlington. We can learn how the actions now underway tie into the goal of Arlington's urban villages, where goods, services, and other needs are located close to one another, to residences, and workers, and where bicycling is a safe, healthy, and enjoyable way to get around.

Washington Boulevard Safety Update

Improving pedestrian safety on Washington Blvd. along the I-66 corridor continues to be our community's number one capital project priority. Many of our neighbors worked this summer to secure a commitment to apply funds so that the safety upgrades outlined in our East Falls Church Area Plan will rollout soon. Many

Executive Board

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thanks go out to all who were able to attend and speak before the County Board to ensure our concerns were heard by the County Board and Manger. Many thanks also to each and every member of the County Board, and Candidate Alan Howze, for clearing their schedules to meet with us about our urgent safety concerns. Special thanks to Vice-Chair Mary Hynes, the first to meet with us and lead our efforts and to Chair Jay Fisette, Board Members Walter Tejada, Libby Garvey, and John Vihstadt. Several Board members had worked on the East Falls Church area plan prior to it being adopted

by the Board in April, 2011. As frequent visitors to our community, they all appreciate and support our pedestrian safety efforts.

Be a Part of the Arlington-East Falls Church Civic Association!

Your membership to the Arlington-East Falls Church Civic Association is the very best way to stay abreast of neighborhood developments. It's also a way to ensure that your thoughts are included in a wide range of County actions and investments that affect our community.

Did you know that the Arlington-East Falls Church Civic Association represents about 5,000 residents and close to 2,000 in terms of households. We have an opportunity to be one of the larger associations in terms of memberships. That's important, because the more members we have and the more active we are, the more serious we are taken. From the perspective of County staff, our community has long been a sleepy corner of Arlington, content with the way things are. However, sitting on the sidelines is increasingly risky considering the changes we have seen: the Silver Line, I-66 modifications, and development around Lee Highway and Washington Blvd. are just a few examples.

Help us spread the word. Share this newsletter, and bring a neighbor with you **to this week's general membership meeting, Thursday, October 2, 2014, 7:30 p.m.**, at Tuckahoe Elementary School Cafeteria.

Tuckahoe Park Update

Mary McLean, our community's Master Naturalist Habitat Improvement Coordinator, will present a brief update and take your questions about what has been happening in Tuckahoe Park at **this Thursday's general membership meeting**. Tuckahoe Park is an extension of our homes. Neighbors love to walk there. Parents bring their kids to enjoy all parts of the park including the newly upgraded playground. Metro riders walk beside and through the park daily.

Tennis players can reserve the lit court and you can reserve tables for a place to hold picnics. There are nature trails, and you can find somewhere to just sit, collect your thoughts and reflect. We are very fortunate to have Mary McLean's devotion and expertise working for our benefit to preserve and protect Tuckahoe Park.

Stewart Park Renovation Underway

Stewart Park, located at 2400 N. Underwood Street, is four acres of fields and woods. There is a rectangular grass field, a basketball half court, a playground and a gazebo. Earlier this year the park was closed for construction and replacement of the play field, a new irrigation system and sod. The walkways and stairs will also be replaced to make the site accessible. Plans include new trash receptacles, benches, bleachers, new plantings and landscaping. The park is on target to reopen in Spring, 2015.

Local Historic Designation for Benjamin Elliot's Coal Trestle

The County Board recently approved a local historic designation of Benjamin Elliott's Coal Trestle, built in 1926 in our East Falls Church neighborhood of Arlington County. The utilitarian structure reflects our local industrial and commercial landscape and history. Such small-scale trestles were instrumental in the processing of coal for local delivery to homes and businesses. This coal trestle is a visual reminder of a critical early-20th Century energy infrastructure that powered the electrification and development of our region.

Barely visible in its present state, the trestle sits on the southern side of the Washington and Old Dominion (W&OD) Trail near the southwestern corner of Lee Highway and Fairfax Drive. The Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority (NVRPA) plans to remove invasive vines and shrubs that now block the view of the trestle and rail. Eventually, NVRPA will create an historic kiosk and display near the trestle site.



Yala Bistro

Have you heard the buzz around our community about Yala Bistro? It continues to get rave reviews for delicious food and excellent service. You can eat indoors or enjoy beautiful days and evenings while dining on their outdoor patio. *Yayla Bistro* offers a wide variety of traditional Mediterranean cuisine prepared fresh each day by experienced Turkish chefs. (In Turkish culture "YAYLA" stands for everything that is natural, pure and fresh.) The bistro is located at 2201 N. Westmoreland Street, right next to *La Cote D'Or Cafe*.

Please email any comments, questions or submissions for future newsletters to [***lizmcgonigle@verizon.net***](mailto:lizmcgonigle@verizon.net)

Information used in this newsletter is taken from the following links and report:

[***Bike Arlington***](#)

[***East Falls Church Area Plan***](#)

[***Stewart Park Update***](#)

[***Benjamin Elliot Coal Trestle***](#)

Tuckahoe Park Update

Mary McLean's Park Update and Report

[***Yayla Bistro***](#)