



Civic Pride

Newsletter of the Yorktown Civic Association

October 2012

Upcoming Dates

Election Day	Nov. 6th
Civic Association	Nov. 8th

Letter from the President

As I write this, Hurricane Sandy has just left town and many of our neighbors are still without power. I hope by the time you read this your power is restored and life is back to normal.

There is a lot going on within the Yorktown Civic Association. Most imminently, improvements are coming to the Chestnut Hills Park (aka Harrison Street Park). First, there will be improvements made to the younger portion of the park – the oldest part of the park that currently has the large sandbox (e.g. island of misfit toys). Secondly, there will be improvements made to the fencing and landscaping of the overall park. At our November 8th Civic Association meeting there will be representatives from the County to discuss the plans and process for the improvements.

Also, make sure you check out the Civic Association facebook page for updates. You can join the facebook group here:

YorktownCivic@
groups.facebook

The Civic Association is also focused on the new elementary school and improvements being

made to the Williamsburg Middle School. Obviously, this new school has implications for any resident in our civic association with school age children as boundaries will be affected. Similarly to the Yorktown construction project a few years ago, there is a process underway at the County to listen to the needs and concerns of Arlington residents. That said, the County can move pretty quickly and requires diligence from our citizens to be active participants. David Friedman and David Haring from the Civic Association are our representatives on this project and you can read more about it later in the newsletter.

The Garden City Shopping Center (with Caribbean Grill and Preston's Pharmacy) continues to be a top concern for me and the entire Civic Association. Vacancies, run-down store fronts, and inattentive owners continue to plague the shopping center, and there is only so much that Code Enforcement can do. We have an active task force working with the County, some of the business owners (there are over a dozen)

and local residents who are working on short to mid-term solutions.

Finally, I encourage you to bring issues of concern to the Civic Association. As a civic organization, the County is a willing listener to the concerns and needs of our community. Either send me a message via facebook or email at: andrew_schneider@hotmail.com and I will make sure that the issues are raised at our next Civic Association meeting.

I look forward to seeing you on November 8th at 7:30 PM at Yorktown High School for our next general Civic Association meeting.

Best,
Andrew Schneider,
President



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Civic Association Executive Committee

Position	Name / Phone
President	Andrew Schneider 703-532-0997 (h)
Neighborhood Conservation	David Haring 703-241-8111 (h)
Vice President	David Friedman 703-241-2091 (h)
Secretary	Frank White 703-241-9820 (h)
Treasurer	Bob Littell 703-534-3826 (h)
At large	Alice Harrington 703-533-5581 (h)
At large	Eileen Colton 703-534-7445 (h)
At large	Terry Costello 703-534-0408 (h)
At large	Dustin Anderson 703-534-0059 (h)
At large	Craig Mastrangelo 703-534-1995 (m)
At large	Trent Sorensen 703-533-2999 (h)

Next Civic Association Meeting: Nov. 8th

Please attend the upcoming Yorktown Civic Association general meeting on Thursday, November 8th at 7:30 pm at

Yorktown High School.

The Association will be discussing both current and future projects. All neighbors within the

civic association are welcome and encouraged to attend, regardless of current membership status.

Our New Web Address: YorktownCivic.org

The civic association's website has moved and you can now find us at <http://YorktownCivic.org>. Our long-time web hosting

provider appears to be going out of business, so we've signed up with a new provider. We apologize if you've been looking for us

on the web and haven't been there for you!

Improvements Planned for Chestnut Hills Park



The Civic Association is working with county staff on two separately-funded projects to update the play equipment and fencing at Chestnut Hills Park on North Harrison Street.

First, the County Board included Chestnut Hills Park among a list of projects to be performed with funding approved for the Parks and Recreation Maintenance Capital Program, which is part of the recently approved county's Capital Improvement Plan for FY2013-2022.

The older sandbox tot lot play

area is expected to be fully replaced with new play equipment and with new surfacing and sand. The park's benches, picnic tables and trash receptacles will also be replaced or updated.

The county's planning and design effort for the maintenance improvements are being led by Parks Department planner Josh Serck. Josh will brief residents on the project at the upcoming civic association meeting. The improvement work could be underway as early as mid-2013. Park users should expect that the south

portion of the park will be closed for a few weeks while the work is underway.

A second set of improvements to the park have been requested by the civic association through the county's Neighborhood Conservation Advisory program. If approved, that additional funding would be used to replace the park's fencing and make other improvements to the park's front-

age along Harrison Street. Arlington's neighborhoods compete for funding made available by the county through the Neighborhood Conservation program, but the civic association is optimistic that this additional funding will be approved during the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee's upcoming semi-annual funding session.



Yorktown Boulevard Median Approved for Installation

This winter, a block-long median will be installed on Yorktown Boulevard between the Little Falls Road and 30th Street North intersections, in front of Yorktown High School.

The median was suggested as a

safety measure during the planning process for the high school renovation project, but the school system was unwilling to fund the median as part of the school renovation. So instead, the civic association turned to the county's

Neighborhood Conservation program to fund the improvements.

The median will stop u-turns in Yorktown Boulevard during the busy school drop-off period and will add to pedestrian safety.

Trees planted in the median will also help to buffer houses on the north side of the street from the school.

Garden City Shopping Center

A group of residents have met several times to discuss ways to work with the businesses in Garden City and representatives of the County to make sure that these Garden City businesses continue to be good civic neighbors and maintain their properties with respect for our neighborhood.

If you are interested in getting involved in these issues please contact our president at andrew_schneider@hotmail.com.

Recently the Johnny's Grill

storefront has been repaired and made safer through our collaborative efforts. There has also been an ongoing focus on ensuring trash collection and disposal is being

performed per county guidelines.

As there is not a central landlord in Garden City any negotiations with the businesses must be made on an individual basis. Simi-

larly, this would make wholesale redevelopment or improvements much more difficult than a retail location with a single owner or landlord.

If residents observe unsafe health practices or have safety concerns please report them to the Arlington County Code Enforcement (703-228-3232), DES-Sanitation (703-228-6570), DES-Environmental Health (703-228-7400) or to the Police's Non-Emergency line (703-558-2222.)



Final Phase of Yorktown High School Renovation

The \$83.3 million, 4½ year long, rebuilding of Yorktown High School is in its final phase, and will be ready for students in Fall 2013.

The current phase includes construction of permanent locker rooms and team rooms, the auxiliary gym, a dance room, and storage rooms and offices for the athletic wing. Also included in this phase are a large central atrium and courtyard, the media center, approximately 20 classroom teaching spaces, and a handful of offices and storerooms.

The site amenities associated with this phase include completion

of perimeter site sidewalks, street trees and street lighting, a new lighted basketball court, and refurbished tennis courts.

At the Civic Association's

request, demolition of the old Greenbrier Elementary wing was done earlier than expected, and the new main parking lot was completed in time for the current

school year. An additional 50 parking spaces will become available next summer in an expansion of the Greenbrier Park parking lot.



Information provided by Arlington County

Have a Concern or Question about the Yorktown Construction Project?

Please contact Andrew Schneider, Association President, at andrew_schneider@hotmail.com and Gary Rinkus, Project Manager at grinkus@jvschafer.com. The Civic Association needs your help to ensure the project is the least inconveniencing as possible.

New Elementary School to be Built Next to Williamsburg Middle School

Arlington Public Schools has embarked on an ambitious "More Seats for More Students" program to expand capacity at the elementary and middle school levels, and first up in that program will be the construction of a 600-seat elementary school building on the Williamsburg campus, as well as a 225-seat expansion of Ashlawn Elementary on North 8th Road, just west of Bluemont Park.

Three more construction projects — additions to McKinley Elementary School and Arlington Traditional School and a new elementary school at Kenmore Middle School campus — will provide a total of 1,050 additional seats at the elementary level by 2017.

In addition to the announced plans for elementary expansions, capacity at the middle school level will also be increased, and the planning that is now underway for the Williamsburg Elementary school will also include preliminary

design options for an eventual 300-seat expansion of the existing Williamsburg Middle School. VMDO Architects, P.C., of Charlottesville, has been hired to perform the Williamsburg design work. The project is expected to cost \$35 to 40 million, with an expected start date of January 2014 and move-in target of summer 2015.

The project design is currently going through a Building Level Planning Committee (BLPC) process directed by Arlington Public Schools, as well as a Public Facilities Review Committee (PFRC) process under the direction of the Arlington County Board, which is designed to insure the project adheres to Arlington County government requirements and goals.

While the Williamsburg site is within the boundary of the Rock Spring Civic Association, the neighboring Yorktown and Williamsburg civic associations have

been asked to participate in both review committees.

The APS web page for the project can be found at: <http://www.apsva.us/Page/18930>. Meanwhile, the School Board has also started a corresponding process to adjust boundary and program changes for five elementary

schools — Jamestown, Nottingham, Tuckahoe, Glebe and Taylor — that surround the new school at Williamsburg site. The school system will seek feedback on boundaries through community meetings, PTA, civic associations, online surveys and social media.



Join Our Facebook Group

The Yorktown Civic Association has created a facebook page where neighbors can post information related to neighborhood events and relevant Arlington County News.

The Association is currently seeking a volunteer facebook administrator, who can update our facebook page with regularity. To learn more about this position please contact Andrew Schneider,

Civic Association President, at andrew_schneider@hotmail.com.

Please join the Civic Association Group page on facebook:



[@YorktownCivic@groups.facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/YorktownCivic)

Yorktown Civic Association
2827 N. Harrison St.
Arlington, VA 22207

Please attend the Civic Association Meeting on Thursday, November 8th at 7:30 pm at Yorktown High School
 For additional information about the Yorktown Civic Association and the issues covered in this newsletter, check out our website at YorktownCivic.org.

Join the Yorktown Civic Association

<p>Yorktown Civic Association Membership Form <i>Membership for 2012</i></p>	<p>Mail To: Yorktown Civic Association Bob Littell, Treasurer 2827 N. Harrison St. Arlington, VA 22207</p> <p><i>Membership dues are \$10 per calendar year. Make check payable to: Yorktown Civic Association</i></p>
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Please support your neighborhood by becoming a member of the Yorktown Civic Association. Just \$10 per year per household is all that is needed to support the costs of the neighborhood newsletter, website and neighborhood events. We need your support!

<p>Name(s) of Members List all adults at this address that should be listed as YCA Members</p>	
<p>Address</p>	
<p>Mailing Address Enter only if different from your property address above.</p>	
<p>Phone Number(s)</p>	
<p>E-Mail Address(es) Only used for meeting announcements.</p>	