



# Civic Pride

Newsletter of the Yorktown Civic Association

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## Major Neighborhood Projects on Agenda for June 14 Meeting

Several major changes are underway in the Yorktown neighborhood. After years of planning, renovation of Greenbrier Park is now well underway. The planning process for a major renovation of Yorktown High School is advancing rapidly. And Marymount University is moving forward with plans for expansion.

Each of these projects will be on the agenda for discussion at the quarterly civic association meeting on Wednesday, June 14, at Yorktown High School.

The other major agenda item is the status of the Palladium Night Club's county use permit. The permit is up for review at the County Board's July 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

While the Yorktown High renovation project is not currently expected to begin until early-2008, the critical decisions about the project are being made now.

The County Board is scheduled to finalize this year's Capital Improvement Plan on June 10, and the School Board must agree on its list of funding priorities before then. Arlington Superintendent of Schools Robert Smith recommended that the School Board include \$62.5 million for the Yorktown High renovation in the 2006 bond election, and to ask the voters for an additional \$35.7 million in the 2008 election.

### Greenbrier Park Parking Lot to Close for Construction on June 5

While it wasn't supposed to happen until the end of the school year, the parking lot at Greenbrier Park will close for reconstruction starting June 5. The good news is that by starting early, it is now expected that the new lot, although smaller, will be ready when school starts again in the fall, months ahead of the original construction plans.

Details will also be available at the meeting on changes that Marymount is making to its proposed plans for the 26<sup>th</sup> Street site.

More information on these project is included inside this newsletter and on the neighborhood website at [www.YorktownCivic.com](http://www.YorktownCivic.com).

The meeting on June 14 is at 7:30 p.m. in room 1B.

## Marymount University to Release Revised Building Plans

Marymount University has announced its intention to release a revised set of expansion plans at a June 8 meeting of a task force appointed by the County to review the proposed project. Marymount will need a County use permit to carry out its plans for additional parking, student residences, classrooms and performance space. The project would be constructed at the site of an existing surface parking lot bound by Old Dominion Drive to the west, 26th Street North to the south and Yorktown Boulevard to the north and east. The original plan included:

- Four levels of below-grade parking (approx. 437 spaces)
- 150 bedrooms in a modern suite arrangement
- Classrooms
- Laboratories
- Faculty offices
- 350-seat auditorium.



At the meeting, Marymount is expected to present revisions that would include greater building setbacks and wider sidewalks, as well as reductions in the number of dorm rooms and parking spaces. However, the site is still expected to include the same major elements – parking, dorms, classrooms and an auditorium.

The Yorktown Civic Association is represented on the task force by Ted Weihe and David Haring.

## Garden City Hit by Graffiti After County-Imposed Cleanup

After a rarely-used “full code” enforcement sweep by County agencies resulted in long-overdue painting and repairs of many Garden City businesses, nearby residents were disappointed by a recent graffiti attack which destroyed many of the improvements. The Arlington Police have documented the graffiti and have concluded that most of it has been done by graffiti “taggers” who are not related to gangs. However, the police are attributing a large “VL” to Vatos Locos (literally meaning “crazy guys”) gang members.



The County is urging businesses to clean up the graffiti, but ultimately the responsibility for the clean up work falls to the property owners and not the County. Instances of graffiti should be reported on the police non-emergency line at (703) 558-2222. The Gang Hotline number is (703) 228-GANG (4264).

As a result of the February code enforcement effort, Garden City businesses responded to over 200 separate building and health code violations.

In addition to stepped-up code enforcement at Garden City, the County Board has also placed the Palladium Night Club on a 6 month schedule for re-approval of its live entertainment use permit. The next review by the Board is scheduled for July 8.



## Yorktown High School Planning Committee Selects Design

On May 8, the Yorktown High School Building Level Planning Committee (BLPC) selected a preferred design for a major renovation of the school from among five plans developed by the project architect, Ehrenkranz Eckstut and Kuhn (EEK). While many details of the project are yet to be determined, the preliminary design is scheduled to be presented to the Arlington School Board on June 15.

The design selected by the BLPC includes a new swimming pool, but the School Board is expected to make a decision during the first of week June as to whether the pool will be part of the project. Replacing the pool adds at least \$8 million to the cost of the renovation.

Even without replacement of the pool, the project will be extremely complex since students will not be taken off-site for classes during construction. The project may involve as many as four distinct construction phases taking five years or more.

The School Board is expected to ask the County to include about \$60 million in this fall's bond election for the project, with as much as another \$40 million to be raised in the 2008 bond election.

Sarah Woodhead, APS Director of Design and Construction, will answer questions about the project at the June 14 civic association meeting.



YCA Executive Committee		
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President	David Haring	703/241-8111 (h)
		703/208-5660 (o)
V. President	David Friedman	703/241-2091 (h)
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Treasurer	Bob Littell	703/534-3826 (h)
At large	Ted Weihe	703/533-2815 (h)
At large	Sally Lopez	703/534-0530 (h)
At large	Bill Nary	703/538-6132 (h)
At large	Bob Gatewood	703/533-8906 (h)
At large	Eileen Colton	703/534-7445 (h)
At large	Claudia Volk	703/536-3305 (h)
At large	Terry Costello	703/534-0408 (h)

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**Please attend the YCA Quarterly Meeting on Wednesday, June 14, 2006, at 7:30 p.m. at Yorktown High School Room 1B.**

For additional information about the Civic Association and the issues covered in this newsletter, check out our website at <http://www.YorktownCivic.com>.

## **Greenbrier Park Construction on Schedule**

The renovation of Greenbrier Park, which began in January, is proceeding mostly as planned. The \$10.4 million project involves a complete renovation of the park, which is home to the adjacent Yorktown High School's athletic fields.

The project includes installation of a new synthetic turf football field surrounded by a new

track. The lower tiers will include two dedicated softball diamonds and a new baseball diamond

with its own seating. The project also involves the replacement of the press box, concession stand, and rest rooms. High-grade lighting with spill control will also be installed. The contract calls for completion by June 2007, although the football field will be ready for at least part of the fall 2006 season.

Bleacher construction and utility installation are taking longer than expected. However, the contractor has moved up the installation of the synthetic turf, as well as the timetable for completing the parking lot.



### **June 14 Meeting Agenda**

The YCA quarterly meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 14. The major topics to be covered at the meeting include:

- Yorktown High School renovation plans
- Marymount University expansion plans
- Update on Garden City zoning enforcement.

The civic association meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. and will be held in room 1B of Yorktown High School. All neighborhood residents are welcome! Check the website at <http://www.YorktownCivic.com> for the final agenda.