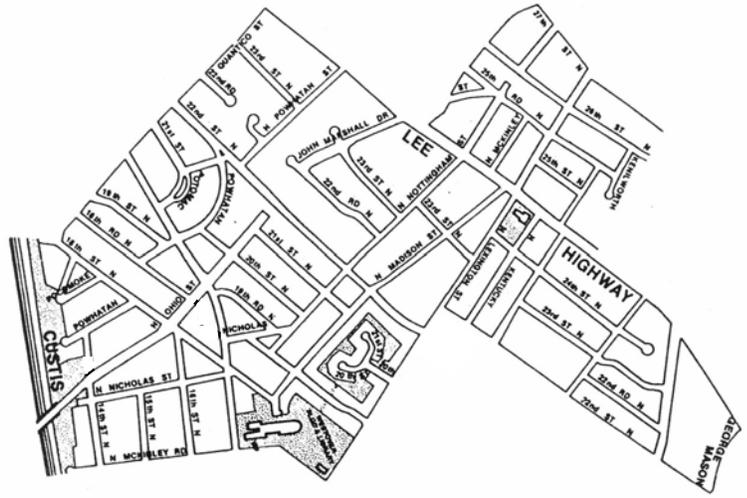


The Leeway Overlee Leader

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Civic Association
<http://www.leewayoverlee.org/>



VOLUME 30, NUMBER 2

JUNE 2008

General Membership Meeting

Wednesday, June 11
7:30 p.m. - Rivendell School
5700 Lee Highway
(use N. Kensington St. entrance)

Leeway Overlee Position on Accessory Dwelling Proposal

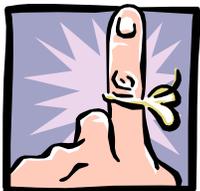
No Featured Speakers

Refreshments provided

Community To Vote On Accessory Dwelling Initiative

June's general meeting of the civic association will complete the community's action on the accessory dwelling proposals pending before the County Board. At our April meeting we heard a discussion of the issue from two knowledgeable people within and outside County government. We now have an opportunity to establish a neighborhood view on this subject. A draft letter to the County Board (see adjacent article) will be discussed, amended as the majority wishes, and voted on. Proxy voting is not permitted.

The civic association will also elect officers and representatives for the coming year. Please join us.



Don't Forget!

Leeway Overlee Community Day and
Yard Sale, Saturday, June 7th along the
John Marshall/Ohio greenway, from
9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Rain date is Saturday,
June 14th.

Should the County Board Support or Reject the Pending Accessory Dwelling Proposals?

Public discussion on whether Arlington should allow secondary dwellings on lots in single-family zoned districts has gone on for half a year. The original proposal has been modified significantly during that time period. For a short summary of the proposal as it stood in April, see the April 2008 issue of The Leeway Overlee Leader (available on the civic association's web site, <http://www.leewayoverlee.org/>).

On May 20th the County Board held a public hearing on exactly what to advertise for possible adoption as new ordinance language. Ultimately the Board chose to advertise, as recommended by the County Manager, two proposals for possible adoption in July. The first proposal would allow the owner(s) of a single-family home to establish an accessory dwelling (AD) unit within the house for use by a caregiver for the elderly or disabled within the house or for children in the home. The second proposal, in simple terms, would allow an AD unit to be established in any single-family home so long as the home's owner continues to reside in the larger portion of the dwelling.

The Board opted not to advertise a broader, earlier proposal that would have allowed any home owner to construct a separate dwelling on his lot for use by one or two persons. One of the many concerns expressed by local residents was that this would permit the conversion of existing garages into ADs. Many garages are built close to the neighboring property line, thus raising issues about invasion of the privacy of nearby residents. But much remains of concern to many local residents in one or both of the two proposals advertised for July action.

(See **Accessory Dwellings**, page 3, col. 1)

Nominating Committee Presents Slate of Officers for 2008-09

The Leeway Overlee Nominating Committee, led by Amy Appelbaum and Chips Johnson, has developed a slate of candidates to serve as officers of the civic association for the next year (June 2007 – May 2008). The new officers will be elected at the June 11 meeting. The slate proposed by the Nominating Committee addresses the four officers of the association, the Civic Federation delegates, and the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC) representative for the Leeway conservation area.

President – Jennifer Michener (N. Illinois Street)
Vice President – Pierre Boyer (N. Nottingham Street)
Secretary – Ladd Connell (N. 22nd Street)
Treasurer – Carolyn Connell (N. 22nd Street)
Civic Federation – Delegates: L.O. Pres, L.O. VP, Jerry Auten, Ed Robinson; Alternates: Amy Applebaum, Suzanne Idziak, Rob Swennes
NCAC -- Delegate: Rob Swennes; Alternate: Michael O'Connor

Nominations can also be made from the floor at the meeting. There are other jobs available for residents wishing to become more involved in civic affairs. Contact a member of the nominating committee or come to the meeting and volunteer.

LEEWAY OVERLEE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Officers

President:	Suzanne Idziak	703-538-5288
Vice-President:	Jennifer Michener	703-533-0754
Secretary:	Ladd Connell	703-241-2422
Treasurer:	Carolyn Connell	703-241-2422

Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee

Leeway

Representative:	Rob Swennes	703-532-6101
Alternate:	Michael O'Connor	703-237-5432

Highland Park/Overlee Knolls*

Representative:	Bill Hamilton	703-531-0566
Alternate:		

*The HPOK NC representatives are elected by the HPOK Civic Association.

Arlington County Civic Federation

Delegates: Vicki Howard, Jerry Auten, Suzanne Idziak, Jennifer Michener
 Alternates: Amy Appelbaum, Carolyn Connell, Rob Swennes, Ed Robinson

The Leeway Overlee Leader is edited by Rob and Kathee Swennes (703-532-6101); distribution coordinator is Amy Appelbaum (703-241-8446). The association webmaster is Jim Mountain (703-536-4082). Articles and other news items can be mailed to the editors (6101 N. 22nd St. 22205) or sent by email (kswen@juno.com).

LEEWAY OVERLEE CIVIC ASSOCIATION 2008 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please complete this form and mail it with a check for \$5.00 per adult to Carolyn Connell, 6113 N. 22nd St., Arlington, VA 22205.

Make check payable to:

LEEWAY OVERLEE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Check if you wish a receipt. Enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Check if you are willing to help with the distribution of THE LEEWAY OVERLEE LEADER.

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Accessory Dwellings..from page 1

Manager's report. This document gives the details on the current accessory dwelling proposals and a summary of how they have been modified through community discussion. The County's press release issued following the Board's vote to advertise the two proposals is found at <http://www.arlingtonva.us/Departments/Communications/PressReleases/63364.aspx>.

Fran Lunney, the Arlington Coordinator for Housing Planning, says the Board made no substantive changes to the proposal to advertise as presented by the Manager. To see a video record of the Board's discussion of this matter, go to http://arlington.granicus.com/AgendaViewer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=625 and click on the blue hypertext paragraph at item 37. To download the report, go to http://arlington.granicus.com/AgendaViewer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=625 and down to item 37. Click on "Board Report #37".

The Leeway Overlee Executive Committee is preparing a draft letter to the County Board to reflect the sentiments of the majority of residents in this community. That letter will be posted on the civic association web site for review prior to the meeting. The draft letter is only that—a draft. There may be lively discussion at the meeting as to how it should be amended before it is voted upon.

Regardless how the community votes on this matter, those who feel strongly about this issue—either pro or con—should give serious consideration to speaking at the public hearings in July. At present the Planning Commission is due to hear the accessory dwelling proposals the evening of July 7 or 9. The Housing Commission weighs in on July 10. The County Board will hear testimony and vote on the issue at its meeting on Saturday, July 19 unless the issue is deferred to the Board's recess meeting on Tuesday evening, July 22. There are rules for signing up to speak at County Board meetings. They are posted on line at <http://www.arlingtonva.us/Departments/CountyBoard/meetings/CountyBoardMeetingsSpeaking.aspx>.

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How Do You Buy Your Food?

Residents in the area have a wealth of locations at which to shop for their groceries. Supermarkets are the usual choice, but many also routinely shop at a local farmers market, such as the Saturday morning markets in Falls Church or down near Courthouse Plaza in Arlington.

Another source for natural and organic foods is the Virtual Mother's Farm (VMF) grocery buying club based in Arlington. The club makes a bulk purchase of



groceries, personal care items, and supplements from United Natural Foods, Inc. (UNFI) at wholesale prices, less a 13% volume discount. VMF is described as a means of getting most of the items available at Whole Foods but at significantly lower cost.

VMF members take turns sorting the monthly delivery of ordered items. All merchandise is picked up by members on Tuesday mornings at Westover Park, only a few blocks south of the Westover shopping center. Members place their orders on line prior to the ordering date. Read more about this cooperative buying club, in the March/April 2008 issue of the *Mount Vernon Sierran* (<http://virginia.sierraclub.org/mvg/newsletters.html>). Send inquiries to virtualmothersfarm@gmail.com.

Other families in the area have arrangements with suppliers of (relatively) locally grown vegetables, fruits, dairy products, and meat products. The suppliers often provide door-to-door delivery of high quality foods. Though many items are more expensive than at local grocery stores, the quality and freshness are unmatched. Often it is easier to arrange home delivery from a particular supplier when he has customers in the neighborhood.

*****If you currently use such a local produce provider, please send information on this service to the civic association at leewayoverlee@hotmail.com so that we can pass it on to the broader community.*****



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Community Notes

Neighborhood Residents Receive Free Trees

Arlington County distributed a number of native species trees in conjunction with Neighborhood Day in May. This year's available trees were tulip poplar and serviceberry. Over 20 local residents within Leeway Overlee ordered trees through an announcement sent out via the civic association's listserv. Since there is a short turn-around time for placing orders under this program, announcement of the program in the regular newsletter is impractical. To be contacted next year, be sure you have subscribed to the listserv. Sign up information is in this issue of the newsletter.

Water Trees in the Public Right of Way

In the event of any drought this summer, be sure to take care of not only the trees on your property but also any nearby trees within the County right of way. Trees in the area between street and sidewalk often need the most watering since they are planted in soil that dries out more quickly than a larger lawn. Trees give valuable shade to your yard and house, and they are an important part of the curb appeal of your property. Take care of this arboreal investment, and it will pay back good dividends for years to come.



Community News Via E-Mail

Do you want a day-in-advance reminder of civic association meetings? How about prompt notice of other local community issues that arise between newsletters? Your address is not displayed to others when messages are sent. To be added to the addressee list, send your name and e-mail address to:



leewayoverlee@hotmail.com

New Westover Branch Library Construction Underway

The Reed School and Ayers Park sites are now a massive construction area as crews demolish, recycle, and clear materials preparatory to constructing the new branch library and school facility for this section of Arlington. The original 1930's Walter Reed brick school building (absent the wings constructed later) will be retained as the core structure for the new library. A totally new schools facility will go up to the right of the library. Construction should take about 18 months. The new library will offer three times the floor space available at the current branch on N. Lexington Street at N. 18th Street.

Problems with Comcast and Verizon? Contact Arlington County.

Most of the telecommunications service providers in Arlington County are regulated businesses. Local and state governments not only oversee the rates they charge local customers, they also can intercede when a customer is frustrated by the utility's apparent inability to address a problem. Comcast and Verizon have signed "franchise agreements" with the County that give the local government some leverage in resolving citizen complaints. If you have been unsuccessful to date in settling an issue with one of these two franchise carriers, call 703-228-3242. You will speak to a person whose job it is to get customer complaints addressed. You may be amazed at how quickly the utility company suddenly gives your concern priority treatment!



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