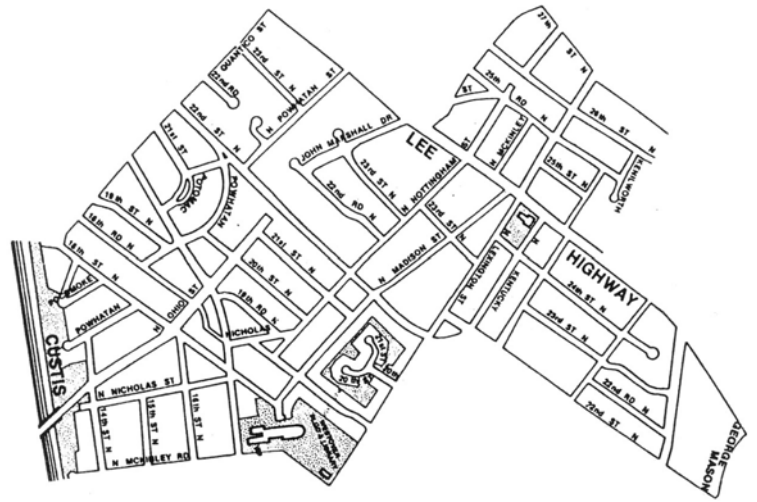


The Leeway Overlee Leader

Published by the Leeway Overlee
Civic Association
<http://www.leewayoverlee.org/>



VOLUME 26, NUMBER 2

MAY 2004

General Membership Meeting

Wednesday, May 26, 2004
7:30 p.m. - Rivendell School
5700 Lee Highway
(enter from N. Kensington St.)

Changes and Delays in Construction Of the New Westover Branch Library

Featured Speaker:

Dave Alberts, Arlington County Staff

Refreshments provided

Joint Library/School Facility at Reed Not to Be

For several years the Leeway Overlee community has been engaged in discussions with County officials and design architects to influence the plans for the new Westover Branch Library near N. McKinley Road and Washington Boulevard. It was to include a second floor education center. However, this spring the Arlington School Superintendent recommended dropping the plan for a technical center to occupy the second floor of the library building. The desired underground parking planned for the library is also at risk. The impact of increased street parking on the nearby playing fields at Ayers Park is a matter of concern. Mr. Alberts, who has been a central figure in the County's plans for building a new library, will discuss the troubling changes that have affected the planned facility and how this project can get back on track. See the related article on p. 3.

26th Annual Yard Sale June 5

The 26th annual Leeway Overlee Community Day and Yard Sale will take place along the John Marshall Drive/Ohio Street greenway on Saturday, June 5th from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. The community will be out in force to exchange information and greetings, sell unneeded household items, and pick up a few bargains. The civic association is working to arrange live music for the event. A local resident has arranged a group of musicians for the past two years.

Over 100 families set up tables for the festivities, which take place along the six-block stretch of the greenway between Lee Highway and Washington Boulevard. Vehicle traffic will be restricted on the affected parts of N. Ohio Street during the event. Residents who have not sold in the past are encouraged to set up between Lee Highway and N. 22nd St. **Please show consideration to nearby residents and do not set up before 7:00 a.m.** The sale will be advertised in *The Washington Post*.

During the event a civic association representative will come by to collect \$5.00 from each seller to help defray the costs of the newspaper advertisement and the

See **Yard Sale**, p. 3, col. 1

Information/ Action Items on Meeting Agenda

- *Election of Officers and Representatives for '04-'05*, p. 2
- *Revised proposal for new apartments on N. Illinois St. at Lee Highway*, p. 3

Nominating Committee Report

The Leeway Overlee Nominating Committee, led by Bill Ross and Amy Appelbaum, has developed a slate of candidates willing to serve as officers of the civic association for next year (June 2004 to May 2005). New officers will be elected during the May 26th meeting. The slate proposed by the Nominating Committee is:

President – Vicki Howard (N. Lexington Street)
Vice President – Suzanne Idziak (N. 19th Street)
Secretary – Open
Treasurer – Carolyn Connell (N. 22nd Street)

Other nominations can be made from the floor at the meeting.

The community will also select its delegates and alternates to the Arlington County Civic Federation and representatives to the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee for the Leeway neighborhood conservation area. Several of the people currently serving in these positions would like to continue. But there are always some vacancies, so if interested, contact a member of the Nominating Committee and come to the meeting and volunteer.

LEEWAY OVERLEE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Officers

President:	Steve Compton	703-533-2857
Vice-President:	Missy Schukraft	703-534-7233
Secretary:	Vicki Howard	703-304-4487
Treasurer:	Karen Norrell	703-533-1538

Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee

Leeway

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

Highland Park/Overlee Knolls*

Representative:	Theresa DeFore	703-536-7611
Alternate:	Cliff McCreedy	703-538-4568

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

Arlington County Civic Federation

Delegates: Steve Compton, Jerry Auten, Missy Schukraft, Ed Robinson
 Alternates: Amy Appelbaum, Rob Swennes, Kristin Kelly, Christie Compton

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



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Major Changes Recommended for Proposed Westover/Reed Project

Construction of the proposed new Westover library is planned for next spring on the site of the old, two-story section of Reed School. However, it will likely be one-story structure without the Arlington Public School (APS) staff development center and with no underground parking.

In April 2004, Clarence Stukes, Assistant Superintendent for Facilities and Operations for Arlington Public Schools (APS), and Michelle Ferguson, Assistant County Manager, met with area civic association representatives to deliver the news about the changes in the proposed facility. These changes will be finalized when the Schools and the County adopt their Capital Improvement Plans. (Detailed information on library project, and an opportunity to provide comments, is found on the county web site: <http://www.co.arlington.va.us/forums/westover>.)

The civic association representatives voiced disappointment that after nearly five years of planning and the adoption of a master plan for the Reed School/Library property, the underground parking and APS participation are now being removed from consideration. The design for the joint use facility was predicated on a strong visual presence to support the urban character of the site. Reducing it now to a one-story library with surface parking is reviving a concept rejected by the community early in the planning process. However, barring any APS and county government change of plans, County staff, with community involvement, will need to revise the site plan and library design early this fall so that construction can begin in the spring of 2005. Use of the Reed site for the library will not be affected by these changes. It is hoped that the surface parking will be planned so that a minimum of open space is lost.

A community wide meeting on the issue will probably be held in June. **Watch for meeting information. Notice will be sent out to the Leeway Overlee listserv subscribers.**

The County currently has \$4,000,000 in 1998 Library bond funds for the design and construction of the new library.

Join the Leeway Overlee Listserv!

Do you want to "keep up with the Joneses" in terms of what's going on in the community? If so, join our listserv by sending an email message to leewayoverlee@hotmail.com.

Yard Sale, *continued from page 1.*

entertainment. Be considerate of neighborhood residents when parking for the yard sale. Ensure that all goods and rubbish are removed at the end of the event. Rain date is Saturday, June 12.

Please leave your dogs at home. The civic association has received complaints about situations that arise due to the presence of pets in the crowd.

Make THIS your annual selling event and thus avoid personal yard sales that take so much more time and effort. For more information on the yard sale event, call the Schneiders at 703-533-0748 or the Swenneses at 703-532-6101.

Apartment Building Proposal Revised

Last December 10 the Leeway Overlee community hosted a presentation by a developer and his attorney regarding a proposed new apartment complex on N. Illinois Street, just behind the CITGO service station at 5510 Lee Highway. Many questions were raised by nearby neighbors. The civic association promised to keep people advised of developments regarding the project. The association has been advised that a revised plan for the apartment building has been prepared. It will be presented at the May 26 meeting. It is expected to address some of the concerns expressed during the December community gathering. Interested and affected homeowners are encouraged to attend.



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Community Notes

Thank you, Volunteer Snowmen!

Special thanks are due to those members of the Leeway Overlee community who trained to prevent winter snow from immobilizing the neighborhood. Arlington was lucky this year since we had no major winter storm. But had one struck, 18 adults stood ready to utilize County-provided snow blowers to clear local sidewalks. The one moderate snowfall this past winter provided a quick training opportunity for some of the volunteers.

“Arlington Prepares” Distribution on June 5

Many Leeway Overlee newsletter distributors have volunteered to provide emergency preparedness information door to door on this date. The information has been developed by Arlington County. It includes practical tips on being informed, developing emergency plans, and getting involved in Arlington preparedness. Other Arlington Prepares events will occur later in the year, including an emergency exercise this fall. For more information on the program, check out the new County website homepage at <http://www.arlingtonva.us> or call the Arlington Citizen Corps at 703-228-7036.

Protect our Trees in the Summer Heat

Hot summer weather will soon be upon us. If you have trees in your yard or on public property nearby, remember to provide lots of water to them in the event of a summer drought. Trees planted within the past two years are particularly susceptible to drought death. But even well-established trees can succumb to a prolonged lack of water. Large shade trees are a primary line of defense against summer heat and high air conditioning bills. It takes thirty years or more to grow a healthy tree that gives canopy shade. Do your part to protect these living community assets!



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