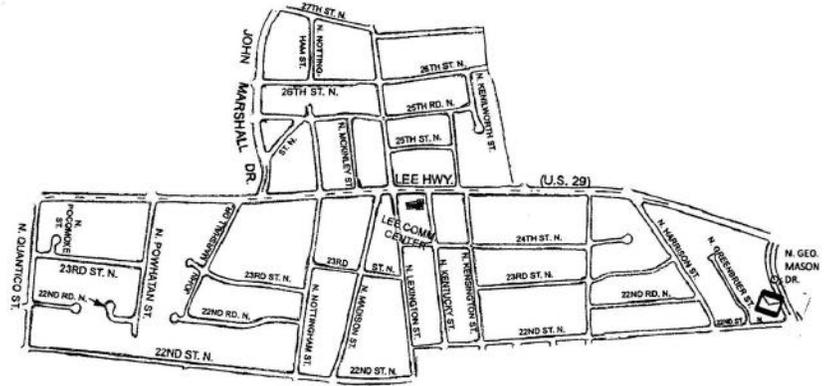


The Leeway Overlee Leader

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



VOLUME 39, NUMBER 3

JUNE 2017

General Membership Meeting

Thursday, June 29, 2017 -- 7:00 p.m.
Lee Community Center (outside)
5722 Lee Highway

Protecting Neighborhood Pollinators

Alonso Abugattas,
Natural Resources Manager
Arlington County Parks Department

Refreshments provided

Learn About Local Pollinators And Enjoy a visit to the Lee Center Butterfly Garden

Summertime gardens in Arlington depend on insects to pollinate flowers and allow them to reproduce. Pollinators are even more important for farmers in

Virginia and elsewhere to grow the foods we eat. At our meeting, Mr. Abugattas will provide the community with insights into the pollinators active within the county and what we can do to protect them. The evening will include a visit to the Lee Center's butterfly garden – a



beautiful but little-known resource right in our neighborhood! Bring the whole family to this early evening event. Cooling summertime refreshments will be provided. The meeting includes election of association officers for the coming year.

Lee Center Butterfly Garden Is A Quiet and Serene Place

Arlington County in recent years has made strides in reintroducing native plant species into its parks. Many of these are flowering shrubs and wildflowers that attract bees, butterflies, and a host of other pollinators. The butterfly garden at the Lee Center on Lee Highway at N. Lexington Street is one of the least known but most impressive facilities dedicated to local pollinators.



Garden gate is on the Kensington St. side of the Lee Center

Much of the credit for the establishment of the butterfly garden goes to local resident Vicki Howard on N. Lexington Street. Her years of persistence to get this quiet garden spot established less than a half block from Lee Highway have paid off. The garden is now full of a wide range of native plants that attract butterflies and other pollinating insects.

Due to the many children's sports activities on the grounds of the Lee Center, particular care was taken to ensure that the garden could prosper and be protected even though the Lee Center hosts such a wide range of activities.

See **Butterfly Garden**, page 2, column 2

Nominating Committee Proposes Slate of Officers

The Leeway Overlee Nominating Committee has developed a slate of candidates willing to serve as officers of the civic association for the next year (June 2017 – June 2018). The new officers will be elected at the association's June 29th meeting.

The slate proposed by the Nominating Committee is:

President – Kim Klingler (Lee Highway)
 Vice President – Stu Nagurka (N. 22nd Road)
 Secretary – Ladd Connell (N. 22nd Street)
 Treasurer – Jennifer Michener (N. 23rd Street)

Mr. Jack Grimaldi of N. Madison Street contacted the Nominating Committee and expressed interest in serving as an officer in the future. He would prefer to understudy the work done by the Executive Committee for a year before assuming any formal position.

Other officer 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 its representatives for the Leeway Overlee neighborhood conservation area to serve on the County's Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee. If interested in any of these positions, please attend or contact the Leeway Overlee president before the meeting.

LEEWAY OVERLEE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Officers

President:	Kim Klingler	703-489-7408
	email: president@leewayoverlee.org	
Vice-President:	Stuart Nagurka	703-538-3808
Secretary:	Ladd Connell	703-241-2422
Treasurer:	Jennifer Michener	703-533-0754

Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee

Representative:	Rob Swennes	703-532-6101
Alternate:	Jennifer Michener	703-533-0754

Arlington County Civic Federation

Delegates:	Kim Klingler, Stu Nagurka, Jerry Auten, Marcella Maamari
Alternates:	Joan Porte, Jon Desenberg, Julie Pandya, John Perry

The Leeway Overlee Leader is edited by Rob and Kathee Swennes (703-532-6101); distribution coordinators are Amy Appelbaum (703-241-8446) and Carolyn Connell (703-241-2422). The association webmaster is Greg Rusk. Articles and other news items can be mailed to the editors (6101 N. 22nd St. 22205) or sent by email (khswnnes@gmail.com).

Butterfly Garden...from page 1

The butterfly garden is quiet and serene. It is visually buffered by the tall plantings that surround it and includes some artwork (picture below).



The Lee Center building in front of it blocks most of the noise from the busy U.S. highway. It's a great place to visit and enjoy a quiet read on one of the garden's several benches. The minute you enter the garden gate, you get the sense that you have left behind the hustle and bustle of the metro area for a far quieter and natural spot.

Take a few minutes to visit this special place. Treat it with respect. Thanks to the Arlington County Department of Parks and Recreation and others for giving our community this jewel a short walk from our homes.

Find Leeway Overlee on Facebook!



Over the years, our communication methods have grown and changed. Today, we continue to maintain our: quarterly meetings, paper newsletter, website, electronic newsletter, announcement listserv, discussion listserv, and now our Facebook group. To request permission to join our group, please go to Facebook and search for "Leeway Overlee Civic Association". As we continue to grow and change, our communication methods will also evolve. If you have any questions, concerns, or recommendations, please contact Kim Klingler via email at: ContactKimK@gmail.com.

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Major Neighborhood Conservation Projects Underway



Construction work on N. 24th St.

Since 1964, the Neighborhood Conservation Program has served as a planning vehicle that relies on neighborhood volunteers to help plan improvements to their communities. As part of the program, participating neighborhoods prepare and update Neighborhood Conservation Plans. Those plans reflect community needs and serve as a guide for future planning efforts.

Leeway Overlee's latest update to its Neighborhood Conservation Plan was approved in April 2010. It led to the funding of several additional projects within this conservation area.

Construction of Leeway Overlee's current Neighborhood Conservation projects is underway on North Illinois Street and North 24th Street. The County's contractor for this construction is Jeffrey Stack, Inc. (JSI). The County's Neighborhood Conservation Planner for both projects is Sena Wijesinha. Project completions are projected to be late July for N. 24th Street and mid-August for N. Illinois Street. The scope of each project is outlined below.

North Illinois Street from N. 22nd St. to Lee Highway

1. Design and installation of a new 5' continuous sidewalk, with a 2.5' utility strip adjacent, curb and gutter, on the west side of the street
2. Continuous curb and gutter on the east side of the street
3. ADA compliant pedestrian ramps to be included throughout the project area
4. Curb extensions at the intersections of N. Illinois St. with N. 22nd Rd., N. 23rd St., and N. 24th St.

North 24th Street from N. Illinois St. to N. Kensington St.

1. Installation of continuous 5' sidewalk, curb and gutter, and associated storm water infrastructure, on the south side of N. 24th St.
2. On-street parking will be retained on both sides of N. 24th St.
3. ADA compliant pedestrian ramps will be installed at the intersections with N. Illinois and N. Kensington Streets.
4. New Carlyle style streetlights will be installed in the new 2.5' utility strip adjacent to the sidewalk.

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For your convenience, Leeway Overlee dues may now be paid online via PayPal. Please visit our web-site <http://www.leewayoverlee.org/> and click on the "Pay Now" button under the header.

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Community Notes

Design Effort for new Reed Elementary School on the Horizon

The Arlington Public Schools will begin stakeholder outreach for the planning of the new elementary school at Reed sometime after this summer because of family vacations and other seasonal distractions. The APS planning and construction office has reaffirmed that construction of the new school is scheduled to begin in 2019, with classes beginning in September 2021. The county library will remain, unaltered by the Reed school construction.

With important community site concerns such as retaining open space, ensuring pedestrian safety and minimizing parking impact to residents and Westover businesses, it is important for area civic associations to encourage the APS to begin its community outreach as soon as possible. The Children's School will vacate Reed in June 2018. The Stratford program that is currently located with HB Woodlawn school will temporarily relocate to Reed for the 2018-2019 school year.

Little Ambassadors' Academy Expansion Proposed

The Little Ambassadors' Academy at 5232 Lee Highway is seeking permission to open an additional facility for young children. The academy's current location is near the corner of N. George Mason Dr. and Lee Highway which is also within the geographic area of this civic association. The new school would be at the corner of N. Lexington Street and Lee Highway (5801 & 5901 Lee Highway) in what has been The Republic Group building. The land on which the building stands is a mix of commercial and residential property. The academy offers childcare programs for children ages two through five. The academy's website is <http://littleambassadorsacademy.com/>. Quality child care is always in demand in the county. The executive director of the academy may attend the civic association's June 29th meeting to answer any questions the community may have regarding this project. It appears that the academy must apply for and receive a use permit from the County before the proposed child care operation could begin. Unless serious objections to the project are raised at the meeting or by messages to the association's officers, the Executive Committee may submit a letter to the County Board in support of the sought use permit.

39th Annual Community Day/Yard Sale a Success

Several weeks of frequent rain and cloudy days gave way to sunny skies and moderate temperatures in time for the annual community event on Saturday, June 3. This civic association-sponsored event, now almost four decades old, brought out many local residents to meet and greet their neighbors, exchange local and family news, and look for bargains at the concurrent yard sale. Approximately 100 families set up yard sale spots along the John Marshall Drive / N. Ohio Street greenway between N. 23rd Street and Washington Boulevard. The crowds were large, the mood was festive. Those participating in the yard sale were good at cleaning up the areas around them so that the greenway by mid afternoon was clean. A civic association-arranged musician provided voice and guitar music till 1 p.m.

LEEWAY OVERLEE CIVIC ASSOCIATION 2017 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please complete this form and mail it with a check for \$5.00 per adult to Jennifer Michener, 5605 N. 23rd 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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