



Columbia Heights Civic Association Neighborhood Newsletter

Issue 6

www.on-the-pike.com/chca/

Summer 2011

President's Message: Annual Meeting - Sept. 19

As we look forward to our next year, CHCA can take pride in the many civic improvements in our neighborhood. To date we have successfully raised over \$1 million in improvements, many of which will be completed over the next year. But now we need your help to identify our next steps.

We hope you will attend the **CHCA Annual Meeting on Monday, September 19** beginning at **7:00 p.m.** at the **Walter Reed Community Center** at the corner of 16th and Walter Reed Drive.

In addition to voting for a new Board of Directors, we have also invited Arlington **Police Captain Brett Butler** and the Third District Management Team to discuss crime in our area. **Super Giant at Penrose Square** will be providing refreshments for the meeting.

--Ron Haddox, President

Sign up for CHCA Web Group

Go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ColumbiaHeightsCA/join> and follow instructions to sign up.

CHCA Board:

Ron Haddox (President); Sarah McKinley (Vice President); Allen Muchnick (Secretary); Ed Miltenberger (Treasurer); Linh Ong, Jennifer Bagnell Stuart and Joshua Folb.

Giant Opens on Columbia Pike

After years of planning and community meetings, and over two years of construction-in-progress, the new Super Giant at Penrose Square opened in June with fanfare and speeches. The Giant pharmacy moved from its temporary location across the street, next to the Rappahannock coffee shop, into the new digs in Penrose Square. Local dignitaries included Board President Chris Zimmerman and CHCA President Ron Haddox.



The opening included (left to right): Virginia Delegate Pat Hope (District 47), Giant District Manager John Wozniak, Store Manager Jerry Rifembark, Giant Consumer Advisor Andrea Astrachan, Arlington Board Chairman Chris Zimmerman, Arlington Board Member J. Walter Tejada, Penrose President Stephanie Pryor and Takis Karantonis, Executive Director of Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization (CPRO) (also seen below, making an opening presentation). The second row included the complete team of managers for each service department of the new store.



Left to right: Alfonso Lopez, Democratic candidate for the 49th District; Tom Greenfield, former Penrose President; Dr. Tsehaye Tefarra, President of the Ethiopian Community Development Council (ECDC) and CPRO Board Member; and Jim Whittaker, President of the Arlington Community Foundation and former CPRO executive director.

Columbia Heights Historic Committee Initial Meeting - September 12

CHCA received a micro-grant from the Arlington County Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC) for a new display case at Walter Reed Community Center, to be devoted to exhibits of Arlington History. Sara Collins, CHCA historian, first suggested this project when the civic association produced its first neighborhood plan and officially joined NCAC. Sara, along with CHCA Vice President Sarah McKinley, met with Katie Brown-Henry from NCAC and Michael Leventhal, Arlington's Historic Preservation Coordinator, to create a framework to move forward with the project.

The first display is anticipated to be launched in January, 2012. Displays will change every two months, and themes will be planned a year in advance. CHCA invites neighborhood members, as well as those in the larger community with an interest in local history, to join us in this effort. Our first meeting will be held Monday, September 12, at 7:00 p.m. at the Walter Reed Community Center. Those interested should contact Sara Collins at sarajcollins@gmail.com or Sarah McKinley at sarah.mckinley@ferc.gov.



New Sign

The finishing touch to recent park improvements includes a new sign for the park on the stone column at the entrance on Walter Reed Drive, which is visible from south-bound lanes.

Columbia Pike Bicycle Boulevards

To improve east-west walking and bicycling in the Columbia Pike corridor, the Arlington County Department of Environmental Services is proposing assorted traffic-calming, pedestrian-safety, and way-finding retrofits along both 12th St. S and 9th St. S, between S. Cleveland St./S. Wayne St. and S. George Mason Drive. A major project focus is to improve pedestrian and bicyclist crossings of S. Walter Reed Dr. (at both 12th St. S and 9th St. S), of S. Glebe Rd. (at 9th St. S) and of S. George Mason Dr. (at 12th St. S).

Only two blocks of this project--12th St. S between S. Cleveland and S. Walter Reed Dr.--lie within the Columbia Heights neighborhood. The balance lies within the Douglas park, Penrose, Arlington Heights and Alcova Heights neighborhoods.

Residents of 12th St. S should comment on the proposed prohibition of both left turns and straight-through vehicle movements from 12th St. S at S. Walter Reed Dr. and the proposed prohibition of left turns from S. Walter Reed Dr. to 12th St. S.

For more information, including links to block-by-block drawings, please visit <http://tinyurl.com/3rizud5>. To view and comment on the plans, visit <http://tinyurl.com/drnd3bf>. Questions, comments and concerns can be directed to David Goodman, Bicycle & Pedestrian Programs Manager, at 703-228-3709 (dgoodman@arlingtonva.us). Although this project was slated to begin this summer, Mr. Goodman is still collecting comments. - *Allen Muchnick*

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October to the following September. Only current CHCA members
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Members should be receiving a renewal notice in the mail in August. Those who joined the group this year during the Home Show or the Blues Festival will have their memberships extended through 2012.

CHCA Street Light Project Begins Engineering Work

Arlington County has assigned an engineer to the street light project approved for Columbia Heights, and the plan has been finalized. Once finalized, the project will be bid out for construction. This is expected to happen within the next six months. Because this is the first large-scale street light project of its kind in the County, there are no forecasts for the project schedule.

The project, funded through Arlington County's Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Council (NCAC), includes replacement of all street lights on both sides of the street on the following contiguous streets: South Barton from Columbia Pike to South 16th Street; South 16th Street from South Barton to South Edgewood Streets; South Edgewood Street from South 16th Street to South 13th Road. The street lights will be the County standard Carlyle lights installed with energy-efficient LED fixtures.

11th Street Upgrade--On the Way!

Also approved by the County is a major upgrade to 11th Street South. This will include street improvements including concrete curb, gutter, 5' wide sidewalk, 2.5' wide utility (grass) strip and ADA standard disability access ramps on the north side of 11th Street South, between South Edgewood and South Cleveland Streets. The new street width will be between 23' to 25', after narrowing from the existing 26'. Asphalt milling the paving will complete the project.

The 11th Street project is in the queue for engineering work by the County, and that work should begin by the end of October.

CHCA Participates in County Charette on Housing

This summer members of CHCA participated in an Arlington County Charette to determine community preferences for development in areas of Columbia Pike not already covered by the Form Based Code. The purpose of the charette was to help determine future development, with the aim of retaining affordable housing. This charette was part of the Columbia Pike Land Use and Housing Study. Information is available at: <http://www.pikeneighborhood-splan.com/>.

--Sarah McKinley

Neighborhood Movie Night - September 17

The Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization (CPRO) is planning a movie night, sponsored by the Super Giant at Penrose Square on Saturday, September 17.

The featured film will be Best Picture Academy Award nominee: *The Blind Side* a true and truly remarkable football story [trailer] with Sandra Bullock, Kathy Bates and Tim McGraw in the leading roles. Sandra Bullock won the Academy Award and the Golden Globe Award for Best Actress for her leading role in this movie.

Bring your Family, friends and Neighbors, a blanket and/or a lawn chair and enjoy the movie on Saturday, Sep. 17, 8 p.m.

Parking at the Penrose Square Building will be free! (access from S. Barton St., S. Adams St. and S. 9th St.).

Pike-ride Metro Buses (Line 16) will bring you to the event from all Pike Neighborhoods (Stop: S. Barton St.) and from the Pentagon and Pentagon-City Metro-Rail stations.



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