

# Columbia Heights

CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

## In the news!

Takis Karantonis elected to  
Arlington County Board

Former CHCA Executive Board Member Takis Karantonis was elected to the Arlington County Board in a special election held on July 7<sup>th</sup>.

## Did you know?

Monthly Zoom Meetings

Did you know that your Board meets monthly (now via Zoom) to discuss important ideas and issues within our neighborhood? Contact Ron Haddox ([ronhaddox@aol.com](mailto:ronhaddox@aol.com)) at any time if you'd like to add an item to our agenda to discuss at our next meeting!

## What we are working on

Your CHCA Board at Work

Visit our website:

<https://columbiaheightsva.org/>

to see what your Board has been working on for you. Minutes from each monthly meeting are posted for review.



**COLUMBIA  
HEIGHTS**  
NEIGHBORHOOD

### CHCA EXECUTIVE BOARD:

Ron Haddox-President / Sarah McKinley-Vice President

Marian Gooderham-Secretary / Josh Folb-Treasurer

Members at Large: Ed Miltenberger / Meredith Gade

## Special Events!

Our Annual Membership Meeting will be held on

**October 19, 2020.**

An election will be held to determine the members of the Executive Board for the next term.

More information to follow!

## Takis Karantonis

On July 7, 2020, former CHCA Executive Board member Takis Karantonis won the special election for Arlington County Board. Takis was sworn in on July 14, 2020 and will serve an abbreviated term until December 31, 2021, filling the seat of Erik Gutshall, who sadly passed away earlier this year.

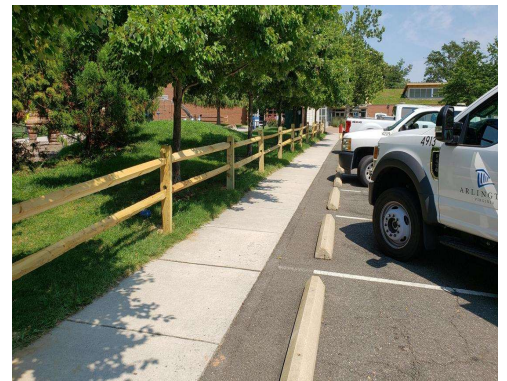
CHCA congratulates Takis on his election!



### What we've been working on

#### AT A GLANCE

- The County Parks & Rec staff approved our request to install additional fencing along the side of the Walter Reed playground that faces the parking lot as an additional safety precaution. They have also agreed to add a protective film cover and/or warning signs for the metal drums installation that become very hot in the summer, & ensure that the rock-rope play structure is adequately maintained to ensure continued usability.
- Collaborating with CPRO to create a memorandum of understanding with the landlord & tenant of the Walgreens property to ensure the exterior is better maintained (landscaping maintenance & free of trash).
- Writing the County Board to request that they re-conduct a traffic study along S Edgewood St. between Columbia Pike & 13<sup>th</sup> Rd. S: requesting a 4 way stop at 11<sup>th</sup> St. S & better visibility at 12<sup>th</sup> St. S at S Edgewood St. & Walter Reed Dr.
- Joining forces with the Pike's Presidents Group to oppose the County Staff's proposed changes to the existing neighborhood form based code (NFBC) that would potentially allow for significant up-zoning & renter displacement along the eastern end of Columbia Pike.
- On the East side at the corner of 12th Street S & S Scott Street, pedestrian improvements are coming to include more clearly labeled crosswalks and improved sidewalks with room for students to wait for pick up by one of the many busses that pass through the neighborhood. This project will dovetail nicely with the opening of the connector roads to S Rolfe Streets allowing the elementary aged children to finally walk to Hoffman-Boston Elementary school. Previously busses picked up almost 150 elementary students from the neighborhood because of the lack of safe connection to the school.



**New safety fencing just installed at Walter Reed playground!**

#### ELECTION DAY 2020

**Walter Reed Community Center  
(2909 16<sup>th</sup> St S) serves as our  
neighborhood polling place.**

In addition to being open for in-person voting November 3<sup>rd</sup>/6am-7pm, it will also be open for *early* in-person voting:

October 17<sup>th</sup>-October 31<sup>st</sup> M-F/2-7pm;  
Sat October 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> 9am-5pm.

**Are you registered to vote?  
Do you need to register to vote?  
Do you want to request an  
absentee/vote by mail ballot?**

**Visit:**

<https://vote.elections.virginia.gov/VoterInformation>