



Columbia Heights Civic Association Neighborhood Newsletter

Issue 9

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

Fall 2012

President's Message:

CHCA is once again issuing a newsletter, after a spring/summer hiatus. We've accomplished a lot this year and are celebrating with our **Annual Holiday Party, Monday, December 10**. We warmly invite all Columbia Heights residents, members of surrounding civic associations, Arlington County Commissioners and staff, and members of the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC). The party begins at **6:30 p.m. at the office of Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization, 2611 Columbia Pike**.

--Sarah McKinley, President

Columbia Pike Holiday Bazaar Saturday, Dec. 8, 10am-4 pm

Free admission to the first annual neighborhood bazaar at the Arlington Career Center, featuring 20 vendors.

CHCA Holiday Party Monday, Dec. 10, 6:30-10 pm

CPRO Office, 2611 Columbia Pike.

Sign up for CHCA Web Group

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

CHCA Board:

Sarah McKinley (President); Allen Muchnick (Vice President); Takis Karantonis (Secretary); Joshua Folb (Treasurer), Linh Ong, Ed Miltenberger and Matthew Carney.

11th Street Project in Progress; Street Lights for Barton Street on the way!

The County is now working on a complete rebuild of 11th Street, between South Edgewood and South Cleveland Street. This project, estimated at over \$360,000, will result in a more robust storm drainage system, a five-foot sidewalk on the north side of the street, curving around to the entrance to the pocket park on the corner of Cleveland and 11th, and three new Carlisle-style street lights.

This project includes major construction, as the County plans to take out the existing street down to bedrock, and completely rebuild the street and gutters. The road will be narrowed a few feet, but there will still be parking on the south side of the street.

Almost all of the project should be completed by the end of December, with the remainder to be finished next Spring. The project was funded through the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee and represents the third major project funded for the Columbia Heights neighborhood.

Another major project, to install new Carlisle-style street lights down S. Barton Street, from Columbia Pike to 16th Street and around the corner, was approved a year before the 11th Street Project but was delayed because of County development of the street light program, which will now use LED technology. The new bulbs use only a fraction of the electricity of older technology and will create more light. Our project will be the first major implementation of this new technology in the County.

Super Stop finally Arriving for Columbia Pike and Walter Reed

The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) is finally completing a promised "super stop" for bus riders in front of the Rite Aid at the corner of Columbia Pike and Walter Reed. Construction has been slow, and the area has been cordoned off for several months. When completed, it should provide better protection from weather, along with enhanced information about the bus system.



Hurricane Sandy hits neighborhood!

Hurricane Sandy brought down a tree in the Walter Reed Park, destroying part of the fence that was just constructed this past year. Former CHCA Board Member Ron Haddox took the initiative to contact County forestry staff for help, on behalf of the neighborhood. He and the President of the Commons of Arlington met with County staff to identify trees that are dying and need to be taken out, and to remove the tree that came down. The County will also be replacing two sections of fence that came down in the storm.

East Side Project Next in Line!

Our next infrastructure project will focus on a new school bus stop on S. 12th and Courthouse Rd., with upgrades in adjacent sidewalks. This will be the second round in which the "East Side" project will be considered by the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC). Each round garners additional points for funding. After this round, County staff will begin developing the plans for the area. This will be the fourth major infrastructure project developed on the basis of our current Neighborhood Conservation Plan. The NCAC has already allocated over \$1 million to the Columbia Heights Neighborhood.



Display of Arlington History at Walter Reed

Sara Collins, our local historian, took the lead in developing CHCA's first Arlington Historic Display, now being shown in the display case in the Walter Reed Community Center. The case was purchased with small grant funds from the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC).

Time to Renew your CHCA Membership!

The fiscal year for Columbia Heights Civic Association began October 1, so it's time to renew your membership, if you missed the September deadline. Please fill out the form below, and mail it in. We appreciate your support!



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Make checks payable to Columbia Heights Civic Association, PO Box 41556, Arlington, Virginia 22204. Or **find our paypal link for membership** at the bottom of the webpage <http://on-the-pike.com/CHCA/>

Membership is annual, from October to the following September.