

Highland Park Overlee Knolls



Neighborhood News

October 2016 Newsletter

Print Newsletters to End: New Website Launches

This is your last print newsletter! The HPOK board has voted to distribute the newsletter electronically from now on.

Many people love the print newsletter, but it's the single biggest expense in our budget, and the logistical effort required to deliver nearly 700 copies to each door is very substantial. It's simply so much easier and less expensive to share news electronically that we feel the time has come for HP-OK to join the 21st century.

As part of this effort, we built a new website at <http://hpok.org>. In the future, news and the newsletter will be posted there, to the Yahoo group and the NextDoor.com site. You can pay dues via PayPal or contact the board members via email.

Regarding social media, there has been some discussion lately. HPOK has used the Yahoo Groups listserv (<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/hp-ok/info>) for some years now. More recently, neighbors are using the social media site NextDoor (https://highlandparkoverleeknolls.nextdoor.com/neighborhood_feed/?is=sidebar). They have different attributes and capabilities. NextDoor is more like Facebook in some ways. There is no plan to abandon the Yahoo listserv, but the fate of Yahoo itself is somewhat unclear. We will discuss social media options at a future meeting.

We realize that a small number of our neighbors do not use computers. In the future, we will make a small number of print newsletters available by mail for a slight charge. For information about receiving a newsletter in the mail, please contact HP-OK Treasurer Melanie Canter at Melanie.sacks@gmail.com.

Find HP-OK Online!

Our New website: <http://hpok.org>

Visit HP-OK on Facebook!

Join HP-OK on NextDoor.com at
<https://highlandparkoverleeknolls.nextdoor.com>

To join the HP-OK LISTSERV, send an email to
hp-ok-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

School Board Votes to Approve Reed School as an Elementary School

For many neighbors, the Reed School property remains a vital issue. At present, the building houses the Children's School, a Pre-k for County employees' children. APS announced that they must relocate by Fall 2017 so that the Stratford Program, the County's secondary school for special needs children, can move into the building.

The School Board voted earlier this year to make Reed an elementary school by 2019, and said it will house 725 students. Many people in our community would like for Reed to serve as a neighborhood school; the future remains unclear, however. APS will consider the idea of making Reed a county-wide "choice" elementary school. A school this size would require extensive additions to the existing building as well as significant increases to parking. HP-OK will monitor the process and work with the Greater Westover coalition to urge the School Board to use Reed in the best way possible.

Arlington School Board to Vote Soon to Realign High School Boundaries

The Arlington School Board will vote December 1 on new high school boundaries. Community meetings were held recently to get residents' feedback on where to shift boundaries to alleviate overcapacity at Washington & Lee High School by 400

Upcoming Events

Halloween on the Green - Join friends and neighbors for the *spooookiest* Halloween On The Green ever! Come celebrate on Monday, October 31st from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. You can enjoy hot dogs, games and lots of fun! And don't miss the annual costume parade – it starts at 6:15 p.m.

HP-OK Civic Association Meeting: Thursday, November 17, 2016, 7:00 to 8:15 p.m. at Resurrection Lutheran Church, 6201 Washington Blvd, in Parish Hall.

Meet new HP-OK Civic Association President Mike O'Malley and join neighbors in a community conversation led by guest speaker Bill Adams from Baby Boomers for Balanced Health Care. We hope you'll join us and share your perspective and experiences.

A Community Conversation: Is More Care Better Care? Until recently, most people were concerned about getting too little health care. This is still a concern for many. But a new problem has crept upon us in recent decades: too much health care. This means too many tests, procedures, and services that don't help and can harm. We are overdosing on health care.

Overuse and overspending in health care affect our personal well-being and the larger economy. They deprive our country of resources for other priorities like education, transportation, research, community safety, and human services.

Christmas Caroling through Westover in December

Join us for Christmas caroling with other folks from the four area civic associations. Look for more information about where and when we'll meet. Odds are good it will be around a fire pit at the Westover Beer Garden!

students over the next four years. The boundaries will be adjusted in order to move these students to Yorktown and Wakefield High Schools.

The changes will not affect current high school students, as these will go into effect in September 2017 for the entering freshman class. Each year between 2017 and 2020, 100 students will be split roughly evenly between Yorktown and Wakefield, for a total of about 200 additional students at each school. The School Board has created an open transfer policy to Yorktown, Wakefield, Jefferson and Kenmore to relieve overcrowding at W&L, Gunston, Williamsburg and Swanson, and will determine the sibling policy for this high school boundary process.

All boundaries will be final before Arlington's High School Information Night on December 12. There will be a separate process to address the 1300 high school seats needed in our county in the near future. More details are available online here: <https://www.apsva.us/more-seats-for-more-students/>

Annual Membership Dues Renewal: \$5 per adult

Please consider making your annual HP-OK dues of \$5/per adult household member. It's a bargain! These dues help fund a number of community activities including (but not limited to) our famous Halloween party, the Westover Easter egg hunt, Neighborhood Day, community socials, newsletters and more! We cannot continue to provide these events without your help and support. You can pay dues via the new website at hpok.org, or with a check made out to HP-OK Civic Association. Thank you for helping to make HP-OK a vibrant community!

Deliver To: Melanie Canter @ 1914 N. Nottingham St. 22205

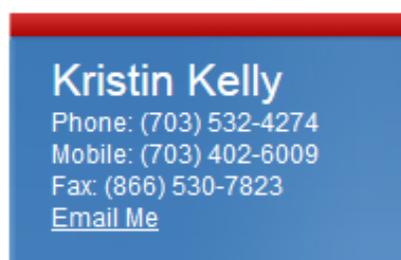
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Four Area Civic Associations Unite to Promote Community Life in Westover

The four civic associations surrounding the Westover commercial district-- [Westover Village](#), [Highland Park-Overlee Knolls](#), [Tara-Leeway Heights](#), and [Leeway Overlee](#) have been working together to support the goals of the individual CAs on matters of common concern in order to enhance community life in Westover. A new website has been established here:

<http://greaterwestovergroup.org/>

This site include links to the individual CA websites—with email lists and maps showing each CA's area—as well as news updates and a community calendar with an events listing. The team is developing a values statement about Westover community life that will reside on the shared web site as a living document and can be shared with civic officials.

Another initiative is the active tracking by team members of the topics of highest mutual concern, which include: the Reed School, Swanson Middle School and Westover; Lee Highway development; East Falls Church Metro area plans; Virginia Hospital Center development; Lee-Harrison area development. The goal is to provide information to residents and help the County publicize ways that residents can provide input when changes to these areas are under consideration.

Anyone interested in volunteering to help with community activities can contact [Mike O'Malley at momalle3@mac.com](mailto:momalle3@mac.com)