

# The Arlington Forester

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Arlington, Virginia

April 2022

## AFCA Meeting: Arlington's Budget Issues

AFCA invites you to join our monthly meeting on Wednesday, April 20, 7 p.m., through Zoom. We will be joined by Richard Stephenson, Arlington County's budget director, who will give an update on the county budget and related issues.

To join the meeting through Zoom, enter the following URL into your browser between 6:45 and 7 p.m. on Wednesday, April 20: <https://tinyurl.com/2p957458>. (If

you have never used Zoom, you can view a short tutorial at <https://zoom.us/resources> by clicking on Joining & Configuring Audio/Video.) Alternatively, you can dial in to the meeting at 301-715-8592, where you will be prompted to enter meeting number 810 7510 9659 and passcode 476598. You might also be prompted to hit the # sign one or more times. This call-in number will be active starting at 6:45 p.m.

## AFCA March 2022 Meeting

On March 16, AFCA President Esther Bowring hosted a remote AFCA meeting. Esther announced that there will be no home and garden tour this year but that the Lubber Run Farmers Market will reopen on April 16 (see page 2) and that the Arlington Forest Yard Sale will return on May 21 (see page 4). County officials have accepted the draft Arlington Forest Neighborhood Conservation Plan (see page 7). Kay Tiernan gave an update on the Northside traffic circle cleanups (see page 5). AFCA asked the county to post visible signs notifying visitors to the Lubber Run Community Center that the first 4 hours of parking in the garage are free. Esther reported that the county is preparing a sign explaining the special status of Arlington Forest Park as a natural resource conservation area. AFCA contacted Senators Tim Kaine and Mark Warner about U.S. Postal Service mail delivery issues in Arlington Forest. Senator Warner noted that Congress recently approved changes in the Postal Service to improve mail delivery.

Marsha Lederman gave an update on the Lee Arts Center, a 40-year program run by Arlington Arts to support local artists. The center was shuttered in 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic. The county is asking artists to cover the building's operational costs, and it has notified artists that the building might have to be replaced due to outdated cooling and heating systems. Although it might cost less to upgrade the systems than to replace the building, local civic associations have learned that the county has not researched options for restoring the

building. You can find out more at [SaveLAC.org](http://SaveLAC.org). or by contacting Marsha Lederman at [mar.lederman@gmail.com](mailto:mar.lederman@gmail.com).

Esther Bowring gave an update on pedestrian bridge restoration in Lubber Run Park after speaking with Erik Beach from Parks and Recreation. The new bridge is designed to withstand a 100-year flood because it will be built with stronger materials than the previous bridge and will have new abutments with wing walls and streambank riprapping. The concrete ford near the Lubber Run Amphitheater is frequently flooded, and the county has agreed to do more maintenance, but rebuilding the ford would require permission from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. If residents find the ford flooded, they can use the My Arlington app (free from Google Play for Android phones or the App Store for Apple phones) to notify the county.

*...continued on page 2*

### Contents

Feed baby birds .....	3	Missing middle .....	9
Yard sale.....	4	County news .....	10
Traffic circles.....	5	Around the Forest..	11
Senior photo .....	6	Barcroft news .....	12
Conservation plan....	7	Barrett news .....	13
New bridge .....	8	Kids for hire.....	14

**AFCA Meeting 7 p.m. April 20 Through Zoom**

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*The Arlington Forester* is the official publication of the Arlington Forest Citizens Association, Arlington, VA. A nonpartisan, nonsectarian publication serving the residents of Arlington Forest, the *Forester* welcomes articles, newsbits, letters, and photos focusing on noncommercial events or issues specific to our neighborhood. We publish eight times per year (Sep to Nov and Jan to May). The deadline for submissions is the first of the month. Email your submission of up to 400 words—less, if you include a photo—to newsletter@arlingtonforestva.org.

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## AFCA Meeting

*...from Page 1*

Meeting participants discussed the Missing Middle Housing Study (MMHS). Results from phase 2 are expected in June; in October, the county board will vote on residential zoning changes. AFCA does not meet in summer, so Esther Bowring asked participants how best to respond to phase 2 results. Rick Epstein suggested a letter from AFCA to the county board outlining community concerns about insufficient time to respond to phase 2 results. Residents are invited to write to the board themselves or meet with board members to share their concerns about the MMHS. AFCA will consider surveying Arlington Forest households on the MMHS and holding meetings over the summer to discuss phase 2 results and decide on next steps.

The Arlington Civic Federation discussed county plans to use \$390,000 in federal funding for the county's mental health system. The funding will support a mobile response capability that includes a call system to improve the county's emergency response to behavioral disorders, thereby reducing the likelihood of arrests or injuries by police.

## Lubber Run

## Farmers Market Reopens



*Lubber Run Farmers Market.*

*Photo: Dan Brown*

The Lubber Run Farmers Market opened its fifth market season on Saturday morning, April 16, the day before Easter. Open each Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon, the market is located at Barrett Elementary School (4401 North Henderson Road in Northside), in the school parking lot along North George Mason Drive. Last year's summer market had 20 vendors, including several large fruit and vegetable farms, and additional vendors are anticipated this spring. Come see the many offerings, also a great way to meet your neighbors. The Lubber Run Farmers Market Committee puts a lot of effort into planning each year's summertime market, which depends on volunteer support. Go to the market website <https://lubberrunfarmersmarket.org> and sign up to receive the market's remarkable newsletter with plenty of seasonal recipes. Find the signup link on the market homepage just below the centered phrase: Please Subscribe to Our Newsletter!

# Homegrown National Park: Let's Feed the Baby Birds!

By Susan Graham



As spring approaches, birds are building nests and raising their broods in Arlington Forest. Many of us have put out our feeders, filled our birdbaths, and erected bird houses in our gardens. We can also help the birds by planting the right plants to support the mostly tiny caterpillars they need to feed their babies, creating the optimal environment for the caterpillars to complete their life cycles.

Almost all of our perching birds feed their babies with caterpillars. How many caterpillars are enough? That depends on the species and the number of nestlings, but it's a lot. Birds grow fast, from eggs to slightly larger than adults in around 2 weeks. Carolina chickadees, which are fairly common in Arlington Forest, feed their nestlings 350 to 570 caterpillars a day for 16 days, on average. I can't even imagine how many caterpillars will be eaten by birds in Arlington Forest this spring!

Caterpillars eat plants, and we can help by planting the right ones. You can find out which plants serve as hosts for caterpillar species in our zipcode by going to the National Wildlife Federation search tool at [www.nwf.org/NativePlantFinder](http://www.nwf.org/NativePlantFinder). There you will learn, for example, that oak, cherry, and willow trees host hundreds of caterpillar species. Oaks are the champions here, supporting 557 caterpillar species in the mid-Atlantic region.

No matter what trees, shrubs, or perennials we plant to feed caterpillars, we have to keep in mind that caterpillars go through four stages to complete their life cycles: egg, larva, pupa, and adult (moth or butterfly). Most caterpillars do not complete their life cycles on their host plants. Caterpillars that feed on the leaves of trees such as oaks, for example, drop to the ground when they are fully grown and pupate in the leaf litter under the tree. Leaving some leaf litter under trees and shrubs and in the beds in our gardens will increase the chances that the pupae will survive as adults and start the cycle over again. Likewise, some caterpillars tunnel into soft wood to pupate, so adding an artfully placed decaying log to your landscape enables them to complete their development.

Finally, once caterpillars emerge as adults, they must survive long enough to mate, find their host plants, and lay eggs. During this time, they need to eat, and most eat nectar from night-blooming flowers. A 2017 study found that the more lights there were in a given area, the fewer moths were feeding on nocturnal flowers. Many were fatally attracted to the lights. Have you ever wondered why there are often spider webs around your outdoor lights? Consider using motion sensors if you use security lights around your home. This will make a huge difference for night-flying moths—and thus for the caterpillars that baby birds eat.



# Community Yard Sale on May 21



After a 2-year hiatus due to unsafe conditions during the coronavirus pandemic, Arlington Forest's long-running annual community yard sale will resume!

The sale takes place Saturday morning, May 21 (rain date May 22). Over 40 Arlington Forest households have participated in the past, and the event attracts many bargain hunters who cruise through the area visiting multiple sales.

Next month's newsletter will include a map of sale sites. To get on the map, e-mail your address to Allison Kennett at [allison.kennett@gmail.com](mailto:allison.kennett@gmail.com) by April 25. Residents can use the map to locate nearby sales. Sellers are encouraged to make photocopies so shoppers can pick up a map leading them to other sites.

Some tips for success: (1) Prepare in advance. Sort clothes by size. Group similar items together. Use shopper-friendly ways to display merchandise (like tables and clothes racks). Have grocery bags on hand. Obtain dollar bills and coins to make change. If selling electronics, set up an extension cord to show that the items work. (2) Price items reasonably. Savvy shoppers will buy elsewhere if prices are too high. Be prepared to

negotiate down from the listed price. (3) To snag buyers who make yard sales their business, start setting up at 7 a.m. By late morning, people come looking for closeout prices and even freebies. If left with furniture or other large items that you simply want to get rid of, leave them at the curb with a "free" sign and they will probably be gone by Sunday afternoon. (4) Keep your cash in a pocket, shoulder purse, or fanny pack. If you do use a cash box, don't leave it unattended while you are with a shopper. Decline personal checks. If you go indoors, have someone watch your merchandise. Sellers near Arlington Blvd., Carlin Springs Rd., George Mason Dr., and Henderson Dr. might consider posting homemade signs along those thoroughfares pointing into the neighborhood to their sale (please remove signs at day's end).

For many people, yard sale success is not measured by profit but by how much unwanted stuff is moved out. The sale is also a great community event. Families can say hello to neighbors down the block and find their own bargains. Kids can set up a lemonade stand. So, whether you are a seller, a buyer, or both, please join us on May 21.

Hey Arlington Forest!

Hope everyone is enjoying the warmer weather - Fingers crossed it lasts! I'm sure you have been seeing all the "For Sale" signs go up in the neighborhood over the past year. What does this mean for you? It means your home value has INCREASED!

Last year 30 homes sold for an average price of \$905,955 which is a 10.36% increase in sale price. Of those 16 had 3-bedrooms, 14 had 4-bedrooms, and one was a 2-bedroom. The average sale price for 3 bed homes was \$853,041 up 5.30% from 2020. Four bed homes average sale price was \$977,692 for an increase of 14.21% from 2020. The sale price for the 2 bed home was \$820,000.

If you have any questions about the value of your home or would like a free Home Evaluation - shoot me a text at 703-517-0950! It's a completely free service with no obligation.

Sincerely,  
Ben



**Ben Drucker, Realtor**

703.517.0950

[ben.drucker@fulcrumpg.com](mailto:ben.drucker@fulcrumpg.com)

[www.fulcrumpg.com](http://www.fulcrumpg.com)



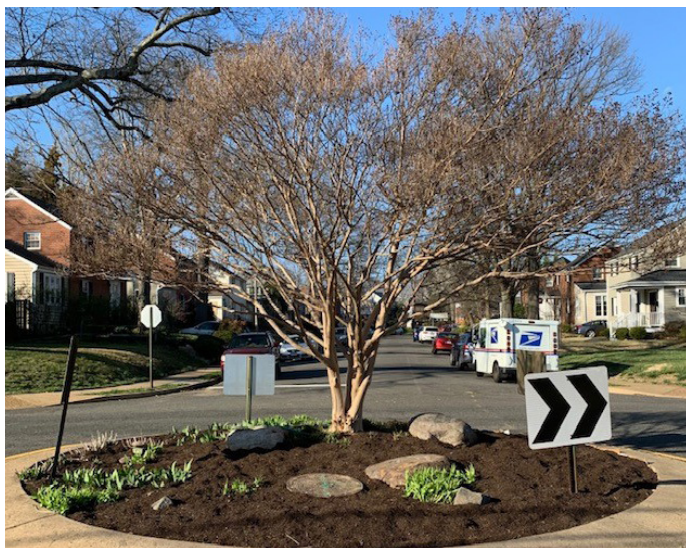
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# Northside Traffic Circle Cleanups

By Kay Tiernan



On four weekends in March, we held spring traffic circle cleanups on 2nd St. N.! We completed a first round of intensive cleanups on all four traffic circles. We were very productive, with many helping hands from the community. We had a good assortment of tools and several yardwaste dumpsters loaned for use by neighbors who live nearby. The photos show before and after on the N. Wakefield St. traffic circle.



The crew cut back unwanted vegetation to the ground and painted nandina stumps with root-rotting solution. We dug out several large invasive plants and tagged the specimens we wanted to remain, such as iris and asters. We laid down newspaper and cardboard, then covered them with 3 to 4 inches of mulch. That, we hope, will deter weed growth while the new coverage and leaf mulch settle in over the next few months.

As you might expect, weeds will break through our barrier, and we will most certainly ask for volunteers to come help remove them. In the meantime, we will continue to research different types of low-growing native plants. The Traffic Circle Committee will then submit a purchase proposal to the AFCA board and get approval to order plants and host a planting party in the fall.

Arlington County installed the circles to help slow down traffic with the understanding that Arlington Forest residents would maintain them. Please watch for future traffic circle cleanup announcements and plan to volunteer a couple hours of your time! We might decide to schedule a monthly weeding of each circle to keep the work to a minimum each time.



## DA Studio Salon

Your local family beauty salon  
dedicated to making the whole family  
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up or add some color to your hair.

Stop in and also look at  
the artwork on display by local artist  
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(Artwork is available for purchase)

***Life isn't perfect but your hair can be.***

**Arlington Forest Shopping Center  
703.525.6828**

**DAstudiosalon.com  
DAstudiosalon@gmail.com**



# Graduating Seniors Group Picture

By Liz Vance

Greetings and salutations, Foresters! It's that time of year again! The daffodils are blooming, the pollen is flying, and high school seniors are seeing the light at the end of a very long tunnel. They don't realize it yet, but their childhood is coming to an end. (The parents realize it—oh, yes, they do.) They are turning 18 (most of them), graduating (most of them), and moving out. They might be moving out temporarily, and they may come back. But ... they will be back as different people. They will be more adultish.

Every year, as many of you know, I want to capture that last moment of who they ARE before they head off in different directions toward who they WILL BE. So once again, we will be doing a High School Senior Group Portrait at the Barrett Elementary School playground. Here are the deets, as they say:

*Date:* Sunday, April 17 (the last night of Spring Break for Arlington Public Schools)

*Time:* 6 p.m.

*Where:* Barrett Elementary School, the "big kids" playground

*Who:* Ah, who; this is the big question every year. You are invited if you (a) lived in Arlington Forest at any point during your childhood, and (b) are a high school senior. Seriously, it's all about the cohort at

the playground. Did you live here in 4th grade and go to a private school? But you're a high school senior in Fairfax now? You're still in. Once a Forester, always a Forester. If you know someone who used to live here who is still in the area somewhere, please pass along the information and invite them to join us.


If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at [LizVance@gmail.com](mailto:LizVance@gmail.com). This information can also be found on my website at <https://lizvance.com/arlington-forest>. The password is AF2022.

(For those with younger kids, the Back to School Portrait for the rising K-12 kids will be on the last day of summer vacation, before APS starts back, at 6 p.m. There will be a reminder in the last Forester newsletter before they break for the summer.)


And in the meanwhile, here's the 2021 Cohort!



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# Neighborhood Conservation Plan News

By Liz Kauffman



*Edison Park playground*

The Arlington County Planning Commission (on March 7) and the Arlington County Board (March 19) unanimously accepted Arlington Forest's updated neighborhood conservation plan as presented by AFCA President Esther Bowring and plan editor Hutch Brown. County officials applauded the plan's in-depth coverage of our neighborhood's geological, ecological, and social histories, as well as neighbors' efforts to clean up parks, plant trees, and beautify traffic circles. Many took exception to concerns in the plan that zoning changes to expand housing choices in Arlington could bring tree canopy decline, increased stormwater runoff, more school overcrowding, and other tradeoffs; however, county acceptance of the plan does not constitute endorsement of its contents. Commission and board members lauded all neighbors who contributed—data collectors, writers, photographers, survey respondents, and especially Hutch Brown for his leadership of the process as editor.

The plan update entitles Arlington Forest to propose up to two infrastructure projects to add to the Neighborhood Conservation Program's pending-projects funding list; past projects included renovation of the Edison Park playground. Projects can reflect recommendations made in the plan, such as improvements in stormwater management, street safety, parks infrastructure, and other areas. We are forming a Project Selection Committee open to all Foresters. Committee members will establish a transparent process for evaluating projects proposed by neighbors, then present a list of projects to the AFCA board. One suggestion is a joint project with the Bluemont Civic Association to continue safety improvements on N. Carlin Springs Rd. To make a suggestion or to join the committee, please contact Bev Johnson at [flowerpowerbev@gmail.com](mailto:flowerpowerbev@gmail.com).

As much as I have enjoyed serving as Arlington Forest's representative on the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee, it's time for new talent and vision. The role involves meeting with other neighborhood representatives 11 times per year (on the second Thursday of the month). At some meetings, county speakers discuss issues of interest to neighborhoods (such as a streetlight study or Amazon II-related developments). At other meetings, representatives discuss issues of common interest or vote to approve a neighborhood's project proposals or neighborhood conservation plan. Representatives report back to their neighborhoods on relevant issues. You can find a good overview of the program at Arlington Neighborhood Conservation Program Review. If you are interested, contact me after April 15 and I can give further background and arrange a virtual meeting with program staff. You can reach me at [lizkauffman@yahoo.com](mailto:lizkauffman@yahoo.com) or 571-327-6497.

## Spring Cleanup on April 23

Our 11th annual Arlington Forest Spring Cleanup is on Saturday morning, April 23. Teams of volunteers will clean up the Arlington Blvd. Southside buffer strip (meet at the top of S. Park Dr.) and the streambanks below the N. Greenbrier St. trailhead (meet at the concrete ford over Four Mile Run). There is no volunteer to coordinate efforts in Lubber Run Park, so nearby residents can pick up trash in any part of the park.

We start at 9 a.m., rain or shine, and usually end by 10:30 a.m. If you arrive late, look for people already at work. Wear old clothes and sturdy shoes and bring drinking water. Wear garden or work gloves if you have them. Please pick up only manmade trash, not logs or branches. Do not put things like asphalt, bricks, rocks, or

dirt in any trashcan in county parks.

Please join in beautifying our public spaces if you enjoy walking, jogging, or biking in our local parks; if you want to help protect the Chesapeake Bay watershed; if you have children who want to learn to care for the environment; or if you just want to get out in the fresh spring air to benefit from some light exercise. Many hands make for light work, so the more volunteers we get, the more we can do to improve community spaces for our spring and summer enjoyment. As always, we welcome the participation of local Boy and Girl Scouts. If you have questions, please email John Naland at [na-landfamily@yahoo.com](mailto:na-landfamily@yahoo.com).



# Bridge Design in Lubber Run Park



Flooded concrete ford in Lubber Run Park. Photo: Dan Brown.

Arlington County will soon start construction on a pedestrian bridge over Lubber Run to replace the bridge washed out by July 2019 floods near the spur trail to the Edison Park playground in Greenbrier. AFCA President Esther Bowring sent a letter to the Arlington County Board raising questions about the site and about the concrete ford (often flooded) near the Lubber Run Amphitheater. In response, Erik Beach, Park Development Division Chief for the Arlington County Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), spoke with Esther and sent his remarks in writing.

Beach conceded that the new bridge will be located in the same place where stormwaters destroyed two previous bridges; the reason, he said, is to avoid the extensive costs and delays associated with regulatory approval of a new site. However, the DPR has taken steps to reduce

the risk. The new bridge will be more perpendicular to the stream, allowing one abutment for the bridge to be placed farther away from the stream to make room for regrading the eroding slope. The new bridge will also be made of stronger materials, designed to withstand a 100-year flood. Beach said that the new abutments might include wing walls to prevent bank erosion and keep the abutments from being undermined. Riprap (boulders lining both sides of the stream) will further support the abutments, and trees will be planted nearby to help stop erosion. In case of flood damage, parts such as railings and decking boards will be able to be replaced for faster bridge repair.

Beach pointed out that concrete fords over our local creeks are intended for service vehicles; pedestrians can benefit incidentally. Any improvements to the fords must take the weight of vehicles into account, making the engineering more costly and involving more extensive review and permitting than for pedestrian bridges. Beach noted that scientists now question the use of concrete fords altogether, so options for repairing them are uncertain. With over 60 pedestrian bridges and fords, Arlington County is currently studying their condition. By the end of the year, the county will have a priority list of bridges and fords for maintenance, repair, and replacement. Beach pointed out that we don't yet know where the fords in Lubber Run Park will come on the list.

## Will Increasing Mortgage Rates Cause Home Prices to Fall?

While some people may believe a 1% to 2% increase in mortgage rates will impact demand so dramatically that home prices will have to fall, experts say otherwise. Doug Duncan, Senior Vice President and Chief Economist at Fannie Mae, says: "What I will caution against is making the inference that interest rates have a direct impact on house prices. That is not true." Freddie Mac studied the impact that mortgage rates increasing by at least 1% has had on home prices in the past. Here are the results of that study:

### The Impact of Rising Rates on Home Prices

Changes When Mortgage Rates Increase by More Than 1%

Start Date	End Date	Months	Increase	Home Prices
Oct 1993	Dec 1994	14	2.38%	+3%
Jan 1996	Sept 1996	8	1.2%	+2%
Oct 1998	May 2000	19	1.81%	+13%
June 2003	June 2004	12	1.06%	+13%
June 2005	July 2006	13	1.18%	+7%
Nov 2012	Dec 2013	13	1.11%	+11%
Average		13	1.46%	+8%

Source: Freddie Mac

In the coming months it's possible we will see a slower pace of sales, higher mortgage rates and continued home appreciation. **Are you considering a new lifestyle?** Put my 37 years of local Arlington market expertise to work for you and your largest financial investment!



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# Missing Middle Housing Study: AFCA Questions County Plans

By Hutch Brown

Arlington County Board members Matt de Ferranti and Takis Karantonis joined the February AFCA meeting to take questions about the Missing Middle Housing Study (MMHS). Phase 2 of the three-phase study explores the feasibility of multifamily housing units in neighborhoods like Arlington Forest, currently zoned for single-family detached homes. Potential new housing types include rowhouses, duplexes, and multiplexes with up to eight units. Following a lively discussion at the February meeting, AFCA President Esther Bowring sent a letter thanking the board members for an excellent exchange of ideas. Esther also mentioned a separate letter to the Arlington County Board by the AFCA MMHS Committee, a small group of neighbors. The committee's letter followed up on questions raised last summer, none of which had been satisfactorily answered in the county response. The original letter and the county response are posted on the AFCA website.

The AFCA committee's followup letter called on the county, as a precondition for proceeding with any upzoning, to take several steps. Goals and measures in the MMHS materials are vague, so the letter asked the county to "define specific goals for lower housing costs, more equitable outcomes, and so on—along with clear measures of success." Noting that new middle housing

development in Arlington favors wealthy buyers (who tend to be White), the letter also called for sound social and economic analyses to show that new units will be affordable to middle-income households and will result in more equitable housing opportunities for historically disadvantaged groups. Finally, MMHS materials suggest that upzoning for middle housing will have no tradeoffs in terms of stormwater runoff, tree canopy cover, quality of life, and public services in Arlington. The followup letter calls on the MMHS to prove it through a rigorous cost/benefit analysis as part of phase 2 of the study.

In her own letter of thanks, Esther raised two further questions. The discussion at the February AFCA meeting suggested that council members might have already made up their minds. "Staying the same countywide," said Takis Karantonis, "and not doing anything on missing middle—I don't agree with that." In fact, phase 2 of the MMHS does not contain a no-action alternative, and Esther's letter asks why it does not. In addition, COVID has changed lifestyles and expectations, yet such new developments have never come up in the MMHS. What impact will the pandemic have on housing demand and employment, and how will it affect the need for middle housing?



**Paul Cachion, MBA**

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## Spring!

More Flowers!



More Birds!\*



More Houses!



Give us a call at Cachion Homes.

\*Hawk in flight captured by local AF neighbor, Christos Liacouras



## County News

### Masks Now Optional

On March 11, the 5-day average number of new COVID cases in Arlington was 33, down from 646 on January 12. As of March 3, with COVID risk now low in Arlington County, masks were no longer required in public buildings. The decision followed new guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as of February 25. You can order free at-home COVID tests online at [COVIDtest.gov](https://www.covidtest.gov). You can also get a COVID vaccination by going online at [Vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov).

### Climate Change Action

Arlington's proposed budget for fiscal year 2023 includes energy and the environment for the first time as a priority. The budget would increase spending on the Community Energy Plan (CEP), expanding the county's electric vehicle fleet and charging infrastructure for electric vehicles, exploring rooftop solar power on government facilities, and creating a \$1 million CEP Action Fund. The Arlington County Board is considering whether to hire a Chief Climate Officer as part of next year's budget.



### Reporting Stream Pollution

If you notice illegal discharges discoloring streams in our neighborhood parks, you can report it at [www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Topics/Report-Problem](https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Topics/Report-Problem). They will not be able to respond outside of business hours, but they will be able to investigate and get back to you. You can find out more online at Report Stream Pollution Arlington.

### Stream Crossings

The concrete ford over Lubber Run near the Lubber Run Amphitheater is frequently flooded. You can report water covering the ford at [rupton@arlingtonva.us](mailto:rupton@arlingtonva.us). The new pedestrian bridge below Southside near the Glencarlyn Dog Park is now open, making passage from the W&OD Trail to the Long Branch Nature Center much easier.



### Noise Alert

By county ordinance, work with lawn mowers, leaf blowers, and other outdoor power tools is not allowed before 10 a.m. on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. Please respect this quiet time for your neighbors.

### Northern Alexandria Native Plant Sale



The spring 2022 Northern Alexandria Native Plant Sale will be Saturday, April 30, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the parking lot of the church of St. Clement at 1701 N. Quaker Lane in Alexandria. Ten vendors from Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and DC will be present. To be added to the notification list for such native plant sales, send an email to [cscottknudsen@gmail.com](mailto:cscottknudsen@gmail.com) and type "Add me to the native plant sale list" in the subject line, putting your name in the text. You will receive two notices a year for the spring and fall sales.

### Glencarlyn Library Plant Sale

On Earth Day—Saturday, April 23—the Glencarlyn Library Garden will host a plant sale at 300 S. Kensington St. in neighboring Glencarlyn from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. An educational tree walk will start at 1 p.m., featuring the beautiful native trees in and around the garden. The Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia will be giving away saplings during the event. Other event offerings include native plants from Hill House Nursery, locally grown vegetable and fruit starts, local honey, handmade pottery, T-shirts, recycled bags, and used books from the Friends of Arlington Libraries. Proceeds from sales at this free event support the garden year-round.

### Food Scraps Collection



Since last September, Arlington has offered a voluntary food scraps pickup service. Participants put food scraps into compostable bags inside a countertop plastic container, then place the bags into their green composting bins for weekly pickup. According to the county, Arlington residents have used the service to recycle more than 20 percent of their nutrient-rich food waste, keeping it out of the black trash cart.

### Spring E-CARE on April 23

E-CARE, Arlington's spring dropoff event for household hazardous materials, old electronics, and small metal items, returns this year to Yorktown High School on April 23 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Donated bicycles will be collected by Bikes for the World for people overseas. To make unloading faster, electronics go in first, household hazardous materials next, then metals and bicycles. E-CARE is open to Arlington residents only, so bring ID.



## Around the Forest

### AFCA Elections Coming Up!



At the AFCA meeting on May 18, we will hold elections for officers in the coming year. Elected offices include President; Vice-Presidents for Greenbrier, Northside, and Southside; Recording Secretary; Co-Secretary; and Treasurer. All current officers have agreed to stand for reelection except for the Co-Secretary (so we need someone to step up!). If you would like to run for any AFCA office, please contact AFCA President Esther Bowring at [afcaprez@gmail.com](mailto:afcaprez@gmail.com).

### May Potluck Picnic

The annual AFCA potluck picnic, canceled for the last 2 years due to the coronavirus pandemic, is back! This year's picnic will be on May 18. Rob Janson and Cynthia Sutton have volunteered to make the arrangements, including reserving the shelter in Lubber Run Park; AFCA will pay for cookout supplies, including hot dogs, hamburgers, buns, chips, and so on. The organizers will be asking for volunteers to bring desserts and sides to share—stay tuned!



### Community Calendar

*The coronavirus pandemic has forced AFCA to limit the number of community events, with some down as tentative—to be held if conditions allow.*

#### AFCA Meetings:

**April 20, 2022:** Q&A with county board budget director

**May 18, 2022:** Neighborhood picnic

#### Community Events:

**Lubber Run Farmers' Market:** April through November, Saturday mornings at the Barrett Elementary School parking lot.

**Spring Cleanup (local parks/buffer strip):** April 23, 2022

**Home and Garden Tour:** Canceled for 2022 due to COVID

**Annual AFCA Picnic:** May 18, 2022

**Annual Yard Sale:** Saturday, May 21 2022



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# Barcroft School News

By Samantha Bell

March was another busy month at Barcroft. With help from the Children's Science Center, Barcroft hosted Family Science Night on March 15. Students and their families were able to try different hands-on activities related to science, technology, engineering, and math. The PTA provided box lunches from Panera for the teachers and staff on teacher/parent conference days. On March 22, the PTA also sponsored an amazing step show assembly with Step Afrika! for the students to promote teamwork, commitment, and discipline. On March 26, thanks to all of the volunteer help, we had a very successful garden workday: we painted signs, built



*Photo from garden workday*

a composter and supply shed, filled the beds with soil, and planted pansies and wildflowers.

On April 1, we celebrated "La Fiesta de Amistad," a friendship party hosted by Biba Chat, our bilingual Barcroft group. Families were able to enjoy music and special dishes like elotes locos (crazy corn), pupusas, tamales, and taquitos as well as a variety of desserts. We are planning a desk building day for our outdoor classroom in April and Teacher Appreciation Week in early May. Spring break is April 11-15. Follow us on Twitter and Instagram at @BarcroftEagles and on Facebook at Barcroft Elementary School PTA.



*Photo from garden workday*



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Dental: Something Wicked in the Land of

Ahhhs

Financial: Good Habits to Have (Financial Help Book)



## Barrett School News

By Colleen Nguyen

Happy spring! Barrett PTA and our families are so excited for the remainder of the school year because we have lots planned and it's starting to feel normal again. We had a great March. PTA sponsored an author visit for the school, and our librarian Greg D'Addario was able to book Rajani LaRocca right before she won the Newbery Honor award for the author of the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children. She did three presentations that day and even had lunch with our students, and we're grateful for continued financial support for the PTA from Arlington Forest and other Barrett-area families that help us fund events like this.

PTA also sponsored an appreciation lunch for Barrett staff during parent-teacher conference week. We know those are long days for staff talking with families, and we're always glad to provide them with some delicious lunch to show our appreciation. Finally, PTA helped support Family Science Night in conjunction with the Children's Science Center in Fairfax and Barrett teachers and staff. It was the school's first in-person event for families since our open house at the very beginning



of the school year, and about 300 people showed up for activities like launch catapults, learn science, and have fun. Stripes, our Barrett mascot, even made a special appearance.

We're looking forward to the rest of the year, and PTA has lots planned. What many of us are most excited about is bringing back in-person Bingo Night on May 20. Bingo Night is a beloved annual event that brings out so many families;

for me, it reinforces the importance of the role that PTA can play in simply creating an opportunity to break bread and have fun with other families.

Before the pandemic, PTA sponsored an auction and reception every other year to raise funds and have fun. We didn't plan an in-person auction this year or in 2020-21. So we're going to combine a silent auction with our Bingo Night. We hope that Foresters will consider generously donating items or services to be auctioned off; more details to come on this.

Thank you again on behalf of Barrett PTA and the school community. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me any time at [president@kwbarrettpta.org](mailto:president@kwbarrettpta.org). We look forward to seeing you soon!

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








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	Name	Email	Phone									Other
Southside	Dylan Heinrich		831-620-9742	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓	Odd jobs
	Ethan Heinrich		831-238-8475		✓		✓*	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Emilie Kluge	emiliekluge@yahoo.com	571-457-1983	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	Tutoring
	Amy Mashkuri		571-643-5883	✓	✓							
	Andrew Rogers	andrewmcyt@gmail.com		✓	✓							Yardwork
	Caroline Rogers	carolinearogers@verizon.net		✓	✓		✓					College Breaks Only
	Atalie Dempsey	atalie.dempsey@gmail.com	571-317-9216	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓	
	Evan Dempsey	Evan.cw.dempsey@gmail.com	703-559-9690	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
	Anna D'Itri		703-346-3467	✓	✓		✓*		✓	✓	✓	
	Gabriel D'Itri		703-346-3467			✓		✓				Lawn mowing
Greenbrier	Julia Green	joangreen32@gmail.com	703-785-4293	✓	✓				✓		✓	
	Gavin Kraft	kenneth.d.kraft@gmail.com	314-775-7008	✓	✓						✓	
	Charlotte Lawson	CharlotteLawsonnn@gmail.com	703-933-8880	✓	✓		✓					
	Madeline Lund	madelinelund11@gmail.com	571-447-6968	✓	✓		✓			✓		
	Avery McGrann	snooz_ette@yahoo.com	571-225-2484	✓	✓					✓	✓	Weekends only
	Anna McLaughlin	annamc1012@yahoo.com	571-550-1680	✓	✓		✓*		✓		✓	
	Ciara McLaughlin	ciarahmcLaughlin@gmail.com	703-712-9215				✓*			✓	✓	
	Reid Messman		703-469-1988	✓	✓							
	Shea Messman		703-469-1988				✓*					
	Lucas Miller	g.mark.miller1@gmail.com	786-493-3112	✓		✓		✓				Lawn mowing
Northside	Jacob Nadherny	jacob@nadherny.com		✓	✓						✓	
	Matthew Petruccelli	tony.petruccelli@gmail.com	703-629-0425			✓		✓				
	Caulder Pickard	katiepickard@gmail.com	571-244-6870	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Elle Pickard	katiepickard@gmail.com	571-244-6870	✓	✓		✓*		✓	✓	✓	
	Ava Smialowicz	ava.smialowicz@hotmail.com	703-424-0895		✓		✓*					
	Emma Weaver		703-875-8185				✓*					
	Anelia Werner	aneliaw09@gmail.com	703-975-4573	✓			✓*		✓	✓	✓	Odd jobs
	Natalie Bryant	sarakatherine75@hotmail.com		✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	
	Niittisha Choudhary	Niittisha@gmail.com	703-981-1229	✓			✓		✓			Tutoring
	Tyler Dinan	chrisbettDinan@aol.com	703-525-5763	✓		✓	✓	✓				Lawn mowing
	Jeremy Fagen	jeremy.fagen@gmail.com	571-645-3475	✓	✓				✓			
	Rafaella Lenco	Rafaellalenco@gmail.com		✓	✓							
	Annie Madden	Lacrosse.donuts@gmail.com	703-220-3357		✓		✓*					
	Cory Pearl	cory.pearl99@gmail.com	571-447-0852	✓	✓	✓	✓*	✓	✓		✓	
	Evie Price		240-665-8139	✓	✓		✓*		✓	✓	✓	
	Sophie Stewart	sophiestewart4@gmail.com	703-713-5902	✓	✓		✓*		✓	✓		
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