



# The Arlington Forester

Vol. 64, Number 4

Arlington, Virginia

January 2023

## Virtual AFCA Meeting—Vision Zero

AFCA invites you to join our monthly meeting on Wednesday, January 18, at 7 p.m. Christine Baker from Arlington County's Vision Zero program will outline the program for us. She will touch on related activities planned or underway for areas within our neighborhood, such as N. Carlin Springs Rd. and the intersection of N. Park Dr. and N. George Mason Dr. (see the article on page 3).

You can join the meeting through Zoom by entering the following URL into your browser between 6:50 and 7

p.m. on Wednesday, January 18: <https://tinyurl.com/33x-drh6y>. (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 844 1779 9473 and passcode 985209. You might also be prompted to hit the # sign one or more times. This call-in number will be active starting at 6:50 p.m.

## AFCA November 2022 Meeting

On November 16, 2022, AFCA President Esther Bowring hosted a hybrid AFCA meeting with a few people at the Lubber Run Community Center in person and many participants by phone and video. Esther introduced Arlington Fire Department Captain William Dwyer, the Assistant Fire Marshall. Captain Dwyer summarized what was known and being done about small explosions in Arlington Forest in November at a Little Free Library on the corner of N. Columbus St. and Arlington Blvd. and the wishing well at the Lubber Run Amphitheater. The Fire Department collected evidence from both scenes and enlisted help from the FBI and the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). The department was awaiting results from the ATF lab. Tips from the community had come in but no suspects had been identified. Tips or potentially relevant ring camera images can be provided to [fireprevention@ArlingtonVA.US](mailto:fireprevention@ArlingtonVA.US) or the Arlington police tip line. Captain Dwyer also noted that the Fire Department is working with scooter companies to identify scooters on some

ring cameras. Esther said that she had followed up with Arlington County Police Department about the breakins at the shopping center over the past year or two. The police have made arrests involving two different crews, one from Fairfax County and one from out of state.

Michael Thomas summarized the most recent Arlington County Civic Federation meeting. The federation discussed a resolution to restore public confidence in the Arlington County government and will vote on it next month. The resolution will seek genuinely inclusive

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AFCA Virtual Meeting 7 p.m. **January 18** 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 ...continued from page 1

public engagement and more data-driven decisionmaking. Also discussed was the federation's Task Force in Governance and Election Reform (TIGR), which has observed that the Arlington County Board has not grown in size to match decades of county growth in population and governance complexity. The annual rotation of the board chair diminishes county influence in regional groups because the new chair needs to get up to speed and make connections. The board is supposed to be nonpartisan but party caucuses persist. Holding elections for one or two board members decreases opportunities for new or other candidates. The Civic Federation endorses the TIGR's recommendations to hold staggered multiseat board elections every 2 years. The county board has approved ranked-choice voting for primaries, but it is unclear whether approval will extend to general elections.

Aileen Winquist, an environmental management specialist for Arlington County, gave a presentation explaining Arlington's proposed new stormwater utility structure and purpose. The county is holding meetings with groups and citizen associations to discuss the proposal. The board will probably hold a final vote on it in April 2023. Esther concluded the meeting by noting that AFCA will shift to all-remote meetings until spring, then revisit the issue.

## Plant a Tree in Your Yard

Help keep the "forest" in Arlington Forest! Spring is the perfect time to plant. If you have lost a tree or want to add a new one, you can get financial assistance.

**AFCA Tree Grant Program:** AFCA provides up to \$125 to help cover the cost of buying and planting a canopy tree (including delivery). You can qualify for grants on up to two trees, with various native trees to choose from. To qualify, all you need is to be paid up on your 2022–23 AFCA dues. For the application form, go to [www.arlingtonforestva.org](http://www.arlingtonforestva.org) and click on the AFCA tab. Act now—grants are limited.

**Arlington Tree Distribution Program:** If you want to wait until fall, Arlington County is giving away 500 young native trees then. The trees, 2 to 4 feet in size, come in 2-gallon containers. Register for your free tree online at <https://environment.arlingtonva.us/register-for-your-free-tree/> beginning on September 5 and pick up your tree in late October.

**Tree Canopy Fund:** Through a county program administered by EcoAction Arlington, you can get a native tree planted on your property at no cost to you. You can choose from various trees, both large and small. The application deadline for fall planting is in June, with the form posted in May. For more information, check out EcoAction Arlington Tree Canopy Fund.

# Vision Zero Initiatives in Our Neighborhood

The following is based on an email exchange between Forester Bev Johnston and a representative from Arlington County's Transportation, Engineering and Operations Bureau.

In 2019, the Arlington County Board adopted a resolution committing to a countywide Vision Zero campaign to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries by 2030. In particular, the Vision Zero Action Plan prioritizes activities on a High-Injury Network of roads where serious or fatal crashes are concentrated. Representing just 7 percent of the 555 miles of roadway in the county, these corridors saw 78 percent of all serious or fatal crashes in 2017-19. The network includes the half-mile segment of N. Carlin Springs Rd. from N. Edison St. to N. Glebe Rd., number 5 on the list of 17 high-injury corridors in Arlington. A High-Injury Network safety audit for N. Carlin Springs Rd. took place in September 2022 to identify safety needs that the county can quickly meet or begin to plan for on a larger scale. Arlington County staff will publish a summary of the audit findings and next steps in January 2023. You can find out more online at High-Injury Network Corridor Safety Audits.

As part of Vision Zero, the county carried out School Slow Zone Demonstrations near 13 schools in winter/spring 2022. The demonstrations established speed limits of 20 miles per hour around the clock on neighborhood streets within 600 feet of a school access point. The demonstrations included retrofitting the entire school

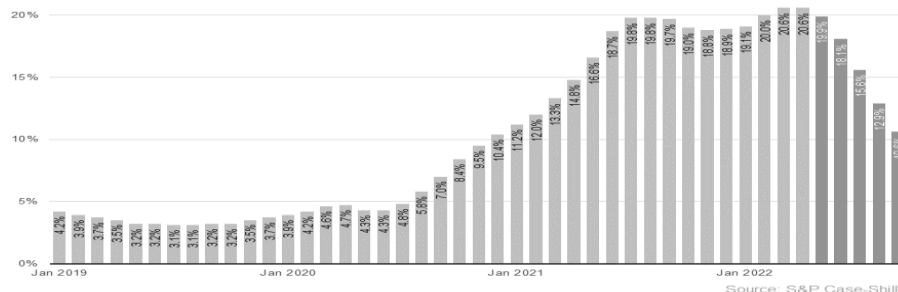
zone to ensure high-visibility crossings and school zone signage within the school zone, as well as appropriate speed limits on the school's beacons on arterial roadways. The school zone for Barrett Elementary School will be included in a second phase of demonstrations planned for winter/spring 2023. At the Arlington County Board meeting in December 2022, county staff presented a request to amend the Arlington County Zoning Ordinance to allow a blanket policy for 20-miles-per-hour school slow zones countywide. The staff expects the board to approve the amendment in January 2023.

Neighbors are raising concerns about safety at the intersection of N. George Mason Dr. and N. Park Dr. near the Lubber Run Community Center. Neighbors report that the intersection is dangerous for cars entering the intersection due to speeding and low visibility; it is also dangerous for pedestrians and bicycles because cars do not consistently stop at the crosswalk, despite the rectangular rapid flashing beacon. However, data collected by Arlington County staff suggests that the beacon, installed in 2018, has improved safety for pedestrians; and the intersection did not emerge as a "hotspot" in the county's most recent hotspot evaluation. Nonetheless, the county is conducting a signal warrant evaluation at the intersection in early 2023 to determine whether the intersection warrants a traffic signal due to increased traffic to and from the Lubber Run Community Center.

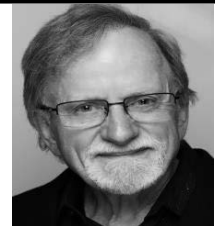
The graph below shows home price growth has moderated in recent months as buyer demand has slowed in response to higher mortgage rates. While home price growth is moderating month-over-month, the percent of appreciation year-over-year is still well above the home price change we saw during more normal years in the market. The bars for January 2019 through mid-2020 show home price appreciation around 3-4% a year was more typical (see bars for January 2019 through mid-2020). The latest data for this year shows prices have still climbed by roughly 10% over last year. Inventory is still low compared to more normal years. For a potential home seller, that means your house should still be in demand for potential buyers if you price it right.

## Home Price Growth Since January 2019

Year-Over-Year Percent Change in Home Prices



If you have questions about home prices or how much equity you have in your current home, let's connect so you have a professional's advice. Put my 38 years of local market expertise to work for you and those you care about!



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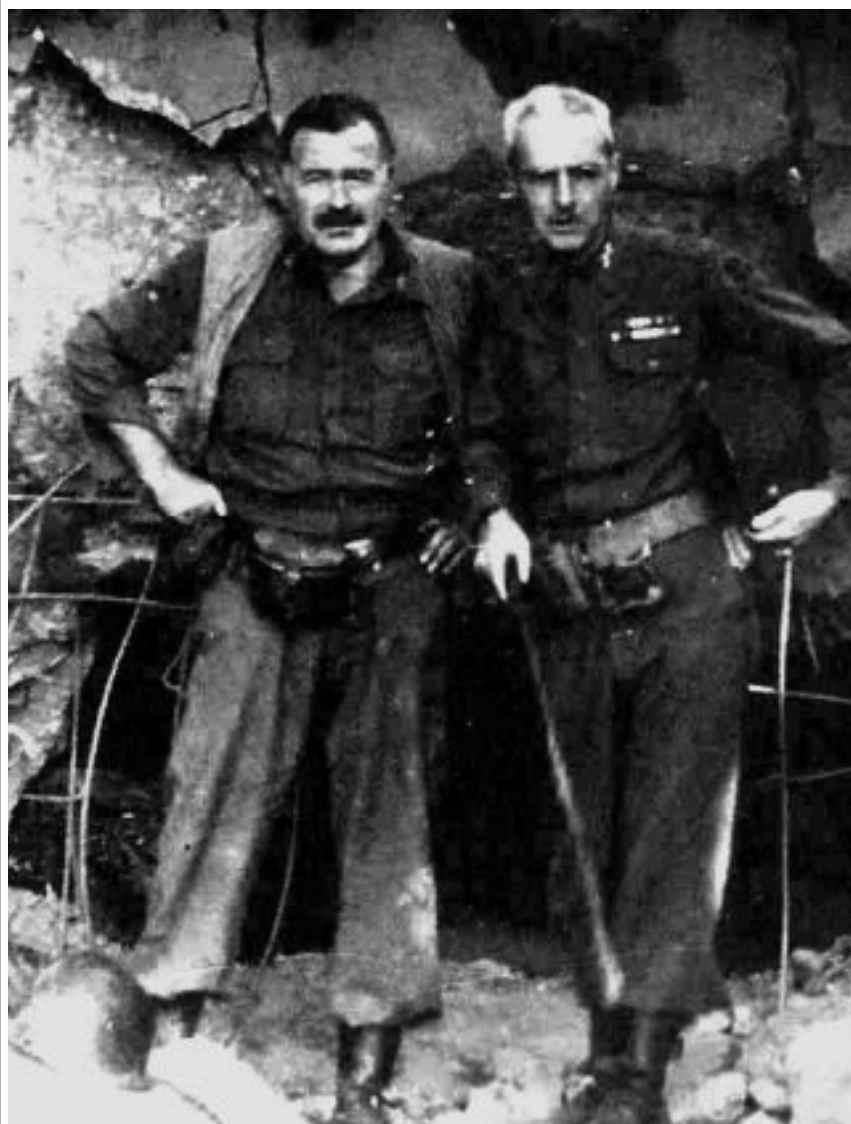
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# Faces of the Forest: A Great Place To Grow Up

By Christine Dormer Clark



Hemingway (left) with Col. Lanham in Germany during WWII.

*This story, based on excerpts from the February 2007 Arlington Forester, is adapted from John Naland's 2015 edition of History of the Arlington Forest Community (pages 21-22) on the AFCA website.*

I will try to tell it like it was growing up at 113 N. Columbus St. in the 1940s-50s. Our parents, Edward and Helen Dormer, bought the house in March 1941—probably for about \$5,000! My first memories were the war years and being out in the backyard with my mother working in her “victory garden.” I also remember the air raid siren going off at night during the blackouts and screaming in fright.

Directly across the street were the Hokes, German Jewish refugees. They were both physicians but could not get positions in the United States because of regulations,

etc. The next family who moved in—in the summer of 1948—was the Hanburgers, Colonel Christian and his wife, “Sis.” Their son Chris later became a famous linebacker for the Washington Redskins. Colonel Hanburger fought in the Korean War while living there. The Hanburgers kept the house when leaving for their next assignment, and another military family moved in, Air Force Colonel John (Jack) Hilger. Our mother always told us that Colonel Hilger flew in Jimmy Doolittle’s raid over Tokyo. He was second in command during the raid.

Two houses down from the Hanburger house and towards Arlington Blvd. was another famous family. Army Colonel Charles T. “Buck” Lanham was married and had one young adult daughter who used to walk their dachshund on Columbus St. Buck Lanham was a close friend of Ernest Hemingway. They had met at the end of the war at the time of the Battle of the Bulge. Hemingway was a war correspondent living and working out of Paris. I first read this in Mary Walsh Hemingway’s autobiography *How It Was* and then mentioned this to my mother, who replied, “Oh, don’t you remember when Hemingway visited the Lanhams? All of the neighbors were hanging out the windows gawking!”

Next door to the Hanburgers was another German family—Paul Brussler and his wife and daughter. They had come prior to the war. Crossing back to our side of N. Columbus and going toward the Lubber Run Park entrance three houses away, again in the late 1940s, was another Army

family, Colonel Rostow, his wife, and three sons. Once a month, a large black limo with driver would pull up and an elderly dowager-type woman would come out dressed in black to visit her great-granddaughter, Mrs. Rostow. The dowager was said to be General Ulysses S. Grant’s daughter! [John Naland note: Grant’s only daughter died in 1922, but his eldest granddaughter, Julia Dent Cantacuzène Spiransky-Grant, was a wealthy Washington, DC, resident in the 1940s.]

It was a time when kids could roam the neighborhood freely and without fear. Lubber Run Park was a great place to picnic or play—you could sled down someone’s backyard into the park.

# Sad News About Joe Cockrell

By Rob Janson

Long time Northside resident and former Arlington Forest Civic Association President Joe Cockrell passed away peacefully in Richmond, his son reported recently. Joe was preceded in 2020 by his beloved wife of 62 years, Claire. A native of Greenville, NC, Joe attended Virginia Tech as a member of the Corps of Cadets. He served in the U.S. Department of Defense as a reconnaissance photo interpreter during critical events in the Cold War and in other important capacities throughout a career in national security.

Joe and Claire purchased their home on N. Park Dr. in 1964, raising a family and residing there for 54 years. They were frequent visitors to Rehoboth Beach, where they had many connections to family and friends. Joe and Claire were long-term members of Bethel United Church of Christ; their son Tim attended Barrett Elementary School, Washington-Lee High School, and James Madison University. Joe was active in the community and could safely be described as an Arlington Forest institution. He served as AFCA president for many years and had leadership roles in organizing events, including the annual home and garden tour, the spring yard sale, and the holiday party at the Lubber Run Community Center; he was also instrumental in drafting our neighborhood conservation plan. Joe's years of service and deep knowledge of our neighborhood's history, development, and residents earned him the affectionate moniker Mayor of Arlington Forest.

Joe was an expert gardener and amateur arborist. Beyond nurturing his own property, he lent his expertise and labor to neighbors and to common areas in the Forest. His interest in the health of our tree canopy was strong, and he personally labored to save the large but struggling American holly tree that once occupied the traffic

## Little Free Library Destroyed

On November 9, neighbors living on the 100 block of N. Columbus St. reported that someone blew up their Little Free Library the night before. The explosion set fire to leaves in the woods next to their home along Lubber Run Park. They were grateful to neighbors for using fire extinguishers and a hose—and to the Arlington County Fire Department for its swift and effective response, with the Fire Marshal opening an investigation. The neighborhood had adopted the Little Free Library after it was built by the father of one of the neighbors—after leaving for days, they would find it restocked when they returned. They hope to replace it soon.

circle at the Arlington Forest Shopping Center (planted in 1941 by Monroe Warren, the builder of Arlington Forest). Longer term Foresters will remember when Joe installed holiday lights on the tree each year—and when the county later took over that responsibility because the tree became so tall that a bucket truck was required. When the holly finally succumbed in 2017, AFCA replaced the tree with a scarlet oak and placed a plaque in Joe's honor in the circle.

Joe had many interests and talents, including collecting and restoring antiques. He and Claire were avid collectors of (and experts on) Chinese porcelain. Over the years, Joe especially enjoyed the camaraderie of neighborhood poker games, where he earned a reputation as a skilled and crafty player. He had a way of quietly roping in his victims before showing his cards and swiping the pot out from under them. Invariably, Joe would then play innocent and act surprised that it had happened—all part of his strategy.

Joe was always there to lend a hand to neighbors. A kind and generous resident of Arlington Forest, he was also one of the Forest's biggest boosters ever. You will be missed, Mr. Mayor. You can find Joe's obituary online at <https://tinyurl.com/3tx2x6fd>.



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# Missing Middle Developments— Implications for Arlington Forest

By Hutch Brown



In 2019, Arlington County launched a Missing Middle Housing Study to explore the feasibility of replacing single-family homes in neighborhoods like ours with duplexes, townhouses, and other kinds of multifamily housing. On December 16, 2022, the Arlington County Planning Commission voted to send draft zoning ordinance amendments, with modifications, to the Arlington County Board for approval (the draft amendments were first posted online by county staff on October 31). The county board is expected to approve a formal Request to Advertise the amendments on January 21, 2023, with a final board vote on the amendments 30 to 60 days later.

The proposed amendments would apply to all Arlington neighborhoods zoned for single-family detached housing (zoning districts R-5 through R-20). Instead of rezoning the districts, the amendments would create new regulations for “expanding missing middle housing options” in neighborhoods like ours. The new regulations would allow property owners by right (without needing county approval) to redevelop almost any lot for multifamily housing, including for a stacked or side-by-side duplex, triplex, fourplex, or townhouse with three units. Larger multiplexes would also be allowed, though capped at either six or eight units.

Another option proposed is to limit multifamily housing with five to eight units to the largest lots, ranging from 9,000 square feet or more for five units to 12,000 square feet or more for eight units. Yet another option is expanding the maximum lot coverage allowed for the main building by 5 percent.

Under the proposed amendments, minimum on-site parking requirements would no longer be two parking spaces per unit. For middle housing near Metro stations or bus stops, only half a parking space per unit would be required; housing farther away or on culdesacs

would require one space per unit. The planning commission voted to add the option of entirely eliminating the onsite parking requirement countywide. Tree canopy requirements under the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance are based on projected canopy cover in residential districts after 20 years. The proposed amendments offer two alternatives: either (1) using the current statewide standard, which would (in effect) reduce required tree planting for middle housing from 20 percent canopy cover to 15 or 10 percent, depending on number of units; or (2) exceeding the statewide standard by requiring at least one shade tree per unit—for example, a duplex would require two canopy trees, a triplex three trees, and so on.

For Arlington Forest, the proposed amendments would allow middle housing with up to six or eight units on almost all lots, possibly with a larger housing footprint than now. Multifamily housing with five to eight units might be limited to exceptionally large lots. Middle housing in Arlington Forest would raise demand for neighborhood parking while cutting onsite supply, possibly to zero. The tree planting required for new multifamily housing might be smaller than for lots today—or larger, depending on what the county board decides.

# Could Missing Middle Turn Foresters Into Small Developers?

By Hutch Brown



In October 2022, in the third and final phase of the Missing Middle Housing Study, Arlington County staff released draft zoning ordinance amendments to allow property owners in neighborhoods like ours to build multifamily housing with up to eight units. The new regulations, if approved by the Arlington County Board, would give property owners the right to subdivide their properties into smaller lots for side-by-side duplexes or townhouses with three units. A homeowner could subdivide a property into lots as small as 1,300 square feet and as narrow as 24 feet for a duplex and 16 feet for each

townhouse unit.

For example, I could subdivide my own Arlington Forest property into two 3,000-foot lots, each with a lot width of 30 feet. Then I could build side-by-side duplexes and sell each to a separate owner, along with its smaller lot. To qualify for redevelopment, my little subdivision would first have to meet minimum requirements for R-6, namely a lot area of at least 6,000 square feet and a lot width of at least 60 feet. More than a fifth of Arlington Forest's 852 lots are much larger than 6,000 square feet—up to 12,000 square feet or more in size—and the largest properties tend to be long and narrow. Because the Arlington County Zoning Ordinance measures lot width as lot area divided by lot depth, such properties might not have the minimum 60-foot width necessary for subdividing.

However, the zoning ordinance (§16.1.1) allows redevelopment on lots that do not conform to size or width requirements if they were established before July 15, 1950, which almost all Arlington Forest lots were. Accordingly, if the Arlington County Board votes to adopt the draft zoning ordinance amendments, then almost every Arlington Forest homeowner could, by right, become a small-scale developer of a subdivision for a two-unit duplex or a three-unit townhouse.

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## Missing Middle: Abolishing Single-Family Neighborhoods

By Hutch Brown

In tandem with revising the Arlington County Zoning Ordinance to permit multifamily housing in neighborhoods like ours, the Arlington County Board is rewriting Arlington's General Land Use Plan (GLUP). Because the GLUP articulates the principles that guide the zoning ordinance, the two documents must align. Since the 1970s, the GLUP has promised to "preserve and enhance existing single-family and apartment neighborhoods," and—oddly enough—so does the proposed rewrite. The draft GLUP proposes to "preserve and enhance" neighborhoods like ours by having them include "a range of housing options," specifically "duplexes, triplexes, townhomes, and small, low-rise multi-family buildings." You can't preserve single-family neighborhoods by (in effect) doing away with them through "a range of housing options." Whatever the proposal's merit, such double talk has no place in a GLUP.

# Traffic Circles Update

By Cheryl Roesel



A group of Arlington Forest neighbors has been replanting the traffic circles on 2nd St. N. in Northside with native species (see the article by Sue Huff in the November 2022 Arlington Forester, online on the AFCA website). Last November, we were able to plant the circles on N. Park Dr. and N. Henderson Dr.; the participants were Randy Brooke, Nancy Cleeland, Sue Huff, Jan Hull, and Cheryl Roesel. We planted six species—*Antennaria plantaginifolia* (plantain-leaved pusseytoes), *Cunila origanoides*

(common dittany), *Packera anonyma* (Small's ragwort), *Penstemon digitalis* (foxglove beard-tongue), *Phlox divaricata* (wild blue phlox), and *Rosa carolina* (Carolina rose). Over the winter, we plan to prepare the circles on N. Wakefield St. and N. Abingdon St., and in the spring we'll fill in the circles on N. Park Dr. and N. Henderson Dr. and plant the circles on N. Wakefield St. and N. Abingdon St. When finished, we expect to have about 14 species of locally native Virginia plants represented in the circles.

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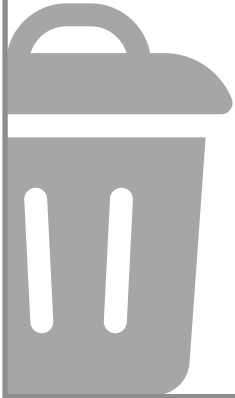
# Let's Talk Trash

By Sylvia Orli

Until very recently, my father volunteered as a river steward for the Potomac River. Every day, he would put his kayak in the waters near Dyke Marsh in Alexandria and collect trash that had accumulated in the wetlands and marshes. Usually, he would collect several trash bags worth of discarded plastic bottles, bags, and wrappers within a few hours. Some of this garbage originated from boats, but most came from our waterways and streams, which received the trash from the storm gutters along the roads.

Because of my father, I've been highly motivated to keep trash out of our streets and parks. Recently, I picked up about two bags' worth of trash next to the bus stop and in the

storm gutters at N. Edison St. and Arlington Blvd. It had been only a month since I last cleaned up this area. I see equal amounts of trash along George Mason Rd. and in Lubber Run. If someone doesn't pick up this trash, most of it will end up in our streams and rivers. Although there are many trash heroes out there who regularly clean up our parks, they cannot be everywhere all the time. I want to ask you, if you see trash on the street, on sidewalks, or in gutters and parks, please clean it up (as I know many of you do already). It just takes a second, and there are many Arlington County trash and recycling cans around for the trash. With all of us helping, the work is so much less, and it really makes a difference for our water and wildlife. Thank you for your help!



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## Arlington Election Results, 2022

Because we lacked a December newsletter, here are some results from the election on November 8, 2022.

- Congress: Don Beyer (D), 78%
- Arlington County Board: Matt De Ferranti (D), 61%
- Arlington School Board: Bethany Sutton (D), 68%
- Bond referenda passed: Metro/transportation, 79%; Parks/recreation, 79%; Infrastructure, 72%; Public schools, 77%; Stormwater management, 80%; Utilities, 85%

## Arlington's COVID Response

The Arlington County Public Health Division is winding down its COVID operations, with most curative testing kiosks closing last November and the vaccine clinic at Sequoia Plaza closing last December 17.

## Rising Flood Risk

A storm on July 8, 2019, brought flooding to many Arlington neighborhoods previously considered at low risk, affecting some homes (especially basements) in Arlington Forest. According to Arlington County, more than 20 percent of flood claims now come from areas with low to moderate flood risk. Find out more online at Arlington Reducing Your Risk of Flooding.

## New Studio for Arlington Independent Media

Last November, the Arlington County Board approved the license agreement for a new partnership between Arlington Arts and Arlington Independent Media to give the latter a satellite location at the Arlington Arts facility at 3700 S. Four Mile Run Dr. Since 1982, Arlington Independent Media has offered video instruction and community broadcast access to Arlingtonians. It will use the new studio space to expand its access to media technologies and its capacity to create video, audio, web, and digital content.

## Missing Middle Housing Study

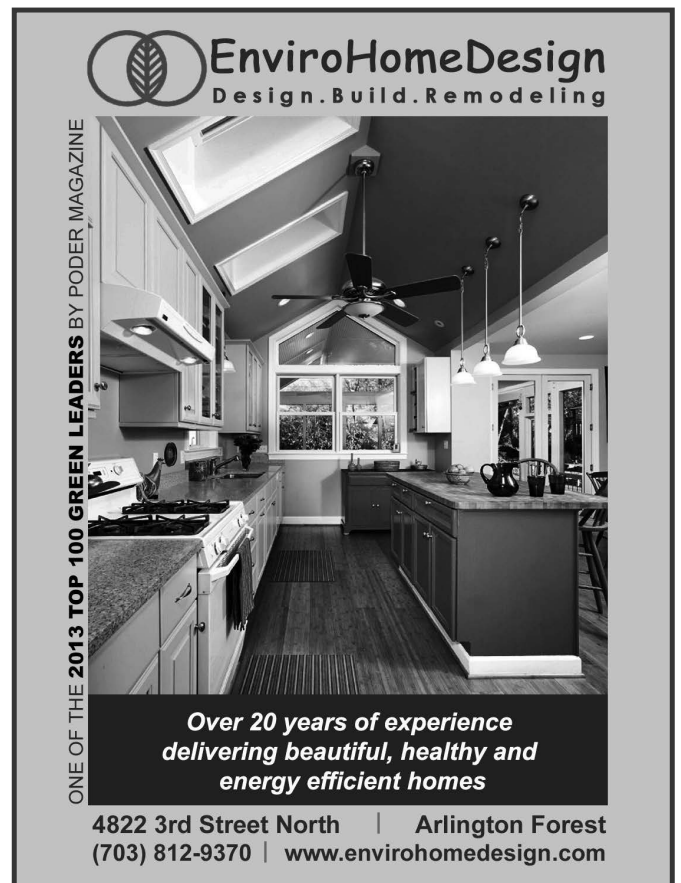
On October 31, 2022, Arlington County staff posted draft amendments to the Arlington County Zoning Ordinance online. The amendments would allow homeowners in single-family neighborhoods like ours to replace their homes with multifamily housing. On December 16, the Arlington County Planning Commission voted to send the draft amendments, with some modifications, to the Arlington County Board for approval. The county board is expected to approve a formal Request to Advertise the amendments on January 21, 2023, with a final board vote on the amendments 30 to 60 days later.

## Stormwater Utility Fee Coming?

Arlington County is considering a shift in funding for its stormwater management program from a sanitary district tax based on a property's real estate assessment to a stormwater utility fee based on the amount of impervious surfaces (like roofs and driveways) on a property. Properties with more surfaces that contribute more stormwater runoff would pay a higher rate. Find out more online at Arlington Stormwater Utility Feasibility Study and Arlington Stormwater Utility Fee Estimator.

## Ranked-Choice Voting To Be Tested in Arlington

Arlington County will test ranked-choice voting in the primary elections for local county board seats in June 2023. Under ranked-choice voting, if no candidate receives more than half of the first-choice votes, then the candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated and that candidate's votes go to the second choice. The process continues until a remaining candidate gets more than half of the vote. Find out more online at Arlington County Ranked-Choice Voting. For the Arlington County Civic Federation's recommendations on ranked-choice voting, visit <https://www.civfed.org/about-us/committees/tiger/>.



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## Parks Update

### Boy Scout Project in Lubber Run Park

As part of two Eagle Scout projects, Scouts Aaron Pease from Troop 162 and Joseph Franzen from Troop 104 worked with Arlington County to replace the aging retaining wall on the paved trail across from the pavilion in Lubber Run Park. The project was large, taking up to 2 days of onsite work after many days of planning and coordinating. Many thanks to the Scouts and to Scoutmasters Andy Moore and Larry Ashley.

### Ballston Pond Update

Ballston Pond, on the headwaters of Lubber Run adjacent to Interstate 66, is still under reconstruction. To improve water quality in Lubber Run, Arlington County has reconfigured the pond and is now planting the 4-acre area with native species. The pond is expected to reduce peak flows in Lubber Run by up to 30 percent.

### Major Flood Resilience Project

An epic storm in July 2019 brought heavy flooding to Torreyson Run, a Four Mile Run tributary that drains Westover through underground pipes. In response to neighborhood flooding, Arlington County is constructing a stormwater vault at Cardinal Elementary School in Westover. The vault, one of the largest in the mid-Atlantic region, is scheduled for completion in 2023.

## 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.*

### Next AFCA meeting:

Wednesday, January 18, 7 p.m.

### Neighborhood Spring Cleanup:

Saturday, April 22, 2023 (tentative)

### Home and Garden Tour:

Saturday, May 6, 2023 (tentative)

### Annual AFCA Picnic:

Wednesday, May 17, 2023

**Annual Yard Sale:** Saturday, May 20, 2023  
(tentative)

## AFCA Meetings

**January 18, 2023:** Vision Zero

**February 15, 2023:** Native trees and gardens

**March 15, 2023:** Forestry and  
Natural Resources Plan

**April 19, 2023:** Neighborhood conservation projects

**May 17, 2023:** Neighborhood picnic



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Dental: Something Wicked in the Land of

Ahhhs

Financial: Good Habits to Have (Financial Help Book)

# Around the Forest

## Farmers Market

The Lubber Run Farmers Market, held every Saturday morning in the Barrett Elementary School parking lot, closed out last year's season on November 19. The market will kick off its 2023 season in April. In the meantime, you can check out the Westover Farmers Market on Sundays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. (winter hours) in the Westover Library Plaza (see <https://westoverfarmersmarket.org/>).

## Vandalism

In early November, someone destroyed a Little Free Library near N. Columbus St. and Lubber Run Park, along with the wooden wishing well at the Lubber Run Amphitheater. The damage was done late at night using small explosive devices. The fire department arrived to put out a resulting fire in Lubber Run Park, and the fire marshal opened an investigation. Police have made no arrests.

## Thanks to Volunteers

A big thank you from AFCA President Esther Bowring to Carl Gold, who—for the second year in a row—audited AFCA's books and found all in order. We continue to be so appreciative of the wonderful work by Jeff Horwitz, AFCA's treasurer.



## Volunteer Needed

Our long-time newsletter volunteer who picks up The Arlington Forester from the printer and coordinates delivery needs help. We need one more volunteer responsible for three newsletter issues per year. Your time commitment would be 4 to 5 hours per issue. To volunteer, please contact Joan Blake at [joanblake43@gmail.com](mailto:joanblake43@gmail.com).

## Holiday Party

After a 2-year suspension due to COVID, a neighborhood tradition has returned. On the evening of December 9, families from across the Forest turned out to enjoy a Holiday Party at the Lubber Run Community Center. A big thanks go to Allison Kennett for organizing the festivities and to all our volunteers! Mark Riley was Santa, and Chris Scheer brought two Christmas trees and décor, plus treats for Santa. Ken Schellenberg and Chris Bosch entertained with seasonal music, and Lucas Candon Campos helped out with crafts and drinks, along with setup and cleanup. Thanks to everyone for making the occasion so special!



## How Might Upzoning Affect Your Property?

Arlington County is considering a proposal to allow multifamily housing on all Arlington Forest lots. A neighbor has used county data to map every lot in Arlington Forest for the types of middle housing that might be built, up to an eightplex. If you're wondering what might be possible on your own property, check it out at <https://tinyurl.com/mr4r3dvy>.

## Crash at Intersection

In early October, a traffic accident at the intersection of N. Park Dr. with N. George Mason Dr. raised fresh concerns about safety there. According to an ARLnow report, the intersection has seen 19 accidents since 2017, with nearly half coming since the new Lubber Run Community Center opened in July 2021. Although no serious injuries resulted, neighbors worry that increased traffic elevates the risk, especially with Barrett Elementary School also nearby.

Repair

Posts

Remount

Rails

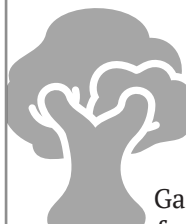


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## Crapemyrtle Bark Scale

At the November 16 AFCA meeting, participants discussed an insect pest that has infested some of the crape myrtle ornamental shrubs in our neighborhood. Master Gardener Bev Johnston shared information from Virginia Cooperative Extension about the pest, called crapemyrtle bark scale, and how to control it. Find out more at <https://tinyurl.com/yuxx4jn2>.



# Barcroft School News

By Samantha Bell

Barcroft Elementary School's annual online auction raising money for the school's PTA is right around the corner. The bidding window opens at 9 a.m. on Saturday, February 4, and lasts until 6 p.m. on Sunday, February 12. Proceeds from the 2022 auction were used to support projects like the beautification of the school grounds with a shade structure and blacktop game art and to fund minigrants for teachers to buy much-needed classroom supplies. To bid, visit [ourschool.auction/barcroft](https://ourschool.auction/barcroft).

Enter your email address and a payment method into our secure Stripe account and peruse dozens of exciting auction listings, including leisure experiences, gift cards to local vendors, summer camps, and more. If you are a winner, you will be thrilled to know that every dollar of your bid will go toward supporting our Barcroft Eagles. Even if you decide not to bid, you can still donate to the PTA on the auction website.

## AFCA Financial Report

By Jeff Horwitz, AFCA Treasurer

AFCA's finances are sound, with about \$13,500 in operating funds as of mid-December. We have filed our taxes for 2022, and our next tax filing is due in fall 2023. Membership dues and donations are on par with previous years, with about 200 paid members as of mid-December. We have funds remaining for tree grant applications, and we are working on a mechanism to donate

money to the PTAs and to Culpepper Gardens. Other budget line items are on track with our approved budget. Last year's financial ledger is with an auditor appointed by the AFCA President, as required by our bylaws, and next year's audit will be conducted over the summer so that the auditor can report the results at our September meeting.



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**CachionHomes@gmail.com**

## We Are Now Empty-Nesters!

My wife Sylvie and I just dropped our two daughters off at college (Zoe at San Diego State University and Mia at UVA) and are now empty-nesters. It's exciting, poignant, scary, weird and awesome all at the same time. It is most certainly a big change for us.





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# Kids for Hire

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	Ethan Heinrich		831-238-8475		✓		✓*	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Emilie Kluge	emiliekluge@yahoo.com	571-457-1983	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	Tutoring
	Amy Mashkuri		571-643-5883	✓	✓							
	Sabrina Saunders	sabrina_saunders@icloud.com	202-531-2247	✓	✓		✓*			✓	✓	Tutoring
	Evan Dempsey	Evan.cw.dempsey@gmail.com	703-559-9690	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
	Anna D'Itri		703-346-3467	✓	✓		✓*		✓	✓	✓	
	Gabriel D'Itri		703-346-3467			✓		✓				Lawn mowing
	Julia Green	joangreen32@gmail.com	703-785-4293	✓	✓				✓		✓	
	Gavin Kraft	kenneth.d.kraft@gmail.com	314-775-7008	✓	✓						✓	
Greenbrier	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	ciarahmccloughlin@gmail.com	703-712-9215				✓*			✓	✓	
	Reid Messman		703-469-1988	✓	✓							
	Shea Messman		703-469-1988				✓*					
	Jacob Nadherny	jacob@nadherny.com		✓	✓						✓	
	Matthew Petruccelli	tony.petruccelli@gmail.com	703-629-0425					✓				
	Nicky Petruccelli	tony.petruccelli@gmail.com	703-629-0425		✓			✓				Cats only
	Caulder Pickard	katiepickard@gmail.com	571-244-6870	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Northside	Elle Pickard	katiepickard@gmail.com	571-244-6870	✓	✓		✓*		✓	✓	✓	
	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	✓		✓	✓	✓				College breaks only
	Annie Madden	Lacrosse.donuts@gmail.com	703-220-3357		✓		✓*					
	Cory Pearl	cory.pearl99@gmail.com	571-447-0852	✓	✓	✓	✓*	✓	✓		✓	
	Evie Price		703-402-5138	✓	✓		✓*		✓	✓	✓	
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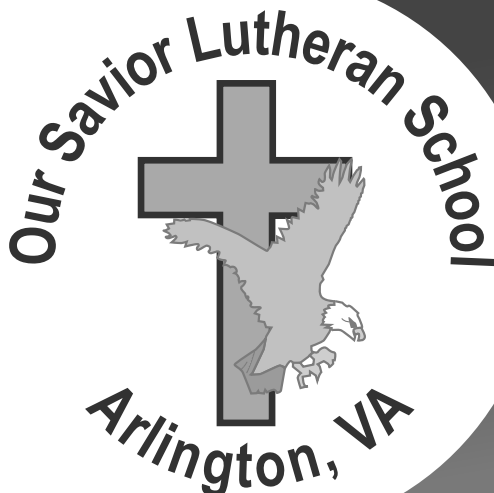
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