



The Arlington Forester

Vol. 63, Number 6

Arlington, Virginia

March 2022

AFCA Meeting: Missing Middle and More

AFCA invites you to join our monthly meeting on Wednesday, March 16, 7 p.m., through Zoom. We will follow up on the lively discussion at our February meeting with Arlington County Board members Matt de Ferranti and Takis Karantonis on the Missing Middle Housing Study. Other topics for discussion will include Arlington arts, the Northside traffic circle cleanups, and the Lubber Run Park bridges.

To join the meeting through Zoom, enter the following URL into your browser between 6:45 and 7 p.m. on

Wednesday, March 16: <https://tinyurl.com/tbs3j86x>. (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 871 2565 6218 and passcode 156682. 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 February 2022 Meeting

On February 16, 2022, AFCA President Esther Bowring hosted a remote AFCA meeting with up to about 100 participants at times. Arlington County Board members Matt de Ferranti and Takis Karantonis attended the meeting to answer questions about the Missing Middle Housing Study. A lively discussion followed for more than an hour, summarized on page 6. Esther raised the possibility of a followup discussion on the Missing Middle Housing Study led by AFCA officers at the March AFCA meeting.

Afterwards, participants turned their attention to a letter drafted on behalf of six citizens associations in the Lubber Run watershed urging Arlington County, in its budgeting for the next 10 years, to make funding a priority for measures to reduce stormwater runoff, flooding, and pollution in Lubber Run. Proposed measures include improvements to underground pipes and emplacement of an underground cistern in Woodlawn Park to capture stormwater runoff. Meeting participants voted to approve the letter under the signature of AFCA President Esther Bowring.

Esther noted that she sent a letter on behalf of AFCA to federal elected representatives on recent problems with mail delivery in parts of Arlington Forest by the U.S. Postal Service. She promised to report on any response she receives at a future AFCA meeting. Esther also described a letter of inquiry sent to Arlington County

about plans to reconstruct one of the bridges washed out by the July 2019 floods in Lubber Run Park. The letter asked why the county is choosing the same kind of bridge in the same location and whether the county has plans for repairing the frequently flooded concrete ford near the Lubber Run Amphitheater.

Kay Tiernan spoke about a group of neighbors organizing a cleanup of the four traffic circles in Northside. The group will start on March 5 with the circle at North 2nd Street and North Abingdon Street. They plan to make it a showcase. After exploring the possibility of a House and Garden Tour in May, the committee responsible for organizing it concluded that there was not enough interest due to the continuing precautions needed in connection with the ongoing COVID pandemic.

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AFCA Meeting 7 p.m. **March 17** 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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The *Forester* is printed by Minuteman Press

EcoAction Arlington Tree Canopy Fund



EcoAction Arlington (formerly Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment) administers a tree-planting program for the county. It is entirely free to private property owners, funded from fines paid by developers when they do not meet tree preservation standards on their projects. The application deadline for fall planting is in March.

You apply online at EcoAction Arlington Tree Canopy Fund, choosing from a list of available trees. Size varies by species but is generally 6 to 9 feet in height, healthy, and screened by trained Tree Stewards for inclusion in the program. Your choice or choices are reviewed for suitability and survivability in your planned planting location, with consultation provided if necessary. A professional tree contractor does the planting and leaves a 20-gallon zip-off water bag around the trunk to help the tree survive its first year, when roots are not yet established enough to support the tree's needs. The EcoAction Arlington website has full descriptions of all species offered, including sun and soil needs as well as flowers, fruit, and foliage. All you need is to fill out an application and water the tree when it is planted.

Oak Decline

Maybe you've noticed trees in our neighborhood losing leaves, twigs, and branches, maybe in our parks or in your own yard. Since 2019, many trees (especially in the white oak family, like white oak and chestnut oak) have been under elevated stress, and some have died. The stress is tied to recent changes in wet and dry conditions in our area. You can find out more, including what you can do to help your own trees, at Arlington County Oak Decline.

Potomac River Health

In 2020, the Potomac Conservancy gave the Potomac River a B–, down from a B in 2018. The decline, the first in a decade, has to do with rising stormwater runoff in much of the river's watershed in Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia. Find out more at Potomac River Health.

Homegrown National Park: Benefits From Birds

By Susan Graham



"Birds are an ecological litmus paper." –Roger Tory Peterson

Migrating birds are starting their journey north, some passing through, others stopping to build nests in Arlington Forest. Others have been here all winter long, but most seem more active now that it is getting warmer. All are a connection to nature and a reminder that we coexist with wildlife. Birds perform ecosystem services, and this article discusses a few examples, especially those relevant to our neighborhood.

First, birds provide free pest control. As warblers migrate through our parks and our neighborhood, they eat some of the tiny caterpillars that emerge in the trees as soon as they begin to leaf out. Left unchecked, these caterpillar populations would explode and harm the new leaves and the trees themselves. In a well-regulated ecosystem, the migrants consume some of the caterpillars and thus protect the trees, leaving plenty to feed the baby birds that will hatch later. Tiny ruby-crowned kinglets, for example, pass through our area in March, and eat three times their weight in insects daily.

Second, birds are nature's cleanup crew. Although vultures are not beautiful or popular, a single vulture provides an estimated \$12,000 worth of cleanup services during its lifetime. I've seen vultures at work cleaning up roadkill on Carlin Springs Road and George Mason Drive this winter. Third, birds pollinate plants. One example in our gardens is the ruby-throated hummingbird. Hummingbirds favor sight over smell when foraging, often visiting and pollinating red plants such as trumpet honeysuckle, beebalm, and cardinal flower.

Fourth, birds disperse seeds. Small fruits and berries make up as much as 50 percent of the diets of mockingbirds and catbirds. The seeds pass through the birds' guts and are deposited elsewhere to germinate. Robins feed on eastern redcedars, dispersing their seeds over long distances. Finally, birds such as red-tailed hawks and Cooper's hawks help keep rodent populations under control. I hope everyone will find time this spring to listen to birdsong and enjoy the antics of our feathered friends here in Arlington Forest.

Lubber Run Farmers Market Starts April 16

Mark your calendar! The Lubber Run Farmers Market, entering its fifth year, will run every Saturday morning from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. through November 19 in the Barrett Elementary School parking lot. Once again, a wide variety of vendors will offer locally grown or prepared products—seasonal fruits and vegetables; farm-fresh eggs; fish, beef, and pork products; baked goods; sweet treats; and gourmet prepared foods. Fresh-cut flowers and plants will also be available.

Volunteer greeters are welcome! If you enjoy the market, consider signing up as a volunteer market

greeter. Greeters work in shifts of about an hour and a half. Volunteers help answer questions, promote vendors or donations to the Arlington Food Assistance Center, and offer the ever-popular Lubber Run Farmers Market canvas bags. It's a great way to see neighbors, make friends, find out about market goods, and ensure that we can keep this neighborhood gem. For more information or to sign up, contact Susan Sampson at eat_your_veggies@verizon.net or stop by the market tent. See you at the market on April 16!

Help Wanted To Pull Ivy in Lubber Run Park

By Jim Graham

About 15 years ago, the park was overrun with English ivy covering the ground and climbing the trees. The county, at the instigation of one of our Arlington Forest neighbors, invested time and money to eradicate four invasive plants, especially English ivy. Walking through the park, you don't see ivy, but it still spreads from backyards abutting the park. English ivy grows 6 to 9 feet per year and loves to climb, so it can bloom

and produce berries eaten by birds that spread the seeds. We can't do anything about the birds, but we can patrol the perimeter to keep ivy from encroaching on the park. I've been doing this every February for about a dozen years, and it takes me about 4 to 6 hours. As I get less able to clamber over the slopes, I'd welcome someone to help out and/or take over. If interested, give me a call at 703-908-9384.



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Missing Middle Housing Study

Phase 2: Housing Types for Further Study

By Hutch Brown



Duplexes in Bluemont.

Last fall, with the release of a county report on phase 1, Arlington's three-part Missing Middle Housing Study entered phase 2. The phase 1 report conceded that housing affordable to low-income households is not part of the study, instead stressing more "housing choice" for middle-income Arlingtonians. Phase 2 studies 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.

Phase 2 is studying how the recommended housing types could fit into neighborhoods like ours. In view of community priorities and concerns outlined in phase 1, staff will identify potential locations, lot sizes, setbacks, building heights, unit sizes, and parking parameters. Staff will then submit recommendations to the county board for rezoning to permit middle housing, with final recommendations due by the end of June. In phase 3 of the study, county staff will then draft county-approved amendments to the Arlington Zoning Ordinance and General Land Use Plan by the end of the year.

Faces of the Forest: **Tell Us About Someone You Know!**

With well over 800 households, Arlington Forest has residents from all walks of life. Tell us about a Forester you know! Do it in an interview or write a story (with your subject's permission, of course)—or tell us about someone from the past. Send your writeup of 400 words or less with a photo (if possible) to Hutch Brown at newsletter@arlingtonforestva.org. Questions? Email me or text/call 703-855-1732.

Not every neighborhood like ours will be rezoned for middle housing. Phase 2 includes an Impact Analysis to determine the effects of upzoning on green space, energy consumption, school enrollment, and more (though no cost/benefit analysis is planned). Phase 2 also includes an Economic Feasibility Analysis indicating the likely sales/rental prices for new middle housing (though not its relative affordability). A Locational Analysis, also part of phase 2, takes proximity to mass transit into account, along with access to shopping and public facilities; upzoning will likely focus on neighborhoods close to Metro activity centers like Ballston.

In response, the updated Arlington Forest Neighborhood Conservation Plan urges the county to preserve current zoning for our neighborhood. AFCA also appointed a committee (open to all Foresters) to review the Missing Middle Housing Study. Last summer, the committee sent a letter to the Arlington County Board raising eight questions. None were satisfactorily answered in the county response, so the committee recently sent a followup letter. The original letter and the county response are posted on the AFCA website.



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Board Members Discuss Missing Middle With AFCA

By Nancy Cleeland

Arlington County Board members Takis P. Karantonis and Matt de Ferranti attended the AFCA February meeting to answer questions about the Missing Middle Housing Study, which looks at whether to allow duplexes, triplexes, and other higher density housing in single-family neighborhoods. The ongoing study and its timeline are available on the county website. The study, which began in 2020, was prompted by surging housing costs in Arlington, putting homes out of reach of middle-income buyers, the board members said. Some counties and states have responded by allowing higher density housing in single-family neighborhoods. More such housing would provide greater choice and a curb on cost increases but not traditional affordable housing, they said. "A duplex that is the same size as a standard red brick house in Arlington Forest would not qualify as affordable housing," Ferranti said. "But it would be more affordable than the full home."

Karantonis said that the first phase of this study, now completed, "was about narrowing the scope and understanding the universe of issues. This is progressing into something that is more specific, more targeted, and more focused." Both board members emphasized that no proposals have been made and that the board hasn't agreed on a course of action. "There are going to be a range of proposals, I believe, with regards to missing middle," said Ferranti. Both said that they favored higher density housing near transportation corridors and modest zoning changes, if any, for neighborhoods like Arlington Forest. "Minneapolis did triplexes and that seems excessive to me," Ferranti said. However, some zoning in Arlington would certainly change as a result of the study, he said. "Staying the same countywide and not doing anything on missing middle—I don't agree with that."

Options being explored include duplexes, triplexes, fourplexes, and townhomes. Karantonis said that any changes would take impacts on existing neighborhoods into account. "We're not in the process of rezoning entire neighborhoods or doing what Minneapolis or others have done. Absolutely not." Some residents at the meeting questioned whether higher density would bring lower prices, pointing to newly built townhouses selling for more than \$1 million. "They don't exemplify the sort of density that would help us address housing affordability," Ferranti conceded. "It's an ongoing battle," said Karantonis. "Fixing affordability will always be a very big basket of many measures," Karantonis said, referring to Arlington's Affordable Housing Master Plan.

Any zoning proposals that emerge will be subject to analysis, similar to recently approved plans for Pentagon City, they said. "We have a good base for general analysis," said Karantonis. "That applies also to impacts on schools, the environment, traffic and transportation We have good measures that will ground the conversation once the study advances."


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Coyotes Are Here!

By Hutch Brown



Last winter, a Forester's video captured a coyote foraging around her home near Lubber Run. Visual confirmation by a USDA wildlife expert left no doubt: coyotes have moved into our neighborhood parks. Other sightings suggest that a pair of coyotes—one dark, one light—were frequenting Lubber Run Park.

Eastern coyotes are larger than their western cousins due to cross-breeding with wolves near the Great Lakes on their way here. Smaller than large dogs, they are much larger than a fox. Most are grayish-brown like wolves, but some are "melanistic" like our local black squirrels. Like foxes, coyotes eat almost anything, depending on season, including fruits and vegetables. But they feed mainly on insects, eggs, birds, reptiles, rabbits, and rodents of all kinds (helping to control rat populations). Coyotes are at the top of our local food chain, so they also kill and eat midsize predators like foxes and raccoons—and even the occasional fawn in spring. They eat adult deer killed by cars, helping to control carrion.

Usually solitary, coyotes sometimes hunt in pairs, and they use yips and howls to communicate. In winter, they give birth in dens to litters of up to eight pups. In urban areas, coyotes usually hunt at night, avoiding humans but feeding on garbage and pet foods left outside. They also eat housecats, best kept indoors. Like foxes, coyotes can show up at any time of day, which doesn't mean that they are sick. You can quietly watch the animal, but it's best to leave it alone.

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.

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Deer in Arlington: A Quick Overview of the Challenge

By David Howell

As a species, white-tailed deer are to be admired and respected for their capabilities and evolutionary adaptability. As individuals, these deer can be impressive and often adorable. As a population, however, they can become a threat. That is not the fault of the species or the individuals. Deer can become victims of their own reproductive success when their numbers exceed the carrying capacity of our urban habitat. Lack of food and vulnerability to disease transmission within the deer population can cause prolonged suffering and death due to their density in limited space.

Our natural habitat suffers when there are too many deer. The impacts can be lasting if our understory vegetation is eaten before becoming large enough to replace older trees. Without intervention, we could lose much of our urban forest within a generation. Storms, development, and tree disease are typical causes of mature tree attrition. A healthy understory is the natural succession mechanism for maintaining our forests. The impact of unreplaced trees can cascade through our urban ecology, with dire consequences for wildlife, stream health, stormwater management, and other aspects of our environment. Tree regeneration is fundamental to the future of our natural resources.



Doe in Arlington Forest. Photo: Dan Brown.

If solutions were easy, jurisdictions with unsustainable deer populations would be adopting the corresponding measures. Deer management has been thoroughly studied, and various methods have been tested on federal, state, and local lands. No simple or ideal means of managing deer populations exist, but neglecting the problem has dire consequences, including for the deer themselves. So we need to work on this in an effective and humane way, for the sake of our deer and our vulnerable natural spaces.

Here's a critical tip when buying a home in today's competitive real estate market. **Submit your mortgage pre-approval from a reputable, local lender.** Your mortgage loan officer is a key player on your real estate acquisition team. A pre-approval from an out-of-town or big box lender, credit union or online mortgage company can create doubt in the mind of a seller and listing agent. For example, we've seen sellers disregard offers from buyers who are pre-approved by an internet lender and some credit unions. Give your seller every reason to believe your pre-approval is solid by working with a reputable mortgage lender.

You need a loan officer who knows the area, knows what they are working with, knows how to connect the pieces with the timeline of sale to get it to settlement on time. You want a lender who uses local and knowledgeable appraisers, and someone you can call

that you have a relationship with. You don't typically get that with most banks, credit unions and online lenders. When presenting an offer with short notice on the weekend or an evening, **the lender needs to be available** to speak with the listing agent who might be evaluating ten offers. If there is a hiccup in the transaction you need someone who is accessible and proactive in resolving the issue.

If you, or someone you know is looking to get pre-approved, we have a list of trusted preferred lenders who can help you with your home purchase.

Are you living in your ideal home now? If you are thinking of a new lifestyle, I'm glad to help with strategic planning. *Who you hire matters* - put my 37 years of local Arlington market expertise to work for you and your largest financial investment!



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A Legacy of Stormwater Mismanagement

By Hutch Brown

Maybe you remember the torrential rains on the morning of July 8, 2019. Streets in Arlington Forest flooded as stormdrains backed up, and raging floods in Lubber Run Park destroyed two pedestrian bridges. Upstream, the stormwater runoff overwhelmed storm sewers near the Virginia Hospital Center. With nowhere else to go, turbulent brown torrents poured through streets and yards in Waycroft-Woodlawn and nearby neighborhoods.

Behind the floods lies a history of stormwater mismanagement beginning in the 1930s. Developers carelessly buried open streams across Arlington, including most of Lubber Run and its tributaries. The pipes were designed to withstand no more than a 15-year flood, whereas the July 2019 event was at least a 150-year flood. The floodplains that naturally take stormwater runoff vanished beneath streets and homes, and impervious surfaces like asphalt, concrete, and shingles now cover 49 percent of the Lubber Run watershed. With inadequate piping, no space for overflow, and too little precipitation infiltrating into soils, torrential rains in the past 15 years have caused multiple catastrophic floods.

The county can do little because almost all land is privately owned. County managers lack access and funds to repair Arlington's legacy system; a complete



Lubber Run flood, July 2019. Photo: Brandon Jones.

overhaul might tear up streets countywide and condemn hundreds of homes. The alternative is to install bioretention swales and ponds as well as underground cisterns in county parks and along city streets, catchments that mimic nature's wetlands. To its credit, the county has planned hundreds of such projects in its 2013 Watershed Retrofit Study, but county managers lack funding for all but the

highest priority projects, such as Ballston Pond reconstruction upstream from Lubber Run Park.

With county capacity so limited, the onus is on homeowners to do what we can to prevent flooding. Establishing trees, shrubs, and other plants (preferably native) will help your yard capture more rainfall and store it in vegetation and soils. So will removing impervious surfaces and offsetting any expansion of your home's footprint by retaining more water onsite in rain gardens, bioswales, and dry wells. Overall, you might manage your yard like a miniature watershed, keeping it well vegetated, creating stormwater capture sites, and using sump pumps and drainage systems to steer excess flows into the street (not into your neighbor's yard). It might not seem like much, but setting an example for the neighborhood can help make a difference.

Winnie's Passing

By Kay Behrensmeyer

Many Foresters, especially along Edison Street in the vicinity of Edison Park and in Lubber Run Park, got to know Winnie, a medium-sized tan-and-white dog who was very good at catching frisbees, entertaining children and adults alike. She carried her own frisbee whenever we went out for a walk and was always ready to play. She would deliberately take the frisbee to children, giving them a chance to throw, and even the shortest toss was fine with her. Winnie continued enthusiastic frisbee catching into early January, even though she was fighting health problems. She retained a joyful spirit until her peaceful passing on February 17, after 13-plus years as a beloved member of the Keyser-Behrensmeyer family at 309 North Edison Street. We thank our Arlington Forest community for the warmth and kindness they extended to Winnie—who, in the spirit of our neighborhood, was always happy to make new friends and say hello to old ones.



Parks Update

Lubber Run Bridge Project

Arlington County has finalized plans for replacing one of the two bridges over Lubber Run Park destroyed by the July 2019 floods. The replacement bridge will be near the spur trail to Edison Park playground; work is expected to last from summer 2022 to winter 2023. AFCA has sent an inquiry to the county asking (1) why the new bridge is planned for the same spot where two previous bridges were demolished by past storms; and (2) what plans the county has for replacing the frequently flooded concrete ford near the Lubber Run Amphitheater.

Tree Removal for New Bridge

A large northern red oak just upstream from the site planned for the new bridge has already been felled. A quick tree ring count suggests that the tree might have been a sapling when the first Model-T Ford appeared in 1908. Located on a bank badly undercut by Lubber Run, the tree posed a falling hazard for the new bridge; county plans include planting new trees near the site. You can find out more at Lubber Run Bridge Replacement.

Sparrow Pond

The beavers appear to be gone from Sparrow Pond, located along the W&OD Trail just below Southside. As of early March, the beaver lodge and dam were in disrepair and the pond was largely empty; Arlington Forest Branch, which feeds the pond, was now draining straight into the outflow. The county's longstanding plans for reconstructing the pond were postponed when beavers moved in several years ago. With no beavers left, county plans can move forward with design and permitting in 2022, followed by construction in 2023-24.

Lubber Run Park Stormwater Issues

At its February meeting, AFCA voted to support a letter from six citizens associations in the Lubber Run watershed urging the county to fund projects to alleviate flooding due to stormwater runoff. Arlington County has created a story map about the history of stormwater management in Arlington and what is being done. You can view it online at Flood Resilient Arlington Storymap.

Glencarlyn Park Bridge Project

Arlington County has almost finished replacing a bridge over Four Mile Run destroyed by the July 2019 floods. New foundations were emplaced last fall just upstream from the confluence with Long Branch (adjacent to the Glencarlyn Dog Park). As of mid-February, a new steel bridge was in place on the foundations, though it was not yet open for use.

County News

Arlington Neighbors Welcoming Afghans

Arlington Neighbors Welcoming Afghans (ANWA) is a Facebook group created by military veteran Ryan Elizabeth Alvis to help Afghans resettle in northern Virginia. After seeing desperate refugees on television and knowing their plight from her own experience serving in Afghanistan, Alvis created a Facebook group to help newly arrived families. Since starting in October 2021, about 500 ANWA members have helped 58 families resettle in northern Virginia in ways big and small. Find out more online at [ArlNow Afghans Facebook](#).

Neighborhood Conservation Program—Volunteer Needed!

Under Arlington's Neighborhood Conservation Program, Arlington Forest is submitting a revised neighborhood conservation plan with recommendations to the county for neighborhood improvements. The program funds projects such as reconstruction of the Edison Park playground. Liz Kauffman has ably represented Arlington Forest in the program, and now it's time for a creative thinker to take over from Liz. It's a great opportunity to learn about transportation, streetlights, public art, public parks, accessory dwellings, and more. Neighborhood representatives meet monthly on the second Thursday. The staff is great, and Liz will gladly help you learn the ropes. If interested, contact Liz at lizkauffman@yahoo.com.

Rain Barrel Workshop

Build your own rain barrel at this hands-on workshop hosted by Arlington County! Get ready for spring gardening and help capture runoff from your roof. Saturday, March 26, 1-3 p.m., registration required—a \$55 fee covers barrel and supplies. Learn more and register online at [Arlington Rain Barrel Workshop](#).

Colonial Gardens at Ball-Sellers House

Two Master Gardeners will present their research on how John and Elizabeth Ball would have gardened at their home in the colonial era and how they would have used what it produced. Hybrid event, April 14, 7 p.m. More details online at [Arlington History Society, Events](#).

Gallery Exhibit: Earth Speaks

In March, Gallery Underground's Focus Gallery presents *Earth Speaks*, a solo exhibition by Kinda Barazi using mixed media on canvas to explore questions such as, "Are humanoids advancing or retrogressing?" The Main Gallery features works by members of the Arlington Artists Alliance in media including oil, acrylic, pastel, watermedia, sculpture, glass, and ceramics. Located in the Crystal City Shops at 2100 Crystal Drive in Arlington, the gallery is open from Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Around the Forest

Join the Arlington Forest Listserv!

Our neighborhood listserv managed by the Arlington Forest Citizens Association is an easy way for you to get and share news of happenings around the Forest. To join, just send an email to AFCA President Esther Bowring at afcaprez@gmail.com. And make sure to pay your annual AFCA dues! You can pay online on the AFCA website.

E-scooters on Sidewalks

Electronic scooters can be convenient but pose safety hazards when left on sidewalks. County regulations forbid leaving scooters on sidewalks or private property. To have a scooter removed, contact Arlington Report a Problem online or call the e-scooter vendor. Vendor contact numbers and county regulations are online at Arlington Shared Mobility Devices.

County Park Trashcans

County trashcans posted at the entrances to local parks will be removed if they contain construction materials such as asphalt, bricks, rocks, or dirt. The waste facility used by the county does not accept construction materials and rejects truckloads containing it, so the county asks everyone not to put asphalt chunks or other construction materials into county trashcans.

Yard Sale

Despite COVID, Arlington Forest's Community Yard Sale is still tentatively set for May. In years past, up to about 40 Arlington Forest households participated in the annual yard sale, a community tradition. The event has attracted bargain hunters who cruise through the area to visit sales. If the event proceeds this year, the May newsletter will contain a map showing participants. Be ready to add your yard!

Home and Garden Tour Canceled

After surveying the homeowners lined up 2 years ago (before COVID), the tour committee decided not to hold a Home and Garden Tour this May. The committee received some enthusiastic responses but not enough. An outside-only tour of decks, gardens, and patios did not garner enough interest either. The committee will try to hit the reset button next January.

Neighborhood Spring Cleanup

Just a reminder that the spring cleanup (on county parkland/buffer strips) is coming up on Saturday, April 23. It takes place outdoors, and participants have the option of working alone or in family groups, so it will take place regardless of the COVID situation. Stay tuned!



Paul Cachion, MBA

571-216-6802

CachionHomes@gmail.com

Cachion Homes is Growing!

I am excited to announce that Cachion Homes is growing. As our business continues to increase, we are building out our resources to help service our clients better. Evan Gao Yang is joining our team.



Evan is an experienced Realtor, and consistently gets praise from clients for his excellent service ethic. He will be handling all transactions in Maryland, so that Cachion Homes can handle our clients' needs across the whole DMV region. Welcome, Evan, to the Cachion Homes team!



AFCA Meetings

March 16, 2022:
Missing middle study and more

April 20, 2022:
Q&A with County Board
representative (tentative)

May 18, 2022:
Neighborhood picnic (tentative)

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, March 16, 7 p.m.

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 (tentative)

Annual Yard Sale: Saturday, May 2022 (tentative)

This Newsletter Needs You!

This newsletter offsets most of its production costs through advertising. We need a volunteer to manage the billing for about 15 to 20 advertisers. You would work with the newsletter editor and the AFCA treasurer, spending about 4 hours on billing twice a year. If you are interested, please contact Treasurer Jeff Horwitz at afca@ironstate.me, and thanks!

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Barcroft School News

By Samantha Bell



An assembly for Kindness Sparkles Week

It was a fun and busy February. During the week of February 14, students and staff got into the spirit with Barcroft Kindness Sparkles Week by wearing hats, sparkles, pajamas, mismatch, and pink or red to school to promote messages of kindness each day. The teachers and staff dubbed February 22 “Twosday” by wearing tutus and having a 2-minute-and-22-second dance party

with the students. The PTA showed their esteem with handmade cards and gift cards to the bus drivers and crossing guards on their appreciation days in February. The PTA was able to collect a lot of recipes to exchange with our sister school, Discovery Elementary, and we are planning to create a joint recipe book. The online auction was a great success, especially with Amazon committing to match the funds raised. Thanks for all the neighborhood support we got, making it the best auction ever!

The PTA is planning a catered lunch for teachers and staff in March on the teacher/parent conference days to thank them for all of their hard work this year. On April 1, we are excited to be able to bring back “La Fiesta de Amistad,” a Friendship Party hosted by Biba Chat, our bilingual Barcroft group. Due to COVID, we have not been able to have this traditional party in 2 years. The PTA is working with Arlington Living Schoolyard Initiative to enhance our outdoor space with shade structure through a grant from Dominion Energy. We will be hosting outdoor workdays in April and May to work on the space. Follow us on Twitter and Instagram at @BarcroftEagles and on Facebook at Barcroft Elementary School PTA.



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George Mason University Graduate

DeVry University Graduate

United States Army Veteran

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Christian: 60 Christian Traits

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Poetry: Wondering Ardor

Christian: Parody of Parables

Dental: Cavities of the Caribbean

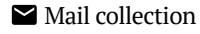
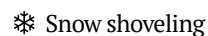
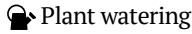
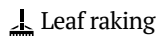
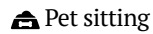
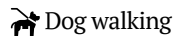
Dental: Something Wicked in the Land of

Ahhhs

Financial: Good Habits to Have (Financial Help Book)

Kids for Hire

These Arlington Forest youths are ready to help. To be added or deleted, email newsletter@arlingtonforestva.org.



Southside

Greenbrier

Northside

Name	Email	Phone									Other
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
Julia Green	joangreen32@gmail.com	703-785-4293	✓	✓				✓		✓	
Trevor Green	joangreen32@gmail.com	703-785-4293	✓				✓				Lawn mowing
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
Jacob Nadherny	jacob@nadherny.com		✓	✓						✓	
Matthew Petrucci	tony.petrucci@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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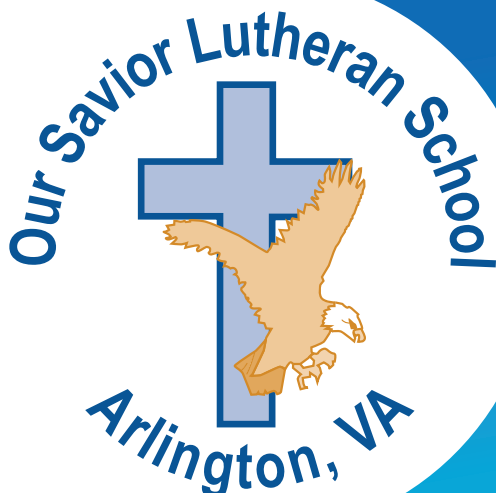
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