



Volume 61, Number 6

Arlington, VA

March 2020

Busy Agenda for March AFCA Meeting

The March AFCA meeting will feature an update on planning for the 2020 season of the Lubber Run Farmers Market and a presentation on the growing deer population. There will also be short updates on the AFCA Home and Garden Tour, the County's Missing Middle Housing study, and the AFCA Neighborhood Conservation Plan survey. The meeting is on Wednesday, March 18th, at 7 PM in the Barrett Elementary School library.

Barbara Englehart of the Lubber Run Farmers Market committee will discuss plans for the 2020 season. The market, open Saturdays 8 a.m. to noon in the Barrett Elementary School parking lot, reopens April 11th and runs through November.

Also on the agenda is a presentation about the growing deer population by Bill Browning of the Arlington Regional Master Naturalists. Virginia's White-Tailed Deer were almost driven to extinction a century ago, but their numbers are so high today that they are destroying habitat for other wild-

life. In this presentation, we will learn how this population cycle has occurred, and what it means for our parks, forests, and neighborhood. We will also hear about how some of our neighboring jurisdictions have chosen to approach the problem.

Please see elsewhere in this newsletter for updates on other important neighborhood issues. Below is an article alerting you to a special AFCA meeting on April 1st with County Board Member Christian Dorsey who will discuss a County initiative that could rezone neighborhoods like ours to allow single-family houses to be torn down and replaced by duplexes or triplexes. On page 2 is an invitation for you to complete an online survey to guide AFCA in updating our Neighborhood Conservation Plan. On page 3 is an update on AFCA efforts to get the County to repair the extensive damage in Lubber Run Park caused by last March's flood. Finally, on page 4 is an update on planning for the AFCA Home and Garden Tour set for May 2nd.

How Will New County Study Affect Arlington Forest's Future?

County Board Member Dorsey to Speak to AFCA About Allowing Different Types of Housing in Single Family Neighborhoods

Arlington County Board Member Christian Dorsey will be the speaker at a special Arlington Forest Citizens Association meeting on April 1st at 7 PM in the Barrett Elementary School library. Dorsey will be discussing a newly launched County initiative: The Missing Middle Housing Study.

Why is this important to our neighborhood? The study will explore whether reducing barriers to building duplexes, triplexes and other types of housing in areas now zoned exclusively for single family homes – like Arlington Forest – could address Arlington's limited housing supply. Under consideration is allowing more than one residence per lot (called upzoning).

While some County Board members have said that the County Board is currently not considering upzoning the entire County, selected neighborhoods, such as Arlington Forest could be prime candidates, resulting in increased density and encouraging tear downs to build multiple units on one lot.

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AFCA Meeting 7 p.m. March 18 at Barrett School Library

THE ARLINGTON FORESTER

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Editor's Note

The *Arlington Forester* welcomes articles, news notes, letters, and photos focusing on non-commercial events or issues specific to our neighborhood. We publish eight times per year (Sept to Nov and Jan to May). Deadline for submissions is the first of the month. E-mail submissions of up to 400 words to newsletter@arlingtonforestva.org. Space often fills up before the deadline.

Neighborhood Conservation Survey

Arlington Forest is holding a neighborhood survey as part of updating our neighborhood conservation plan. You can take the survey now! It should take about 15 minutes of your time.

Our neighborhood conservation plan, dating to 1991, badly needs an update. Our revised plan will let us participate in Arlington County's Neighborhood Conservation Program, with projects to beautify and otherwise improve our neighborhood. Those Arlington Forest signs you see as you enter our neighborhood? That's just one example.

Don't miss the chance to weigh in on such issues as traffic safety, transportation, tree canopy, parks, zoning, historical preservation, stormwater management, and more! Your response will help document our neighborhood priorities. We need participation by more than 15 percent of our households for the survey to count!

The survey is anonymous. Every household in Arlington Forest can participate, even if you rent. Nonresident homeowners may also join in. Participation is limited to one survey per household, and we ask you to give your street address so we can track participation.

The survey link is on the AFCA website and here: <https://survey.sogosurvey.com/r/m8ibqB>. We need your input no later than April 12th, 2020.

We prefer online submissions, but we want everyone to participate, so we will send you a paper survey form if you prefer. Please send your street address with your request to neighborhood conservation representative Liz Kauffman at lizkauffman@yahoo.com or drop her a line at 223 North Edison Street, 22203. We'll deliver your paper copy to your front door.

Thank you in advance for your participation!

Ball-Sellers House

The oldest surviving building in Arlington is just across Four Mile Run from Arlington Forest in the Glencarlyn neighborhood. Built around 1742, the Arlington Historical Society has preserved John Ball's cabin and offers free tours by knowledgeable docents on Saturdays from 1 to 4 PM, April through October. It is also open Memorial, Independence, and Labor Days.

The house reopens for the season on Saturday, April 4th with a special program. Located at 5620 3rd St. South, it is a few blocks off the WO&D Trail, a pleasant walk from the Southside and lower Greenbrier sections of Arlington Forest. The house allows visitors to see how ordinary Virginians lived in colonial times. For more info, see <https://arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org/>

Repairs to Lubber Run Park Following Community Advocacy

The next time you're in Lubber Run Park, check out the County's recent efforts to improve accessibility and safety in response to the Lubber Run Park Committee's (LRPC) requests for action. LRPC is comprised of Arlington Foresters and residents from other Arlington neighborhoods who are active park users. The County's repairs follow a busy February for the LRPC, which conducted several walk-throughs of the park with four of the County Board's five members. In a subsequent meeting, AFCA President Esther Bowring shared concerns with Parks and Recreation Director Jane Rudolph, two of her staff and the Department of Environmental Services watershed programs manager.

During these meetings, community members asked the County to take steps to repair damage to the park caused by last July's storm and address other deterioration throughout the entire park's span. And, they have responded!

Construction of a wooden plank wall to shore up the eroded west side path is currently underway. This vital pathway provides access between the Greenbrier and Northside sections of the neighborhood and, without the downstream bridge, is the sole option into the park from the Edison playground path. In addition, crews built two rock dams in the stream to try and prevent water from overflowing the concrete spillway near the Amphitheater and fixed the nearby fire circle.

During the summer months, the County will monitor the spillway each week for blockages; and at the end of the summer, will evaluate the success of the dams in keeping water from overflowing the spillway to determine if additional measures are needed. Keeping this path clear of water is essential to providing access between sections of the neighborhood until the washed away bridges can be replaced.

In addition, as part of this spring's replacement of the deteriorated bridge near George Mason Drive, the bank erosion near the N. Columbus Street entrance will be addressed and the path enhanced.

So, what's next? The County has said it is unlikely that both of the washed away bridges will be replaced. It will be doing an engineering assessment to find the best and perhaps highest location for the one replacement bridge that is least likely to be affected in future storms.

The best way to ensure that bridge replacement is added to the County's budget is to get engaged now. Funding for Lubber Run Park's bridges is competing for limited dollars with the other bridges that were destroyed in last year's storm, as well as dozens of bridges that were identified as being in poor condition based on a recent County engineering assessment.

Funding for bridge replacement must come from the County's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) ten-year budget, which is currently being developed. The proposed budget will be announced by the County in May and approved in July. If we don't advocate now for the Lubber Run Park bridges, the funding for replacements could be many years down the road instead of in the next year or two.

What can you do? Write to the County Board (countyboard@arlingtonva.us) and County Manager (countymanager@arlingtonva.us) to let them know that the community strongly urges funding of a new bridge in year one of the CIP. Plan to join your neighbors to testify at upcoming CIP meetings.

Also, write to afcaprez@gmail.com if you would like to be on the LRPC or get more information about what the community is doing to improve Lubber Run Park.

New County Study ...*from page 1*

As part of the County's robust community engagement process, Board Members are attending civic association meetings throughout the community. It is absolutely critical that Foresters attend the April 1st meeting to ask questions, express your opinions and learn more about the study and how we can have a stronger voice in shaping the study's outcome.

What else can you do?

- Contact your neighbors to encourage them to attend the April 1st special AFCA meeting.
- If you can't attend the April 1st meeting, we'll be recording it and posting the YouTube video on the AFCA website. Comment on the video or let your AFCA Vice-President know what you think by email. Email addresses

listed in the inside cover of every Arlington Forester.

- Sign up to become a Missing Middle Housing Study community partner to stay informed at: <https://housing.arlingtonva.us/missingmiddle/communitypartner/>
- Learn more about the Missing Middle Housing Study at: <https://housing.arlingtonva.us/missingmiddle/>
- Write to the County Board and County Manager to let them know what you think at countyboard@arlingtonva.us and countymanager@arlingtonva.us.

Going forward, AFCA will be providing numerous opportunities for Foresters to share their input and views as the County develops its Missing Middle Housing recommendations.

Home and Garden Tour Selections Near Completion

By Tricia Freeman

Something old. Something new. Something borrowed. Something blue. Well, something blue-gray, actually. The tour committee has been hard at work over the last month, scouring all three sections of the neighborhood in search of properties to share within our community on the **2020 Home and Garden Tour** set for **Saturday, May 2nd** from 12 to 4 p.m. This popular event gives Arlington Forest residents the chance to see firsthand the variety of construction choices that neighbors have made to personalize these vintage brick homes.

We selected homeowners who worked within the old footprint of their houses to create reimagined interior space. Others chose to build **new** additions on the side, on the back, or even both. Many have **borrowed** to finance their dreams, while others have structured their project in stages to avoid loan negotiations. A handsome **blue-gray** home arose from a semi-teardown that incorporates part of the original structure into the owners' vision for a contemporary family home. Thanks to the generous neighbors willing to participate, there will be at least fourteen homes and/or gardens on the tour.

Tickets to the Home and Garden Tour will go on sale for \$10 in late April at locations in each of the three sections

of Arlington Forest. The tour is open only to Arlington Forest residents and their guests, so proof of address will be required when purchasing tickets. While same-day tickets will be available, many people prefer to buy prior to the May 2nd date to study the brochure and plan which homes they want to visit to inspire their own future projects.

The April *Arlington Forester* newsletter will have additional updates about the tour and provide the locations of the ticket sales. Remember, this wonderful community event only occurs every three years, so mark your calendars to take part in a spring tradition that has been going on since the 1970s.

Financial and Estate Planning: Tuesday, March 24th, 7 to 8 PM. Are you planning for retirement or already retired and interested in some financial insights? St John's Episcopal Church is hosting a presentation and discussion with Alison Lambeth and Chuck Rush of McAdam Financial on how to think, plan, and act regarding your estate and financial planning. St. John's is in Glencarlyn at 415 S. Lexington St. Enter through double doors on 5th St. side. See stjohnsarlingtonva.org for more information. Everyone is welcome!

Is a Bridge Loan right for You?

A bridge loan makes it possible to finance a new house before selling your current home. It's the simple solution to bridge the gap between the home you have and the home you want.

Bridge loans are secured by your departing residence, the new subject property, or both and may give you an edge in today's low inventory market.

When to use a bridge loan

*You don't qualify carrying two mortgages under agency or QM guidelines *Sellers won't consider contingent offers *You need to access equity from your current residence for down payment on the new home *You are confident in being able to sell your home but you prefer to secure a new home first before selling the existing home *You need to vacate the existing home before listing it on the market.

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30-year fixed mortgage rates have dropped to the low 3% range!

Have you had thoughts of selling? The next few months will present a huge opportunity with the current trends. Contact me for a confidential discussion about your situation and we can customize a plan for you. *Who you hire matters - put my 35 years of local market expertise to work for you!*



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Around the Forest

Edison Park Project: It's final! Having secured County Board approval, Edison Park renewal construction is anticipated to start in Spring 2020 and conclude in Fall 2020. Users and neighbors will miss the usual laughter and moving children and adults in that space while the work is underway, but we'll look forward to enjoying the renovated park. Information about the park closure will be posted at the park at least one week prior to the construction start date. Once the start date is confirmed, the County will notify AFCA and we'll circulate that information by AFCA list serve and newsletter. Questions or concerns regarding the project during construction may be directed to the construction manager, Ms. Brenda Parker, who can be reached at 703-228-4790 or bfparker@arlingtonva.us. Project information and updates can be found on the County's web site by searching "Edison Park Neighborhood Conservation Project."

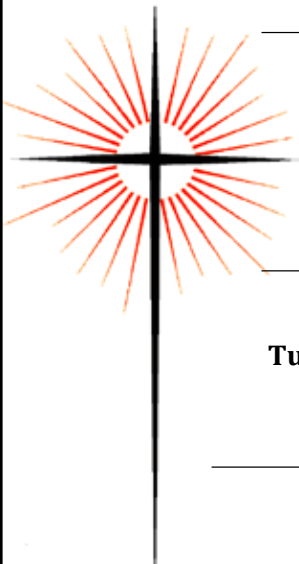
Oak Tree Decline: Do you have an Oak tree on your property? If so, you might be interested in attending the "Combating Oak Tree Decline in Arlington" on Tuesday, March 24th, from 6:30 to 7:30 PM in the Arlington Central Library's auditorium. County Urban Forest Manager Vincent Verweij will explain what you can do to combat oak decline and preserve trees on your property.

Slow Down: The County Board in January approved a \$200 fine for speeding on Carlin Springs Road between Columbia Pike and N. George Mason Drive (through the Glencarlyn and Arlington Forest neighborhoods). The action came in response to complaints from residents about speeding and pedestrian safety. The \$200 fine is in addition to the standard fine of \$6 for every mile per hour above the speed limit plus \$66 in court fees. Enforcement will begin after the County puts up "\$200 Additional Speeding Fine" signs.

Volunteers Needed: A long-time resident in the Greenbrier Section who recently returned from a hospitalization is looking for one or more companions for short walks in the neighborhood. Please phone 703-525-5221.

Arlington Forest History Book: Last month, AFCA sold the last copies of our 2015 book detailing the history of our neighborhood. But a few copies are for sale (\$15 plus tax) at the Arlington Historical Museum (Hume School) at 1805 S Arlington Ridge Rd, 22202. They are open Saturday and Sunday from 1 to 4 PM. It is an interesting little museum that takes about 30 minutes to tour.
<https://arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org/>

Celebrate Holy Week and Easter with Us!



Sun. Apr. 5 Holy Eucharist and Blessing of the Palms - 10 am

Fri. Apr. 10 Good Friday Services - 12 noon and 7 pm
Good Friday Vigil - Church open for prayer/meditation - 1 - 7 pm

Sun. Apr. 21 Easter Festive Holy Eucharist with children's message - 10 am
Easter Egg Hunt and reception after the 10 am service

Financial And Estate Planning For Retirement and Beyond

Tues. Mar. 24 7 - 8 pm Join us if you are planning for retirement or already retired and interested in some financial insights! Everyone is welcome! Refreshments will be provided. See website for more information

Sunday Worship Services
8 am and 10 am

Sunday Christian Education
Adults 9 am — Youth 10 am

All are welcome to all services and activities!

St. John's Episcopal Church

We are an inclusive congregation that nurtures Christian spiritual growth and community through worship, education, outreach, mutual care, and fellowship.



415 S. Lexington Street Arlington, VA 22204

703-671-6834

stjohnsarlingtonva.org

The 2020 Arlington Parks Challenge

By Michael Resnick

What is it? Since 2016, a few neighbors in Northside Arlington Forest have challenged each other to visit every park in Arlington during each calendar year. The object is to get outdoors and see everything that Arlington County has to offer.

How does it work?

First, contact Michael Resnick (luv2bikva@gmail.com) to get on the shared tracking spreadsheet. Next, walk, run, bicycle, or use public transportation to visit each of Arlington's 158 parks (that's right, 158!), take a selfie photo in front of the park sign (or a reasonably identifiable spot if the park does not have a sign), and mark the date you visited it on the spreadsheet.

Can I drive to a park? We don't want you to drive. But, if you must, try to walk at least one mile from your car to the park so that you can get some exercise!



What do I win? You win the satisfaction of visiting each of Arlington's 158 parks. You get to see areas of the county that you may never have visited. You could win trivia contests with the knowledge of the history you find in the parks and the routes along the way. You get to appreciate how your tax dollars and bond referendum votes are being used to the benefit of all our county's citizens and visitors. And, you get outdoors and get a lot of terrific exercise!

Sounds great!

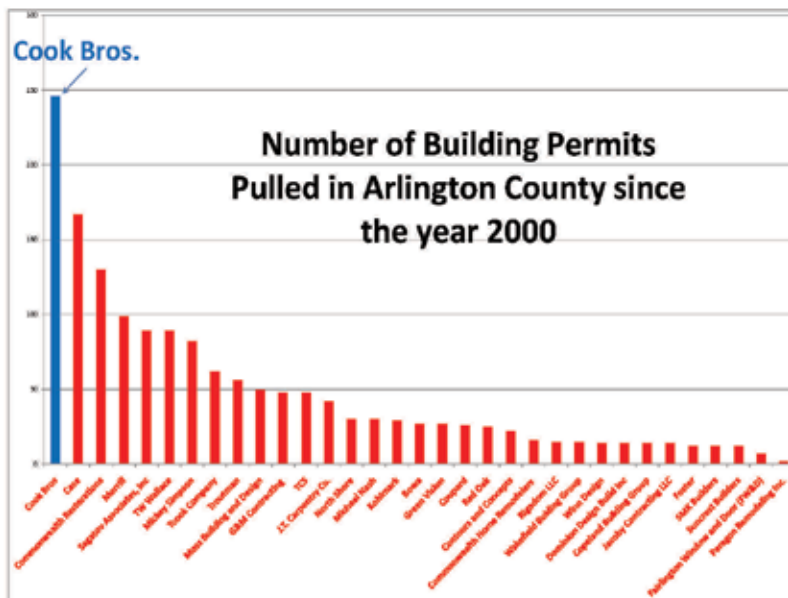
How do I sign up?

Send an email to Michael Resnick (luv2bikva@gmail.com) to get on the shared tracking spreadsheet. It helps if you have a Google account, but it's not required. Michael will reply with the link to the spreadsheet, and you're on your way!



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www.CookBros.org/ArlForest



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Community Calendar

Next AFCA Meeting: Wednesday, March 18th, 7 PM, at
Barrett Elementary School Library.

Missing Middle Meeting: Wednesday, April 1st, 7 PM, at
Barrett Elementary School.

Neighborhood Spring Cleanup: Saturday, April 25th. Help
beautify our neighborhood parks.

Home and Garden Tour: Saturday, May 2nd.

Annual Yard Sale: Saturday, May 16th. Turn unwanted stuff
into cash.

County Board Primary Election: June 9th.

Lubber Run Amphitheater: Mid-June. Live entertainment
under the stars.

Arlington County Fair: August 12th - 16th. Rides, food and
displays.

Future AFCA Meetings:

April 15th: Lubber Run Community Center Update

May 20th: Picnic and Annual Membership Meeting

Repair
Posts



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Barcroft School News

It has been an action-packed month at Barcroft! We have enjoyed many enrichment and social activities in addition to in-class learning.

One of the highlights of February was the Friendship Dance hosted by Barcroft's BiBa Chat. It was a great night full of dance, fun and food! Dance has been an ongoing theme at Barcroft with Family Dance Nights taking place in February and March. This is an opportunity for students to perform dances they have learned in school and then to become the teachers as they teach those steps to their families.

We took full advantage of our extra day this Leap Year by hosting the Barcroft Snowball Stride 5K on February 29th (see photo). We had 100 runners and walkers join us for a brisk (it is the Snowball Stride after all)



morning out on the W&OD trail. Thank you to all the families, community members, and teachers that joined us for the 5K!

March brought the resumption of Girls on the Run with one of our largest teams ever, coached by five Barcroft staff. In addition to Girls on the Run, there are numerous after school enrichment programs for the spring, including chess club, flag football and art. Our students are not rushing out the door when the official school day ends!

Want to stay up to date on Barcroft happenings? Follow us on Twitter and Instagram @BarcroftEagles and on Facebook at Barcroft Elementary School PTA.

*Arlington Forest's Annual
Spring Cleanup*

*April
25th*



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I'm here and ready to assist you in any way. Demand remains high among buyers and interest rates are still low, causing many buyers to make their home purchase as soon as homes come on the market. There have been multiple offers on many homes lately.

Get started with me! Every advantage is yours when you do business with Long & Foster.

Your Neighbor in Arlington Forest

Barrett School News

We are off to a great start planning for the Barrett PTA Spring Auction & Social, which will be on Saturday, April 25th, at the Continental Pool Lounge in Rosslyn. In addition to attending - and bidding on wonderful items and price-less experiences - please consider contributing auction items or making a sponsorship level donation (for example, a Bronze Tiger sponsorship will be recognized on our website and in our Spring Auction & Social Catalogue). Our biennial auction is our biggest fundraising effort to support the PTA, which provides funding for many Barrett school community events.

In addition to the many activities that we sponsor - such as the Ice Cream Social, Bingo Night, Staff Appreciation Week, 5th Grade promotion, and author visits - we provided Classroom Learning Environment Grants of up to \$1000 for classroom teachers for the procurement of supplies, tools, and equipment that leads to increased student engagement and learning. So far this year, teachers have been able to procure: sensory school supply and equipment for our six Special Ed classrooms; book bags for Kindergarten students to take books home for their daily reading at night; furniture as part of a flexible seating program for 2nd grade classrooms to facilitate independent work; and rugs for 4th grade classrooms for their meeting space.

Barrett PTA also provided a grant to our school library to upgrade and update the foreign language book collection, which will now have new Spanish and Arabic language books for our diverse student population. We even purchased "See Me Flags" to improve the safety of our students and families walking to and from school by helping with the visibility of pedestrians as they cross busy intersections that lack crossing guards or traffic lights. Finally, we purchased newly-designed Barrett school T-shirts for all 560 students.

In February, the school celebrated Black History Month by having an Arlingtonian guest speaker, Mr. Scott Taylor, read his story, "The Wall", about the 8 foot wall in the Hall's Hill neighborhood in Arlington that separated the black community from the rest of the neighborhood (it existed until the 1950s). He also gave information about the Black Heritage Museum of Arlington (located at 3108 Columbia Pike, Mezzanine).

Finally, a reminder that Barrett's STEAM Night is only a few days away on Thursday, March 19th. All students are invited to do a science experiment and display in the library on STEAM Night.

Paul Cachion, MBA

571-216-6802

CachionHomes@gmail.com



Every 3 Years...

Our neighborhood hosts the Arlington Forest Home and Garden Tour. This year, the tour will be:

Home and Garden Tour - May 2nd (from 12-4 PM)

Foresters open up their homes to showcase newer additions, particularly cool gardens, and other things that make their homes distinctive. It is a truly unique experience to get to be able to check out the beautiful enhancements on your neighbors' home, and is one of the many traditions that makes the Forest a unique and great place to live. The tradition dates to the 1970s (and you might have seen folks looking like this strolling from home to home in those first four years).



Sylvie and I will be hosting the dinner for all homeowners participating in the tour the night before; it is our (very) small way of helping continue the tradition we have enjoyed for many years. Info on tickets will be in the April issue of the Forester newsletter.



Member Long & Foster Executive Club.

Kids for Hire

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

Southside:

- Colin Mashkuri: math tutoring, plant watering, dog walking, cjmashkuri@gmail.com, 703-302-559
- Andrew Rogers: yard work, dog walking, pet sitting, andrewmcyt@gmail.com, 703-892-0226
- Caroline Rogers: babysitting, pet sitting, dog walking, carolinearogers@verizon.net, 703-892-0226


Greenbrier Section:

- Donna Corina: babysitting (RC certified), dog walking, pet sitting, leaf raking, snow shoveling, 703-248-8885
- Atalie Dempsey: dog walking, pet sitting, babysitting, plant watering, mail collection, atalie.dempsey@gmail.com, call/text 571-317-9216
- Evan Dempsey: mail collection, leaf raking, snow shoveling, babysitting, pet walking, pet sitting, plant watering, Evan.cw.dempsey@gmail.com, call/text 703-559-9690
- Shae Dempsey: babysitting, pet sitting, dog walking, plant watering, mail collection, snow shoveling, leaf raking, Shaelyn.dempsey@gmail.com, 703-350-7650
- Anna D'Itri: dog walking, pet sitting, mother's helper, mail collection, watering plants, 703-346-3467
- Gabriel D'Itri: snow shoveling, lawn mowing, leaf raking, 703-346-3467
- Ellis Early: dog walking, pet sitting, 202-339-1414
- Anthony Lawson: yard work, pet sitting, dog walking, 703-933-8880
- Charlotte Lawson: leaf raking, pet sitting, dog walking, 703-933-8880
- Ciara McLaughlin: babysitting (Safe Sitter certified, references), mother's helper, mail collection, ciarahmclaughlin@gmail.com, call/text 703-712-9215
- Reid Messman: pet sitting, dog walking (references), 703-469-1988
- Shea Messman: babysitting (Safe Sitter certified, references), 703-469-1988
- Alexandra Orli: babysitting (references), mother's helper, pet sitting, watering plants, call 703-528-5618
- Carsten Schoer: snow shoveling, leaf raking, carsten-schoer@gmail.com, call/text 703-209-0905
- Ava Smialowicz: babysitting (RC certified), pet sitting, ava.smialowicz@hotmail.com, text 703-424-0895
- Ben Sparks: pet feeding, dog walking, benchispas@gmail.com
- Emma Weaver: babysitting (Safe Sitter certified, references), 703-875-8185

Northside:

- Daniel Brancati: yard work, leaf raking, snow shoveling, babysitting, dog walking, pet sitting, Daniel@bmbs.org, 571-279-2710


- Niittisha Choudhary: babysitting, water plants, tutor, dog walking, Niittisha@gmail.com, 703-981-1229
- Riittisha Choudhary: tutoring, babysitting (ages 4-12), yard work, riittishachoudhary@gmail.com
- Ely Constantine: pet sitting, leaf raking, snow shoveling, lawn mowing, cpconstantine@comcast.net, 703-841-9229
- Casey Dinan: babysitting, leaf raking, snow shoveling, dog walking, chrisbettdinan@aol.com, 703-525-5763
- Tyler Dinan: babysitting, leaf raking, snow shoveling, dog walking, chrisbettdinan@aol.com, 703-525-5763
- Alex Eng: pet sitting, leaf raking, snow shoveling, dcharveydc@yahoo.com, 703-861-1890
- Evan Eng: pet sitting, dog walking, leaf raking, snow shoveling, dcharveydc@yahoo.com, 703-861-1890
- Jeremy Fagen: pet sitting (any animal), dog walking, plant watering, jdoxen11001@gmail.com, 703-200-2396
- Leina Gabra: babysitting (ages 4-12), house sitting, leinagabra@gmail.com, 703-973-8914
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