

The Arlington Forester



Volume 56, Number 8

Arlington, VA

May 2015

Successful Neighborhood Cleanup

By John Naland

We had a good turnout on a cool Saturday morning, April 25, for AFCA's fifth annual Arlington Forest Spring Cleanup. See photos of volunteers in action on page 3.

In Lubber Run Park, parents and 12 scouts from Arlington Forest's Cub Scout Pack 548 cleaned the entire length of the stream between N. George Mason Dr. and Arlington Blvd. They filled six large garbage bags and collected oversize items including a Hyundai hub cap and a large yellow traffic marker.

Along the buffer strip on the southside of Arlington Blvd., 14 volunteers picked up trash, pulled weeds, and mulched

around the Arlington Forest sign at the top of S. Park Dr. They even found an animal skull. These neighbors have been doing annual cleanups of this area for years.

At the foot of N. Granada St., a dozen volunteers scoured the banks of Four Mile Run filling 15 garbage bags with trash and collecting oversize items including a large carpet, a tire, and a section of chain link fence. These neighbors also do a fall cleanup of the site each year.

Afterwards, I received an e-mail from Lyndell Core, the parks maintenance supervisor *....continued on page 3*

AFCA Membership Meeting & Potluck Picnic



The final AFCA meeting of the season is a neighborhood tradition -- a little business mixed with a lot of food, fun, and socializing.

The Wednesday, May 13 meeting will be a potluck picnic starting 6:30 pm in the Lubber Run Park shelter located upstream from the amphitheater. AFCA will cook up hamburgers and hotdogs and provide buns, condiments, soda, plates, cups, utensils,

and napkins. Residents should bring a side dish to share (salad, veggies, fruit, chips, snack, or dessert) and non-alcoholic drinks other than water and soda.

There will be a brief business meeting to provide updates on pending issues and hold the annual election of AFCA officers. The event will last about an hour or so. Children and

friendly dogs are welcome. This will be the last AFCA meeting until September.

While all residents are invited to every AFCA meeting, the May picnic meeting is a great way for infrequent attendees and recent arrivals to see their neighborhood association in action and have a say in its leadership.

Around 40 residents attended last year's picnic and we are hoping for a good turnout. Thanks go to Chris Scheer for organizing the picnic this year.

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AFCA Meeting & Picnic 6:30 p.m. May 13 at Lubber Run

THE ARLINGTON FORESTER

Official publication of the Arlington Forest Citizens Association, Arlington, Virginia founded in 1939. A nonpartisan, nonsectarian publication serving the common interests of the residents of Arlington Forest.

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Forester is printed by *Minuteman Press*

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.

LRCC Update

Approximately 75 people attended a "visioning session" at the Lubber Run Community Center (LRCC) on April 29 hosted by the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR). The event was held in response to a request from the Coalition for a New and Better LRCC to provide residents an early opportunity to brainstorm ideas for the facility.

Attendees toured existing offices and program areas before DPR Director Jane Rudolph introduced staff members and the concept architects for the project. Participants rotated among three 15-minute brainstorming sessions to discuss three topics:

How can LRCC positively impact the community and vice versa? What types of spaces and uses should be accommodated in the building? What types of spaces and uses should be accommodated on the site?

Because of its importance to the community, question #3 was included even though no funds for site development are in the current budget.

The evening closed with summaries of the group discussions. When questioned about the next steps, the County team said it will develop concept drawings for potential building uses and present them to the community in the fall.

Residents who have additional input may visit a new County website at parks.arlingtonva.us/vision.

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Neighborhood Cleanup ...continued from page 1

for Arlington's Department of Parks and Recreation, who thanked the volunteers for their efforts to preserve our green spaces and remove trash that otherwise would have been washed down to the Potomac River and eventually into Chesapeake Bay.

If you missed this year's cleanup, you can protect our shared environment any day by picking up trash that you see along your street or while on walks in our neighborhood parks.



Competitive Bidding Strategies

The Pre-Contract Home Inspection

With multiple offers being quite the norm in our current and recent real estate market, how do buyers compete? So far in 2015, I have been involved with 16 multiple offer scenarios and have observed some interesting trends.

On several transactions, the winning bid waived all contingencies, financing, appraisal, and home inspection as well. Wow – talk about crazy! I always advise any buyer client of mine to have a home inspection, some extremely motivated buyers risk removing that request to be considered. One option is for the buyer to have a pre-contract home inspection, done prior to making an offer. This trend has been more prevalent in the District of Columbia, and we are now experiencing more pre-contract home inspections in Arlington, Alexandria, McLean, Falls Church and other popular areas.

Having an inspection before writing a contract is a matter of timing. When there is a contract deadline (another common trend), a buyer can at least plan on having

a few days to conduct an inspection prior to submitting an offer. This is ultimately the best way for a buyer to make a non-contingent, competitive offer with confidence.

Waiving appraisals and financing contingencies are also tricky and not an option for some buyers. Cash offers are hard to beat, which is why *it is essential to work with a local, direct lender who can close a loan in 10 – 14 days*, when a quick closing is important to the seller. We can help with advice on lenders and financing.

Are you in the market to buy or sell? Contact me for a consultation on creative strategies to maximize your efforts in this wild market!

Buyers - Our Preferred Buyer Guarantee will save for you at least \$5,000 in price or seller subsidy or we will pay you \$1,000 at settlement.

Sellers - Our Smart Seller Program offers full service with a flexible fee structure and other unique programs. Ask for my FREE report titled **“Home Sellers – How to Get the Price You Want (and Need).”**



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Around the Forest

AFCA Election: The May 13 membership meeting will include the annual election of AFCA officers. While all positions are open for nominations from the floor, we will definitely need a new volunteer to serve as Southside Vice President to replace Erin Clougherty who is stepping down after four years on the board. If any Southside resident wants to throw their hat in the ring, come to the May 13 meeting. If you have questions about the VP's duties, ask any current AFCA board member (see page 2 for contact info).

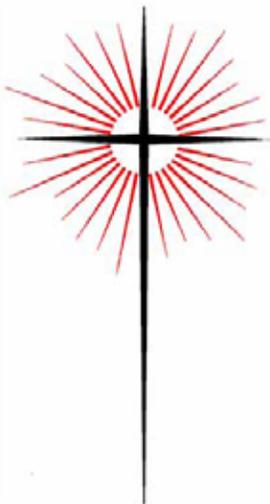
Notable Neighbors: Congratulations to Foresters Barbara Englehart and Enviro Home Design's Marta Layseca who were nominated for George Mason University's Arlington Green Patriot Awards. Congratulations to Greenbrier Section's John Naland who was one of 10 "Honored Citizens" for 2015 recognized by the Arlington School Board on April 30.

Arlington Neighborhood Villages: Arlington Neighborhood Villages is a non-profit organization of neighbors helping neighbors live in their homes longer and stay engaged in their communities. Folks can get involved with us as members or volunteers. Membership is open to any

Arlington resident 55 or older. There is an annual membership fee, but we can provide financial assistance. You can also participate by giving a donation. If you are interested in becoming a member or volunteering, go to www.arlnvil.org or call the office 703-509-8057. A number of Arlington Forest residents are members or volunteers, so join in the fun.

Arlington Forest History Book: Last call for ordering the 150-page 4th edition of AFCA's history of Arlington Forest. So far we have received 115 orders, including from former residents now living in other states. We will print as many copies as we receive orders for by June 1, so act now if you want a copy. See page 5 for the order form.

Have you seen...: "Spot", a big white cat with a big black tail, black ears and a little black mustache, has hung around N. Galveston and N. 2nd Street for several years. While feral, he has been trapped, neutered, and has up-to-date rabies shots. He was last seen around March 18. The family who fed him would be glad if someone has taken him in permanently, but they would like to know if he is okay. If you know what happened to him, please call 703-243-4626 or email vickga@msn.com.



Vacation Bible School

In the Steps of Early Christians

July 6 - 10 5:30 - 8:00 pm

Join us for another fantastic week of Vacation Bible School. Each day our teams will walk in the footsteps of our earliest Christian brothers and sisters through games, activities and crafts.

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The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. John 1:5

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We welcome everyone including believers, seekers and doubters to share God's love and acceptance in a community of worship and service.

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stjohnsarlingtonva.org



Giving Credit

By John Naland

As another publication year ends for the Arlington Forester, let's take a moment to recognize those whose hard work is responsible for getting this newsletter delivered to your front door eight times a year.

First, thank you to Laura Smialowicz who does the layout each month -- fitting articles, photos, and advertisements into available space; creating attractive graphics, and posting the finished newsletter on AFCA's website (www.arlingtonforestva.org under the "Newsletter" tab).

Next, we should thank the delivery teenagers. Although they get paid a small stipend, it may not seem very generous when they are going door-to-door on cold winter days or climbing long flights of steps in the hilly sections of our neighborhood. This year's delivery crew was Alex Brown, Nikki Brown, Sarah and Spencer Brown, Ely Constantine, Emily Engelken, Jack Holt, Emilio Luz-Ricca, Colin Mashkuri, Abigail and Catherine Taylor, and Sean Werfel.

Thanks go to neighbors who contribute the articles that you read each month, starting with the PTA members who eight times pulled together updates about goings on at our two neighborhood elementary schools (Jenny Ditta for Barcroft and Adriana Ercolano for Barrett) and Mary Ann Strawn who contributed several interesting articles on

notable neighbors. We should also thank the handful of other neighbors who contributed one-time essays, news notes, or photos. Such input is always welcome (see the Editor's Note on page 2 for details).

Thanks go to our advertisers whose support covers the nearly \$1,000 monthly cost of printing and distributing the newsletter. That frees up your AFCA dues to fund other activities which enhance the quality of life in our neighborhood. Please consider our advertisers first when you need goods or a service that they offer.

Looking beyond the newsletter to those who serve our neighborhood in other ways, we should thank the AFCA Board, including Erin Clougherty who is stepping down after four years of service. We should also thank those neighbors who have been active in efforts to save the Lubber Run Community Center and to promote performances at the Lubber Run Amphitheater.

Finally, thanks to the neighbors who organized AFCA's 75th Anniversary Gala; who contributed content to AFSA's updated history book; who participated in AFCA's annual spring cleanup; and who helped to organize the annual holiday party; the kids' Halloween parade, and the Arlington Forest Shopping Center Family Fun Day.

-- Last Chance to Order a Copy --

History of Arlington Forest

(4th Edition)

To mark the 75th anniversary of the establishment of Arlington Forest, the history of our neighborhood that was published in 2000 has been updated and expanded.

To pre-order your copy for delivery upon publication this summer, just fill out and return this coupon and your check by June 1, 2015.

History of Arlington Forest, 4th Edition

Send this coupon and check for \$15 per copy payable to "AFCA" to John Naland, 100 N. Granada St., Arlington VA 22203. Books will be hand delivered to Arlington Forest addresses. Others should include \$5 per copy for mailing.

Amount enclosed: _____

Name: _____

Street: _____

City, state, zip: _____

Celebrate Summer 2015 at Lubber Run Amphitheater

Performances are 8 pm on Fridays and Saturdays and 6 pm on Sundays unless otherwise noted. Any schedule changes will be posted on www.arlingtonarts.org under the "venues" tab. If rain is forecast, call 703-228-1850 before the scheduled start time. Performances are presented by Arlington Cultural Affairs, a Division of Arlington Economic Development, in cooperation with the Lubber Run Amphitheater Foundation. Events marked "*" are family shows sponsored by the Foundation funded by your generous donations last season to the Wishing Well.

Friday, June 12, 8:00 pm - Bowen McCauley Dance

<http://www.bmdc.org/>

Just back from a tour of China, Arlington's Bowen McCauley Dance displays why they are among the D.C. metropolitan area's finest contemporary dance ensembles.

Saturday, June 13, 8:00 pm - La Unica

<http://www.launicamusic.com/>

La Unica (in Spanish, "the one and only") has been described by the Washington Post as a "pan-genre party band ... fusing roots music ranging from Irish folk to Latin rhythms."

Sunday, June 14, 6:00 pm - Lean & Hungry Theater

<http://www.leanandhungrytheater.com/>

Presenting Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, Lean & Hungry Theater performs theater classics complete with live sound effects and original music.

Monday, June 15, 8:00 pm - The Metropolitan Chorus

<http://www.metchorus.org/>

The Metropolitan Chorus lifts its 100-voices in concerts featuring music from the renaissance to the 21st century with an emphasis on American composers in venues such as Kennedy Center.

Wednesday, June 17, 8:00 pm - The Potomac Harmony Chorus

<http://www.potomacharmony.org/>

Potomac Harmony Chorus performs a variety of music, from traditional favorites to the fifties sound to modern jazz, all in four-part harmony, barbershop style.

Friday, June 19, 8:00 pm - The Army Blues

www.usarmyband.com/blues/the-us-army-blues.html

The 18-piece U.S. Army Blues, part of the United States Army Band "Pershing's Own," is the premier jazz ensemble of the United States Army.

Saturday, June 20, 8:00 pm - Signature Theatre

<http://www.signature-theatre.org/>

Enjoy a tuneful presentation staged by Arlington's nationally-acclaimed, Tony Award-winning Signature Theatre!

Sunday, June 21, 6:00 pm - Shane Gamble Trio

www.shanegamble.com/main.php#home

Shane attacks his guitar with passion and sings songs about the good times. Imagine if Bruce Springsteen were to emerge now on Country radio, with modern twist.

Wednesday, June 24, 8:00 pm - The Arlingtones

Arlington's champions of the barbershop choral tradition!

Friday, June 26, 8:00 pm - Mary Ann Redmond

<http://www.maryannredmond.com/>

Winner of a staggering 24 Wammie Awards for best female jazz, rock-pop, roots rock/traditional R&B, the vocalist has toured with Mary Chapin Carpenter and The Neville Brothers.

Saturday, June 27, 8:00 pm - Andrea Pais Duo

<http://andreapais.com/>

Her music is a captivating blend of soul, R&B, blues, and pop. She adds a soulful flare to today's popular songs, while adding creative vocal ad libs to showcase her vast vocal range.

Sunday, June 28, 6:00 pm - Arlington Philharmonic

<http://www.arlingtonphilharmonic.org/>

This first-class symphony orchestra makes classical music accessible to all. This performance is a fund-raising benefit for both them and the Animal Welfare League of Arlington (AWLA).

Friday, July 3, 8:00 pm - Andrew Acosta & New Old Time String Band

<http://www.andrewacosta.com/>

A night of acoustic Americana with a rich repertoire of traditional American roots music, the Arlington-based band is a regular in outdoor venues in the D.C. area.

Sunday, July 5, 8:00 pm - Halau O'Aulani and the Aloha Boys

<http://www.halauoaulani.org/>

Native music and dance presented by Hālau O'Aulani, founded in 1996 to create a learning environment for students interested in the preservation of the Hawaiian culture.

Friday, July 10, 8:00 pm - Ted Garber

<http://www.shenandoahrun.com/>

A genre-bending multi-instrumentalist playing "BluesAmerica-naRock." He won the Washington Area Music Association 2010 and 2011 Pop Rock Album of the Year!

Saturday, July 11, 8:00 pm - Acappella Festival with The Tone Rangers

<http://www.tonerangers.com/>

This vocal group brings inventive arrangements and keen wit to everything from Gregorian chant to TV theme songs. Voted Washington's Best A Cappella Group four consecutive years.

Sunday, July 12, 6:00 pm - Levine School of Music - Jazz Faculty

<http://www.levinemusic.org/>

Comprised of some of the region's leading musicians, the Levine music faculty is sure to swing! The Levine School is the region's preeminent center for music education.

Celebrate Summer 2015 at Lubber Run Amphitheater

Friday, July 17, 8:00 pm - The Grandsons

<http://grandsons.com/index.shtml>

Now in their 28th year, this legendary band recently won a WAMMIE award for Artist of the Year and their 6th CD, "Live at the Barns of Wolf Trap," won Best Roots Rock Recording.

Saturday, July 18, 8:00 pm - CAMMO

<http://www.cammomusic.org/>

The Center for American Military Musical Opportunities promotes musical opportunities for veterans and service members as well as musical therapy for the treatment of PTSD and TBI.

Sunday, July 19, 6:00 pm - Shenandoah Run

<http://www.shenandoahrun.com/>

A nine-member Americana folk band from the D.C. area, the band blends rootsy vintage, classic and contemporary folk music in a manner that appeals to a diverse audience.

Friday, July 24, 8:00 pm - The Traveling Players

<http://www.travelingplayers.org/>

Performing All's Well that Ends Well, Traveling Players Ensemble is a professional theatre company dedicated to bringing great theatre into the great outdoors.

Saturday, July 25, 8:00 pm - Russkie Musikanti

An ensemble of some of our area's top Balalaika musicians, Russkie Musikanti is the "outreach ensemble" of the Washington Balalaika Society.

Sunday, July 26, 6:00 pm - Levine School of Music - School of Rock Faculty

<http://www.levinemusic.org/>

Comprised of some of the region's leading musicians, the Levine music faculty is sure to swing! The Levine School is the region's preeminent center for music education.

Friday, July 31, 8:00 pm - Pebble to Pearl

www.pebbletopearl.reverbnation.com/

A unique blend of funk, rock, fierce and powerful blues delivered with soulful grooves and incomparable vocals. They display a tapestry of sound to keep you entertained and dancing.

Saturday, August 1, 8:00 pm - Sara Gray

<http://www.saragraymusic.com/>

This young country singer has thrilled audiences around the region, opening for such acts as Miranda Lambert, Toby Kieth, and Kellie Pickler at venues such as Jiffy Lube Live.

Sunday, August 2, 6:00 pm - The Loop

<http://theloopband.com/>

This acoustic rock group plays a variety of original and cover songs from classic rock to current pop, engaging the audience with catchy hooks, terrific harmonies, and top-shelf musical chops.

Friday, August 14, 8:00 pm - Wytold Lebing Quartet

<http://www.wytold.com/>

Wytold recently performed his original compositions with the National Symphony Orchestra for an audience of 3,000 which the Washington Post hailed as "virtuosic".

Saturday, August 15, 8:00 pm - Rico Amero *

<http://www.facebook.com/ricoamero>

Rico Amero has become a favorite of the Lubber Run season. Offering soulful renditions of songs from many genres, he and his accompanying musicians will ensure that your journey will be a smooth and enjoyable one! His talented children are part of his show.

Sunday, August 16, 6:00 pm - BG & the Mojo Hands

www.bgmojo.com/BGMojoHands.htm

This dynamic, exciting band performs a variety of blues styles. They have been recommended by Washingtonian Magazine as one of the best area blues bands around.

Saturday, August 22, 4:00 pm - Groovy Guy *

<http://groovyguyshow.com/>

He is a comedy sensation, performing at Renaissance Fairs and wowing audiences with extraordinary juggling tricks and improbable feats of balance. He even walks a tight rope juggling deadly sharp knives! This show is funny and spectacular to adults and kids alike.

Sunday, August 23, 6:00 pm - Levine School of Music - Interactive Family Concert

<http://www.levinemusic.org/>

Comprised of some of the region's leading musicians, the Levine music faculty is sure to swing! The Levine School is the region's preeminent center for music education.

Saturday, August 29, 4:00 pm - Groovy Nate *

<http://www.groovynate.com/>

Nate blends music, puppetry, movement, and comedy into a great experience for the younger set encouraging participation with his wonderfully wacky handout instruments. This is the perfect entertainment for all those tiny Lubber Run Amphitheater "mosh pit" dancers.

Saturday, September 12, 4:00 pm - Banjo Man *

<http://www.banjomanfc.com/>

Frank Cassell is endearing as the Banjo Man, performing folk, bluegrass and original music for all audiences. His performance last season was lively and engaging!

Saturday, September 19, 4:00 pm - Rocknoceros *

<http://rocknoceros.com/>

These three bandmates "grew up" (if they ever did) in Northern Virginia, and have been making award-winning music for the whole family since 2005. They have gained national recognition performing at the Kennedy Center, Wolf Trap, and Austin City Limits.

Community Yard Sale on May 16th

The Arlington Forest Community Yard Sale map on the back cover of this newsletter depicts the more than 40 participants who signed up before this issue's editing deadline. Sellers are encouraged to make photocopies of the map (or download copies from the online Arlington Forester at www.arlingtonforestva.org under the "Newsletter" tab) and display them alongside their merchandise so that, once shoppers find one sale site, they can pick up a map leading them to other sites.

Sale participants living near Arlington Blvd, Carlin Springs Rd., George Mason Dr. and Henderson Dr. are encouraged to post yard sale signs pointing into the neighborhood and to their sales (please remove signs at day's end).

In past years, additional sellers have participated without submitting their address to be marked on the map. So, as you walk around your neighborhood on the morning of Saturday, May 16, you may well find additional sellers.

Suggestions on how to run a successful sale include: set up early, display items in shopper-friendly ways, sort clothes by size and toys by user age, have grocery sacks on hand, price items reasonably, accept only cash, be ready to make change, and watch your money.

For many people, yard sale success is not measured by profit, but by how much unwanted stuff is moved out instead of left cluttering rooms, basement or attic. The sale is also a great community event. Families can say hello to neighbors down the block and strike their own bargains. Kids can set up a lemonade stand.

So, whether you are a seller, buyer or both, please come out on Saturday, May 16 (rain date is May 17).

THE NEXT
AFCA MEETING
IS AT THE
PICNIC SHELTER
ON MAY 13 AT
6:30 PM

Help Kids this Summer: AHC needs your creative and willing attitude to help 1st to 5th graders during its 2015 summer camp! This award-winning program helps youngsters overcome the challenge of summer learning loss, while engaging in fun and exciting activities. Enthusiastic volunteers are critical to the program's success. This year's theme is "Careers in the Arts." Students will participate in fun activities and projects centered around performing arts, arts in technology, and exposure to new places on weekly field trips. You are welcomed to help for an hour a week, a day, a week, or more if you can! Whether it is coming to help read to a student, facilitate a math game, ask students questions during a field trip, AHC has a role for you! The camp at Gates of Ballston (4108 4th St. N, Arlington 22203) will run Monday to Thursday from July 6 to August 13. If you are interested, please contact Dan Gallagher at dgallagher@ahcinc.org or 703-875-8608 by June 1.



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Girl Scout "PAWS Ball"

By Troop 6100

Two local Girl Scout troops came together and hosted a first-of-its-kind dance party – “The PAWS Ball” – on April 25th. The event raised over \$1,300 for the Animal Welfare League of Arlington (AWLA) to help cover pet adoption costs and to raise awareness.

The troops knew that they could bring together lots of people who want to dance and help animals at the same time. The fun activities helped people learn about the great work AWLA is doing with only a little money and staff members. The money raised will help pay for the pet adoption costs at AWLA. This way a family

would have an easier time bringing home their “forever” pet! Each year AWLA helps over 3,000 stray, hurt and lost animals find good homes.

The 5th grade Girls Scouts attend K.W. Barrett Elementary (Troop 6100)

and Long Branch Elementary (Troop 5216) schools and joined forces to organize the PAWS Ball as a way to promote AWLA’s services and how they help animals in our own Arlington community.



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PianoOnTheRun@gmail.com

www.PianoOnTheRun.com

After touring the AWLA headquarters at 2650 South Arlington Mill Drive, the girls learned that AWLA not only helps to rescue domestic animals, but also keeps our community safe by nursing injured wildlife back to health; quarantining sick animals; helping the police with animal related issues; and investigating public health concerns.

The PAWS Ball was a huge success for the Girl Scouts who had worked for over six months to prepare, plan and implement the event. The 32 Girl Scouts dedicated a total of over 640 hours and as a result of their efforts, each Girl Scout will each earn the Bronze Award – a significant milestone in the Girl Scout journey.

The original fundraising goal of \$1,000 was exceed by \$300 due to the tremendous support from the community. Close to 150 participants enjoyed a fun night that included a speaker from AWLA, a video made by the Girl Scouts, activities educating attendees about animals, raffle prizes, pet shaped food and of course, lots of dancing!

For more information about AWLA and their services, check out their website at: www.awla.org.



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Community Calendar

Next AFCA Meeting: Wednesday, May 13, 6:30 pm at Lubber Run Picnic Shelter. See page 1 for details.

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

Taste of Ballston: May 17. Local food showcase. For info go to www.ballstonbid.com/taste/

Primary Election for County Board: June 9.

Lubber Run Amphitheater: Live entertainment under the stars resumes June 12. See pages 6 and 7.

Arlington County Fair: August 5 to 9. Rides, food, displays, and racing pigs.

General Election: November 3. Includes County Board and School Board seats.

Future AFCA Meetings:

June to August: No meetings over summer break

September 16: A new year of advocacy begins

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As a resident of Arlington Forest, I work hard to provide my neighbors with the very best service. Right now, demand for homes like ours is extremely high, with interest rates at an all-time low and very little inventory available. If you are considering selling or buying a home, let me show you how working with a knowledgeable professional can make the experience great! I look forward to meeting with you.

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Barcroft School News

Barcroft Elementary students resumed fourth quarter studies on Monday, April 6. On April 15, students celebrated Leonardo da Vinci's birthday and received a free book from the Reading is Fundamental (RIF) program.

The Barcroft branch of the Arlington Community Federal Credit Union also re-opened on April 15. Students were permitted to open savings accounts with a \$5.00 deposit, and to make deposits in existing savings accounts. Fourth grade students served as bank representatives.

On April 16, Barcroft held its first annual International Night. Attendees explored countries where many of our students' families come from. Everyone enjoyed wonderful food and fun entertainment and activities throughout the evening.

The Barcroft Elementary community was shocked and saddened to learn of the untimely death of our beloved Kindergarten Teacher, Ms. Morgan Harre. Ms. Harre was a favorite of both students and staff alike, and her enthusiastic, caring presence is now sorely missed. A memorial mass for Ms. Harre was held on Saturday, April 25, with a reception afterward at Barcroft Elementary School.

In lieu of flowers, the family has created the Morgan Harre Memorial Fund. Checks can be made payable to

"Barcroft Elementary" with "Morgan Harre Memorial Fund" noted in the memo line. Drop off checks to the school or mail them to: Barcroft Elementary School, 625 South Wakefield Street, Arlington, VA 22204. We are especially grateful to our friends and neighbors for your thoughtful expressions of sympathy and kindness during this trying time.

Events in the Spring include the Barcroft Spring Concert on May 5 which featured a wonderful evening of instrumental, band, and choral music. Staff Appreciation Week was held during the week of May 4-8, and students and families celebrated with flowers, cards, and cookies as well as special breakfasts and lunches to honor our wonderful, hardworking faculty and staff.

The **Barcroft Spring Fair** is being held on Saturday, May 9 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. and will feature games for the family, a cake walk, raffles, and a plant sale just in time for Mother's Day! We hope that you can join us and celebrate Neighborhood Day with your neighborhood school!

The Grade 5 Promotion Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, June 16 and the Final Day of School will be Friday, June 19. We hope that our neighbors have a wonderful, productive Summer Break!



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Your Neighbor in Arlington Forest

If you are considering putting your home on the market, I would suggest that you begin getting your home ready as soon as possible. By having your home ready and in great shape for the new owners, the price that you get will be higher than if you don't prepare the home for sale. I have a list of things that owners should do in preparation to market their home. If

you would like to meet with me to see your home and give you some ideas on how to prepare it, please call me for a free, no obligation consultation. With the inventory low, it is an ideal time to sell your home. I look forward to meeting with you.

Jim

Kids for Hire

These Arlington Forest youths are available for babysitting, pet sitting, and other services. To be added or deleted, e-mail newsletter@arlingtonforestva.org.

Southside:

- Daniel O'Mara, dog walking, pet sitting, leaf raking, t.omara@LTwell.com, 703-769-3767
- Ethan O'Mara, dog walking, pet sitting, leaf raking, t.omara@LTwell.com, 703-769-3767
- Sophia Polisar, babysitting (RC certified), pet sitting, sophiapolisar@gmail.com, 571-429-2289
- Caroline Rogers, babysitting, pet sitting, dog walking, carolinearogers@verizon.net, 703-892-0226
- Julia Rogers, babysitting (RC certified), yard work, juliaerogers23@gmail.com, 703-892-0226
- Jon Tiernan, Babysitting (RC certified, references), pet sitting, wonton81@gmail.com
- Liz Tiernan, Babysitting (RC certified, references), pet sitting, lizzytiernan@gmail.com

Greenbrier Section:

- Zephren Collinson, babysitting (references), pet sitting, dog walking, leaf raking, snow shoveling, tutoring, 703-528-3595
- Donna Corina, babysitting (RC certified), dog walking, pet sitting, leaf raking, snow shoveling, tutoring, 703-248-8885
- Mary Corina, babysitting (RC certified), dog walking, pet sitting, leaf raking, snow shoveling, tutoring, 703-248-8885
- Allison Ferrell, babysitting (RC certified), pet sitting, Allisonrocket@aol.com, 703-276-2840
- Ethan Hall, babysitting (RC certified), snow shoveling, leaf raking, pet sitting, dog walking, k.hall.b@verizon.net, 302-650-4428

- Sarah Keyser, babysitting (RC certified), pet sitting, dog walking, Stealers12@gmail.com, 703-243-8777
- Anthony Lawson: pet sitting, dog walking, 703-933-8880

Northside:

- Laura Brancati, babysitting, dog walking, pet sitting, laura@barms.org, 703-243-1916.
- Daniel Brancati, yard work, leaf raking, snow shoveling, car washing (in your driveway), daniel@barms.org, 703-243-1916
- Riittisha Choudhary: tutoring, babysitting age 4-12, yard work, riittishachoudhary@gmail.com
- Ely Constantine, pet sitting, leaf raking, snow shoveling, cpconstantine@comcast.net, 703-841-9229
- Sophia Constantine, pet sitting, dog walking, srconstantine@comcast.net, 703-841-9229
- Fiona Hickey, babysitting (RC certified), 703-351-7013
- Sophie Hickey, babysitting, 703-351-7013
- Olivia Kennett, babysitting (RC certified), 571-277-4441
- Tenley Kennett, plant watering, dog walking (20 lbs max), 571-277-4441
- Alyssa Luz-Ricca, babysitting (RC cert), dog walking, pet sitting, alyssa.luz.ricca@gmail.com, 703-740-6972
- Marika Mortimer-Lotke, babysitting (RC certified), house sitting/chores, 703-276-9046
- Allison Vernon, babysitting (references), pet sitting, catharinevernon@aol.com, 703-522-9147
- Gabby Young, babysitting, mother's helper, pet sitting, dog walking, merrywesing@yahoo.com, 703-622-4229

All Neighborhoods:

- Girl Scout Troop 5837 (a group of responsible Arlington Forest 8th graders), babysitting, mother's helper, pet sitting, dog walking, plant watering, leaf raking, snow shoveling, gst5837@gmail.com



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Arlington Forest Community Yard Sale Map Saturday, May 16

