

The Arlington Forester



Volume 55, Number 2

Arlington, VA

October 2013

October AFCA Meeting will be Wild by John Naland

The guest speaker at this Wednesday's AFCA meeting will be Cliff Fairweather, Park Naturalist at our nearby Long Branch Nature Center. Mr. Fairweather will give a presentation entitled "The Wild in Your Backyard" focusing on the types of wildlife that we see in our neighborhood as well as how to create a natural habitat in your backyard.

This will be an excellent opportunity to ask questions about the deer, foxes, raccoons, opossums, and other wildlife with which we share our forested neighborhood. And, if you have not visited Long Branch Nature Center recently, you can also learn about the ongoing educational programs there aimed at children and adults.

Also on the agenda will be continued discussion of plans for celebrating Arlington Forest's 75th anniversary starting in January. On page 3 of this issue is a short history of our neighborhood from 8,500 BC to 1939 AD (part two will appear next month). Looking to the future, on page 2 is a sobering projection of how the "hundred year flood" will impact Arlington Forest when it eventually occurs.

AFCA's monthly meeting is this coming Wednesday, October 16, at 7 PM in the Barrett School library. Meetings are informal and rarely last more than one hour, so please check one out if you have never attended.

Call for Dues

AFCA's annual dues drive began last month. If you have not yet sent in your \$10 dues, please clip out the coupon to the right and return it to your AFCA vice president today (addressed envelopes were included in last month's newsletter). Last year, 312 of the 853 households in Arlington Forest (37%) paid dues. The record high membership was 655 (77%) in 1972.

Your dues support AFCA's many activities which enhance the quality of life in our neighborhood. Annual examples include the holiday party, the tree grant program (see page 11 for details), Northside traffic circle landscape maintenance (see page 9), and modest grants to the PTAs of our neighborhood schools. We are fortunate that the \$8,500 annual cost of printing and distributing this newsletter is fully covered by advertising revenue (please see page 4 for an encouragement to support our local merchants and advertisers).

Importantly, this year's dues will also help fund Arlington Forest's 75th anniversary celebration that begins this coming January (see the article above for details). So, please send in your annual dues today if you have not already done so.

AFCA MEMBERSHIP DUES

ANNUAL DUES \$10 PER HOUSEHOLD

Deliver this form and your check for \$10 payable to "AFCA" to your respective AFCA section vice president.

Greenbrier: Tom Smialowicz, 26 N. Granada St. 22203

Northside: Allison Kennett, 139 N. Park Dr. 22203

Southside: Douglas Sims, 119 S. Columbus St. 22204

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL: _____

www.arlingtonforestva.org

AFCA Meeting 7 p.m. October 16 at Barrett School Library

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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Join AFCA listserv by e-mailing address to:
ArlingtonLife@gmail.com

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The Hundred Year Flood

By John Naland

Imagine water 39 feet deep in Lubber Run Park. That is the "hundred year flood" projection by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in the newly revised Flood Insurance Rate Map and 2013 Flood Insurance Study for Arlington. The hundred year flood has a one percent chance of happening each year. It is just as likely to happen this year as it is 99 years from now or in any year in between. But, eventually, it will happen.

FEMA calculates that the hundred year flood would place 12 feet of water at the north end of Lubber Run Park, 28 feet of water in the middle of the park (near the amphitheater), and 39 feet of water at the southern end. At that point, constrained by the culvert at the south end of Lubber Run Park, the water level will rise until it flows over Arlington Blvd at the foot of N. Edison St. and forms a 42 foot high waterfall down the other side of the highway as the water rejoins Lubber Run for the short distance to Four Mile Run.

Obviously, this temporary "Lake Lubber Run" will cause significant damage to the submerged parts of the park. The rushing water could also potentially damage Arlington Blvd at the foot of N. Edison.

Four Mile Run (not constrained by a narrow culvert) is calculated to rise just 11 feet as it flows under the Arlington Blvd overpass during the hundred year flood.

What about the houses bordering Lubber Run Park and the Four Mile Run riverbank? As best as I can tell from the FEMA map (which contains clear graphics superimposed on a blurry aerial photograph), no water is projected to touch any Arlington Forest house. However, a few back yards on S. Columbus do look partially submerged.

The FEMA map can be found on the County website by searching "Flood Insurance Rate Map". Arlington Forest is on map 51013C0076C (keep hitting "enlarge" in your browser until you can discern neighborhood details). Charts showing flood profiles for Lubber Run and Four Mile Run can be found in the accompanying FEMA 2013 Flood Study of Arlington County.

If it is any consolation, the "five hundred year flood" is barely higher. Apparently, there is a physical limit to how long and how hard it can rain.

Editor's Note

The *Arlington Forester* welcomes articles, news notes, letters, and photos focusing on non-commercial events or issues specific to our neighborhood. The next deadline is November 7 for the issue to be distributed November 16-17. E-mail submissions of up to 400 words to newsletter@arlingtonforestva.org. Space sometimes fills up prior to the deadline.



*Get all of your
fox & wildlife
questions
answered at
the next AFCA
meeting on
Oct 16th, 7 pm*

Arlington Forest History

Excerpts from Arlington Forest's successful 2005 application for listing on the National Registry of Historic Places:

Native Americans were the earliest inhabitants of the area today known as Arlington Forest. Artifacts from 8,500 years ago have been found along Four Mile Run, and a village site has been identified at the confluence of Four Mile Run and Long Branch.

During the 18th century, several large colonial land grants shared a common border at this same location. George Washington owned a parcel of land south of this point along Four Mile Run. Most of the land that is now Arlington Forest was owned by John Colville, a British merchant and planter who owned trading ships along the Potomac in the early-1730s. Colville purchased a 1,400-acre Lubber Branch tract on Four Mile Run in 1731.

In 1847, construction began along Four Mile Run for the Washington & Old Dominion (W&OD) Railway, extending from Alexandria to the Blue Ridge Mountains. By the advent of the 20th century, most of the land now within Arlington Forest was associated with the locally prominent Henderson family.

Three houses dating to the 19th century are located in Arlington Forest. At 5512 North Carlin Springs Road is the Mary Carlin House, constructed circa 1800 by William Carlin, the tailor of George Washington. The one-story Ann Carlin cottage at 117 North Galveston Street dates to around 1850 and was built as a tenant house or servants' quarters. Lastly, the two-story, frame farmhouse at 205 North Galveston Street likely dates from the 1820s to 1840s. During the Civil War, this property was owned by Charles E. Mix, Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Prior to the platting of Arlington Forest, this area typified the rural character of Arlington

County and contained only fields and woodland. A 1934 aerial photograph reveals that the Arlington Forest area prior to development was wooded, except for the open fields of a farm on North Galveston Street (now in the 200 block) and the historic Henderson estate (formerly at 4811 3rd Street North).

Ironically, the developers of Arlington Forest destroyed much of the wooded scenery during construction, which resulted in a barren appearance not in keeping with the lush surroundings implied by the neighborhood's name. Over time, the remaining trees have matured and new trees have been planted, once again creating a natural canopy reminiscent of the original setting.

To be continued next month....

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Supporting our Neighborhood Merchants

By John Naland

Over the nearly 75 years of its existence, our Arlington Forest Shopping Center has had its ups and downs. At several points in past decades, a majority of the store fronts were vacant. During those periods, AFCA (through this newsletter) encouraged Arlington Forest residents to patronize the shopping center to support our local economy.

Happily, with the recent opening of the Mathnasium (see page 9) in the former location of Mrs. McGregor's Flower Shop, the shopping center is again at full occupancy. That is good for Arlington Forest residents since it places a variety of meals, goods, and services within an easy drive or walk of our homes. In view of high gasoline prices and increasing traffic congestion across Arlington, it is a major benefit to have a vibrant shopping center so close at hand.

Unfortunately, several merchants have told me in recent months that foot traffic at their businesses has been disappointing. And that was before the October government shutdown which caused many of federal employees and federal contractors to cut back on expenditures.

Certainly, it is up to each merchant to offer a quality product at a competitive price. But, when they do, we can help keep our local economy strong by thinking first of our neighborhood merchants when we need something that they offer.

Next spring during the Arlington Forest 75th anniversary celebration, AFCA will sponsor an Arlington Forest Shopping Center Appreciation Day to draw residents to the center. That event will feature such things as games for children and special offers from participating merchants. Look for details in this newsletter in the coming months.

But, for now, please think of our local merchants when you need a meal, goods, or services. The same applies for all of the businesses and organizations that advertise in this newsletter since that ad revenue fully covers the cost of printing and delivering the Arlington Forester to your front door eight times a year.



*Kids
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3 pm*

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Leaf Collection - Ready, Rake, Recycle

Arlington County's annual leaf collection and recycling begins Nov. 4 for bag collection and Nov. 11 for vacuum truck collection. The County collects about 50,000 cubic yards of leaves each year. During November and December, the County will not collect leaves left curbside in plastic bags or placed in trash bins. Instead, please utilize one of three easy ways to reduce landfill waste by recycling leaves into useful mulch:

-- Place leaves in biodegradable paper bags. Bags are collected on the day after your regular trash day beginning the week of Nov. 4 through Jan. 10. Free leaf bags are available at Lubber Run Community Center, Long Branch Nature Center, and six other locations starting Oct. 21. They also may be purchased at most hardware stores. Do not include grass clippings, stones, or litter in the bags.

-- Rake leaves to the curb for vacuum truck collection that begins the week of Nov. 11. Crews will make two passes through Arlington Forest -- one in November and one in December. Look for signs posted in the neighborhood three to seven days before each pass. Remove stones, branches, and litter from the leaf pile. If you miss the last pass, please rake and bag any remaining leaves.

-- Residents may also compost their leaves into a valuable organic soil supplement. Numerous websites explain how to get started.

For more information on the County's yard recycling program, search "leaf collection" on the County website. Christmas Tree collection will be Jan. 6 to 17. Please remove all decorations from the tree. It is illegal to dump leaves, Christmas Trees, branches, or anything else in County parkland.

If you would like reasonably-priced assistance with leaf raking or other fall yard work, check out the Kids for Hire listing on page 14.

As a product of the County yard recycling program, leaf mulch and wood mulch are available free for pickup at two locations and can be delivered to your house for a \$40 to \$50 charge. For details, search "mulch" on the County website.



Electronic versions of this newsletter are available:
www.arlingtonforestva.org



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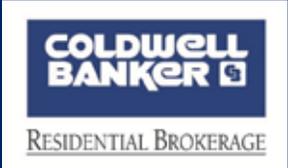
Your Neighbor in Arlington Forest

If you are considering selling, please call me and let's arrange a time when we can discuss your future sale; there is no obligation. I want to show you how I market homes and help you determine what your selling price should be, and I have all the tools that Long and Foster has to offer. Don't wait too long to market your home as timing is very important. I look forward to meeting with you.

Jim

The York Group

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ARLINGTON FOREST - The Neighborhood of Choice!

As today's serious buyers are shopping for the perfect neighborhood in the Washington market, they quickly realize that Arlington Forest is one of their best choices. If you are thinking of selling and want to know what your home is worth or are just curious, please take advantage of our continuous market research and let us provide that information for you. We are currently in the beginning of the fall market which means your house will be in high demand and sell for a better than average price, allowing you to be in your next home before Christmas. The average time it has taken for a home to sell in our neighborhood since May is just 12 days, so when you're ready to see what your options are, give us a call at The York Group at 703-906-8218 or 703-409-3377. Then you will know what it will take to sell your home for the most money possible in today's market. We look forward to speaking with you soon.



Lauren York Mikoy
Coldwell Banker
 Realtor and Arlington Forest Resident

703.906.8218

lyork@cbmove.com
 www.sherryork.com



RECENT ARLINGTON FOREST NEIGHBORHOOD ACTIVITY

Status	Address	List Price	Sold Price	Close Date	BR	BA	LVL	DOM	Acres	Tax Living Area
For Sale	109 Park Drive S	\$619,900			4	2	3		.14	1438
For Sale	5332 Carlin Springs Rd N	\$629,500			3	2	3		.14	1196
For Sale	125 Columbus St S	\$630,000			3	2	3		.17	1144
Sold	4844 Arlington Blvd	\$499,900	\$515,000	9/24/13	3	1	3	8	.14	1144
Sold	34 Park Drive S	\$555,000	\$555,000	6/3/13	4	3	3	3	.13	1872
Sold	214 Edison St N	\$559,900	\$559,000	5/24/13	3	2	3	9	.13	1350
Sold	122 Abingdon St N	\$549,000	\$569,000	8/1/13	3	2	3	21	.14	1144
Sold	121 Columbus St N	\$589,000	\$600,000	5/31/13	3	1.5	3	3	.12	1240
Sold	112 Galveston St N	\$640,000	\$636,000	8/2/13	3	3	3	17	.22	1612
Sold	235 Granada St N	\$650,000	\$651,000	5/9/13	4	2	3	6	.14	1218
Sold	332 Edison St N	\$649,999	\$665,000	5/31/13	3	2	3	7	.14	1350
Sold	59 Aberdeen St S	\$739,000	\$715,000	7/10/13	3	2.5	3	36	.24	1974
Sold	117 Aberdeen St S	\$849,900	\$850,000	6/28/13	4	3	3	8	.27	1928
Sold	116 Columbus St N	\$874,900	\$895,000	7/26/13	4	2	3	7	.20	1976

Updated as of 10/2/13

Northside Traffic Circles

By Allison Kennett

The four traffic circles along 2nd Street North in Arlington Forest were built around 1997 and intersect N. Park Drive, N. Abingdon Street, N. Wakefield Street, and N. Henderson Road. The arrangement from the outset was that the County would install the circles along with a central Crepe Myrtle tree and some large boulders in order to calm speeding traffic. It was the understanding that the neighborhood would get volunteers to maintain the landscaping of the circles.

For most of the past 15 years, volunteers have indeed been kind enough to donate their time and hard labor to ensure that the weeds were kept at bay. But a few years ago there was a lapse in volunteer coverage for three of the four circles. The weeds went wild and the traffic circles became an eyesore both for the immediate neighbors and anyone passing by. Given that there were only a few perennial plantings in the circles at that time, weeds had plenty of room to take hold. There were some really tough ones to deal with as well such as wire grass, crab grass, and thorny-type weeds.



Dear Fellow Arlington Forest Residents:

We are three Arlington Forest families who have children with autism. Each of us, and many other parents of children with autism, deal with “elopement” – times when our children get away from us. This does not necessarily happen frequently or reflect on us as “bad” parents; even the most vigilant parents can temporarily lose track of a child.

Our children may be somewhat verbal, or non-verbal, and have a difficult time expressing their wants and desires. They often follow their whims impulsively. Because our children may not answer when called, or think to tell us before they go, we are left to frantically try to find them. We know that ALL parents have experienced this on occasion and it is truly terrifying.

Recently, on separate occasions, two of our children left our houses and wandered down to the Lubber Run amphitheater area. While each of our families walks down there on a regular basis, it's not a place for our children to go alone.

In 2011, we once again managed to get volunteers for all four circles as well as some funding from the AFCA to do some initial cleanup, mulching, and addition of a few perennials. That investment, together with the volunteers' time and many generous plant donations by Arlington Forest's Andy Preziosi, has resulted in the four beautiful traffic circles that we have today. The plantings are numerous and mature enough to keep most of the weeds at bay.

Unfortunately, one of our volunteers had to drop out, so we are now looking for other volunteers to help with the circle at 2nd and Wakefield. Since the circles are in such good shape it really shouldn't take more than a half an hour, three or four times during the spring/summer to maintain them. So many Foresters benefit from the traffic circles that volunteers could come from any quarter. In fact, one of our volunteers came all the way over from the Greenbrier side to help. **Please consider volunteering!** Contact Allison Kennett at allison.kennett@gmail.com.

The accompanying photos show the Henderson circle in 2011 and 2013. The center Crepe Myrtle has been replaced as it was knocked down by a car. The circle is now filled with beautiful plantings.

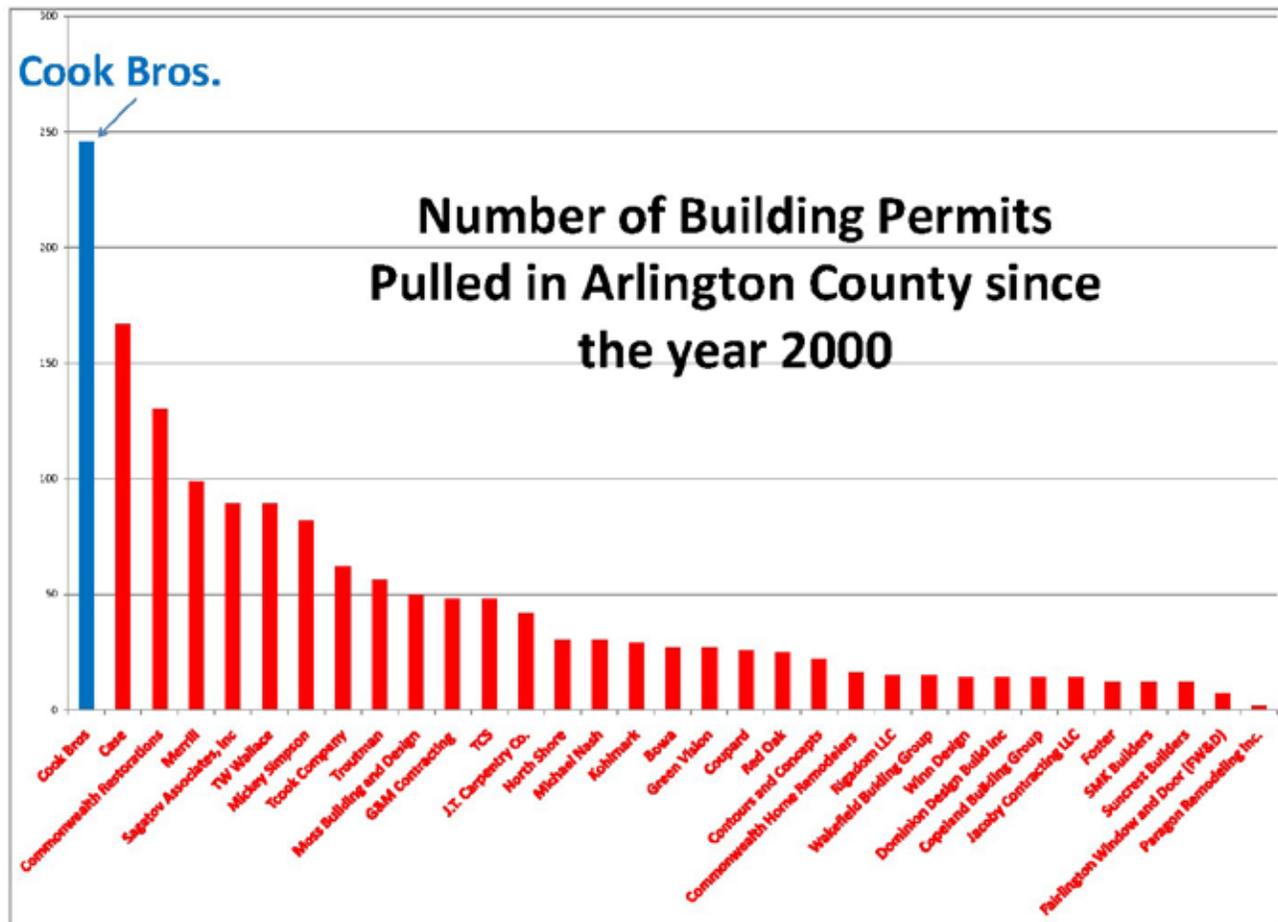
In one recent experience, wonderful neighbors, friends of neighbors, and neighbors we don't even know helped us by looking for our lost child. Thanks to their help, he was found within 15 minutes of being discovered missing.

We love this neighborhood and are lucky to live near so many wonderful and generous people! We encourage you to know your immediate neighbors and their children. If any of those children are seen wandering around alone, let someone know so that, if help is needed, we can get it as quickly as possible.

As parents of kids with autism, we may be more isolated than other parents, since we are not able to participate as much or as fully in general social and school-related activities. If we don't know you, but you recognize us and our children, please say hello!

Thank you,
The Alderman-Marx, Buzby, & Orli families

You Don't Have to Interview the #1 Remodeler in Arlington... But... Why Wouldn't You?



For a larger Graph image and more information about the Graph, visit our website at www.CookBros.org/ArlForest



Around the Forest

Kids Halloween Parade:

Bring your little princesses, wizards or other costumed wee ones to the annual neighborhood Halloween parade on Saturday, October 26, at 3 PM starting in the Arlington Forest Shopping Center parking lot by the Mathnasium. Parents and family pets are welcome to wear costumes as well. The parade will head down Park Drive to the Lubber Run Community Center where holiday treats will be passed out to the children while they play on the playground. For those families interested in continuing the fun, the Fire Ring in Lubber Run Park (across the footbridge from the amphitheater) has been reserved for a bonfire where we can enjoy s'mores and music (if anyone is inclined to bring a guitar). If you would like to make s'mores, please bring some fixings and help the kids find good sticks for roasting marshmallows. Thanks to Jen Beer for organizing this event again this year.



Cub Scouting News from Pack 548: Your Arlington Forest Cub Scout Pack is off to a great start this school year. We are getting ready for Fall camping and a community service event involving many area Scouts - "Scouting for Food." This food drive will collect non-perishable food items from all over Arlington on Saturday, November 9th starting at 9AM and organize and deliver these needy items to the Arlington Food Assistance Center. Pack 548 is also looking for new Scouts (1st through 5th grade) so please check-out our Parent Information Guide (<http://bit.ly/15t8PTy>) or feel free to contact the Pack 548 Cubmaster Carey Johnston, 703-243-3570, johnston.carey@verizon.net for more info. Thanks!



AFCA in Action: The accompanying photo shows Neha Desai, director of the Mathnasium learning center in the Arlington Forest Shopping Center, addressing residents at AFCA's September meeting. The schedule can be found on page 10 of this newsletter.



Stream Cleanup: On a pleasant September weekend morning, 20 neighbors from the first block of N. Granada St. joined together to clean up a stretch of Four Mile Run near the Arlington Blvd. overpass (see accompanying photo of some of the volunteers). Although this was their 12th semi-annual cleanup at that site since they started the effort in April 2008, the neighbors still managed to fill over a dozen large garbage bags with trash and invasive plants. They also pulled three tires and one rusting compressed gas cylinder out of the watershed (the Arlington County Fire Department was notified and rolled out immediately to remove the gas cylinder). Their two hours of work made the well-used paths along Four Mile Run more attractive places to walk, jog, and bike. The neighbors will be out there again next April. Any Arlington Forest resident is welcome to join in. See this newsletter next spring for details.



Gone to the Dogs: On the final night of the summer season at the Arlington Forest Club, local dogs got a special treat to take a swim in the pool their owners have been telling them about all summer. It was a great turnout with dogs of all shapes and sizes showing up. Many of the dogs took a dip in the pool to show off their jumping, paddling and retrieving skills, while others just socialized and offered barks of encouragement from the pool deck.

Community Calendar

Next AFCA Meeting: Wednesday, October 16. See page 1 for details.

Kids Halloween Parade: October 26. See page 9 for details.

AFCA Holiday Party: December 6 at Lubber Run Community Center.

Neighborhood Spring Cleanup: April date TBD.

Home Tour: May 3.

Annual Community Yard Sale: May date TBD.

Lubber Run Amphitheater 2014 Season: Live entertainment under the stars resumes in June.

Future AFCA Meetings and planned speakers:

November 20: Police and fire departments

January 15: County parks director

February 19: Dominion VA Power

March 19: County code enforcement officer

April 17: Gardening and tree experts

May 14: Annual picnic at Lubber Run Park shelter

Forest Exchange

House Wanted: Friends of ours are interested to buy an AF home within the next six months (flexible on timing). They prefer a home that is not on Route 50 or Carlin Springs. They are flexible as to whether the home has been remodeled/updated. Please contact Kristy for further information at Kristyhofkens@yahoo.com. Thank you! A neighbor.

Landscaping Program: The program "Designing a Sustainable, Maintainable Yard" is a great foundation for starting to create a sustainable landscape plan for your yard. The program is October 19 from 9 am to 1 pm at the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St., Arlington. It features an introduction to sustainable landscape design, case studies of problems and solutions for local yards, and recommendations for selecting plants that thrive in local conditions. Sponsored by Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia. Register on line at www.mgnv.org. \$20 fee per household.

Put Your Free Notice Here: Send it by November 7 to newsletter@arlingtonforestva.org.

A Messy Issue

By John Naland

Judging by the proliferation of store-bought and home-made signs in front yards, Arlington Forest continues to experience a problem with some residents not cleaning up after their dogs. In a few cases, a "not guilty" verdict may be in order since I have seen deer and foxes in front yards at night. And I recently noticed "dog poop" on our roof which obviously must have been deposited by a raccoon or opossum. However, in most cases, negligent residents walking dogs are undoubtedly responsible for leaving the unscooped animal waste.

To review the basics: an Arlington County ordinance requires residents to clean up after their dogs everywhere except on their own property. Not carrying enough waste bags is not an excuse for violating the ordinance. Instead, the dog walker should return home to get more bags and then return to the site. The same is true if a flashlight is needed to facilitate a through cleanup during hours of darkness.

Talking with fellow dog owners, we find it hard to imagine that any adult resident of our neighborhood would not pick up after their pet. So, maybe the problem is with others who rarely or reluctantly walk dogs – perhaps a younger family member or a babysitter. If so, it is up to all dog owners to make sure that everyone who walks their

dog is aware of the rules and actually follows them.

This problem extends beyond the obvious "yuck" factor. All dogs harbor bacteria in their gut that can include disease-causing E. coli and fecal coliform bacteria. Dogs can also carry salmonella and giardia. If left on the ground, bacteria-laden dog waste will eventually be washed into a storm drain and from there flow into Four Mile Run, the Potomac River, and beyond. Once in the watershed, it can harm both wildlife and humans.

Thus, the requirement to clean up dog waste applies not only to front yards, but also alongside bike trails and even deep in forested parkland. Violations of the ordinance are punishable by a fine of up to \$100.



Nature News

Tree Grant Program: To help keep the "forest" in Arlington Forest, AFCA will pay you to plant a tree on your property. AFCA is offering matching grants to neighbors who plant tree from an approved list of shade trees. Grants of up to \$125 will cover one-half of the cost of buying and planting a tree. There is a limit to two grants per property and the application must be approved before the purchase. For details and the application form, go to the AFCA website at www.arlingtonforestva.org and click on the AFCA tab.

Free Trees: Arlington County's Natural Resources Division is providing 700 native tree species for residents. This opportunity helps expand Arlington's tree canopy while enhancing the landscape of your house. The trees will be available for pick up on Saturday, October 26 at the Arlington County nursery facility (on South Four Mile Run behind Barcroft Field #6), 8am-3pm. For more info and to reserve your tree, go to treestewards.org.

Notable Tree Award: Got a tree you love? Nominate it for an Arlington County Notable Tree designation. There is no cost to nominate and no obligation to the tree owner, but your favorite tree will be recognized by the County Board as an important natural resource to the community. Your

tree can be recognized for its size, age, species, historical interest or just because it is beloved by your neighborhood. Search "Notable Tree" on the County website for more information. Nominations due December 1.

Update on the Holly Tree: Arlington Forest's own "notable tree" that has stood since 1941 in the traffic circle just north of the intersection of Park Drive and Arlington Blvd is doing okay. A year ago after a small group of volunteers removed invasive vines off of the holly tree, its trunk was found to be severely rotted on one side. However, the County's arborist rechecked it last month and reported "This tree is still holding on. The new growth looks surprisingly healthy, given the massive gap in the bark. It poses no hazard if it falls over, so I suggest keeping it, and seeing if it heals over." Thanks again to Joe Cockrell who worked to trim, water, and care for the tree for the past three decades and to Chris Scheer who is coordinating with the County arborist to monitor the tree's health.

75TH ANNIVERSARY
ARLINGTON FOREST
1939 - 2014



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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 is pleased to announce that according to the 2013 Standards of Learning testing results, Barcroft has met all of the U.S. government's federal accountability measures and is fully accredited by the Virginia Department of Education. Congratulations to our teachers, staff and students!

Fall Intersession is in full swing at Barcroft Elementary, with two weeks of morning and afternoon enrichment classes offered to students from October 7-18. During this hiatus from school, Arlington Public Schools will continue installation of a new playground for students. Construction is scheduled to be completed by late-October. Construction areas are surrounded by temporary fencing.

Please link your Giant Bonus card to Barcroft Elementary, code # 02199. The Giant A+ Rewards program runs through March 20, 2014. Provide your name and bonus card number to Candice Kaup (at candicekaup@yahoo.com) or link on-line at www.giantfood.com/Aplus and click on "register your card." Now more than ever, your support is needed!

We invite our neighbors to enjoy our annual Halloween Dance Party on Friday October 25, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Join us for an evening of family fun! Come dressed in your favorite costume and dance the night away. Enjoy refresh-

ments, games and crafts too! That evening, the Barcroft PTA will begin our annual candy collection to honor our troops and veterans. The collection will last through mid-November. Neighbors can drop off bagged candy, surplus Halloween candy, cards, and letters into the orange bin at the Front Office. Barcroft students will run in the Marine Corp Marathon Healthy Kids Fun Run, to be held at the Pentagon on Saturday, October 26. Good luck!

Highlights for November and December 2013 include the November 5 Election Day Bake Sale. The PTA will sell coffee, breakfast items, individually-packaged baked goods such as brownies and cupcakes, whole items like breads, pies, and cakes, and savory foods that work great for lunch. Be sure to join us and support your neighborhood school! During the week of November 18-22, Barcroft will also host a Book Fair and Holiday Shop. Choose from a selection of books, Stella & Dot jewelry, and other goodies for everyone on your list. Finally, celebrate a wonderful 2013 with the PTA at the Clarendon Silver Diner. On Monday, December 2, the PTA will host a Silver Diner Night. Join us

To learn more about What's Happening at Barcroft, go to: <http://www.apsva.us/Page/13363>
Like us: <https://www.facebook.com/BarcroftElementary>

Arlington Forest Q & As

by John Naland

Q: What time of day is too early to crank up a gas lawnmower, leaf blower, chainsaw, or other loud equipment?

A: Translating Arlington County's noise ordinance which talks in technical terms such as decibel levels and "continuous octave band center frequency", the answer is that we cannot operate noisy small power equipment before 7 AM on weekdays or before 10 AM on weekends and legal holidays. Quiet hours resume at 9 PM seven days a week. These time restrictions do not apply to public utility companies making emergency repairs, but they do apply to residential emergency power generators. While a 10 AM start time on Saturday seems late to me as an early-riser with a perpetually-long "To Do" list, it no doubt seems early to neighbors who stayed up late the previous night. But 10 AM is the official time, so early-rises should wait until then and late-risers should not complain if a motor starts up at that hour.

Q: Are residents allowed to let their dog bark constantly, whether inside or outside?

A: Here, the Arlington County Code gives a more straightforward answer: "It shall be unlawful for any person who owns, possesses, or harbors any animal or bird to permit

that animal or bird to create frequent or continued noise disturbance across a real property boundary or within a nearby dwelling unit." I read that to indicate that a dog in the back yard can bark at a passing fox, but cannot be allowed to bark for hours out of loneliness or boredom. On the topic of leaving dogs in the backyard for long periods, a separate County ordinance requires that pets be provided with proper shelter and protection from the weather and temperature at all times.

Q: May a neighbor park their car in front of my house every day?

A: While there are restrictions on parking commercial vehicles, dumpsters, and storage pods on residential streets, privately owned vehicles may legally park anywhere that does not block a fire hydrant, driveway, or corner crossing. However, most residents probably would not like to see someone else's car parked in front of their house on a daily basis. They would prefer to keep the curb in front of their house open for their own visitors to park and are not thrilled by having someone else's car fill the view from their front window.

Barrett School News

Barrett teachers and students have launched right into an exciting school year. Families reconnected at both Back-to-School Night, where they were welcomed by Barrett's new principal, Dan Redding, and new PTA President, Jennifer Sauter-Price, at the Barrett Ice Cream Social.

Barrett students have started their Principal's Reading Challenge of reading 65,000 books this year. The first Garden Work Day was fun and productive, and the first two PTA meetings were well attended and full of information on what's happening at the school and how families can contribute to Barrett's continued success.

Calling all cooks! We are recruiting chili-cooking participants for the Barrett Elementary First Annual Chili Cook-Off on Friday, November 15. Contact heather.weir@gmail.com if you would like to enter.

The Barrett PTA's Annual Book Fair will take place October 21- 25 in the school's library. The book fair is open to the entire community. Take advantage of daytime shopping hours to avoid the evening crowds. Book fair hours:

- Mon, Oct 21 7:45am-4:00pm
- Tues, Oct 22 7:45am-4:00pm, 6:00pm-8:30pm
- Wed, Oct 23 7:45am-2:00pm
- Thur, Oct 24 7:45am-7:00pm
- Fri, Oct 25 7:45am-Noon

Based on the past success of EverWonder school day off camps, EverWonder will hold a once-a-month Parents'

Night Out (at Barrett). Barrett PTA will receive 10% of the proceeds. The next Night Out will be on Friday, November 8. Register now at www.everwondercamps.com.

To learn more about What's Happening at Barrett, go to: <http://www.apsva.us/Page/4038> or the PTA website: <https://barrett.my-pta.org>

Upcoming Events:

- NO SCHOOL, Teacher Work Day, Mon, Oct 14
- Roving Readers, Tuesday, Oct 15
- Kindergarten Days: Math, Wednesday, Oct 16
- PTA Reflections entries due, Friday, Oct 18
- Barrett PTA Book Fair, Oct 21-25
- Individual Picture Day, Monday, Oct 21
- Family Library Night, Tuesday, Oct 22
- Early Release, Wednesday, Oct 23
- Heritage Day Parade, Friday, Oct 25
- Odyssey of the Mind Info. Night, Tues, Oct 29
- Barrett Halloween Parade, Thurs, Oct 31
- NO SCHOOL, Teacher Work Day, Tues, Nov 5

Raise money for Barrett!

Link your Harris Teeter VIC card to Barrett Elementary
Go to www.harristeeter.com and enter in code 3906

The Sell-Buy Dilemma

Here is a scenario that I can help you with - or anyone you feel comfortable introducing me to.

Believe it or not, there are many homeowners who desperately want to move (for more space, to be closer to work, for a better floor plan, etc.), but they stay in their homes year after year for one surprising reason—they can't see a way around the "sell, then buy" or "buy, then sell" dilemma. Adding on to the property is a popular option for some homeowners.

If moving is the best strategy there are four solutions to this conundrum. First, sell your home and ask for a 60 to 90 day "rent-back" from the new buyer of your home or implement a home of choice contingency, giving time to buy your next home. Second, time the sale and purchase to happen simultaneously (which can be tricky in an active market). Third, sell and move into temporary housing, and then buy at

your leisure then sell or rent out your home. Fourth, if you can qualify for a new home mortgage and your existing mortgage you can buy at your leisure then sell or rent out your home. If you have significant equity in your home you may be able to get a home equity line of credit to use for a down payment on the next home if you don't sufficient have funds for a down payment. This requires using a savvy lender who can advise you on the proper steps.

All of these approaches have pros and cons that should be discussed with a qualified real estate consultant.

If you, or someone you know, would like to discuss selling and buying simultaneously, call me at 703-217-9090 or email casey@caseyoneal.com

P.S. Who do you know wants to move, but has to sell first? Please let them know I'm available for a consultation.



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Kids for Hire

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

Southside:

- Daniel O'Mara, dog walking, pet sitting, yard work, 703-769-3767
- Julia Rogers, babysitting (RC certified), yard work, juliaerogers23@gmail.com, 703-892-0226
- Jon Tiernan, babysitting (RC certified), dog walking, pet sitting, Wonton81@gmail.com, 703-967-7813
- Liz Tiernan, babysitting (RC certified - two for the price of one with my brother Jon Tiernan), dog walking, pet sitting, lizzytiernan@gmail.com, 703-979-5046
- Caroline Rogers, pet sitting, dog walking, yard work, carolinearogers@verizon.net, 703-892-0226

Greenbrier Section:

- Zephren Collinson, babysitting (references), pet sitting, dog walking, yard work, tutoring, 703-528-3595
- Alex Hendel, babysitting (RC certified), experienced Tot Camp counselor (high school student), alexhendel@gmail.com, 703-622-2884
- Sarah Keyser, babysitting (RC certified), pet sitting, dog walking, Stealers12@gmail.com, 703-243-8777

Northside:

- Riittisha Choudhary: tutoring, babysitting ages 4-12, yard work, riittishachoudhary@gmail.com
- 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
- Alyssa Luz-Ricca, babysitting (RC cert), dog walking, pet sitting, alyssa.luz.ricca@gmail.com, 703-740-6972.
- Isaac Mortimer-Lotke, odd jobs, 703-276-9046
- Marika Mortimer-Lotke, babysitting (RC certified), housesitting/chores, 703-276-9046
- Allison Vernon, pet sitting, babysitting (references), catharinevernon@aol.com, 703-522-9147
- Gabby Young, babysitting, mother's helper, pet sitting, dog walking, merrywesing@yahoo.com, 703-622-4229

All Neighborhoods:

- Julia Franchi, babysitting (RC certified), mother's helper, pet sitting, dog walking, yard work, 703-220-4894
- Girl Scout Troop 5837 (a group of responsible Arlington Forest 7th graders), babysitting, mother's helper, pet sitting, dog walking, plant watering, leaf raking, buggah66@gmail.com, 703-528-3595

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