

# The Arlington Forester



Volume 54, Number 1

Arlington, VA

September 2012

## A New Season Begins

by John Naland



With summer over, the Arlington Forest Citizens Association (AFCA) begins its 2012-2013 service year ready to continue its mission of advancing the interests of the 853 households in Arlington Forest. Over the past 12

months, AFCA spoke up for residents in discussions with County officials on a variety of issues (including the proposed new elementary school, several transportation infrastructure issues, and two park upgrade projects) as well as organized the traditional annual neighborhood events (including the holiday party, spring cleanup, yard sale and potluck picnic). AFCA will keep up that good work over the coming 12 months as it addresses ongoing and new issues that impact the quality of life in our neighborhood.

AFCA's new season begins this Wednesday, September 12, at 7 PM with its monthly meeting in the Barrett School

Library. On the agenda is Kathy von Bredow, an Arlington County landscape architect, who will discuss plans for the playground in Glencarlyn Park near the foot of S. Park Drive that is being funded through the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee. Also on the agenda is Micheline Castan-Smith of Paradigm Development Company who will outline the final phase of the redevelopment of Buckingham Village 1. The AFCA annual budget will also be reviewed and adopted for the upcoming year.

September also marks the start of the AFCA fiscal year. Please send in your \$10 annual dues today using the enclosed form and envelope. Your dues support AFCA's activities which enhance the quality of life in our neighborhood. Last year, 324 out of 853 households paid dues. As Arlington Forest approaches its 75th anniversary in 2014, we want to increase AFCA's membership along with the community spirit that it represents.

## Renovated Amphitheater Hosts First Full Season

by Chris Scheer

Derecho, lightning, searing heat. They may have scared DC weather forecasters but not the thousands who attend live performances under the stars (and some clouds) at the Lubber Run Amphitheater this summer.

Arlington County Department of Economic Development's Hal Crawford did a great job of lining up regional performers for the amphitheater's first full season in many years. Based on the response from the community, he says that the 2013 season at Lubber Run will be even bigger and better.

In spite of nine cancellations due to weather, the schedule of 23 performances was book-marked by SRO audiences at the opening performance by Mary Ann Redmond (June 15) and the closing weekend featuring the Hexagon Theater Company (Aug 3) with an average program attendance of nearly 200 throughout the summer.

In addition to the traditional Friday and Saturday evening performances, several Sunday and weekday shows were added featuring local community groups such as the Arlingtones and the Potomac Harmony Chorus.

The Derecho canceled two programs and crushed the amphitheater's signature "wishing well" ...*Continued page 2*

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***AFCA Meeting 7 p.m. Sept 12 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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## Editor's Note

The *Arlington Forester* welcomes articles, news notes, letters and photos focusing on events or issues specific to our neighborhood. The next deadline is October 4 for the issue to be distributed October 13-14. E-mail submissions of up to 400 words to [newsletter@arlingtonforestva.org](mailto:newsletter@arlingtonforestva.org). Space fills up, so check in advance if you plan to submit a long article.

## Amphitheater ..continued from page 1



under a downed tree limb. A cardboard wishing created by Trisha Freeman continued to collect donations through the summer that Lubber Run Amphitheater Foundation co-president Esther Bowring said will be used to support next year's programming. The citizen foundation formed two years ago and was instrumental in convincing County officials to renovate and reopen the amphitheater.

The foundation played a role in planning this summer's program schedule, stressing the use of local talent, including two groups featuring Arlington Foresters – Colleen Shanley and Grand Junction and Juniper Lane.

"The foundation has united citizens and County staff in reviving this unique community resource," Bowring said. "We're networking to gather donations and volunteers to bring the amphitheater to its full potential as a show place for area talent and favorite family gathering spot." That networking is happening online at the Lubber Run Amphitheater Facebook page where you can keep up with amphitheater news, programming and events and by e-mail where you can notify the Lubber Run Amphitheater Foundation of your interest in volunteering at [lubberrunamphitheater@gmail.com](mailto:lubberrunamphitheater@gmail.com).

"We also want to hear from Arlington Foresters with suggestions on acts to book, potential program sponsors and other ideas for improving next season," Bowring said. "As long as our community actively supports the Lubber Run Amphitheater, it will continue to improve and be a venue everyone can enjoy – audiences and entertainers alike."

# County Projects Update

By John Naland

Work continued over the summer on planning for several major infrastructure projects around our neighborhood. Here is an update.

**Carlin Springs Bridge Project:** In preparation for replacing the aging Carlin Springs Road bridge over N. George Mason Drive, the County held a community meeting in June at the Lubber Run Recreation Center and solicited online input on four alternative design concepts for the replacement bridge. Over 600 people participated in the online survey and the results are posted on the County website (go to [www.arlingtonva.us](http://www.arlingtonva.us) and search "Carlin Springs Bridge"). Later this fall, the County will release an updated design. It will then take about a year to finalize the design and put the contract out for bid. Construction is expected to start in spring 2014 and last the rest of that year. The project will keep the four vehicle lanes while adding dedicated bike lanes and widening the sidewalks. To fit all that in, the design calls for widening the bridge by four feet, narrowing the vehicle lanes, and removing the central median. The project will also add upgraded safety features including pedestrian safety lighting, new guardrails, and improved signage. Structural upgrades will include concrete support structures repair and high-performance concrete bridge decking. The County plans to reconstruct one lane at a time and thus does not expect to need to close the bridge except for brief periods. Due to space constraints, the project will not be able to improve the drivability of the tight on-and-off ramps.

**Arlington Blvd and Park Drive Project:** Work began in late August to install upgraded signals and pedestrian call buttons at the intersection at Arlington Blvd and Park Drive. That work is just the start of a series of safety and access improvements designed to reduce speeding and the incidence of collisions and create better access and crossings for pedestrians, transit users, cyclists and those travelling on the shared-use paths parallel to Arlington Blv. Other coming changes include new sidewalks and crosswalks, curb and gutter, accessible ramps and new trees. Work on those improvements has been delayed by staff changes at the Northern Virginia VDOT office. Additionally, the County took a step back over the summer to reevaluate the appropriate radii required on the turns. Once this issue is resolved, the construction documents will be prepared. Construction is expected to start in spring 2013. For more info, please visit [www.arlingtonva.us](http://www.arlingtonva.us) and search "Arlington Boulevard" or contact the project manager Christine Simpson at [csimpson@arlingtonva.us](mailto:csimpson@arlingtonva.us).

**Glencarlyn Playground Project:** The \$485,000 project funded through the Neighborhood Conservation fund to improve the playground in Glencarlyn Park near the end

of S. Park is still in its planning stages. Project elements include a "sand stream" with climbing and story rocks, a climbing dome, larger swings, a picnic area, and a wider bridge over Four Mile Run. Arlington County landscape architect Kathy von Bredow will attend the Sept 12 AFCA meeting to update residents on planning and the timeline for completion.

**Next Neighborhood Conservation Project:** With the above-described southside playground project approved for funding, AFCA now needs to decide what NC project to propose next for County consideration. Since Arlington Forest is now at the end of the line for future NC funding, it will take at least five years for a new project to work its way through the funding system. But it is to our advantage to submit our next proposal sooner rather than later. Past discussion on the AF Moms listserv suggested improving the playground on N. Edison Street. Residents supporting that or other projects on County land are invited to contact Arlington Forest's NC Representative Tim O'Leary at [tfoleary310@gmail.com](mailto:tfoleary310@gmail.com) with specific suggestions. Factoring in that input, AFCA will likely select the next project to endorse at a meeting later this fall.

**Park Enhancement Grant:** Residents who access the WO&D trail network via the trailhead at the foot of N. Granada and N. Greenbrier will notice the new information kiosk that was installed in late August. Other elements of the project which was coordinated by neighborhood residents include invasive plant control which will continue over the next two years.

**Lubber Run Community Center:** Public discussion of a possible new school on the site of the Lubber Run Community Center has moved to the back burner as the School Board focuses on quicker-impact projects to boost capacity by September 2017. Longer-term elementary projects and middle school and high school capacity expansion projects may not be considered until next year. As of now, the County government's own capital improvement plan calls for renovating the Lubber Run Community Center for continued use as a community center. This project is scheduled to come up in a bond referendum in 2014 with construction starting in 2016 at a cost of \$18 million.

*Get Connected with AFCA!*

Website: [www.arlingtonforestva.org](http://www.arlingtonforestva.org)

To join listserv, e-mail: [ArlingtonLife@gmail.com](mailto:ArlingtonLife@gmail.com)

AFCA Meeting: Sept 12th, 7 p.m.

# Remembering Mac McIntosh

By John Naland

Edgar C. "Mac" McIntosh, Jr., a fixture in our neighborhood over the nearly half-century since he co-founded the New Forest Valet in the Arlington Forest Shopping Center, passed away at age 67 on July 25 at Johns Hopkins Hospital after battling cancer.

Joined by his father, Mac McIntosh opened the New Forest Valet in April 1967. Working six days a week for decades, he and his wife Pamela made sure that the store lived up to its motto "Fussy Cleaning for Nice People." He was a steady presence in the shopping center during a period in the early 1980s when many stores closed due to rising rents. In recent years, his son Chris McIntosh along with wife Violet took over day-to-day running of the family business, although Mac McIntosh continued to serve customers whenever the store needed a hand.

A member of the first graduating class of Yorktown High

School in 1962, he contributed to the wider community by sponsoring Arlington County youth baseball teams throughout the 1970s and 1980s. He was also very active in St. Ann Roman Catholic Church in the Bluemont neighborhood, including serving as president of the church's Legion of Mary charitable organization.

He is survived by his wife Pamela and sons Chris and Tim. He will be missed by the hundreds of Arlington Forsters and other Arlingtonians who he knew by name and who chatted with him each week when they picked up and dropped off their dry cleaning.





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# Arlington Villages Project

by Peter Olivere

Arlington Villages Project and Glencarlyn resident

Will you be able to live comfortably and safely in your home as you age? The Arlington Villages Project is working to make Arlington your home for a lifetime!

Surveys show that nearly 90% of people 65 and older want to stay in their homes as long as possible! Villages offer a way to do this. A village is a neighborhood-based organization whose members share the goals of staying in their own homes as they age, enjoying active, healthy and safe lives, and working together to make this happen. Villages provide many of the benefits of a retirement community without giving up one's independence, home and neighborhood ties.

The services provided by villages typically include: social activities and events; volunteer help or referrals for home and computer maintenance and repair; rides to medical or other appointments; volunteer patient advocates to assist with medical visits; daily check-in contact; and links to a wide variety of services including those provided by County agencies and others organizations and businesses. Although well over 200 villages exist or are in development and 15 are already established in the D.C. metro area, Arlington currently has none. Some residents of Arlington Forest were working toward establishing a vil-

lage several years ago, but found the hurdles too much for a small neighborhood. Glencarlyn had a similar experience. Last fall, a group of citizen volunteers, the Arlington Villages Project Team, was formed to create an overall structure to enable the development of a network of villages in Arlington.

The Team is now working to create a few pilot local villages. One area is the combined neighborhoods of Glencarlyn, Arlington Forest and Boulevard Manor. These three are along Arlington Boulevard and several Team members live there. Representatives of the Project Team will attend the Oct 17 AFCA meeting. The Team will also hold planning meetings starting in September and would welcome your participation.

If you may be interested in being involved in creating this local village, please let us know, we can use almost any kind of help. If you are just interested in keeping abreast of our progress, we can include you on our monthly email updates. Contact Pete Olivere by email at [peter.olivere@arlingtonvillages.org](mailto:peter.olivere@arlingtonvillages.org) or at 703-626-2520. There is also information about the Arlington Villages Project and volunteer opportunities on the website [arlingtonvillages.org](http://arlingtonvillages.org).



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# Fall is Prime Time for Planting

By Cliff Fairweather  
Park Naturalist,  
Long Branch  
Nature Center

Fall is a great time to plant for a number of reasons. First, the plants are going dormant and so they are less susceptible to transplant shock. In the spring, plants are expending a lot of energy

We encourage people to choose native plants that support local songbirds, butterflies and other native wildlife, but we recommend planting your new natives in the fall to give them their best start.

Long Branch Nature Center will be holding a native plant sale on Saturday, Sept 22 from 1 to 3 PM. This is a great opportunity to get some great, locally-grown native plants and get them in the ground at the prime time for planting. The vast majority of our plants are propagated right in our own gardens and our prices can't be beat! We will feature sun-loving and butterfly-attracting plants and also have a nice selection of wildflowers, shade lovers, ferns, and even a few shrubs. Rain date is Sunday, Sept 23. Payment is by cash or check. For info call 703-228-6535.

on new growth, leaving them with fewer reserves to cope with the stress of transplanting. Another good reason to plant in the fall is the weather. In autumn, temperatures are moderating so plants are suffering less water stress and don't need as much water. Still, you'll have to give them some water. So water long enough to encourage deep root growth.

Finally, fall planting gives your plants three seasons to get established and grow deep roots before they have to endure summer drought. Cooler fall weather is easier on your plants and it's easier on you than gardening in the summer heat. In our area, you can plant at least into November with native plants.

### Long Branch Nature Center:

Nature abounds at our nearby nature center located in an oak-hickory forest with access to the W&OD bike/hike trail. The center is open Saturdays, Noon to 5 PM, and Tuesday through Friday, 10 AM to 5 PM. Closed Sunday and Monday. Check the quarterly newsletter The Snag (on the County website) for a full listing of LBNC's many programs for children and adults including local bird walks, campfire

talks and a host of of kids programs. Free biodegradable paper leaf bags for the County's fall leaf collection will be available at LBNC starting Oct 17.



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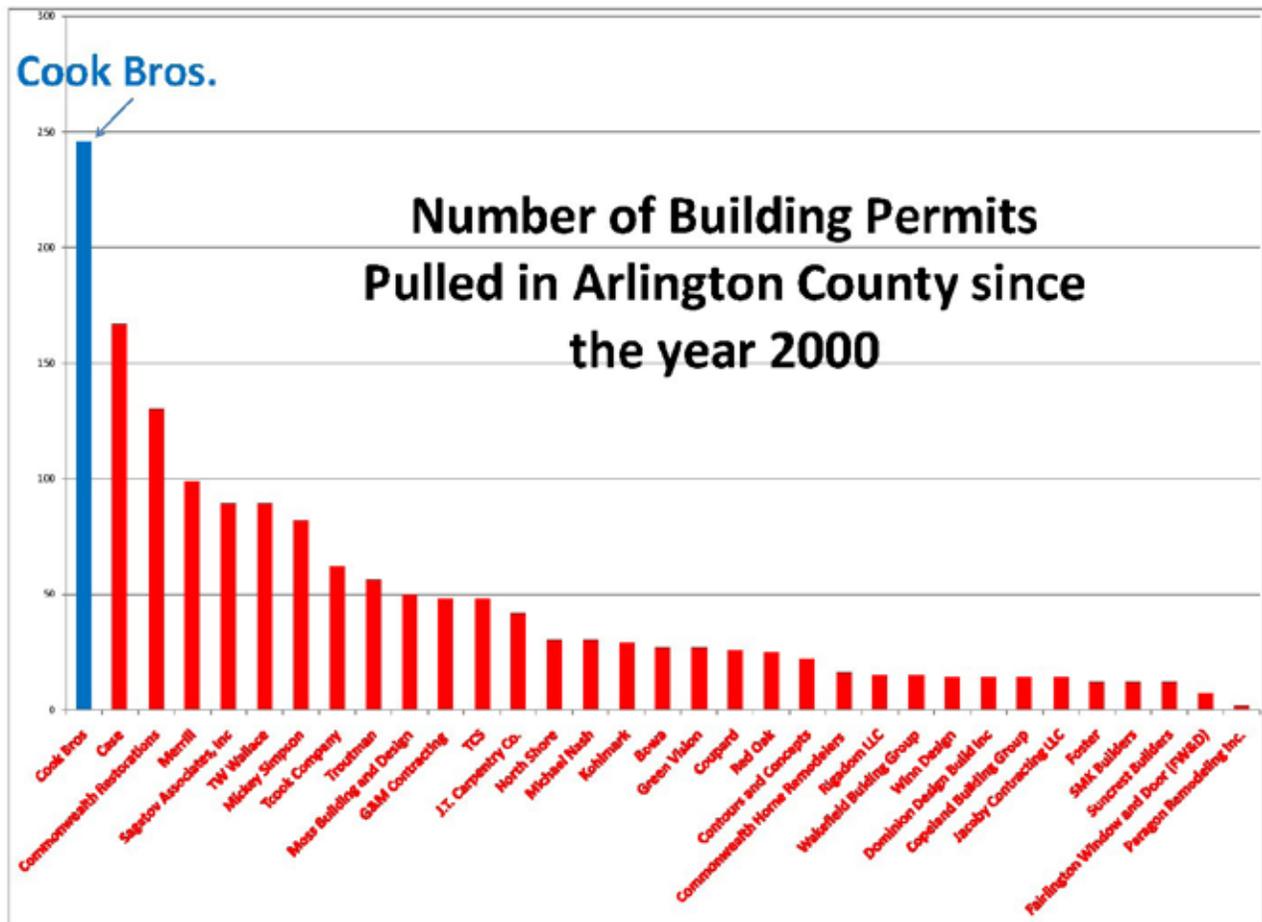
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# Around the Forest

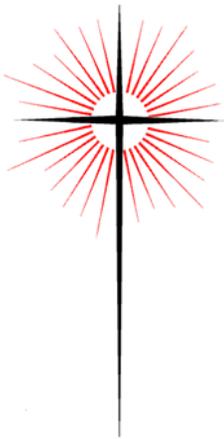
**Arlington Forest Subway:** Subway sandwiches opened in late August in the Arlington Forest Shopping Center. We will publish an interview with its owner next month.

**Fall Cleanup:** The semi-annual volunteer cleanup of the area around the trail from the foot of N. Greenbrier to Four Mile Run will take place Saturday, Sept 15, between 9-11 AM (rain or shine). Residents who appreciate Four Mile Run and the walking/biking trails parallel to it are invited to participate. All ages are welcome. We will pick up trash and remove debris. Sarah Archer, the County's invasive plant control specialist, will join us to remove ivy from trees. Meet at the information kiosk at the foot of N. Greenbrier. Wear old clothes and sturdy shoes and bring drinking water and gardening or work gloves. For more info, contact John Naland at nalandfamily@yahoo.com.

**Culpepper Gardens Open House:** September is National Senior Center Month and Culpepper Garden's 55+ Center will be hosting an Open House on Sunday, Sept. 23, 2 to 4 PM. Small vendors and community groups will be there to meet and greet you. Get to know your community while browsing items for sale such as books, baked goods and crafts. The public is invited. For more information, call 703-228-4403 or go online at [www.arlingtonva.us/seniors](http://www.arlingtonva.us/seniors).



In the wake of the June 29 derecho storm, most of Arlington Forest was without power for almost four days and dozens of homes and vehicles were damaged, including the above shown house from the Greenbrier Section.



## St. John's Episcopal Church

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### Sunday Worship Services

8 am and 10 am

### Sunday Christian Education

Adults 9 am - Youth 9:15 am

- 
- |                     |  |  |
|---------------------|--|--|
| <b>September 4</b>  | 7:30 pm - Book Club <i>Catherine the Great: A Portrait of a Woman</i> by Robert Massie |  |
| <b>September 22</b> | 4:00 pm - Picnic at St John's with the Glencarlyn neighbors                            |  |
| <b>September 23</b> | 10:00 am - Sunday Worship Service - outside under the trees                            |  |
| <b>October 2</b>    | 7:30 pm - Book Club <i>(check webpage for book after Sept 6)</i>                       |  |

### Join Us in Our Exciting New Family Programs

- **Programs** will be offered every Sunday at 9:15 a.m. during the school year for children ages three through high school. The topic will rotate each week between exploration, service, fellowship and reflection.
- **Children's Chapel** (age 3 through fifth grade) is held during the first half of the 10 a.m. service to provide kids a service in a kid-friendly format that teaches them what to expect when they start attending "grown-up" church.
- Middle and High School students can earn service credit for being **Acolytes** during our 10 a.m. service. Acolyte training will be offered in the Fall and Spring each year.
- Instruction in preparation for **First Communion** Service on November 4 (first grade and up).
- Instruction for **Confirmation** using the "Confirm Not Conform" program will begin in November.
- **Field trips** and church **overnights** are planned throughout the school year.

# Community Calendar

**Next AFCA Meeting:** Wednesday, Sept 12, 7 PM, at Barrett School library.

**E-CARE:** Saturday, Oct 13, 8:30 AM to 3 PM at Thomas Jefferson Middle School. Drop off hazardous fluids and old computers.

**Street Sweeping:** Monday, Oct 15. Move your car for the County's street sweepers.

**Future AFCA Meetings:** Oct 17, Nov 14, Jan 16, Feb 20, Mar 20, Apr 17 and May 15 picnic.

**Kids Halloween Parade:** Late-Oct date TBD. A neighborhood tradition.

**Election Day:** Nov 6. Vote for President, Congress, County Board, School Board and bond issues. A new Virginia law requires voters to present valid ID.

**AFCA Holiday Party:** December date TBD at Lubber Run Center. A neighborhood tradition with Santa and tables lined with treats.

**Neighborhood Spring Cleanup:** April date TBD. Our third annual volunteer clean-up of public spaces around Arlington Forest.

**Annual Community Yard Sale:** May date TBD. Turn unwanted stuff into cash.

**Lubber Run Amphitheater 2013 Season:** Live entertainment under the stars resumes in June.

# Forest Exchange

**Free Chandelier:** Free to AF family: chandelier removed from dining room. Five lamps with globes. Works fine. Looks like brass. Possibly original to house. Call 571-327-6496

**Wanted:** AFCA annual dues. Send in your membership registration coupon along with \$10 in annual household dues today to your AFCA section VP. Thanks!

**Kids for Hire:** Need reasonably-priced help with babysitting, yard work, pet sitting, or other tasks? Check out Kids for Hire on page 14. If you have a tween or teenager with a service to offer, encourage them to sign up.

**AFCA Listserv:** Follow late-breaking neighborhood news by joining the AFCA listserve by e-mailing your address to [ArlingtonLife@gmail.com](mailto:ArlingtonLife@gmail.com)

**AFCA Website:** If you have not visited AFCA's website at [www.arlingtonforestva.org](http://www.arlingtonforestva.org), please check it out. New content is added over time, including back issues of this newsletter.

**Put Your Notice Here:** Send your notice by Oct 4 to [newsletter@arlingtonforestva.org](mailto:newsletter@arlingtonforestva.org).

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# Arlington Forest 101: No Dumping

by John Naland

Exiting the trail up from Four Mile Run at the foot of N. Greenbrier Street, I stood speechless as a Mercedes-Benz drove into the cul-de-sac dragging a tree trunk on a rope. As the driver parked and walked around to the back of his car, I called out "You're not going to dump that here are you?" He responded, "Yes I am." I then explained that it was illegal in Arlington to dump anything on public land. He said "What is it to you?" I replied that I lived just up the street and was one of the hundreds of people who enjoy the natural beauty of the forest every day. As he began to untie the tree, I read aloud his car license plate number and told him that I would report him for illegal dumping. He got back in his car and drove away dragging the tree trunk behind him.

While the concept of "no littering" is widely understood and adhered to in our neighborhood, some residents appear to be unclear about the prohibition against dumping. That prohibition, which is spelled out in the County Code and is backed by fines, makes it illegal to dump on public land such things as tree trimmings, grass cuttings, Christmas trees, leaves and soil.

What is the logic behind the law? First, as the County works to control destructive invasive plants, the dumping of yard waste can re-infest lands that have been cleared

of invasive plants (such as Lubber Run Park and Arlington Forest Park in front of the shopping center). Second, once one person dumps one load of refuse, others feel emboldened to join in and eventually large piles of debris pile up spoiling the natural beauty.

So, please do not dump refuse on public lands -- that includes over your back fence if you live above Lubber Run or Four Mile Run. Arlington County will be glad to haul away yard refuse at no charge. See the County website for details.



**Save the Date:**  
**Fall Cleanup**  
At the foot of N. Greenbrier  
to Four Mile Run  
Saturday, Sept 15, 9-11 AM

## Thanks for your business!

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# Barcroft School News

Barcroft's been back to school since August 1. Barcroft uses a Modified School Year Calendar, starting school earlier and taking multi-week breaks each quarter. Between Oct 1-12, students may enjoy vacation or take interesting **Fall Intersession** classes that extend their learning experience.

Neighborhood volunteers are welcome at Barcroft Elementary weekdays between 9 AM-5 PM. to supervise Student Internet Café, work in the Library re-shelving books, and assist after school during Homework Club, Tennis and Boys on Bikes. To volunteer, please contact Principal Miriam Hughey-Guy at 703-228-5838 or miriam.hugheyguy@apsva.us.

No volunteer time, but still want to help? If you have a **Harris Teeter VIC Card**, please link to Barcroft. This year, the PTA is raising money to purchase new technologies and fund student field trips. When you purchase Harris Teeter-brand products between Aug 2012 and May 2013, donations are made to Barcroft. Go to [www.harristeeter.com/community/together\\_in\\_education/link\\_to\\_your\\_school.aspx](http://www.harristeeter.com/community/together_in_education/link_to_your_school.aspx) and use code # 4238. Or provide your VIC card number and card holder last name to Christine Scullion at [clscullion@yahoo.com](mailto:clscullion@yahoo.com) and she will link your card. You can link your card to up to five schools, so please consider link-

ing to Barcroft. To further support Barcroft, follow us at: [www.facebook.com/BarcroftElementary](http://www.facebook.com/BarcroftElementary).

We invite neighbors to join us for September Events. On Thursday, Sept 20, Barcroft celebrates our annual **Hispanic Heritage Night**, beginning at 6:30 PM. The evening will include wonderful educational exhibits, special entertainment and outstanding food. Join us Saturday, Sept 22 for our annual **Chalk4Peace** event. Everyone's invited to create works of original chalk art on school sidewalks and blacktop.

**Save These Fall Dates:** Friday, Oct 26, is the **PTA Halloween Party and Dance** and the start of the **Treats 4 Our Troops** candy collection. Last year, we had over 700 party attendees. You don't want to miss THE party of 2012! Be sure to come hungry to vote Nov 6, and support the **PTA Election Day Bake Sale**. During the week of Nov 12-16, PTA hosts a **Book Fair and Holiday Shop** - start your holiday shopping early with us. On Dec 3, the PTA hosts **Silver Diner "Moms, Dads and Grads" Night** at the Clarendon restaurant. We hope Barcroft families, neighbors, and esteemed alumni join us for delicious food and fabulous company! To learn more about what's happening at Barcroft, go to [apsva.us/Page/13363](http://apsva.us/Page/13363).

## Add an Important Item to Your Back-to-school List.

For parents, back-to-school season means it's time to stock up on school supplies. But it can also be a good time to think about how to save for your child's future education.

Developing a strategy for achieving your education savings goal – or other savings goals – can help you stay on track.

To learn more about your education savings options, call or visit today.



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**ENROLL NOW - SPACE IS LIMITED!**

# Barrett School News

We hope you had a great summer and are ready for an exciting 2012-2013 school year! To reduce paper, the Barrett PTA announces our new **"GO GREEN"** initiative. More info will be available via email and our website at [www.apsva.us/Page/4038](http://www.apsva.us/Page/4038).

Last year we raised almost \$14,000 through our **retail store programs**. Help us continue this success by linking your cards today:

- Giant A+ Bonus Bucks Program:* Barrett code 02197
- Harris Teeter Together in Education:* Barrett code 3906
- Safeway Club Card for Education (eScrip):* Barrett code 6472685

Barrett PTA's new **Health and Wellness Committee** is excited to engage families, teachers and children in being active and eating healthy foods. Our first activity is **National Walk to School Day** on Wednesday, Oct 3. Stay tuned to hear more about **Fresh Fruit Fridays!**

**Barrett's Fall Book Fair**, Oct 1-5, is one of the best ways to support our school's reading efforts and raise funds for Barrett. The Book Fair is open to the neighborhood community. Families can shop Tuesday, Oct 2, and Wednesday, Oct 3, from 6 to 8 PM.

Join us at **Dogfish Head Alehouse** for Barrett Restaurant Night on Tuesday, Oct 30. This hugely popular event helps to raise funds for Barrett. Eat dinner in a fun atmosphere

surrounded by friends and familiar faces from Barrett! There will also be a raffle for some fabulous prizes.

Registration for after-school enrichment classes is **Sept 12-21**. See [www.enrichmentmatters.com/Barrett](http://www.enrichmentmatters.com/Barrett) for the class catalog.

The Barrett PTA partnered with **EduKit** for a fourth year of providing parents with an easier way to purchase school supplies. Parents were able to order online and many made generous contributions to help purchase supplies for families in need.

After looking over your back-to-school packets, please consider joining the PTA and volunteering in some capacity at Barrett. The combined efforts of the talented Barrett teachers, parents and other community members help to create a richer and more meaningful school experience for our children.

## Barrett's Upcoming Events:

- Pizza Party & First PTA meeting**, Tues, Sept 11, 6:45 PM
- Barrett's Ice Cream Social**, Fri, Sept 14, 6:30-7:30 PM
- Back-To-School Night for parents**, Wed, Sept 19
- Fall Book Fair**, Oct 1-5, evening hours Oct 2 and 3
- National Walk to School Day**, Wed, Oct 3
- Dogfish Head Alehouse Restaurant Night**, Tues, Oct 30

The market in the Washington DC Metro area has been moving well so far this year. Buyer traffic slowed slightly in July (which is typical for the season) after five straight months of higher than average activity. Overall in Arlington County prices have improved as inventory remains low. Sales prices for single family homes are up 6.67% from this time last year.

Buyer demand remains strong due to low housing inventories, high rental prices and incredible interest rates. If you are in the market to buy or sell it's a great time for with stable prices and with interest rates as low as they are, the overall affordability is still excellent. The most popular loan is FHA, currently at 3.25% for a 30 year fixed rate loan up to \$729,750, only 3.5% down payment! Conventional mortgage rates are at 3.5% for loans up to \$417,000, 3.625% for loans up to \$625,500, 4.125% for Jumbo non conforming loans.

Below are the 2012 closed sales in from April to date per MRIS (our realtor's multiple listing service).

Address	BR	Bath	List Price	Sold Price
113 Buchanan	4	2.5	605000	605000
19 Edison St S	3	2	598000	593000
4767 Arl. Blvd	3	2	499900	497700
48 Aberdeen St	4	3	695000	670000
205 Abingdon St	3	1.5	639000	660000
101 Granada St	3	2	619000	619000
39 Edison St S	4	2	549900	545000
117 Park Dr N	3	2	575000	560000
4619 3rd St N	3	1	598000	629500
231 Park Dr N	5	2	698500	720000
4825 1st St S	4	2	450000	430000
10 Columbus St	3	2	615000	615000
301 Emerson St	3	2	739900	747900
5510 Carlin Spr	5	4.5	989000	975000
108 Galveston St	3	2	675000	682000
206 Granada St	3	1.5	639900	639900

The sold properties averaged 26 days on the market, average seller subsidy of \$3,313. Average list price is \$636,631, average sold price is \$636,813.

Looking to sell in the near future? Contact me for a FREE report titled *"11 Things You Need to Know to Pass Your Home Inspection"*.



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## Kids for Hire

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

### Southside:

- Caroline Rogers, pet sitting, dog walking, carolinearogers@verizon.net, 703-892-0226
- Julia Rogers, babysitting (RC certified), juliaerogers23@gmail.com, 703-892-0226
- Jon Tiernan, mother's helper (RC certified), dog walking, pet sitting, yard work, jonny.boy4@hotmail.com, 703-979-5046
- Liz Tiernan, mother's helper (RC certified), dog walking, pet sitting, lizzytiernan@hotmail.com, 703-979-5046

### Greenbrier Section:

- Zephren Collinson, babysitting (references), pet sitting, dog walking, yard work, tutoring, 703-528-3595
- Kate Felsenheld, pet sitting, dog walking, k.cliffhero@gmail.com, 703-276-9874
- Alex Hendel, babysitting (RC certified), dog walking, tutoring, alexhendel@gmail.com, 703-763-0070
- Sarah Keyser, babysitting (RC certified), pet sitting, dog walking, Stealers12@gmail.com, 703-243-8777
- Alice Naland, babysitting (RC certified), pet sitting, dog walking, nalandfamily@yahoo.com, 703-888-0125

- Lucy Naland, babysitting (RC certified), pet sitting, dog walking, LucyMNaland@gmail.com, 703-888-0125

### Northside:

- Sophia Constantine, pet sitting, dog walking, cpconstantine@comcast.net, 703-841-9229
- Sophie Frank, babysitting (RC certified), soccer training, tutoring, sophie.e.frank@gmail.com, 703-859-0722
- Fiona Hickey, babysitting (RC certified), 703-351-7013
- Sophie Hickey, babysitting, 703-351-7013
- Isaac Mortimer-Lotke, babysitting (RC certified), 703-276-9046
- Marika Mortimer-Lotke, babysitting (certified), 703-276-9046
- Sammy Patecell, yard work, 703-524-6891
- Bo Sampson, babysitting (RC certified), dog walking, tutoring, bo.i.samps@gmail.com, 703-447-7678
- Gabby Young, babysitting, mother's helper, pet sitting, dog walking, merrywesing@yahoo.com, 703-622-4229
- Chris Werbos, dog walking, pet sitting, yard work (can work with power tools), chris.werbos@gmail.com

### All Neighborhoods:

- Julia Franchi, babysitting (RC certified), mother's helper, pet sitting, dog walking, yard work, 703-220-4894
- Zach Gasper, yard work (mowing/edging, drain installations, etc), zachary.gasper@gmail.com, 703-304-1159



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