

The Arlington Forester

Vol. 68, Number 2

Arlington, Virginia

October 2026

Virtual AFCA Meeting— County Board Member Susan Cunningham

The Arlington Forest Citizens Association invites you to join our monthly Zoom meeting at 7 p.m. on October 21. Arlington County Board member Susan Cunningham will join us to discuss county issues and to share her thoughts on what she and the board have been able to achieve during her first term. There will be plenty of time for questions and discussion.

To join the meeting through Zoom, here are **updated directions**. Enter the following URL into your browser between 6:45 and 7 p.m. on Wednesday, September 16: <https://tinyurl.com/33tmbzay>. Alternatively, you can dial in to the meeting at 301-715-8592, where you will be prompted to enter meeting number 819 175 2130 and passcode 048569. You might also be prompted to hit the # sign one or more times. This call-in number will be active starting at 6:45 p.m.



How Do AFCA Dues Benefit You?

Your annual AFCA dues help get this newsletter delivered to your door as a service to you and the entire neighborhood, with information on trees and parks, trails and bridges, the Lubber Run Amphitheater and Farmers Market, traffic and pedestrian safety, and more. Dues pay for our annual picnic and Santa party and for donations to our neighborhood schools. Dues support the AFCA website (at www.arlingtonforestva.org), which contains a detailed neighborhood map, a history of Arlington Forest, back issues of this newsletter, and more. Please pay your dues promptly this year.

Use this QR code to pay your AFCA dues: just point your phone camera at the image and click on the link. It will take you to the AFCA webpage for paying your dues using PayPal.



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Deliver this form and your check payable to AFCA to your respective AFCA section representative (or pay on the AFCA website or through the QR code):

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Northside: Veronica Spicer, 128 N. Park Dr. 22203
Southside: Julie Kirchhoff, 4828 Arlington Blvd. 22204

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AFCA Virtual Meeting 7 p.m. **October 21** Through Zoom

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The Arlington Forester is the official publication of the Arlington Forest Citizens Association, Arlington, VA. A nonpartisan, nonsectarian publication serving the residents of Arlington Forest, the *Forester* welcomes articles and photos focusing on issues specific to our neighborhood. We publish monthly from September to November and January to May. The deadline for submissions is the first of the month. Email your submission of up to 400 words—preferably with a photo—to newsletter@arlingtonforestva.org. Articles on controversial issues are welcome but do not necessarily reflect the views of AFCA and will be marked as opinion.

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The *Forester* is printed by Minuteman Press

AFCA

September 2026 Meeting

By Janet Irwin,

AFCA Recording Secretary

AFCA President Liz Grossman chaired our first monthly meeting after the summer break on Wednesday, September 16. A disappointingly low turnout of about 16 households participated. (Neighbors—please! These meetings are held on Zoom now. Please add them to your calendars (see the dates on page 13) and join us for useful and interesting information about our county and community.)

Tim Aiken joined us by Zoom to discuss Arlington's Stumbling Stones program, which he heads. Working with the local historical society and other interested parties, Tim has led the effort to identify and memorialize the names and memory of those enslaved in Arlington long ago. To date, the program has confirmed 2,770 enslaved individuals, of whom 1,145 are named. You can find out more online at Memorializing the Enslaved in Arlington, and you can see examples of Stumbling Stones outside the Lubber Run Community Center on N. Park Dr. Neighbors are considering the possibility of sponsoring more Stumbling Stones related to properties in what is now Arlington Forest before the Civil War. Each stone costs \$350 to install. Marsha Lederman is our AFCA point person for the Stumbling Stones program.

Liz Vance, Northside resident and moderator of our neighborhood listserv, gave a useful overview of the various listservs that have emerged organically in our neighborhood over time. She described the main listserv for general inquiries and information, plus several subsidiary listservs for gardeners, babysitting, small businesses, discussion of political and social issues, and more (see Liz's article on page 8).

Art Schwartz gave a great overview of AFCA since its founding in 1940. This newsletter, published by AFCA eight times a year, is the oldest continuously published civic association newsletter in the county. AFCA has raised many neighborhood concerns and advocated for numerous local projects over the years. Examples include advocacy for preservation of Lubber Run Park and Amphitheater, for the Lubber Run Community Center (LRCC), and for Barrett Elementary School. AFCA submitted a neighborhood conservation plan in 1991 and revised it in 2022 after a great deal of neighborhood consultation and input (you can find it on the AFCA website). AFCA supported introduction of the farmers market on Saturday mornings at Barrett, along with numerous small infrastructure projects, such as playground upgrades at Edison and Glencarlyn Parks, curb corner bumpouts, and the signage for the W&OD trailhead at the bottom of N. Greenbrier St. Possible future

...continued on page 3

Carlin Springs Transportation Study Underway— Your Input Matters

By Bev Johnston and Lora Strine

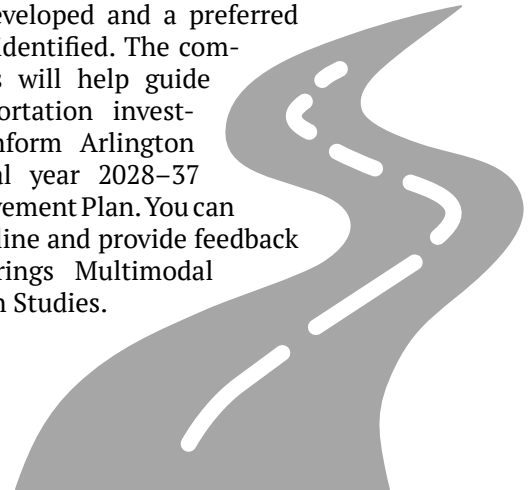
Pedestrian and traffic safety on N. Carlin Springs Rd. has been a concern for Arlington Forest residents for many years. Neighbors have worked with Arlington County to raise concerns and advocate for improvements, including higher speeding fines and rapid flashing beacons installed at the N. Harrison St. and N. Edison St. crossings.

Now Arlington County is taking a broader look at the entire Carlin Springs Rd. corridor through its North and South Carlin Springs Multimodal Transportation Studies. Together, the studies cover Carlin Springs Rd. from the county line near 8th Place S. to N. Wakefield St. On October 6, county transportation staff held a public open house at Kenmore Middle School to kick off the studies and hear from residents about their experiences along Carlin Springs Rd. The meeting marked the beginning of a public engagement process that will continue as the county develops and evaluates potential improvements. The studies are looking at Carlin Springs from a multimodal perspective—not only how the road works for cars but also how it serves people who walk, bike or scooter, and take public transit. The county will consider community input along with transportation data, existing planning guidance, and best practices to identify challenges and opportunities and develop recommendations to improve safety and comfort for everyone using the corridor.

Arlington Forest residents have an important opportunity to weigh in now—**and to share your feedback by October 20!** We know where crossing the road can be difficult, where speeding is a concern, where sidewalks or bus stops could work better, and how conditions change at different times of the day. Residents who were unable

to attend the October 6 meeting—or who have additional comments—can provide feedback online **through October 20**. This is an opportunity to tell the county about your experiences using Carlin Springs Rd. and to identify locations or conditions that you believe should be

addressed as part of the study. Scan the QR code or visit the county's Carlin Springs Multimodal Transportation Studies webpage to access the online feedback form and learn more about the project. The county will use this initial community feedback to help develop conceptual alternatives for the corridor. Residents will have additional opportunities to comment as those alternatives are developed and a preferred alternative is identified. The completed studies will help guide future transportation investments and inform Arlington County's fiscal year 2028–37 Capital Improvement Plan. You can learn more online and provide feedback at Carlin Springs Multimodal Transportation Studies.



AFCA September 2026 Meeting *continued from pg. 2*

projects under discussion include improving the declining tree canopy, repairing erosion in Lubber Run park, and installing additional traffic calming measures. Bev Johnston added that she and Lora Strine are serving as AFCA representatives on a county task force for improving traffic and pedestrian safety on S. and N. Carlin Springs Rd.

Art also secured a \$975 grant from the Arlington Neighborhoods Program to help cover next spring's annual potluck and turn it into a great all-neighborhood event. To make it happen, AFCA is working on securing indoor space at LRCC because our traditional May

cookout has been rained out for the past 2 years. AFCA is also again planning a Santa party in early December, always a big hit with kids and families. Northside neighbor Allison Kennett is coordinating the event but could use some volunteer help. Please contact her at allison.kennett@gmail.com if you can help out.

As required by our bylaws, we voted on AFCA's budget for the current year. It was unanimously approved, with projected revenues of \$12,395 and expenses of \$14,090. Your annual dues help to cover the cost of delivering our newsletter to your door and other AFCA activities. If you haven't paid them yet (\$20), please do so now.

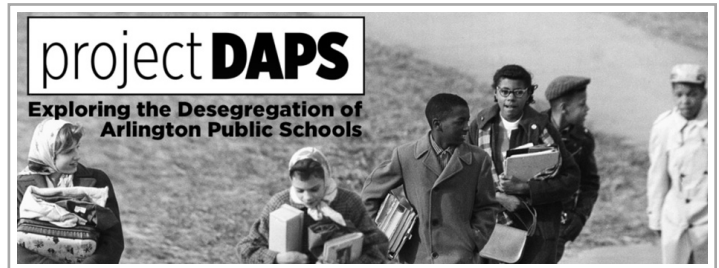
Arlington Public Schools: Initial Resistance to Desegregation

By Alice and Todd Burns, AFCA Historians

Arlington was the first public school system in Virginia to desegregate, a point of pride for many. But the transition was slow, complicated, and imperfect. You can find more details online at Arlington Public Library's Project DAPS (Desegregation of Arlington Public Schools).

Early inequity. Before the Civil War, it was illegal in Virginia even for free Blacks to gather for the purpose of education. After the war, the Wesley Zion Church established a school for Black children in Freedmen's Village (now the World War I section of Arlington National Cemetery). Arlington's first public schools were segregated: the first three schools included two schools for White children and one for Black children. In 1902, the state's new constitution codified the inequity, stipulating that "White and colored children shall not be taught in the same school."

Hoffman-Boston Junior High School, opened in 1932, provided the first secondary school option for people of color, but the facilities were subpar and the school was not accredited. In 1941, only 13 seniors graduated, and nearly three-quarters of Black students either commuted to the District of Columbia (DC) for their secondary education or didn't attend school.



The NAACP gets involved. In 1946, DC announced that Arlington students who attended its schools would have to start paying tuition. At the urging of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Arlington agreed to pay their tuition for the remainder of the 1946 school year. With the free-DC-school option off the table, a Black student, Constance Carter, tried to enroll at Washington-Lee (now Washington-Liberty) High School in 1947. When Principal Claude Richmond refused, Carter and the NAACP sued Arlington County Public Schools. A federal judge ordered the county to provide equal facilities for Black students, resulting in increased funding for Black schools and higher pay for Black teachers.

Next month: Overcoming resistance to desegregation.

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Memorializing the Enslaved in Arlington Forest

By Marsha Lederman

All over Arlington, communities and individuals have funded bronze plaques memorializing the enslaved, and more are already planned, including for our neighborhood. Before the Civil War, what is now Arlington Forest contained a number of farms that were at least partially within its borders and that held enslaved persons. For many, only their age and sex are known.

Now Arlington Forest neighbors have the opportunity to join in placing plaques by the entrance to the Lubber Run Amphitheater, where many people will see them. (The plaques do not need to be on the exact spot where an enslaved person lived or toiled.) Working with AFCA, the Arlington Historical Society (AHS) will set up a dedication ceremony for unveiling the plaques.

You can find out more on the AHS website at Memorializing the Enslaved in Arlington (MEA). Foresters can contribute directly to this project on the MEA webpage by scrolling down to the bottom and finding "Donate" in the lower lefthand corner. Under "Is this donation in memory of someone," simply designate Arlington Forest. When contributions for Arlington Forest reach at least \$350 (the cost of one plaque), the AHS will reach out to AFCA and start the process. To have plaques installed for the June

2027 opening of the Lubber Run Amphitheater, please donate by November 30, 2026.

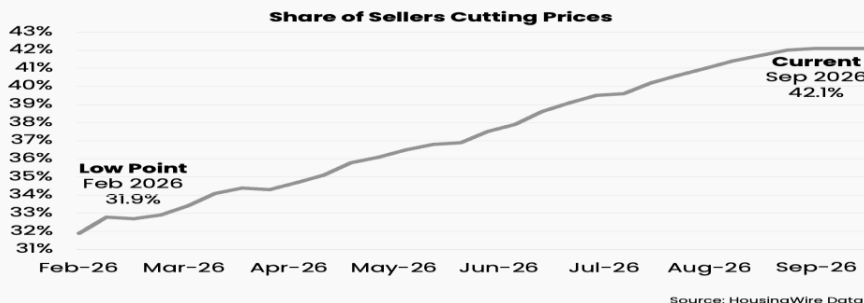
Jointly run by the AHS and the Black Heritage Museum of Arlington, the MEA project embeds brass and bronze markers in walkways at or near the last known residences or workplaces of those enslaved in Arlington from 1669 to 1865.

The plaques are crafted by students at Arlington Tech High School. Researchers have identified over 2,700 enslaved people in Arlington's past and named more than 1,050 of them, with dozens of additional plaque installations planned through December 2026.

AFCA will keep the community informed on the MEA project for our neighborhood. You can find the MEA presentation at the September AFCA meeting at <https://tinyurl.com/yfc4dest>. Questions? Contact Nancy Pilchen, one of the coordinators of MEA, at nancypilchenmea@gmail.com.

Memorializing
the Enslaved
in Arlington

Price Cuts Have Climbed for 7 Straight Months



If you're selling, knowing this up front is key. It shows you've got to get your number right from day one. If you're buying, a home that's already had a price reduction could be exactly what you want. It means the seller's ready to make a deal. Want to know what this means for your price or your offer? If your real estate plans are taking shape, let's connect and walk through the best path forward. Lean on my 41 years of local experience to guide your next move.



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Four Mile Run Cleanup Success

By Tyler Sparks

Twenty-five Arlington Foresters, young and old, joined together on September 19 for a semiannual creek cleanup of Four Mile Run, organized by the 100 block of N. Granada St. Volunteers noticed a markedly cleaner stream from the past, both in the amount of trash and debris found and also in the clarity of the water. But they still found enough garbage to fill several trash bags for the county to collect. Highlights included a large area rug, an air conditioner unit, copper plumbing piping, and—ironically—a junk removal advertisement.

The cleanup, which coincided with the 100 block's biannual block party, pulled in neighbors from across Arlington Forest. We focused on cleaning up Four Mile Run both upstream and downstream from the access trailhead at N. Granada and N. Greenbrier Streets. The next cleanup will happen near Earth Day in the spring.



Mt. Kim Martial Arts Opens at Arlington Forest Shopping Center

By Art Schwartz

If you happened to have walked by the Lubber Run Shopping Center around 3 p.m. on August 15, you may have been surprised to see dozens of young martial arts students performing a series of impressive exercises in the parking lot, witnessed by cheering parents, instructors, and onlookers. That was the day when Mt. Kim Martial Arts held its ribbon-cutting ceremony and grand opening.

Founded by Grandmaster Mountain Kim, the company has 12 locations in the metropolitan area. Its newest studio is in what was formerly Brooke Rental, next to the Outback Steakhouse. Classes in a variety of martial arts are available to children, teens, and adults. Instructors emphasize the importance of respect, self-confidence, positive mental attitude, and high goal setting. Family and other discounts are available. For more information, visit the studio or contact mtkimarlington.com.



Barrett Elementary School Announcement

Calling all Arlington Forest families! Please join us for Barrett Elementary's first annual Trunk or Treat on Saturday, October 24, 4:30-6:30 p.m. in the Barrett parking lot (the back side near N. George Mason Dr.)! Barrett families, option school families, and private school families are all invited! Please RSVP at <https://tinyurl.com/KWBtrunk>.

We are about \$750 short of our Barrett T-shirt fundraiser. If you would like to donate to the Barrett PTA to help cover the costs of buying a shirt for every student, please donate at <https://tinyurl.com/BarrettTee26>. Thank you to all our Barrett families who have donated!

Growing, Growing, Growing, Flown ...

By Liz Vance

On Sunday, August 24, we welcomed the Class of 2039 as they started Kindergarten, and the Classes of 2033 and 2030 as they headed off to 6th and 9th grade, respectively. The final “new beginnings” portrait is the class of 2026. They have graduated and ventured off to explore the world, so we did their picture early (last spring!).

Mark your calendars for the 2027 dates! Class of 2027 Seniors: Sunday, March 14, 2027, 6 p.m. (the Sunday

before Spring Break); Rising K, 6, 9: Sunday, August 29, 2027, 6 p.m. (the Sunday before the first day of school).

We meet at the Barrett playground, and reminders will be sent out on the Arlington Forest Families Listserv and posted in The Arlington Forester. We schedule the photos based on the APS calendar, but ALL Forester kids, regardless of school, are invited to participate.

See you in the Spring!



Class of 2039—Kindergarten



Class of 2033—6th grade



Class of 2030—9th grade



Class of 2026—Spring graduates!

Neighborhood Listservs

By Liz Vance

At the September meeting of the Arlington Forest Citizens Association (AFCA), I gave a presentation on all of the listservs available to the Arlington Forest community. In case you missed it, here's a synopsis.

AFCA publishes the newsletter you have in your hands. This is where you will get announcements for upcoming AFCA meetings and AFCA-sponsored events. The website is <http://www.arlingtonforestva.org>.

The primary social listserv for our neighborhood is the **Arlington Forest Families** group. You can access it at <https://arlingtonforest.groups.io/g/main> (or send an email to LizVance@gmail.com). With over 500 members, it reaches most but not all Foresters. YET. Discussions are strictly limited to issues pertaining to living in the Forest. This is where you will find the answer to everything from, "Did anyone else hear that explosion and did anyone report the power outage yet?" to "Who owns this cat?" Did you order too much compost from the county? Post it on the AFF Listserv. Did you just find out (at 10 p.m.) that your kid has a project due tomorrow and you need posterboard? Someone on the AFF listserv is probably awake and happy to give you the leftovers from

their own last school project emergency.

The following groups are available to members of the **Arlington Forest Families Master Group**:

- The Littles of Arlington Forest (for parents of small children);
- Arlington Forest Gardeners;
- Arlington Forest Caregivers;
- Arlington Forest Small Business Roundtable.

Although community and connection is the goal of the AFF listserv, there are some things we do not talk about. It's like Thanksgiving with your extended family: no religion, no politics. And as with all groups, we always assume the best of intentions.

But don't worry—there is a neighborhood group established specifically so you CAN discuss the topics that inspire strong opinions and vigorous debate! Also restricted to Foresters, it's called **ConnectedAF** and can be found here at <https://groups.google.com/g/connectedaf>.

The folks in Southside (who live south of Arlington Blvd.) have their own group, **South Arlington Forest**, at <https://groups.io/g/SouthArlingtonForest>.



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AFCA Wins Funding for Neighborhood Gathering Next May

We have had terrible luck in the past 2 years, each time having to cancel our traditional May cookout at the Lubber Run pavilion due to bad weather. So AFCA came up with a new idea: holding a more carnival-like event indoors at the Lubber Run Community Center. To help make it happen, AFCA applied for a neighborhood minigrant under the Arlington Neighborhoods Program, which funds county grants to improve streets, parks, sidewalks, and so on. The program also offers minigrants to help fund community-building events, and it awarded a minigrant for \$975 to AFCA to help fund our community event next May.

To increase participation, we will hold the event on a Saturday (rather than the usual Wednesday) in May. AFCA will provide a main course (such as fried chicken) along with drinks, but we will also invite neighbors to prepare dishes reflecting our broad cultural diversity in Arlington Forest—and to make the recipes available

for sharing with the community. To encourage the whole family to come, we will also arrange for children's entertainment.

We hope that the event will broaden community participation and encourage conversations about issues affecting our community, such as parks, tree coverage, pedestrian safety, and more. Stay tuned for specifics next year—and thanks to Art Schwartz, AFCA's representative on the Arlington Neighborhoods Advisory Committee, for shepherding our neighborhood's minigrant application through to success!





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Eagle Scout Project: Tree Signage in Lubber Run Park



Scouting America's Troop 648 has long worked with Arlington County Park Manager Lyndell Core to plan and prepare Eagle Scout projects in Lubber Run Park. Projects have included improving trails in the park, but-tressing hillsides along trails, and improving drainage while repairing damage left by erosion.

The latest Eagle Scout project, installed in May 2026, identifies more than a dozen major forest trees in the park with signs on short wooden posts. The trees include white oak, tuliptree, red maple, pignut hickory, and more. Each sign illustrates the tree leaves and gives the common name, along with the scientific name (by genus and species). It also gives a way to find out more about a tree through a QR code linked to a free iPhone app (iNaturalist).

So if you ever wondered what some of the trees are in the park, now you have a convenient way of finding out, thanks to this special Eagle Scout project.

Help Support the Lubber Run Farmers Market!

By Leah Eaves and Jen Cheong, Lubber Run Farmers Market Managers

We're looking for a few Arlington Forest neighbors to help keep the market thriving this season. We need a Weekly Sign Volunteer through November 21 to help us spread the word by placing two small directional signs (one at S. Carlin Springs Rd. and S. Edison St., the other at S. Carlin Springs Rd. and S. Greenbrier St.). Both go out any time on Thursday/Friday and are picked up

on Saturday afternoon or Sunday. We also need eight or nine Yard Sign Neighbors who are willing to post "I Love Lubber Run Farmers Market" signs all season long or just on weekends. If you're interested, reach out to us at LubberRunMM@field2table.org. Thank you for supporting your local market!

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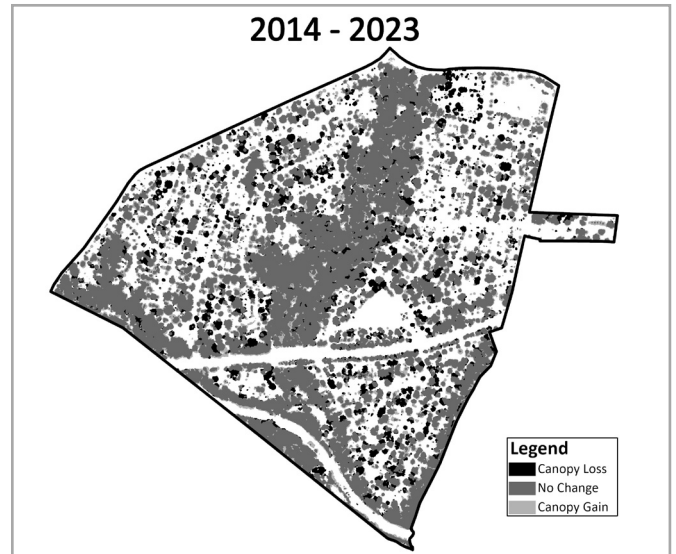
Are Trees Declining in Lubber Run Park?

By Hutch Brown

You might have noticed plentiful deadfall in Lubber Run Park. Deadfall comes from large trees dying or falling in storms, making room for saplings to replace them in the forest canopy. Some deadfall in our local parks comes from a condition in the late 2010s called oak decline. Arlington County Parks and Recreation (DPR) leaves deadfall in place as habitat for insects and other wildlife and to enrich future forest soils. But does so much deadfall in Lubber Run Park suggest that the forest is in decline?

In September 2024, DPR released its latest assessment of Arlington's tree canopy coverage. Overall, Arlington's trees covered 35% of the county in 2023, up from 33% in 2018 and 32% in 2014. In 2014, trees covered 50% of Arlington Forest, thanks largely to Lubber Run Park (see the map—it's the big gray area below the "2023"). Canopy coverage across our neighborhood rose to 51% in 2018 and 52% in 2023, with the loss of some mature trees more than offset by the growth of new and existing trees. Public land in Arlington Forest (mostly Lubber Run Park) had 83% canopy coverage in 2014, with a dip to 81% in 2018 due to oak decline and construction of the new Lubber Run Community Center. Canopy coverage rebounded to 83% in 2023 due to both forest regrowth and newly planted trees on public land.

The map shows some canopy loss in Lubber Run Park, but it's offset by slight gains. Most tree loss in Arlington



Forest was in private yards, where soils tend to be poorer and large trees more vulnerable to droughty urban conditions—and to homeowner decisions to remove them. EcoAction Arlington's Tree Canopy Fund plants trees free of charge for homeowners. DPR also provides free trees to homeowners each fall, with registration beginning in early September. You can find the latest tree canopy study online at Arlington County Urban Tree Canopy Assessment.

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Is Your Teen Looking for a Job?

This newsletter is delivered eight times a year to 852 homes by an intrepid group of 12 teens from the neighborhood. The kids get a small stipend for each month's delivery—\$15 or more, depending on the number of copies and inserts. There was a lot of turnover within the group last year due to high school graduations and the like, and our waiting list for new deliverers is now exhausted. If your middle school or high school teen is interested in joining the team, please contact AFCA's delivery coordinator, Bill Jackson, at bj60@aol.com. Bill will put them on the waiting list and let them know if any openings arise.

Volunteers Needed!

AFCA needs your help! We need a neighborhood delegate and an alternate delegate to represent us at meetings of the Arlington County Civic Federation (CivFed). CivFed, which comprises more than 90 civic organizations across Arlington, meets monthly from September through June to discuss issues of countywide concern. AFCA also urgently needs an alternative representative to the Arlington Neighborhoods Advisory Committee (ArNAC), which reviews proposed neighborhood projects for funding under the Arlington Neighborhoods Program. In addition, we need volunteers to work with AFCA Treasurer Bill Jackson to let local businesses know about advertising opportunities in this newsletter. If you are interested in helping out, please let AFCA President Liz Grossman know at grossman.elizabeth@icloud.com.

Noise Alert

By county ordinance, work with lawn mowers, leaf blowers, and other outdoor power tools is not allowed before 7 a.m. on weekdays and before 10 a.m. on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays—and after 9 p.m. on any day. Please respect this quiet time for your neighbors. If you hear a county mower, trash truck, or other vehicle violating the noise ordinance, you can report it to the county online at [Arlington Report a Problem](http://ArlingtonReportaProblem.com).

Halloween Stop-in for Kids' Stories

On October 25, the Arlington Central Library's Children's Area is featuring a Halloween-themed story session where kids and their grownup companions can join in together. Expect an interactive mix of read-aloud stories, songs, rhymes, and fingerplays that help little ones build listening skills and get comfortable with picture books and the library. Seating is first-come, first-served, so no registration is needed. Questions? Call (703) 228-5946.

Ever Consider Planting a Drought-Tolerant Tree?

For much of this and last year, our area was in moderate to severe drought with lasting hydrological and ecological effects, according to the online U.S. Drought Monitor. Although August was abnormally wet, the year through August was the 35th driest in 132 years, with 3.43 inches of precipitation below normal. If you lost a tree due to drought over the last couple of years, you might consider replanting a more drought-tolerant species. In July, Casey Trees circulated information about native trees that do well in droughty urban conditions, including bur oak, hackberry, eastern redcedar, honey locust, and northern catalpa. Hickories and oaks in general show up on other lists.

Arlington Public Schools Ranked Third in State

Arlington Public Schools (APS) was ranked #3 this year by Niche, a platform for rating schools and school districts nationwide. Falls Church City Public Schools came in at #1. APS was also named the best place to teach in Virginia. Niche rankings are based on data from the U.S. Department of Education and reviews from students and parents. Factors include state test scores, student-teacher ratios, the quality of instruction, graduation rates, diversity metrics, and school ratings.

Halloween Bark Party

On October 31, the Glencarlyn Library at 300 S. Kensington St. in neighboring Glencarlyn is holding a gathering for dogs and dog lovers—you do not need a dog to join. Canines and their people can enjoy treats, browse the dog library, and dress up for a best-dressed costume contest. Storytime is planned for dogs and people, and awards go to those present to win. Registration is recommended so you receive event updates—information at <https://tinyurl.com/3w2w5mej>.

Flock Camera Data

The Arlington County Board has voted to stop using Flock traffic cameras to capture data on vehicles using Arlington roads. County police and safety officials recently pushed back, noting that the cameras have been instrumental in finding missing people and solving crimes. A concern for county board members is the possibility of federal officials abusing Flock camera data to target county residents, thereby undermining public trust in law enforcement and public willingness to report crimes. Board members say they are open to considering other types of surveillance equipment if the data can be sufficiently protected.

Community Calendar

Next AFCA meeting: Wednesday, October 21, 7 p.m.

Lubber Run Farmers' Market: Saturday mornings at the Barrett Elementary School into November

Election: November 3 (you can register to vote, check your status, or apply to vote by mail at <https://bit.ly/VoteArlington>). On the ballot will be candidates for Senate, House, House of Delegates, and county board, plus Virginia constitutional referendums on reproductive freedom, marriage equality, and voting rights.

Turnaround Day: November 7

Santa Party: Wednesday, December 9, at LRCC

Neighborhood social: A Saturday in Jan. 2027 at LRCC

Annual AFCA potluck: Saturday, May 22, 2027 (tentative)

Annual Yard Sale: A Saturday in May 2027

2027 Turnaround Days: July 10 & November 6, 2027

AFCA Meetings

Oct. 21, 2026: County board members on issues

Nov. 18, 2026: House delegate Patrick Hope on county government issues

Jan. 20, 2026: Arlington Climate Action Plan; storm-water management

Feb. 17, 2026: Arlington's tree canopy; env'l issues

Mar. 27, 2026: Police surveillance tech; school board

Apr 20, 2026: Ranked choice voting; Stumbling Stones

Jun. 20, 2026: Neighborhood potluck at LRCC (tentative)

Arlington's Trees: Free Virtual Info Session

At 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 29, Arlington Urban Forester Vincent Vermeij will host a virtual community meeting on Arlington's tree canopy. From the shade along your favorite sidewalk to your favorite park, trees are part of what makes Arlington feel like home. Do you have questions about how the county cares about public trees, planting more, or protecting them as our community grows? This is your chance to learn more and ask Arlington's Forestry team directly. You can find out more and RSVP at <https://tinyurl.com/3tu2pry5>.

Santa Party Coming Up in December— Volunteers Needed!

AFCA is again planning a Santa party, always a big hit with kids and families. The party will be on Wednesday, December 9, at the Lubber Run Community Center. Northside neighbor Allison Kennett is coordinating the event, and she is looking for a Santa volunteer. Santa arrives in a firetruck from the nearby Wilson Blvd. fire station at 7 p.m., then goes inside and greets kids, listening to their wishes, for about 45 minutes. The party ends at 8 p.m. Allison also needs one or two additional volunteers to help out. Please contact her at allison.kennett@gmail.com to find out more.



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 Special Certification

	Name	Email	Phone									Other
Southside	Sophia Cordon	kitkat67@msn.com	301-509-7915	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	
	William Cordon		301-509-7915	✓	✓				✓		✓	Yard help
	Elsie Lombardi	eflombardi13@gmail.com	703-350-2411		✓		✓*			✓		
	Sol Mashkuri		571-643-5883	✓	✓							
	Lyla Olesen	Sammiolesen@outlook.com	615-999-1099	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Cleaning
	Sabrina Saunders	sabrina_saunders@icloud.com	202-531-2247	✓	✓		✓*		✓	✓	✓	Tutoring
	Joseph Segas	Loren_um@hotmail.com	202-948-9792	✓		✓			✓		✓	
	Francesca Segas	Loren_um@hotmail.com	202-948-9792	✓					✓	✓	✓	
Greenbrier	Brooks Everitt	Ang.everitt12@Gmail.com	571-244-7691	✓	✓				✓		✓	
	Henry Hawks	annwoodshawks@gmail.com	202-744-5334	✓					✓		✓	
	Oliver Jacobs	oliverrijacobsva@gmail.com	571-547-7472	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	
	Gavin Kraft	kenneth.d.kraft@gmail.com	314-775-7008	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Nora Kraft	kenneth.d.kraft@gmail.com	314-775-7008	✓	✓					✓	✓	
	Nicky Petrucelli	tony.petrucelli@gmail.com	703-629-0425			✓		✓	✓		✓	Lawn care
	Gabe Pettit	susanagescudero@gmail.com	571-210-0629	✓					✓		✓	
	Caulder Pickard	katiepickard@gmail.com	571-244-6870	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
	James Smialowicz	james.smialowicz@gmail.com	703-244-6564	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	
	Thomas Walsh	tvswalsh22@gmail.com	703-559-9787	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Southside	Natalie Bryant	Natalie.a.bryant@icloud.com	703-447-8555	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Niittisha Choudhary	Niittisha@gmail.com	703-981-1229	✓			✓		✓			Tutoring
	Adela Engblom	mannblom@gmail.com	202-365-2685	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Ian Engblom	mannblom@gmail.com	202-365-2685	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	
	Lexi Jackson	bj60@aol.com	703-832-1072	✓					✓	✓	✓	
	Joel Nisco		703-732-6585			✓		✓	✓		✓	
	Lia du Preez	wanyalabuschagne@gmail.com	571-648-7409	✓	✓				✓		✓	
	Alexander Stewart	stewartbryna@gmail.com		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Sports practice
	Leilani Wright		207-650-5741	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Tutoring
	Name	Email	Phone									Other

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