

The Arlington Forester



Volume 58, Number 6

Arlington, VA

March 2017

Barbara Kanninen to Address AFCA Meeting

School Board Vice Chair Barbara Kanninen is the guest speaker at the AFCA monthly meeting on Wednesday, March 15th at 7 pm in the Barrett School library. She will discuss issues facing Arlington Public Schools and answer questions. This is your chance to hear from, and provide input to, the School Board's Vice Chair.

Barbara Kanninen joined the Arlington School Board on

January 1, 2015. She is a Ph.D. environmental economist, children's book author, and school and community leader.

She is currently the School Board liaison to AFCA, Barrett Elementary School, and Wakefield High School. She and her husband have two sons who were educated in APS schools. Her term of office expires December 31, 2018.

Home and Garden Tour

*Save the Date:
Saturday,
May 6, 2017*

Want to put your home or garden on the May 6th tour? We need:

-- Additions and renovations: If you have recently completed an addition or renovation this is your chance to show it off!

Your neighbors are dying to see

what you've done. Contractors and architects are encouraged to be on site to share information and answer questions, but it's not required.

-- Original homes with unique storage and creative small space solutions: Maybe you have found a way to creatively live within the structure of an original AF home. Built ins, organization and storage solutions, and use of color are all things your neighbors can learn from.

-- Gardens: May is a great time of year around the Forest. If you have made your yard into a fabulous place for outdoor life, then please share it!

What to do to get involved: Contact Jennifer Claffey at 703-328-0751 or jenniferclaffey@yahoo.com. Someone from the committee will stop by to survey your home or garden. Once all have been surveyed, you will be notified if yours was selected and you will be asked to email a brief description of

the unique qualities of your home for the event brochure.

Mark your calendars: On Friday evening May 5th, committee members and home owners kick off the weekend with a fun caravan style tour. Dinner is served and a dessert social at the end. This is a great way to see the others houses on the tour since you will be busy showing your own house on Saturday, May 6th, from noon-4 pm.

Security: The tour is only open to our residents and their guests. Before a ticket is sold we check their drivers license to verify that they live in Arlington Forest. They are then given a preprinted nametag as their ticket. Homeowners can verify that all visitors have this tag on before entering.

Don't miss this great event that only comes every three years!

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AFCA Meeting 7 p.m. March 15th 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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Forester is printed by *Minuteman Press*

Editor's Note

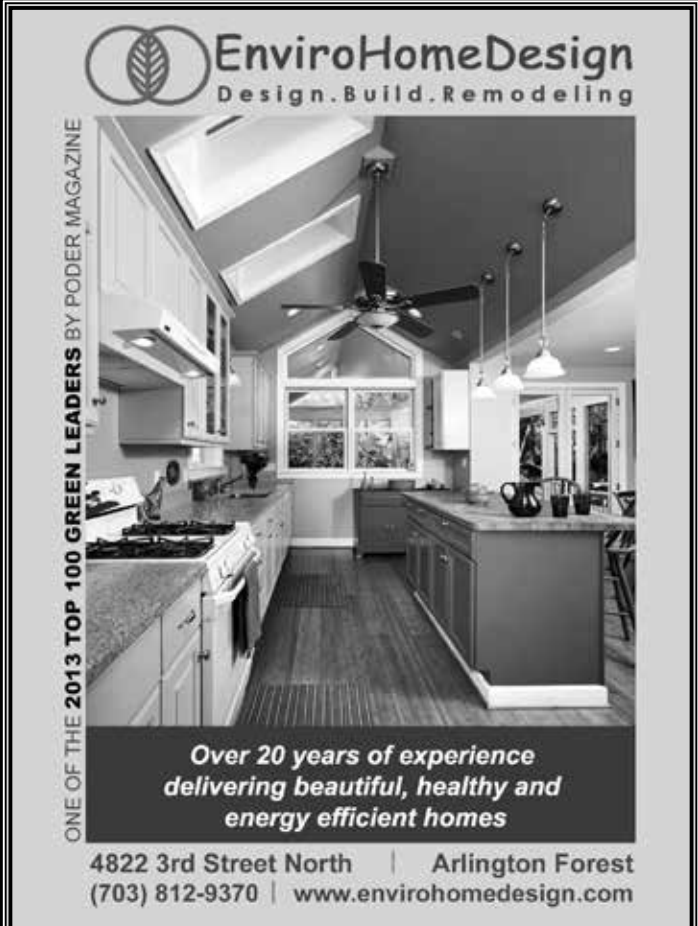
The *Arlington Forester* welcomes articles, news notes, letters, and photos focusing on non-commercial events or issues specific to our neighborhood. We publish eight times per year (Sept to Nov and Jan to May). Deadline for submissions is the first of the month. E-mail submissions of up to 400 words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

Help Prevent Larcenies from Autos

By Captain Patrick Donahue
Arlington County
Police Department

The Police Department's First District has seen a significant increase in the number of larcenies from vehicles since February 1st. Please take some simple steps to help us curb these cases:

- 1) Take all valuables out of your vehicle. This includes keys, key fobs, purses, cash, and electronics. Don't forget the valet key that comes with some vehicles.
- 2) Lock your doors and pull on the door handle to verify it's locked. If a thief can get into a vehicle, they can have access to a garage door opener if you have one and can thus gain access to your home.
- 3) Call police if you see people looking into your cars or your neighbor's cars. The telltale sign that this has occurred in your neighborhood are open doors with the interior dome lights on. If you see a suspect in your vehicle, do not approach them and call 911 immediately. If you don't see the perpetrator(s) but suspect some cars have been entered, then call the non-emergency number at 703-558-2222. Thank you.



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Nature News

Spring Wildflower Tour in Arlington Forest: April 15th, noon to 4 PM. Free. No registration required. Sponsored by the Virginia Native Plant Society, Potowmack Chapter, this tour welcomes Foresters to two neighborhood wildflower gardens which are quite different from each other:

-- 233 N. Galveston St. Susan and Jim Graham's yard is tidy, compact, and was created as a collection of native plant species. In the past few years, they have created a well-manicured native plant garden in their front and back yards -a modest space- but they have planted more than 100 native species of wildflowers.

-- 210 N. Evergreen St. Paul Kovenock's hillside wildflower garden overlooks Lubber Run Park. It shows how many years committed to removing English ivy and other nonnative invasive species has provided a location for a garden that serves as the foundation for the diverse wildlife that thrives there. In 2009, a 40-minute DVD, "Habitat at Home," was produced by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. Paul's garden was featured as one of four gardens selected state-wide as instructional examples.

Spring Cleanup: Mark your calendar for the morning of Saturday, April 22nd for AFCA's sixth annual Arlington Forest Spring Cleanup. We will pick up trash, remove invasive plants, and otherwise beautify our public spaces. Cleanup

sites will be the Lubber Run streambed, the Arlington Blvd southside buffer strip, and the Four Mile Run streambed at the foot of N. Greenbrier Street. Please join your neighbors at one of those sites. More details will appear in next month's newsletter.

Arlington Forest Park: Why is there three-foot high grass in some sections of the park across from Arlington Forest Shopping Center? Because our one-acre Arlington Forest Park has been on a reduced mowing cycle since 2012 when it was designated a Natural Resource Conservation Area by the County due to its once commonplace, but now rare, plant community called "dry gravel cap – poverty oat grass glade." But the park is still great for throwing balls, practicing golf chips, and eating pizza on the benches in nice weather.

Recycling Tips: Reminder - place cans, bottles and other recyclables loose in the blue cart. If they are enclosed in plastic bags, the sorting facility will discard that bag of items as trash. And never include plastic bags (such as grocery sacks) in the recycle cart because torn plastic bags can jam and damage sorting machinery.



Adam Tnaib

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Thinking about buying or selling? Call me for a free/no obligation consultation and ask me about my spring special.



Tips to prepare your home for viewing

Obviously, your home should look its best when potential buyers arrive; however, time is not always on your side. There may be times when you have only a few minutes to get things ready. What you do with those minutes can mean the difference between an interested buyer... and one who crosses your home off the list.

Here are some things you can do to help your home look its best in just few minutes.

- Put away coats, hats and shoes. Clean up, especially around the foyer. You don't want clutter to be the first thing a buyer sees.
- Turn on all lights and lamps. A home that is bright looks larger and more welcoming.
- Put on some soft music. Easy listening is the best choice. Don't play rock or jazz music because some people might dislike it. Think elevator music.
- Make sure the toilet lids are down. Even when a washroom is sparkling clean, a raised toilet seat gives the impression – however incorrectly – that things are less than hygienic.
- Put away personal items. Put family pictures, bills and other personally identifying information away. You want the buyers to visualize themselves living in your home.
- Open all curtains and blinds. This makes rooms look bigger and brighter, even at night.

I can help you with this process, and I look forward to working with you.

Adam Tnaib

Around the Forest

E-CARE: Do you have half-empty paint cans gathering dust in your basement? What about unneeded car fluids, household cleaners or garden chemicals? Or maybe an obsolete computer monitor or television? Arlington's semi-annual E-CARE event allows residents to safely get rid of hazardous household materials and electronics which cannot be discarded in regular trash. The next E-CARE takes place between 8:30 AM and 3 PM on Saturday, April 15th (rain or shine) at Thomas Jefferson Middle School in the West Parking Lot. Just load up your car with the unwanted items and then drive through the various stations -- dropping off paint cans at one station, TVs at another station, and so on. There is a \$15 recycling fee for computers and \$20 fee for televisions. The non-profit group Bikes for the World will collect serviceable bikes to be sent to countries where they are needed for basic transportation. For more info, search "E-CARE" on the County website.

Organic Yard Waste Carts: Now that every house has a green organic waste cart, the County says that it will no longer collect yard waste in plastic bags. So use your organic cart or paper yard waste bags.

Tired of looking for the home of your dreams and coming up empty-handed?

**STOP LOOKING,
START DESIGNING!**



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Scott and Sarah wanted a larger home and didn't want to deal with building an addition. We met to discuss options. They didn't want to sell their existing home until they could find and move into their new home. After evaluating their situation, I suggested that they consider a bridge loan. Since Scott and Sarah had some equity in their property, I suggested they consider a Bridge loan. Bridge loans are temporary in nature with maturities ranging from 30-120 days secured by the equity in your existing home to free up your cash to purchase a new home. I recommended a few local lenders who offer Bridge loan financing. They chose one, got approved and we started looking at move up options. They took their time and finally found the right home in the location they wanted. After closing on the new property, we listed their home and sold it quickly.

Bridge loans help homebuyers win contracts by eliminating the need to offer contingent contracts. One option is for the lender to offer a second lien position, helping you to save you closing costs. Usually an appraisal is required although not in every situation. Typically, a good lender can approve your bridge loan in 24 to 48 hours and close in as little as 10 days. Bridge loans give you time to fix up your existing home to help you sell for top dollar. Another option is for the lender to provide a bridge loan to acquire the new home which would be paid off in full when the existing house is sold. Bridge loans are also an excellent choice for homeowners downsizing who have substantial equity in their homes. We have helped many clients scale down from their large single family home to a condo, acquiring the new property first and then selling the existing one. Contact me for details!



Casey O'Neal
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Before you place your home on the market - I can help you be as ready as possible. Contact me for a Room by Room Review and I can share quick and easy tips to either make your house show like a model or sell it "as-is".

Around the Forest

Carlin Springs Road Bridge Replacement: At the February 15th AFCA meeting, County officials said that the project to replace the bridge at N. Carlin Springs Rd. and N. George Mason Dr. will start this coming fall with completion expected in winter 2018/19. During the 15 months of construction, vehicular traffic over the bridge will be limited to one lane each way while one and then the other side of the bridge is demolished and rebuilt. During two five-day periods of heavy demolition, the entire intersection will be closed (including N. George Mason Dr.) with traffic diverted accordingly. The County will hold a public meeting in early fall to update the community on construction plans, traffic disruptions, and detour routes. For more info, search for "Carlin Springs Road Bridge" on the County website.

Lubber Run Community Center: Nearly 200 people, including County Board Vice Chair Katie Cristol, participated in the first community work session about the new Lubber Run Community Center on February 8th at Barrett Elementary. Participants contributed suggestions to the project's designers regarding the building and grounds features they prefer. Next community meetings will be in the Barrett gym on Wednesday, March 22nd, 6:30 to 9 PM and Saturday, March 25th, 1 to 3:30 PM. You only need attend one session since each will cover the same material. The County Board

is expected to select the building construction contractor this summer. Construction is expected to start in late 2018 with completion in early 2021. To learn more, search "Lubber Run Community Center Project" on the County website.

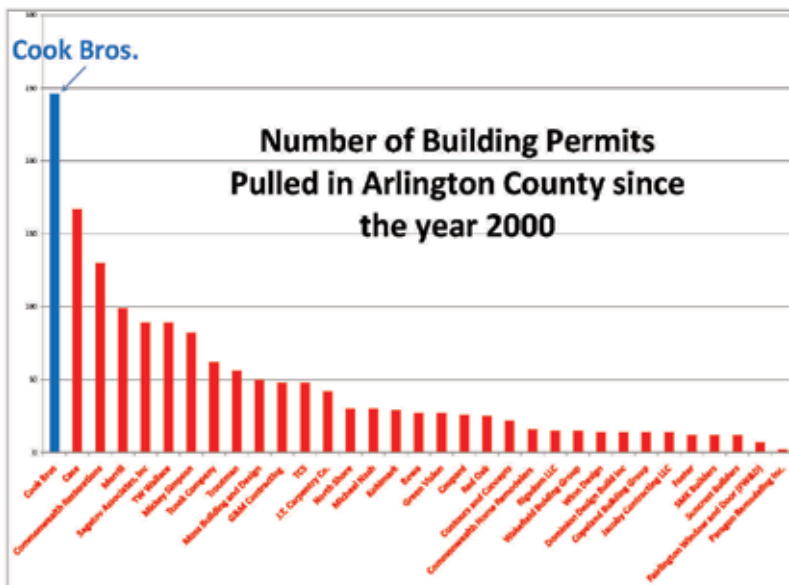
Edison Playground Renewal: The second planning meeting for updating the Edison Park playground took place on March 8th while this newsletter was at the printer. See next month's newsletter for details.

Excess Cable: Are excess loops of cabling obstructing a sidewalk near you? If so, report the problem to the County official responsible for overseeing the cable companies. He is George Parr, Arlington County Cable Administrator, at 703-228-3142 or cable@arlingtonva.us.

Trash Can Etiquette: Long-standing Arlington Forest tradition and an Arlington County ordinance (Section 10-6.B.1.b and c) call for residents to return their trash carts and recycle bins to their normal storage location within 24 hours after trash pickup. That normal storage location may not be in front of a dwelling, unless fencing or landscaping shields the containers from view from the street. Help keep Arlington Forest looking good by promptly pulling back your trash and recycle cans.

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



Notable Neighbor: Melody Mobley

By Kimi & Ryoko Reed

Meet a national treasure, Melody Mobley. Melody is a “forester” two times over, with being a professional forester, and as an Arlington Forester!

She has been an Arlington Forest resident since 1991. Prior to moving to Arlington Forest, she lived in cities and small towns all across the country, starting with Washington state through her work at the US Forest Service. She is the first African American woman forester in the United States. That is pretty historic; so much so that the National Museum of African American History even asked for her forester uniform and equipment to be included in the museum’s collections.

But what is a forester, you might ask? Foresters are part of the US Forest Service. They manage the natural resources in our country. However, the US Forest Service is different from the US Park Service. The US Park Service focuses only on preservation. The US Forest Service does a lot more. They don’t just take care of forests. They do a lot of other land management, such as fire management, timber sales, stream improvement, management and maintenance of trails and campgrounds, and seed and cone collection. They also do a lot of research in wildlife, water, biochemistry, and environmental assessment; in fact, the US Forest Service is the largest research agency in the world.

Melody grew up in Louisville, Kentucky, where she graduated from high school at age 16. She always liked animals and zoology, her love of them nurtured by her mother. She was studying zoology, and then wildlife biology at University of Louisville when the US Forest Service first offered Melody a job during college. This experience led her to change her college major to forest management at the University of Seattle.

Upon graduation, she was hired as a forester in 1977, making her the first African American woman in the US Forest Service. Melody moved a lot as a forester, moving nine times within 11 years to places such as Seattle, San Diego, Klamath Falls, Orlando, and Washington DC. At each location she learned something new and was able to help in many ways.

Advice she would give to students today is to get good grades and be flexible in your career plans. She said, “If you want to be a computer expert, maybe you want to do that in the park or forest service. It doesn’t have to be at a technology company.”

Now that she is retired from the Forest Service, she volunteers, writes books, and gives speeches to students about her experience as a forester. She wants to support students in an interest in forestry and STEM, saying, “For everyone who helped me, I want to help 10 more.”

Melody likes living in Arlington Forest because of its closeness to Lubber Run; she loves hiking the trails with her dog. So if you see her on a walk through the neighborhood or on the trails in Lubber Run, say hello and shake hands with a national treasure!



THE NEXT AFCA MEETING IS AT
BARRETT SCHOOL ON MAR. 15



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Forest Exchange

Call for Democratic Volunteers: Are you willing to lend some of your time and talents in helping Democrats in our community? We hope so, because Virginia is holding critical elections this year. Come join your Arlington County Democratic Committee (ACDC) Arlington Forest Precinct Co-Captains, Eric Midboe and Cheryl Roesel, and help us build our community of volunteers. Events for Arlington Democrats this spring will include registering Arlingtonians to vote, phone banking, canvassing, absentee voting, education, and more. Can you help? Whether it's a little time or a lot, whether you're ready now or need to wait a little while, we'll find a way for you to get plugged in, match your interests with the right activity, and get training. Please contact us. And thanks! Eric Midboe (eric.midboe7@gmail.com) or Cheryl Roesel (croesel571@gmail.com)

Occasional Babysitter Right Around Your Corner: Hello! I am Melina, an Inova labor and delivery nurse, new graduate from UVa, and Arlington Forrest resident who is interested in babysitting your kids! I have 8+ years of experience, am CPR/Neonatal Emergent Care certified, and am active, energetic, love as many kids and pets as you have! Flexible on prices and availability, and happy to interview beforehand. mnr6fn@virginia.edu

Community Calendar

Next AFCA Meeting: Wednesday, March 15th, 7 PM, Barrett Elementary School. See page 1 for details.

E-CARE: Mid-April. Semi-annual recycling event at Thomas Jefferson Middle School.

Neighborhood Spring Cleanup: Saturday, April 22nd. Help beautify our neighborhood parks.

Family Fun Day at Arlington Forest Shopping Center: Saturday, April 29th.

Arlington Forest Home and Garden Tour: Saturday, May 6th.

Democratic Caucus for County Board and School Board: May 11th and 13th.

Annual Yard Sale: Saturday, May 20th. Turn unwanted stuff into cash.

Virginia Primary Elections: June 13th for Governor and other state offices.

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

Future AFCA Meetings:

April 19th: N. Edison Street Playground Renovation

May 17th: Picnic and Annual Membership Meeting



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*Your home, your investment.
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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

There were several exciting Barcroft school events in February. These included the 2nd grade field trip to the National Museum of African American History and Culture, which was also a highly sought after chaperone event, and our WE LOVE BOOKS Book Exchange when students, staff and family gathered for books, cupcakes and storytelling. Students also engaged in physical activity and service through the American Heart Association's Jump Rope for Heart.

Principal Bounet announced that she will be leaving Barcroft at the end of the school year. She will be engaging in leadership and teaching in Sao Paulo, Brazil. We wish her the best on these new adventures! Representatives from the APS Superintendent's office will attend the PTA Meeting on March 7th to explain the process. Additional information on the upcoming Principal Search committee will be shared via the PTA Barcroft Eagles list serve, the PTA Facebook page and take home flyers.

Upcoming events include Barcroft Information Sessions for new families on March 14th at 12:45 pm and April 6th at 9:15 am. This is an opportunity to learn more about our school, including the modified calendar, FLES, Science Lab, School Wide Morning Meetings and PTA. And the Barcroft 2nd Annual 5K Snowball Stride on March 11th at 9 am. Runners and walkers welcome! Register at <https://BarcroftSnowballStride5K.itsyourrace.com/register/>



Students and parents alike enjoyed storytelling at Barcroft's book exchange

*AFCA Home & Garden Tour
Saturday, May 6th*



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Your Neighbor in Arlington Forest

If you are considering putting your home on the market, I would suggest that you begin getting your home ready as soon as possible. By having your home ready and in great shape for the new owners, the price that you get will be higher than if you don't prepare the home for sale. I have a list of things that owners should do in preparation to market their home. If you would like to meet with me to see your home and give you some ideas on how to prepare it, please call me for a free, no obligation consultation. With the inventory low, it is an ideal time to sell your home. I look forward to meeting with you.

Jim

Barrett School News

The Barrett community has been busy through the winter that wasn't. No snow days has meant lots of learning and fun! We raised money for the school and got hearts pumping at Family Gym Night. We celebrated African-American History Month and the great diversity that makes Barrett such a special community at Pan African library night with art, fashion, food and dance.

A big highlight for February was the Annual Family Dance. Kids and parents alike took to the dance floor to boogie to the hits and even line dance. We celebrated Dr. Seuss's birthday with Read Across America week, wrapping up in our pajamas!

Barrett's big event, STEAM Night, which will have hands-on activities for the whole family to learn about science, engineering, arts and math.

We are competing in WTOP's Click for Kids Sweepstakes with a chance to win big money for our school! Voting runs from 3/6-3/17. Everyone (friends, families, neighbors) can vote once a day, every day, at <http://wtop.com/contests/2017-click-for-kids-voting/> for money to the school. Top schools win prizes of 5, 10 or even 15,000 dollars!



Read Across America reaches all the way to Barrett Elementary! Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss!

Important Dates:

- March 23rd: STEAM Night | April 4th: PTA Meeting
- April 4th: Author Visit by Eric Rohmann
- April 6th: Choral Music Concert



Paul Cachion

Cell: 571-216-6802

Email: CachionHomes@gmail.com



Proudly Announcing Cachion Homes!

Hello Arlington Foresters:

In order to recognize my growing business, and to better serve my clients, I proudly announce the new, Cachion Homes. This new name reflects our team of real estate professionals and specialists, ready to serve your every need. From mortgage specialists, stagers, and in-house lawyers, to even movers, handymen, and landscapers, Cachion Homes now gives my team the ability to handle your home purchase or sale from beginning to end.

Cachion Homes is your one-stop shop for everything you might need to buy or sell your home.

You'll notice our new e-mail address: CachionHomes@gmail.com. Please feel free to get in touch anytime, and let us help in any way we can. Thanks!



Kids for Hire

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

Southside:

- Caroline Darnell: babysitting (RC certified, references), carolineddarnell23@gmail.com, 571-458-0307
- Daniel O'Mara: dog walking, pet sitting, snow shoveling, leaf raking, tomara@teamcfw.com, 703-769-3767
- Ethan O'Mara: dog walking, pet sitting, snow shoveling, leaf raking, tomara@teamcfw.com, 703-769-3767
- Sophia Polisar: babysitting (RC certified), pet sitting, sophiapolisar@gmail.com, 571-429-2289
- Andrew Rogers: yard work, dog walking, pet sitting, andrewmcyt@gmail.com, 703-892-0226
- Caroline Rogers: babysitting, pet sitting, dog walking, carolinearogers@verizon.net, 703-892-0226
- Julia Rogers (college breaks only): babysitting (RC certified), yard work, juliaerogers23@gmail.com, 703-892-0226
- Jon Tiernan: babysitting (RC certified, references), pet sitting, jontiernan16@gmail.com
- Liz Tiernan: babysitting (RC certified, references), pet sitting, lizytiernan@gmail.com

Greenbrier Section:

- CeCe and Zephren Collinson: babysitting (references), pet sitting, dog walking, leaf raking, snow shoveling, tutoring, plant watering, mail collection, 703-528-3595
- Donna Corina: babysitting (RC certified), dog walking, pet sitting, leaf raking, snow shoveling, tutoring, 703-248-8885
- Mary Corina: babysitting (RC certified), dog walking, pet sitting, leaf raking, snow shoveling, tutoring, 703-248-8885
- Allison Ferrell: babysitting (RC certified), pet sitting, Allisonrocket@aol.com, 703-276-2840
- Ethan Hall: babysitting (RC certified), snow shoveling, leaf raking, pet sitting, dog walking, k.hall.b@verizon.net, 302-650-4428
- Bridget Holt: babysitting (RC certified), dog walking, pet sitting, 703-465-0580
- Jack Holt: babysitting (RC certified), yard work, snow shoveling, leaf raking, watering plants, tutoring, jackloginname@gmail.com, call or text 703-470-8040
- Anthony Lawson: yard work, pet sitting, dog walking, 703-933-8880
- Charlotte Lawson: leaf raking, pet sitting, dog walking, 703-933-8880
- Reid Messman: pet sitting, dog walking (references), 703-469-1988

- Shea Messman: babysitting (Safe Sitter certified, references), 703-785-3362
- Alexandra Orli: babysitting (references), mother's helper, pet sitting, watering plants, call 703-528-5618 or text 703-731-9904
- Carsten Schoer: math tutoring, soccer lessons, snow shoveling, leaf raking, yard work, carstenschoer@gmail.com, call/text 703-209-0905
- Leah Shvedova: babysitting (references), tutoring through 8th grade (Social Science, English, Algebra), pet sitting, watering plants, 571-426-6818
- Emma Weaver: babysitting (Safe Sitter certified, references), peaver722@gmail.com, 703-298-9949

Northside:

- Daniel Brancati: yard work, leaf raking, snow shoveling, car washing (in your driveway), daniel@barms.org, 703-243-1916
- Laura Brancati: babysitting (RC certified), dog walking, pet sitting, laura@barms.org, 703-243-1916
- Alex Brown: yard work, leaf raking, snow shoveling, alexhutchinsb@gmail.com, 703-314-8840
- Riittisha Choudhary: tutoring, babysitting age 4-12, yard work, riittishachoudhary@gmail.com
- Ely Constantine: pet sitting, leaf raking, snow shoveling, lawn mowing, cpconstantine@comcast.net, 703-841-9229
- Sophia Constantine: pet sitting, dog walking, srconstantine@comcast.net, 703-841-9229
- Alex Eng: pet sitting, leaf raking, snow shoveling, dcharveydc@yahoo.com, 703-861-1890
- Evan Eng: pet sitting, dog walking, leaf raking, snow shoveling, dcharveydc@yahoo.com, 703-861-1890
- Jeremy Fagen: pet sitting (any animal), dog walking, plant watering, jdoxen11001@gmail.com, 703-200-2396
- Leina Gabra: babysitting (ages 4-12), house sitting, leinagabra@gmail.com, 703-973-8914
- Fiona Hickey: babysitting (RC certified), 703-351-7013
- Sophie Hickey: babysitting, 703-351-7013
- Olivia Kennett: babysitting (RC certified), 571-277-4441
- Tenley Kennett: plant watering, dog walking (25 lbs. max), 571-277-4441
- Marika Mortimer-Lotke: babysitting (RC certified), house sitting/chores, 703-276-9046
- Ethan Nissenson: lawn mowing, leaf raking, snow shoveling, Enissenson@verizon.net, 703-201-0523
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