

Volume 57, Number 3

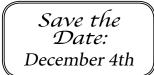
Arlington, VA

November 2015

Plans for the Lubber Run Community Center

After years of uncertainty, the future of the Lubber Run Community Center is coming into focus. The issue was on the agenda of a joint meeting between the County Board and School Board on November 10 (after this newsletter went to press). We should learn even more at this month's AFCA meeting from guest speakers Acting County Manager Mark Schwartz, Department of Parks and Recreation Director Jane Rudolph, and Department of Environmental Services Deputy Director George May.

Santa's On His Way by Chris Scheer



Arlington Forest kids of all ages get a jump on the holidays with an early visit by Santa on Friday, December 4, at the annual Arlington Forest

Holiday Party in the Lubber Run Community Center.

The jolly old elf will arrive at 7 PM borne by an Arlington fire truck -- his traditional mode of transportation -- and he won't depart until he's had a personal chat with every child. But don't wait until 7 PM to arrive! Before Santa shows, everyone will gather on the lawn along George Mason Drive to light the Lubber Run tree and wait to greet Santa's exciting arrival aboard a siren-blaring pumper. Then it's inside for live music, caroling, holiday goodies and Santa lap-sitting. Don't forget to bring a plate of goodies to share. AFCA will provide holiday punch and a few snacks to get things started.

Volunteers are needed to help set up and tear down, lead singing and manage activities for the kids. If you can help or if you have a group that might provide assistance -- table crafts for kids, elf assistance for Santa, caroling -- please contact Chris Scheer at 703-276-9725 or scheerjchris@gmail. The AFCA meeting is this Wednesday, November 18 at 7 PM in the Barrett Elementary School library.

This is also the month when we issue the last call for annual AFCA dues. If you did not send in your dues in September or October, please do so today using the form on this page. Last year, 351 of the 851 households in Arlington Forest (41%) paid dues. So far this fiscal year, 252 (30%) have responded. Participation rates are Southside (36%), Greenbrier (30%), and Northside (25%). Your dues support AFCA's activities which enhance the quality of life in our neighborhood.

AFCA MEMBERSHIP DUES ANNUAL DUES \$10 PER HOUSEHOLD

Deliver this form and your check payable to "AFCA" to your respective AFCA section representative.

Greenbrier: Tom Smialowicz, 26 N. Granada St. 22203 *Northside:* Joel Yudken, 104 N. Columbus St. 22203

Southside: Stacey Zee, 8 S. Columbus St. 22204

Dues: _____ Donation: _____ Total: _____

NAME:

ADDRESS:

E-MAIL:

www.arlingtonforestva.org

AFCA Meeting 7 p.m. November 18 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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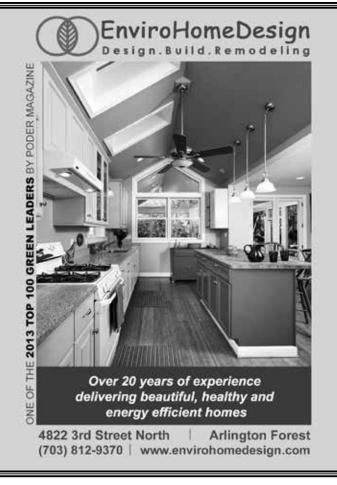
Arlington Civic Federation Rep: Salvatore D'Itri

Historian: John Naland

Website: http://www.arlingtonforestva.org Join AFCA listserv by e-mailing address to: arlingtonforestva@gmail.com 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.



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Kids Halloween Parade on October 31st



Dozens of little princesses, action heroes and other costumed wee ones (plus several costumed dogs) participated in the annual neighborhood Halloween parade on Saturday afternoon,

October 31 (see accompanying photo).

Starting at the Arlington Forest Shopping Center, the parade headed to the Lubber Run Amphitheater where the kids strutted their stuff on the stage. Participants then proceeded on to the Lubber Run Fire Ring for s'mores before heading home to prepare for that night's Halloween trick-or-treating.

Many thanks to Jen Beer for organizing this great family event again this year.

Arlingtor



Arlington Forest United Methodist Church "Where Love Changes People's Lives through Engaging Worship, Learning Together, and Serving Others" 4701 Arlington Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22203, 703-525-0961 www.arlingtonforestumc.com and on Facebook Godly Play & Sunday School 9:00 a.m., Worship 10:00 Community Christmas Dinner 12/13, 6pm Children's Christmas Eve Service 12/24 4 pm Candle-light Christmas Eve Service 7pm "Your neighborhood church only a walk away" savior Lutheran or Pre-K (Age 4 by Sept.30)

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Arlington Market Trends

Here are September Stats for Arlington County from MRIS: The median sold price for Detached properties was \$752,500, a decrease of 5.5% compared to August 2015 and an increase of 5.6% from Sep 2014. The Contract Ratio is 13% lower than the 5-year September average of 0.48. A higher Contract Ratio signifies a relative increase in contract activity compared to supply, and indicates the market is moving in the seller's favor. A lower Contract Ratio signifies a relative decrease in contract activity compared to supply, and indicates the market is moving in the buyer's favor.

Current Best Buys in Arlington Forest: Just Listed – 4817 N. 2nd Rd. \$737,000 3 BR, 3 Baths, Open Kitchen, Main level Family Room, Huge Master bedroom with updated en-suite bath. Rec room and full bath on lower level. Screen porch off kitchen.



211 N. Wakefield St. \$869,900 4 Bedrooms upstairs, Master suite w/2 walk in closets, & remodeled bath. Amazing Chef's Kitchen opens to Family room. Fully finished



5113 N. 3rd St. \$647,750 3 BR, 1 bath home, Refinished floors, Freshly painted, Lower level Rec room, Custom rear Screened Porch w/skylights, Level Fenced rear yard offers plenty of room for an addition.





Casey O'Neal Associate Broker 703-217-9090 casey@caseyoneal.com RE/MAX Allegiance www.caseyoneal.com

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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

Scarecrow Making: Brownie Troop #121, joined by several big sisters in Junior Troop #148 and some other young Foresters, made Halloween scarecrows at the Arlington Forest Shopping Center on Sunday, October 18 (see accompanying photo). AFCA sponsored this first-ever event which John Naland coordinated. All involved had a great time. Thanks to shopping center co-owner C.O. North for making the courtyard available.

Crime Watch: Several cars were entered and rummaged through on the night of October 30 on the 300 block of N. Granada St. The police were called and came to take finger prints. One resident had recorded the serial number of a restaurant gift card that was stolen; the police said they will try to trace it when it is cashed. Residents are

reminded to remove valuables from their cars and to lock them. Any crime should be reported to the police even if the thief is long gone. The police non-emergency number is 703-558-2222.

Apseloff Smashes World Powerlifting

Record: Arlington Forest resident Roy Apseloff broke his own world record in the dead lift at the 100% Raw Powerlifting Federation world championship competition on October 31 in Virginia Beach. Lifting in the 55-59 year old 198 pound class, Roy, 58, dead lifted 245.5 kilograms (541.2 pounds), smashing his own world record of 232.5 kilograms (512.6 pounds) set in May. Last year, Apseloff dead lifted 500.25 pounds for a world record, eclipsing the quarter-ton barrier in competition for the first time. He attributes his increases in strength at his age to sleeping well, eating cleanly, and training with extreme intensity. Raw powerlifting is lifting without the aid of suits or wraps - only a weight belt is permitted for the dead lift. The dead lift consists of approaching the bar positioned on the floor, grasping it firmly, and in one motion lifting the weight to an upright position with arms straight and knees locked.







Adam RT Tnaib 202-725-0055 Adamt@kw.com

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Nature News



Leaf Season: Reminder, between now and early January, do not put leaves in plastic

garbage bags or trash carts. Vacuum leaf collection in Arlington Forest is tentatively scheduled to begin between November 18 and 24. Look for notices giving the updated schedule on telephone poles or the County website. Rake leaves to the curb, but remove rocks, litter, and sticks. Biodegradable bag collection will continue until the week of January 8 on the day after your regular trash pickup. Free bags are available at the Lubber Run Community Center. **Christmas Tree Collection:** The County's Christmas Tree collection program runs January 4 to 16 on your regular trash pickup day. Trees are ground into wood mulch, so please remove the tree stand and decorations and do not place the tree in a plastic bag. Remember that it is illegal to dump Christmas Trees (or anything else) in parkland.

Snow Watch: As another winter nears, please remember that Arlington County requires residents, businesses, and churches to clear snow and ice from their sidewalks within 24 hours after snowfall ceases (or within 36 hours if snowfall exceeds 36 inches). Noncom-



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Special: Free Manicure with Color, Perm or Highlights **Special:** Free Blow Dry and Style with a Massage (Bring this *Arlington Forester* coupon with you.) pliance can result in a \$50 or morefine, plus being billed for removal fees if the County does the shoveling. Despite the 24-hour rule, the County urges shoveling "as soon as possible" since snow and ice left for any length of time could cause a pedestrian to fall and be injured. Any resident who is unable to shovel due to ill health, travel. or other reasons should coordinate for someone else to do the work. A low-cost option is to utilize "Kids for Hire" on page 10 of this newsletter for a list of energetic neighborhood students who stand ready to assist. Bottom line: now, before the first winter weather warning is issued, is the time to check your shoveling supplies and make plans to clear your sidewalks of snow and ice.

TreeStewards Training: Do you want to protect and promote our urban tree canopy? Then become a volunteer TreeSteward. The next TreeStewards of Arlington and Alexandria volunteer training will start in February 2016 at the Fairlington Community Center. Apply now to ensure your place at www.treestewards.org (the application form is on right side of page). Class is limited to 25 participants, and preference will be given to those who have a desire to serve the community with a commitment to volunteer service. The TreeStewards make a difference in the health of our urban tree canopy. Through classroom training and hands-on practice, TreeStewards learn the basics of tree biology and physiology, tree identification, planting and maintenance techniques, construction impacts on trees, pruning and selecting the right tree for the right spot.



Forest Exchange

Children's Christmas Pageant: Looking for a way to get your children involved in celebrating the true meaning of Christmas? Then look no further! On Dec 13, St. John's Episcopal Church in Glencarlyn holds its Annual Children's Christmas Pageant. They would love to have your children (ages 5 through high school) be a part of this dynamic experience! Roles to play include Mary, Joseph, Baby Jesus, Angels, Magi, and Shepherds. Children will sing and dance to favorite Christmas carols. Rehearsals begin Nov 29 from 1-4 pm. For more info, call 703-671-8364 or email familyprograms@ stjohnsarlingtonva.org.

Free Concert: On Sunday, Dec 6, the choir Mizmor will welcome the festival of Hanukkah with a free concert at First Presbyterian Church, 600 N. Vermont St., at 4 p.m. "Songs of Light and Peace: A Celebration of Hanukkah" will feature music that is familiar and fun, sublime and serene, celebrating the beginning of the Festival of Lights. The choir, led by Cantor Michael Mandel, has among its members current (Michael Resnick) and former (Debra Montanino) Arlington Forest residents. You can catch an encore performance on Sunday, Dec 13 at Calvary United Methodist Church, 2315 S. Grant, also at 4 p.m.

Community Calendar

Next AFCA Meeting: Wednesday, November 18, 7 pm at Barrett Elementary.

AFCA Holiday Party: Friday, December 4 at Lubber Run Community Center.

Neighborhood Spring Cleanup: Saturday, April 16. Help beautify our neighborhood parks and other public areas.

Annual Yard Sale: Saturday May 21. Turn unwanted stuff into cash.

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

Arlington County Fair: August 17-21. Rides, food, displays, and racing pigs.

Future AFCA Meetings:

January 20: Arlington Economic Development February 17: County Board Member March 16: School Capacity & Master Gardener April 20: Traffic Issues & Ballston Mall Update May 18: Picnic & Membership Meeting



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



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Barcroft School News

October was an exciting month for students at Barcroft Elementary. The Modified School Year calendar that Barcroft Elementary uses permitted a 2 week break from school October 5 to 16. Over 60% of the students enrolled in Fall Intersession, and enjoyed classes such as Learning to Cook and Exploring with Lewis and Clark. The school hosted a Children's Coat Drive during the week of October 20 to 23. The PTA hosted a "Foodtober" PTA meeting on October 20. The meeting included an APS Food Services presentation and food-related poems from students.

On October 22, Barcroft hosted a Bilingual Barcroft (BiBa) Chat. BiBa chats occur several times a month on Thursday mornings, and provide opportunities for parents to stay connected, exchange information and find ways to help their children at home while hearing presentations provided by staff members and the Principal. Student runners enjoyed the Marine Corps Marathon One-Mile Fun Run on October 24. Families also enjoyed free popcorn and the movie Monsters, Inc. during the PTA Pajama Party and Movie Night on October 30.

First Quarter Report Cards were sent home on November 2. The November 3 PTA Election Day Bake Sale was wildly successful, raising nearly \$1500. Many thanks to our wonderful neighbors! Several grades visited the Planetarium during November field trips. The school's Chorus participated in the APS Pyramid Concert with other elementary, middle and high schools on November 4.

The PTA monthly meeting was held on November 10 at Arlington Mill Community Center. Between November 2 and 12, the PTA collected extra Halloween candy and homemade cards to donate to the Veteran's Hospital in D.C. to be used in a November celebration of Women Veterans. The Barcroft faculty is scheduled to participate in a soccer match against the Kenmore Middle School faculty on November 13. Go Barcroft! On November 18, the PTA will host an Usborne Book Fair in time for holiday shopping. We hope that you can join us!

SAVE THE DATE: Barcroft is hosting a 5K Snowball Stride run on December 12. All neighborhood runners and walkers are invited to participate. For information, and to register for this exciting event, go to: http://goo.gl/QVriRg.

To learn more about What's Happening at Barcroft Elementary, contact our PTA President Tara McCabe at tcsm04@gmail.com.

Next AFCA Meeting: Nov 18th, 7 p.m. at Barrett School



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.

0im

Barrett School News

October is the month where the changing season is fully apparent. Likewise at Barrett, we said goodbye to our long-time Assistant Principal Yolanda Smingler. During the annual UN Heritage Assembly on October 23, students and staff bid her farewell singing songs in her native Spanish and highlighting her many years of service. The students, representing the many cultures and languages at Barrett, dressed in traditional costumes (see photo).

Ms. Smingler has retired after working for APS for 22 years, most of those at Barrett in a number of capacities including as a Kindergarten teacher, an ESOL/HILT teacher, and administrator. Ms. Jessica Kingsley has been appointed interim Assistant Principal to complete the school year with us. Welcome Ms. Kingsley!

On October 30, Barrett students in full Halloween regalia held their annual Halloween parade. Students

Upcoming Events:

Barrett Gives (helping families in need), Nov 18 **Bingo Night,** December 11

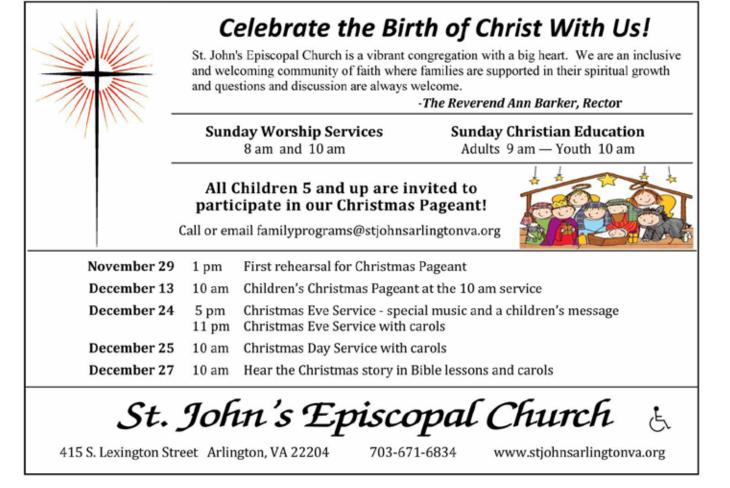
- Winter Break, December 21 to January 3
- Digital Learning Showcase, January 14
- Winter Concert, January 21

assembled on the playground and marched a block over to Culpepper Gardens for some early trick-or-treating. The residents of Culpepper are always delighted to see the children and had packs of goodies ready.

Since this is the last issue of the Arlington Forester until the New Year, the Barrett Elementary community wishes you a peaceful and happy holiday season. See you in 2016!



Assistant Principal Yolanda Smingler says farewell to the students of Barrett.



Kids for Hire

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

Southside:

-- Daniel O'Mara: dog walking, pet sitting, leaf raking, tomara@teamcfw.org, 703-769-3767

-- Ethan O'Mara: dog walking, pet sitting, leaf raking, tomara@teamcfw.org, 703-769-3767

-- Sophia Polisar: babysitting (RC certified), pet sitting, sophiapolisar@gmail.com, 571-429-2289

-- Caroline Rogers: babysitting, pet sitting, dog walking, carolinearogers@verizon.net,703-892-0226

-- Julia Rogers: babysitting (RC certified), yard work, juliaerogers23@gmail.com, 703-892-0226

-- Jon Tiernan: babysitting (RC certified, references), pet sitting, jontiernan16@gmail.com

-- Liz Tiernan: babysitting (RC certified, references), pet sitting, lizzytiernan@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@verizion.net, 302-650-4428

-- Jack Holt: babysitting (RC certified), yard work, snow shoveling, leaf raking, watering plants, tutoring, jackloginname@gmail.com, 703-465-0580



-- Bridget Holt: babysitting (RC certified), dog walking, pet sitting, 703-465-0580

-- Anthony Lawson: pet sitting, dog walking, 703-933-8880

Northside:

-- Laura Brancati: babysitting (RC certified), dog walking, pet sitting, laura@barms.org, 703-243-1916.

-- Daniel Brancati: yard work, leaf raking, snow shoveling, car washing (in your driveway), daniel@barms.org, 703-243-1916

-- Riittisha Choudhary: tutoring, babysitting age 4-12, yard work, riittishachoudhary@gmail.com

-- Ely Constantine: pet sitting, leaf raking, snow shoveling, cpconstantine@comcast.net, 703-841-9229

-- Sophia Constantine: pet sitting, dog walking, srconstantine@comcast.net, 703-841-9229

- -- Fiona Hickey: babysitting (RC certified), 703-351-7013
- -- Sophie Hickey: babysitting, 703-351-7013
- -- Olivia Kennett: babysitting (RC certified), 571-277-4441 -- Tenley Kennett: plant watering, dog walking (25 lbs. max), 571-277-4441

Alyssa Luz-Ricca: babysitting (RC certified), dog walking, pet sitting, alyssa.luz.ricca@gmail.com, 703-740-6972
 Marika Mortimer-Lotke: babysitting (RC certified), house sitting/chores, 703-276-9046

-- Allison Vernon: babysitting (references), pet sitting, catharinevernon@aol.com, 703-522-9147

-- Gabby Young: babysitting, mother's helper, pet sitting, dog walking, merrywesing@yahoo.com, 703-622-4229





