

The Arlington Forester



Volume 59, Number 2

Arlington, VA

October 2017

Carlin Springs Pedestrian Safety

Guest speakers at this month's AFCA meeting are Arlington's Deputy County Manager Carol Mitten and Gabriela Vega and Sergio Viricochea from the Department of Environmental Services. They will discuss pedestrian safety on N. Carlin Springs Road. The meeting is this Wednesday, October 18th, at 7 pm in the Barrett School library.

Also on the agenda are the presentation of new procedures for approving AFCA resolutions (see page 6 for details), a vote on the renewable energy resolution that was discussed at the September meeting, and the election of a new Southside Vice President.

AFCA's annual dues drive began last month. If you have not yet done so, please pay your \$10 dues by mailing or delivering the coupon on this page or by paying online at www.arlingtonforestva.org/AFCADues.html.

Your dues support AFCA's activities that enhance the quality of life in our neighborhood. So please send your tax deductible annual dues today. Include your e-mail address to be added to the AFCA listserv which reports news of neighborhood interest.

Children's Halloween Parade



Bring your little princesses, wizards, or other costumed wee ones to the annual Arlington Forest Halloween Parade on Saturday, October 28th at 11 am starting at the Arlington

Forest Halloween Parade on Saturday, October 28th at 11 am starting at the Arlington Forest Shopping Center in the courtyard in front of the new coffee shop, Sense of Place Cafe. Parents and polite pets are welcome to wear costumes also.

The parade will head to N. Columbus Street and then on to the Lubber Run Amphitheater where the kids can play on the stage. After burning off some energy there, families are welcome to bring a packed lunch and enjoy some treats at the nearby Fire Ring/picnic area. The event will end at 12:30 pm.

This is a great neighborhood event that is always well attended -- we hope you will join the fun! Thanks to Brooke Johnson for leading the effort to organize the event this year.

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: Lauren Mikoy, 43 S. Park Dr. 22204

Dues: _____ Donation: _____ Total: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL: _____

www.arlingtonforestva.org

AFCA Meeting 7 p.m. October 18 at Barrett School Library

THE ARLINGTON FORESTER

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Vacant

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

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Editor's Note

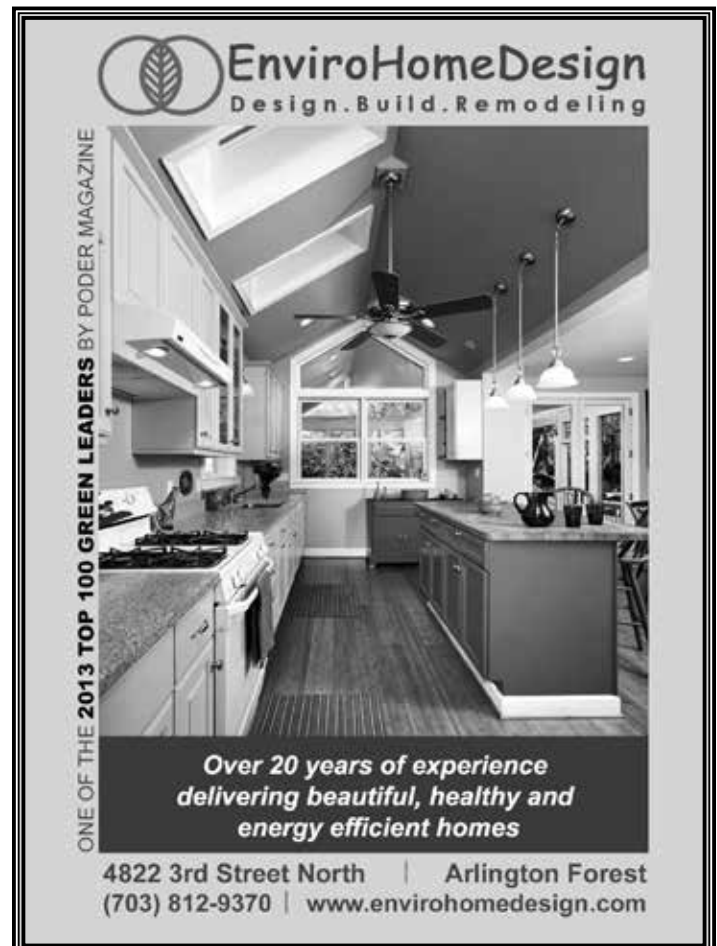
The *Arlington Forester* welcomes articles, news notes, letters, and photos focusing on non-commercial events or issues specific to our neighborhood. We publish eight times per year (Sept to Nov and Jan to May). Deadline for submissions is the first of the month. E-mail submissions of up to 400 words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

Leaf Collection: Ready, Rake, Recycle

Arlington's annual leaf collection and recycling begins next month. Rake leaves to the curb for vacuum truck collection from the week of November 13th through December 22nd. Remove stones, branches, and litter from the leaf pile. Pile your leaves away from storm drains. Crews will make a pass in November and a second in December. Look for signs posted in the neighborhood several days before each pass.

Alternatively, place leaves in your green organic waste cart and/or biodegradable paper bags. Do not include grass clippings, stones, or litter. Bags are collected on your regular trash day. Free paper bags will be available starting October 30th at Lubber Run Community Center, Long Branch Nature Center, Thomas Jefferson Community Center, and other locations. They also may be purchased at most hardware stores. Do not use plastic garbage bags. Leaves in plastic bags will not be collected.

Other alternatives are to compost leaves into a valuable organic soil supplement (numerous websites explain how to get started) or to use a mower to chop up leaves to serve as a fertilizer for the lawn (decaying leaves are a source of nitrogen and phosphorus).



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Holly Tree Replacement

by Allison Kennett

In a first-ever exercise, Arlington Forest residents were invited by AFCA to participate in an electronic survey to select a new tree to replace the old holly tree that occupied the large traffic circle by N. Park Drive and Arlington Boulevard for decades.

The holly tree was transplanted to the traffic circle in 1941 from near the current Lubber Run Community Center by Monroe Warren, the builder of Arlington Forest. It was decorated for the Christmas holidays for decades before that celebration was moved to the Lubber Run Community Center. The holly tree was removed this past July 18th due to disease and decline (see photos in last month's newsletter).

Many thanks to all the Arlington Foresters who helped to decorate and tend to the holly tree over the decades (removing invasive vines, etc.). A special thanks to Joe Cockrell who tended it for many years while living nearby since the 1960's. AFCA will place a plaque at the site honoring Joe Cockrell's years of caring for the tree.

The AFCA survey polled residents to choose among three evergreen and three deciduous trees. A total of 222 votes were cast (one vote allowed per household by the honor system) and the clear winner was the Scarlet Oak

with 30.5% of the vote! The runner ups were: Eastern Redcedar (25.5%), Eastern Hemlock (22.7%), American Holly (14.8%), Black Gum (4.2%), and Pin Oak (2.3%)

Aptly named, the Scarlet Oak is a parade of red throughout the seasons. In the early spring, new leaves unfurl with a red hue. The vibrant red fall display is truly magnificent. And those red leaves often hang on through the first snow, giving winter a touch of much-needed color. The Scarlet Oak grows to a height of 60 to 80 feet and a spread of 40 to 50 feet at maturity. This tree grows at a medium rate, with height increases of 13 to 24 inches per year. It is native to Virginia.

Arlington County's Department of Parks and Recreation plans to schedule the planting of the Scarlet Oak in the springtime. They will also remove the pesky vines and weeds that grew around the holly tree. The smaller trees ringing the center tree will remain. AFCA will likely hold a short dedication ceremony. Look for details in a future newsletter.

*Next AFCA Meeting:
Wednesday, October 18th, 7 p.m.*

Adam (RT) Tnaib

202-725-0055

adamt@kw.com

Your neighbor and realtor in Arlington Forest

If you are thinking about selling this spring, now is the perfect time to start getting your home ready.

Please contact me for a free/no obligation consultation to learn about simple things you can do to improve the value of your home.

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Sunday, October 29

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There is no doubt that the largest challenge in today's housing market is a lack of housing inventory for sale. This challenge throughout the country has been defined as an "overwhelming lack of supply," and even a "straight up inventory crisis."

That leaves a tremendous opportunity for every homeowner, and if you can put your home on the market today, you are subject to far less competition than at any time in recent history. That will result in your home selling quickly and for the highest possible price.

Data from RBI Intel show that median prices have gone up 4% in the mid-Atlantic region so far this year in all sectors of the market (condo, townhouse and single family), with a lot of appreciation occurring in the VA and MD suburbs. Prince Georges County has seen the highest growth at 10% with a median sales price of

\$275K, after experiencing slower growth in the past few years. Loudoun County is up 4.5% at \$462K, Fairfax County is up 3.7% to \$500K, Montgomery County is up 3.7% to \$425K. Arlington County up 1.8% to \$575K, and Alexandria City is flat at \$500K.

Average days on the market for all areas has dropped, showing more buyer confidence. Mortgage rates are now around 4% and are predicted to move higher later this year.

Arlington Forest sales have picked up in the 3rd quarter of 2016, with 3 sales in August and 5 sales in September while only 9 properties sold in the Forest from 1/1/17 through 6/30/17.

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New Procedures for AFCA Initiatives

By AFCA Board

The AFCA Officers met over the summer to discuss action on some new initiatives/policies. It was clear from the last year's activities that we needed to make some changes, and make some existing policies and activities more transparent to the residents.

AFCA is an all-volunteer organization with a historically somewhat informal set of by-laws and customs. There have been few times over the last 20 years where there were issues that really motivated residents to rally to support or oppose issues impacting the neighborhood. It pays to be informed and active in your community at any level and AFCA is seeking to be better prepared to support the residents of Arlington Forest.

The following changes will be presented at the October 18th, 7 pm, AFCA meeting in the Barrett Elementary School library:

1. Publish resolutions and letters supported by AFCA on our website (www.arlingtonforestva.org).
2. At each AFCA meeting, take a little time to discuss news/issues from each section of the neighborhood (Northside, Southside, and Greenbrier).

3. At least a week before the monthly AFCA meeting, send out any proposed resolutions for review to the community via the AFCA listserv. There may be exceptions in extreme cases and the AFCA Board will convene on how to best handle them. The AFCA Board fully comprehends the need for time for the community to review resolutions, but we should preserve the ability to act swiftly when circumstances require it.

4. If there is a particularly big issue which impacts the neighborhood, provide a forum for extended discussion outside of the monthly AFCA meeting.

5. The process to bring resolutions to AFCA for vote:
 - a) Residents collaborate on writing and then submit the resolution to AFCA Board at least one week before any AFCA meeting for community review.
 - b) A vote is held at the AFCA meeting and decided by majority (one vote per household; to vote, members must be current on their AFCA dues).

6. There are no AFCA meetings during the months of December and June to August. There are two ways to

Spaghetti Supper - Saturday, October 21 6 - 7:30 pm

All are welcome to join in a hearty meal and great conversation. half a dozen sauces to top off the pasta, ranging from vegetarian to spicy meat sauce. To complement the main course there will be several salads, bread and a large selection of desserts. The cost is only \$5 - kids 3 to 6 \$3 - under 3 free and a maximum of \$15 for a family.

You can also bring non-perishable food items to donate to Arlington Food Assistance Center



Kids Halloween Party - Sunday, October 22 2:30 - 4 pm

Get into the spirit of Halloween early lots of fun including games with prizes, dunking for apples, and others Halloween activities. You are encouraged to wear a costume but it is not required. **Free for all families and kids.** *Children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult.*

More information on all the events is at www.stjohnsarlingtonva.org



St. John's Episcopal Church

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AFCA Initiatives...continued

handle resolutions being raised during these months since there is no good way to allow for editing/approving outside of an in-person meeting:

- a) Have a thumbs-up or down electronic survey on the unedited proposed resolution (must pass with at least 80% thumbs up).
- b) Empower the AFCA Board with ability to vote on minor issues (resolution passes with majority vote).

7. Consider avoiding using the AFCA voice on issues that may be divisive to the neighborhood. Certain issues have potential to be divisive and we all have an increased awareness of what some of those are. It may be short-sighted to take a hard-and-fast position on certain issues not knowing the source or nature of potentially impactful issues.



*Children's
Halloween Parade
Saturday
Oct 28th*

Community Calendar

Next AFCA Meeting: Wednesday, October 18th, 7 PM, Barrett Elementary School. See page 1 for details.

Kids Halloween Parade: Saturday, October 28th

Election Day: November 7th for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, County Board, and School Board.

AFCA Holiday Party: Friday, December 1st.

Neighborhood Spring Cleanup: Saturday, April 21st. Help beautify our neighborhood parks.

Annual Yard Sale: Saturday, May 19th. Turn unwanted stuff into cash.

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

Future AFCA Meetings:

November 15: LRCC update

January 17: County Board member Katie Cristol

February 21: Edison Park update

March 21: School Board member TBD

April 18: Ballston development update

May 16: Picnic and Annual Membership Meeting



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Lubber Run Amphitheater Foundation

As we celebrate the close of another wonderful summer season of entertainment in the heart of Arlington, those of us who work with the Lubber Run Amphitheater Foundation (LRAF) want to share a photo that makes us all smile with delight.

The Great Zucchini, a magician king among the kindergarten set, had his young audience screaming with delight for 50 minutes of family fun during the final show on September 17th. Little kids sat on the stage. Parents filled the seats. Strollers were parked everywhere. Cars overflowed from the parking lot to the surrounding streets. And the park's squirrels are still licking their whiskers from the unexpected bounty of spilled snacks.

The decades-old tradition of donations to The Wishing Well, along with other generous contributions, has made it possible for LRAF to sponsor post-season shows for children in recent years. We are proud to be able to provide programming for the youngest members of the community. We know that the little ones dancing on the stage after performances will provide both the audiences and even a few entertainers for Arlington's future.

If you missed donating to The Wishing Well during the summer, please consider a gift to the Lubber Run Amphitheater Foundation by visiting our Facebook page www.facebook.com/Lubberrunamphitheater/ and click the blue



Donate button at the top of the page or mail your check to Lubber Run Amphitheater Foundation, 107 N. Columbus St., Arlington, VA 22203. We are a 501c3 organization and your contribution is tax-deductible.

We thank you for your continuing commitment to this special venue and look forward to a vibrant 2018 season.



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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 school year at KW Barrett Elementary is off to a great start! The PTA hosted an ice cream social on September 8th to kick off the year. Thanks to Principal Dan Redding, Assistant Principal Jessica Kingsley, and all the teachers and staff for a great Back-to-School Night on September 13th. Families have supported two restaurant night fundraisers (Brick's Pizza and Chipotle) and Hats for Houston Day, a fundraiser to support recovery efforts from Hurricane Harvey. Many students participated in Walk and Bike to School Day on October 4th, and Barrett's "Living Museum" recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month was held October 12th.

Coming up: The Book Fair opens Monday, October 16th, with Family Night (open to community members) on Tuesday, October 17th from 6-8 pm. Families can shop while kids enjoy a movie, and pizza will be available for purchase. Barrett will hold a UN Heritage Assembly on October 20th. Please stay tuned for information about our October 24th restaurant fundraiser night at Chick-Fil-A!

Finally, did you know that KW Barrett Elementary school is named for Kate Waller Barrett and why she is important? Katherine Waller Barrett (born in 1857) was a prominent Virginia physician, humanitarian, philanthropist, sociologist, and social reformer. In addition to

co-founding the National Florence Crittenton Mission and leading it for many years, Dr. Barrett was a charter member and VP of the League of Women Voters, president of the National Council of Women, and a speaker at the 1924 Democratic National Convention. She served as Special Representative to the U.S. Government in Europe and advised on women's issues, and in 1919, she was one of only ten women to attend the Versailles Conference and served as a delegate to the Zurich Peace Conference.

When she died in 1925, Dr. Barrett became the first woman in the history of the Commonwealth to have the flag over the state Capitol flown at half-staff in her honor. Also named for her are another elementary school in Stafford County and a library in Alexandria that houses the local history collection. Dr. Barrett was active in PTA, and the Barrett community is proud to support her namesake Arlington school.

Join the PTA at <http://barrett.my-pta.org/>. For up-to-date information on Barrett events, follow the PTA on Facebook at www.facebook.com/barrettpta and Twitter @BPTAE in English and @BPTASP in Spanish. You can also find Principal Redding and numerous staff members on their own Twitter accounts.



Paul Cachion, MBA

Cell: 571-216-6802

Email: CachionHomes@gmail.com



Here Comes Halloween...

...and our neighborhood does it right! With marshmallow roasts, kids in creative costumes, a neighborhood parade, and adults catching up with each other as their children trick or treat, it's always a fun night. Let's have some fun with a **virtual costume contest** -- Text me (571-216-6802) your costume idea, and the most creative one will win a Starbucks gift card!

Faster Than My Teacher! Kenmore 5K: Also, Sylvie and I are helping organize this fun race on the W&OD, Saturday, November 4th, at 9 AM. Kids: \$10, Adults: \$25. Proceeds benefit the Kenmore PTA. We'd love for you to join us: <http://kenmore5k.itsyourrace.com>



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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, 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
- 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

Greenbrier Section:

- CeCe Collinson: babysitting (references), pet sitting, dog walking, 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 (college breaks only): snow shoveling, k.hall.b@verizon.net, 302-650-4428
- 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), 703-469-1988
- Alexandra Orli: babysitting (references), mother's helper, pet sitting, watering plants, call 703-528-5618
- 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), 703-875-8185

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 (ages 4-12), yard work, riittishachoudhary@gmail.com
- Ely Constantine: pet sitting, leaf raking, snow shoveling, lawn mowing, cpconstantine@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
- Ethan Nissenson: lawn mowing, leaf raking, snow shoveling, Enissenson@verizon.net, 703-201-0523



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Wednesday, October 18th
Carlin Springs Pedestrian Safety



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---- Find out more at **EtzHayim.net**