

The Arlington Forester



Volume 58, Number 1

Arlington, VA

September 2016

AFCA's 77th Year of Service

The Arlington Forest Citizens Association begins its 77th year of neighborhood service and advocacy at the September 21 AFCA meeting at 7 PM in the Barrett Elementary School library.

On the agenda are updates on replacing the Lubber Run Community Center, renovating Culpepper Garden senior housing, and summer programming at the Lubber Run Amphitheater. The Arlington Police Department's liaison to Arlington Forest is scheduled to come to update residents on crime trends and crime prevention strategies. Attendees will also vote on AFCA's annual budget.

Subsequent AFCA meetings will feature prominent speakers (County Board member Christian Dorsey in October and School Board member Barbara Kanninen in March) and

important topics (urban trees and wildlife in November, preserving parkland in January, and rebuilding the Carlin Springs Road bridge in February). In addition to the traditional annual events (AFCA Holliday Party, Kids Halloween Parade, Spring Cleanup, and Neighborhood Yard Sale), special events in the coming year will include Kids Scarecrow Making (October) and Family Fun Day at the Arlington Forest Shopping Center (April). The ever-popular triennial Arlington Forest Home and Garden Tour will return in the spring (watch for details later this fall).

These activities and other AFCA initiatives to enhance the quality of life in our neighborhood are supported by your dues.

Call for Dues

September marks the start of AFCA's annual dues drive. Please clip out the coupon on this page and return it with a \$10 check in the pre-addressed envelope included inside this newsletter. Last year, 295 out of the 851 households (35%) in Arlington Forest paid dues. That was down from 351 households (41%) two years ago during the Arlington Forest 75th anniversary year.

Your dues help to get this newsletter delivered to your doorstep eight times a year. Dues pay for tree grants to residents to help keep the "forest" in Arlington Forest and make possible modest donations to the PTAs of neighborhood schools. The AFCA website (www.arlingtonforestva.org) is supported by dues and features a variety of content including a detailed neighborhood map, a 150-page history of Arlington Forest, and back issues of this newsletter.

So please send in your tax deductible dues today. Add an optional donation if you missed paying dues in some past years. If you include your e-mail address, you will be added to the AFCA listserv which sends one or two messages per month with news of neighborhood interest.

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. September 21 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

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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.

E-CARE

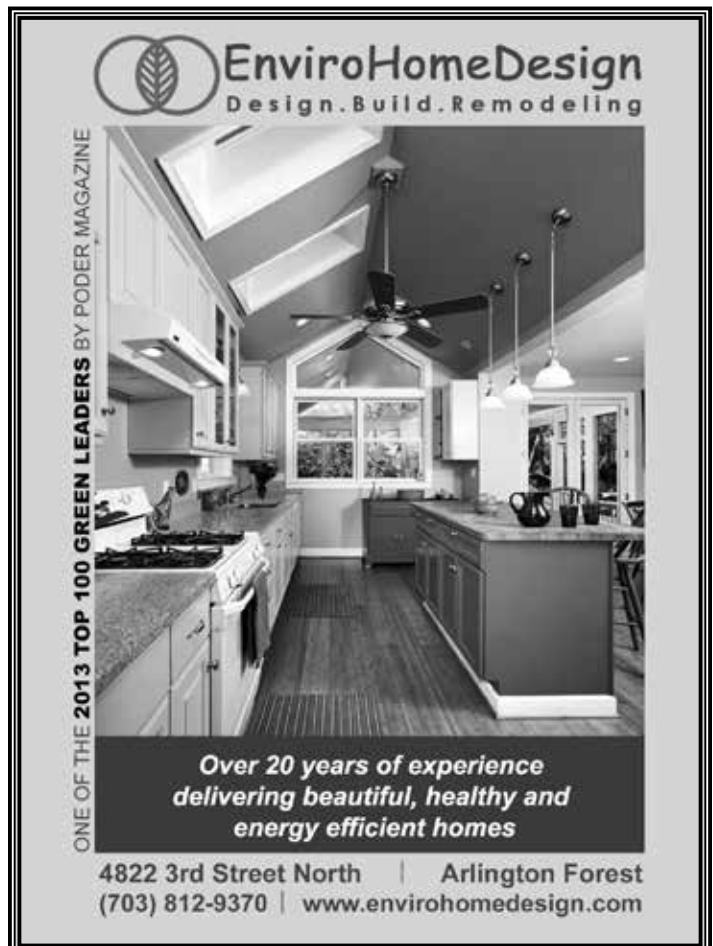
Do you have half-empty paint cans gathering dust in your basement? What about unneeded car fluids, household cleaners, or garden chemicals? Or maybe an obsolete computer monitor or television? Fluorescent tubes, photographic chemicals, or a propane gas cylinder?

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 on Saturday, September 24 (held rain or shine) from 8:30 AM to 3 PM 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. A \$20 fee for televisions and \$15 for computer monitors applies, but LED or LCD monitors and TVs are free.

The non-profit group Bikes for the World will collect serviceable bikes to be sent to countries where they are needed for basic transportation. They also collect portable sewing machines, baseball and soccer equipment, and bike parts and accessories.

For more information, search "E-CARE" on the County website.



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Lubber Run Amphitheater: Another Great Season

By Chris Scheer

Even on those all-too-few cool summer evenings at the Lubber Run Amphitheater, the stage was sizzling with exciting music and entertainment from around the world. Drumming from Africa, jazz from Nigeria and Calypso from the Caribbean blended with the music of local favorites under the park's towering oaks.

The summer season of free weekend programming at the amphitheater ends this weekend (Sept. 17 and 18) with 11 am performances by Mr. Knicknack, "kids' favorite music maker" (Sat.) and Captain All-Star, "the world's clumsiest magician," (Sun.)

This was the amphitheater's sixth consecutive season of free open-air family entertainment since it re-opened through efforts led by the community, the Lubber Run Amphitheater Foundation, and Arlington County. The Foundation, led by Foresters Esther Bowring and Marsha Lederman, formed after the amphitheater was closed and provided community support for the amphitheater's rehabilitation and reopening.

Donations to the amphitheater's "wishing well" during concerts and other funding sources enable the Foundation to provide additional programs, including the final one of the regular season and shows aimed at kids and their fami-

lies after the county-sponsored program series ends. "The Lubber Run Amphitheater Foundation added five shows to the county schedule with donated funds," explained Foundation co-president Lederman. "The kids' shows are scheduled early in the day so the entire family can participate. This year's shows have had tremendous turnouts."

The Arlington Forest Amphitheater Foundation is chartered as a 501c3 organization eligible for tax-deductible donations. Audience donations to the amphitheater Wishing Well at each performance help fund Foundation programs. Donations may be made throughout the year and addressed to: The Lubber Run Amphitheater Foundation, c/o 107 N. Columbus Street, Arlington, VA 22203.

"The County has been generous in funding programming at the amphitheater," said Lederman, "and now -- with donated dollars -- we are able to use the amphitheater more fully and meet community interests. We hope to do even more next year with the community's support."

Foresters can keep up with Lubber Run Amphitheater news throughout the year on Facebook and will soon be able to donate to the Lubber Run Foundation using that Facebook page.

Tree Grant

Did you know each year AFCA offers tree grants for residents? If you've lost a tree or want to add one to your yard, this is a great opportunity for you do so.

The AFCA Tree Grant Program will cover one-half of the cost to buy and plant a tree, including delivery, up to \$125 for the first tree and \$100 for the second tree. All you have to do to qualify is be current on your 2016-17 AFCA dues and apply to plant a tree from the approved list. Please note that the grant program does not apply to trees already planted on your property. Be sure you apply and are approved before purchasing the tree (a limited number of grants are available).

The approved list of shade trees includes: White Oak, Northern Red Oak, Willow Oak, Chestnut Oak, Southern Red Oak, Scarlet Oak, Pin Oak, Red Maple, Sycamore, Tulip Tree/Yellow Poplar, Black Gum, Lacebark Elm, American Elm, Dutch Elm resistant cultivars (i.e. Princeton, Liberty cultivars), American Beech, Kentucky Coffee Tree, Hickory and Linden/Basswood.

To apply, please follow these steps:

1. Complete the Tree Grant Application on the AFCA website (www.arlingtonforest.org) under the AFCA tab and submit it to Allison Kennett, AFCA Tree Grant coordinator.
2. Wait for your application to be approved before you purchase the tree.

3. Once you are notified that your application has been approved, purchase and plant the tree within 90 days.
4. Submit your receipt to Allison, along with your address and where the tree was planted (front yard, back yard, etc.). Allison will check to confirm the tree was planted and then submit your receipt to the treasurer for reimbursement.

Electronic submissions are preferred. If any questions, reach out to Allison Kennett at Allison.Kennett@gmail.com or Lauren Mikoy at laurendyork@gmail.com. Happy planting!

Help Neighborhood Schools

Link your **Harris Teeter VIC cards** to help your neighborhood* and local schools that many of our children attend!

Cut this out, choose up to five different schools to link to, then hand this card to the customer service desk during your next visit to Harris Teeter. It's absolutely free to do!

- 3906 - Barrett ES*
- 4238 - Barcroft ES*
- 4378 - ATS ES
- 5109 - Key ES
- 3954 - Kenmore MS*
- 3905 - Thomas Jefferson MS
- 3917 - Washington Lee HS*

In-Person Absentee Voting

Do you find it difficult to get to the polls on Election Day? Then Arlington County is there to help you. Starting on Friday, Sept. 23, the County will provide eligible residents with the ability to vote early -- and in person -- six days a week at polling places created just for in-person "absentee" voters.

Contrary to what you might think, absentee voting is not just for military service members and college students. In fact, there's a good chance you are eligible and don't even know it. All you need to do is affirm that you have one of 15 common reasons to vote absentee. For example: Do you work outside Arlington County? You qualify! Or do you anticipate working and commuting 11 of the 13 hours that polls are open? You qualify!

Moreover -- as with the well-known mail-in absentee voting option -- eligibility for in-person absentee voting does not require you to be sure that you will not be able to make it to your local polling place on Nov. 8; only that it is uncertain whether you will be able make it there due to one of the 15 reasons.

Other acceptable reasons include the possibility of being absent for business or vacation. You also can claim

eligibility due to a disability or pregnancy, or if you care for a confined family member. Any of these conditions, and a number of others, will qualify you to cast a mailed-in or in-person absentee ballot in advance of the Nov. 8 election.

The first in-person absentee voter polling station opens at Courthouse Plaza at 8 a.m., Sept. 23, and will operate six days a week through Nov. 5. You may complete your absentee ballot application right onsite before you vote.

Several weeks before the election, the County also will open polling places at Walter Reed Community Center and at Madison Community Center. You can find the dates and hours of operation for all three polling places -- as well as rules and information on early in-person absentee voting -- at <https://vote.arlingtonva.us/absentee/>.

Voting is our civic duty. And now it's so convenient you have no excuse not to do it. Just one last note: If you need to register to vote, or to change your voting address, you must do so by Oct. 17. For more info, go to www.vote.virginia.gov.

What Renovation Can You Make With A 75% Return?

Remodeling Magazine's 2016 Cost vs Value Report recently stated that a brand-new wooden deck added to your home will net you a 75% return on your investment when you decide to sell. This makes a deck renovation one that really pays off. Whether you want to build one from scratch or just want to expand on the one you currently have, here are some tips on how to get your deck on this summer that will pay you back down the road.

Before you start gathering your wood, hammers and nails, check out the amazingly useful free deck [guide](#) from the American Wood Council. Free expert advice is a huge asset before you get started. [Visit the blog article on our website for a link to the FREE guide.](#) This is also a good time to decide just how big you want to go- a 200-square-foot deck will cost around \$4,836. The costs may not stop with the

materials, an addition could increase your property taxes and insurance rates. Get the hard numbers set beforehand so that you can figure out your budget.

In general, a contractor will charge \$35 per square foot to build a deck. The cost varies hugely when it comes to material tough. Hollow-core PVC can cost as little as \$7.50 per square foot. Cedar can cost even less at \$3.50 and at the high end, Brazilian hardwood ipe runs \$22 or more.

The best way to save money is to design your deck for the standard length of lumber: 6, 8, 10 or 12 foot boards. You can also buy secondhand wood from local salvage shops. Habitat for Humanity, for instance, sells reclaimed wood from demos. Not only might you score some unique hardwoods, but the savings can have a huge impact.

Want to read the full article and guide? [Visit our website and go to the blog.](#)



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Around the Forest

LRCC: The Nov. 8 ballot will include a bond issue providing \$46 million to replace the Lubber Run Community Center with a new community center of four stories with underground parking. The top floor will likely house offices for the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Scarecrow Making: Bring your pre-teen child to the Arlington Forest Shopping Center on Saturday, Oct 15, between 1 and 3 PM to make a front-yard Halloween strawman. Bring a pair of blue jeans, a long-sleeve button-up shirt, and a pair of panty hose. AFCA will provide the straw to stuff inside and safety pins to connect the pants and shirt. Advance registration is required by e-mailing nalandfamily@yahoo.com. Cost is \$5 per scarecrow.

Arlington Forest History Book: After selling out the first 250 copies, we printed 20 more copies of the 75th anniversary history of Arlington Forest. You can order one for home delivery by sending a check for \$20 made out to "AFCA" to John Naland, 100 N. Granada St., Arlington 22203.

*Next AFCA Meeting:
Sept 21st, 7 p.m. at Barrett School*

Sharing our Space with Wildlife: An exhibition of wildlife photos by Forester David Howell will be displayed in the atrium of the Central Library through Sept. 24. Howell has photographed a wide range of local birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, insects and fish -- 200 species -- over the past two years. In conjunction with the exhibit, Alonso Abugattas, Arlington's Natural Resources Manager, will give a presentation on Arlington's resident wildlife and the steps residents can take to support wildlife habitat. The free program will be in the library auditorium on Sunday, Sept. 18, 6:30 to 8:30 pm.

Honoring the Cockrells: Twenty-six Foresters turned out on June 11 to honor Joe and Claire Cockrell for their 50 plus years of contributions to our neighborhood. Joe served as AFCA president 1975-76 and for decades cared for the holly tree in the N. Park St. traffic circle. Thank you Joe and Claire for being great neighbors!

Notable Neighbor: Former Forester Walter L. Frankland, Jr., age 91, died Feb. 1. Mr. Frankland and his family moved to Arlington Forest in 1964 shortly before he retired from the Army. He served as AFCA president for six months in 1970 after two years as an AFCA vice president. In 1975, he was elected to the Arlington County Board as a Republican-

backed independent. He was Board chair in 1980 and left the Board in 1983.

Your Green Yard Waste Cart: What can go in: acorns, bamboo, dead plants, flower and vegetable bed debris, grass clippings, hay/straw, ivy, invasive plants, leaves, mulch, pine cones and needles, shrub trimmings, small tree limbs, twigs, vines, weeds, wood chips. What cannot go in: dirt, construction debris, kitchen food waste, rocks, sand, sod, treated or coated wood, pet waste.



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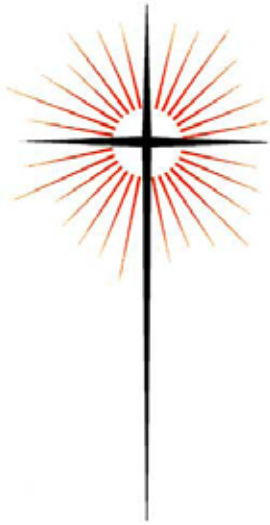


The numbers don't lie...

In the past two years:

- Sales averaged \$12,500 above asking price, and sold in an average of 3 days
- Purchases averaged \$13,300 below asking price





Sunday School

At 10 am - Starting September 11

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- FREE — See our website for more information.

Sunday Worship Services 8 am and 10 am



St. John's Episcopal Church

We welcome everyone including believers, seekers and doubters to share God's love and acceptance in a community of worship and service.



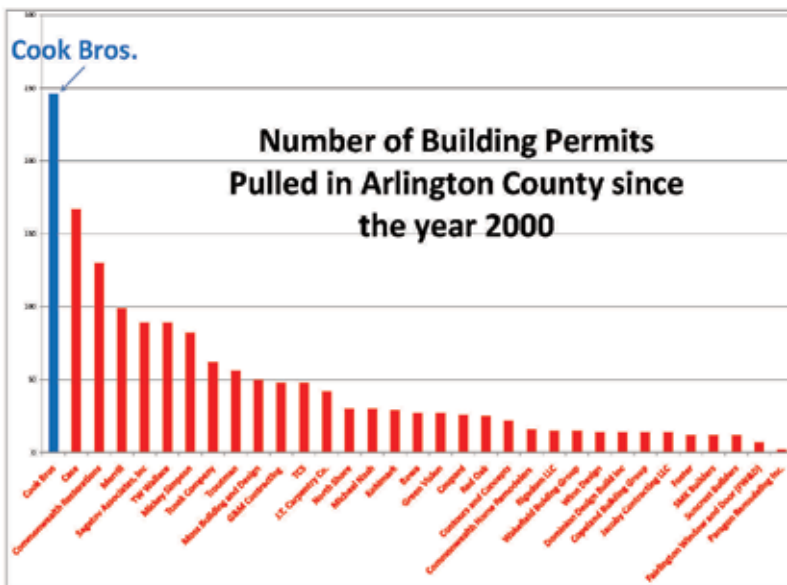
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www.CookBros.org/ArlForest



Forest Exchange

Congrats to Local Grads: A number of talented neighborhood youths graduated from local high schools last June and are now at college or in the workforce. One proud parent, Lori Rossi, submitted this note for publication here: "Third generation Forester Callie Randall graduated from W-L with Valedictorian status; received 10 college acceptances, seven full tuition offers and one partial offer. She was selected for scholar's programs at William and Mary, NYU, and Northeastern; offered over \$1.35M in scholarship money and \$14.5K in education scholarships. She has chosen Georgetown University for Justice and Peace Studies."

Coming in October at Arlington Forest United Methodist Church: Pumpkin Patch, beginning Oct. 5. Lots of pumpkins for sale! Fall Festival, Oct. 30, 11:30-3 p.m. Trunk or Treat, Pony Rides, Face Painting, Moon Bounce and Food. Everyone is welcome!

Free Trees: Arlington County's annual free tree distribution takes place Sat., Oct. 15 at the County Nursery on Four Mile Run Drive and Wed., Oct. 19 at Lubber Run Community Center. Trees are two to four feet tall. Register in advance. Search "Register for Your Free Tree" on the County website.

Community Calendar

Next AFCA Meeting: Wednesday, September 21, 7 PM, Barrett Elementary School. See page 1 for details.

Fall Scarecrow Making: October 15. See page 5 for details.

Kids Halloween Parade: Late October date TBD.

Election Day: November 8. President, Congress, County Board, School Board, State constitutional amendments, and County and School bonds.

AFCA Holiday Party: December 2.

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

Future AFCA Meetings:

October 19: County Board member Christian Dorsey

November 16: County naturalist and urban forester

January 18: Department of Parks and Recreation

February 15: Carlin Springs Road bridge project

March 15: School Board member Barbara Kanninen

April 19: To be announced

May 17: Picnic and Annual Membership Meeting



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Barcroft School News

We were so excited to welcome our new and returning students, families and staff at our first day of school on August 1st. The hot August temperatures did not slow us down and we had lots of learning and fun during these first weeks of school.

Fun Fridays are always a highlight in August and included Popsicles with the Principal, water games, field games, and the always popular Arlington County Fair. The school-wide morning meeting, open to all Barcroft families, was held August 30 and the first PTA meeting of the year was September 13.

We are especially excited about our new school mascot – the eagle! We encourage our neighbors to take advantage of our lending library in front of the school and the school track which is excellent for walking, running, biking and scootering. You are also welcome to join us for Chalk 4 Peace and Yard Day the morning of September 24. Looking forward to cooler temperatures? Then please make your calendars for the 2nd Snowball Stride on December 3rd! Registration details coming soon.



AF residents and Barcroft Students Connor and Maggie Moore with Barcroft Principal Colette Bounet.

Important Dates:

Chalk 4 Peace and Yard Day, September 24th
2nd Snowball Stride, December 3rd



*Electronic versions of
this newsletter are available
on the AFCA website:
www.arlingtonforestva.org*



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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

It may still feel like summer outside, but the students, staff and teachers of K.W. Barrett Elementary roared back to class after Labor Day, ready and raring to go.

In addition to reading, writing and arithmetic, students will have a September full of activities. By tradition, the school year started with a fun -- and frenetic -- dose of sugar and socializing at the Ice Cream Social. September also means a Read-a-thon from the 19th to the 30th and the Bookfair. The Bookfair is a great chance to add to your family's library as well as purchase books for your child's classroom as a gift to the school.

The school's active PTA, led by Tracey McLaughlin, has the calendar packed with fun and fundraising. You can join this crucial organization for just 10 dollars per student or 20 dollars per family. If you weren't able to join at the Ice Cream Social, you can do so online at <http://barrett.my-pta.org/>. Don't forget to link your grocery and reward cards! The PTA website has an easy, one-stop tool for doing this.

Important Dates:

Bookfair starts, September 26th

National Walk to School Day, October 5th

Parent-Teacher Conferences, October 6th & 7th



Reading is more fun with a partner. By Jen Flores

Lubber Run Park: This past June 14th marked the 75th Anniversary of the official opening of Lubber Run Park. The US Army Band was featured in the opening ceremony. Lubber Run was Arlington's first publicly-established park. It retains a remnant of the original hardwood forest that once covered most of the County. In 2012, field botanists hired by the County's Parks Department identified 181 different species of native flora thriving in the Lubber Run woodland. Enjoy and protect our neighborhood treasure!



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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
- 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@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

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

- Riittisha Choudhary: tutoring, babysitting age 4-12, yard work, riittishachoudhary@gmail.com
- Ely Constantine: pet sitting, leaf raking, snow shoveling, lawn mowing, cpcostantine@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
- 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



Traffic Circle Holly Tree: The 80+ year-old American holly tree in the shopping center's traffic circle is doing okay, according to Arlington County's Urban Forester Vincent Verweij. While some of the tree's limbs are leafless, most are still alive. If dead branches were to fall off, they would pose no hazard to people or traffic due to the tree's location. Eventually -- but hopefully not for many more years -- the tree will need to be removed and replaced. It was moved to its current location in 1941 by Arlington Forest builder Monroe Warren and is designated as a Notable Tree by Arlington County.



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