



Plans for the Lubber Run Community Center

The future of the Lubber Run Community Center will be discussed at the AFCA meeting this Wednesday, February 19, at 7 PM in the Barrett School library. Arlington County representatives will be on hand to discuss their planning for rebuilding the center.

Will it be rebuilt similar to its current configuration? Will it be converted to a mixed-use facility that includes high-density housing? Will it be replaced by an elementary or middle school? AFCA sent the following statement to the County Board and School Board on February 2:

Vision Statement for Lubber Run Community Center

As Arlington Forest celebrates the historic milestone of its 75th anniversary this year, the Arlington Forest Citizens Association (AFCA) is taking this opportunity to develop a vision for our community that we hope will serve us for decades to come.

An essential component of this vision includes our treasured, but outdated Lubber Run Community Center and its environs, including its open spaces, playground and outdoor recreation facilities. These amenities serve not only AFCA, but also the Buckingham neighborhood, the Barrett School community and other surrounding Ballston-area neighborhoods.

The need to preserve the dwindling amount of green space in central Arlington has never been greater. As Arlington has become a national model for smart growth, its desirability as a place to live, work and play has skyrocketed. In the Ballston area alone within a one-half mile radius of the Lubber Run Recreation Center, about 1,600 new housing units have been built in the last 20 years – the equivalent of two additional Arlington Forest sized neighborhoods. Even more units are under construction or have been approved. With these changes have come wonderful amenities, but the tremendous increase in density has also significantly reduced open space and increased congestion, which negatively impacts quality of life.

AFCA believes that the Lubber Run Community Center (LRCC) has a critical role to play in preserving a green, urban oasis to serve the recreational, social and educational needs of an expanding, diverse and vibrant population in central Arlington. With the increase in density and the thousands of new residents in the Ballston area, the demand for recreation and outdoor amenities will continue to rise. This view is shared by Arlington County in its 2013-2022 Capital Improvement Plan that includes replacement of the aging LRCC to “meet the needs of our growing community...and provide a full complement of recreational, social and learning activities for all ages.”

This vision statement identifies AFCA’s priorities for the Lubber Run Community Center with the hopes that it will begin a larger community conversation with the many stakeholders who have an interest in its future.

Guiding Principles for the Lubber Run Community Center

-- Preserve the character of Arlington Forest, an historic district on the National Register. The LRCC has been a vital part of Arlington Forest’s history and continues to be central to neighborhood celebrations and community events. In keeping with Arlington Forest’s historic district status on the National Register, a new LRCC should be designed to conform to the existing character of the neighborhood.

-- Adhere to AFCA’s approved Neighborhood Conservation Plan. AFCA strongly supports following the County Board-

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AFCA Meeting 7 p.m. February 19 at Barrett School Library

THE ARLINGTON FORESTER

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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.

Remembering Betty Hunter

By Barbara Ferrell

Elizabeth (Betty) Jane Hunter, an original Arlington Forest homeowner, died January 2 at the age of 96. Betty Hunter (Smith) was born in Woodstock, Virginia and married William (Billy) Morrison Hunter in 1939. In 1941, they paid the preconstruction price of \$5,000 to purchase a home at 5125 North First Street in the Greenbrier Section, and became active in cul-de-sac parties and bus trips to fun places.

Betty worked part time at the National Academy of Sciences in DC, and was a dedicated charter member of the Arlington Forest United Methodist Church. Billy died in 1999, yet Betty continued to live in their Arlington Forest home, taking frequent neighborhood walks and enjoying activities at her church as well as bingo at Culpepper Gardens. She moved to Sunrise Senior Living Center in Arlington in 2007; later relocating to Woodbridge to be close to her dear friend and caregiver, Carol Morrison. Her son Donald lives in Florida.

Betty is remembered by her First Street neighbors for her wonderful sense of humor, straightforward personality, and independent spirit. Friends will gather to remember Betty at Arlington Forest Methodist Church on Thursday, February 27 at 11:00. The service will be followed by a reception in the fellowship hall. Feel free to bring photos and stories to share.

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Arlington Forest Featured in Life Magazine

By Brendan Meyer



The accompanying photo is of our very own Arlington Forest from a 1941 issue of Life Magazine. When the Arlington Forest Historic District was created in 2005, the nomination mentioned a "rumor" of a feature in Life Magazine. But no one could find the photo, so it was chalked up to folklore; a historian's polite way of saying, "Yeah, right." Recently, I rediscovered the photo in my Life magazine collection, made possible by our move to the Forest a couple of years ago.

In March 1941, the world was tearing apart. World War II was almost two years old, Hitler had conquered most of Europe, and Japan had half of China. Surprise attacks on the Soviet Union and America were being plotted. The U.S. wasn't in the war yet, but the writing was on the wall and we were getting ready.

In March 1941 the U.S. established the Lend-Lease program which committed America's financial and industrial

resources to the United Kingdom. It was just the latest in long string of new government programs that each required its own small army of civil servants.

Life Magazine's cover story for the March 10, 1941 issue was "Washington Worker," about a 22-year old California woman who came to work for the Navy. But the rest of the story was how Washington was adding 75,000 defense jobs every month and was the biggest boom town in the country.

To illustrate the boom, Life included an aerial photo of a crop of new suburban houses being built in Arlington. After the Depression, and a national housing shortage that had reached emergency proportions, a picture of so many houses under construction in the same place at once would have been remarkable to Life's readers.

Can you find your house in the photo? If you live in the Greenbrier section and are already running to Google, I'll save you some time: Greenbrier construction didn't start until a month after the Life photo was published. The answer, and a little bit more about what we can see in the photo, will be in next month's newsletter.



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Plans for the Lubber Run Community Center ...from page 1

approved Neighborhood Conservation Plan, which states, "The indoor and outdoor recreational facilities at the Lubber Run Center and Barrett School grounds are heavily used by Arlington Forest residents and people from all over the County." The Plan recommends that, "The County should maintain the Center as a general community use facility under the auspices of the DPR." (Department of Parks and Recreation)

-- Preserve LRCC's park-like setting and maintain all current green and outdoor recreation space. Preservation of green space and minimization of impervious surface is essential for a redesigned LRCC. A new Center should not impact the County-designated Resource Conservation area of Lubber Run, should not increase air, water or noise pollution; nor should it increase traffic on residential streets or exacerbate the already heavy demand for on-street parking from commuters and nearby apartment residents space and minimization of impervious surface is essential for a redesigned LRCC. A new Center should not impact the County-designated Resource Conservation area of Lubber Run, should not increase air, water or noise pollution; nor should it increase traffic on residential streets or exacerbate the already heavy demand for on-street parking from commuters and nearby apartment residents.

-- Ensure that a compatible low-rise structure replaces current Center. AFCA supports the County's smart growth

philosophy of step-down development from the Metro corridor --- high rise, high density along the corridor, stepping down to low rise, single-family homes. AFCA strongly opposes a multiple-story, large footprint building on the LRCC site that does not adhere to this philosophy and brings Ballston corridor-style development directly into the heart of a single-family home neighborhood.

-- Continue the tradition of using LRCC to supplement Barrett School resources. The LRCC is essential to the Barrett School community. The Center and outdoor space are used for after school care and activities, class projects and activities and summer camps. Because of overcrowding at Barrett, the LRCC parking lot is used for overflow parking for staff and parents. Although AFCA does not support a full size elementary or middle school on the LRCC property due to lack of space, AFCA does support further investigation of options for a new LRCC to continue to further support the overcrowded Barrett Elementary School.

-- Create a new Center that uses the existing resources of the surrounding community. A new LRCC has the unique opportunity to generate a synergy using Barrett School, Lubber Run Park, the Lubber Run Amphitheater and Culpepper Gardens Senior Center. AFCA supports a visioning process for the new LRCC that would creatively address the community needs of the greater Ballston area through a partnership with the Buckingham Community Civic Association and other nearby civic associations, area tenant associations, Parks and Recreation, community groups currently using the facility, the Barrett school community and other stakeholders.



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Around the Forest

Welcome to New AFCA Officer: Southside resident Lauren Mikoy has stepped forward to serve as AFCA Vice President for that section of Arlington Forest. Lauren and her husband Brett have lived in the neighborhood for two years. They just welcomed their first baby Brody born October 24th. Lauren is a real estate agent with Coldwell Banker and also works with CQ Roll Call on Capitol Hill.

Remembering Elroy Nieweg: Long-time Arlington For-ester Elroy Nieweg passed away on February 5. Elroy and his wife Dorothy relocated to Goodwin House at Bailey's Crossroads in 2011 after living for four decades at the corner of N. Granada and N. 2nd Street. Elroy served as AFCA treasurer from 1973 to 1986 and for many years was the AFCA webmaster and historian. He and Dorothy edited the 2000 Arlington Forest history book published on the association's 60th anniversary. Elroy and another neighbor co-edited the 50th anniversary book. An updated edition will be published late this year to mark AFCA's 75th anniversary. Elroy and Dorothy were honored by 40 neighbors, friends and relatives at a luncheon at Crystal Thai Restaurant in September 2011. Dorothy and their children still reside in Northern Virginia. Check local newspapers for announcements on a memorial ceremony.

Neighborhood Spring Cleanup: Our fourth annual Arlington Forest Spring Cleanup will take place Saturday, April 26, from 9 to 11 AM. Confirmed cleanup sites are the Arlington Blvd southside buffer strip and the Four Mile Run streambed at the foot of N. Greenbrier St. We will pick up trash, remove invasive plants, and otherwise beautify our public spaces. Mark your calendar and join your neighbors in improving our shared environment. If we can get volunteers to serve as site coordinators, then one or more of the following sites can be added: the Lubber Run streambed, the Arlington Blvd northside buffer strip, and the Four Mile Run streambed at the foot of S. Park. Coordinator duties only consist of keeping the other volunteers generally pointed in the right direction on cleanup day. To volunteer to coordinate one of those sites, e-mail nalandfamily@yahoo.com by March 1.

Playground Project Approved: The County Board gave final approval last month to building a \$485,000 playground in Glencarlyn Park near the foot of S. Park Dr. Construction should start by spring.

Keys Found: A set of keys was found on February 4 near the corner of N. Wakefield and N. 1st Street. If it might be yours, call Janice at 703-528-0416.

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To find out exactly what your home is worth in today's market or where to find what you're looking for, call or email Lauren.



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Sold	4851 Arlington Blvd	\$574,900	\$580,900	1/6/14
Sold	125 N. Abingdon St	\$589,900	\$612,000	12/20/13
Sold	5332 N Carlin Springs Rd	\$629,500	\$620,000	11/15/13
Sold	119 Columbus St	\$665,000	\$658,000	12/3/13
Sold	304 Granada St	\$725,000	\$750,000	12/5/13



Arlington Neighborhood Villages to Open in March including Arlington Forest

Arlington Neighborhood Villages (ANV) plans to begin operations in March 2014 providing support services needed to help older adults stay in their homes and remain active in their communities as long as possible. These "villages" (sometimes called the "aging-in-place") rely both on a network of neighbors helping neighbors, as well as annual membership fees and community sponsors and donors. We have included an article on this project in a past issue of this newsletter and had a presentation at our civic association meeting.

ANV's plan is to create a network of local villages throughout Arlington County supported with one central management office which will handle all the administrative functions.

The exciting news is that our neighborhood, Arlington Forest, joined with neighbors in Glencarlyn and Boulevard Manor to form one of Arlington Neighborhood Village's first local villages. The interim name for our local village is ANV-West End 50. ANV is now accepting applications for membership and is recruiting volunteers of all ages to provide services to members.

There is considerable information about ANV our website (www.arlnvil.org) including how you can become part of this exciting new endeavor.

Open House: We are having an "Open House about Arlington Neighborhood Villages" at Carlin Hall, 5711 4th St. S., on Saturday, February 22 at 2 pm. Anyone who may want to find out more is invited to attend. If you can't make it or would rather talk to someone in the neighborhood, contact Linda Reck at 703-892-5178 or lindajreck@comcast.net.

Interested in Joining? All Arlington County residents who are 55 or older are eligible to become an ANV member. ANV has just begun to accept membership applications. There are several membership options and membership fees vary by the type of membership.

Interested in Volunteering? You don't need to be a member to volunteer. Residents of all ages can volunteer for tasks suited to their own preferences, schedules, and skills. Find out more about the options for membership and opportunities for volunteering on the ANV website (www.arlnvil.org).

More Information: If you want to learn more about becoming an ANV-West End 50 member, volunteer, donor or about ANV in general, please visit ANV's website: www.arlnvil.org, e-mail: info@arlnvil.org, or call 703-509-8057. We look forward to hearing from you!!



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Your Neighbor in Arlington Forest

The Spring Market for selling homes is just a few weeks away. 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 want to show you how I market homes and help you determine what your selling price should be, and I have all the tools that Long and Foster has to offer. I look forward to meeting with you.

Jim

Barcroft School News

Barcroft Elementary hopes that our neighbors are keeping warm during this chilly winter season. Here's a look at events happening at Barcroft in the next several months. During February, mid-year parent-teacher conferences will be held just before the Presidents' Day holiday, so students will have no school from February 13-17.

March is "Arts in the Schools" month. The PTA plans to celebrate the arts on March 4 with some great faculty art and music presentations at the March 4 PTA meeting. The ever-popular Coffee House and Book Exchange will also be held on March 4. Enjoy hot chocolate with friends and neighbors, drop off books that your family no longer uses, and feel free to take home and enjoy books that are new to you. Also in March, three student teams will be competing in the March 15 preliminary Odyssey of the Mind competition. The student teams have been meeting and working hard since November 2013.

From March 31-April 11 is **Spring Intersession**. Intersession is a wonderful two-week program of special classes offered each Fall and Spring. Because of Barcroft's modified school year schedule, these additional learning opportunities are built into the calendar. Students may take morning and afternoon enrichment classes offered by the school during these two weeks or enjoy time off. The Spring Break holiday is from April 14-18.

Please save the date: May 3 will be the **Barcroft Spring**

Fair. There will be games, fun, food, cake walks, book fairs, bakes sales, jewelry sales, and much more for the entire family. May 5 -9 is Staff Appreciation Week. During that week, the PTA will plan special activities to thank our wonderful teachers and staff for all that they do for our students. Annual Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL) testing will also commence this month and end in June.

Finally, **Farm to Table week** will occur on June 9-13. During the week, students will have an opportunity to sample fresh, local produce during lunch. On the evening of June 13, there will be a special dinner and Leonardo learning event. We hope that you will join us!

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Barrett School News

Hello Foresters! As the wintery weather continues, Barrett students and families have had plenty to keep them busy.

The Barrett PTA recently voted to support Barrett's new **Readers Workshop Initiative**, which will help secure funding to obtain 500-1,000 books for every classroom over the next few years. Achieving academic success begins with books, and Barrett is committed to providing well-stocked classroom libraries to foster children's love of reading and learning.

The **Winter Concert** showcased Barrett's budding musicians. The orchestra, band, and chorus gave wonderful performances for the many families and friends who attended. During **Family Gym Night**, families discovered new ways to get moving with yoga, Jazzercise, Boot camp, and active games.

Prospective Kindergarten families are invited to attend one of the remaining **kindergarten information sessions** at Barrett on Tuesday, March 11, at 9:15 a.m. or Thursday, April 10, at 12:45 p.m. Meet Principal Dan Redding, take a school tour, and learn about Barrett's supportive community and unique programs.

Barrett's annual **Science Discovery Night** on Thursday, February 27, will include a live NASA videoconference, presentations from NASA and the US Fish and Wildlife Service,

an interactive lesson on bats, and other exciting activities. A guide for science projects is available at www.apsva.us/Page/21027. For project ideas visit: www.sciencebuddies.org, www.all-science-fair-projects.com, www.tryscience.org, and www.easy-science-fair-projects.net.

Barrett's March Madness Silent Auction is Saturday, March 22. This year's auction will feature exciting items, activities, and services that create memorable experiences for children and their families. We hope Arlington Forest residents will help us meet this goal by contributing unique "prizes" to auction. How can you help? Connections to tickets for sporting events or shows? Backstage passes to concerts? Behind-the-scenes tours of museums or landmarks? Services or talents you would like to promote? A vacation home to share? Please contact Jennifer Sauter-Price at familyprice@me.com to get involved.

Upcoming Events:

- No School-President's Day, Monday, Feb 17
- Middle School Orientation, Tuesday, Feb 18, 6:30-8 pm
- Science Discovery Night, Thursday, Feb 27, 6-8 pm
- PTA Meeting, March 4, 7:00-8:30 pm
- No School-Parent/Teacher Conferences, Th/Fri, March 6-7
- Teacher Luncheon, Thursday, March 6
- Kindergarten Info Session, Tues, March 11, 9:15-10:45 am

Arlington's real estate assessments in 2014 grew 5.8% with a strong residential market and construction of commercial properties. The residential sector average prices increased 5.3% from \$524,700 last year to \$552,700.

Arlington Forest saw an increase in the average sold price of \$644,000 in 2013 with 21 listings sold compared to an average price of \$602,800 in 2012 with 37 listings.

Arlington continues to show resilience and stability being one of the most popular areas to live while affordability for many buyers seeking housing here is an ongoing challenge.

Looking at December 2013 versus December 2012, the housing market in the Washington DC Metro Region improved as the total number of sales in the region increased 9.3% from 2012

levels and the median sale price increased by 9.6%. All jurisdictions in the region had a higher median sales price in 2013 than in 2012.

So far in 2014 the demand from buyers has been strong and the supply has been low with multiple offers being common in most of the housing sectors. Traditionally the best time for a seller to obtain top dollar has been in the first quarter and early second quarter of the year and this year is predicted to follow those trends. In January of 2014, I have experienced the multiple offer effect in four different transactions, advising clients to gain the most positive outcome in their situation.

Considering a move in the near future? I can provide guidance and value added services – offering creative strategies to help you maximize your outcome including three popular pricing angles.



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Southside:

- Daniel O'Mara, dog walking, pet sitting, yard work, 703-769-3767
- Caroline Rogers, pet sitting, dog walking, yard work, carolinearogers@verizon.net, 703-892-0226
- Julia Rogers, babysitting (RC certified), yard work, juliaerogers23@gmail.com, 703-892-0226
- Jon Tiernan, babysitting (RC certified), dog walking, pet sitting, Wonton81@gmail.com, 703-967-7813
- Liz Tiernan, babysitting (RC certified - two for the price of one with my brother Jon Tiernan), dog walking, pet sitting, lizzytiernan@gmail.com, 703-979-5046

Greenbrier Section:

- Zephren Collinson, babysitting (references), pet sitting, dog walking, yard work, tutoring, 703-528-3595
- Allison Ferrell, babysitting (RC certified), pet sitting, Allisonrocket@aol.com, 703-276-2840
- Alex Hendel, babysitting (RC certified), experienced Tot Camp counselor (high school student), alexhendel@gmail.com, 703-622-2884

- Sarah Keyser, babysitting (RC certified), pet sitting, dog walking, Stealers12@gmail.com, 703-243-8777
- Nikota Laumann, snow shoveling, mindee62@verizon.net, 703-358-9034

Northside:

- Alex Brown, snow shoveling, AdabossB@gmail.com, 703-585-1540
- Riittisha Choudhary: tutoring, babysitting ages 4-12, yard work, riittishachoudhary@gmail.com
- 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
- Alyssa Luz-Ricca, babysitting (RC cert), dog walking, pet sitting, alyssa.luz.ricca@gmail.com, 703-740-6972.
- Isaac Mortimer-Lotke, odd jobs, 703-276-9046
- Marika Mortimer-Lotke, babysitting (RC certified), housesitting/chores, 703-276-9046
- Allison Vernon, pet sitting, babysitting (references), catharinevernon@aol.com, 703-522-9147
- Gabby Young, babysitting, mother's helper, pet sitting, dog walking, merrywesing@yahoo.com, 703-622-4229

All Neighborhoods:

- Donna Corina, babysitting (RC certified), dog walking, pet sitting, 703-248-8885
- Mary Corina, babysitting (RC certified), dog walking, pet sitting, 703-248-8885
- Julia Franchi, babysitting (RC certified), mother's helper, pet sitting, dog walking, yard work, 703-220-4894
- Girl Scout Troop 5837 (a group of responsible Arlington Forest 7th graders), babysitting, mother's helper, pet sitting, dog walking, plant watering, leaf raking, buggah66@gmail.com, 703-528-3595

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