

# The Arlington Forester



Volume 55, Number 8

Arlington, VA

May 2014

## Summer is Around the Corner

This expanded *Arlington Forester* (the last issue before our summer publishing hiatus) contains information that you may want to hold on to over the next few months to remind you of upcoming events and other AFCA-related information.

First, below are details about AFCA's annual membership meeting and potluck picnic this coming Wednesday, May 14. We hope you and your family will attend this fun event.

Next, on page 3 is information on upcoming County Board meetings that may determine the future of the Lubber Run Recreation Center.

On pages 18 to 19 is the Lubber Run Amphitheater 2014 summer program schedule which runs from June 13 to August 17. Feel free to tear it out and post it on your refrigerator or bulletin board. It includes descriptions of each performer to help you select those most of interest to you.

On the back cover, is a map of the nearly 50 households who signed up to participate in the annual Community Yard Sale. Whether you are a seller, buyer or both, please join in on Saturday, May 17. See page 9 for additional info.

.....continued on page 2

## AFCA Membership Meeting & Potluck Picnic



The final AFCA meeting of the season is a neighborhood tradition - a little business mixed with food, fun, and socializing.

The Wednesday, May 14 meeting will be a potluck picnic starting 6:30 pm in the Lubber Run Park shelter located upstream from the amphitheater. AFCA will cook

up hamburgers and hotdogs and will provide buns, condiments, soda and water, plates, cups, utensils and napkins. Residents should bring a side dish to share (salad, veggies, fruit, chips, snack or dessert) and drinks other than water and soda.

There will be a brief business meeting to provide updates on pending issues, hold the annual election of AFCA officers, and vote on updating the AFCA bylaws. Representatives of Arlington Neighborhood Villages will be on hand to answer any questions about their efforts to assist older residents in continuing to live in their own homes and communities as they age.

While all residents are invited to every AFCA meeting, the May picnic meeting is a great way for infrequent attendees and recent arrivals to see their neighborhood association in action and have a say in its leadership.

The event will last about one hour and will be mostly informal. Children are definitely welcome. This will be the last AFCA meeting until September.

Around 50 residents attended last year's picnic and we are hoping for another good turnout this time. Thanks go to Chris Scheer for organizing the picnic again this year.

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***AFCA Meeting & Picnic 6:30 p.m. May 14 at Lubber Run Park***

## 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.

Editor & Advertising: John Naland  
703-888-0125, newsletter@arlingtonforestva.org

Layout & Design: Laura Smialowicz  
703-528-3889, smialowicz@hotmail.com

Distribution: Tracy Tucker  
407-963-1094, TracyLTuck@aol.com

Listserv: Diane Hendel  
703-763-0070, ArlingtonLife@gmail.com

### 2013 - 2014 AFCA Officers

President: Julie Kirchhoff  
571-338-4828, juliek4828@yahoo.com

Vice President, Northside: Allison Kennett  
703-528-1174, allison.kennett@gmail.com

Vice President, Southside: Lauren Mikoy  
703-906-8218, LaurenDYork@gmail.com

Vice President, Greenbrier: Tom Smialowicz  
703-528-3889, smialowicz@hotmail.com

Co-Secretary: Jennifer Walter  
703-243-0668, jenwalter1@verizon.net

Co-Secretary: Jim Graham  
703-908-9384, sujigraham@gmail.com

Treasurer: Erin Clougherty  
703-271-5445, erin.clougherty@gmail.com

Neighborhood Conservation Plan:  
Timothy O'Leary, 703-525-0975, tfoleary310@gmail.com

Arlington Civic Federation Rep: Salvatore D'Itri

Historian: John Naland

Website: <http://www.arlingtonforestva.org>  
Join AFCA listserv by e-mailing address to:  
ArlingtonLife@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.

## Summer ...from page 1



You may also want to hang on to Kids for Hire listing on page 13. This feature, which began in 2010 with seven names, now lists 22 neighborhood youths who stand ready to assist

you with babysitting, dog walking, yard work, or other services for a reasonable price. They can provide references if you want to check them out before offering a job.

In the coming months, please also patronize our newsletter's advertisers. Many are located in our neighborhood and all of them highly value the steady stream of customers from Arlington Forest. Advertising revenue covers the cost of printing and distributing this newsletter, thus freeing up your dues money to fund AFCA's numerous other activities that enhance the quality of life in our neighborhood.

The *Arlington Forester* will return in September. See the Editor's Note below if you would like to submit an article, news note, or photo.

An advertisement for EnviroHomeDesign. The top part of the ad features the company logo, which consists of a stylized leaf inside a circle, followed by the text "EnviroHomeDesign" and "Design. Build. Remodeling" below it. The main part of the ad is a photograph of a modern kitchen with white cabinets, a large island, and a ceiling fan. On the left side of the photo, there is vertical text that reads "ONE OF THE 2013 TOP 100 GREEN LEADERS BY PODER MAGAZINE". At the bottom of the ad, there is a dark banner with white text that says "Over 20 years of experience delivering beautiful, healthy and energy efficient homes". Below the banner, the contact information is listed: "4822 3rd Street North | Arlington Forest (703) 812-9370 | www.envirohomedesign.com".

# Update on the Lubber Run Community Center

April has been a busy month in our community's effort to rebuild the Lubber Run Community Center (LRCC) and preserve its open and green space (see highlights below). But, as eventful as the last few months have been, our work is not yet done.

May and June will be critical months as the County moves forward to adopt its 2015-2024 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). County Manager Barbara Donnellan will submit her recommended CIP to the County Board at its May 10 meeting, and will provide a list of three to five County-owned sites that she views as being suitable for affordable housing. Our neighborhood will need a contingent of residents to testify at County Board public hearings on the CIP during this period.

To stay involved with what is planned for LRCC you can join the AFCA listserv by e-mailing [ArlingtonLife@gmail.com](mailto:ArlingtonLife@gmail.com) and sign up for the Future of LRCC Yahoo group by e-mailing [future-of-lrcc-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:future-of-lrcc-subscribe@yahoogroups.com).

Summary of April highlights:

-- AFCA's April 9 meeting had a record attendance of about 130 people who met out of continued concern over the future of LRCC. John Naland presented the results of AFCA's online survey showing 91 percent of respondents preferred replacement of the current center with a similar facility. A resolution was overwhelmingly approved that calls on the County to move forward with rebuilding LRCC as solely a recreation center; to remove the LRCC site from further consideration for alternative uses; move design and construction of the new LRCC up to 2016 in the County's CIP; and begin environmental and traffic studies and the community engagement process required to begin the design of a new Community Center.

-- On April 10, the School Board removed LRCC from further consideration as a possible middle school site -- at least for this year's school CIP. But APS staff made it clear that they still think LRCC is an excellent site for a school, so it may be reconsidered in the future.

-- On April 12, about 25 LRCC supporters from various neighborhoods attended the Arlington County Board meeting and presented testimony during the public comment period urging the Board to begin the process for building a new community center sooner than 2017 and remove LRCC for further consideration as a future site for a school or affordable housing.

-- On April 22, three LRCC supporters attended a meeting of the Arlington County Parks & Recreation Commission, asking it to take a formal position in support of AFCA's April resolution as well as support the principle that parkland benefits all residents in Arlington and should continue to be dedicated for parks and recreation purposes.

-- On April 23, the Bluemont Civic Association approved a resolution that supports AFCA's March 19 and April 9 resolutions concerning a new LRCC and preservation of the surrounding green and outdoor recreation space and AFCA's January 30 Vision Statement.

-- On April 28, the Cathcart Springs Homeowners Association endorsed AFCA's April 9 resolution.



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# Do You Have a Notable Tree?

By Hutch Brown

Maybe you have heard of “champion trees”- the largest white oak in the state, for example, or the biggest red maple. Since 1940, a nongovernmental organization called American Forests has maintained a National Register of Big Trees, including all the national champion trees.

Arlington maintains a similar list, called Arlington County Notable Trees. The list includes not only trees unusual for their size, but also unusual types of trees (such as English yew) and trees of special community or historical significance (such as the American holly in the circle in front of the Arlington Forest Shopping Center).

You can nominate a tree for the list. The county will send arborists to evaluate your tree based on its girth, height, and canopy width. If your tree qualifies, you will receive a certificate at a County Board meeting and your tree will be added to the list.

Currently, the list has 283 trees, including one in our own backyard, an eastern redcedar (*Juniperus virginiana*). This tree, actually a kind of juniper, does not like shade. It tends to sprout in abandoned fields, but as a forest matures, trees such as oaks and hickories gradually shade it out. Few eastern redcedars ever get big, and you will not find many in our county parks.

But our tree grew in an open field. An arborist told me it might be more than a century old, perhaps having

sprouted on farmland. Maybe it grew as a shade tree on the old Henderson estate, now the site of the Lubber Run Community Center.

Except for the holly in front of the shopping center, our tree is the only one in Arlington Forest on the list of Arlington County Notable Trees. Several trees in Ashton Heights are on the list, as is an impressive southern magnolia on Edison Street just north of Carlin Springs Road.

Another eastern redcedar on the list has an unlisted location - a homeowner option. But you are welcome to see our tree at 4814 North 3rd Street, across from the Lubber Run Community Center.

So if you have a special tree, why not show it off? Our neighborhood has magnificent oaks, maples, ashes, and other trees that might well qualify. Just print out a form, fill it out, and send it in. For more information, search "Notable Tree" on the Arlington county website.



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# Around the Forest

**AFCA Election:** The annual election of AFCA officers takes place at the association's May 14 meeting. Any dues-paying AFCA member interested in running for a position should attend to place their name in nomination and ask meeting participants for their votes.

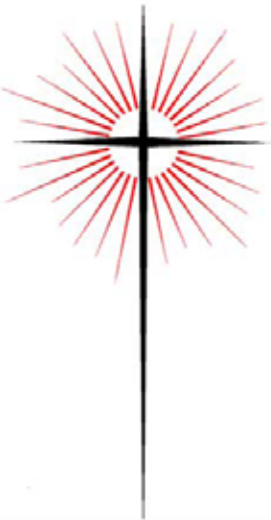
**Tree Trimming:** VA Dominion Power will be trimming trees away from power lines in Arlington Forest starting in late May or early June. This work, which is done approximately every three years, will be carried out by crews from the Asplundh Company. Go to [www.dom.com](http://www.dom.com) for details on why and how trimming is carried out.

**Sidewalk Survey:** The first comprehensive survey in 25 years of Arlington Forest sidewalk repair needs is now complete. Larry Bowring (Northside), Todd Lee and John Naland (Greenbrier section), and Brett Mikoy (Southside) walked every inch of Arlington Forest's sidewalks and photographed and catalogued 113 sections that present serious tripping hazards or are severely spalled (i.e., the surface has crumbled). AFCA will forward the data to the County's Department of Environmental Services asking them to schedule repair or replacement in the next few years at no cost to the adjacent property owners.

**Arlington Forest Shopping Center Family Fun Day:** Mark your calendar for Saturday, September 20. As part of Arlington Forest's 75th anniversary celebration, AFCA will hold an Arlington Forest Shopping Center Family Fun Day. Activities such as a Moon Bounce and face painting will be provided for the kids, while adults can check out special deals offered by many of the merchants. Planning is still underway, but full details will be sent out on the AFCA listserv over the summer and will be highlighted in the September newsletter.

**Arlington Forest History Book:** AFCA is marking the 75th anniversary of our neighborhood by updating its history of Arlington Forest (last printed for the 60th anniversary). The book will be available for purchase in early 2015. Included will be previously-published remembrances by original home owners documenting daily life in our neighborhood during the 1940s and 1950s. For the updated volume, we seek new essays covering more recent years. To contribute, contact John Naland at [nalandfamily@yahoo.com](mailto:nalandfamily@yahoo.com).

**AFCA Listserv:** This newsletter is not published in the summer, but you can keep up with neighborhood news by joining the AFCA listserv. E-mail your address to [ArlingtonLife@gmail.com](mailto:ArlingtonLife@gmail.com).



## ***Want to make a connection with God?***

*St. John's Episcopal Church is a vibrant congregation with a big heart. We believe that questioning and doubts are part of mature faith development. Always inclusive, we invite you to bring those questions inside the faith community where we help people establish a deeper relationship with God.*

*-Reverend Ann Barker, Rector*

**Sunday Worship Services** 8 am and 10 am

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**July 7 — 11**

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Kids ages 3-10 are welcome to join us for crafts, lessons and outdoor fun!

Price is \$20 for the week (\$10 for additional siblings)

Email [familyministry@stjohnsarlingtonva.org](mailto:familyministry@stjohnsarlingtonva.org) to reserve a spot or for more information.

**Book Club** - Tues. June 3 7:30 pm *Island Beneath the Sea* by Isabelle Allende

**All are welcome to all services and activities!**

## ***St. John's Episcopal Church***

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415 S. Lexington Street Arlington, VA 22204

703-671-6834

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# Giving Credit

By John Naland

As another publication year ends for the Arlington Forester, please take a moment to recognize those whose hard work is responsible for getting this newsletter delivered to your front door eight times a year.

First, Laura Smialowicz does the layout -- fitting articles, photos, and advertisements into available space; creating attractive graphics, and posting the finished newsletter on AFCA's website ([www.arlingtonforestva.org](http://www.arlingtonforestva.org) under the "Newsletter" tab).

Next, Tracy Tucker coordinates monthly distribution. She

picks up the 900 copies from the printer, separates them into stacks for each delivery teenager, coordinates the insertion of advertising flyers, and then delivers all that to the teenagers' houses around our neighborhood.

We should definitely thank the 13 delivery teenagers. Although they get paid a small stipend, it may not seem very generous when they are going door-to-door on cold winter days or climbing long flights of steps in the hilly sections of our neighborhood. Please tell your delivery teenager "thank you" if you happen to be at your door when he or she comes by.

Thanks go to Elizabeth Grossman who sends out invoices twice a year to the newsletter's two dozen advertisers and then follows up with any who are slow to pay.

Thanks also go to our neighbors who contribute the articles that you read each month, starting with the volunteers who eight times this past year pulled together updates about goings on at our two neighborhood elementary schools (Jenny Ditta for Barcroft and Allison Ibrahim for Barrett) and Chris Scheer who contributed several articles on the Lubber Run Amphitheater.

We should also thank the handful of other neighbors who stepped forward to contribute one-time essays, letters to the editor, or photos. Such input is always welcome (see the Editor's Note on page 2 for details).

Thanks go to our advertisers whose support covers the nearly \$1,000 monthly cost of printing and distributing the newsletter. That frees up your dues to fund other AFCA activities which enhance the quality of life in our neighborhood. So, please consider our advertisers first when you need a good or service.

Turning to the AFCA board, we should definitely thank Julie Kirchoff who is stepping down this month after nearly a decade as AFCA president and Erin Clougherty who is stepping down after three years as AFCA treasurer. We also appreciate the ongoing work of Diane Hendel who coordinates the AFCA listserv.

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# A Note from Outgoing AFCA President Julie Kirchhoff

To my neighbors and friends – All Arlington Foresters,

I have had the honor and privilege to serve on the AFCA Board of Directors for 13 years now...first as the South Side VP and most recently as President. As fulfilling and exciting as it has been, I have decided to step aside and allow someone else to take the reins.

I have learned many things and had the opportunity to meet and work with some outstanding individuals....mostly YOU!

I thank every Arlington Forester for their support and encouragement over the years. I appreciate everyone who put forth effort in accomplishing one goal or another – whether it was the Home Tour, the May picnic, the Fun Day, the 70th and now the 75th Anniversary events, the Amphitheater, and even the monthly meetings. I could not have done it without all of your input, efforts and support. So, thank you.

I am not moving, so I will remain an active member of AFCA and continue the tradition of supporting the Board of Directors in any way I can. You guys Rock!

Also, I highly encourage anyone who is interested to run for the AFCA board. It is a wonderful opportunity to learn countless things – about Arlington County, about how we interact with the State – and best of all, it allows you to meet all of your neighbors, from all three sections and work together in a cohesive group. I'm happy to talk with anyone who would like to learn more!

Thank you, everyone, for all you do and have done for me and for AFCA....and that we will all continue to do... ;))

Sincerely,  
juliek

Julie Kirchhoff  
Past President of AFCA

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## Update on Arlington Neighborhood Villages

Join us on May 20 for a walk in the Community Demonstration Garden at the Glencarlyn Library followed by a Brown Bag Lunch Social at Carlin Hall, hosted by your local chapter of Arlington Neighborhood Villages.

Judy Funderburk, Master Gardener and Coordinator of the Garden, will lead the tour and discuss the plants cultivated there. Find out what plants you can grow in your yard (hint: you may be surprised!). Learn how to plan a garden for four seasons of interest. Discover how you can have significant impact on the local environment with even a small yard and garden area. She will also discuss how to

support native wildlife including butterflies and other pollinators through what we plant and how we maintain our yards and gardens.

Meet at noon on May 20 at the entrance to the garden, just to the south of the entrance to Glencarlyn Library, 300 South Kensington. After the tour we will move next door to Carlin Hall, 5711 4th St. South, where we will gather for lunch. We will have plenty of time to ask questions and socialize. Bring your lunch.

Arlington Neighborhood Villages (ANV) is a non-profit organization dedicated to enabling older residents of Arlington to continue living in their own homes and communities as they age. ANV began providing services to members on April 7. Interested in finding out more on becoming a member or volunteering? Go to our website at [arlnvil.org](http://arlnvil.org) or [LindaReck@arlnvil.org](mailto:LindaReck@arlnvil.org) or 703-892-5178.



Letter to the Editor,

I am writing to urge my neighbors who let their house cats roam the neighborhood to consider keeping them indoors. I recently read an article in Defenders of Wildlife's magazine about the

impact of cats on bird predation, and it made me think of my own Arlington Forest neighborhood, which is full of birds. According to a 2013 Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service peer-reviewed analysis of previous studies, cats in the U.S. kill an estimated 1.4 to 3.7 billion birds each year.

While I am a cat lover myself, I keep my cat indoors, and she recently celebrated her 14th birthday. Not only does this ensure that she does not get run over by a car, it keeps her from killing our native birds.

Hunting is an instinct in cats that's separate from the urge to eat, so even if a cat is well fed at home, letting it go outside will trigger the hunting instinct. Cats likely kill more wildlife in spring and early summer than other time of year because fledging birds and other newborns have not developed any physical defenses or awareness. Typical cat prey includes robins, cardinals, bluebirds and warblers.

I therefore urge my neighbors to seriously considering keeping their cats indoors, but if that's not possible; at the very least consider attaching a bell to their cat's collar to reduce hunting success.

A Concerned Resident



*Electronic versions of this newsletter are available:*  
[www.arlingtonforestva.org](http://www.arlingtonforestva.org)

# Update on County Projects

By John Naland

**Arlington Blvd. at Park Drive:** This safety improvement project is designed to reduce speeding and the incidence of collisions. It will create better access and crossings for pedestrians, transit users, bikers and those traveling on the shared-use paths parallel to Arlington Boulevard. The project will include new sidewalks, crosswalks, curbs, gutters, trees, and other improvements. After various delays over the past year, the County now expects to finalize the construction documents by November. They then expect to spend at least five months developing bid documents, re-

ceiving VDOT permits and approval of bid documents, advertising the project, and receiving County Board approval of the construction contract. Construction is expected to begin in July 2015. For more info and design details, search "Arlington Boulevard" on the County website.

**Carlin Springs Bridge Project:** County staff continues working on plans for replacing the Carlin Springs Bridge over N. George Mason Drive. Engineering plans are being finalized to build the new bridge and demolish the old one in a manner that will maintain traffic safety and access while minimizing negative impacts on the community. The new bridge will feature wider sidewalks on the bridge, add bicycle lanes along Carlin Springs Road, and enhance lighting. The cross-section will be 69 feet wide, a slight increase from the existing bridge width of 65 feet. Design features recommended by the public via an online survey last year will include those pertaining to the arch, decorative railing, street lights, and inclusion of the street name on the bridge. Construction is expected to begin in winter 2014-15 with completion anticipated in winter 2015-16. For more info and design details, search "Carlin Springs Bridge" on the County website.

**Glencarlyn Playground Project:** Construction now in full swing on expanding the playground in Glencarlyn Park near the end of S. Park Drive. This project will create a new ages 5-12 playground featuring a sand-play area with boulders, a climbing structure, and swings. It includes environmentally-friendly features including a native plant buffer and porous pavement. Amenities will include benches, picnic tables, bicycle racks, and a new concrete path between the tot lot and the new playground. Completion is expected in late summer. For more info and design details, search "Glencarlyn Park" on the County website or look at the poster that is displayed at the construction site.



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NORTHEASTSTARS.MONTESSORI.NES@GMAIL.COM ★ 703.945.0408 ★ WWW.NESTARS.NET



# Community Yard Sale - May 17



The Arlington Forest Community Yard Sale map on the back cover of this newsletter depicts the nearly 50 participants who signed up before this issue's editing deadline. Sellers are encouraged to make photocopies of the map

(or download copies from the online Arlington Forester at [www.arlingtonforestva.org](http://www.arlingtonforestva.org) under the "Newsletter" tab) and display them alongside their merchandise so that, once shoppers find one sale site, they can pick up a map leading them to other sites.

Sale participants living near Arlington Blvd, Carlin Springs Rd., George Mason Dr. and Henderson Dr. are encouraged to post yard sale signs pointing into the neighborhood and to their sales (please remove signs at day's end).

In past years, several dozen additional sellers have participated without submitting their address to be marked on the map. So, as you walk around your neighborhood on the morning of Saturday, May 17, you may well find additional sellers.

Detailed suggestions on how to make the most of sale

day were listed in last month's newsletter. They include: set up early, display your items in shopper-friendly ways, sort clothes by size and toys by user age, have grocery sacks on hand, price items reasonably, accept only cash, be ready to make change, and watch your money.

For many people, yard sale success is not measured by profit, but by how much unwanted stuff is moved out instead of left cluttering rooms, basement or attic. The sale is also a great community event. Families can say hello to neighbors down the block and strike their own bargains. Kids can set up a lemonade stand.

So, whether you are a seller, buyer or both, please come out on Saturday, May 17 (rain date is May 18).



## The York Group

Real Estate Experts Serving VA, MD & DC



The Spring Market is here and for those of you planning to purchase or sell your next home, now is the time to get the process moving. The York Group has been helping others do the same since 1975 and they know exactly what needs to be done first and where you should start. Over the past five years they have sold over 400 homes and will use those same strategies to help you sell yours when you are ready.

To find out 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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### ARLINGTON FOREST NEIGHBORHOOD ACTIVITY

Status	Address	List Price	Sold Price	Close Date
Contract	5125 1st St N	\$575,000		4/7/14
Contract	245 Galveston St N	\$669,900		
Contract	201 N. Edison St	\$725,000		3/31/14
Sold	4851 Arlington Blvd	\$574,900	\$580,900	1/6/14
Sold	125 Columbus St S	\$599,500	\$582,500	2/20/14
Sold	125 N. Abingdon St	\$589,900	\$612,000	12/20/13
Sold	353 Granada St	\$575,000	\$615,500	2/19/14
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
Sold	34 Park Dr	\$799,900	\$799,900	3/21/14

Updated as of 3/28/14



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# Nature News

By  
Cliff Fairweather  
Park Naturalist,  
Long Branch  
Nature Center

## A Portable Fort

Despite Arlington's urban character, box turtles manage to hold on, especially in our parks. One of their most obvious features is their dome-shaped upper shell, or carapace, with its often brightly patterned covering of specialized scales called scutes. Each scute grows out from a center point as the shell grows, forming concentric rings.

Both the scutes and the skin of box turtles are patterned, sometimes quite dramatically, and each individual has its own unique pattern. Their patterning, even though it often includes bright yellows or oranges, is a very effective camouflage in the leaf litter on the forest floor. That makes them a challenge for predators to find -- and for researchers, too, which is one reason box turtle natural history has been relatively understudied.

Turtle shells are composed of bone and the carapace includes the backbone and ribs. The bones forming the shell of most turtles, especially aquatic ones, aren't completely fused, leaving gaps between the bones. The scutes still cover the gaps, but those are fairly easy to penetrate and

aquatic turtles get an extra measure of protection by living in water. The bones of the land-dwelling box turtle shell are fused to create a solid shield, at least in adults. Young box turtles have softer, more vulnerable shells.

The flat lower shell, called a plastron, has a hinge that allows the box turtle to close both ends against the carapace and form a tight seal -- like a box. Few predators can penetrate the closed shell of a healthy adult box turtle, making the shell a portable fort. Sometimes, if a box turtle is a too slow to close up, or a little too fat to close tightly, a predator might bite off a foot or tail or, more fatally, a head. Usually, though, the predator just ends up with a frustrating puzzle.

A box turtle's shell can protect it from many dangers in nature, but danger from humans is another story. Roads and traffic pose a particularly difficult challenge; even the box turtle's portable fort is no match for a sedan. They are also vulnerable to lawn mowers; if you have box turtles in your neighborhood, check for them in your lawn before you mow.

Sick and injured turtles can find help at the Long Branch Nature Center but we need your help to provide that care. One way you can help is by participating in the 4th Annual

.....continued on page 11



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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*

## Nature News

.....continued from page 10

Turtle Trot 5K run at Bluemont Park on Sat., May 17 at 10 a.m. The fee is \$30 for adults and \$15 for children 12 and under (or you can just donate). Go to Active.com to register. Give us a call at 703-228-6535 if you have any questions about the run or about turtles or other wildlife.

**English Ivy is Destructive:** While many people find English Ivy's 3-pointed, dark green glossy leaves to make pretty groundcover, if left unattended this invasive plant can kill trees. If allowed to cover fences, it can invade adjacent lawns and public parkland. But you can easily remove ivy from trees and fences by cutting all vines at the ground level. Cut them again several feet up the trunk and then carefully peel away the cut section of ivy. Do not pull off the remaining upper portion as that could harm the tree bark. That remaining ivy will eventually dry out and die. Pull ground ivy back a few feet from the base of the tree to slow regrowth up the tree trunk.

**Join the AFCA for a picnic!**  
**May 14, 6:30 pm at Lubber Run Park**

## Community Calendar

**Next AFCA Meeting:** Wednesday, May 14. Annual picnic at the Lubber Run Park shelter.

**School Board Election Caucus:** Thursday, May 15, 7-9 PM at Drew Model School and Saturday, May 17, 11 AM-7 PM at Washington-Lee High School.

**Annual Community Yard Sale:** Saturday, May 17 (rain date May 18).

**Lubber Run Amphitheater 2014 Season:** Live entertainment under the stars runs from June 13 to August 17. See full schedule on pages 18-19.

**Arlington County Fair: August 6-10.** Carnival rides and good eats. Don't miss the pig races.  
See <http://arlingtoncountyfair.us>

**Arlington Forest Shopping Center Family Fun Day:** September 20. See page 5 for details.

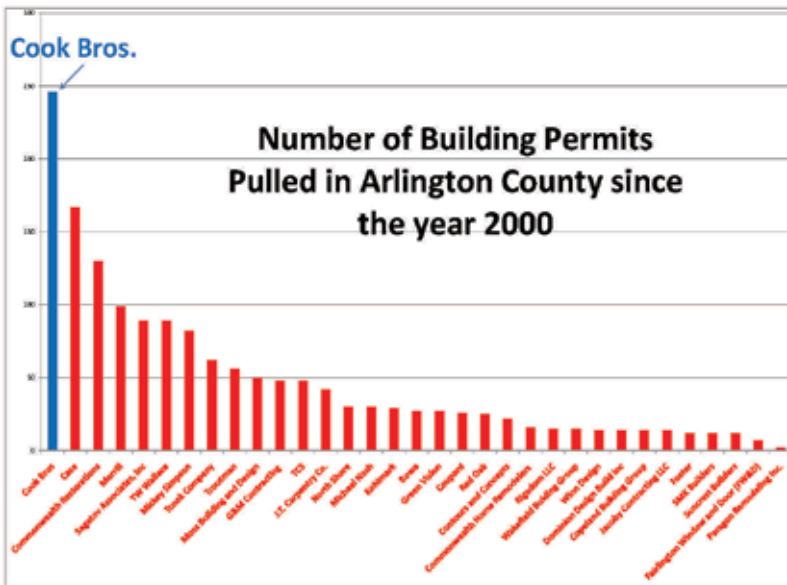
### Future AFCA Meetings:

No meetings during the summer.

Sept 17: Another year of neighborhood advocacy begins

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# Barcroft School News

With so many April showers, everything is green this spring at Barcroft Elementary. Barcroft was chosen to host the annual countywide Arbor Day celebration on April 24. With guests including County Board member Walter Tejada, School Board chair Abby Rafael, School Board member Noah Simon, and school Superintendent Dr. Patrick Murphy, the school planted two new trees near the newly-renovated playground.

Many thanks to our neighbors who participated in the April survey regarding a potential expansion of Barcroft Elementary as part of the Arlington Public Schools Capital Improvement Plan. Together as a community, we can ensure that Barcroft remains the wonderful neighborhood school that is it today.

Sunday, May 4 was the Barcroft Spring Fair with games, cash prizes, great food, raffles, cake walks, bakes sales, jewelry sales, and lots of FUN for the entire family. Many thanks to everyone who stopped by and helped to raise funds for field trips and other important activities!

Additional events in May include Staff Appreciation Week from May 5-9. During that time, the PTA is planning special activities, including breakfast and lunch, to thank our wonderful teachers and staff for all that they do for our students. The Spring Concert is on Wednesday, May 7, with performances from the school's Chorus, Band,

and Orchestra, and the Spanish Chorus. Annual Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL) testing will also commence for Grades 3-5 this month and end in June.

The PTA's annual celebration of 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. Please join us! The 5th Grade Promotion Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, June 17. The last day of school is Friday, June 20.

We wish our neighbors a wonderful Summer Break! School resumes for our year-round school on Monday, August 4.

## Turtle Trot

Lace up your sneakers and come out on Saturday, May 17, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Lower Bluemont Park (329 N. Manchester Street, North 4th Street Entrance) for this chip-timed, certified 5k race to support Arlington's turtle and wildlife rehabilitation and education programs. For more info call 703-228-6535 or email [cfairweather@arlingtonva.us](mailto:cfairweather@arlingtonva.us). Register at [www.Active.com](http://www.Active.com). Fees: \$30 for adults and teens; \$15 for children 12 and under. For more info, visit [www.arlingtonva.us/dpr](http://www.arlingtonva.us/dpr) (search "turtle trot").



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# Barrett School News

Barrett's Earth Week celebration was a great learning experience for students. With a poster contest, Lunch on the Lawn, Farm-to-Table Activities, and Garden Work Day, students demonstrated how they can become better stewards of our planet.

The First Annual Student-Staff Basketball game was a rousing success! Students and teachers are already looking forward to next year's game.

Barrett students and families showed appreciation to teachers and staff during Teacher Appreciation Week with flowers, cards, a breakfast, a catered lunch, and recess coverage.

Thank you to all the families who participated or volunteered this school year. Your engagement is vital to the success of our children. Below is a summer message from Principal Redding:

We have had an excellent year at Barrett, building on a remarkable tradition and continuing the strong sense of community. Having enjoyed my first year as Barrett principal, I look forward to many more productive and exciting years to come!

As we head into summer, I cannot emphasize enough the importance of reading to, with and by children all summer long. As a parent, I have learned that my son demonstrates the behavior I model. I try to ensure that

he sees me read and talk about books I enjoy and why I chose to read them. I encourage him to read books that I've enjoyed or heard about, and ask him about what he is reading. Barrett will send home information soon about the summer reading program in Friday folders.

For families with children who will be of age to enter Kindergarten in the fall, please register them at the school as soon as possible. We need your child's information on file so we can plan for kindergarten classes in September. Please contact the school for more information.

My door is always open to our families and neighbors - please contact us with any questions or concerns. See you in September!

Dan Redding, Principal, Barrett Elementary School

## Upcoming Events:

- Arts & Writers Fair, Wednesday, May 14, 6-8 p.m.
- Used Book Sale, Wednesday, May 14, 6-8 p.m.
- Rising K Orientation, Thursday, May 29, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- PTA Meeting (Reading), Tuesday, June 3, 7 p.m.
- Barrett Film Festival, Tuesday, June 10, 7-8 p.m.
- Instrumental Concert, Thursday, June 12, 7 p.m.
- Reading Fun Day, Friday, June 13
- Field Day, Tuesday, June 17
- Fifth Grade Promotion, Wednesday, 7 p.m.
- Last Day of School-Early Release, Friday, June 20, 12:51 p.m.

## Lindsey's New Swing Set

Scott and Anna's first home was a condo, and once Lindsey was born a few years later the space became more crowded. Linda had recommended me to Scott and Anna as I had sold a home for her and her husband Glen. After meeting with Scott and Anna to discuss their situation, I recommended that they speak to one of our preferred mortgage lenders to get approved. They were pleased to learn that they could qualify for a large single family home without selling their condo since they had good incomes and savings. Scott really wanted close proximity to the Metro for his DC commute so we set some parameters for their search. Joe and I showed them various homes to educate them on what they could buy in their price range. A few candidates were found but not quite the right one. Finally a home came up that fit and we inquired about the offer strategy. It was listed mid-week with a weekend

open house planned, and offers were due the next Tuesday. We structured a competitive offer and found that there were a total of 8 offers. Scott and Anna offered \$25K over list price; the winning bid paid \$50K over with no contract contingencies. The next week another home came up that was even better. We advised Scott and Anna to aim high which they did. With four competing offers they got the home using an escalation addendum that triggered a \$35K price increase even though they would have gone much higher. The "info only" home inspection was done in 3 days. The transaction went smoothly to settlement and Scott, Anna and Lindsay are happy with a wonderful home and a level fenced in yard, perfect for Lindsey's new swing set! *Do you know of a family who is outgrowing their home in need of something larger?* Please let them know I can help them write strong offers in a competitive market!



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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](mailto:newsletter@arlingtonforestva.org).*

## Southside:

- Daniel O'Mara, dog walking, pet sitting, yard work, 703-769-3767
- Caroline Rogers, pet sitting, dog walking, yard work, [carolinearogers@verizon.net](mailto:carolinearogers@verizon.net), 703-892-0226
- Julia Rogers, babysitting (RC certified), yard work, [juliaerogers23@gmail.com](mailto:juliaerogers23@gmail.com), 703-892-0226
- Jon Tiernan, babysitting (RC certified), dog walking, pet sitting, [Wonton81@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:lizzytiernan@gmail.com), 703-979-5046

## Greenbrier Section:

- Zephren Collinson, babysitting (references), pet sitting, dog walking, yard work, tutoring, 703-528-3595

## Green Home and Garden Tour

If you didn't see enough at the Arlington Forest Home Tour, you will have a chance to see more renovations at the 12th Annual Green Home and Garden Tour on Sunday, June 1 from 1-5 pm. The tour, organized by the Arlington Green Home Choice Program and ACE (Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment), provides an opportunity to see renovations done through the Green Home Choice Program.

The Green Home and Garden Tour will include a stop in Arlington Forest - Green Home Choice renovation and addition by EnviroHomeDesign at 377 N. Granada Street. Suggested donation for the tour is \$5 for a self-guided tour and \$10 for a guided cycling tour. All proceeds from the tour go to benefit ACE environmental stewardship programs in Arlington.

If you are thinking about doing a renovation and want a home that is more comfortable with good indoor air quality and more efficient in terms of energy, water, and natural resources, you could consider working with Arlington's Green Home Choice Program. The program is a free, voluntary, and sponsored by Arlington County to help residents design and build more sustainable renovations. Green Home Choice projects receive a yard sign, front-of-the-line architectural plan review, and designer-builder and homeowner recognition.

To learn more, check out:

[www.arlingtonenvironment.org/events/gardentour](http://www.arlingtonenvironment.org/events/gardentour)  
[www.arlingtonenergy.us/greenhomechoice](http://www.arlingtonenergy.us/greenhomechoice)  
[www.envirohomedesign.com](http://www.envirohomedesign.com)

- Allison Ferrell, babysitting (RC certified), pet sitting, [Allisonrocket@aol.com](mailto:Allisonrocket@aol.com), 703-276-2840
- Alex Hendel, babysitting (RC certified), experienced Tot Camp counselor (high school student), [alexhendel@gmail.com](mailto:alexhendel@gmail.com), 703-622-2884
- Sarah Keyser, babysitting (RC certified), pet sitting, dog walking, [Stealers12@gmail.com](mailto:Stealers12@gmail.com), 703-243-8777

## Northside:

- Riittisha Choudhary: tutoring, babysitting ages 4-12, yard work, [riittishachoudhary@gmail.com](mailto:riittishachoudhary@gmail.com)
- Sophia Constantine, pet sitting, dog walking, [srconstantine@comcast.net](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:catharinevernon@aol.com), 703-522-9147
- Gabby Young, babysitting, mother's helper, pet sitting, dog walking, [merrywesing@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:buggah66@gmail.com), 703-528-3595



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# Another Successful Neighborhood Cleanup

By John Naland

We had a great turnout on Saturday morning, April 26, for AFCA's fourth annual Arlington Forest Spring Cleanup. Accompanying this article are photos of some of the nearly 100 volunteers in action. They tackled five sites, filling several dozen bags with trash and debris that otherwise would have been washed down to the Potomac River and eventually into Chesapeake Bay.

In Lubber Run Park, Cub Scout Pack 548 and a numerous residents collected many garbage bags full of trash from the entire length of the stream between N. George Mason Dr. and Arlington Blvd.

Along Lubber Run south of Arlington Blvd, a neighbor removed trash from the upper slopes.

At the foot of N. Granada St., volunteers filled 15 garbage bags with trash and debris from the banks of Four Mile Run. These neighbors also do a fall cleanup each year at the site.

Downstream from the foot of South Park St., members of Girl Scout Troop 2584 donned their high boots to retrieve the bottles and other trash from Swallow Pond and the surrounding area.

Along the buffer strip on the southside of Arlington

Blvd., volunteers picked up trash, weeded, and mulched around the Arlington Forest sign. These neighbors have been doing annual cleanups of this area for years.

After the event, I received the following note from Lyn-dell Core, parks maintenance supervisor for the Arlington County Department of Parks and Recreation:

"Please convey our appreciation to those who volunteered their time to clean the debris and trash from Lubber Run and Four Mile Run. Those streams are a calming oasis in our fast-paced world. The heavy seasonal rains we are experiencing bring runoff that carries all the materials left on the streets into the stream. I will never forget my first sad impression after a downpour filled the Four Mile Run stream with plastic bottles, bags, and other lost and tossed items. The example set by the Arlington Forest volunteers sends a strong message to the community young and old that they care and they will give their time to protect and preserve what they value."

AFCA thanks all those who took the time to help out. Anyone who missed out can protect our shared environment any day by picking up trash that you see along your street or while on walks in our public spaces.





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# LUBBER RUN AMPHITHEATER 2014

*Lubber Run Amphitheater performances are on Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 pm; Sundays at 6:00 pm (unless otherwise noted) plus a few weekday performances from June 13 through August 17, 2014. All are FREE and open to the public!*

## **Friday June 13, 8:00 pm - Mary Ann Redmond**

(<http://www.marb.com>)

Winner of a staggering 16 Washington Area Music Awards (WAMMIES) for best female jazz, rock-pop, roots rock/traditional R&B, the vocalist has toured with Mary Chapin Carpenter, and opened for The Pointer Sisters and The Neville Brothers.

## **Saturday June 14, 8:00 pm - Mystic Warriors**

A favorite of area audiences since their founding in 1993, Mystic Warriors is dedicated to exposing the essence of Andean Music in a completely unique way. While broadly in the "New Age" category, they often incorporate contemporary jazz, Latin and pop.

## **Monday June 16, 8:00 pm - The Metropolitan Chorus**

(<http://www.metchorus.org>)

Established in 1966 and recognized in the U.S. Congressional Record, The Metropolitan Chorus lifts its 100-voices in concerts featuring music of all ages, from the renaissance to the 21st century, with a strong emphasis on American composers, in venues as varied as the Kennedy Center, Constitution Hall and the National Building Museum.

## **Wednesday June 18, 8:00 pm - The Potomac Harmony Chorus**

(<http://www.potomacharmony.org>)

Chartered in 1976, Potomac Harmony Chorus performs a variety of music, from traditional favorites to the fifties sound to modern jazz, all in four-part harmony, barbershop style.

## **Thursday June 19, 8:00 pm - The Arlingtones**

(<http://www.arlingtones.net>)

Arlington's champions of the barbershop choral tradition!

Friday June 20, 8:00 pm - The Army Blues

<http://www.usarmyband.com/blues>

The U.S. Army Blues, part of the United States Army Band "Pershing's Own," is the premier jazz ensemble of the United States Army. First organized in 1970, the 18-piece band became an official element of the Army Band in 1972.

## **Saturday June 21, 8:00 pm - King Teddy**

(<http://www.kingteddy.com>)

With their own special brand of "Swing for the Modern Age," King Teddy walked away with a WAMMIE award for best Big Band/Swing Recording of 2012 (not to mention nominations for the Big Band/Swing Vocalist and Big Band/Swing Group categories)!

## **Sunday June 22, 6:00 pm - Halau O'Aulani & the Aloha Boys**

(<http://www.halauoaulani.org>)

Native music and dance presented by Hālau O 'Aulani, founded in 1996 for the sole purpose of creating a learning environment for students interested in the preservation of the multi-faceted cultures of Hawaii with primary emphasis on the Hawaiian culture.

## **Friday June 27, 8:00 pm - Margot MacDonald**

(<http://www.sonicbids.com/margotmacdonald>)

A "classically trained soprano and pianist captivated by Led Zeppelin", MacDonald sang with Washington National Opera at age 10, and released her second album at 15. She has appeared at the 9:30 Club, Kennedy Center, Wolftrap, Birchmere, and the Bitter End in NYC.

## **Saturday June 28, 8:00 pm - Bowen McCauley Dance**

(<http://www.bmdc.org>)

Just back from a whirlwind tour of China, Arlington's Bowen McCauley Dance displays why they are among the DC metropolitan area's finest contemporary dance ensembles.

## **Sunday June 29, 6:00 pm - Arlington Philharmonic**

(<http://www.arlingtonphilharmonic.org>)

This first-class symphony orchestra makes classical music accessible to every Arlington resident.

## **Friday, July 4 - No Performance**

July 4th Celebration at Long Bridge Park: Lubber Run Amphitheater devotees are invited to join with the whole of Arlington to enjoy the sweeping views of the fireworks at Long Bridge Park in Crystal City.

## **Saturday July 5, 8:00 pm - The Grandsons**

(<http://grandsons.com>)

Now in their 27th year, this legendary band recently won a WAMMIE award for Artist of the Year, and their 6th CD "Live at the Barns-The Legendary Wolf Trap Recordings Volume Two," won Best Roots Rock Recording.

## **Sunday July 6, 6:00 pm - Two Car Living Room**

(<https://myspace.com/twocarlivingroom>)

Two Car Living Room is a classic rock, blues and pop band that gigs in the Greater Washington Region. The members of the Two Car Living Room are all part of the technology community who have previously been professional musicians.

# LUBBER RUN AMPHITHEATER 2014

## **Friday & Saturday, July 11 & 12, 8:00 pm - Synetic Theatre**

(<http://www.synetictheater.org>)

Multiple Helen Hayes Award-winning Synetic Theatre will perform two weekends featuring their shows The Music Box and The Magical Balloon.

## **Sunday July 13, 6:00 p.m. - Dead Man's Hollow**

(<http://www.deadmenshollow.com/wordpress>)

Dead Man's Hollow blends tight harmony vocals backed by traditional bluegrass instrumentation: fiddle, banjo, mandolin, upright bass, and guitar. The six-time WAMMIE Award winners will perform Guillotine Theatre: Civil War Songs and Letters.

## **Friday & Saturday, July 18 & 19, 8:00 pm - Synetic Theatre**

(<http://www.synetictheater.org>)

Multiple Helen Hayes Award-winning Synetic Theatre will perform two weekends featuring their shows The Music Box and The Magical Balloon.

## **Friday July 25, 8:00 pm - Dave Chappell**

(<http://www.guitardavechappell.com/home>)

A DC native, Dave Chappell is one of the areas most respected musicians, having won the WAMMIE award for Musician of the Year, Rock Instrumentalist of the Year and Roots Rock Instrumentalist of the Year for several years running. He has performed with Rock and Roll Hall of Fame legends Jerry Lee Lewis, Sam Moore of Sam & Dave, Percy Sledge, Johnny Johnson, and guitar wizard, Danny Gatton.

## **Saturday July 26, 8:00 pm - CAMMO**

(<http://www.cammomusic.org>)

The Center for American Military Musical Opportunities, CAMMO promotes musical opportunities for veterans and service members as well as musical therapy for the treatment of PTSD and TBI.

## **Sunday July 27, 6:00 pm - Shenandoah Run**

(<http://www.shenandoahrun.com>)

Shenandoah Run is a nine-member Americana folk band from the Washington, DC area. Formed in 2011, the band blends rootsy vintage, classic and contemporary folk music in a manner that appeals to a diverse audience.

## **Friday August 1, 8:00 pm - Ted Garber**

(<http://tedgarber.com>)

A genre-bending multi-instrumentalist, Ted Garber's "BluesAmericanaRock" combines classic showmanship with a singer-songwriter sensibility. Nominated for the Washington Area Music Association (WAMA) 2012 Pop Rock Vocalist and Pop Rock Instrumentalist (musician) of the year, Ted won the WAMA 2010 & 2011 Pop Rock Album of the Year!

## **Saturday August 2, 8:00 pm - Russkie Musikanti**

An ensemble of some of our area's top Balalaika musicians, Russkie Musikanti is the 'outreach ensemble' of the larger Washington Balalaika Society -- increasing WBS' exposure via retirement homes, festivals, churches and private events.

## **Sunday August 3, 6:00 pm - Laurie Rose Griffith and Peter Mealy**

(<http://www.laurieandpeter.com/home.html>)

Finalists in the Kerrville Folk Festival's national song competition, the duo includes Washington Area Music Association 'Folk Instrumentalist of the Year' nominee Peter Mealy, and Laurie Rose, who has been compared to Joan Baez and Joni Mitchell by the World Folk Music Association.

## **Friday August 15, 8:00 pm - Rose Moraes**

(<http://rosemoraesmusic.com>)

Born to a musical family in southern Brazil, Rose has toured throughout Brazil. A graduate of the University of Maringa and the Musical Conservatory of Curitiba, she also studied and performed with the Musical Conservatory of Maringa (LuzAmor).

## **Saturday August 16, 8:00 pm - Andrew Acosta**

(<http://www.andrewacosta.com>)

A night of acoustic Americana with a rich repertoire of traditional American roots music, the New Old-Time String Band is a regular in outdoor venues in the Washington, D.C. area. Band members are Arlington-based.

## **Sunday August 17, 6:00 pm - Rico Amero**

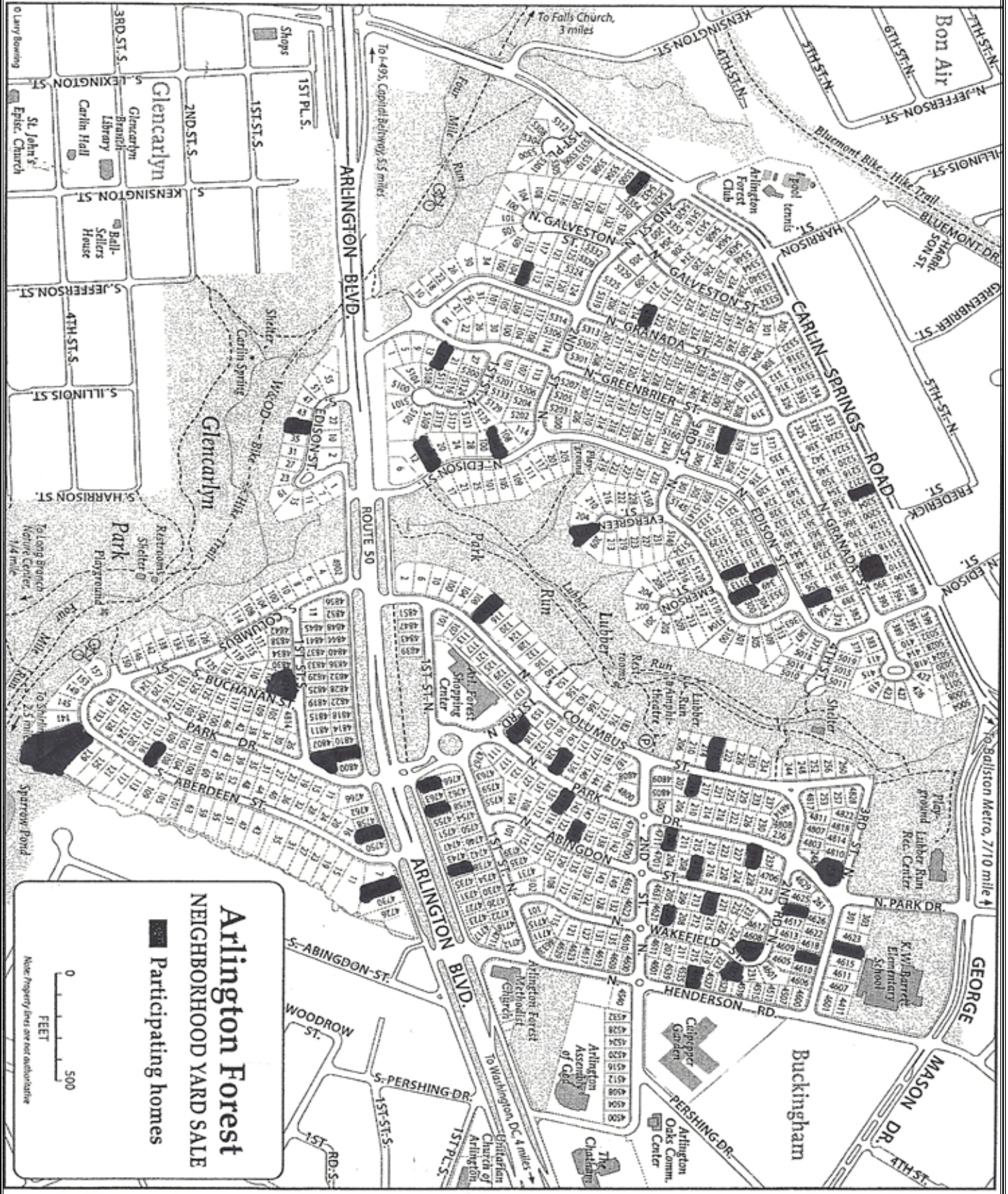
He makes music. He tells the truth. Join Rico for a night of hiphop jazz. One of the standout performances of the 2013 season is back by popular demand!

*Go to [www.arlingtonarts.com](http://www.arlingtonarts.com) to check for possible schedule changes. In the event of rain, the decision is made to cancel at the last possible moment. Call 703-228-1850 for day-of-event info.*

*Lubber Run Amphitheater events are suitable for the entire family, unless noted. No reservations or tickets are required. You are welcome to bring a picnic, but alcohol is prohibited in all Arlington public parks. Smoking is discouraged. While these events are FREE, we invite you to make a generous donation to the Lubber Run "Wishing Well" as you enter or leave.*

*Arlington's Lubber Run Amphitheater performance series is presented by Arlington Cultural Affairs, a Division of Arlington Economic Development, in cooperation with the Lubber Run Amphitheater Foundation.*

# Arlington Forest Community Yard Sale Map - Saturday, May 17th



**Arlington Forest  
NEIGHBORHOOD YARD SALE**

■ Participating homes

0  
500  
FEET

Note: Property lines are not authoritative