



Lyon Park Citizen

May 2021

Lyon Park's listserv, located on NextDoor, is a secure, private social network and an easy way for neighbors to connect and share information. It's free.

Lyon Park neighbors use this app and/or website to:

- Follow fox updates
- Find an advocacy attorney
- Ask for advice about creep-crawlies
- Locate a lost package!

=

Join here:

www.nextdoor.com/join

Code: SBCFNC

May Meeting

May 12, 2021

<https://zoom.us/join>
Meeting ID: 871 7118 4392
Passcode: volunteer

Log in as early as 7 PM to make sure your system works and to engage in some small talk. Agenda items begin promptly at 7:30.

President's Message

Lyon Park is a charming community year round, but I believe spring is when it is most glorious. With trees and flowers blooming everywhere, it is as if we are living in a kaleidoscope. Like many others, my family and I love walking around the neighborhood aimlessly, taking it all in. This year, Mother Nature's dazzling display has been so hypnotic that it is easy to forget we are still in the midst of a pandemic.

The Community Park is a great place to enjoy the wonders of spring, especially after the recent Mulch Madness event organized by Bill "Trees Are the Answer" Anhut. He and the small army of volunteers he mustered spread 25 cubic yards of mulch around the trees populating the park and the native plant gardens surrounding the Community House. A huge thanks to all involved. It looks great! If you haven't been by the park recently, you owe it to yourself to take a look.

A great time to do that would be on Saturday, May 15, or Sunday, May 16. That's when the Lyon Park Garden Group is holding a plant sale. Expect to find a wonderful selection of plants and garden-related items. You will even be able to bring some of the park's beauty to your home, as among offerings will be native plants from the Community House gardens thanks to Deborah Barber, our tireless garden curator. All proceeds from the sale will benefit the park and Community House. (See page 3 for more details.)

The next LPCA meeting is Wednesday, May 12. I hope to see you there. Stay healthy, stay strong.

Peter Zirnite, LPCA President

P.S.

Don't forget, the LPCA and the Glencarlyn Citizen's Association are co-sponsoring a virtual talk on Thursday, May 13, by activist and author Wilma Jones, who grew up in Halls Hill, one of the county's historically African-American communities. (See page 11 for details.)

Please pay your
LPCA dues!
The form is on page 11.

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Classified Ads

GET SOMEONE'S ATTENTION! The *Citizen* is hand delivered to 1,900 households every issue.

TEEN SERVICES

Interested in including your free teen ad? Visit www.lyonpark.org/library to share your information!

- **Abby Kant**, 15, babysitter, dog walker/sitter, odd jobs, plant sitter. **Text:** (703) 626-4531
- **Max Kiriakou**, 15, yard work, shoveling, lawn mowing, trimming, yard work. I have my own equipment! **Phone/Text:** (571) 244-8982
- **Kate Kiriakou**, 14, Babysitter, mother's helper, odd jobs, plant sitter. Red Cross certified. **Phone/Text:** (703) 587-9277
- **Delaney Loughney**, 13, Babysitter, odd jobs, plant sitter, dog walker, pet sitting.. **Text:** (571) 458-0512
- **Finn Loughney**, 16, Odd jobs, dog walker, plant sitter, shoveling. **Text:** (571) 289-4823
Email: finnloughney@gmail.com
- **Mae Seward**, 13, babysitter, mother's helper. Red Cross certified. Available Fridays after 3 PM and Saturdays and Sundays after 12 PM. Phone/text (703) 473-3378.
- **Sylvia Goldener**, 13, babysitter, mother's helper, plant sitter, odd jobs. Text/Email: (703) 401-7234 sylviagoldener@icloud.com, Red Cross certified
- **Ella Bomberger**, 15, babysitter, mother's helper, dog walker, plant sitter. Text: (571) 775-9205. Red Cross babysitting certification
- **Morgan Thomas**, 12, experienced dog walker, plant sitter. Text: (240) 810-4834.

KIWANIS CLUB ANNUAL BLUEBERRY SALE IS ON!

What do you think when you hear or see the word BLUEBERRIES?

1. Healthful?
2. Nutritious?
3. Delicious?
4. Kiwanis Club of Arlington?
5. All of the above?



Of course, it's all of the above. And blueberry season 2021 is about to start. Always picked at the height of their freshness, the berries are expected to arrive in Arlington the last weekend in June, directly from the grower. The berries are sold in 10-pound boxes for \$35.00 and will be available for contact-free pickup at Cherrydale Methodist Church, 3701 Lorcum Lane. Please place your orders online before June 15 at www.arlingtonvakiwanis.com or contact Julie Mangis at jmmangis@aol.com or (703)525-7513.

"They're so good you'll think you picked them yourself!"

There is also an option to purchase boxes of blueberries to be donated to the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC) for distribution to needy families. Please consider adding a box or two for AFAC to your order and Kiwanis will deliver the berries directly to AFAC. More information is available on the website.

In addition to AFAC, proceeds from Kiwanis blueberry sales benefit Arlington Thrive, Crisis Link, Arlington 4-H, ASPIRE, VHC Pediatrics, National Capital Treatment & Recovery, and many more Arlington safety-net non-profits.

The Lyon Park Citizens Association
P.O. Box 100191, Arlington, VA 22201

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PLANT SALE

Even though it's been a fickle spring, the plants seem to be prospering around the Community House and in many Lyon Park home gardens. So get prepared for some happy shopping in the Park at this year's

LYON PARK PLANT SALE
SATURDAY, MAY 15 and SUNDAY, MAY 16
9:00 am to 3:00 pm both days
RAIN or SHINE

Once again there will be oodles of potted Virginia native plants from the Community House garden as well as veggie starts, potted garden flowers, and house plants donated by talented Lyon Park home gardeners.

- **Sunday's EVENT IS "dig-your-own"** in the community garden under the guidance of our garden guru, Deborah. Participants should please bring a shovel, trowel, and pots or plastic bags.
- **We need helpers** during Saturday's sale to help arrange plants, answer questions, and help customers. If you can help for any part of the day, please let us know at kitgaryp@gmail.com
- If you are donating plants, please be sure to **label them** and leave them under the big willow oak in the park by 8:30 Saturday morning. If you tell us early enough at susaningrahambell19@gmail.com what you will donate, we'll tempt customers by posting on Nextdoor.
- Nearly all plants will be **\$5 per pot**. Payment is by check (deposited in the Community House drop box) or by PayPal.
- We ask that all shoppers and helpers **wear masks and practice social distancing**.
- The Community House will be closed so there will be no access to the bathrooms for helpers or shoppers.

Paul Showalter Reminds You that It's Clean-up Time (and Offers to Help!)

Paul Showalter, the man in the little blue pickup, is offering to pick up your difficult to dispose items for a donation to Lyon Park. You can pay by Venmo or PayPal or give him cash when he picks up starting May 16. Or, you can make a trip yourself.

Reach out to Paul at LyonParkEvents@gmail.com

ARLINGTON E-CARE "LIMITED," Spring 2021

The biannual Arlington Environmental Collection and Recycling Event (E-CARE) helps residents safely dispose of household hazardous materials, and other recyclable items.

The County encourages you to work with neighbors (That could be Paul!), combine items, and save a trip to the collection site. Business and commercial waste is forbidden.

A limited version of E-CARE:

Saturday, May 22

8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

1425 N. Quincy St. (across from Washington-Liberty High School).

Bikes and small metal items NOT Accepted at Spring 2021 E-CARE. Residents should wear masks, stay in their vehicles, and make unloading as simple as possible from cleared trunks and similar easy access points.



Automotive fluids
Batteries
Car care products
Compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs)
Corrosives (acids/caustics)
Fire extinguishers
Flammable solvents
Fluorescent tubes
Fuels/petroleum products
Household cleaners
Lawn and garden chemicals
Mercury
Paint products (25-can limit)
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Poisons (pesticides)
Printer ink/toner cartridges
Propane gas cylinders (small hand-held or larger)
Swimming pool chemicals



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Bugs and Trees

Bill Anhut, Lyon Park's Tree Steward

Brood X Cicadas By the time you read this article, the much anticipated Brood X Cicada emergence should be starting. Not being a native of the mid-Atlantic region, I have been amazed by this phenomenon, especially the one in 2004. The cicadas were “everywhere” and their noise volume was something I’d never before experienced. For weeks, they gorged themselves on our trees’ leaves and flustered our dog, Rudy. Then they were gone, leaving quite a mess of skeletons and squished carcasses. Most trees and broadleaf shrubs lived and thrived the following year. Today’s message: don’t worry too much about your yard’s trees and shrubs. They’ll be fine next year. That said, I plan to put protective netting around the branches of the American Linden, Sugarberry and American Chestnut trees, planted in Lyon Park the past year. I bought insect netting on Amazon, as I couldn’t find it at Home Depot.

Tree Canopy Fund Trees. Request a free tree be planted in your yard, courtesy of the Tree Canopy Fund. Contact me (see page 9) before June 20 to request one of the following large canopy trees:

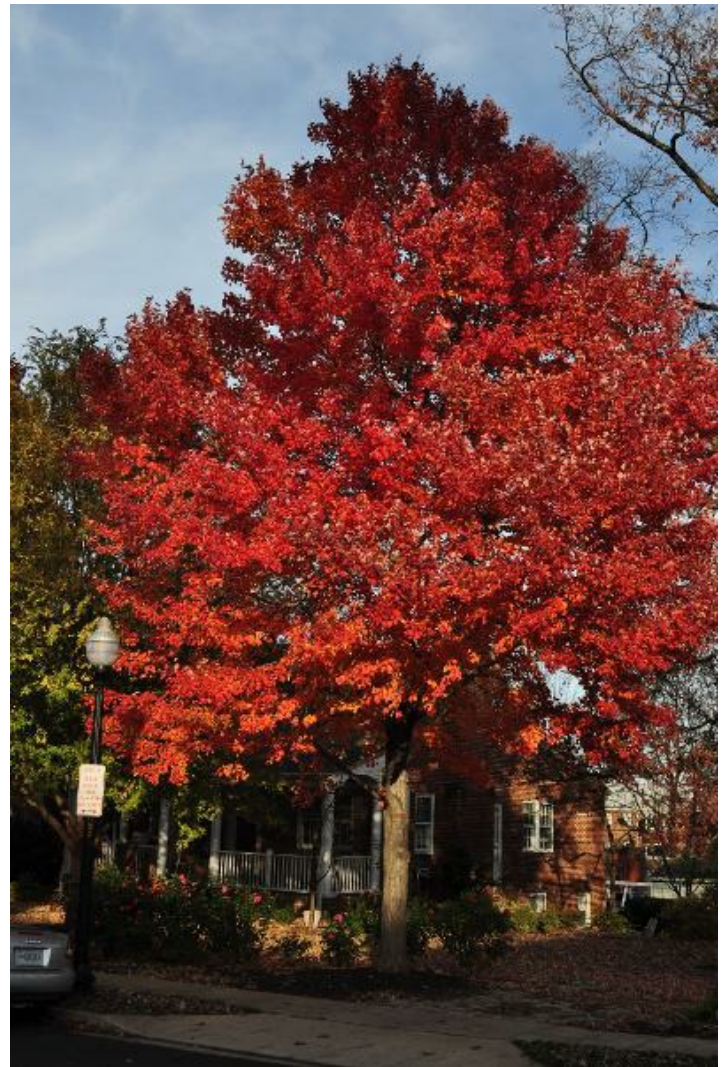
- American Hornbeam
- American Linden
- American Sycamore
- Pin Oak
- River Birch
- Sugarberry
- Swamp White Oak

The trees will be planted in November. Our park received at least one of each species in recent years.

Who Owns that Tree? A neighbor and I have had a recent disagreement about a tree residing on our property line. He wanted the tree removed. I didn’t. I’d like to share a few nuggets of information I have learned from an article written by Jacob Tingen. The location of a trunk determines the tree’s owner. If any portion of the trunk crosses a property line, both neighbors own the tree and must consent in writing if the other wishes to remove the tree. It would be best if both neighbors agree to share the cost of pruning the tree, but no permission is required to prune branches that overhang your property. You must, however, obtain the neighbors’ permission to allow tree service companies to access the tree from the neighbor’s property.

Additionally, your actions may not damage the tree as a whole or kill it. If a neighbor’s tree is damaging your property, you may be able to receive compensation for repairs or you can “self-remedy” as long as you stay on your property and don’t cause excessive damage to the tree. This doesn’t mean you can cause a tree to be removed because the branches hang over your property or you are upset about branches and leaves falling on your property.

If a weather-related incident causes limbs or a tree to fall on your property, the fallen timber is your responsibility and is usually



covered by home owners insurance. If a neighbor fails to maintain a tree, it falls and damages your property, you may be able to prove negligence and recover damages. Virginia law, not Arlington, is your source for tree law. The Internet is a good resource for researching your rights and remedies.

Unfortunately, a good attorney may be needed for your specific issue. It is best to avoid problems with your large trees by having a good tree service company prune them before a problem develops or at least every five years.

Why are Canopy Trees Important? The benefits provided by our trees far outweigh the costs and inconveniences required for their maintenance. Trees produce the oxygen we breathe; they mitigate soil erosion and storm water run-off into the Chesapeake Bay; cool our homes and county; enhance property values; provide habitat to animals, insects and birds vital to our local ecology; buffer noise; and promote health and relaxation. Cutting down a tree is expensive, reduces your property value, and negatively impacts your quality of life and that of your neighbors. Plant trees and nurture them for the benefits they provide.

The best time to plant a tree? Yesterday. The next best time, today (after the cicadas depart)!

Advertise in The Lyon Park Citizen

The Lyon Park Citizen is hand delivered to 1,900 homes around the 10th of the month from September through June (10 issues), with artwork and copy due the 20th of the previous month. These are our advertising rates:

Ad size	Measures (in inches)...	Cost
Business card	3.5 by 2.3	\$85/month color \$59/month B&W
Quarter page	3.5 by 4.5	\$130/month color \$89/month B&W
Half page	7.5 by 4.5	\$210/month color \$149/month B&W
Full page	7.5 by 9.5	\$350/month color \$249/month B&W
Full page free-standing insert	8.5 by 11	\$450/month color \$400/month B&W

We offer a 5% discount for residents who have paid their LPCA dues, and an additional 10% discount for advertisers who commit to three or more months in a row. A designer will draft artwork for an extra 10% charge. Contact lyonparkeditor@gmail.com to reserve space.

R & M Cleaning Services

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Hi Jeannette -

One of our neighbors lives on the border of Ashton Heights and Lyon Park. She receives newsletters from both neighborhoods. She asked me to deliver two copies of the LP newsletter to friends who live on the Ashton Height side of Irving Street.

Moving forward, she sent the link to the March LP Citizen to her friends. She also suggested adding the link to the Ashton Heights newsletter to the LP Citizen and asking the Ashton Heights newsletter editor to include a link to the LP Citizen in all future newsletters. She (like so many other neighbors) enjoys reading both newsletters. Can you make that happen?

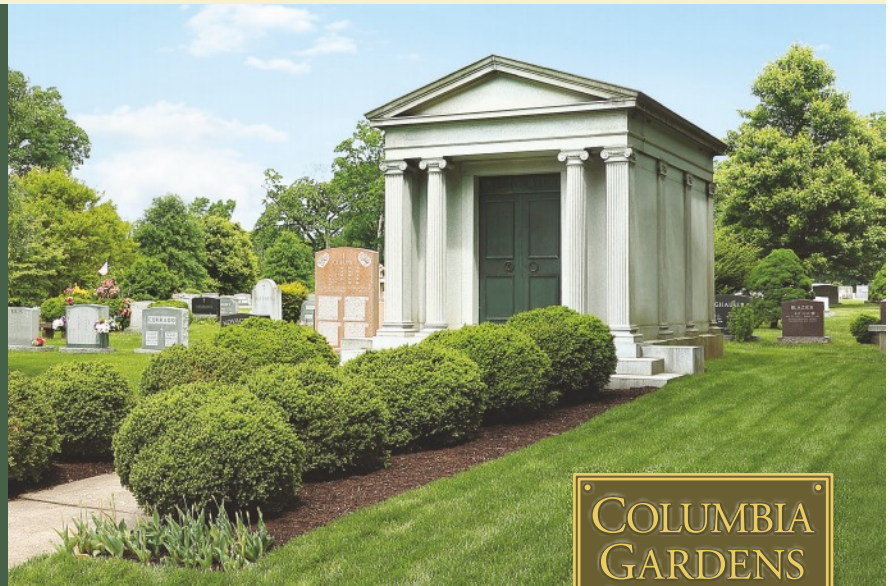
Helen

Can do!!! Find Ashton Heights newsletters here:
<https://ashtonheights.org/ahca-newsletter/>

Pre-Planning Gives You and Your Family Peace of Mind



Planning ahead for funeral and burial arrangements relieves your family of the burden of having to make decisions at a stressful time. Pre-planning is a true gift of love for your family—both emotionally and financially. Columbia Gardens Cemetery is approved by the State of Virginia to accept pre-payment for funeral and burial services. If you have not yet decided what arrangements you would like, we are here to guide and support you. We will explain burial, cremation, memorialization, options for funeral services and more.



ESTABLISHED 1917

For More Information, Please Contact Us at 703.527.1235

3411 Arlington Blvd. | Arlington, VA 22201 | columbiagardenscemetery.org



Community House Rental Rates

Lyon Park and Ashton Heights residents are eligible for resident rates, but cannot sponsor non-resident events.

Monday – Thursday (8 AM–5 PM, 4 hour minimum)

<75 guests, \$50/hour resident; \$100/hour non-resident

≥75 guests, \$75/hour resident; \$100/hour non-resident

Monday – Thursday evening (6–10 PM)

<75 guests, \$200 resident; \$400 non-resident

≥75 guests, \$300 resident; \$400 non-resident

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Holidays

HALF DAY (8 AM–2:30 PM or 3:30–10 PM):

\$400 resident; \$900 non-resident

WHOLE DAY (8 AM–10 PM):

\$750 resident; \$1,600 non-resident

Children's Birthday Rates for children 10 and under, maximum 40 attendees, booked <2 months in advance:

Four consecutive hours ending before 2 PM, small kitchen use only– *Includes the time you will need to set up and clean up.*

\$200 resident; \$400 non-resident

Grounds preservation fees:

- \$30/inflatable (can only be rented from Arlington TEAM)
- \$100/floored tent, \$30/pole tent
- \$100 grounds fee for ponies and petting zoos

Use of inflatables and/or tents must be approved in advance and specified in rental contract.

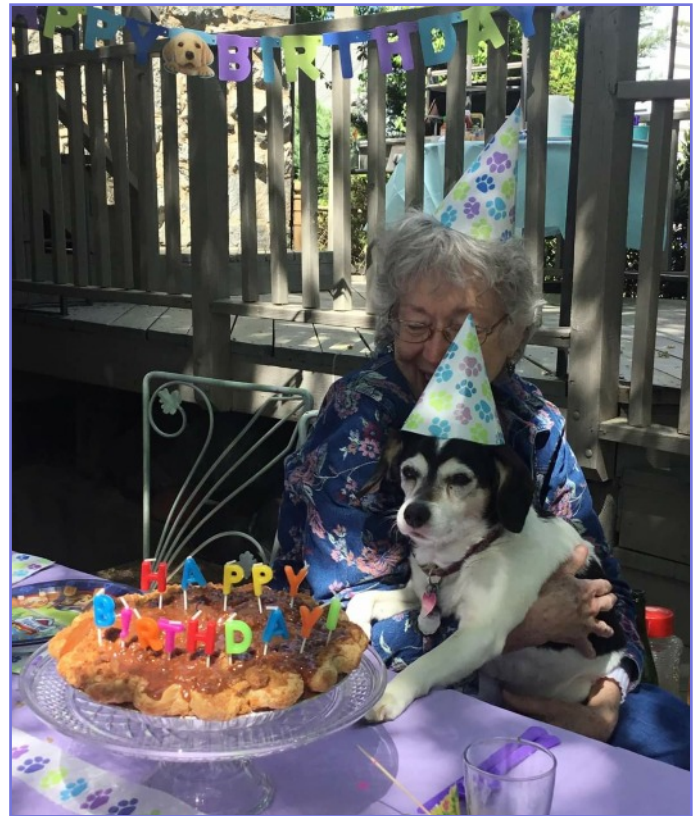
A security deposit is required for all rentals.

MAKE A RESERVATION TODAY!

Check online calendar for availability and complete the online reservation form at www.lyonpark.info



Find news and more pictures on Facebook at
<https://www.facebook.com/lyonparkcommunitycenter>



Wendy the Wonder Dog

George and Marjorie Hobart's beagle Wendy turned 21 on April 20! They adopted her 16 years ago when two previous owners had abandoned her, and changed her name from the nefarious Wednesday (the Adams Family daughter) to Wendy.

When she was only 18, she completed the Bunny Hop with George's son Ted. Exhausted near the end, she had to be carried over the finish line. She received the medal for "Oldest Dog." Wendy plans to participate again this year, but will "run" the entire route in either a baby carriage or a wheel barrow. She encourages readers to participate in the Bunny Hop to raise money for local charities (see page 14).

Wendy will be featured in *The Arlington Connection* soon. She currently resides at Camp Putnam due to pandemic restraints, where she loves the freedom in their yard.



Photos: Ted Hobart

Leaves of Three, Let it Be?

Heidi Ananthakrishnan

Those humans always arrive at Fillmore Park covered in pants, hats, long sleeves, and gloves, no matter what the temperature is outside. They come to rid the park of invasive plants and fill the space with native wildflowers, bushes, and trees. They remove English ivy, Japanese honeysuckle, and porcelain berry, but it's hard to tell whether they like us or not. They begrudgingly admit that we are native species and that our succulent white berries nourish the birds. Yet they defame us as "poison" ivy (although we call ourselves *Toxicodendron radicans*). They often curse out loud when they lightly brush against our oily leaves, returning the next day in foul moods with leprous rashes.

We create our special urushiol oil to ward off microbes and protect us from infections. It doesn't bother squirrels, birds, snakes, dogs, or any other animal except humans. In fact, deer and insects enjoy browsing our nutritious leaves. The invasive plants, on the other hand, take up forest space without offering nourishment or places to host larvae in return.

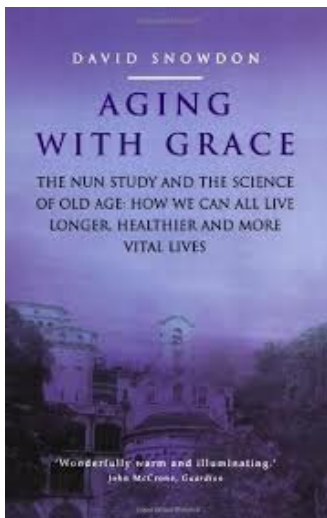
We initially dreaded the human visitors disturbing the place, since sometimes, they would accidentally pull us out of the ground, too. But as the quiet winter settled, icy air cooled our stems into a torpor and we paused to look down. Why, there was a whole forest to discover! The soil now freed of the spaghetti-like tangle of invasive roots meant we native plants could stretch ours. With more space, we could expand our range and buffet of fresh berries and flowers, meaning more of our bird and insect friends could live and dine here.

Maybe those humans aren't so bad after all. In fact, once my shiny green foliage emerges this spring and those volunteers return, I may wait for a timely gust of wind to lean over and give them a leafy embrace!



Aging with Grace

Margaret Dean



Despite being a book about Alzheimer's, brain atrophy, and end of life, *Aging with Grace* is a gentle, slightly humorous examination of the lives of 678 School Sisters of Notre Dame. Given that little was known about Alzheimer's even a few years ago, basic research was important because Alzheimer afflicts up to 45% of Americans over 85. With the data available in 2000, Snowden believes that 15-40% of Alzheimers patients have depression. It's unclear if depression is a risk factor for Alzheimers.

Each individual sister's records included a brain autopsy upon death. With Snowden's discovery of a Heritage Room, a miniature museum on the Sisters' history, and the vault that held the convent's historical records (the equivalent of an archaeologist's discovery of Tutankhamun's burial site), Snowden had a historical basis for documented life studies on aging as far back as the early 1900s. The vault also contained hundreds of autobiographies, from which Snowden could reconstruct a nun's educational and medical history and her career path and glimpse her childhood and early influences.

His question was, "Is there a correlation between a sister's level of education and her mental and physical abilities later in life?" The records show that 85% of the sisters had a bachelors degree and 45% had a masters. While generally plaques and tangles revealed in the brain autopsy reflected the

amount of mental degeneration, in some cases there was little correlation. One strong correlation is idea density. Complex idea management correlates with 'resistance' to Alzheimer's onset. Slowly, Snowden and his colleagues came to believe that idea density had an 80% chance of predicting Alzheimer's disease in late life. Because of a lack of IQ data for the sisters' early lives, the IQ aspect was not included in the analyses. Conclusion: Verbal skills measured early in life can predict later brain health with startling accuracy. Recommendation: Read to kids early and often.

Only with advances in related scientific areas has Snowden been able to widen and deepen his search into links between basic emotions and involuntary functions (i.e., heart rate, blood pressure, etc.) which in turn affect longevity. The life expectancy difference between a positive world approach and a neutral or negative approach is more than six years.

Snowdon is refreshingly frank about the reason for his initial proposal: publish or perish. As an assistant professor of epidemiology at the University of Minnesota, he was 'struggling mightily' to find his niche. He was eventually asked to leave the Department. Fortunately his idea for the Nuns' Study blossomed and he was able to move his operation to the University of Kentucky's Sanders-Brown Center on Aging, UK Medical Center.

Aging with Grace: What the Nun Study Teaches Us About Leading Longer Healthier and More Meaningful Lives by David Snowden. Bantam Books, NY, NY. ISBN 0-553-380923. 219pp. Paperback. 2001.

Arlington County Tree Canopy Program OPEN

It's time to apply for the Fall 2021 planting cycle. The application form is now online and the deadline is June 25. Applications are due by midnight on Friday, June 25 through this link. Please note that if you wish to apply for more than one tree, you will need to fill out the application separately for every tree.

Available trees include

- American hornbeam
- American linden
- American sycamore
- Pin oak
- River birch
- Sugarberry
- Swamp white oak

We will do our best to accommodate your first or second choice of species, but will use a lottery for selection if necessary. All trees will be planted October - December of 2021.

For more information contact Bill Anhut at billanhut@yahoo.com or (301) 908-8204.

www.lyonpark.org • May 2021

We Get Letters!!! Well, We Got One Letter...

Elaine, Jeanette and Peter,

Can't tell you how much I both appreciate and enjoy *The Citizen*. Peter's editorial helps frame each issue and the variety of the editorial is really great. Thought this month's articles on both Red Foxes and invasive trees (spell check almost corrected this to "invasive teens" which would have been hilariously apropos too) were great - and the notice of the Pershing corner facelift was something I would never have seen otherwise.

I know in today's world something printed and hand delivered is incredibly antediluvian, but it's a great service to the neighborhood.

Thanks,
Brandon Nordin
N Edgewood St.

Editor's Note: Thank you for your kind words. Please note that many people commented that the map of the Pershing Corner facelift was upside down by traditional standards. North was not at the top. We've asked the County why their maps are "disoriented" several times, and they say, "That's how the company sends them to us."



Native Plants: The “Whys” Behind the Idea

Elaine Simmons

An enlightening article by Margaret Renkl in the *New York Times* spells out why we should plant native specimens in our yards. She points out that while humans are a migratory species, most plants were designed as part of a unique web of life within an ecosystem. The author also takes aim at “an entire ethos that relies on poison,” i.e., herbicides designed to kill weeds and insecticides designed to kill bugs, including native pollinators. Many of these chemicals are endocrine disruptors, which some researchers believe are linked to ADHD, Parkinson’s, Alzheimer’s, and cancers.

Native trees provide nesting places for native birds and squirrels. Native flowers feed native insects, which in turn feed native birds, frogs, and other animals. While we might see pretty flowers in suburbia, Renkl sees “a gorgeous, blooming wasteland where flowers feed nobody at all.” Non-native plants introduced into an ecosystem may not only thrive but also crowd out plants and trees that belong there. The list of non-native plants in our yards is long. For example, daffodils came from Europe; forsythia is from Asia and Europe; Yoshino cherry, Bradford pear, and honeysuckle are from Asia.

So what can we do to help restore our natural ecosystem? You can start by going to the Audubon or National Wildlife Federation websites, which list native plants by zip code. The native specimens for my zip code include Allegheny service-berry, alternate-leaf dogwood, American basswood, American beech, American elm, American hazelnut, American holly, American hornbeam, and American plum. The elm, for example, serves as a larval host for many butterfly species, and both its seeds and leaf buds are eaten by birds. It was a majestic tree common in cities and forests before being nearly wiped out by Dutch elm disease. There are now disease-resistant varieties.

Perhaps some of these specimens can become part of your yard. An eco-vision for Lyon Park would be to also “go native.” Finally, we should seriously rethink the chemicals we put on our grass or have an exterminator spray on or in our house. Ceasing use of weed killer is manageable if you expand your planting beds to limit the amount of grass in your yard. To create a lush lawn that crowds out weeds, seed twice a year and lightly cover with compost—preferably the homemade kind. Pull weeds up by the root after heavy rains.

Let’s all take steps to help our natural ecosystem.

SAMSON

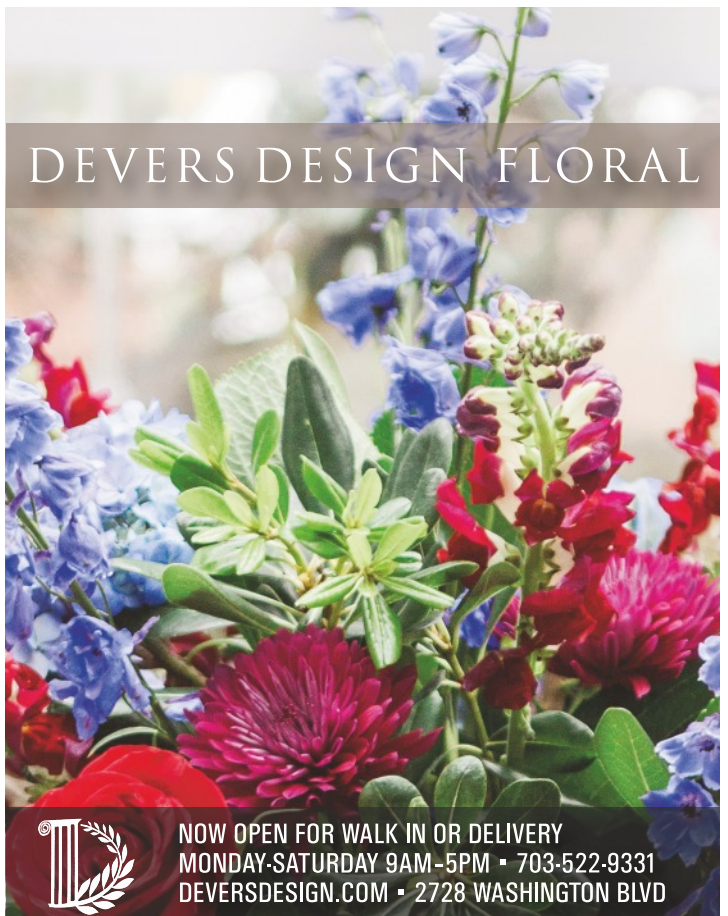
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iGive



iGive works similarly. It's free. iGive partners with more than 1,700 online stores. It donates an average of 3% what you spend to your selected charity. The stores pay for it all. You never pay more, and often you pay less with coupons and deals. A typical shopper raises more than \$100/year. Go to igive.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. Select LPCC as your charity and add the iGive button. This automatically tells participating stores that you want your shopping to support LPCC. You can also download the iPhone/iPad or Android apps.

LPCA Co-sponsors An Evening with Wilma Jones, Author of *My Halls Hill Family: More Than a Neighborhood*

On Thursday, May 13, join Lyon Park, Glen Carlyn, and Ashton Heights Citizens' Associations for an evening with Wilma Jones, a fourth-generation resident of Arlington's Halls Hill neighborhood and author of *My Halls Hill Family: More Than a Neighborhood*. Wilma will share stories of growing up in the historically-Black neighborhood of Halls Hill.

Halls Hill was a segregated Black neighborhood that got its start in the mid-1800s when Basil Hall purchased 327 acres of land for a plantation. Following the Civil War, the neighborhood became completely African American, with a population of residents who were descendants of slaves. Developers, with the permission of Arlington County government, walled it off and fenced it in from the early 1900s until the 1960s. Wilma's family has called Halls Hill home for four generations. Her brother, Michael Jones, was one of four 12-year-old Black students to integrate public schools in Virginia in 1959. *My Halls Hill Family* tells the history of the neighborhood from its inception in 1866, until the County government, in a display of institutional racism common for the time, closed their neighborhood school in 1966.

Wilma is a top-performing corporate information technology sales director during the day and is president of her own management consulting firm, Wilma J, LLC, where she works with organizations to support development of a healthy and engaged staff. She is also a popular keynote speaker and workshop leader. Wilma is an author of three books, a grant consultant, civic activist, and nonprofit board member. She also volunteers with organizations supporting underserved communities to impact positive change.

The program, which is part of Lyon Park's Dialogues on Race and Equity program, will take place on Thursday, May 13, from 7:30 to 9:00 PM. Ms. Jones will speak for about 45 minutes and answer participants' questions for the balance of the time.

Any resident of the partnering neighborhoods who wants to take part must register in advance by filling out and submitting the form found at <https://bit.ly/3uFov8y>. A confirmation email along with the Zoom link will be sent immediately afterward.

Those who wish to read Wilma Jones' book before the program can order it (available in Kindle and paperback editions) at <https://amzn.to/3d6Trsr>. (The Arlington County Library also has four copies – and several people on the waiting list.)

Please Pay Your LPCA Dues!

\$10/year, \$20/two years, \$250 for life

Please complete this form (Hint: use a return address label!) and mail it with your check to: LPCA Membership, P.O. Box 100191, Arlington, VA 22201

Name _____
Address _____
Preferred phone _____
E-mail _____
May we add you to the community listserv? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Community Volunteer Interests (Check all that apply):

- ☐ Neighborhood Conservation
- ☐ Community Center and Park
- ☐ Development issues
- ☐ Social Events (Holiday Party, Halloween)
- ☐ Homes and Gardens Tour
- ☐ Spring Fair
- ☐ Traffic issues
- ☐ Newsletter
- ☐ Trees/Conservation
- ☐ All-purpose volunteer

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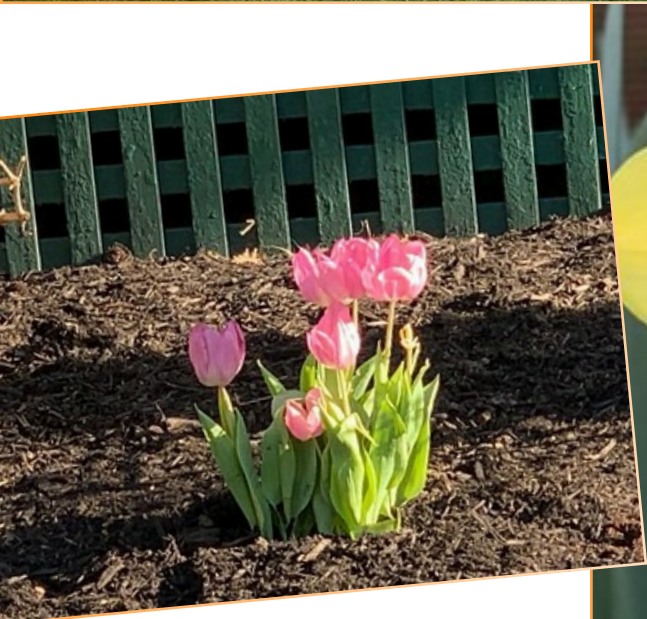
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Thank you for the continued welcoming into your community. We look forward in servicing all of your automotive needs.

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*All photos:
Paul Showalter*

Arlington Bunny Hop



5K Charity Fun Run/Walk

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Clarendon United Methodist Church

www.ArlingtonBunnyHop.org

June 12th

Bluemont Park-W&OD Trail

In-Person

June 12, 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

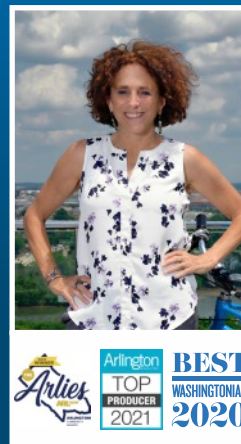
Virtual Option-June 12-20



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Community Engagement Opportunities, Arlington Public Schools

All APS students who selected hybrid/in-person learning joined us in person as of mid-March.

We are delighted to have them back!

Tuesday, May 11 6 to 8 PM	School Board Virtual Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Work Session #1 Watch School Board Work Sessions live online or on Comcast Channel 70 or Verizon Channel 41 Work sessions are open to the public, but no comments are accepted.
Wednesday, May 19 6 to 8 PM	Virtual Compensation Work Session Watch live here: https://www.apsva.us/school-board-meetings/school-board-work-sessions-meetings/wa
Thursday, May 20 7 PM	School Board Meeting: Information on Naming Process for Key School at New Site Watch School Board Work Sessions live online or on Comcast Channel 70 or Verizon Channel 41
Tuesday, May 25 6 to 8 PM	School Board Virtual Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Work Session #2 Watch School Board Work Sessions live online or on Comcast Channel 70 or Verizon Channel 41
Tuesday, May 25 6:30 PM	Virginia Mathematics Pathways Initiative (VMPI) Community Session: Advanced Pathways in Grades 11-12 https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrbxI9wHScrWKWIEoUWNIfQ
Wednesday, May 26 3:30 to 5 PM	Native Series: Our Future-Going Forward Together: Shaping our Communities, Commonwealth, and Country for a Brighter and More Inclusive Tomorrow Webinar registration https://doe-virginia-gov.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_zgv8HgXnSIKQLESKMZpnlQ Hosted by Virginia Humanities
Thursday, June 3 7 PM	School Board Meeting: Action on Naming Process for Key School at New Site Watch School Board Work Sessions live online or on Comcast Channel 70 or Verizon Channel 41
Thursday, June 10 7 PM	School Board Meeting: Public Hearing on the 2022-24 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Watch School Board Work Sessions live online or on Comcast Channel 70 or Verizon Channel 41

*View Board meetings live online or on Comcast Channel 70 or Verizon Channel 41.

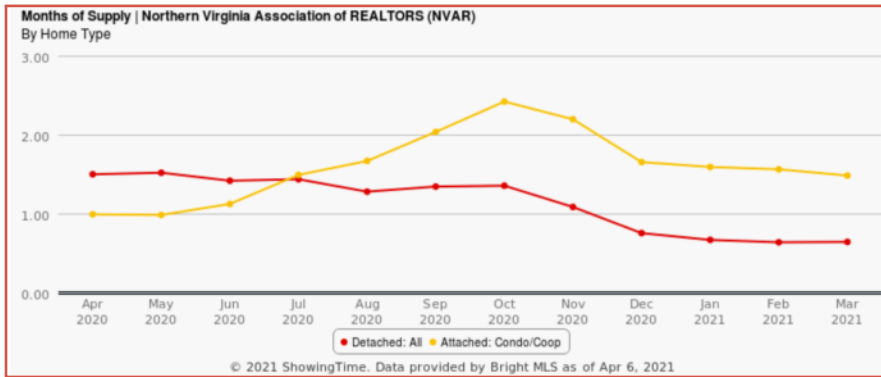
** Watch Work Sessions live online at <https://www.apsva.us/school-board-meetings/school-board-work-sessions-meetings/>.
Work sessions are opened to the public but no public comments are accepted.
Visit www.apsva.us/Engage to stay up-to-date on engagement opportunities.

Free flu shots. Call Arlington Public Health at 703-228-1200 for an appointment.

No-cost COVID-19 testing. Sites do not require insurance, ID or a doctor's referral. Free, walk-in clinic M-F 12-5 p.m. at Arlington Mill Community Center (909 S. Dinwiddie St.) Aurora Hills Community Center and Tucker Field at Barcroft Park sites offer electronic results within 72 hours.

Visit web (<https://health.arlingtonva.us/covid-19-coronavirus-updates/covid-19-testing/>) or call 703-912-7999 for information.

Real Estate Market Update



We're still waiting for that much-needed inventory bump in detached listings (red line below). At least things aren't getting any worse. But bidding wars and waived contingencies are still the norm.

We were recently interviewed for a New York Times article on the subject of bidding wars! "We're seeing an inventory crisis," said Katie Wethman, a

Washington, D.C.-based real estate agent at Keller Williams Realty. Indeed, total home supply at the end of March sat at only 1.07 million units, down 28.2 percent from a year ago, according to a report from the National Association of Realtors."⁽¹⁾

"Buyers are also finding ways to waive home appraisal contingencies, in an effort to make their bid more attractive to a seller. (Appraisal contingencies allow buyers to terminate a contract if an appraisal comes in lower than their offer price.) "Some buyers who are putting down 20% are agreeing to reduce their down payment to pay the difference if there's an appraisal gap," Ms. Wethman said. For example, in a deal where a buyer is offering \$300,000 for a home, and has a 20% down payment, if the house is appraised at \$270,000, the buyer could drop their down payment to 10%, and use that 10% in cash to make up the appraisal shortfall."

However, **an opportunity remains in condos**. While the supply levels are down from their October heights (yellow line above), there is still plenty to choose from. Buyers definitely have **more negotiation power** here. Whether you've been looking for an investment property or a smaller place in the city, now could be a good time to make a deal.

We keep fielding worried calls about the real-estate market building up to another **speculative bubble**. Unlike the late 2000's, buyers by-and-large are well qualified, especially in our area. NINJA loans and teaser rates are a thing of the past, and our **strong job growth and the expected increase in government spending** should help even more. Barring sudden inflation spikes, the **low rates are here to stay**, and a lot of buyers were able to save their cash in 2020 when there weren't many places to spend it. Now they may be looking to invest. And as noted above, just **look at the supply levels**: less than a month of inventory for detached and townhouse properties. Generally six months of inventory is considered a balanced market, so we have room to grow inventory—if only we could.

(1) Bortz, Daniel. "Selling Your Home in a Seller's Market." The New York Times, The New York Times, 23 Apr. 2021, www.nytimes.com/2021/04/23/realestate/home-selling.html.

Want more real estate news? Contact us to get our monthly newsletter, or follow us on social media!



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