

Remembering Glencarlyn's David Backus

By Bill Pritchard

David Backus was deeply rooted in the Glencarlyn neighborhood.

He grew up here in a family that had arrived in the neighborhood in the 1880s. While he and his wife Maxine lived in another part of Arlington for many years they came back to his roots in 2005.

Before his death in December, David Backus was president of the neighborhood association, as his father William, had been in the 1950s and volunteered for just about every neighborhood activity. He was also puppeteer to Glencarlyn kids and parents, continuing a tradition his mother Florence began decades ago.

"Dave loved the Glencarlyn neighborhood and treasured memories of his youth here - aunts, neighbors, friends, and fun," Maxine said. "We always came to Glencarlyn Day and especially enjoyed the camaraderie of the breakfast in the park.



David Backus filling sandbags for luminaria
Photo by GeraldMartineau

"We brought our daughter, Adriana, to Trick or Treat for Halloween with special friends and her grandmother," she said.

A lot of new Glencarlynites first encountered Backus flipping pancakes in the park at the Glencarlyn Day breakfast.

Or they might have seen him at the end-of-summer picnic, or filling sandbags for the traditional winter holiday luminaria.

"He was very protective of this neighborhood and its roots," Maxine said

"He loved the park and trails and treasured his memories of camping out on the back hill (behind the family's 5th St. home) building a fort with friends in the ravine, helping in his aunts' gardens, and running on the trails with his dog Pepper," she said.

David Backus put many of those memories into a popular Village View column titled Remembering Glencarlyn.

Backus continued on Page 4

County Communications Chief at Feb. 6 GCA Meeting



Bryna Helfer

Concerned about the urgent care property? Lights at Kenmore? Traffic? Snow removal? Sidewalk widths? Come to the GCA meeting Monday Feb. 6 at 7:30pm in Carlin Hall and let your voice be heard by the county's chief spokesperson.

Bryna Helfer, Assistant County Manager & Director of Communications and Public Engagement, will be our guest speaker.

Helfer wants to learn more about the concerns of our community members. Please come to the meeting with your questions and comments about issues affecting the neighborhood.

The county official previously served as senior director of civic engagement for the National Academy of Public Administration, manager of strategic planning for the U.S. Government Accountability Office, and director of Easter Seals Project ACTION.

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President's Corner

Remembering David Backus

By Julie Lee

Acting President, Glencarlyn Citizens' Association

Wishing you all a Happy New Year. It is with tremendous sadness that I announce the passing of our GCA President David Backus. David passed away suddenly on Dec. 12. This is a heartbreaking loss for the Glencarlyn community. David will be sorely missed by all of us who were fortunate enough to know and work with him. His loss was felt county-wide. Chairman Libby Garvey wrote a lovely note of condolence on behalf of the County Board. Board member John Vihstadt called to express his condolences. Our hearts go out to David's wife Maxine and daughter Adriana.

David was born and raised in Glencarlyn. His family has lived in the neighborhood since the 1880s. He was a pillar of our community and served it tirelessly. Readers enjoyed his witty storytelling about the "old days" in The Village View. David really was our living history.

There were so many more stories to be told. Many of us have such fond memories of David, some of them going back generations. My mother remembers as a teenager being at the Backus tennis court—yes, they had a tennis court on the corner of Illinois and 5th Streets—and a young David would be chasing the tennis balls. I remember sledding on the Jefferson St hill with David and other children and teenagers. At that time, the road went all the way into the park and we could sled all the way down to the creek bed. It was very exciting.

My fondest childhood memory of David and his family was the delivering of evergreen sprays at Christmas. His family would make beautiful sprays from greens in their yard, tie them up with pretty ribbons and hang them on the front door knobs of friends and neighbors on Christmas Eve. We anticipated this almost as much as we anticipated the arrival of Santa. We would listen to see if we could hear them coming. And I would check the door before I went to bed and first thing in the morning hoping to be the first to see it there. What a lovely Christmas gift this was. I was certainly thinking about David on Christmas Eve this year.

Much of this edition of The Village View is dedicated to remembering David. I know the words and photos will stir up warm memories for those who knew him, and inform those who were unacquainted with him of all that he has meant to Glencarlyn.

In addition to looking back, one of the best ways we can honor David is to look ahead and continue to carry out the goals David set as our GCA President. As his VP, I worked closely with David and we spoke often. He made clear to me what he hoped to accomplish in 2017 and beyond.

First and foremost is continuing to have a voice in the decisions about the Virginia Hospital Center property on Carlin Springs Rd. We need to remain diligent in reaching out to members of the County Board and School Board to ensure that our parkland and green space is preserved and any use of the property will not diminish the character of our community. I will include contact information for these members on Page 3. I ask each of you to email, write or call to express your thoughts personally.

David also hoped to revitalize the Glencarlyn Day home tour. This has been a long-standing tradition. He was planning to personally reach out to individuals seeking commitments. Please consider putting your home on the tour June 3. Neighbors are interested in the houses that make up our diverse community, whether 100 years or one year old. If you are willing and able to open your home, please contact me directly.

As your GCA vice president, and acting president, I realize I will not be able to fill David's big shoes. I will continue to serve the Glencarlyn community to the best of my ability until a new president is installed. Many hands make light work. I know we will all work together as a legacy to David.

GCA Officers

email: gca_exec@glencarlyn.org or
president_gca@glencarlyn.org

Acting President

Julie Lee 808-384-4954

Vice President

Julie Lee 808-384-4954

Secretary

Randy Krug 703-379-0835

Treasurer

Tim Aiken 703-820-0084

Neighborhood Contacts

Neighborhood Conservation Delegates

Sean Dudley 703-447-3323

Peter Olivere (Alt.) 703-626-2520

Civic Federation Delegates

Peter Olivere 703-626-2520

Tim Aiken 703-820-0084

Sue Campbell 703-931-4098

Vacant

Doug LeRoy (Alt.) 703-845-9657

Jeff Liteman (Alt.) 703-575-4412

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Glencarlyn Apparel

gca125yrs@glencarlyn.org

Glencarlyn Web Site

www.glencarlyn.org

Carlin Hall

5711 S. 4th St.



Contacting the County and School Boards

Here are ways to contact the members of the Arlington County Board and the Arlington Public Schools Board with your concerns.

The County Board

Send messages to individual board members or to the county Board as a whole. Please include full name and e-mail address.

By email

- Jay Fisette, chairman — jfisette@arlingtonva.us
- Katie Cristol, Vice Chairman — kcristol@arlingtonva.us
- Libby Garvey — lgarvey@arlingtonva.us
- Christian Dorsey — cdorsey@arlingtonva.us
- John Vihstadt — jvihstadt@arlingtonva.us
- County Board — countyboard@arlingtonva.us

In writing

Letters may also be send to: Arlington County Board, 2100 Clarendon Blvd. #300, Arlington, VA 22201

By phone

Leave a voice mail message for the board or individual Board members by calling 703-228-3130. Messages should include the caller's full name and best phone number to call back.

The School Board

By email

Send messages to individual board members or to the School Board as a whole. Please include full name and e-mail address.

- Nancy Van Doren, chairman — nancy.vandoren@apsva.us
- Barbara Kanninen, vice chairman — barbara.kanninen@apsva.us
- Reid Goldstein — reid.goldstein@apsva.us
- James Lander — james.lander@apsva.us
- Tannia Talento — tannia.talento@apsva.us
- School Board — school.board@apsva.us

In writing

Letters may also be sent to the Arlington Education Center, 1426 N. Quincy Street, Arlington, Virginia 22207 or faxed to 703-228-7640.

By phone

Leave a voice mail message for the board or individual board members by calling 703-228-6015. Messages should include the caller's full name and best phone number to call back.

County Adopts Short-Term Rental Rules

Arlington homeowners can now rent rooms in their homes for up to 30 days under a new county zoning ordinance.

The regulation applies to short-term rentals, called accessory homestays, made through online services such as Airbnb, Craigslist, VRBO and others, according to a county release. Homeowners can apply for a home occupation permit to host overnight guests for stays less than 30 days in dwellings that they both own and reside in as their primary residence.

This type of rental was previously barred. The County Board approve the rule Dec. 10. It took effect Dec. 31.

"The extensive input we received ... was essential to help shape new regulations," County Board Chair Libby Garvey said.

The county board also announced it would consider additional accessory homestay provisions in January.

Those are:

- Allowing either an owner or long-term tenant of a primary residence to apply for an Accessory Homestay Permit and
- Removing limits on the number of rentals per night.

For more information go to: <https://projects.arlingtonva.us/plans-studies/land-use/zoning-studies/short-term-residential-rentals/>

Day Care Kids Help Out in the Garden

By Renee Gorsky

Carlin Springs' Extended Day program added a new club to its existing activities. It is the Garden Club where kids are free to suggest ideas and then implement them. Last spring, the students learned that gardening includes not only planting flowers but vegetables as well.

They helped take care of the wildflower garden in front of our school. The students learned about native wildflowers to Virginia. In addition, they learned that this garden provides food and shelter for animal, birds, and insects. Signs were designed with illustrations of these animals.

In 2004, students, parents and master gardeners got together and planned this wildflower garden. Many students and volunteers continue to nurture it. They also created new signs identifying all the plants that grow there.

Subscribe to Glencarlyn Updates

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To subscribe, send your name, email address and home address to gcaupdates@glencarlyn.org.

Backus, from Page 1

Crazy Robins and Party Lines

His subjects were varied. There was the feisty, territorial robin that fought his own reflection in a window of the Backus house.

“Here this bird conquered all his fellow birds (except for the flickers who don’t scare) and was king of his chosen domain. Now,



A typical Backus puppet show audience

Photo by Jeff Liteman

having won, he was going crazy (and not helping our sanity) fighting a windmill of his making,” he wrote.

Or the column recalling the days when neighborhood telephones were on party lines.

“These lines kept us closer together – they also provided some folks a means of vicarious entertainment.

Bored? The (call) for your neighbor? You pick up – after the ringing stops...and listen quietly to all the news of the village, or, at least your neighbor’s news.”

“The Village View has been very kind and lenient with my writing style and stories,” Backus wrote in a book compiling many of his columns titled “Memories for the Village View.”

“The stories have a point – to inform folks about other times in our village and how it was growing up here,” he wrote.

Neighbors Remember

“My fondest childhood memory of David and his family was the delivering of evergreen sprays at Christmas,” Julie Lee said. His family would make beautiful sprays from greens in their yard, tie them up with pretty ribbons and hang them on the front door

knobs of friends and neighbors on Christmas Eve.

We anticipated this almost as much as we anticipated the arrival of Santa. (*see more of Julie Lee’s remembrance on Page 2*).

Sheridan Swope remembered David’s apparent enthusiasm for mowing. She was standing on the sidewalk in front of Carlin Hall one Glencarlyn Day, “and here comes Dave up 4th St. He’s riding his lawnmower.”



Maxine and David Backus entertain kids and adults with a puppet show.

Photo by Jeff Liteman



David Backus flipping pancakes at the Glencarlyn Day 2013 breakfast,

Photo by Gerald Martineau

“He parked in front of the hall and explained how he was so excited about his new lawnmower and was hoping to sell the old one. “I often passed Dave’s house walking to the park. Whenever I saw Dave mowing the lawn I remembered this and got another chuckle,” Swopes said.

Tactful Advice

“I loved the way he would give me advice in such a tactful way,” Jack Turner recalled.

“One day he walked up when I was trying to do an economical - some would say cheap - repair on our old truck’s cracked alternator cap.

“What do you think ?” I asked Dave, who was quite an adept mechanic.” Turner said Backus replied with the tale of an elderly man he once knew

who fixed his customer’s beat-up jalopies for years with anything he could find in his shop.

“Dave said the man “would probably take a screw and a washer and put it right here...”

Sue Auerbach has memories of Florence Backus-Doe, David’s mother.

Backus, continued on Page 6



l-r: Maxine, David, and Adriana Backus on travel.



David and Maxine Backus at their wedding.



Alan (l) and David on top of Old Rag Mt., near Sperryville, Va.

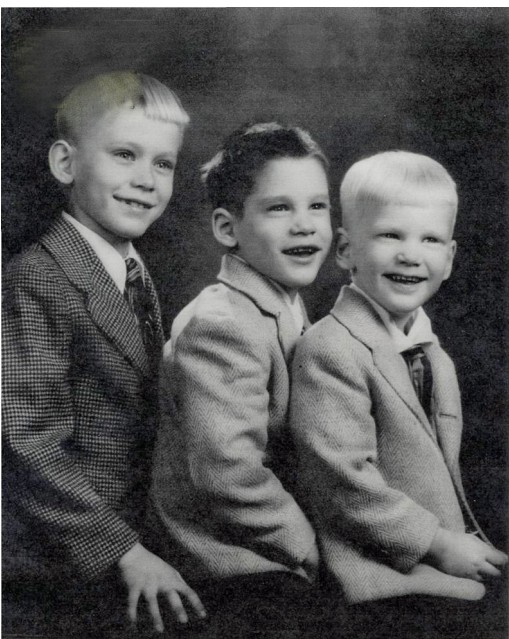


Florence Backus-Doe with granddaughter Adriana.



Backus and daughter Adriana at the beach.

**Photos courtesy of
Maxine Backus**



L-r: Billy, David, and Alan Backus.



David enjoying a bicycle ride.



Cub Scouting days in Glencarlyn.

Backus, from Page 4

"I certainly knew of his family's long residence and history in Glencarlyn," Auerbach said. "When I first moved to Glencarlyn in 1994, one of the first people I met was his mother, who lived with her husband Frank Doe in the same house at the corner of the park that David had grown up in, and into which he and his family moved after she died. a couple of earlier renovations.

"I remember Florence showing me around the house and pointing out where old walls had been joined with new ones. She also invited me to lunch and offered me homemade pasta from her own pasta machine, and welcomed me to the neighborhood."

The Family

David Backus was born Feb. 27, 1946, in Walter Reed Army Hospital to William Alden Backus and Florence Backus.

Backus wrote that he was part of the baby boom World War II era "Hi, honey, I'm home!" wave that revitalized the country.

He wrote that he and his brothers Billy and Alan "were all loved and raised in the best family in the world," he wrote.

The Backus family first came to the Glencarlyn area in the late 1800s when William Mansfield Backus, David's great grandfather, arrived here from Vermont. He married a local woman, Constance Beal and bought shares in what was then the Carlin Springs Cooperative Association. By the time David's father, William Alden Backus Jr., came along, the family was well-rooted in the neighborhood soil.

Bill Backus, as he was known, served as president of the Glencarlyn Citizens' Association in the 1950s — the third generation of the family to hold a prominent position in the community.

David and his brothers constituted the fourth generation of the family to live in the house on 5th St. David was a long-term care specialist for some years. Alan is a Los Angeles-based inventor with more than 60 patents.

But even being part of "the best family in the world" did not spare them a measure of tragedy. Billy, William Alden Backus III, battled leukemia for three years before succumbing to the disease May 19, 1965 at the age of 21. In 1972, the father, William, died of heart disease at age 55. Florence, who remarried, lived until she was 78, dying in 1997.

Backus began sharing his memories of the Glencarlyn neighborhood a couple of years after resettling here. He dedicated the forward to the compilation "Memories for the Village View" to daughter Adriana, saying "This is who I was-and am."

"The stories are memories of many good times," he wrote. "I've learned from all of them (well, most of them. Some I just laughed at and kept moving). There's an old saying, 'if you live and don't learn from what happens, it's a waste! If you learned something, then whatever you spent on it is called tuition.'"

To read "Memories for the Village View," with many of David Backus' Remembering Glencarlyn columns, go to www.glencarlyn.org/History/BOOK_9-1-11to4-24-14.pdf



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View from the Garden

by **Judy Funderburk**,
Master Gardener
Photos by Judy Funderburk

Each season of the year has its gifts. One of winter's gifts to gardeners is time ...time to take stock, to reflect, to begin planning anew. What have we accomplished, taught, learned? Have we made a difference in the lives of the children, young people and adults who have spent time or even just wandered through the Library Garden? What wildlife found sustenance? Which plants thrived and which succumbed through the long cold wet spring, the following days of 100 degree heat, and the seven weeks of drought in late summer and early fall? What could we do better? And what might we want to bring to the garden in 2017.



Helebore in bloom

through September; those who, like David Backus, volunteered to fix what is broken; those who give the gift of gratitude, letting us know what you learn and how you enjoy the garden and its varied offerings of herbs, colors, scents, and sometimes exuberant plantings throughout the year.

The Glencarlyn Library staff members give us the gift of their continuing support. They enjoy our arrangements, sell our cards and last year gave us a red library cart that became our very own site-specific mobile teaching device! Window boxes were placed on the book cart and filled with a variety of ornamentals, highlighting the many plants that can be successfully grown in containers.

Black Swallowtail and Monarch butterflies came to the fennel, lovage and milkweed plants in our garden and laid eggs, gifting us with more baby caterpillars than we'd ever had before! We shared them with the pre-schoolers at Carlin Hall and three third grade classes at Campbell Elementary, much to everyone's delight.

Volunteers, Young Interns Played Big Roles

From March 6 and Dec. 5, 2016, we held 35 Work Days, and received over 7,000 volunteer hours from master gardener, intern and trainee volunteers. With this help, we not only maintained the garden, but also planted, divided, and pruned.

One big project involved digging, sawing and removing the invasive Japanese honeysuckle off the chain link fence – a monumental task. The area is now replanted with multiple

native Cross Vine (*Bignonia capreolata*) babies, plus several different Clematis.

We mentored four Class of 2015 interns through completion of their projects. Two interns designed and planted the last two Parking Lot Gardens. One worked with the 25 Carlin Hall Creative Pre-School children to grow and plant sunflowers. Another developed a plan and trained our 14 neighborhood waterers in the use of more sustainable watering practices.

Looking back to the garden's beginnings in 1999, I see a pattern of gifts that have played a timely part in its life and development. In 2001, the Friends of the Glencarlyn Library Garden received an Arlington Parks & Recreation Small Parks Program grant. This provided funds with which to put much of the "hardscape" structure (arches, signs, paths, concrete floor for the gazebo) in place.

Sue Zajac memorialized her husband Leo (who always wanted



l-r: David Backus, Steven Young, Rick Mason repair garden trellis.

a gazebo and loved the library) by donating the money to purchase a gazebo in kit form. Sam Celia helped guide a neighborhood "gazebo raising" to put it together. The gazebo has become a beloved centerpiece of the garden. In those early years, the Glencarlyn Citizens' Association gave us a grant which Nancy Davis used to create beautiful note card pack-

ets featuring neighbor Ernest Stone's iconic pen and ink drawings. Note card sales provided further funds.

In 2003 we became an official Teaching/Demonstration Garden for the Virginia Cooperative Extension and in 2004 for the Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia.

Since then hundreds of master gardeners, interns and trainees have volunteered their gift of thousands of service hours. Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts have learned and contributed while earning badges and Eagle rank. Jerry Martineau has given his photography skills, taking gorgeous pictures over the years to illustrate various articles and aspects of the garden.

This past year Bob Capps volunteered his professional skills as a graphic designer, giving many hours to help us create a beautiful new Library Garden brochure. Many of you have given money, time, or plants, bought cards or supported our twice a year plant sales ... the list goes on. I'm sure I've forgotten

Garden continued on Page 9.

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Arlington continues to be a desirable place to live, and demand remains strong. October sales have outpaced new listings so far this month. The trend is not just local – it's national. Because of lower housing inventory and too few choices for buyers, the pace of sales is more sluggish especially in the moderate to lower price points. Affordability in Arlington is a challenge. At an open house last week, I noticed that out of 80 open houses (single family homes), there were only 25 homes open under one million dollars. Low supply puts upward pressure on prices. The DC area is mirroring the rate of property appreciation nationally, which is roughly 5%. While the current market favors sellers, some properties are still overpriced. Roughly 35% of housing in the local market place experiences a price reduction in any given week. Interest rates are at 3.5% now with speculation that they may rise soon.

Painting your home in the near future? Paint quality is critical and Sherwin Williams is popular. It's a little more expensive, but it covers well and ultimately looks better. Your painter will appreciate it and should be able to get a discount from local stores. For a finish, a room's function and lighting are a factor. While glossy sheens are more durable, and absorb less moisture, imperfections in drywall will stand out the most. This paint used on trim mostly for that reason and its durability. Satin and eggshell are mediums that hide imperfections better and can handle some moisture, common in bathrooms and kitchens. Flat and matte cover great and hide imperfections well, used on ceilings and walls. I suggest picking a color that is trending (Sherman Williams Cool Platinum is a favorite). Grays and beiges on walls provide an amazing neutral look - more popular than plain white. Use white on ceilings and trim.



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Garden, from Page 7

someone very important to the life of the garden ... please forgive me!

As the garden has grown, so have the gifts of the seasons. As the garden has grown, so have the gifts of the seasons.

Winter is the best time for enjoying the outlines the years have formed: the branches of the redbud silhouetted against the setting sun, the golden needles of the bald cypress before they fall onto winter's ground, the bright red berries of the female winter-berry greeting us on our way into library or garden. It is also a time for seeing the smaller gifts, things that go unnoticed in the fullness of other seasons: the small "ears" of crocus or glory of the snow leaves pushing upwards through cold earth, the deep green coronet of leaves that form a rosette at the base of plants like sundrops or cardinal flower or blue lobelia, each preparing for the coming season's growth.

Don't rush winter away too quickly. Watch the gifts of its unfolding through Groundhog's and Valentine's day.

Soon enough there will be snowdrops blooming, flowers opening on the hellebores and buds on forsythia or flowering quince from which you may take cuttings to bring their flowering inside.

With gratitude for your gifts to us throughout 2016 and over the years, we wish you many joys in this winter season!

Judy, Paul, Alyssa, garden coordinators.

Citizen Leadership Course Begins in March

A county-sponsored training program aimed at producing community leaders is taking applications for its next class.

Applications for the Arlington Neighborhood Academy are due Feb.6. Class size is limited to 25 participants 18 years or older who live or work in the county. U.S. citizenship is not required.

Classes are scheduled on eight consecutive Thursdays, 6 p.m.-9:30 p.m., from March 16 through May 4 in the county building at 2100 Clarendon Blvd.

Prospective civic leaders will learn how the county operates through interaction with board members, department staff, Arlington Public School representatives, the chief of police, and other key county officials.

The academy also provides information on volunteer opportunities and networking with others involved in civic affairs. Parking, meals, childcare and translation services for Spanish-speakers are provided.

For more information and to download an application form, go to <http://projects.arlingtonva.us/neighborhood-conservation/college/neighborhood-college-2017/>.

Questions about the program can be directed to Jeff Liteman at mliteman@arlingtonnc.info or (703) 575-4412.



Gary FitzGibbon
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Tips for Going Green for the Holidays!



- **Give More, Waste Less, Ideas** – Give gifts that will help reduce household waste all year long. Ideas include **gifts of time** (offer to clean house, pet sit, etc.); **gifts of talent** (offer to teach someone a skill you have such as gardening or photography); **gifts of entertainment** (tickets to a game, movie, play, museum membership); **gifts of learning or physical fitness** (cooking or writing classes, golf or guitar lessons, gym memberships or classes in yoga or Pilates); **gifts of pampering** (massage, pedicure, etc.); **gifts for the greater good** (charitable donation in someone's name or donate unwanted good condition toys, games, etc.)
- **To Wrap or Not To Wrap** – Gifts such as tickets, gift certificates, etc. don't need wrapped at all. For oversized gift, don't wrap, just place a big bow around them. Or consider making the gift part of the wrap, i.e. give your homemade cookies in a reusable tin, wrap kitchen gifts in a colorful dish towel, tools for a gardener can be placed in a flowerpot. If you have to wrap, reuse things like old maps, newspaper or Sunday comics, etc. or buy recycled wrapping paper.
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Glencarlyn Kids for Hire

Maggie Buchanan, 16 — Red Cross certified for baby sitting and will pet-sit. — **New phone number— 703-929-4036**
Gage Buchanan, 14 — Lawn Mowing, weed trimming, leaf raking and will pet-sit. — **New phone number— 703-929-4036**
Cassidy Green, 14 — babysitter — (571) 317-4351, greencolleen@gmail.com
Caroline Grotos, 12 - babysitting/mothers helper, dog walking, pet and plant sitting. 703-998-0114, egrotos@msn.com
Mira Hougen, 12, —Babysitting (Red Cross certified), pet sitting, plant sitting, mother's helper. 703-867-2933 (E), 703-867-2934 (K)
Laine Kelly, 13 — babysitting (Red Cross certified), mother's helper, pet sitting/walking. Call or text 703-647-0175
Lindsay Kelly, 16— babysitting, mother's helper, pet sitting/walking, call or text 703-623-6986
Brady Krohl, 10 — dog walking and lawn mowing — 703-824-3535
Paige Lewis, 15 — babysitting. 703-379-2963 or paige@lewisfamily.org; year round
Bryce Lewis, 14 — yard work, snow shoveling, babysitting;— 703-379-2963 or bryce@lewisfamily.org ; year round
Lily Elaina Link, 14 — dog walking, pet sitting, plant watering, babysitting (Red Cross certified) — 571-212-4179.
Braeden List, 15 — babysitting (Red Cross certified), dog walking, pet sitting. 571-279-9020
Harry Wolfson 16 — mowing lawns, dog walking, snow shoveling and baby sitting — 703-820-6191 or 703-419-0840

If you are Glencarlyn resident, high school age or younger and would like to be listed as available for neighborhood jobs, please send your name, age, phone number, and job(s) you would like to perform to the *Village View* at gcaeditorial@gmail.com.
Parents, please provide your contact information to the same e-mail address.

Visit the GCA Website

For additional information about what is going on in the community, photos from various events, and minutes of GCA meetings go to www.glencarlyn.org.

Ideas, News Tips?

The *Village View* is always looking for **articles, stories or photos** about people or activities in the neighborhood or schools. Also needed are events to include in the **calendar**.

If you would like to contribute, send it to the Village View editor at gcaeditorial@gmail.com.

Potomac Area Technology and Computer Society

Members Helping with PCs and Technology since 1978

www.patacs.org

1st & 4th Wednesdays, 7 PM at
 Carlin Hall Community Center

Visitors are always welcome!



KIDS and FAMILY VALENTINE MAKING PARTY

Do you want to create some personal valentines for special people in your life?

Join in the fun at St. John's Church on Sunday, February 12 from 2:30 - 4 pm

There will be lots of material as well as snacks to keep creative juices flowing. **FREE!**

Children 8 and under will need to be accompanied by an adult.

For more info contact familyprograms@stjohnsarlingtonva.org

St. John's Episcopal Church

Sunday Worship Services

8 am and 10 am

415 S. Lexington Street Arlington, VA 22204

Sunday Christian Education

Adults 9 am - Youth 10 am

703-671-6834

stjohnsarlingtonva.org



Activities in the Glencarlyn Neighborhood

[link to the GCA Calendar](http://www.glencarlyn.org) at the www.glencarlyn.org for GCA sponsored events..

Long Branch Nature Center

Call 703-228-6535 for information

Hours

Tuesday through Friday — 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Saturday — 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday — 1 - 5 p.m.

All activities require pre-registration and fill up early. For more information go to the Arlington Parks and Recreation guide the *Snag* at arlingtonparks.us/snag.

Hanssen Spy Talk

Saturday, Feb. 18, 3 - 4:30pm

Adults. Robert Hanssen, an FBI agent, spied for Russia in the nation's capital region for years. Some of his clandestine activities were conducted in Glencarlyn Park. Join us on the anniversary of his capture as we unfold Hanssen's story — including the FBI's surveillance in the park. Meet at the Long Branch Nature Center. **\$7 per person.**

Excursión Bilingüe por el Parque / Bilingual Walk

Sunday, Feb. 26, 1:30 - 3pm

Familias. Bienvenidos a una excursión bilingüe por el parque. Nos encontraremos en el Centro de Naturaleza Long

Branch. Conoceremos a los animales en el centro y caminaremos por el parque para observar y hacer preguntas sobre la naturaleza. Regresaremos al centro de naturaleza para tomar chocolate caliente, té, o café. **Gratis.**

Families are welcome to a bilingual walk in the park. Meet at Long Branch Nature Center to learn about the animals there and hike in the park to observe and ask questions about nature. Hot chocolate, coffee or tea follow the hike. **Free.**

Gulf Branch Nature Center

Call 703-228-3403 for information

Pola Negri Movie Afternoon

Sunday, Feb. 12, 3 - 5pm

Adults and teens ages 14 and up. Pola Negri was a famous silent screen siren. Legend has it she lived at Gulf Branch when it was a private home. Watch her hit movie "Barbed Wire." Refreshments will be served. Meet at Gulf Branch Nature Center. **\$5 fee due upon registration.**

Arlington's Earliest Amphibians

Saturday, Feb. 18, 10 a.m. - 11am

Adults and teens ages 13 and up. Wood frogs, spring peepers and spotted salamanders that have spent the winter

hibernating will soon begin moving to our ponds. Learn about Arlington's amazing amphibians. Meet at Gulf Branch Nature Center. **\$5 fee due upon registration.**

Bird Watching

Saturday, Feb. 4, 8 a.m. - 9:30am

Families with children ages 8 and up. Join a new bird watching series. Visit different birding spots in Arlington throughout the year and build our county bird lists. For birders of all experience levels. Loaner binoculars are available. Meet at Gravelly Point on George Washington Memorial Pkwy, Arlington.

Glencarlyn Library

703-671-6834

Hours

Monday and Thursday 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Tuesday and Wednesday 1 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Closed Sunday

Needlework Group 2nd & 4th

Thursdays - 6:30 p.m.

St John's Episcopal Church

Sunday Service — 8 & 10 a.m.

415 S. Lexington St. 22204

Please Pay Your 2016 - 2017 GCA Dues. Only \$10.

Your dues to the Glencarlyn Citizens' Association help fund the Glencarlyn Day events, holiday parties, picnics, *Village View* newsletter, the glencarlyn.org website, our neighborhood directory and much more. Dues are for July 2016 through June 2017. If you did not pay your dues on Glencarlyn Day please send them in now.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ email _____

Please add me on Glencarlyn Updates since I am not currently getting them _____ (Yes or leave blank)

I would like to volunteer for one of the upcoming Glencarlyn events _____ (Option to add event name)

Make checks payable to **GCA** — send to — Tim Aiken, Treasurer, 111 S. Kensington St., Arlington, VA 22204.

If you aren't sure if you paid, contact Tim at 703-820-0084.