



The Village View

Newsletter of the Glencarlyn Citizens' Association since October 1952

November 2020

Glencarlyn Halloween Trick or Treat Guidance

Follow Arlington County guidance:

<https://newsroom.arlingtonva.us/release/halloween-arlington-covid19-safety/>

We are offering these additional SUGGESTIONS

- **STRONGLY URGE** everyone to Trick or Treat between 4 and 6 pm on Saturday Oct 31st
 - Signs will be posted the week of, letting the neighborhood know about the suggested time.
- **Wear MASKS**
- **Keep 6 ft apart**
- **Distribute candy outside, away from doorway, and use methods that avoid crowding and hand to hand contact.**
 - **Examples:**
 - On a table or blanket at the end of your walkway or driveway
 - From the back of your car (SUV) or trunk in your driveway
 - Through a chute or slide from your porch
- As always-- **It is your choice whether to participate**, to give out candy. As always-you may chose not to.
- Some Trick or Treaters may come later- it is your choice whether to participate after 6 pm

[Pumpkin at right Courtesy Gerald Martineau]



Libby Garvey at Oct GCA: Missing Middle Study, Schooling during COVID & VHC Property Plans

On Monday, October 5, 2020, Arlington County Board Chairperson, Libby Garvey spoke to the GCA via Zoom answering many questions about the county's Missing Middle Study, schooling during the Corona-virus pandemic, the county's work to control stormwater and flooding, and other topics.

Ms. Garvey did not have a formal program, instead she spent her allotted timeframe answering questions sent to her by the GCA.

Arlington County Missing Middle Study

The bulk of the hour was spent on questions regarding the Missing Middle Study. She explained that all neighborhoods in Arlington are being reviewed, not just the smaller R-6 and R-8 neighborhoods. [R-6 and R-8 refer to the size of residential districts. For example Glencarlyn is an R-6, with 6000 sf lot sizes.]

When asked how will the Missing Middle Study allow for reasonably priced homes when land is so valuable within Arlington County and builders can set their own market rates houses, Garvey responded if you want to have different results regarding affordable housing, you need to have different ideas and explore a range

(Continued on page 8)

Recycling Right" at the Nov 2nd GCA meeting

Recycling Specialists from Arlington County's Dept of Environmental Services will teach us how to "Recycle Right" at the Nov 2nd GCA Meeting.

Learn what we can and cannot put in our blue bin to ensure it all will be recycled. And learn more about what we can do to increase the success of recycling. We will be meeting via ZOOM. Sign-on/call-in information will be sent out in the GCA Updates. Mark your calendars for Nov 2nd, 7:30pm and make sure you are signed up for the GCA Updates.



President's Corner

By Julie Lee, GCA President

The Trees Tell a Story



Thanks to the incredible work of the Glencarlyn Tree committee, we now

have a literal road map to explore the rich heritage of our neighborhood trees: <http://glencarlyn.org/tree-committee/>

The magnificence of their size and diversity in our small community is overwhelming. The dogwood, flowering fruit trees and magnolia burst forth with their blossoms in spring and early summer, brightening our world and our spirits after a gray winter. The shower of colors from the giant oaks and maples as their leaves float down in autumn make us want to dance.

What a living legacy they provide. They give us a history lesson both universal and personal. It is said that some of the cedar trees in our neighborhood were here when only Native Americans inhabited what is now Arlington. Called the "Tree of Life," it was revered for its aromatic oil, strength and resistance to disease. We know Glencarlyn has trees dating back to the founding days of our Country. I am still in awe when I think of George Washington walking through our woods. The first president of the United States left his surveyor's mark on trees in what is now Glencarlyn Park. One of them is on display in our Glencarlyn Library. Chestnut trees in the park, killed by the blight, were used to make the poles necessary to bring electricity to Glencarlyn in 1921.



Dawn Redwood Tree planted by Julie's father, John Benn

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GCA Officers

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

President

Julie Lee 808-384-4954

Vice President

Courtney Holmes 202-215-9326

Secretary

Deborah Elkinton 703-347-3174

Treasurer

Tim Aiken 703-820-0084

Neighborhood Contacts

Neighborhood Conservation Delegate

Kathy Reeder 703-820-3933

Civic Federation Delegates

Tim Aiken 703-820-0084

Sue Campbell 703-931-4098

Dixie Duncan 703-919-0570

Rachel Porter 703-304-2267

Peter Olivere (Alt.) 703-626-2520

Jeff Liteman (Alt.) 202-246-5485

Brian Cavey (Alt.) 703-820-0242

Ryan Donlon (Alt.) 443-851-3155

Carlin Hall Reservation

Arl. Parks & Recreation 703-228-1805

Glencarlyn.org Webmaster

Doug LeRoy 703-845-9657

Village View Editors

Tracy & Brandon Hemel 703-998-3188

gcaeditorial@gmail.com

Area Chair/Block Captain Coordinator

Peter Olivere 703-626-2520

Glencarlyn Email Updates

Doug LeRoy 703-845-9657

gcaupdates@glencarlyn.org

Volunteer Coordinator

Julie Lee 808-384-4954

Glencarlyn Web Site

www.glencarlyn.org

Carlin Hall

5711 S. 4th St.

Glencarlyn Luminaria Set for Saturday, Dec. 5th

Plans are moving ahead for the Annual Glencarlyn Luminaria, scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 5th.

The Luminaria packs can be purchased **safely** at Carlin Hall, 5711 4th Street S., between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Dec. 5th. Each 10 candle Luminaria pack, which includes tea candles, white paper bags and sand, costs \$7, and will light the frontage of an average 50 ft lot. **Plan to pay by check or cash.** This is a fundraiser for GCA. We encourage you to pay your GCA dues at the same time. Dues are \$15/household.

As it begins to get dark, usually around 5:30- 6:00 p.m., light your Luminaria, walk the neighborhood, and admire the Luminaria. Even if you won't be placing Luminaria in front of your home, you are encouraged to join in the neighborhood stroll. This is a wonderful family activity and a great opportunity to safely greet your neighbors.



Luminaria in front of 301 S. Kensington Street

[photo courtesy: Gerald Martineau]

Unfortunately, we will not be having the Holiday Party at the Library parking lot this year.

RAINDATE: THIS YEAR WE HAVE SCHEDULED A RAIN DATE OF SAT, DEC 12TH.

Volunteers Needed for Dec 5th Luminaria Sales

Volunteers are needed to make the Dec. 5th Glencarlyn Luminaria a success. Volunteers are needed for sales between 8:30 am and 2:30 pm at Carlin Hall. Three or four volunteers are needed to work each shift of approximately 1.5 hours. Two volunteers will be working inside Carlin Hall, packaging and selling the Luminaria packs. One or two volunteers will work outside bagging sand.

Also, because we have scheduled a rain date for Sat. Dec 12th, we need volunteers to sign up for the rain date as well. If you can work either day, sign up for both, if you can only help on one day, sign up for that day. Of course, you will only have to work one day. Volunteers can sign up to help for both the scheduled day (5th) and the rain date (12th) by using the Sign-up Genius at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084BAEAC2DA2FE3-gcaluminaria3>

or by contacting Julie Lee at jfblee@aol.com or 808-384-4954.

President's Corner *(Continued from page 2)*

There are the personal stories. Long-time resident and story teller David Backus wrote how he and his brothers and others in the neighborhood built a variety of tree forts. One fort was 70 ft up in an old oak tree, with "steps" made by nailing wood from old shipping containers into the side of the tree. (Disclaimer- do not try this at home today!)

Wonderful hours have been spent on backyard swings which hung from strong branches of majestic trees. And there were those trees just perfect for climbing. Those of us of a certain age remember raking huge piles of leaves and then jumping in them, only to have to rake them back up again. It was a family activity culminating with a big leaf burn. (Disclaimer- do not try this at home today!)

We have lost so many of our trees. In springtime, the white clouds of the blooming wild dogwood were literally everywhere in Glencarlyn park until a fungus killed them off in the 1980s. We lost most, if not all, of our magnificent chestnuts and elms to blight and disease. My mother had to chase off poachers who were cutting down walnut trees for their valuable wood.

The unfortunate part is, as the neighborhood and the park continue to lose trees due to erosion, development and other reasons, most of us do not even realize what we are missing. We need to stop and look around us, and look up. We benefit immensely from our trees. We must appreciate what we have, protect our trees and plant more. My father planted a dawn redwood sapling in the front yard of the house he and my mother built on 3rd St, on property where his grandfather had a small farm and where he grew up. Now, over 50 years later, his grandchildren admire that towering tree. Think what could happen if each of us nurtures a tree.

How to Stop the White Tail Deer from Destroying our Local Habitat at the Dec 7th GCA meeting



The numbers of white tail deer in Northern Virginia are so high today that they are endangering our forests and destroying habitat for other wildlife.

Our speaker at the Monday, Dec 7th GCA Meeting is Bill Browning, a certified Virginia Master Naturalist. Bill has lived in Arlington since 1988 and is passionate about rehabilitating our local forests and making them better habitats for native flora and fauna.



In this presentation, we will learn about the implications of continuing to ignore the increasing deer population, especially in Northern Virginia, and what it means for our parks, forests, and neighborhood. We will also discuss how some of our neighboring jurisdictions have chosen to approach the problem.

Plan to attend, via ZOOM, the Dec 7th GCA meeting at 7:30pm.

[Deer photos courtesy Gerald Martineau]

PLEASE PAY YOUR 2020-21 GCA DUES.

Dues are \$15 per household.

The form and instructions are on the back page of this Village View.

You can now pay your dues online.

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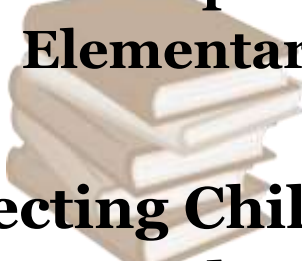


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For more information, email Simon De Groot (degroots@erols.com).

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Neighborhood Conservation (NC) Update

By Kathy Reeder, Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee Delegate

2nd St. S. (S. Lexington to S. Kensington)/S. Kensington St. (1st St. to 2nd St.) NC Street Improvement Project

Trees will be planted this fall at various locations in the project area. Jill Yutan, the county's NC Program Landscape Architect, is coordinating the tree installation. The No Parking sign at the north end of S. Kensington St. will be replaced with the correct bi-directional sign. These two actions will complete the project.

Although not included in the project's original design, a resident recently requested an additional No Parking sign on 2nd St. S. to help prevent parking on the south side of the street. This request is now with the county's Customer Care and Communication group for follow up.

4th St. S. (S. Kensington to S. Illinois) NC Street Improvement Project

Summer 2021 continues to be the estimated timing for the start of construction.

Property owners in the project area should return the Temporary Easement and Construction Agreements (TECA) to the County Real Estate Specialist if they have not already done so.

As more information is available on contractor selection and construction timing, it will be communicated in the Village View and on Glencarlyn.org, under the NC Activities tab.

The Final Design Review presentation is available at <https://projects.arlingtonva.us/projects/4th-street-south/> under "Documents and Plans." Please contact Laura Simpson (lsimpson@arlingtonva.us) or Kathy Reeder (kathleenreeder@comcast.net) with any questions about the project.

What Clients Say About Anne Cronin & Linda Murphy

"Anne and Linda were wonderful to work with. They are very diligent and excellent Realtors. Always offering sound advice and guiding me through the entire purchase process. I purchased a condo site unseen during COVID-19 restrictions and they were absolutely awesome! I highly recommend them!" -Buyer Client

It's never too early, or too late, to start planning your next move. Please contact us if you, or a family member or friend, need a caring, competent, and informed real estate professional.



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View from the Garden

The Lure of the Lawn

By Wendy Mills, Extension Master Gardener

[Photos Courtesy: Wendy Mills]

For 28 years I've lived in Arlington in a one-story, red-brick rambler on a quarter-acre of land. Over the years, the house has changed and so, too, has the yard. Perhaps no change is more pronounced than this one: The amount of turf grass in my garden has shrunk to a fraction of what it originally was. No longer the focal point of the front and back yards, turf grass now is balanced by a much greater plant palette of perennials, small trees, vegetables and summer annuals.

My decision to remove most of the turf grass from my yard germinated over many years and after learning about the state of the nation's lands and waters. What's the connection? Our love affair with our lawns – with a thick green carpet of grass, free of weeds – comes at a steep cost to the environment.



Original landscape of front yard in 1992

Water/Pollution

Across the United States, an estimated 40 million acres, an area the size of Wisconsin, are covered in turf grass. Each year Americans soak their lawns with enough water to fill the Chesapeake Bay and use about 2.4 million metric tons of fertilizer to maintain it. A survey conducted by the National Association of Landscape Professionals found that 64% of Americans falsely believe their grass needs to be fertilized every spring. When we apply too much fertilizer to our lawns, nutrients get washed away by sprinklers and rain water. The polluted run-off finds its way into local waterways, such as the Potomac River, which is the source of drinking water for over five million people in the DC metro area.

Although the Potomac is advancing toward its reduction goals for nitrogen and phosphorus, Virginia is falling behind. According to the Potomac Conservancy, urban and suburban runoff, including pollution from lawn fertilizers and pesticides, is among the fastest growing major sources of water pollution. The problem is made worse by climate change. The Chesapeake Bay Foundation warns that with more frequent and intense storms, larger volumes of water are traveling at higher velocities over our landscapes, overwhelming the capacity of our lawns to absorb it and inundating storm drains and waterways, wreaking havoc.

Naturalizing Our Communities

The dominant landscape feature, especially in our suburbs and ex-urbs, turf-grass visually connects communities and is restful to the eye. When ranking home features, a nice-size lawn continues to be a top priority. But the lure of the lawn obscures a basic fact: Where we now grow grass there was once forest. Why is this important? Because turf-grass is non-native to the United States and includes species that often are poorly adapted to our different climates and soils. This is why our lawns often need supplemental irrigation, fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides to stay green and grow all summer.

In the words of acclaimed entomologist Douglas Tallamy, monocultures like turf-grass are “biological deserts.” At a time when nearly one million species are at risk of extinction due to habitat loss, according to a landmark UN assessment (2019), even we homeowners of humble acreage have a role to play in slowing this crisis. By increasing plant diversity, preferably with native plants, we bolster a web of life that provides, at the macro level, everything humans need to survive – food, medicines, fiber, and energy. At the garden level that means more bees, butterflies and birds; more flowers, fruits and vegetables. As Tallamy says, “because it is we who decide what plants will grow in our gardens, the responsibility for our nation's biodiversity lies largely with us. Which animals will make it and which will not? We help make this decision every time we plant or remove something from our yards.”

We all want clean drinking water, safe places to recreate, as well as healthy waterways and lands for fish and wildlife. As a first step, sustainably managing your existing turf grass is essential. As a next step, consider reducing the amount of turf-grass in your yard or replacing it altogether with native ground covers and more varied plantings. These steps will boost the absorptive capacity of your landscape, reduce polluting run-off, and connect the place you call home to the natural world that needs your help.

For information on sustainable lawn maintenance, check out <https://mgnv.org/fall-lawn-care-video/>
For information on alternatives to turf grass, see <https://mgnv.org/turf-grass-alternatives-2020-video/>

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County Board Chair Garvey at October GCA Meeting *(Continued from page 1)*

of styles of housing.

The Missing Middle Study is not about “middle class housing” but exploring housing types between single family housing and high rises. Over 90% of housing built in Arlington in the past ten years were high rise apartments and the county is searching for housing types that would work based on needs and locations within the county and then changing the zoning to fit those needs.

Missing Middle and School Crowding

With overcrowding in many of Arlington’s public schools, Garvey was asked how can we provide schools for new families moving in? Her response mentioned how with the Coronavirus pandemic, APS has the opportunity to reimagine schooling and to assess new ways to deliver education to various types of students and learning methods. She concluded this response by saying “We think that after the pandemic, we will find new ways for schools and students to learn and we are tying ourselves in knots trying to meet the old education model.”

Protecting the Tree Canopy and Stormwater Management

When asked for ways the county can save mature trees on privately owned land, Libby’s response that the county board does not have the ability to prevent private owners or developers from taking down mature trees and replacing them with smaller trees during construction. However, they are looking for ways to incentivize or give credits to developers to save trees when properties are rebuilt.

In the 1940’s and 1950’s, many of Arlington’s creeks and streams were put underground and properties were built on floodplains without future concerns of heavy rains or floods. The county is looking into a multipronged approach regarding stormwater management including building large underground cisterns and zoning changes to prevent housing being built with basements in areas where flooding is possible.

Virginia Hospital Center Site

Garvey and county staff members recently toured the site with Steve Young, Julie Lee, Kathy Reeder and others to review the current site plan and future needs. Phase one of the demolition plan is the mothballing of the building and phase two is the actual demolition. There is no money in the budget at this time for phase two and it may take a while for activity to be done with the site. Still, they are looking for ways to preserve the natural and historical resources and the Arlington County Parks representatives are looking forward to cleaning up the Moses Ball Spring and stream area.

Ms. Garvey concluded by mentioning the county’s new chief Race and Equity Officer, Samia Byrd, also the Deputy County Manager. She is currently working on staff and county-wide round tables on equity and reviewing police practices.

Garvey reminded the attendees that the County Board is still doing Virtual Open Door Mondays and you can register to attend at this url: <https://countyboard.arlingtonva.us/open-door-monday-rsvp/>. You can also visit <https://my.arlingtonva.us/projects> to see status on projects throughout the county.



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The Glencarlyn Facebook group is NOT AFFILIATED with the Glencarlyn Citizens' Association

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 your submission to *The Village View* editor at gcaeditorial@gmail.com. Just remember the **Five Ws**: Who, What, When, Where, Why, and How.

August was a very strong month for sales activity, continuing the rebound that began in June. Some of that increase is attributable to ongoing, pent-up demand that has lingered since the spring buying season was derailed by COVID. But there also are indications that the local (and national) homes market has momentum of its own. Home-sales activity that was paused this spring was unleashed over the summer as buyers returned in force. But where they have returned is interesting – the Virginia market has seen stronger sales activities in rural and exurban corridors than in close-in suburbs and urban areas. The ability to work from home along with concerns about COVID-19 in dense areas, may be pushing home-buyers to seek out communities where you can get more home for the money along with space for home offices, virtual classrooms and a home gym.

The absorption rate, a strong metric for

demand, has almost always been higher in D.C. and Arlington than in Fairfax and Loudoun Counties. An absorption rate of 1.0 equals one home under contract for every home listed for sale and greater than 1.0 means homes are going off the market faster than they're being put in the market.

In recent months there has been a dramatic increase in the absorption rate in Fairfax and Loudoun Counties since June, far outpacing the D.C. and Arlington markets.

Arlington's condo market has shifted in the last few months as historically high volumes of condos have come to market and demand has tapered off. Single family houses remain the hottest commodity of choice.

Are you living in your ideal home now? If you are thinking of a new lifestyle, I'm glad to help with some strategic planning. Contact me for a discussion.



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Arlington County has not determined a date for reopening the library but everyone can visit the Arlington Public Library website:

<https://library.arlingtonva.us/>

The website has been redesigned to focus on all the awesome eContent that is there. Lots of great sites for kids and families plus some new content coming online everyday.

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Darragh Cahill, 12 - soccer coach for kids, mother’s helper, yard work & plant sitting – 703 772-2982 (Fiona), davejcahill@hotmail.com
Lucas Codispoti, 16 -babysitting, walking & care of dogs/cats & general yard work. – 703-310-8715
Elise Eclarinal, 12 – mother’s helper, 703-772-4429.
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Lydia Grotos, 10—plant and pet sitting, mother’s helper. - 703 998-0114, egrotos@msn.com
Alex Hemel, 16 – pet sitting, dog walking & plant watering. – 703 629-8004 (Tracy) tscoles@aol.com
John Hougen, 13 – parent’s helper, babysitting, dog walking, pet and plant sitting. – 703 867-2933 (Eric), 703 867-2934 (Kate)
Mira Hougen, 16 – babysitting (Red cross certified), pet sitting, plant sitting & mother’s helper. – 703 867-2933 (Eric), 703 867-2934 (Kate)
Max Jamieson, 16- babysitting/mother’s helper, pet care & yard work – 703 402-8162 (Max) 703 819-3074 (Missy).
Will Jamieson, 15 - babysitting/mother’s helper, pet care & yard work. - 703 819-3074 (Missy).
Laine Kelly, 16 - babysitting (Red Cross certified), mother’s helper & pet sitting/walking. Call or text – 703 647-0175
Jack Kingston, 18 —soccer coach for kids. –703 933-1080 csc.coyne@gmail.com.
Maggie Kingston, 14 – babysitting, mother’s helper. 703 933-1080 csc.coyne@gmail.com.
Brady Krohl, 14 – lawn mowing/yard work, pet sitting & babysitting.- 703 347-3026 (Brady), 703 862-4938 (Chandi), chandikrohl@hotmail.com
Logan Krohl, 12 – mother’s helper, lawn mowing, pet sitting, plant sitting & yard work.- 703 862-4938 (Chandi) chandikrohl@hotmail.com
Ashley Link, 13 – plant watering, house sitting, pet sitting, dog walking & mother’s helper.- 571 212-4179 erinroblink@aol.com
Maya McCarthy, 16- babysitting (Red Cross certified) & pet sitting. Call/text – 703 400-9440 mayamccarthy208@gmail.com
Simon Oliver, 14- babysitting (Red Cross certified), sports classes, plant watering, basic bike repair - 702-401-1260, theminigobert@gmail.com
Jack Oliver, 12 – basic bike repair and maintenance, dog walking - 703-220-0951 , luanncoliver@gmail.com (LuAnn)
Lilly Pina, 14—babysitting, dog/pet sitting & mother's helper. Cell: 703-867-8587 (mom's cell), lynnypina@yahoo (mom's email)
Ellie Trumpheller, 15—babysitting (Red Cross certified) with references, Dog walking/sitting 571 214-2019 or 571-379-6070 El-lie.trump@icloud.com or lynne.trumpheller@gmail.com

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.



Please Pay Your 2020 - 2021 GCA Dues - \$15



Use your smart phone’s QR reader to scan & go directly to our website

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 2020 through June 2021.

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.

Or visit glencarlyn.org to pay online.

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

