



The Village View

Newsletter of the Glencarlyn Citizens' Association since October 1952

February 2021

County Board Member Takis Karantonis to Speak at Feb 1st GCA Meeting

GCA welcomes the newest member of the Arlington County Board, Takis Kanantonis to our Feb 1st meeting. CB member Karantonis will share his vision for Arlington and discuss issues important to him and to Glencarlyn. He will also answer our questions and address our concerns.

Besides his seat on the Arlington County Board, Karantonis is also a Senior Technical Advisor for the Microloan Program at the Enterprise Development Group of the Ethiopian Community Development Center in Arlington. From 2009-2016 he served as Executive Director of the Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization (CPRO). During his tenure, Mr. Karantonis focused on implementing a place-making agenda throughout the Pike Corridor, engaging in policy and advocacy with an emphasis on transportation, land-use, housing, retail and economic development.

Please plan to join GCA and Mr. Karantonis on Monday Feb 1st, 7:30 pm, via ZOOM.

You MUST SUGN UP for the GCA UPDATES to receive the ZOOM link. Sign up by emailing your name and house address to:
gcaupdates@glencarlyn.org



Luminaria and holiday lights in front of the Costello family home
 [Photo Courtesy Gerald Martineau]

Samia Byrd, Chief Race and Equity Officer, Deputy County Manager Joins the March 1st GCA Meeting



Samia Byrd, the Chief Race and Equity Officer, Deputy County Manager, for Arlington County will be the speaker at the March 1st GCA meeting. Ms. Byrd leads the County's work to advance racial equity, diversity and inclusion both internal and external to the organization. This includes guiding and facilitating the development and implementation of important policies and practices through a racial equity lens.

Please plan to join GCA and Ms. Byrd on Monday Mar 1st, 7:30 pm, via ZOOM.

Need Help Shoveling Your Sidewalk? Willing to Help Shovel?

Arlington County's Snow Removal Ordinance "requires all Arlington residents to clear snow and ice from public sidewalks adjacent to their property within 24 hours after the end of the storm for snowfalls of less than 6 inches, or 36 hours for those greater than 6 inches."

If you are unable to shovel your sidewalk this winter and will need help, please contact us NOW, so we can plan to get someone to help you. If you are willing to help clear sidewalks for those unable to do it themselves, please volunteer now. We can use your help. Please remember, the priority of the shovelers is to clear the public sidewalks. We will then try to assist those that are unable to clear their walkway and stoop. Contact Julie Lee 808-384-4954 or jfblee@aol.com.

President's Corner



By Julie Lee, GCA President
Moving Forward

What a beautiful sight it was to see the streets of Glencarlyn aglow with luminaria in December. The weather cooperated and more families participated than ever before. Everyone enjoyed being part of something that lifted our spirits and brought 2020 to a close. As you read this Village View, many of Glencarlyn's senior citizens will have received their first COVID-19 vaccinations and the rest of us will not be far behind. This is certainly a promising

start to the New Year.

It goes without saying that making plans during covid was difficult. As we cautiously look ahead, the GCA is confident that we will be able to have Glencarlyn Day, in June or possibly a little later in the year. We would also like to schedule other activities that will bring us out and together as a community. I hope we retain some of the positive aspects added to our routine during covid and incorporate them into our lifestyles as things "return to normal." We must continue to get outside and appreciate our Glencarlyn Park, Long Branch Nature Center, and Library Community Garden. We must insist that the County open Glencarlyn Library as soon as possible. Our library serves not only our neighborhood, but many in surrounding communities who are the least served in the County. And we must continue to look out for each other.

After 37 years, Ann and Jim Connell are leaving Glencarlyn, and it is with a heavy heart that we bid farewell to these longtime, committed Glencarlyn residents. They have given so much and will be sorely missed. Ann served for several years as President of the Glencarlyn Citizens' Association, one of the few women to do so. She also served as GCA Secretary, Civic Federation Delegate and Neighborhood Conservation Delegate. Her invaluable work prevented a major expansion in the 1990s of what was then Northern Virginia Doctors Hospital (now VHC) on S. Carlin Springs Rd. She and Jim were ardent Glencarlyn Day volunteers. Ann was instrumental in establishing the Arlington Neighborhood Villages in Glencarlyn, which helps MANY of our older residents remain safely in their homes. She has been a staunch advocate and lobbyist for Glencarlyn Library, fighting annually to ensure it remains open and properly funded. Ann has been a Village View Area Captain and Block Captain for decades. She also served as the unofficial neighborhood historian, providing me with notebooks filled with all of the Village Views dating back to 1987.

There is more that Ann has done that I don't know about, because that is the kind of person she is. When we planned to do an article, she graciously asked that we not, stating that there are so many new members of the community that don't even know who she and Jim are. She said it would be best if they just quietly moved on, without drawing

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GCA Officers

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

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Vice President

Courtney Holmes 202-215-9326

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Treasurer

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Civic Federation Delegates

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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

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Village View Editors

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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's AFAC Food Drive

Your donations are really making a difference for the more than 2400 needy families which receive distributions each week from Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC). So, keep up the good work and remember AFAC and these items when grocery shopping (no glass jars, please):

- Low sodium canned tuna, chicken, vegetables, beans, soup, tomatoes (diced, paste, sauce)
- peanut butter
- pasta and rice
- low sugar cereal

Our food donation numbers continue to increase. Donations to date now total 6179 pounds!

Many thanks for all who keep the less fortunate in your hearts.

Glencarlyn has two drop-off locations:

- 5520 4th Street South (curbside box; not available when raining)
- 5612 5th Road South, porch box.

Monetary contributions can be made via the AFAC website: AFAC.org.

Sparrow Pond Project Community Meeting Thursday, February 4 at 6PM

Sparrow Pond, located in Glencarlyn Park, off of the W&OD trail, was originally constructed in 2001-02. Over time, the pond has filled in with sediment. The restoration was identified as part of the 2012-13 Watershed Retrofit Study, and funding was allocated for design through the Capital Improvement Program in 2018.

- See plans for the sediment forebay, pond footprint, construction access, and planting plan
- Learn more about the water quality benefit and habitat features
- Provide input on the draft design

To learn more about the meeting, including link, and the Sparrow Pond Project go to:

<https://environment.arlingtonva.us/events/sparrow-pond-community-meeting/>

The project goals are to restore the pond to the original depth by removing sediment, add a sediment collection forebay to allow easier maintenance and sediment removal, maximize water quality benefits, and restore habitat.

Feel free to share any questions, comments, or feedback about the Sparrow Pond project by emailing:

lwhitesell@arlingtonva.us



Top : Mallard Swimming in Sparrow Pond
Lower : Trees Chewed by Sparrow Pond's Beavers
Photos Courtesy Gerald Martineau

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

attention. However, I believe it is exactly because there are new people in our community that we must draw attention. It is important that everyone recognize the work done by some of our longtime residents, and the void created when they move on. Truly, no one person can fill Ann's shoes. But if we all step up and do our part, we will be a better community. For decades of service to Glencarlyn (and beautiful holiday lights), we say a heartfelt "Thank you!" and wish Jim and Ann decades of happiness and good health in their new home.

Carlin Springs Elementary

Collecting Children's Books

Share your pre-loved books with our students! We are collecting new and gently used children's books for students in Pre-K through 5th grade.

Donation box is located by the front doors of Carlin Springs Elementary
5995 5th Rd. S

or contact Carol Sabatino at
carol.sabatino@apsva.us



Get Free Help With Your Wayward English Ivy

English ivy chokes trees as it climbs the trunks, damaging bark and robbing soil around trees of needed nutrients. It also replaces native plants that feed the birds and wildlife who live in Northern Virginia, thereby upsetting the ecology. As a result, English ivy is identified nationwide as an invasive species. It is so pervasive in Glencarlyn that few homeowners remain entirely rid of it, and only after years of effort.

To improve the health of Glencarlyn's mature tree canopy, trained members of the neighborhood tree committee, and other neighborhood residents experienced in invasive removal techniques, will volunteer to remove English ivy from Glencarlyn homeowners' trees during work days to be held in February and early March, 2021.

Homeowners will be present during sessions of about one hour with one or two volunteers. Participants will wear masks and observe social distancing. Materials and equipment will be provided; debris will be placed in county waste cans for curbside disposal on the next garbage day.

To make an appointment for your home, please email Nancy M. Davis at nmdaviswriter@aol.com with your name and contact information.

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Luminaria at 5627 S. 4th St. Home of Clarke-Neun family.

[Photo Courtesy Gerald Martineau]

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

Visit our Website: Glencarlyn.org

The Glencarlyn Facebook group is not affiliated with the Glencarlyn Citizens' Association

Neighborhood Conservation (NC) Update

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

The NC Street Improvement project is now complete. The requested additional No Parking sign on 2nd St. S. has been installed.

The cooperation of all residents during this lengthy project is greatly appreciated!

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 their 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.

GCA Meeting Recap—Deer in Arlington County

Virginia Master Naturalists Bill Browning and Steve Young spoke about Arlington's white tailed deer population and potential ways for Arlington County to mitigate overpopulation at the December 7 GCA meeting.

Currently, the local deer population doubles every two years. Deer have no predators in Northern Virginia and they have acclimated to the current mix of housing and wooded park areas with plentiful food. Without population control efforts, Arlington is the perfect habitat for deer to thrive.

Deer can eat five to seven pounds of vegetation per day and eat nearly any vegetation from eight feet high down to ground level. Thus both stopping growth on trees at those levels and eating any new plantings as it comes up. This has led to habitat loss for songbirds and small mammals. Additionally, deer browsing had undermined Arlington's investment in new parks as new plantings are often damaged by deer.

Arlington County has not done a deer census to approximate total population in the county, although they have promised to do so when updating their Forestry and Natural Resources plan. Please see this website, <https://projects.arlingtonva.us/fnrp-overview-and-timeline/>, for a project overview and timeline.

The Arlington Master Naturalist program encourages residents to contact Arlington County officials and request a wildlife management program that is consistent with surrounding jurisdictions. Currently, Loudon and Fairfax Counties and Washington DC have had safely managed hunts to control the deer population using both hired sharpshooters and licensed hunters.

If you would like more information deer overpopulation in Arlington county and their effect on the environment, please visit <https://armn.org/2020/05/09/white-tailed-deer-and-forest-health-in-northern-virginia/>.

To reach Arlington County officials , please email countryboard@arlingtonva.us and countymanager@arlingtonva.us.

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

Winter: The Quiet Season

By Wendy Mills, Certified Extension Master Gardener

[Photos Courtesy: Jakayla Toney]

On a recent walk at Long Branch park, I noted that the last of the redbud's heart-shaped leaves had fallen. Naked branches etched the gray sky while the purling of the stream echoed in the still, quiet air. Winter, the season of dormancy, is here.

Just as you might feel the pull of the couch, comfy blankets, and carbohydrate-rich foods, much of the natural world around us is reacting to the loss of light and decrease in temperatures by pausing growth and minimizing metabolic activity to conserve energy.

Walking in the woods, we see the culmination of this annual adaptive process, choreographed by plants' biological clocks that tell them when to begin preparing their soft tissues for freezing temperatures and the water and nutrient shortages to come. Leaves are shed and above ground foliage dies back while life continues underground in the roots and core of perennial plants.

The natural world is replete with plants that spend part of each year in a state of dormancy. Seeds, for instance, contain a complete embryo along with a reserve food supply within their hard coverings. When they fall to the soil in late summer and autumn, they lie in wait. Were they to germinate so late in the season, the new growth wouldn't survive the winter.

The foliage of bulbs, like tulips and daffodils, dies back after spring flowering leaving the bulbs hidden underground, where they store up energy for next year's growth and bloom. Evergreens that keep their green leaves or needles during winter also slow or stop growing. Even houseplants that are subject to a stable temperature can be susceptible to the shortened days. Less sunlight means less time for energy-producing photosynthesis which enables plants to grow and reproduce. This is why most houseplants can get by on less water in the winter.

Winter is a good time to prune many plants. In general, if the plant blooms on new growth it can be pruned in winter before the new season's growth begins. Before winter's end, the Master Gardeners at the Glencarlyn Library Garden will prune the beautyberries, roses, red twig dogwood, summersweet, hollies, spirea and our Harry Lauder's walking stick. We'll cut back to a "healthy bud"—a dormant bud that is not growing now but could when the conditions are right.



Unlike plants, people move when their surroundings become uncomfortable. But not so in this pandemic year with its restrictions on mobility. In this quiet season, I personally feel drawn to the cocoon of home with a soft blanket and good book. We like to think of ourselves as separate from the natural world—answering to the call of a different wild—but a new study in *L'Anthropologie* reports that bones found at a fossil site in northern Spain suggest that our hominid predecessors may have dealt with extreme cold thousands of years ago by sleeping through the winter. Perhaps the inner call to rest is a message from our primordial past reminding us of our interconnectedness with the natural world.

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As we all continue to face the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, our first priority is the health of our clients and community. We are also committed to supporting our clients, past and present, in the best way we can. If you are still wanting to buy, sell, or rent, we are here to support you through life's biggest transaction. We have adapted and adjusted our practices so that we can work together to do that in the safest way possible. I'm always available for any of your real estate needs, questions or concerns.

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www.facebook.com/GaryFitzGibbon.Realtor

In Virginia we vote every year!

The next general election will be November 2, 2021. On the ballot will be the offices of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, House of Delegates, County Board (1 seat), and School Board (1 seat). Primaries will tentatively take place on June 8.

If you are not yet registered to vote at your current address, you must register by 21 days before the primary or general election. Check the county's voter website for information on how to register to vote, or how to request an absentee ballot by mail. <http://www.vote.arlingtonva.us>.

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.

The housing market has seen record-breaking growth since June after briefly put on hold during the outbreak of the pandemic this spring. Despite looming economic uncertainty, highly controversial elections, and the aggravated spread of the pandemic, home buyers continued to snatch up the relatively few homes listed for sale. This time the housing market is largely being driven by two factors: a shortage of available housing inventory and extremely low-interest rates.

Double-digit annual growth in both list and sale prices show an extreme lack of inventory and incredible demand - A sign of a hot seller's real estate market. Home sales have risen to a 14-year high. Speedy home sales continue in all regions of the country and the median sales price continues to have double-digit growth. November, which marks the traditional slowdown of the housing market, remained a hyperactive month. December was more active than normal

and the flow of buyers and sellers remained abnormally high in the 4th quarter. Not only the housing demand but the supply of new listings has also reached the highest point since the onset of the pandemic.

In Northern Virginia, November's 2020 average price was at \$685,445 (up 9.52%) and sales were up 33.43% from November 2019. Arlington's average price was \$862,232 (up 18.61%) and sales were up \$28.9%.

Current 30-year fixed rates are in the 2.5% to 2.75% range. Last year at this time, 30-year rates were at 3.85%.

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.

Who you hire matters - put my 36 years of local Arlington market expertise to work for you and your largest financial investment!



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Arlington County has not determined a date for reopening the Glencarlyn Branch 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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Glencarlyn Kids for Hire

Mandy Boiani, 10 – mother's helper. – 703-635-6762

Gage Buchanan, 17 - lawnmowing. – 703 929-4036, jbuchanan@wgsoffice.com

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.

Holly Porter & Gabby Colston, 11 – Mother's helper, plant sitting, dog walking & pet feeding.- 571-215-0922.

Caroline Grotos. 16- babysitter, dog walking, pet & plant sitting.- 703 998-0114, egrotos@msn.com

Lydia Grotos, 10—babysitter and parent helper, dog walking, 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

Luke Hiers, 11—pet sitting—206 321 2853, christyhiers@gmail.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

Ellie.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.

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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.

