



Carlin Hall

The Village View

Next
GCA
Meeting:
Monday
Oct. 6th
7:30 p.m.
Carlin Hall

Newsletter of the Glencarlyn Citizens' Association since October 1952

OCTOBER 2008

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Voting Registration Deadline Nears

Avoid the long lines by voting in advance

By Jeff Liteman

The deadline for registering to vote in the upcoming presidential election is **Monday, Oct. 6. Here's what you need to know to register:**

- If you have the same name and are living at the same address as the last time you voted, you don't need to do anything.
- You must register or reregister, however, if you have moved (even within the county or the same precinct) or changed your name. You also must register if you have newly become eligible to vote, either because you will have become 18 years of age by Nov. 4 or have become a citizen since the last election.

• You can register in person at the Arlington Office of Voter Registration, 2100 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 320. Or you can

get a registration form by calling the office at 703-228-3456 or download the form at <http://www.arlingtonva.us/vote>. You also can obtain a form in this neighborhood from Jeff or Marianne Liteman (703-575-4412). Fill it out and mail it back prior to Oct. 6.

Avoiding Long Lines

Are you unable to vote in person, or do you want to vote early and avoid long lines on Election Day? Arlington County election officials are encouraging every citizen to vote in the November general election and have made it easy for voters **to cast their ballots in advance ("absentee voting in person") or by mail.**

Arlingtonians can take advantage of either form of absentee voting if they:

(Continued on page 4)

October GCA Meeting to Discuss Power Outages

It will be some time before we forget the June 4 storm that damaged homes and trees and wiped out power in much of the neighborhood. Did you wonder why some houses did not lose power, while others were without power longer than most?

Don't be left in the dark. At the Oct. 6 meeting of the Glencarlyn Citizens' Association, a technical representative from Dominion Power will discuss the power grid in Glencarlyn and explain why certain areas have power restored first. He also will explain what to do if you have specific medical requirements to get power restored more quickly.

The meeting is being held at Carlin Hall (5711 S. 4th St.) and begins promptly at 7:30 p.m.

Photo by Gerald Martineau



Construction Completed at Poplar Pond

With the help of some heavy equipment, Poplar Pond has been restored just in time for Long Branch Nature Center's upcoming birthday celebration on Wednesday, Nov. 12. See page 3 for event details.

Village Notes

By Pete Olivere

Summary of Crime Update

At the September meeting, our guests were Capt. Michelle Nuneville, Commander 3rd District, and Sgt. Mark Jenkins, both from the Arlington County Police Department. Capt. Nuneville discussed criminal activity in Glencarlyn during the past year, explaining what neighbors can and should do.

In the past 12 months, there have been 59 larcenies in the Glencarlyn reporting area, which includes the nursing home, schools, and 7-Eleven. Larceny from cars accounted for about 25 of these larcenies. Of these, 12 were between June 10 and Aug. 31. Hot items are portable Global Positioning System (GPS) receivers, tools

GCA Officers

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President	
Peter Olivere	703-820-0067
Vice President	
Anthony Hardenburgh	703-629-4180
Secretary	
Sheridan Swope	703-671-5046
Treasurer	
Tim Aiken	703-820-0084

Neighborhood Contacts

Neighborhood Conservation Delegate	
Peter Olivere	703-820-0067
Alternate (Unfilled)	
Civic Federation Delegates	
John Shepherd	703-671-1789
Peter Olivere	703-820-0067
Marc Pina	703-824-7554
Unfilled 4th Delegate	
Anna Belousovitch (Alt.)	703-845-9657
Doug Leroy (Alt.)	703-845-9657
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Glencarlyn Web Site
<http://www.glencarlyn.org>

Carlin Hall
5711 S. 4th St.

Halloween Party

Frightening good time planned for Glencarlyn kids

Glencarlyn's annual Halloween Party for the neighborhood's younger ghosts and goblins will be held Saturday, Oct. 25, from 3-5:00 p.m. at Carlin Hall. We will have snacks, activities and other fun things. Parent volunteers are needed to help with the party. Contact Anthony or Teri Hardenburgh at 703-629-4180



from construction vehicles, iPods, laptops, cell phones, and other items left in cars.

Capt. Nuneville recommended that you not leave anything in your car. Anything visible, including suction cup marks on a windshield from a GPS receiver, substantially increases the likelihood of an auto break-in.

Arlington police have placed two "bait cars" in our area to catch thieves in the act of stealing items from the car or stealing the car itself.

There have also been seven incidents of vehicular vandalism during the same June to August period, ranging from breaking windows to scraping the car without taking anything.

Other crime statistics for the past 12 months include three aggravated assaults, all in the schools; six burglaries (breaking and entering into a house); four robberies, including the 7-Eleven; and nine vehicle thefts.

Residents are asked to be on the alert and call 703-558-2222, the Arlington police non-emergency number, to report suspicious activity. Put that number on your cell phone speed dial so if you see something while out walking you can call.

Other things you can do are 1) make sure all doors and windows, especially those on the first floor, are closed and locked when you are not home; and 2) install motion sensors on outside lights, particularly in dark back or side yards.

Capt. Nuneville said that a top crime in the 3rd District is identity theft, so be very careful with your personal information.

Follow-up on 4th Street Fire

The Arlington County Fire Marshal has completed its investigation of the fire at 5525 4th St. South that tragically claimed the life of Wayne Miller. The report concluded that a faulty electric blanket started the fire and that there were no working fire detectors in the house.

Volunteers Needed

The GCA is hoping to add some additional neighborhood activities this the year. But to do that, we need volunteers to help with these currently planned activities:

Glencarlyn Winter Holiday Party

The Glencarlyn winter holiday party will be held the afternoon of Sunday, Dec. 21, at the Carlin Springs Elementary multi-purpose room.

We would like the party to reflect a celebration of all the winter holidays, including Christmas, Chanukah, Kwanza, and the Vietnamese/Chinese and western New Year. We need volunteers to help with this effort, including the party activities, decorations and snacks.

Luminaria

We need volunteers to help plan, purchase and sell materials for the Saturday, Dec. 20 Luminaria.

Block Captains

We need Block Captains to help deliver the Village View to several blocks in the neighborhood. Although it is easier to have someone from the block serve in that role, we invite anyone to volunteer. We deliver 10 issues a year. Captains for the following blocks are needed: the townhouses on Manchester Street; the townhouses on Montague Street; and the townhouses on Montana Street.

IT Expertise

Doug LeRoy has been prodding and tugging the GCA over the past several years to use electronic communications more effectively. As we progress, we frequently find unexpected issues, such as email sent through a list getting flagged as spam by various service providers. If you have some familiarity with these kinds of issues, we would like some help on how best to deal with them.

If you would like to help on these or any other activities, please contact gca_exec@glencarlyn.org or Pete Olivere at 703-626-2520 or polivere@aol.com.

Nature Center

Frogs and Other Creatures Return to Poplar Pond

By Matthew Neff, Naturalist, Long Branch Nature Center

If you have visited Long Branch Nature Center in the past few years, you may have noticed the pond has been getting shallower. The pond is lined with a natural liner, bentonite, a type of clay that allows animals to hibernate during the winter. Unfortunately, due to a crack in the bentonite, the water was gradually seeping out. This past summer, the water reached its lowest level yet—several feet lower than a decade ago—and some of the residents of the pond, such as the aquatic turtles and the giant bullfrogs, starting moving out in search of deeper waters.

To solve this problem, a pond construction company was hired to re-scape the pond and put in fresh bentonite. But before construction could start, we faced two daunting tasks: dig up all the plants and capture all the animals. Luckily, we **had help from Bill Lee's Boy Scout troop. After we removed a few dozen plants, 400 goldfish and 200 amphibians, the pond was ready to be renovated.**

The construction crew drained the water, dug out the mud and old liner, added a new bentonite liner and filled the pond with water from the creek. The process was surely a sight to behold. Smack in the middle of Poplar Pond sat a several ton bulldozer!

A week after the completion of the construction, the frogs were released back into the pond and some of the giant bullfrogs have returned to their refurbished home.

The goldfish however were not returned; they all found homes elsewhere. Goldfish are natives of Eastern Asia and are invasive in the United States. Some naturalists call them the snakeheads of Long Branch. They compete with the frogs and tadpoles in our pond for resources and actually eat the smaller tadpoles.

There used to be five species of frog inhabiting Poplar Pond, but after the introduction of the goldfish, only two species (bullfrogs and green frogs) can be found. Consequently, the naturalists ask that visitors enjoy the pond and not release anything into it.

If you do have an injured reptile, you are welcome to bring it to the nature center for further guidance. For any other type of animal, you must call the wildlife rescue league for assistance: 703-440-0800.

Unwanted pets are not wanted at either location. You should bring them to an animal shelter and never release them into the wild.



Photo by Gerald Martineau

Long Branch Nature Center staff empty plastic swimming pools that housed frogs and tadpoles during reconstruction at Poplar Pond. The frogs, such as the one below, have made a happy return to the pond.



Photo by Gerald Martineau

Come to the Long Branch Nature Center Birthday Celebration!

On Nov. 12, 1972, Long Branch Nature Center opened its doors to Northern Virginia and the Glencarlyn neighborhood. Throughout the years, Long Branch has seen hundreds of thousands of animals and people come through its doors. When I was growing up, I came weekly to play in the stream and spent hours at the center looking at the animals on display. As Long Branch nears its 36th year of operation, the staff would like to invite the public to celebrate. The birthday jubilee will be on Wednesday, Nov. 12, from 3-5:00 p.m. at the Nature Center. Visitors can meet the animals on display, as well as ones that are not. Visitors also can participate in a scavenger hunt, look at a slide show of Long Branch Nature Center, past and present, and try some tasty treats we naturalists enjoy. Feel free to submit photos for the slide show to mneff@arlingtonva.us. There is a \$2 fee; no registration is required. Please contact us at 703-228-6535 with questions. Matthew Neff



GLENCARLYN MONTHLY BOOK DISCUSSION

On the 4th Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m., we will read from a variety of titles from our library system. We hope you will join us and tell others.

On Monday, Oct. 27, we will be discussing **“Interpreter of Maladies,”** by Jhumpa Lahiri

Please join us for an interesting discussion

READ TO ME FAMILY STORIES
Wednesdays at 6:30 PM

OCT. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

A program with interactive stories and songs for all ages. Come and have a fun time.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

<http://www.arlingtonva.us/Departments/Libraries/LibrariesMain.aspx>

Make A Scarecrow October 11

Champion scarecrow maker Mary McCutcheon is coming to Glencarlyn’s Ball-Sellers House for an afternoon of creating scarecrows.

The event will be held on Saturday, Oct. 11, from 1-4:00 p.m.

McCutcheon will have her supplies, but you may also bring your own, such as an old pair of jeans, long-sleeve shirt, pantyhose, hat, gloves, scarf, tie—be creative!

The event was a great success last year. We hope to see **Glencarlyn’s youngsters there** again this year, as well as **Glencarlyn’s young at heart!**



Photo courtesy of Ball-Sellers House

Scarecrow making returns to the Ball-Sellers House on Saturday, Oct. 11. Neighborhood youngsters above enjoy the activities at last year’s event.

Voting (Continued from page 1)

- are students at institutions of higher learning who are living outside the county
- expect to be outside the county even for a short time on election day, whether for business or personal reasons;
- expect to have to work 11 of the 13 hours that the polls will be open (from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.); this includes commuting time;
- will be unable to get to a polling place because of disability, illness, or pregnancy or are caretakers of confined family members;
- are under confinement awaiting trial or serving time for misdemeanor convictions’
- are active duty uniformed service or Merchant Marine personnel or their dependents residing with them;
- are registrars, electoral board members, or officers of election scheduled to work at the election;
- have religious conflicts on that day.

Voting by Absentee Ballot

To obtain an absentee ballot, you can 1) download an application form at <http://www.arlingtonva.us/vote>; or 2) call 703-228-3456 to request that an application be mailed or faxed to you. The deadline for doing this is 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 28.

You must then return your ballot in time for the Office of Voter Registration to receive it no later than close of business on Nov. 4. All absentee ballots will be counted starting at 7 p.m. on election day, Tuesday, Nov. 4.

To vote absentee in person in advance of election day, go to the county building, 2100 Clarendon Blvd, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday starting Sept. 22 and ending Oct 31 (except for the Columbus Day holiday, Monday, Oct. 13).

Note: Absentee voting in person will NOT be possible on Nov. 3 or Nov. 4.

You will not have to bring an absentee ballot application with you to vote absentee in person, but do bring identification.

Evening and Saturday Voting

In addition, Arlingtonians can vote absentee in person between 5 and 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 21 and 28; Wednesday, Oct. 22 and 29; Thursday, Oct. 9, 16, 23 and 30; Saturday, Sept. 27; Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25; and Nov. 1 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

To vote in person on election day, go to the Precinct 13 polling place at Kenmore Middle School, 200 S. Carlin Springs Road.

If you need a ride to the polling place on election day or you know someone else who does, call either of the major political **parties’ local offices. They will arrange for** someone to pick you up at your home, take you to Kenmore, wait for you, and bring you back home. You do not have to indicate your party affiliation.

Registration and Voting Questions

If you have additional questions, go to <http://www.arlingtonva.us/vote> or call the Arlington Office of Voter Registration at 703-228-3456.

The Carlin Springs Swimming Hole and Pavilions

By David Backus

Located at the bottom of the park road (at the north end of South Jefferson Street), **across the short bridge crossing the “run off gully,” are two bricked springs. These springs are the Carlin Springs. There is a large metal sign signifying the springs’ presence nearby in the largely overgrown area.**

In 1872, there were two pavilions built by the springs; one for dancing on this side of the bridge over the gully and the other across the bridge by the springs used for picnics.

This was a spot for Washingtonians, Alexandrians and other folks to come and enjoy an afternoon swim in the brook (just beyond the springs) and then the **cool evenings in “the country.” There were picnics at the pavilions and dancing into the evening before boarding the train to go back home (the train track has now been converted to the bike path).**

In 1893 these pavilions were torn down **because “...they harbor tramps, are dangerous to unprotected ladies and repulsive to persons of refined taste seeking quiet homes, and because they are in bad condition.” The springs and the swimming hole remained.**



Carlin Springs

The springs were a constant cool source of refreshment. The early children of the neighborhood enjoyed the springs. As Miriam Masi Scull said in *Glencarlyn Remembered: The First 100 years*, **“We drank water out of those springs all the time. It was just super.”**

The Carlin Springs (there are two springs side by side in the park) are not the only

springs in the Glencarlyn neighborhood. On the south side of the neighborhood, there is a spring which originates at the bottom of the hill behind the **Backus’ house, about 100 feet from the front of the Long Branch Nature Center and 40 feet from the Long Branch stream. I remember as a child catching a nice fish in the Potomac and pleading with my parents to bring it home and release it in the spring. The fish lasted several days until a passing raccoon had a hearty meal of it.**

Another spring is located at the south end of Kensington street. This one is called the Moses Ball Spring and provides a steady flow of water into the Long Branch stream. There is a small bridge you have to cross when you travel in from Carlin Springs Road to the nature center. This is where the water goes under the road to the stream.

Springs are not to be dismissed lightly. When Henry Jarboe sold his acreage behind his house on South 5th Street (what now is the cul de sac at the end of 5th Street South), the property had a spring under it on the hill. The developer took fill dirt and filled in the ra-

vine (where the spring seeped out of the hill). **This occurred in the 1960’s. It took many years, but finally the spring and the fill dirt slowly parted from the rest of the development and caused a foot wide crack to open and sever water lines to the houses at the base of the cul de sac. This happened in the late 1980’s after the developer had long since disappeared. The county stepped in and the situation was**

resolved. I don’t know how they diverted the spring but there have been no problems since that time.



Moses Ball Spring

Some residents have had a “spring” appear in their basement. Again, the gift of Carlin Springs is not always seen as a blessing.

The abundant water supply under our neighborhood has kept the foliage that surrounds our village verdant during the hottest summers and a true source of cooling shade for all of us to enjoy.

If you get some time just to walk the park trails, the short road beyond the end of Jefferson Street to the north (toward Route 50) is a nice step back into the past of our neighborhood. You can still see the springs, and the wide spot in the brook just beyond still holds the memories of the swimming hole used back in the **1800’s just as we used it as children to cool off on a hot summer day when I was growing up.**

**Meet Your Neighbors at the
Glencarlyn Community
Online Forum.
Join Discussion Groups; Get
Community Updates; Learn
about Community Events.
Register at
www.glencarlyn.org/smf/index.php**

VIEW FROM THE GARDEN

by Judy Funderburk (with adaptations from an article by George Graine)

Even if something is left undone, everyone must take time to sit still and watch the leaves turn. ~Elizabeth Lawrence

With banana fronds still waving in the wind and fall asters just beginning to bloom, it is hard to believe that very soon the leaves will be turning.

Why do we seem to have a love-hate relationship with leaves this time of year? I'm remembering the lyrics of that old song "The falling leaves, drift by my window...." The song is uplifting, but it fails to alert us to the fact that those falling leaves will end up on my front lawn!

Too often we approach raking and/or the ear-splitting whine of a leaf blower with something much less than delight. The next time this happens, give yourself a little reflection time to remember that autumn here in Glencarlyn can be pure poetry — a dazzling display of nature's bounty in colorful foliage.

Why do trees change color? The fundamental reason is that all leaves from the time of their unfolding in the spring contain the potential for producing yellow, red, and green pigments.

The yellow pigments (carotene and xanthophyll) are produced in the early spring but masked by the green pigment (chlorophyll) more necessary to tree and leaf health and growth. The red pigments (anthocyanins) do not show up until late in the growing season when

cool nights and shorter days lessen the production of chlorophyll's green color. Bright days and cool nights will produce red to purple leaves in some species, but when the necessary combination of environmental factors fails to happen and we have cloudy days, warm nights, and early frosts, the result can be dull fall coloration.

Rainfall too is a determining factor. A mild drought will increase red pigmentation, but a long drought can lead to premature browning and early shedding of leaves. Will the leaves this year be bright or boring? Will you see the leaves drifting down as a kind of poetry or just more piles?

WHERE WE ARE ON WATER

Not walking on it! And hopefully not finding it flowing onto either our driveways or sidewalks!

More seriously, Paul Nuhn and I have been gratified by the response of the Glencarlyn Community, both individuals (especially our faithful waterers) and the GCA. There have been many suggestions as to ways to approach the problem of decreasing the utility/water costs to the budget of our small branch library with its big beautiful garden.

We discussed this issue at both the GCA meeting and Executive Board meeting in September. With additional research still needed, here are several of the current suggestions for curtailing water costs, some short term and some longer term.

1. Provide a direct subsidy to our library's budget: Amount unknown, but it could be up to \$300 or so per summer month.

Both individuals and the GCA have indicated willingness to make up some of the increased cost to the library for summer watering (its summer water bill goes up about ten-fold!). Our head librarian is looking into how this suggestion might be received by the Library System and the County.

2. Buy water barrels or a cistern: \$60 per 50 gallon water barrel, \$480 including shipping for a 300-gallon "Raintainer."

Raintainers provide good looking, sturdy water storage. We would need permission and help from the county and library to install properly. There remain many questions as to how to hook up to hoses, take care of overflow, etc.

3. Install a new water meter for outside watering: \$2000 plus?

This has a very high initial installation cost, but the investment would pay for itself over time. The new meter would

(Continued on page 9)

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President's Message

By Pete Olivere, GCA President

I would like to thank Capt. Michelle Nuneville and Sgt. Mark Jenkins for joining us at the September meeting for a Crime Update. It was an excellent presentation of what has been happening and what we as residents can do (see **"Summary of Crime Update", p. 2**). The meeting was well attended, including some new faces.

Part of the success in the attendance at the last meeting can be attributed to GCA meeting signs posted in the neighborhood to remind us of the date and time. We would like to thank David Backus for purchasing the material and hand painting eight signs— all for just \$20. This saved GCA several hundred dollars compared to getting them done professionally. Dave also has been providing us with the regular series in the *Village View*, **"Remembering Glencarlyn,"** which we look forward to reading.

The GCA Executive Committee met on Sept. 10. We agreed on a GCA Budget for FY 2008-9, which will be voted on at the October meeting (see GCA Proposed Budget on this page).

As follow-up to the questions raised at the last GCA meeting, we discussed with Judy Funderburk and Paul Nuhn the water usage issue in the Community Garden (see **"View from the Garden," p. 6**). The Executive Committee is recommending that the GCA use some of the surplus funds from prior-year budgets to support infrastructure improvements in the Library Community Garden, specifically, equipment to a) do drip irrigation with timers and b) to place a rain cistern at just one location.

We chose to recommend some moderate steps, and then assess how effective they are. We later will decide what additional upgrades should be considered. At the time of the Executive Committee meeting we didn't have precise cost estimates, but we hope to have some rough estimates at the October meeting. We will ask the membership to approve moving forward with an approximate amount, subject to approval of changes in the cost

by the GCA membership.

Home Day Care Permits

We have several families that operate home day care programs within the Glencarlyn neighborhood. The county requires a use permit for those programs.

As part of the initial approval process and during the annual renewal process, county contacts the GCA for neighborhood input. We have been contacted about three permits in the past few months. The GCA attempts to contact a few neighbors near the location for input. Our response to the county staff has been that the GCA is generally supportive of having home day care programs in **the neighborhood and, if we don't hear otherwise from the neighbors, we indicate that we have no objection to the specific proposed permit.**

The GCA has not taken on an advocate role in support of any specific permits. So if you have concerns about a day care operation in your area, please keep the GCA informed.

Missing Sidewalk Links

The County's Missing Sidewalk Link program is intended for the quick installation of curb, gutter, and sidewalk in front of three or fewer properties for the connection of existing sidewalks. There are only four to six projects funded for this program in the county each year.

There are only a few places in Glencarlyn which would qualify. The deadline for this year, with Civic Association approval, is Oct. 17. If you are interested and think you may qualify, please contact Peter Olivere at 703-626-2520 or poliver@aol.com.

GCA Proposed Budget Fiscal Year 2009

The Glencarlyn Citizens' Association will vote on the proposed budget for fiscal year 2009 (July 1, 2008, to June 30, 2009) at our Oct. 6 meeting.

FY 2009 Proposed

Expenses

Special Events:		\$1,100
Labor Day Dinner	\$0	
Halloween	\$75	
Luminaria	\$750	
Christmas Party	\$75	
Other Events	\$200	
Glencarlyn Day		\$900
Insurance		\$600
ACCF Membership		\$50
Village View Publication		\$2,800
Website		\$150
Carlin Hall Reserv'n System		\$200
Miscellaneous:		\$600
Total Expenses		\$6,400

Income

Glencarlyn Dues		\$1,000
Donations		\$0
Luminaria		\$700
Glencarlyn Day		\$1,400
Carlin Hall Admin. Fee		\$800
Village View Ads		\$2,500
Book Sales		\$0
Other		\$0
Total Income		\$6,400

Have you paid your Glencarlyn Citizens' Association Dues?

If not, you can use the form in the September "Village View" or go to www.glencarlyn.org and click the link to "Community Association."



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Founder/Teacher, Ruthann Pippenger, B.A., M.A. Ball State University, Life Coach, accompanied Ball State University Concert Choir and Chorus, holds music license in Indiana. Studied in a line dating to Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky in Russia, collegiate piano professor was Mildred Milford, Julliard graduate.

* Reading readiness is a must.

St. John's Episcopal Church

415 S. Lexington St.
 Arlington, VA 22204

703-671-6834

stjohnsarlington.thediocese.net



We invite you to participate in our open
 and welcoming community of faith

Worship with us Sundays 8:00 A.M. or 10:00 A.M.

Pray and praise together, hear an inspirational sermon,
 receive Holy Communion

Pause for reflection and prayer Wednesday evenings at 7:30 P.M.

Informal worship and sharing in the middle of the week

Celebrate St. Francis's Day with St. John's!

Bring your healthy pets that "play well with others" –
 or just their picture – for the outdoor

Blessing of the Animals – October 5, 5:00 P.M.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it

Community News

Repairs to Lubber Run Park Sanitary Sewer

Beginning in late September and lasting for about one month, the Department of Environmental Services will inspect with video, clean, and re-line approximately 2,000 feet of a 24-inch sanitary sewer that runs through Lubber Run Park from George Mason Drive to Route 50.

The pumps and boilers need to run up to 24 hours at a time while the liner cures.

Contractors will run hoses across the bike/pedestrian path at various times. Signs, ramps, lighting, and cones will alert residents where the bypass hoses cross the bike trail.

E-CARE Collection and Recycling Event

On Saturday, Oct. 11, Arlington County's Department of Environmental Services is sponsoring an Environmental Collection and Recycling Event. In addition to collecting household hazardous materials, there will be opportunities to recycle bicycles, computer equipment, small metal

items, shoes, clothes, and eyeglasses.

Compost bins will be available for purchase. The fee to recycle televisions and computer monitors will be \$10.00 per item for this event only.

This year, durable medical equipment is being collected at E-CARE. The Virginia Hospital Center Medical Brigade provides the wheel chairs, crutches, braces, walkers, etc. to patients as part of their annual medical missions to Latin America.

The location of the fall E-CARE is at Thomas Jefferson Middle School. For more information: www.arlingtonva.us/des.

Garden News (Continued from page 6)

charge the library just for the water and not for the sewer. This could decrease its summer utility costs dramatically.

4. Persuade the library's properties people to should fix the gutters and downspouts: Cost unknown.

These leak badly. As is, they would not properly support collection of water in

barrels or cistern, nor our overall purpose of teaching "green" water practices.

5. Install more drip hoses in place of sprinklers: \$10 each.

These would not work in some locations because of walkways. Other problems: draining these hoses in the fall and continuing replacement issues when they spring leaks or are bitten by squirrels or rabbits or other critters.

6. Purchase multiple timers to be placed strategically on our many drip hoses: Cost varies from \$15 to \$40 each.

Figuring out the logistics of this seems daunting right now with our multiple hoses from only two spigots. Are there any water engineers in the neighborhood?

We are in the process of contacting county parks and library personnel to consult on all of the above.

Recent Legislation offers a tax credit for First Time Buyers

If you are a first time home buyer (classified as **individuals who haven't owned a home in the last three years**), and it is your primary residence, you are eligible for a federal tax credit of \$7,500 or 10 percent of the purchase price, whichever is smaller. With a tax credit, you subtract the credit amount from the total you would otherwise pay to the Internal Revenue Service. If you owe \$1,500 and you qualify for the credit, you would get a \$6,000 refund. There are two big catches, though. If you earn a modified adjusted gross income of more than \$75,000, or \$150,000 if you are married and filing your tax return jointly, the credit starts to phase out. For single people, it phases out completely at \$95,000 of annual income, while for married people filing jointly, it phases out at \$170,000.

But you have to pay back the credit over the next 15 years, in equal amounts each year when you pay your federal taxes. That makes this more like an interest-free loan than a true credit.

Redefinition of Jumbo Loans

Under the new housing bill, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac have permanent authority to buy bigger loans in areas with high housing costs. (Temporary measures allow them to buy bigger loans, but those expire on Dec. 31.) They can buy loans up to 115 percent of the local median home price, though they cannot buy any loans larger than \$625,500. Any larger loan will generally be a jumbo loan, which will cost more in interest. Loans up to \$729,750 are available through Dec. 31, 2007.

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Kenmore Wins Environmental Award, Modern Dance Funding

By Shauna Dyer, Arts and Communications Coordinator

Kenmore Middle School was recently selected among schools from across the **United States to receive the “Staples Earth Force Award” for the student action projects** that were developed and implemented last spring to improve the health of nearby Four Mile Run.

This work was done in cooperation with Earth Force, and Kenmore will receive \$500 in eco-friendly school supplies from Staples.

A special awards ceremony honoring the achievements of Kenmore students and their teachers Liz Castillo, Victoria Keish, Laura Cuorato, Nancy Tiernan and Elaine Powers during the 2007-08 school year has been tentatively set for Monday, Oct. 13, at 10:45 a.m. Check the Kenmore website calendar for confirmation.

Modern Dance Grant

In addition, the Virginia Commission on the Arts has awarded Kenmore a \$5,000 grant for a year-long residency program with Bowen McCauley Dance.

Thirty Kenmore students will be attending a modern dance class given by Lucy Bowen McCauley and members of her company. Kenmore students will dance with Bowen McCauley Dance Company for selected performances in January, April and June. In conjunction with the April performance, a teacher workshop will be held for Kenmore staff.

The Kenmore music department will be hosting a fall concert on Oct. 22 at 5:00 p.m. Please join us.

We are off to a great start this year and look forward to sharing with the community more about happenings at the school.

Carlin Springs Offers Strong Academics

By Anne Vor der Bruegge, Community School Coordinator

We are off to a great start to the school year at Carlin Springs Elementary, with an enrollment of 516 students.

“We are thrilled that we met the federal No Child Left Behind benchmarks for the 2007-2008 school year,” says principal Corina Coronel. “We continue to grow and add new initiatives each year. If you would like to learn more about our school, please drop in for one of our bi-weekly Friday coffees, or make an appointment to visit our school.”

In addition to a strong, well-rounded academic program, we have a wide array of after-school offerings, including banking, soccer, 4-H club, Creative Theater, Spanish, and Native American art. This year, we will have on-site Girl Scout troops for all girls from kindergarten through fifth grade. The student-run branch of the Arlington, Va., Federal Credit Union will have its grand re-opening on Oct. 15 at 7:30 a.m.

Glencarlyn residents are invited to enjoy food, fun, and games at our Fall Festival on Saturday, Oct. 25 from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m., rain or shine. There will be a moon bounce, a cake walk, and exciting raffle prizes. Please come!

Finally, Glencarlyn residents with toddlers ages one to four years old are invited to our drop-in Project Family playgroups at the school. Come join your neighbors, have fun, and get tips on **supporting your child’s development.**

The playgroups are held every Monday morning from 10-11:30 a.m., Tuesday mornings from 10-11:30 a.m., and Tuesday afternoons from 12:30- 2 p.m.

Questions? Call Anne at 703- 228-8409.

Glencarlyn Park Gets New Entrance Sign



Old sign at 3rd Street entrance was mistakenly removed

Arlington County workers have erected a new entrance sign for Glencarlyn Park at Harrison and 3rd Street.

Due to a mix-up, county workers this summer removed the 25-year-old entrance sign and mistakenly put a Glencarlyn Community sign in its place. After realizing their mistake, workers erected a new sign (pictured at left).

Hopefully, the new sign will stand at the park entrance for another 25 years.

Photo by Gerald Martineau

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Within close proximity, you'll find the Metro, many quaint Falls Church City stores and major transportation routes. If that is not enough, your new home is only minutes from Tyson's Corner and downtown Washington, DC.

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**4503 MARTINWOOD DRIVE
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Offered at \$439,000

Quiet Respite

This quiet home, nestled in the hills of Virginia is a welcoming retreat that exudes both comfort and convenience. The kitchen, which adjoins the dining and family rooms, features granite counters, stainless appliances and beautiful ceramic tile floors. Step from the kitchen through double French doors to a patio that is surrounded by herbs, perennials, a deck and koi pond. The living room is graced by a mantled fireplace, currently used with an electric insert, but indeed wood burning. Three bedrooms, all with ceiling fans, two fully updated bathrooms, generous closets and hardwood floors complete the main level. The lower level houses a fourth bedroom and full bath, a recreation room and another wood burning fireplace. To put it simply, this home is filled with plenty of space for relaxing and entertaining, and is a quiet respite where everything has been done for you.

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