



Carlin Hall

The Village View

Next
GCA
Meeting:
Monday
September 12
7:30 p.m.
Carlin Hall

Newsletter of the Glencarlyn Citizens' Association since October 1952

All the news that's fun to print

September 2011

Inside this Issue

- Featured speaker1
- President's message2
- Lubber Run Theater –YES! ... 3
- Pot luck and neighborhood.....3
- Remembering Glencarlyn4
- 4th St. project / directory.....7
- What's selling in Glencarlyn ...9
- View from the garden11
- Glencarlyn calendar.....12

5.8 Earthquake felt in GC on 8/23/11 at 1:51pm. (editors wedding anniversary) First big shake since 1897! No injuries reported

GCA Meeting Features School Board Chair

Abby Raphael, Chair of Arlington County School Board, will be our guest speaker at the September Glencarlyn Citizens' Association Meeting. The meeting is Monday, September 12 at 7:30pm at Carlin Hall, 5711 4th St. South.

She will address topics that are of general interest to neighbors with or without school age children. Ms. Raphael is familiar with our neighborhood schools since *she is the School Board Liaison to Kenmore and Wakefield* this year and Campbell last year. One of the key issues facing the School Board this year is the surge in the number of students entering the schools and the possibility of substantial overcrowding unless schools are expanded and/or new ones constructed.



Ms. Raphael joined the School Board on January 1, 2008, after working for many years as a parent activist and community leader, serving on and leading a number of

schools and civic committees and organizations. As a member of the School Board, Ms. Raphael has served as the liaison to the Partnership for Children, Youth and Families; the Student Advisory Board; and the Washington Area Boards of Education, **and has been a member of the County's Strategic Issue Team on Youth Binge Drinking.** She has lived in Arlington since 1989, served as a former Arlington Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney and has two daughters who attend Williamsburg Middle School and Washington-Lee High School.

Glencarlyn Fall Picnic September 17

Join us for the end of summer neighborhood picnic at Carlin Hall on Saturday, September 17 from 4 PM until 9 PM. Activities include badminton and other games, as well use of preschool outside toys for the little ones. Last year we had about 75 attend the picnic including lots of



Happy students at Carlin Hall school 1948 – Arlington schools open 9/6/11

From 1st 100 Years

kids. We will have ice cream for all about 6 PM and a bonfire/marshmallow roast from 7:00 to 8:00. At 8:30 there will be a free movie at St. John's Church (see article); for the others, you are welcome to enjoy the evening chatting with friends.

Bring something to put on the grill, a small side dish with a serving utensil and your beverages. We will provide plates and eating utensils, ice cream, marshmallows and the makings for smores. Although there are picnic tables as well as tables and chairs from Carlin Hall, you may wish to bring a blanket or comfortable lawn chair, which you can also use for the movie.

If you have time, let Pete Olivere (polivere@aol.com or 703-626-2520) know if you think you will be coming so we can be sure to order enough ice cream. If you have outdoor games, can help set-up or clean up, please contact Pete. The two rain dates are Sunday, September 18 and Saturday September 24. Check our website glencarlyn.org to see if we have to reschedule because of rain.

Please Pay Your GCA Dues see page 6

Village Notes

President's Message

By Peter Olivere

I hope everyone had a pleasant summer even though it was a bit warm. I know most of us are looking forward to some pleasant fall weather.



Last June I thanked all of those who had done so much over the past year to support Glencarlyn Citizens' Association (GCA) and neighborhood activities or services. All of these efforts contribute to enhancing Glencarlyn as a community and making it such a wonderful place to live. We hope to continue to expand the pool of volunteers participating.

GCA Officers

Email: gca_exec@glencarlyn.org

| | |
|----------------|--------------|
| President | |
| Peter Olivere | 703-626-2520 |
| Vice President | |
| Kelly Krug | 703-201-4361 |
| Secretary | |
| Randy Krug | 703-379-0835 |
| Treasurer | |
| Tim Aiken | 703-820-0084 |

Neighborhood Contacts

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Neighborhood Conservation Delegate | |
| Eric Hogan | 703-379-3997 |
| Peter Olivere (Alt.) | 703-820-0067 |

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Civic Federation Delegates | |
| Peter Olivere | 703-820-0067 |
| Tom Jonson | 703-379-2531 |
| Missy Jamieson | 703-931-0213 |
| Betty Vertiz | 703-578-7531 |
| Anna Belousovitch (Alt.) | 703-845-9657 |
| Doug Leroy (Alt.) | 703-845-9657 |
| Jeff Liteman (Alt.) | 703-575-4412 |
| Vacant | |

Carlin Hall Reservation Voice Mail 703-483-3564

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Area Chair/Block Captain Coordinator | |
| Peter Olivere | 703-820-0067 |

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Village View Editor | |
| David Backus | 703-528-8148 |
| gcaeditorial@gmail.com | |

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Glencarlyn.org Webmaster | |
| Doug LeRoy | 703-845-9657 |

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Glencarlyn Email Updates | |
| Doug Leroy | 703-845-9657 |
| gcaupdates@glencarlyn.org | |

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Volunteer Coordinator | |
| Sheridan Swope | 703-671-5046 |
| gc_volunteers@glencarlyn.org | |

Glencarlyn Web Site
<http://www.glencarlyn.org>
 Carlin Hall
 5711 S. 4th St.

In the box on page 2 is a list of all of your officers, delegates and other folks who serve you as part of the GCA. In the June issue I covered the changes in that list at some length, but I want to reiterate our thanks to those who have agreed to continue and welcome our newest members: Kelly Krug as Vice-President, David Backus as Village View Editor, Randy Krug as Secretary and Missy Jamieson and Betty Vertiz as delegates to the Civic Federation.

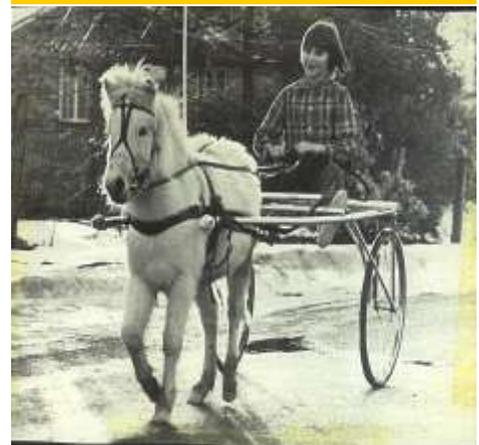
The Executive Committee dealt with a few issues this summer. One was a response to comments from the County on the Neighborhood Conservation Plan (see separate article). The second was compiling comments from the neighbors about the Verizon phone outage this summer and sending a letter to the County and regulators expressing our concern. We will put a copy of the letter on the website.

The third was the retiring of the Glencarlyn Forum, one of the features on the glencarlyn.org website. Although it has been in place for several years, it has had very little use. We are having active discussions on whether we want to supplement the current web and Glencarlyn Updates with other digital processes. If you have any thoughts on this matter, please share them with us.

And last, but not least, was to begin to identify programs of general interest for this year's meetings. For September we have Abby Raphael, Chair of the School Board. In October we plan on having Chris Warner, a neighbor, provide information and options to help you make informed

decisions to make yourself, your family, home, car, computer and surroundings safer and more secure; In November we will have a presentation on the new Arlington Mill facility (Columbia Pike and Columbus) on which construction will start soon. If you have any suggestions for other programs, please send along your ideas. If you have any question, comments or suggestions for anything in Glencarlyn, please contact any of the officers or delegates directly or email us all at

Editors note: This is your newsletter. We do our best but your input is always helpful. Old or new photos are fun and useful. Please include any names of folks in the pictures so we can give credit. Help us to help you.



1950's Christmas card taken by Jane Terry of daughter Dee Terry riding down 5th St.

Glencarlyn Kids for Hire

- Colleen Aiken, 15, babysitting*, dog walking, pet sitting, 703-820-0084
- Lonnie Fields, 17, lawn mowing, dog walking, raking leaves, snow shoveling, 571-257-8643
- Majida Ben Jemaa, 12, dog walking, pet sitting, mother's helper, 571-303-0032
- Skylar List, 13, babysitting, dog walking, pet sitting, raking leaves, watering plants, 703-466-0959
- Madison List, 16, babysitting*, dog walking, pet sitting, raking leaves, (703) 466-0959.
- Jeremy Mott, 14, lawn mowing, dog walking, pet sitting, snow shoveling, 703-820-5798
- Christopher Peterson, 13, and Alex Lewis, 12, lawn mowing, dog walking, 202-407-6907
- Maggie Siddle, 17, babysitting*, pet sitting, 703-931-2219
- Annie Siddle, 14, babysitting*, pet sitting, 703-931-2219
- Olivia Siddle, 12, mother's helper*, pet sitting, 703-931-2219**

*Red Cross Certified

If you are 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.

Remembering Glencarlyn

by David Backus

I lay on my cot on the screened in back porch with the crickets singing in the hot summer night and felt the somewhat cooler breeze coming from the ravine. There was a whirr and the slow pulse from twenty feet away from **under the 4' X 4' by 4' tin box.** The well motor had turned on and was semi quietly pumping water out of our sixty foot well for some need in the house. I closed my eyes and fell asleep to the cacophonous symphony of a summer night.



Our community began as a dream of Samuel S. Burdett and George Curtis in 1888. **This was to be a community for "all men and women of moderate means who received stated salaries."** The going price was \$100 for a 6,000 square foot lot (from a total of 340 available lots). At that price the land was not cheap (remember, in 1888 \$20 to \$50 A MONTH was a good **wage**) but it wasn't out of reach. **This was to be one of the first "planned subdivisions in Arlington County" with a pavilion** (including a bar that could hold 250 patrons) a dance area (which was used on Sundays for church gatherings – the bar was closed) and a wonderful stop on the railroad line from Washington, DC.

The original business plan was interesting but there were two major flaws. Both of these flaws had to do with the basic utilities – not power but water and sewer.

Water! The size of the lots limits the number of wells that can effectively yield the amount of water a family requires these days (200,000 gallons per quarter). We are fortunate to be in a land where there is water - next to Carlyn Springs. **There's lots of water, if you will only dig for it.** One of our neighbors says **she doesn't have to dig – she has a natural spring in her basement! She DOESN'T** feel this is an enhancement to her property value, however.

Most of the old houses in Glencarlyn have some sort of well located in or around them. The house at 5500 South 5th St. had a shallow well that is now dry in the basement. The house at 5527 3rd St. South has a very good well. Our old house still has its old well which will pump for a half hour before going dry for a good eight hours to refill.

A few years ago, during a very dry season, the Glencarlyn Executive Committee tried to figure a way to water the community garden at the library without having to pay for the water from the county. Betty Vertiz and her brother Sherwood Hedrick (who grew up here), told us there HAD been a



Judy Funderburk, Paul Nuhn, David Backus, and Pete Oliver (taking photo) search in vain for old well at Carlin Hall November 2008. Paul does good work!

well at Carlyn Hall and approximately **where it was. It was filled in the late '50's** for safety reasons.

After talking to Luis Araya, a very knowledgeable county employee, we were given the specific location of the old well. The **Citizen's Association's Executive Committee** (Pete Oliver, Paul Nuhn, David Backus and Judy Funderburk) tried to find the old well. We traced the pipe from Carlin Hall to an area below the western sand box and probed and dug for several hours before we surmised the county had filled the well with dirt instead of just capping the well with cement.

Water (and sewer) are very important. Arlington County uses between 25 and 40 **MILLION gallons of water A DAY!** What's the reason for such a large variation in water usage? The 40 million gallons a day

(Continued on page 5)

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e-mail us at gfca2010@gmail.com.

(Continued from page 4)

is recorded during the summer. The 15million gallon delta is probably for watering purposes. Arlington charges for sewage disposal for ALL water – Fairfax takes that **summer delta and doesn't charge for sewage treatment** figuring the different usage represents watering plants and grass.

On the other side of the equation, before sewer lines there were outhouses or septic tanks. **An outhouse, if you've never seen one**, is a small building with a seat in it over a hole in the ground used for a toilet. Aside from the aroma, these early contrivances were cold in the winter, hot in the summer and never very convenient although they beat the previous alternative (**mother nature's trees and bushes**).

In 1881 the septic tank was patented and was starting to be used by 1883 in the US (**it's a French invention**). **This was a much more efficient means of disposal and allowed for "indoor plumbing" and didn't have the olfactory downsides of an outhouse. Unfortunately it did and still does require some land for the "drainage field."** This was very difficult with the 6,000 square foot lots in Glencarlyn.

In the early 1900's wells were THE source of water. One of the major problems with the outhouses and the septic systems is the leeching from them to the water supply. That is one of the reasons for a shorter human life span in the early days. Water contamination could lead to some nasty, life threatening problems (remember, typhoid fever killed Tad and Willie, **President Lincoln's two sons while Lincoln was in the White House**). The drinking water contamination was a national problem, **not just Glencarlyn's**).

When sewers were finally installed in Glencarlyn (earliest record is 1934), the housing followed. That may be one of the reasons there were so few houses before **the 40's and 50's and most of those houses were located on more than one lot.**

Today some of the old wells still exist although few folks know about them or, if they do, they ignore them. The water may or may not be potable. It is against county ordinance to hook the wells up to your indoor water – dangerous for drinking but **also the county doesn't want you to use it for other purposes either.** The county feels it would not be fair to use this water and **run it into the sewer system "free" (your**

sewer system bill is tied directly to your water meter bill).

There is the other use for this water that IS useful and, as far as I can tell, still legal. Watering your grass, gardens and plants is a good use of this source of water. The water should be tested for safety, but for **the plants' drinking water, this should be safe.** In the mid fifties our aunts had the county water and sewer system put into their house at 5500 South Fifth Street. When the workers got done with the job on a hot summer day, my aunts asked them to cool down with some fresh county water. They had learned earlier that we still had well water at our house and they **trouped over to have some "fresh Glencarlyn water" at our place instead.**

Visit the GCA Website

More news, photos, and information, visit the GCA website at www.glencarlyn.org. An expanded color version of the *Village View* is also available at the website, as are the minutes of GCA meetings.

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Carlin Hall Preschool Welcomes New Teacher

After 22 years, Carlin Hall Preschool has a fresh face with Sandra Gomez coming on board as our new teacher.

A native of Chile, she earned a Fine Arts degree from the Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile and worked with low-income, at-risk youth through weekend and school programs. In Santiago, she also worked for a bank to process micro loans for start-up businesses, where she met her husband. They moved to Arlington in 1997.

Sandra and her husband, Michael Swisher, have two kids—Francisca and Pablo. The family became acquainted with Carlin Hall when Pablo was enrolled here.

Sandra has worked with children in many capacities in Arlington; including time at Claremont Early Childhood Learning Center, Greenbrier Learning Center, Fairlington Creative Preschool and Summer Arts Camp, and Arlington Mill Creative Preschool. At Arlington Mill Creative Preschool program, she was a Parent

Education Coordinator & Liaison and helped to bridge the cultural and language gap between the preschool staff and parents (who were mostly Spanish-speaking).

Since 2009, she has been a familiar face at Carlin Hall as the Summer Tot Camp Director. Sandra says, “I had such a wonderful time (at Tot Camp) that I’ve been back every summer since. And now I get to stay during the school year! I’m happy to be working with so many families from previous summers and look forward to becoming a part of the Glencarlyn community.”

Looking forward to the new school year, she hopes to continue the great work of Mrs Peetz, while adding her own special touch.

“I’ll introduce Spanish as part of daily classroom routines. Art will play an important role throughout the year in the Preschool. I would also like to encourage parents to share with the students in our classroom. I want to invite them to read during story time or share some special gift or talent with the class. For example, my husband loves drumming and will come and lead a drum circle with the class

(now I need to tell him, of course!).”

All the parents at Carlin Hall are looking forward to an exciting new year with Mrs. Gomez!

Please Pay Your GCA Dues

Your contributions to the Glencarlyn Citizens’ Association fund the nine Village View newsletters, our glencarlyn.org website, our Neighborhood Directory, Glencarlyn Day activities including the Block Party, Pancake Breakfast and Parade, the September picnic, Halloween and December Holiday parties, the Luminaria related festivities, the Hot Dog Roast associated with the Stream Clean-up, the Easter Egg Hunt, and much more. If you have paid your dues, there is no charge for use of Carlin Hall, a popular site for kids birthday parties. Annual dues are only \$10 per household for July through June. Many paid at the Pancake Breakfast, but for those who didn’t, a membership form is available at glencarlyn.org under Glencarlyn Citizens’ Association link. Make your check payable to GCA and send it to Tim Aiken, Treasurer, 111 S. Kensington St.

Northern Virginia Market Trends

The Northern Virginia Association of Realtors® reports on July 2011 home sales activity for Fairfax and Arlington counties, the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax and Falls Church and the towns of Vienna, Herndon and Clifton.

A total of 1,729 homes sold in July 2011, a less than 1% decrease below 7/10 home sales of 1,741.

Active listings are down by about 8% with 4,891 active listings in 7/11, compared with 5,312 homes available in 7/10. The average days on market (DOM) for homes in 7/11 was up by just 2% to 49 days, compared with 48 days in 7/10.

Sales prices are about the same as those realized last year. The average sales price in 7/11 decreased by less than 2% 7/10, to \$500,667, compared with last July’s average of \$509,107.

The number of new pending home sales in Northern Virginia in 7/11 increased 14% at 1,765 compared to 1,544 new contracts pending in 7/11.

Arlington County Statistics

The median sales price for all properties in Arlington VA for 7/11 was \$540,000 based on 534 home sales. There are currently 801 resale and new homes in Arlington, as well as 149 homes in the pre-foreclosure, auction, or bank-owned stages of the foreclosure process. The average listing price for single family homes for sale in Arlington VA was \$724,922 in 7/11.

Mortgage Rates are very attractive! As of this writing the following rates are average quotes with no points: 4.125% up to \$417,000, 4.25% up to \$729,750, 4.75% over \$729,750.

On 10/1/11 \$625,500 will be the maximum loan amount for Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and FHA loans.



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Directory Update

As of the middle of August, we have completed getting the information and updates for the Glencarlyn Directory. We received update forms back from about 280 homes; many just confirmed that the information in the old directory, supplemented by information collected with the GCA dues, was correct. We are including changes in 150 or more of the 539 addresses listed. Those include new residents, phone or email changes, or addition or dropping of kids. We would like to thank the block captains for their assistance, particularly those who were very persistent in reaching out to all of their neighbors. We are now getting advertisers to support the Directory and expect to have the final Directory delivered to everyone's home by the end of October. Our thanks to Pete Olivero for heading up this updated directory.

August 15th – directory complete! Will be delivered by end of October!

Neighborhood Conservation Plan *By Pete Olivero*

As you may recall, Glencarlyn submitted its Neighborhood Conservation Plan

(NCP) to the County for review on April 28. On June 22 we received comments from the various Departments in the County. The Glencarlyn Citizens' Association (GCA) Executive Committee reviewed **the comments, but there doesn't appear to be any fundamental issues with which we**

Neighborhood conservation plan on track to be approved in Sept. More details page 10.

disagree with or would require revisions to the plan. The only area of ongoing discussion is the response to traffic and parking on Manchester Street. We had requested input from neighbors on the Department comments through a Glencarlyn Update on July 12, but other than the Manchester street issue above, it appears that no one has any problems.

We will be submitting the final plan in mid-August and expect to be able to get the plan approved by the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee in September and by the County Board in October. You will find the current version of the NC plan, the County Staff comments, and other related information on our website

glencarlyn.org under the Neighborhood Conservation link.

GLENCARLYN LIBRARY

703 228-6548

<http://library.arlingtonva.us>

- Sunday CLOSED
- Monday 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
- Tuesday CLOSED
- Wednesday 1 p.m. - 9 p.m.
- Thursday 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
- Friday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Welcome mat "We serve only the finest wines. Did you bring any?"

Save the Dates

- **Glencarlyn Fall Picnic** – Sat. September 17 4pm*
- **Halloween Party** – Sun. October 30 - 3-5pm
- **Luminaria & Bonfire** – Sat. December 10
- **Holiday Party** - Sun. December 18
- **Stream Cleanup and Hot Dog Roast** - Sat. in March
- **Easter Egg Roll** – Sat. April 7
- **Community Yard Sale** – Sat. mid-May
- **Glencarlyn Day** – Fri. & Sat June 1 & 2



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Study with us – Sunday Christian Education – Adults 9 a.m.; Children 9:20 a.m.
Enjoy Fellowship with us – Coffee hour after 10 a.m. Sunday service

Coming up at St. John's:

- September 6 – Book Club at 7:30 p.m. – *Mornings on Horseback* by David McCoullough
- September 17 – Movie Under the Stars – check the church signs for starting time
- September 25 – 8am & Service in the Park and Picnic to support the Arlington Food Assistance Center
Enjoy neighborhood worship and fellowship and bring a food item to donate to AFAC - 10AM
- October 2 – Blessing of the Animals, 5 p.m. Bring your pets for a blessing!

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. John 1:5

Currently Available in Glencarlyn Area

(Courtesy of Gary Fitzgibbon)

| <u>Address:</u> | <u>Price:</u> | <u>Listing Agent Contact:</u> |
|--------------------------------|------------------|--|
| 5521 4 th Street S. | \$ 539,000 | John Eric, Washington Fine Properties 202-944-5000 |
| 5726 1 st Street S. | \$ 569,000 | Russell Arkin, Keller Williams Realty 703-224-6000 |
| 5722 4 th Street S. | \$2,150 (rental) | Patty Young, Linton Hall Realtors 703-485-4663 |
| 5931 2 nd Street S. | \$ 499,500 | James Dalkin, Waddell Everett, LLC 703-945-1731 |
| 5 Montague St #3 | \$ 499,900 | Pless Lunger, Re/Max Distinctive 703-821-1840 |



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Indecent Exposure Arrest

by Pete Olivero

On a morning in mid-July on S. 6th St. in Glencarlyn, one of our neighbors, observed a man exposing himself and performing other indecent acts in a vehicle outside of his home. The activity and full description was reported to the police. Captain Butler, the 3rd District Commander, reported that a suspect was identified, arrested and released on a summons for the first week of August. Indecent Exposure is a Class 1 Misdemeanor and is punishable by up to one year in jail and/or a \$2,500 fine, or longer if the suspect has prior Indecent Exposure convictions.

Captain Butler said would like to thank the witness in this case for coming forward because without his identification of the suspect the police would not have been able to make the arrest and adds "It is people being involved in their community that makes the difference for us".

He also reminds everyone that to be a good witness you have to make sure you get the correct tag number, car description, and suspect description. He is constantly urging everyone to carry your cell phone whenever you leave the house and to have the police non-emergency number ([703-558-2222](tel:703-558-2222)) pre-programmed on speed dial.

Stay alert Police non-emergency #703-558-2222

4th St. NC Project Moves Forward!

By Eric Hougen

I'm pleased to share the good news that one of our neighborhood's project recently advanced to the County Board for final approval. The 4th Street and Lexington Street project covers curb, gutter, sidewalk, street resurfacing, street trees and street lighting on 4th Street between Lexington and Kensington and Lexington Street between 3rd and 4th Streets. Aside from the physical infrastructure upgrades, the project aims to relieve parking concerns in a busy area of our neighborhood. The total project estimate is \$653,000, including a hefty 20% contingency to cover unforeseen conditions. The final step of Board approval is normally an formality, so the project should be official approved this fall, and then construction should be begin approximately one year later in fall, 2012.

Because our tax dollars are funding these projects, its important that we continue to participate in the program by identifying additional blocks with residents interested in upgrading their street's physical infrastructure. Earlier this summer, GCA reps met with residents of 2nd Street and Kensington Street to discuss the County Neighborhood Conservation program and I'm happy to report there was strong interest in advancing to the first stage of gathering signatures on the initial petition to the County, which will prompt them to do some preliminary design work. If you have question about either of these projects or the NC program in general, please contact Eric Hougen at ehougen@gmail.com.

Construction to begin in 2012 on 4th St project; \$635,000!

July surprise from Verizon

By David Backus

On July 11th at approximately 3:30pm the Verizon service to over 750 subscribers was abruptly ended. This was due to a construction accident. A cable servicing the Glencarlyn neighborhood was broken and not able to be repaired for several days (see president's message Page 1).

Verizon did NOT take extraordinary steps to rectify the loss of our communication network leaving it to be done on a nine to five basis. When using our cell phones to communicate with the Verizon service department, we were told each day that the problem would be taken care of tomorrow (manana).

With the loss of phone service, our only internet source was also removed (DSL, using the same land lines as the wired phone service).

We resorted to cell phones, Starbucks, neighbors with Comcast and the Glencarlyn Library (which uses Comcast and keeps the wireless service on at all times but with relatively small wireless footprint).

Because of the relatively infrequent disruptions to our service and our greater dependence on such services (due to "work at home" and self employed individuals) this black out was extremely irritating and, we all hope, not an indication of what we can expect when we get FIOS into our neighborhood in the near future.

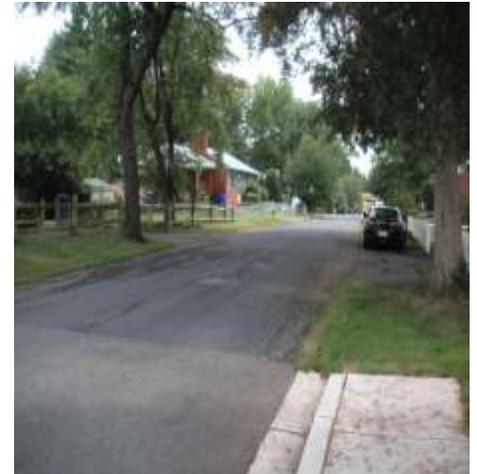
Unattended children will be given an espresso and a free kitten. (sign at diner)



"4th St. Project" Lexington St. between 4th and 3rd St.



"4th St. Project" 4th St. between Lexington St. and Kensington St.



"4th St. Project" Kensington St. between 3rd and 4th St.

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Photos by David Backus

View From the Garden by Judy Funderburk, Master Gardener

A splendid array of plants has delighted visitors to the Library Garden this past summer. Twelve foot tall Amaranth (started from a tiny seed!), beautiful yellow hibiscus (the generous gift of Bob Shannon!), sweet scented Phlox, hummingbird magnet Cardinal Flower, yummy Chocolate Mint, fragrant calming Lavender, colorful Caladiums and Coleus, **smashing Lime Yellow Sumac ... the list goes on, ONLY because of the faithfulness of our Neighborhood Waterers!**

“Grateful” is the word that comes to mind. This “summertime” has been anything but easy – 25 out of 31 days of July the temperature has been above 90 degrees, plus rainfall has not nearly kept up with thirsty plant needs. Please thank Missy Jamieson, Nancy Lowenthal, Nancy & Stuart Davis, Beth Ebner, Ruth Corlett, Gloria Johnson, Linda & Don King, Tim Aiken, Sheridan Swope, Kate and Eric Hougen, Anna Belousovitch for helping to keep the plants alive for all of us to enjoy!

PLAN TO ATTEND THE GARDEN “MART”

Sunday, September 25 from 10:00 to 3:00,

the Library Garden area will be transformed into a **“marketplace” of activities.** Rhonda Stevenson of *Country Gardens* will bring hundreds of perennials, shrubs and small trees for sale just in time for the Fall planting season. Your Master Gardeners will be offering a number of free opportunities at various times during the day, including: Herbal Delights to taste and smell, Potpourri making for adults and children, Pollinator & Herb Garden Tours, Mini-Workshops on providing food and shelter for Native Bees, Dividing Perennials, Planting a Shrub, Samples of herbs to take home and dry. Join us and bring your friends and family!

SWEET GUM OR SOUR GUM? [We’re speaking of trees!]

Though both are called **“gum” trees, Sour Gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*) and Sweet Gum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*) are only very distantly related species and easily distinguished from each other. Luckily, we have representatives of both of these gorgeous**

native trees growing in our Village Center. Sour gum is located behind Carlin Hall near the shed and was planted in memory of **Sean Campbell, “a boy who loved to climb trees.”** Two Sweet gums were planted by the County just inside the Cemetery fence by the parking lot.

The name, “Sour Gum,” refers to the fruit, as this tree is not particularly gummy. Also called “Black gum” or **“Black tupelo” in various parts of the country, *Nyssa sylvatica* is its Latin name.** Because this tree can thrive with its roots in wet places, Linnaeus, an 18th century classifier of plants and other organisms, bestowed upon it the name of *Nyssa*, after the Greek water nymph. It was the fashion of the time for botanists to give new plants names derived from classical mythology. The species’ common name **“tupelo” is of Native American origin, coming from the Creek words *ito* ‘tree’ and *opilwa* ‘swamp.’**

A true beauty, growing in pyramidal shape to 30-50', Sour gum/Black Tupelo is prized for its deep green lustrous summer leaves that turn brilliant red-orange in Fall, one of the very first to turn and a



Picture by Paul Nuhn

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blazing sign of autumn in this area. It is an important food source for many migrating birds in the fall. Its early color change is thought to attract birds to the dark blue fruit, which ripen before many other fall fruits and berries. The Black Tupelo is also prized by beekeepers as a major source of delicious wild honey.

The "Sweet Gum" (*Liquidambar styraciflua*) does produce an aromatic resin. The hardened sap or gum resin which may ooze from a tree wound can be chewed on like chewing gum and was often used for this purpose in the southern United States. The sap was also thought to be a cure for sciatica. Spanish naturalist Francisco Hernandez recorded the earliest known description of this species during his explorations in the New World (1570-1577) in which he depicts a large tree producing a fragrant gum resembling liquid amber, whence the genus name *Liquidambar*.

Grow this large tree (60-75') for its spectacular fall color. Sweet Gum is one of the last trees to turn, so you can enjoy its golds, reds and smokey wine purples into late autumn. It has distinctive glossy, star-shaped leaves that are strongly incense-scented when crushed. Sweet gum fruits, often called 'gum balls' by children, can contain up to 50 seeds in each fruit, seeds that are then eaten by many birds, chipmunks and squirrels. These spiky gum balls also made delightful winter decorations, but can be a chore to clean off walks and driveways.

Sweetgum is one of the most common hardwoods in the eastern United States. The wood is used for furniture, interior finish, paper pulp, veneers and baskets of all kinds.

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Calendar for September—What to do in Glencarlyn?

| DATE | GCA | St. Johns | Nature center | Library | Kenmore | Other |
|-----------|------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------|---------|---|
| Thurs 9/1 | | | | | | |
| 2-Sep | | | | | | LR -Band |
| 3-Sep | | | | | | LR live & movie |
| Sun 9/2 | | Service 8 & 10 | | | | |
| 5-Sep | | | | | | |
| 6-Sep | | 7:30 bk clb | | | | |
| 7-Sep | | | 8:30AM enviro / kids | | | |
| 8-Sep | | | | | | |
| 9-Sep | | | 7pm campfires | | | |
| 10-Sep | | | 7pm reptiles | | | |
| Sun 9/11 | | Service 8 & 10 | | | | |
| 12-Sep | MEETING | | | | | |
| 13-Sep | | | | | | |
| 14-Sep | | | 3:30-4:30 Rocks | | | Culpepper Gardens 12:30 Healthy eating |
| 15-Sep | | | | | | |
| 16-Sep | | | | | | |
| 17-Sep | Picnic 4-9 | movie | | | | |
| Sun 9/18 | Picnic Raindate1 | Service 8 & 10 | 2pm-8 work/play | | | |
| 19-Sep | | | | | | |
| 20-Sep | | | | | | |
| 21-Sep | | | 3:30-4:30 papermaking | | | |
| 22-Sep | | | | | | |
| 23-Sep | | | | | | |
| 24-Sep | Picnic Raindate2 | | | | | |
| Sun 9/25 | 1pm plant sale | Service / picnic 10AM | 12-4 enviro merit badge | | | |
| 26-Sep | | | | | | |
| 27-Sep | | | | | | |
| 28-Sep | | | | | | |
| 29-Sep | | | | | | |
| 30-Sep | | | | | | |
| 1-Oct | | | | | | |
| Sun 10/2 | | Service 8 & 10 5 blsg pets | | | | |
| 3-Oct | Meeting | | | | | |

Lubber Run # **St. John's 703-671-6834** GCA www.glencarlyn.org Nature Center 703-228-6547
 Library 703-228-6548 <http://library.arlingtonva.us> Culpepper Gardens 703-241-5530

See it all in color and see the rest of the publication on line at www.glencarlyn.org
Don't miss the "Tyvek Report" (construction in the Village) and the best place to stay
 on line when the Verizon / DSL goes down. The library uses Comcast



“If you don’t read a newspaper you are uninformed. If you read a newspaper, you are misinformed.” Mark Twain

New flag design proposed for Glencarlynn.

Carlín Hall is ready for the next coat of paint. Maybe better prep or paint would last longer this time.

Photos by David Backus



New wrap around porch is being put on at 5808 3rd

Photos by David Backus

Photos by David Backus



5520 3rd Street renovation—Great attention to details –beautiful



5708 4th St. gets new addition to the rear of the house. Looking good!

Photos by David Backus

Greeting card: “When they made you, they broke the mold! Rumor has it they beat up the mold maker too.”



Photo by David Backus

On July 11th at 3:30pm, Verizon service was cut to our neighborhood due to a construction project. The cable wasn't repaired for five days for many of us and up to eight days for others. Behind Glencarlyn Library is a wonderful (with mosquitoes) place to use your wireless. The library leaves it on all the time (Comcast). President Oliver has sent a letter to Verizon. Please see page 2.



Photo by David Backus

Roof falls into dumpster! 5417 gets ready for total renovation and roof rising.



Photos by David Backus

Totally renovated and on the market, 5726 1st. St.

Definition of politics: "Poli", from the Greek word for "many" and "tics" for small blood sucking parasites.

Visit the Glencarlyn Library Community Garden on Facebook
 Anyone registered with Facebook can visit the page to see photos and information about the garden.