

Aurora Highlands

CIVIC ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2011

AURORA HIGHLANDS CENTENNIAL
1910—2010

AuroraHighlands.org

Inside This Issue:

- ◆ AHCA Slate for 2012
- ◆ AHCA Dues are Due
- ◆ President's Corner
- ◆ Library Survey
- ◆ Scouting Activities
- ◆ Holiday Season Begins
- ◆ English Ivy
- ◆ Library Budget
- ◆ School News
- ◆ Activities and Events
- ◆ Tree Talk

If you live in the Aurora Highlands area, you are invited and encouraged to come to our monthly meetings where we meet neighbors, discuss topics of interest and share information. All are welcome to attend. Come and meet your neighbors at the Aurora Hills Community Center at 735 18th Street South. Childcare will be provided.

OUR UPCOMING MONTHLY MEETING:

Wednesday, November 9, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

AURORA HILLS COMMUNITY CENTER

Agenda

6:30 Social

7:00 Vote on the 2012 AHCA Slate of Officers
Elizabeth Rodgers, Arlington County Demographer
Federal Realty on Pentagon Row Plaza Redesign Proposal

Election of AHCA Officers for 2012 at Our Next Meeting on November 9

The November meeting will include election of the Association's leadership for the upcoming year. At the October meeting, Nominating Committee Chair Bruce Cameron presented the slate of officers for the consideration. The slate is as follows:

President: Jim Oliver
Vice President: Nicholas Giacobbe
Second Vice President: William Gillen
Business Secretary: Jenny Lawhorn
Corresponding Secretary: Vacant
Treasurer/Membership: Mark Ruckh

The vote at the meeting will consider the slate as presented by the Nominating Committee; additional nominees are also welcome from the floor.

The AHCA executive board, in cooperation with committee chairs and member volunteers, monitor Arlington County policies and activities to assure that our neighborhood values of maintaining a safe, quiet and healthy community are maintained.

Please join us to add your voice and talent to our efforts. Getting involved is a great way to meet your neighbors and build community. It can also be a lot of fun!

Dues are Due

A reminder that Association dues are now due. The Association's voice is only as loud as its membership, so please be sure to send your membership in today or bring your payment to the November meeting. Envelopes are included in all the paper copies of the newsletter and there's also a membership form on page 11 that you can clip and mail in. Dues remain unchanged at \$20 per household.

If you and your family have enjoyed any of the neighborhood activities and events, such as Passport to Summer at the library, the Boo Ha-Ha, Edgar Allen Poe Night, Candidates Night, or Dinner at the Firehouse, please join the Aurora Highlands Civic Association. Find an issue or activity that you care about and get involved — many hands make light work!

See you at the meeting!

Our sincere thanks to Linden Resources for its support of AHCA by printing our newsletter.



750 South 23rd Street • Arlington, VA 22202 • 703-521-4441

Printing	Copying
Mailing	Hand Assembly
Fulfillment Services	Conference Support

www.Linden.org

President's Corner

by Michael Dowell

We had a great Boo Ha-Ha the other week, made possible through generous donations from our sponsors. Also thanks to some neighbors Tom Boerger, Bruce Cameron, the Garrisons, Nick and Cory Giacobbe, Bill Gillen, Laura Holman and Geva Lester for pulling it all together. Special thanks to Rory, Gibson and Duncan for bringing the Haunted House to life, and adjusting the thrills for the young kids and old.

Although we don't have a neighborhood nursery, Meadow Farms out at Seven Corners comes is fairly close; they've supported us with straw bale loans for four years!

We had some really creative folks at the Boo. Here's their contact information if you'd like to follow up with them.

Nathan the Juggler: www.jazzyjuggler.com
Ivonne Salazar: www.heavenlyfacedesigns.com
Saban "Kip" Hess: kipfacepaint@gmail.com

Looking forward, we have an interesting agenda for the November 9 AHCA Monthly Meeting. We'll vote on the 2012 AHCA Officers Slate. Elizabeth Rodgers, the Arlington County Demographer, will review

the 2010 AHCA and ARCA neighborhood census data and that of the overall 22202 area. Take a look at the AHCA and ARCA summary data at this link: http://www.arlingtonva.us/departments/CPHD/planning/data_maps/Census/2010Census/civic/page82974.aspx. And we'll review the proposed Pentagon Row plaza redesign.

Pentagon Row is 10 years old! Federal Realty, the owner, feels the central plaza is due for an update. This designated open space has become a successful community center for us, so we want to consider what's good about the present plaza and make it better. Federal Realty proposes to make a bigger ice rink – which is good, but how to preserve and improve the year-round ambience of the plaza? We offered Federal Realty some guidance last month and they have revised the plan accordingly. The new design is promising and shows that the design team has considered our concerns carefully. But come review the plan and decide for yourself. The Federal Realty design team will present the plan for community review and comment. Federal Realty hopes to gain our support for the plan, which will be considered at the County Board Meeting in December.

What's Your Vision for the Library?

The Arlington Public Library system wants to know what Arlingtonians want to see from their libraries in the coming years. To understand what we think, Library Director Diane Kresh is organizing public gatherings this fall to gather impressions and ideas. Two dates remain. Please attend if you care about the future of our public libraries.

Nov. 3, 7:00 p.m., Fairlington Community Center, first floor

Nov. 10, 7:00 p.m., Washington Lee High School, Little Theater

As a part of the process, there is also an online survey available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DSXNKTC>.

Scouting for Food on November 5th and 12th

On Saturday, November 5th and 12th, Cub Scout Pack 164, the local neighborhood pack, will be conducting its annual "Scouting for Food" community service project, asking residents for donations of non-perishable food to benefit the needy. Thanks to the generosity of our neighborhood last year, the pack collected 579 bags of food weighing approximately 2,895 pounds.

On Saturday, November 5th, Scouts will deliver "Scouting for Food" bags throughout the neighborhood. After receiving the bag, we ask that you place whatever goods you're willing to donate in the provided bag. Canned or boxed goods are preferred (pasta, peanut butter, breakfast food, tuna, soup, fruit, beans, etc.). On Saturday, November 12th, Scouts will return to collect the bags that residents have

filled with food donations. Please have the bags out by 9:00 a.m. in a conspicuous location.

"Scouting for Food" is the largest food collection drive in the Washington area and your contributions are vital for the success of numerous helping organizations. Food collected in Arlington goes to the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC), and "Scouting for Food" provides a significant portion of their annual contributions. AFAC currently serves over 1,200 Arlington families per week (over 3,500 individuals) who cannot afford to purchase enough food to meet their basic needs.

If you have questions or comments, please direct them to the Pack 164 Cubmaster, at cubmasterpack164@gmail.com.

Cub Scout Call for Old Flags

Cub Scout Pack 164 is calling for old flags. As you begin to prepare the outside of your home for winter, or are going through things during a fall clean up, and notice that your U.S. flag has become faded, tattered or is no longer serviceable for display, Cub Scout Pack 164 is collecting flags for a dignified retirement ceremony this coming spring. Anyone with a flag that requires retirement is invited to contact Assistant Cubmaster Joe Mazel, cubmasterpack164@gmail.com to arrange for pickup.

Do you have a neighbor who's doing something cool? Write it up and send it in.

MT Vernon Baptist Church

You are invited to visit us at:

MT VERNON BAPTIST CHURCH

935 South 23rd Street

Phone: 703-979-1558

WWW.MVBCCC.ORG

EMAIL MVBCCC@MVBCCC.ORG

Weekly services:

11 a.m. Sunday, 7 p.m. Wednesday

A Guy & A Leash

PROFESSIONAL PET CARE PROVIDERS



- Serving the Aurora Hills area
- Competitive rates
- Custom 24-7 care

703.593.7368

AGUYANDALEASHLLC.COM

Our sponsors support the activities of the Aurora Highlands Civic Association



Well Being

A primary care doctor's office and wellness center – combined to empower healthy living.



Commonwealth MEDICAL CENTER

3535A South Ball St. just off Rt. 1
703-558-4922

commonwealthMC.net

We're here for you. Call or stop by!



Neighborhood

703-979-2300 Real Estate, LLC

2219 S. Arlington Ridge Road
Arlington, Virginia 22202
www.neighborhoodrealestatellc.com



Tracy Shively
(703) 930-0268



Tonya McKee Finlay
(571) 221-1960



SPECIALIZING IN PERSONAL PROFESSIONAL REAL ESTATE SERVICES. WE MAKE IT OUR FIRST PRIORITY TO ASSIST YOU IN MAKING SOUND REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT DECISIONS. CALL US FOR AN APPOINTMENT TODAY!



HOME ENERGY MEDICS

Prescriptions for Home Comfort, Health, & Energy Savings

Energy Audits, Insulation, Air Sealing

Is your house ready for Winter?
We can help you beat the cold!
Cash in on VA rebates!



703.447.5379
HomeEnergyMedics.com

Aurora Hills Women's Club Holiday Boutique

The Aurora Hills Women's Club was established in 1958 with the motto of "**continuing community commitment.**" The club is a 501(c)(3) organization committed to providing a social environment for our members but more importantly a forum for programs regarding civic affairs in our community and to raise and donate funds to local charities, non-profit agencies and community projects. Today it is proud to boast a membership of over 80 women from our local community.

This year the club is holding the 6th annual Holiday Boutique on December 3rd from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, 830 23rd Street South. As in the past, the admission is free. Lunch will be on sale along with homemade baked goods, including pies, cookies, candied nuts and this year some take-home dinners. Vendors and local artisans will be selling items such as hand-crafted wooden toys, hand woven scarves and throws, handmade natural soaps, imported wares for the home, hand thrown pottery, various styles and types of jewelry, stationery, clothing and more. There will also be our famous luxury gift basket raffles including such items as Diamond Club Nationals' tickets and gift certificates to local restaurants. We will also be selling fresh wreaths custom decorated to your taste.

The proceeds from this Boutique will benefit "Doorways for Women & Families Shelter" and the Hume School, a neighborhood landmark and home to the Arlington County Historic Society. In the past 5 years the club has raised over \$20,000 for charities through the Holiday Boutique.

Holiday Boutique

Sponsored by Aurora Hills Women's Club
benefitting

Doorways for Women and Families Shelter
& The Hume School,
Arlington Historical Society

Saturday, December 3rd

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church Hall
830 23rd Street, South Arlington
10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Unique gift items from local vendors & artisans

Luxury gift basket raffle

Bake Sale

Lunch on sale

Fresh decorated wreaths
for more information visit

<http://ahwcl1958.org>

Firewood Quarantine

As we enter the fall and winter months, many of you will be purchasing firewood for fireplaces. The Virginia Department of Agriculture Consumer Services and USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) are concerned that a danger exists from the movement of firewood and have put a quarantine in place for Arlington County.

It is important NOT to purchase firewood from outside the quarantine area due to the discovery of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) in nearby counties. The Emerald Ash Borer is a destructive beetle that has caused the decline in tens of millions of ash trees in the U.S.

EAB, an invasive wood boring beetle, is native to China and eastern Asia. Since its first U.S. detection in Michigan, EAB has been responsible for the death and decline of tens of millions of U.S. ash trees. The interstate movement of firewood from quarantine areas is an especially high-risk pathway for spreading EAB.

APHIS works with State cooperators and foresters to raise public awareness about this pest and the potential threats associated with long distance movement of firewood. For more information contact the Arlington Office of Virginia Cooperative Extension at 703-228-6423 or 703-228-6400.

Knights of Columbus Conducting Annual Christmas Tree Sale

The St. Joseph the Worker Knights of Columbus Council #14516 will once again be holding its annual Christmas Tree Sale at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, on the corner of 23rd Street and South Hayes Streets daily from Saturday, November 26th through Monday, December 19th (or until supplies run out). The tree lot is open on weekends from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., and weeknights from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Sale profits underwrite the Knights of Columbus' charitable and community works in the neighborhood, including the St. Joseph Fund, Young Man and Young Woman of the Year Scholarships, Wounded Warrior baseball outings, and other causes and events throughout the year.

The lot will have a variety of trees from which to choose, including Frasier Firs, Douglas Firs and Blue Spruces from 3 feet to 8 feet tall (taller trees can be custom ordered and available for pickup at the lot within 48 hours). Prices will range from \$25 to \$70. In recognition of the state of the economy, through aggressively working with their supplier, the Knights were able to keep this year's prices the same as last year.

In addition to trees, the Knights will be selling fresh wreaths, pine roping, and tree stands, and the neighborhood's own Cub Scout Pack 164 will also be selling popcorn. So come on down and see the Knights for your tree!

What's Wrong With English Ivy?

By Marti Klein

English ivy is a no-mow evergreen that grows vigorously in sun or shade. What could be wrong with that?

Plenty. If given an opportunity, English ivy loves to grow up toward the sun. It will quickly cover small shrubs and tree saplings, depriving the shrub or sapling of necessary sunlight, bending branches and eventually killing the shrub. When ivy covers a larger tree trunk, the ivy traps moisture. This encourages diseases and creates a perfect habitat for tree boring insects.

Once the ivy reaches the tree's canopy, it weakens the tree by preventing sunlight from reaching some of the tree's leaves. The heavy, evergreen ivy adds weight to the weakened limbs of the tree. The limbs are then more likely to break in the next storm.

Once the ivy reaches a few feet off the ground, it produces berries with

seeds which birds eat and deposit everywhere. These seeds produce the ivy vines that are overrunning our parks and natural areas.

On the ground, English ivy is a thug that will eventually bury any other plant in its path. And it provides habitat for undesirable rodents and Asian Tiger mosquitoes.

It is simple to remove ivy from your trees. Cut the climbing ivy as close to the base of the tree as possible. Then cut the ivy again one or more feet above the ground. Do not try to pull freshly cut ivy out of the tree as this can damage your tree. If possible, you may also wish to pull the ivy away from the around the base of the tree. You may compost your ivy cuttings, use them for art projects, or place them in your regular trash can.

When you are ready to consider alternatives to your carpet of English ivy, a good place to start

is <http://www.hollinhills.org/parks/englishIvyAlternatives.php>.

If you want to learn to identify more invasive plants, come to the north end of the **Gunston Middle School north parking lot at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, November 5**. This training session will be followed by an opportunity to destroy English ivy, wisteria, porcelain berry and other non-native thugs.

Please also join us for a monthly [Haley-Oakridge-Gunston] **HOG Pull** at Haley Park at 9:00 -11:00 a.m. on the first Saturday of each month. For more information, contact: Marti Klein, [cum-mingslc@aol.com](mailto:cummingslc@aol.com) Jennifer Frum, frumjb@gmail.com Mary Ann Lawler, malawler0@gmail.com or Bill McLaughlin, billmclnative@gmail.com

How to Join the Neighborhood Listserv:

For bulletins of neighborhood interest, ask to join the Yahoo group 4D-A. The group is administered by Alice Andors of AHCA. Copy the address below into your browser. Once at the page, click on the blue rectangle marked "Join This Group!" <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/4D-A/>

How to Join Arlington Alert:

Arlington Alert is an alert system that allows the County to contact you during an emergency by sending text messages to your e-mail or cell phone. Copy the address below into your browser. Once at the page, click on the blue rectangle marked "Click here to register!" <http://www.arlingtonalert.com/index.php?CCheck=1>

The Neighborhood's on Facebook!

Stay informed and involved in what's going on in the neighborhood. Join the **Aurora Highlands Civic Association** group on Facebook. Get current updates on news and events. Share information and ideas. Post and view photos.

For information mostly pertaining to the Aurora Hills Library, join the Facebook group called **Save Aurora Hills Library**. Learn what you can do to help keep our local library branch open and available as the vibrant center of our community.

Another Opportunity to Restore Library Services

by Shelley Wade

The October 27 Library Futures meeting at Walter Reed made one thing very clear: the attendees were concerned about access. In particular, the kinds of access denied by the digital divide. Right now, people without technology have access to the Library, including its virtual wonders, only when it's open. A few computers at Community Centers, with their signed-up-for-without-staff-support hour, don't substitute for a library, or serve enough residents.

We can still do something. The November 19 County Board meeting will include the fiscal year 2011 close-out - that's when the County re-appropriates 'excess' money from the recently ended fiscal year into the current one. Last year's close-out involved millions of dollars. Please contact the Board and ask that this year's funds be used to restore branch library operations. Total cost for one 8-hour day at all six branches is \$168,000 (\$75,000 if the hours added in July are dropped in favor of the full day).

The County Board listens to citizen requests when it comes to the libraries and this is an opportunity to speak up again. Please contact the County Board NOW and ask for close-out funds to be used to restore branch library operations, email county-board@arlingtonva.us; or write to: County Board, 2100 Clarendon Blvd, Suite 300, 22201. Our libraries support all our residents, including schoolchildren, seniors, young families, and the homeless.

Fall Fun Photos





A Block Party for your Street? Why Not?

By Rick Strobach, of Arlington Ridge Civic Association

Block Party Grants Approved by Civic Association

A block party is a great way to meet your neighbors, cultivate community spirit, and have FUN! On S. 17th Street, we have been hosting our party since 1999. Every year, my neighbors express their appreciation for all the work the organizing team has put in. What may seem like an overwhelming endeavor, however, is really very simple to pull off. The block party starts with someone stepping forward to lead the effort and perhaps two or three neighbors who are willing to help. Timing is important. On S. 17th Street, we have learned that having the party in late September/early October is most successful. The weather is cooler, and it seems to get dark just

at the time when people finish eating and sit down to chat. Because the goal is to get to know your neighbors, we invite always people from the surrounding streets. Since everyone brings something, there is no lack of food, and the blocked-off street allows the party to expand to accommodate more people. We have learned that, above all, it is the party and "neighborliness" that matter. This year's S. 17th St. party took place right in the middle of a cold and rainy weekend in early October. We decided to press on that Saturday because the forecast for Sunday was just as bad. Much to our surprise, we had a great turn out! It seems that the desire to be with neighbors

and have fun overcame the terrible weather. Someone set up a canopy, we had a fire pit going, and one neighbor offered her house and front porch when it began to drizzle. As in the past, the team received many compliments and heartfelt thanks! With the support and enthusiasm of neighbors, organizing a block party is a breeze.

[Editor's note: Rick Strobach prepared a detailed step-by-step process for organizing a block party. It is available on the AHCA Website and will be printed here in the spring.]

AHCA now provides block party grants to members of AHCA to cover the cost of the County Permit (\$64 for the permit and barricades). Just bring your permit receipt to an AHCA meeting and the treasurer will write you a check. Get started planning your block

party! Check the web page below for guidelines from Arlington County:

<http://www.arlingtonva.us/departments/Environmental-Services/dot/traffic/parking/Environmental-ServicesHb2.aspx>



School News

By Laura Stone

OAKRIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEEDS TUTORS: from Tom Martin, Tutoring Program Coordinator

We are off to a great start this 2011-2012 School year, but we still need more energetic adults or high school students to make a difference in the lives of the children in our community. Tutors work with a 3rd, 4th or 5th grader in reading, math and homework on Tuesdays and/or Thursdays from 3:30 – 4:45 p.m. Volunteers receive training and are provided with materials.

Contact Tom Martin at 703-521-5005, or email him at tom_martin542@hotmail.com

Gunston: by Josh Merck

Gunston's recently completed (October 14th) Help the Homeless Mini-Walk raised \$17,500 for Doorways for Women and Families.



November 8 is a Teacher Workday. No School for Students

November 10 is Career Day

November 11 is Veterans Day. School is closed.

December 1 is our Rising 6th Graders (current 5th graders) Orientation at 6:00 p.m.

In December we will have our winter concerts on the following days:
12/8 @ 7:00 p.m. 12/14 @ 7:00 p.m.

Wakefield: by Katharine Voldal

The Wakefield PTA will host a special community meeting on the new high school construction on Monday, Nov. 14 from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Representatives from APS and the construction management team will provide an overview of the building project to date, followed by a Q&A ses-

sion. The meeting will be held in the Wakefield High School cafeteria. Wakefield parents and residents of the surrounding community are invited to attend! Immediately following this session, the regular monthly PTA meeting will be held in Room 110.

Coming in December:

WHS presents *The Marriage of Miss Hollywood and King Neptune* by Robert Schenkkan, a comedy set against the backdrop of early Hollywood and LA political corruption. Performances are December 2, 3, 9 & 10 at 7:00 p.m. Wakefield auditorium. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for students.

December 5 - Info Night for Wakefield Parents: (College) Financial Aid Workshop - 7:00 p.m., Room 110

December 13 - Winter Band Concert at 7:30 p.m.

December 20 - Winter Orchestra and Choir Concert at 7:00 p.m.

**BUY 2
WINDOWS
GET 1
FREE!**

NO LIMIT!

Model Parameters, 2 window minimum, cannot be combined with any other offer, and not valid on large, bow, garden windows or 3-4th sets.

WINDOWS

Easy.
Affordable.

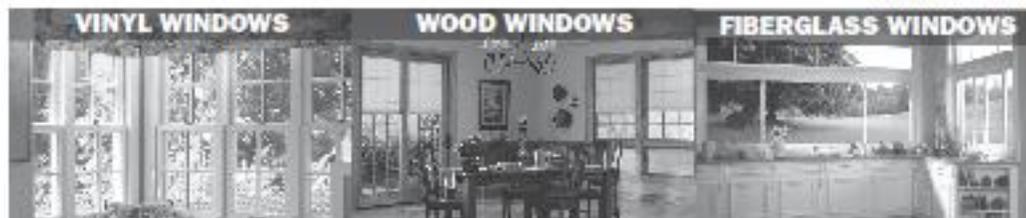
Replace Your Windows BEFORE Winter Is Here.

-Local, trusted company, Aurora Highlands resident.
Call me for a FREE estimate.


WINDOW NATION
WINDOWS • SIDING • DOORS



www.WindowNation.com



PHILLIP GEHRIG
Window Specialist
/Sales Manager
202-423-0647
windowphil@gmail.com

Activities and Events

Courthouse Farmers' Market, Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. – noon. Located adjacent to the Arlington County Courthouse Parking Lot, at the intersection of North Courthouse Road and North 14th Street. Arlington's largest market, it continues year round and averages about 30 vendors, all of whom are required to produce their items within 125 miles of Arlington. Free parking in the garage under the County Administrative Offices. No dogs are allowed at the market.

Del Ray Farmers' Market, Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. – noon, corner of East Oxford & Mount Vernon Avenues. The nearby Del Ray market is open year round, offering producer-grown fresh vegetables and fruits in season. All year round, this market offers meats, eggs, fresh pasta and sauces, Amish cheese, yogurt, bakery goods, eggs, jams and jellies, fancy nuts, and bakery goods.

Bread of Life Cooking Classes, 3rd Saturday of each month, 1:00 - 3:30 p.m., Mount Vernon Baptist Church. For young chefs; come sharpen your culinary skills; dress up in chef uniform and have fun. Free. Call (703) 979-1558 or e-mail mvbccc@mvbccc.org.

YogaFit for Seniors, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11:00 a.m., Mount Vernon Baptist Church. Sit & Be Fit. This class is gentle, fun and the first two classes are free with a small fee afterwards. You must call or e-mail 1st to sign up. Call (703) 979-1558 or e-mail mvbccc@mvbccc.org.

Crystal City Farm Fresh Market, Every Tuesday through November 22, from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., on the Sidewalk along Crystal Drive between 18th and 20th Street. Over 20 local farmers and producers bring together seasonal fruits and vegetables, fresh-cut flowers, container plants and herbs, farm-raised eggs, all-natural meats, artisan baked goods, specialty foods and much more.

YogaFit, Tuesday & Thursday, 6:30 p.m. at Mount Vernon Baptist Church. Experience the health benefits of gentle Hatha Yoga. First two

classes are free. Small fee afterwards. Call (703) 979-1558 or e-mail mvbccc@mvbccc.org.

Youth Friday, 2nd Friday of each month beginning in September, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m., Mount Vernon Baptist Church. Various activities such as readings, story-telling time, movie night. Hot dogs, chips, popcorn, drinks. Free. Call (703) 979-1558 or e-mail mvbccc@mvbccc.org.

Pancake Breakfast, Saturday, November 5th, 8:00 to 10:00 a.m., Calvary United Methodist Church, 2315 South Grant Street. Begin fall with delicious pancakes prepared by the men of Calvary. You are sure to see all your neighbors and friends and it will be a great time to catch up on everyone's fall activities.

Long Bridge Park Ribbon Cutting, Saturday, November 5, 11:00 a.m. Join your fellow neighbors for the much-anticipated Long Bridge Park opening. Enjoy tours of the new 18-acre park that includes three athletic fields, a half-mile esplanade, rain garden, public green space, and more. Explore the surrounding area in the Roaches Run overlook nature walk, cheer during the Marymount soccer exhibition, and win prizes during eco-friendly giveaways!

Arlington Students Environmental Education Day, Saturday, November 5, 1:00 - 5:00 p.m., Aurora Hills Community Center. Neighbor Miriam Gennari is organizing a great event for our kids and the afternoon will include games, classes, crafts, demonstrations, a bike rodeo and much more. This event is sponsored by AHCA and ARCA, and will include participation by Arlington Public Schools, ACE, WABA, Virginia Cooperative Extension, the Sierra Club, the Washington-Lee Environmental Club, and Science Fair Winners. Be on the lookout for information on www.arcaonline.org, and plan to bring your children to the event!!

General Election, Tuesday, November 8, 2011, 6:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Don't forget to vote!

Leadership Arlington Program on Effective Communication and Dealing with Difficult People, Wednesday, November 9, 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., WETA-TV Channel 26, 2775 South Quincy Street. An interactive workshop to enhance participants' ability to effectively handle difficult workplace and personal situations. Ian Reynolds will facilitate key exercises to improve communication skills and navigate complicated human interactions both in and out of the office. To learn more or to register online: <http://www.leadershiparlington.org/programs/speaker-series>.

Feed Your Soil, Feed Yourself - Composting Workshop, November 9, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m., Walter Reed Community Center - 2909 16th Street South. Learn how to compost your yard and kitchen wastes to increase your crop yield, make your plants and vegetables more disease resistant, and improve the water retaining capacity of the soil. For more information, contact the Virginia Cooperative Extension Help Desk at (703) 228-6414.

"Prohibition in Arlington," Thursday, November 10, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., Arlington Central Library. The Arlington Historical Society and Arlington Heritage Alliance are sponsoring a free presentation by Arlingtonian Garrett Peck, author of the recently published book "Prohibition in Washington, D.C.: How Dry We Weren't" and leader of the "Temperance Tour" of Prohibition-related sites in the Nation's Capital.

Weatherization Workshop, November 10, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m., Walter Reed Community Center - 2909 16th Street South. Get your hands on a caulk gun, spray foam, door sweeps, window film, and much more! Join in this hands-on weatherization training to learn how to make your home more comfortable and reduce your utility bills. The workshop will cover a multitude of low cost actions and send you home with a FREE water conservation kit. For more information or to register, email hreinecke-wilt@arlingtonva.us.

For the Finest Quality Home

TROUTMAN HOMES

New ♦ Renovation ♦ Addition



DAN TROUTMAN 703-380-6361

Linden Resources Invites You to

Miracle on 23rd Street Tree Lighting Celebration

Friday, December 2, 2011
6:30pm - 8:30pm

Linden Resources
750 S. 23rd Street
Arlington, VA



6:30pm - Brass Band
7:00pm - Tree Lighting
7:05pm - Santa Arrives!
7:15pm-8:30pm - Visit with Santa,
Caroling, Refreshments, Crafts for Sale and Crafts for Kids

Bring the whole family to enjoy an evening of holiday festivities and a special visitor from the North Pole!



Linden Resources is a nonprofit organization that helps people with disabilities to have jobs. Miracle on 23rd Street is made possible through the generous support of sponsors, donors, volunteers and neighbors. To make a donation, visit Linden's website at www.Linden.org/donate. Thank you.

Sponsored by

The Philadelphia Trust Company BB&T Bank and Insurance Services



750 South 23rd Street
Arlington, VA 22202
t 703.521.4441
www.Linden.org

Call Linden Resources today to see how we can save you time and money!

Linden offers a full range of services:

- Full Color Printing and Copying
- Complete Bindery Capabilities
- Mailing
- Variable Data Services
- Hand Inserting
- Warehousing
- Order Fulfillment



SAVE 15%
on your first print order
when you mention this ad



Yes! I want to join the Aurora Highlands Civic Association!

Please complete the following information and enclose the form with your check payable to **Aurora Highlands Civic Association**. Annual dues are **\$20.00** per household. Bring it to the next Civic Association meeting or mail to:

Membership Chair
Aurora Highlands Civic Association
P.O. Box 25201
Arlington, VA 22202

Member information:

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Check here to receive Civic Association announcements by email.

I'm ready to get involved!

I am interested in:

Library Schools Parks and Rec. Streets & Lights

Zoning/Planning Other _____

Serving on an AHCA committee

Note: Your address, phone number and e-mail address will not be released outside the civic association. The dues year runs November 1 to October 31.

Tree Talk: Restoring Our Community's Native Tree Canopy

by Cory Giacobbe

TreeSteward Class Starts Feb. 8

Apply now for the next TreeStewards volunteer training class. Classes will be held on Wednesday evenings, February 8 – April 18 2012 at Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St., Arlington. Class will also include three Saturday morning sessions. For details and the 2012 application, visit the TreeStewards of Arlington and Alexandria website: <http://treestewards.org/>

It's For the Birds

Here are 3 things you can do to help protect native birds and their habitats. This is especially important as birds pass through our area on their spring and fall migrations.

1. Plant trees. Help provide future habitats for threatened bird species in the United States and Latin America.

2. Keep your cat indoors. Help prevent excessive predation on birds and small animals. To safely go outside, cats can be walked on a leash or released into a cat tunnel or other enclosure.

3. Bird-safe your windows. Help reduce bird collisions. Walk around outside your home to see which windows are most reflective. Even very small ones such as on garage doors, can present a threat. One remedy is to apply tape on the outside to break up the reflection. More suggestions can be found at www.abcbirds.org.

Fall Leaf Collection

See the October 2011 Newsletter for information of keeping some leaves on the ground for wildlife and soil conservation. For the leaves you decide not to keep, County fall leaf collection is coming! During the months of November and December, Arlington County collects leaves from residents who receive county curbside trash and recycling services. Residents can rake their leaves in loose piles to the curbside for vacuum leaf collection, or put their leaves in biodegradable leaf bags for collection. In a classic recycling effort, the County mulches the leaves and brush it collects from residents, and grinds them to

create mulch that is available to residents. Visit the County website for details <http://www.arlingtonva.us/departments/EnvironmentalServices/swd/EnvironmentalServicesSwdLeafCollection.aspx>

Notable Tree Program Nominations Close on December 15

The tree must fall into at least one of the following categories:

- Size and/or Age: Scored by height, circumference and canopy cover, the condition of the tree is also taken into consideration.
- Species: Unusual species for this area.
- Historical Interest: For example, associated with an event, famous person or building.
- Special Significance to the Neighborhood



Fill out the [Notable Tree Nomination Form](#) available online and mail to:

Notable Tree Program, Attention Landscape & Forestry Section
Arlington County Division of Parks and Natural Resources
2700 South Taylor Street
Arlington, VA 22206

Nominators other than the tree's owner should contact the owner for consent before submitting the application; owners may request that their names and addresses not appear on the public listing.

Volunteers and/or County staff will measure and evaluate the tree, taking into consideration its health and condition before making a recommendation to the Beautification Committee, which makes the final decision. For more information call 703-228-7747.

Aurora Highlands Civic Association

Association Officers & Committee Chairs

President – Michael Dowell
703-521-7739

Vice President – Nick Giacobbe
703-842-5441

2nd Vice President – Cory Giacobbe
703-842-5441

Treasurer / Membership – Brent Spence

Secretary – Jenny Lawhorn
jennylawhorn@comcast.net

AHCA Rep. to Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee – Chris Mann

AHCA Rep. to Crystal City Business Improvement District (CCBID) – Cheryl Mendonsa

Long Range Planning Commission's Crystal City Long-Term Plan – Bruce Cameron & Mike Dowell

Aircraft Noise – Denis O'Sullivan
703-521-6425

Meeting Hospitality - Rosamunda Neuharth-Ozgo

Newsletter Distribution - Vacant

Newsletter Advertising - Marty King
703-979-3410 martinch@erols.com
Newsletter Editor – Cory Giacobbe
703-842-5441

Police and Waste Water Treatment Plant Liaison -Brad & Louise Garris -
703-548-1944

Urban Planning – Ted Saks
703-683-1312

Items for the Newsletter: Send items to the newsletter editor, Cory Giacobbe: AHCA.news@yahoo.com

For past issues of the newsletter, bylaws, and neighborhood boundaries and more, visit

AuroraHighlands.org

P.O. Box 25201 - Arlington, VA 22202

AuroraHighlands.org

"The Association is a non-partisan organization of community residents formed to work in the overall community interest in promoting civic pride, enhancing the quality of life in the community, preserving the character of the community and planning for the orderly, safe, and humane development of the community" (AHCA Bylaws, Article II). The AHCA meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month (unless specifically noted) in the Aurora Hills Community Center (735 S. 18th St.) at 7:00 p.m.