

## The Glen Echo

#### **Newsletter of Fairlington Glen**

March 2021

#### Beware: Carjacking Incidents on the Rise

The National Capital Region, along with other major metropolitan areas across the country, is experiencing an increase in carjacking offenses. You've probably read about this or heard something on the radio or TV news.

Since January 2020, the Arlington County Police Department (ACPD) has investigated 18 reports of carjacking in the County. Eight of those cases have been solved with arrest or the identification of a suspect currently held in another jurisdiction. ACPD detectives are working collaboratively with regional law enforcement partners to identify trends and apprehend suspects.

ACPD's efforts to prevent crime in Arlington County are enhanced by the active involvement of the community. If you observe suspicious behavior or are the victim of a crime, contact police immediately by calling the Emergency Communications Center (non-emergency) at 703-558-2222 or dial 9-1-1 in an emergency.

Carjacking suspects often approach victims as they are exiting or sitting in their parked vehicles, brandish a firearm, and demand the victim's keys and/or property. In some cases, the suspects approach the victim on foot while in others the suspects approach in a vehicle later determined to be stolen. Reported incidents in Arlington County have involved between one and four suspects.

Police remind you to follow these safety tips:

- Exit your vehicle and continue to your destination promptly after parking.
- Park in well-lit, high traffic areas.
- Be aware of your surroundings when entering and exiting your vehicle.
- Limit your use of devices that may distract you, such as cell phones and headphones.
- Don't leave items unattended or visible in your vehicle.

Jay Yianilos / Editor

The *Glen Echo* is published monthly. Our editor is always looking for ideas or input. Please e-mail him at jasonyianilos@yahoo.com.

The *Glen Echo* is published online each month on the Glen's website, at <a href="https://www.fairlingtonglen.com">https://www.fairlingtonglen.com</a>. To be notified by email when the latest edition is published, with a link to the newsletter, sign up for Glen Alerts via the Glen's website. Your e-mail address will be used only for official Glen business.

#### Latest News From The Board

The Fairlington Glen Board of Directors held their monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 9, 2021, online via Zoom. Here are some of the highlights.

#### **APPROVED**

Moved to authorize the President to sign a contract with Bishop's Tennis in the amount of \$85,564 for repairs/resurfacing on the Glen's four tennis courts and one basketball court.

Moved to approve Restoration Engineering, Inc.'s (REI) three-bidder proposal for spot roof and gutter inspection, bidding, and project administration for Courts 13-16 in the amount of \$10,520.

#### **NOTES**

The Pool Committee will be meeting to begin work on the upcoming pool season. Our contractor, Atlantic Pool Service, Inc., continues to advertise for the recruitment of lifeguards for the summer. See page 3 of this newsletter for more information.

The Landscape Committee reported that most landscape is dormant now, but plans and work will begin in March. The Treasurer inquired about having trimming done before the paint cycle begins for Courts 1-4 and emphasized that the Glen is responsible for plantings in the common areas while co-owners are responsible for plantings in patios and elsewhere that the co-owners have provided. The Landscape Chair asked when the soft washing (Courts 1-5) and painting (Courts 1-4) will be done so that needed pruning can be completed beforehand. Soft washing will probably be done in early March and the painting will probably be in the summer.

The next monthly Board meeting is scheduled on Tuesday, March 9, 2021, at 6:30pm. The Fairlington Community Center will remain closed as part of Arlington County's emergency response due to COVID-19, so the meeting will be held virtually via Zoom. Details to access the meeting will be announced as we get closer to the date.

#### **Daylight Saving Time Returns**



Get ready to change the clocks again on **Sunday, March 14, 2021**, when we officially return to Daylight Saving Time. That means at 2:00am please set your clocks forward one hour - or change your clocks before you go to bed on Saturday night. You'll lose an hour of sleep that night, but gain daylight in the afternoon.

Plus, this is always a great time to remind you to change the batteries in your smoke detector.

Daylight Saving Time in the United States begins on the second Sunday of March and continues until the first Sunday of November.

## Landscape Committee Needs Help for Spring



We're starting to see the initial signs of spring with some buds on the trees and some bulbs beginning to peek out. Soon, we will be out digging in our gardens.

In the fall, the Landscape Committee planted more than 100 trees, shrubs, and perennials to enhance our landscape, and there's more to be planted when the ground warms up. Plus, we will be adding color this spring in the form of annuals and perennials.

The committee is growing and your help is welcome! For more information, just send an email to <a href="mailto:glenlandscaping@gmail.com">glenlandscaping@gmail.com</a> and include your name, address, court number, and phone number. The committee is planning an initial meeting in the coming weeks.

The Glen has hired a new grounds maintenance contractor, Professional Grounds, Inc., for 2021. We are excited to welcome them to the Glen. Professional Grounds will be doing a spring cleanup of the Glen's common areas including all front and side beds. This will include edging, trimming, and removing debris to get the beds ready for a nice layer of mulch.

#### LIFEGUARDS NEEDED

For Summer Employment



Atlantic Pool Service, Inc., the Glen's pool contractor, is looking for lifeguards to work this summer in Fairlington Glen and nearby communities. Atlantic is one of the highest-paying pool companies in Northern Virginia.

For applications and information regarding discounted certification, please call or email:

**Atlantic Pool Service, Inc.** 

703-941-1000 / atlanticpoolinc@aol.com

Lifequard certifications are not required at time of hire.

## Say No to Crime in the Glen

Everyone wants a safe place to call home, and it's up to everyone to pitch in and help keep crime rates down in the Glen. Thankfully, taking a few simple steps can go a long way in keeping theft, vandalism, and other felonies and misdemeanors out of the neighborhood.

**KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS** - And not just the neighbors in your court, but also the neighbors from all parts of the Glen. At the very least, you'll get a better idea of who actually lives (and in turn, who



belongs) here. Talking with your neighbors and your court rep will also give you the chance to find out if they have noticed any crimes or suspicious activity recently. Tell your neighbors it doesn't hurt to be on the lookout.

**LEAVE THE LIGHT ON -** A good way to deter felons from breaking into your home is to make sure your front porch and patio lights stay on all night, even when you're out of town. Not only does it signal that someone's home, but it also makes it harder for vandals to hide among the shadows. If you're worried that you'll either forget to turn the lights on at night or off in the morning, you can purchase an inexpensive timer that will automatically do that for you everyday. Also, if you see any court lights that are blinking or burned out, please notify your court rep and e-mail our onsite staff.

**LOCK UP -** If you want to keep unwanted guests out, don't make your home inviting. Even when you're around, it's best to keep all gates and doors locked at all times. It's also a good idea to keep your windows closed and locked when possible, especially on the ground floor.

**PUT ON YOUR WALKING SHOES -** Taking a stroll around the Glen isn't just good exercise. You can casually patrol the community for anything suspicious or unusual. And when more residents regularly walk the Glen, it can help scare off the potential hooligans who are afraid of getting caught in the act.

**CLEAN IT UP -** Picking up litter not only makes the community look better, but also sends the message that our residents are diligent about keeping the neighborhood a respectable place to live. Simply discard litter in one of the many sidewalk trash cans. A clean community can help discourage troublemakers from hanging around the neighborhood and encourage more responsible and involved folks to move here.

**SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING -** If you notice a crime or any suspicious activity, please call the Arlington County Police Department (ACPD) immediately. Call 9-1-1 for emergencies and otherwise contact the ACPD on their non-emergency line at 703-558-2222.

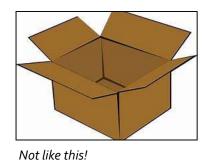
Let's all strive to keep the Glen a safe and happy place to call home!

#### How to Dispose of Boxes

Capitol Services of Virginia, our trash and recycling contractor, reports that countries such as China and India have stopped accepting America's recycling. As a result, recycling costs have skyrocketed. In order to save money, Capitol takes the Glen's cardboard, which is extensive due to all of the online purchases we're making these days, to Covanta, a waste management company, to be burned and recycled into energy. This is exactly what happens to our regular household trash.

The bottom line on boxes is this - cardboard boxes are no longer being recycled.

Whether you still put your cardboard out with the weekly recycling or with your household garbage, please note that it is important to empty all contents of the boxes (including packing materials) and to spend a moment breaking down the boxes before you put them outside.





But rather, like this!

NOTE: If you are placing cardboard out on recycling day, please put these boxes, after you break then down, onto the ground. Do not put cardboard into the recycling bins. It just takes up too much space that is otherwise needed for plastic, paper, and aluminum items.

## Or, Try This Box Alternative

If you want to ensure that your boxes will be recycled, learn more about Give Back Box...as suggested by a long-time Glen co-owner.



Give Back Box provides vendor services to retailers and charities, giving each and every cardboard box a second life to help people in need. Simply use your online shipping boxes in which you received items that you ordered, or any other cardboard box you may have, to donate unwanted household items such as gently used clothing, shoes, and more. You will certainly make a difference in someone else's life

#### Here's how it works:

- 1. Unpack your merchandise from the box and obtain a prepaid shipping label.
- 2. Fill the box with clothing and household goods you no longer need.
- 3. Attach the prepaid shipping label provided to the box and ship as usual.

For more information, go to https://www.givebackbox.com.

#### **Back to School Safety Tips**



Arlington Public Schools will begin a phased return to hybrid, in-person learning on Tuesday, March 2, 2021, starting with all Pre-K to 2nd grade students. To keep students safe during their commute back to class, the Arlington County Police Department (ACPD) will conduct a high-visibility traffic enforcement campaign in and around school zones and bus stops.

Because this is the first time in nearly a year that motorists will see an increased number of students walking, bicycling, and riding the bus to class, ACPD is encouraging the public to refamiliarize themselves with the location of school zones, applicable traffic laws (including those pertaining to school buses), and tips to keep students safe. The expansion of walk zones around schools will also require some students to walk and bike further than they have in years past and may result in more students being driven to class. In any event, the public can expect to see increased vehicular traffic in and around schools.

Variable message boards will be placed along roadways in Arlington County to raise awareness of the return to in-person classes and to remind motorists to slow down, avoid distractions, and watch for students. Temporary parking restrictions are being installed by the Arlington County Department of Environmental Services in designated areas near schools to create safe park and walk zones for students, teachers, and parents.



#### Governor Eases Some COVID-19 Restrictions

Virginia Governor Ralph Northam has announced that as COVID-19 hospitalizations and infection rates continue to decline and vaccinations rise in the Commonwealth, certain outdoor sports and entertainment venues may begin to operate at increased capacity starting March 1, 2021. He amended Executive Order Seventy-Two with the next steps of the "Forward Virginia" plan to safely and gradually ease public health restrictions while mitigating the spread of the virus.



"Thanks to the hard work and sacrifices of all Virginians, hospitalization and positivity rates across the Commonwealth are the lowest they have been in nearly three months," said Governor Northam. "As key health metrics show encouraging trends and we continue to ramp up our vaccination efforts, we can begin to gradually resume certain recreational activities and further reopen sectors of our economy. Even as we take steps to safely ease public health guidelines, we must all remain vigilant so we can maintain our progress - the more we stay home, mask up, and practice social distancing, the more lives we will save from this dangerous virus."

Virginia will maintain a Safer at Home strategy with continued strict health and safety protocols including physical distancing, mask-wearing requirements, gathering limits, and business capacity restrictions.

Governor Northam is beginning to ease public health restrictions by taking steps to increase capacity limits in outdoor settings, where evidence shows the risk of airborne transmission of COVID-19 is lower. The key changes in the Third Amended Executive Order Seventy-Two include:

**Social Gatherings** - The maximum number of individuals permitted in a social gathering will increase from 10 to 25 people for outdoor settings, while remaining at 10 persons for indoor settings.

**Entertainment Venues** - Outdoor entertainment and public amusement venues will be able to operate with up to 1,000 individuals or at least 30% capacity, whichever is lower. If current trends continue, these venues may be able to operate at 30% capacity with no cap on the number of people permitted to attend starting in April. Indoor entertainment and public amusement venues must continue to operate at 30% capacity with a cap of 250 people. All entertainment venues were previously limited to a maximum of 250 individuals.

**Dining Establishments** - The onsite sale, consumption, and possession of alcohol will be permitted until midnight, extended from 10:00pm. All restaurants, dining establishments, food courts, breweries, microbreweries, distilleries, wineries, and tasting rooms still must be closed between midnight and 5:00am.

**Overnight Summer Camps** - As of May 1, overnight summer camps will be able to open with strict mitigation measures in place. Registration can begin now.

The new guidelines will be effective for at least one month and mitigation measures may be eased further if key health metrics continue to improve. Current guidelines for retail businesses, fitness & exercise, large amusement venues, and personal grooming services will remain in place. Individuals are strongly encouraged to continue teleworking if possible.

Governor Northam has also amended Executive Order Seventy-Two to increase the number of spectators permitted at outdoor youth sporting events to 250.

#### **COVID-19 Vaccine News**

If you have not already pre-registered for the COVID-19 vaccine, you can do so on Virginia's new statewide vaccine pre-registration website: <a href="https://vaccinate.virginia.gov">https://vaccinate.virginia.gov</a>.

If you previously pre-registered elsewhere, your status will not be affected and it is not necessary to pre-register again. If you have questions, please call 877-VAX-IN-VA. Also, if you have a neighbor, friend, or relative without internet access, please have them call 877-VAX-IN-VA so that they can pre-register.



#### Income Tax Deadline Coming Soon

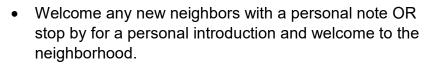
It's tax season...again. If you haven't already filed your federal and/or state tax returns yet, please remember that the deadline to file is April 15 for federal returns and May 1 for Virginia returns.

If you're due a federal refund, you can start checking on the status of your return using the "Where's My Refund?" online tool on <a href="www.irs.gov">www.irs.gov</a>. You can check once per day about 24 hours after the IRS receives your e-filed return or four weeks after mailing a paper return. The tool has a tracker that displays progress through three phases: 1) Return Received, 2) Refund Approved, and 3) Refund Sent. All that is needed to use "Where's My Refund?" is the taxpayer's Social Security number, tax filing status (such as single, married, head of household), and the exact amount of the refund claimed on the return.

"Where's My Refund?" is updated no more than once every 24 hours, and usually that's overnight, so there is no need to check the status more than once per day.

#### How to Be a Good Neighbor

Living in a community association like Fairlington Glen has plenty of advantages, but some disadvantages (namely square footage) too. When you live so close to your neighbors like we do, please remember that a little consideration goes a long way. We share the following tips from <a href="eHow.com">eHow.com</a> on how to be a good neighbor beyond just a smile and a wave.





- Make sure that the outside of your home is well kept and complies with our association's
  rules. Don't leave toys, strollers, or any other items on your front stoop, in the plant bed, or in
  the common area in front of your home.
- Be mindful of noise loud music or musical instruments, barking dogs, power tools that may disrupt the neighborhood beyond a reasonable hour.
- If you have a party, consider your neighbors. Invite them to join the fun or at the very least
  give them a heads up about the event. Direct your guests where to park/where not to park.
  End the party at a reasonable hour. Consider noise levels especially if the party extends to
  your patio area.
- Return anything you borrow from your neighbor promptly, in the same condition they lent it to you, and express your thanks.
- Replace anything of your neighbor's that you, your children, or your pets break or soil.
- Offer to take care of newspaper pick up, plants, or pets while your neighbor is on vacation.
- Be social. Inviting a neighbor over for coffee and conversation can promote open communication and a friendly neighborhood environment from which all neighbors can benefit.
- Respect your neighbor and their privacy!



We're fortunate to live in Fairlington Glen, a great neighborhood full of wonderful people.

Whether you're a long-time resident or a newcomer, don't be afraid to be a great neighbor.

You certainly don't have to be best friends, although that can happen. Just be neighborly...kind, polite, and helpful to one another.

## What to Do If You Call 9-1-1 by Accident

If you accidentally call 9-1-1, stay on the line and let the call taker know it was a mistake. This allows the call taker to resolve your call more quickly and to be ready for the next call coming in.

In one 18-month period recently, Arlington County's Emergency Communications Center (ECC) processed 19,906 abandoned calls, also known as 9-1-1 hang ups.



#### Here's how it all works:

- As soon as a 9-1-1 call is initiated, it immediately enters the call processing system.
- If the person making the call hangs up at any time after the call is initiated, the call is still presented to the call taker.
- The call taker then attempts to contact the caller to ensure that everything is ok.
- Up to three return phone calls are made to the caller, including leaving a voicemail when available.
- If the call originates from a landline phone, police are dispatched to check on the welfare of persons at that address.
- If call takers can make contact and are assured that there is no problem, then they cancel the dispatch of police officers.

On average, it takes three minutes for a call taker to process a 9-1-1 hang up. That's time that a call taker is not available to receive other 9-1-1 calls. ECC call takers have spent almost 1,000 hours handling hang ups during this 18-month period.

So remember, if you accidentally call 9-1-1, please stay on the line. This allows call takers to be more readily available for the next call, which may be a life or death situation.

## Library Express Service to Begin at Shirlington

Effective March 9, 2021, Arlington Public Library is reopening two library branches, Shirlington and Westover, for a 15-minute Express Library Service.

"This has been a long year, and Arlingtonians have missed their libraries. We are delighted to bring back time-limited, in-person browsing and reconnect with the community we love," said Library Director Diane Kresh.



Express Library Service open hours will be Tuesday through Thursday from 2:00 to 7:00pm AND Friday and Saturday from 11:00am to 4:00pm.

At Shirlington and Westover Express Service locations, library patrons will be able to:

- Browse books and media
- Pick up holds
- Check out items by using the self-serve checkout stations
- Receive physically-distanced assistance for account management and wayfinding

Patrons will be able to browse and check out books and media for 15 minutes initially, with the possibility of expanding to 30 minutes after evaluating patron demand. The library's priority is to provide library access to as many people as possible while ensuring patron and staff safety by limiting the number of people in the building at one time. All other services will be unavailable, including public seating, meeting rooms, and public computers.

The Holds Pickup Service at the Central Library will continue to operate as scheduled and patrons can use online library resources 24/7. Patrons are encouraged to use these services in lieu of browsing when possible.

"Our plans for reopening have always been predicated on our ability to establish a sustainable model and maintain the safety of patrons and staff. The last thing we wanted to do was reopen prematurely and close again, frustrating patrons and staff alike," Kresh said.

All other branches will remain closed at this time, and a reopening date for the remaining branches has not yet been determined. Arlington Public Library continues to work closely with Arlington County government leadership and the Public Health Division to make decisions about library operations.

For more information, please visit library.arlingtonva.us/express.

#### Fairlington Glen Contact List (March 2021)

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

President	Charlie Robbins	3534 S. Stafford	703-907-9842	cbrobbins63@gmail.com
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3 (27)	Daniel Oakley	3561 S. Stafford	704-996-2231	daoakley@gmail.com
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Glen Echo	Jay Yianilos			jasonyianilos@yahoo.com
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	Carol Goodloe	4343 S. 36th	703-379-7260	cagoodloe@comcast.net
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Variance	Greg Lukmire	4234 S 35th	703-578-4844	glukmire@verizon.net
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Property Manager	Candace Lewis, Card	linal Management	703-565-5244	c.lewis@cardinalmanagementgroup.com
Onsite Manager	Ben Mengstab		703-820-9567	b.mengstab@cardinalmanagementgroup.com

(Ben's hours: Tuesday & Friday 8:30am-5:30pm and Wednesday 1:30-5:30pm)

**EMERGENCY NUMBER** (after business hours and on weekends and holidays) 866-370-2989

NOTE: The Glen does not retain contractors for, or allow staff to undertake, repairs that are a co-owner responsibility under its Bylaws (such as sink back ups), absent emergency where the co-owner is unable to act (disabled, out-of-town, etc.).

## March 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Bulk Trash Pick Up
7	8	9 Board Meeting - 6:30pm	10	11	12	13
Daylight Saving Time Begins	15	16	HAPPY DAY!	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

# April 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				APRIL PÔOIS	2	3 Bulk Trash Pick Up
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	Board Meeting - 6:30pm	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 Earth Day	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	