



Ashton Heights News

The Newsletter of the Ashton Heights Civic Association

www.AshtonHeights.org

COVID-19: Our AHCA Community

Scott Sklar, President, AHCA

Well you can imagine we have lots of COVID-19 related challenges, but we are moving through them. As your AHCA President, I have had lots of communication with the County on issues, services, etc. As they are officially announced, I send them on the listserv. Some important info for you:

Arlington County Announces New COVID-19 Call Line

Community members who cannot find the information they need on the County's website or through other resources, should call 703-228-7999 for assistance.

Arlington County & Virginia Hospital Center Open A New COVID-19 Drive Through Test Center

A temporary drive-through COVID-19 sample collection site at 1429 N. Quincy Street. Physicians with symptomatic patients can send orders to the Virginia Hospital Center outpatient lab electronically in EPIC or via fax to 703-558-2448. Once they have received a physician's order, patients should call the VHC COVID-19 Scheduling Line at 703-558-5766 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Patients must schedule an appointment before visiting the collection site. Please keep your physician's phone number on the wall near your telephone and in your pocket as well.

This brings me to **REQUEST #1** - if you know a neighbor who is new to the area or not usually using the internet, please cajole them to join the AHCA listserv. Communications are extremely important at this time. Requests should be e-mailed to the AHCA listserv moderator, Betsey Lyon at etlyon410@gmail.com.

The AHCA April monthly meeting has been canceled (see box). We have to see how the coming months are as to whether we can reschedule future meetings.

Our AHCA Safety & Security Committee Chair [Christina Schultz](#) has an important column in this newsletter (page 3) on our AHCA Community Help and Service approach for helping those in Ashton Heights who are unable to leave and need food, medicines, and sustained periodic checking upon. We already have some volunteer names but more will be collected along with use of a formal request form (forms.gle/U8FjEmoDpWgD5ySo6). If you want to volunteer by being paired with a family/person, fill out the appropriate form:

The AHCA April monthly meeting has been canceled by the AHCA Executive Committee, since the CUMC church is not allowing rooms to be used and we would be over the 10 person guideline released by Arlington County.

The April AHCA Newsletter will be delivered electronically and we will have 50 copies printed for those residents who cannot access. A copy can be picked up at Bea Camp's house at: 435 N Lincoln Street.

If you know a neighbor who is new to the area or not usually using the internet, please cajole them (at a safe distance) to join the AHCA listserv. Communications are extremely important at this time. Requests should be e-mailed to the AHCA listserv moderator, Betsey Lyon at: etlyon410@gmail.com.

high risk (<https://forms.gle/PbvhhYUsT92xawv8>) and low risk (<https://forms.gle/Xpw2kR7wuAMWiDWp9>).

AHCA has a very high ratio of 65-and-older age group, and we have many with immune system deficiencies that make them more susceptible (such as diabetes, heart & lung disease, cancers, etc), handicapped/special needs, single parents, etc.

REQUEST #2 - if you have neighbors in these categories, call them or e-mail them - check how they are, let them know of this effort -- as a community we do not want ANYONE left out of this safety net, not one.

And finally, **REQUEST #3** - if you have any other ideas, concerns, etc, please email me directly at solarsklar@aol.com, or call me at home 703-522-3049. I have already received quite a number of emails/calls and I appreciate them.

I have seen some wonderful suggestions on the listserv, but wanted to highlight three:

1. Order in from local vendors routinely -- please let's keep our special businesses viable during this ordeal,
2. Short, socially distanced activities like dancing and bike riding for kids (and adults) is important .. safe social interaction is needed, and
3. Leaving books and other activities for pick up is wonderful to share -- reduce clutter and provide an activity for another.

Continued on page 2...

Ashton Heights Civic Association Volunteers

CIVIC ASSOCIATION MISSION

AHCA's mission is to promote the welfare and interaction of Ashton Heights and Arlington. Meetings, usually held the third Wednesday from September to May, are open to all residents, although only paid members can vote. Active participation is welcome. AHCA keeps you informed through meetings, this newsletter, and the website: www.ashtonheights.org. You can volunteer by contacting the Executive Committee.

Executive Committee

President: Scott Sklar solarsklar@aol.com 703-522-3049	VP Programs: Jim Richardson jabrichardson@verizon.net	VP Membership: Jim O'Brien jimob1@verizon.net 703-528-0376	Treasurer: Doug Williams treasurer@ashtonheights.org	Secretary: Jodie Flakowicz jodie.flakowicz@gmail.com
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Members-at-Large

Cole Deines coledines@gmail.com	Jim Feaster jimfeaster1@gmail.com	Patrick Lueb jiffy64@me.com	Ken Matzkin kenmatz1@gmail.com
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Committees

Listserv Moderator	Betsey Lyon etlyon410@gmail.com	Safety & Security	Christina Schultz cmschultz@yahoo.com
Development/Zoning	David Phillips davidphillips1@msn.com	Transportation	Patrick Lueb jiffy64@me.com
Housing	Matthew Hall mhall@goldsteinhall.com		
Playgrounds & Parks Subcommittee	Brent Burris brburris@gmail.com	Tree Canopy and Native Plants Subcommittee	Brooke Alexander brooke.alexander52@gmail.com
Schools	Gregory Morse gregm748@gmail.com		
Neighborhood Conservation Rep	Brent Burris brburris@gmail.com		

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President's Message - continued from page 1...

From what I see, most people are social distancing, friendly when walking by, my own neighbors are amazing (since I am way over 65) to make sure I am OK and have food - just the attributes that make this such a great community. The more we help each other, the better our community will make it through this unprecedented event.

I am certain we will as a community meet these new challenges. And again, I want to deeply thank so many of you that have already volunteered, offered to volunteer, keep our Civic Association functioning, and those for reaching out to your neighbors in your community. **Be well, Be safe. Many thanks.**

Please Note: the Kids, Inc. Entrepreneurs column has been removed from the newsletter for the time being while we weather the coronavirus storm.

Advertise with us!

The Ashton Heights newsletter is distributed to 1,200 households September - May. Our readers enjoy supporting local businesses.

Do you know of a local business that would benefit from advertising in the AH newsletter?

Email: newsletterads@ashtonheights.org

2019/2020 Ad Rates:

Business Card	\$60	Full Page	\$245
1/4 Page	\$85	Full Back Page	\$295
1/2 Page	\$145	One Page Insert	\$325



Ashton Heights Buddies
Community Safety and Security Corner
By Christina Schultz



With the coronavirus pandemic changing how our society functions and Arlington county reporting some of the highest number of cases in the state, it's more important than ever for our community to come together and take care of each other. Washing our hands, practicing social distancing, and following other guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is not the only way we can contribute.

Thinking locally and getting to know our neighbors are the most effective ways we can deal with this public health crisis together. With this in mind, **Ashton Heights Buddies** is being set up under the auspices of the Civic Association as a platform to help residents in the Ashton Heights neighborhood connect during these difficult times in the hopes that no one in our community has to face this crisis alone.

How It Works

Inspired by the Berkeley Mutual Aid Network, Ashton Heights Buddies will match one low risk individual/family with one high risk individual/family to provide check-ins and/or ensure access to essential needs and services. We will try to match buddies in close geographic proximity to simplify logistics, particularly if deliveries are involved. Once buddies are matched, you can decide together the best way to provide support. For example, buddies can help one another feel less isolated by checking in via text or phone calls or by social distancing walk-bys. You can coordinate the delivery of supplies, like food, prescriptions, cleaning products, and even toilet paper. There are also options for high-risk individuals to help others. For example, Zoom and Google Hangout are just a few options for virtual support. Whatever you choose, remember to follow CDC guidelines to prevent the spread of the virus.

Need Assistance? Please complete this form:

forms.gle/U8FjEmoDpWgD5ySo6

High-risk residents of Ashton Heights include those who are most at risk of developing serious complications from COVID-19, such as those who are 60 years of age or older, have compromised immune systems, and/or have been advised by a physician not to leave their homes. We must also keep in mind that there may be members in our community who are experiencing economic hardship. Assistance will not be limited to these groups. Other needs could include tutoring to keep up with school studies or providing guidance on one of those seemingly insolvable computer glitches. By completing the sign-up form, you agree to accept all risk and responsibility under the Ashton Heights Buddies system and that you will hold any facilitator associated with the Ashton Heights Civic Association harmless.

Want to Help? Please complete this form:

Low-risk individuals:

<https://forms.gle/Xpw2kR7wuAMWiDWp9>

High-risk individuals: **<https://forms.gle/PbvghiYUsT92xawv8>**

When matches require going to the grocery store or other location that does not involve social isolation, only individuals who are at low risk of developing serious complications from COVID-19, as defined by the CDC, can offer assistance. For other support that can be accomplished virtually, anyone can offer assistance, including high-risk individuals, as long as social isolation recommendations are heeded. We will contact you if there is an appropriate match. By completing the sign-up form, you agree to accept all risk and responsibility under the Ashton Heights Buddies system and that you will hold any facilitator associated with the Ashton Heights Civic Association harmless.

For any additional questions, please contact
AshtonHeightsBuddies@gmail.com.

BUNNY HOP RESCHEDULED!



New Date:
June 13th
8 a.m.

www.ArlingtonBunnyHop.org

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Renaming Henry Clay Park

By Toby McIntosh

Renaming Henry Clay Park to honor a renowned American Indian leader who lived in Lyon Park is being considered. Gertrude Simmons Bonnin was called "Gertie" by neighbors on Barton Street, living in a stone house that still stands.



Photo by Gertrude Kasebier

But she used Zitkála-Šá as the author of articles and books. Her Sioux name translates as "Red Bird," which seems like a pleasant name for the park now being renovated.

The history committee of the Lyon Park Community Association has supported the renaming and it will be voted on at the May LPCA meeting. Any recommendation will then proceed through a county approval process. (The names of county parks now honor 12 men and four women.)

The park is on the site of a school named for a Kentucky politician, Henry Clay. Changing it isn't an exercise in political correctness; rather, Clay is historically irrelevant to Arlington. There seems to be no local connection apart from a duel he fought near Chain Bridge. The committee is also recommending that commemorative, educational material on the school be installed, along with information about Zitkála-Šá.

Choosing to honor Zitkála-Šá (1876–1938) would help tell the story of a girl forced to repudiate her language and culture at a boarding school. (A book in the library children's room, *Red Bird Sings*, describes her life based on her writings.)

She became a talented orator and performed as a violinist and pianist. Zitkála-Šá taught music at Carlisle Indian School in Pennsylvania. She later co-wrote *The Sun Dance*, an opera based on Indian tunes and stories. Her 1901 book, *Old Indian Legends*, brought traditional Native American stories to a wide audience.

Living for 14 years in Utah on a Ute reservation with her Sioux husband, she developed an innovative community center with sewing classes for women.

Zitkála-Šá traveled extensively to speak, often in traditional garb. In 1934, she talked about "Indian Music, Art and Legends" at the Woman's Club of Arlington.

Throughout her life, Zitkála-Šá was active in Indian advocacy organizations. When she and her family moved to Washington in 1917, she was secretary-treasurer of the Society of American Indians.

Working with the General Federation of Women's Clubs, she created its Indian Welfare Committee and helping conduct an influential investigation in 1923 exposing land fraud against the Osage tribe.

She is buried with her husband in Arlington Cemetery.

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The Spring Market has arrived!

Momentum from the 2019 real estate market has continued into the new year. We are in the 8th year of a real estate bull market, and the conditions have been much more favorable to the seller. There has been a shortage of housing inventory nationally and locally. In 2019, the supply of property in Arlington & Alexandria was down 50% compared to a historic 5-year average. Single family homes in Alexandria & Fairfax appreciated 9.6% & 10.5% over a 5-year period while Arlington homeowners realized a 22% growth rate. Another factor in the current and recent market was the announcement in 11/18 of Amazon's HQ2 move to Crystal City. In an already hot market, Arlington became a focal point for speculators, home buyers and investors. The hype is more psychological than actual. Amazon hired 400 workers last year and is scheduled to bring on 600 to 800 employees in 2020.

Here is an example of what is happening in the current real estate market. After a 2-week coming soon marketing period starting in mid-January, we activated an Arlington property on 2/12. After one week of aggressive marketing we received 12 offers on the day of our contract deadline, resulting in an astounding \$70K above the asking price.

With current mortgage rates at 3.5%, homebuyers are coming out in droves, seeking homes to buy to take advantage of existing conditions with very few properties to choose from.

Have you had thoughts of selling? The next few months will present a huge opportunity with the current environment and trends. Contact me for a confidential discussion about your situation and we can customize a plan for you. *Who you hire matters - put my 35 years of local market expertise to work for you!*



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Living with your recently returned college student in the age of Coronavirus

By Erika Derr

No one expected the school year to take such a dramatic turn, certainly not our Ashton Heights neighbors with college-aged children, and least of all, those college students themselves! This season is typically filled with the cumulative coursework of the semester, but also with spring break immersion trips, late nights with friends, campus celebrations, study abroad, and preparation for upcoming transitions to jobs and internships, graduate school, summer classes and more. Instead, college students faced unplanned and hasty moves out of residence halls or apartments, virtual goodbyes to close friends, and a quick pivot to online learning, perhaps for the first time.

For those parents and college student aged children facing this change with bewilderment and frustration -- not to mention the general anxiety that we're all experiencing as a result of this global pandemic -- here are a few friendly words of advice to navigate this transition:

Parents:

- Give your student space to grieve the loss of this experience. Many students develop a sense of identity stemming from their university. Loss of time on campus means a loss of the learning experience, but a disruption to their relationships and perhaps their sense of self.

- Try to accommodate and encourage your student's independence. Up until a few weeks ago, they were making all their own daily decisions, without having to narrate each one. Help your student to continue to exercise their own autonomy.
- Practicing social distancing means giving up the freedom to see and spend time with friends. For those in their late teens and early twenties, developing strong interpersonal relationships is a critical developmental task, so this change is particularly tough. Be intentional about your relationship with your student while at home, and give them the chance to focus on strong relationship skills.
- For some students, this change may bring relief from some of the main stressors of campus life. Have a conversation with your student about what they will miss from this time away from campus, and what might be easier, healthier, or come as a relief from returning home.
- Talk about your expectations, and be open to some negotiation. For example, it may be a source of irritation if your child keeps a nocturnal schedule, but it may be important to them to stay in touch with friends in other time zones, so staying up late is par for the course. If you expect to know your student's general daily schedule, make that clear up front. Same goes for how you expect your student to participate in family life.

Continued on page 6...

Living with your college student continued...

- Recognize that homecoming is different from summer or winter breaks. Coronavirus protocols mean that families will have a lot of time together, without typical visits with high school friends or a return to a part time job. Young adults will need some downtime to integrate new habits of independence in this different environment.

Students:

- Share your best habits, new insights and growing sense of self with your family. Your autonomy and independence will bring your parents and loved ones a sense of pride.
- Stay connected to your college or university campus, and your friends too. There are staff, faculty and other students thinking hard about how to keep the campus connected during this unprecedented time of online learning. Read your campus emails, follow group and department social media accounts, and stay up to date with how your peers and fellow students are faring.
- Try something new each week. Whether it's joining a Facebook Live version of a campus event, or an online discussion group, or your professor's virtual office hours, take steps to participate in new ways of learning and being a member of your campus community.
- Hone your skills as an online student. After this health crisis, educational institutions and workplaces will probably make preparedness plans to avoid similar abrupt changes in

the future. Developing the skills to thrive in these online environments -- and help others thrive, too -- will be valuable to you as a student, and also as a future member of the workforce.

Everyone:

- Give each other grace! No one was expecting this, and none of us could have prepared for it. Kindness and forgiveness goes a long way.
- Stay inside and wash your hands! But I guess that's advice for all of us.

Ashton Heights resident Erika Cohen Derr, DLS, is a student affairs professional at Georgetown University whose work focuses on college student identity development and growth through co-curricular learning.

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Restaurant Review - Mala Tang

3434 Washington Blvd., Arlington, VA

By Vinh & Susan Nguyen

Please note: with current conditions, Mala Tang is open for delivery and take-out only, there is no in-store service. Mala Tang is the kind of place you save for happy occasions with a group. Hot pot communal eating brings a spirit of sharing and a bit of adventure for some. Our twin teenage kids will consider no other choice for their birthday dinner with family and friends, but we also go there at least 3 or 4 more times a year altogether.



Image courtesy of Mala Tang

The Sichuan restaurant offers a wide variety of styles through its extensive menu: a full regular menu including lunch combo specials; a “Chuan street food” menu of skewered items; a “dry pots” stir-fry-at-the-table version; and of course the mainstay hot pots that make this place stand out from others. Our review focuses on hot pots. Over the last ten years or so, Sichuan cuisine has established its own personality in the DC area, no longer lumped together with Hunan cooking. More specifically, the spiciness comes from Sichuan peppercorns and dried chili peppers, with the result a distinct “hot and numbing” flavor/sensation. Besides Mala Tang, you can find this style at Peter Chang’s restaurants and more recently, TNR Café in Courthouse. Some of our favorite appetizers include Dandan noodles, green onion pancakes, and dumplings. The Dandan noodles are praiseworthy, with fresh wide rice noodles cooked al dente and topped with a glistening ground beef mixture that is spicy, sweet and savory at the same time.

You choose your individual hot pot broth from vegetarian, traditional (mild), and HOT choices. A little sterno burner keeps the pot at a near-boil. You then decide from over 40 different choices (split approx. 50/50 between proteins and vegetables/vegetarian). Each item comes raw as an entrée to be shared; you pick your portions and cook them in your own hot pot, in any order or combination you wish. Our favorites include NY strip, mala beef, flounder, scallops, and chicken; napa cabbage, bok choy, watercress, spinach, shiitake mushrooms and tofu; and we always order mini-dumplings (pork and vegetable) and egg noodles. Our experience is that for a group of eight, 10-12 shared entrées are more than enough. While the staff gets your meal ready, you go over to a little station to create your dipping sauce, choosing from about 20 sauces and condiments. If you don’t like how your first combination came out, just repeat the process until you find just the right balance for your taste.

As you progress through your meal, the broth becomes richer and more concentrated and becomes a soup, which can be eaten with rice or noodles. Be careful, as the spiciness (if that was your preference) will also have also intensified. A cold Tsing Tao helps! So if you haven’t tried Mala Tang yet (and especially if you like spicy food), give it a try! It’s both delicious and a lot of fun.

So Much Gardening Opportunity! Where to Get Plants?

Brooke Alexander, Ashton Heights Tree Canopy and Native Plant Coordinator
Arlington Regional Master Naturalist (ARMN)

One thing we can do in this new Corona world is garden in our yards. Spring is here! Lots of weeding and mulching and trimming and planting opportunities. But where to get plants in a social distancing time?

Here’s an option: Nature-By-Design is a wonderful locally-owned, native plant nursery just beyond Potomac Yard off Route 1. They have started ‘drive-thru’ shopping. They offer call-ahead curbside pickup for a 100% contact-free transaction.

You can call or email your order; they’ll take payment by phone, and have your order ready to pick up. Delivery is also an option.



Native passion flower (Passiflora incarnata)

See their website at www.nature-by-design.com for more details. They have their plant list online and can also advise you over the phone. They are also open for browsing, but restricting numbers of customers to 10 at a time. And they have ‘private appointment only’ hours. A bonus: their plants have no neonicotinoids!

Need ideas for native plants? See <https://www.plantnovanatives.org>

Meet Your Neighbors: The Hartman-Semprebon Family

By Betsey Lyon

The kids are grown, one spouse is retired and the other one is heading toward retirement. The family home seems big, more than you need and want to maintain. Time to downsize? And if so, what are the options?

Thinking along those lines led Arlingtonians Deborah Hartman and Andrew Semprebon to sell their large family home in the Bluemont neighborhood and buy a smaller one that came on the market at the right time in Ashton Heights. A year-and-a-half ago, they started packing up, shed a lot of belongings, and by last October, moved two miles away with their family dog and cat to North Oxford Street. Yes, despite prevailing changes that most of us see, a smallish, well-maintained home still occasionally exists in Ashton Heights.

Deborah retired several years ago from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. An attorney, she worked on environmental policy and regulations. Andrew retired in October from his career as a software developer in the security field. The couple met in the early 1980s through the Dupont Music Circle that Deborah organized for musicians and music lovers, including Andrew. The group later became SOJO (Sing Out Jam Out) and typically meets at St. George's Episcopal Church at Virginia Square.

Daughter Amelia works at Madison Square Garden, but is currently at home, social distancing and waiting out the

coronavirus. Son Julian is a professional dog walker for Time for a Walk in Shirlington. He lives in South Arlington with his girlfriend who works for Schokolad Chocolate Factory, her family's business in Crystal City.

Deborah volunteers to get out the vote through letter writing for voting districts in need of help. It's a nonpartisan effort that she encourages others to join. In face-to-face times, she

teaches English at the Arlington Mill Community Center as part of REEP, the Arlington Employment and Education Program. Since the pandemic started, she started sewing masks for medical professionals as part of the Million Mask Challenge. Deborah pursues crafts including felting, and her creations have won awards at the Arlington County Fair the past two years. She also fills the house with plants, trying her hand at propagation.

Andrew recently signed up for political volunteer work during the 2020 U.S. election year. A puzzler and gamer, he enjoys designing and printing 3D wooden geometric puzzles, keeping his 3D printer busy. The printer also allows him to create miniature figures and props for role-playing games. Outdoors, he enjoys hiking to explore nature.

Deborah and Andrew loved their old Bluemont neighborhood, which was walkable to Arlington Forest Pool and close to the bike path. Now they appreciate how the special walkability of Ashton Heights fits this next phase of their life, and like being closer to a Metro station, all while living with a pleasant fenced yard that they can enjoy with family dogs. They find Arlington residents friendly in Ashton Heights and throughout the County, and especially enjoy the population diversity on the Metro corridor.



30 New Trees!

Brooke Alexander, Ashton Heights Tree Canopy and Native Plant Coordinator

As we go to press, 30 new trees have been planted in Ashton Heights! You'll see them on First, Third, Fifth and Sixth Streets, Jackson, Lincoln, Kenmore, Ivy, Monroe and Pershing Drive. We planted these native trees: white oak, American hornbeam, black gum, eastern hophornbeam, scarlet oak, red oak, sweet gum, bald cypress, red bud and Virginia magnolia. With time, these trees will contribute to Ashton Heights' declining canopy! Check them out on your next walk around the neighborhood. See us posing with one of our new trees!

These trees are brought to us thanks to the Arlington Tree Canopy Fund (TCF), which is administered by EcoAction Arlington and Arlington County Urban Forestry Commission (UFC). To accepted applicants, the TCF provides both the trees and the planting free of charge. Plantings are made once or twice a year. Contact the author (brooke.alexander52@gmail.com) if interested in participating next time.



Brooke Alexander and Davey Trees crew planting white oak (*Quercus alba*)
Photo by Kerry Pelzman

Local History: What's in a Name? (Part 2)

By Russ Miller

Fast Times on Ashton Street!

Arlington's 1930 census gave a headcount of 26,615, many in new subdivisions like Ashton Heights, platted in 1919. Roads were placed and named according to the whims of the developer, so there were lots of Washingtons (11) and Arlingtons (10), plenty of Oaks, Walnuts, and Maples, and even some Brookdales, Brookvales, and Brookdells.

Addresses were such a mess that some stores in Washington DC would not deliver to Arlington, and the Post Office Department declined to establish a central post office in the county without a significant improvement. In addition to those inconveniences, it seems that many residents wanted a proper Arlington address rather than Alexandria or Falls Church "Rural Free Delivery."

In January 1932 Arlington adopted the County Board-County Manager form of government, and the next month the Board agreed with the County Manager's recommendation to rationalize Arlington's system of street names. Ashton Heights was well-represented on the Street Naming Committee by residents of *Marion Avenue* and *Strickler Avenue*, both located north of *Cathcart Road*. The plan was to keep one of the 11 Washingtons, say, and rename the others - but what neighborhood would keep its name, and which would have to change?

They soon realized that small as it was, the County was large enough to need sections or divisions. Quadrants like Washington's seemed unlikely given Arlington's wedge shape, but splitting it in two halves, north and south, seemed about right. Columbia Pike, second oldest of Arlington's roads, was a natural dividing line, but it was too far south. The streetcar line that is today's Washington Boulevard was another option...but it was too far north...There was another option: the shiny new US Highway Route 50, known locally as Lee Boulevard, then being built from the West toward Ft Myer, just at the southern edge of Ashton Heights.

The County Board determined that named streets would run north and south (perpendicular to Route 50), in alphabetic order (no X, Y, or Z!) starting at the Potomac, one syllable names, then two, then three, and finally, at the far edge of Arlington, a "fourth alphabet" beginning and ending with "Arizona." Numbered streets, roads, and places would run east and west (parallel to Route 50). The system establishes a logical grid of numbered and named streets in alphabetic order - just like Washington DC - only sideways. There were some scowls, so the County declared it would consider renaming requests if the all the residents of that street would agree to pay for new signage. History reports there were no takers, and on 1 July 1935, the new system went "live". It has held up to this day as Arlington continued to grow in both paved streets and total population.

Even long time residents admit to confusion, but the system they put in place does make sense...even if our streets and terrain don't actually conform to it. The next time you find yourself trying to explain numbered roads, names and places to a delivery van, just remember that it is better than it was 90 years ago!

C.L. Kinnier's *The Renaming of Arlington Streets*:

http://arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/1959_5Streets.pdf

Ashton Heights 100 Year Anniversary in 2021

Our wonderful neighborhood turns 100 next year and it's time to start planning ways to celebrate! We're looking for people who are interested in sharing their memories, getting involved in related activities, and know how to convert old paper materials into modern formats. We'd like to create a 100 year timeline that will allow us to identify when different types of houses were built, when people came and went, and many of the other ongoing changes to this dynamic area. Interested in helping? Contact AHCA's Historian Jim Terpstra at 703 903 9231, terpstrajames2@gmail.com.

AHCA MEMBERSHIP SIGN-UP AND DUES PAYMENT FORM

Ashton Heights Civic Association annual dues are \$15 per household or \$10 per individual member or \$25 per household for two years. Anyone residing or owning property in Ashton Heights who is at least 18 may join and then vote at AHCA meetings.

Send this form and a check payable to AHCA to Jim O'Brien, 643 N. Kenmore St. 22201, or bring it to this month's meeting.

Name(s): _____

Children (and ages) (optional): _____

Street address: _____

Phone: _____ Resident since: _____


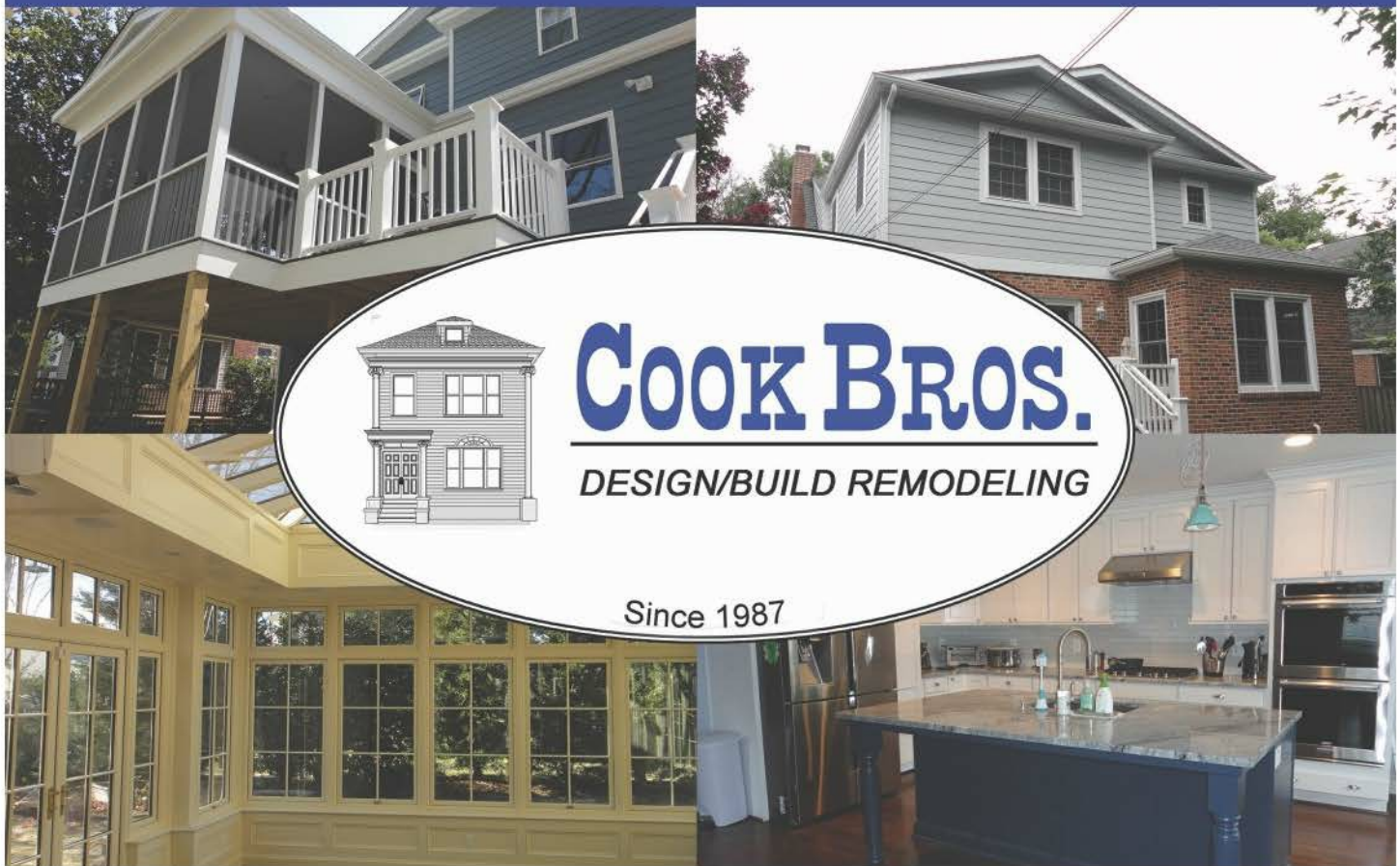
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