



Ashton Heights News

www.ashtonheights.org

October 2022

Visions of Our Community By Scott Sklar, President, AHCA

Arlington County and our communities are a great place to live due to the actions and hard work of many Ashton Heights and Lyon Park residents, who are still active members of our associations. We had visionaries in Arlington County who supported an approach called "The Arlington Way" which was an attempt to create full participatory governance process which is still represented on the many Commissions, planning committees, and processes today.

The Arlington Way has served us very well. The county lobbied for the metro and created wise zoning that allowed tall buildings along the metro lines and mid-level buildings stepping down up to our residential communities, which became a national model.

Aside from Metro, Arlington pushed multi-modal transportation including a network of bicycle paths/lanes, walkable communities with bumping in corners into intersections for pedestrian-friendly walkways, a bikeshare network, scooters, for awhile, hourly Zip cars, now Ubers, cabs and finally personal transportation with community parking zones around metro stops so neighborhoods can have access to their streets for parking.

Arlington has an extensive network of parks that are well kept, a tree canopy program that actually disperses trees to residents and a rather aggressive

water management program at a time our climate is changing and our downpours are more frequent and heavier. Arlington has adopted a County Energy Plan (CEP), of whose commission energy committee I sit, which has been unanimously adopted by the County Board in two successive renditions addressing reducing greenhouse gas emissions and accelerating adoption of energy efficiency, renewable energy, electric transportation, etc.

All these goals, policies and programs, have made our county and neighborhood a most wonderful place to live.

As Arlington has become urbanized and dense, our housing and rental prices have soared, as have the region's. These realities force middle and low income people who work in Arlington in service industries (teachers, police and fire, etc.), to move farther and farther out and away from Arlington.

There has been a push to address this issue, and our Arlington County Board has embarked on a Missing Middle Housing study and a set of proposals on zoning changes to allow duplexes, triplexes, quadraplexes, and higher on residential-zoned lots in traditional single family neighborhoods.

The study said these structures would cut Arlington tree canopy in half, and there are no zoning or code requirements to ensure Arlington's

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AHCA Monthly Meeting Wed., Oct. 19, 7 - 9 p.m.

**Clarendon United
Methodist Church
606 N. Irving St.**

This month's meeting will be an attempt to enable advocates and opponents of the 'missing middle' upzoning proposal to present their best cases -- with maximum good will and presumption of good faith.

Please submit your questions in advance to Scott Sklar at solarsklar@aol.com, who will compile them for the meeting.

We are asking Ashton Height residents do your best to listen carefully to the arguments of our fellow citizens on this contentious issue. If there is time after the pre-submitted questions, some audience questions may be taken.

- 7:00 p.m.** Mingle and chair setup
- 7:30 p.m.** Scott Sklar, AHCA President and Committee reports
- 7:40 p.m.** Missing Middle Plan Advocate (player to be named)
- 8:00 p.m.** Missing Middle Upzoning Opponent (player to be named)
- 8:30 p.m.** Scott poses selected questions to the presenters
- 9:00 p.m.** Adjourn



Editor's Note: Mark your Calendar! Articles for the November Ashton Heights newsletter are due by October 16th. Send submissions to: amylmiller4@gmail.com.

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AHCA Membership Sign-up and dues payment form

Ashton Heights Civic Association annual dues are \$15/household or \$10/individual member. Register for two years for \$25/household.

Anyone who resides or owns property in Ashton Heights and is at least 18 years old may join and then vote at AHCA meetings.

Pay your dues online:

<https://ashtonheights.org/about-ahca/join-ahca/>

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President's Column, continued from page 1

stormwater management or building energy efficiency along with greenhouse gas reduction would be addressed.

Aside from undercutting key Arlington proposals, the push back has focused that the housing values, in fact, would not go down, but just allow developers and builders to extract much higher values out of existing residential lots. And as a by-product much higher street parking congestion, beyond the tree canopy and stormwater stresses mentioned above.

This has galvanized seven civic associations to have weekly meetings, as well as Zoom meetings with the County Board on every aspect of the proposals. Many of the civic association presidents have questioned why other initiatives are not used in Arlington, but used throughout the United States on Missing Middle Housing, such as the use of land trusts (used to preserve forests and wetlands). These can be utilized to aggregate tear-downs (older, smaller houses) to be upgraded and sold to middle income to address rising housing prices but also foster home ownership, as an example.

So far, aside from one board member, no one on the Arlington County Board seems interested in other, more proven programs.

The Wednesday, October 19th Ashton Heights Civic Association meeting will feature a structured dialogue on Missing Middle Housing (MMH). As at our joint AHCA/LPCA September Candidates night, where questions were submitted and bundled for candidates, we will solicit questions, and package them to the pro and con speakers who will present on MMH. Please submit your questions directly to me at: solarsklar@aol.com.

The goal here is to develop a consensus that addresses the issues, without the downsides, into a more effective approach as we continue our dialogue with the County Board.

We have had a great dialogue on the AHCA listserv, and I am hoping to have a web survey as well so we can see where our AHCA membership leans and what sub-issues are important to all Ashton Heights residents. As always, thank you for your interest and involvement in making our community an even better place to live.



The Storyteller – Tales of Life and Music by Dave Grohl

By Denise Cormaney

Follow all her reviews at @findyourgoldenhour on Instagram

FIVE STARS!

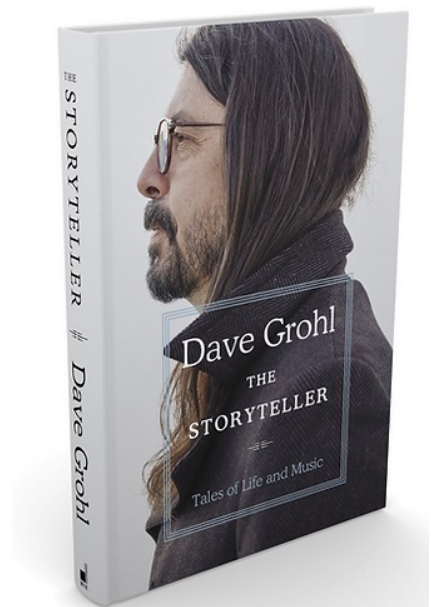
“I stopped trying to understand fate and destiny a long time ago, but dumb luck seems to be my specialty.”

I like several Foo Fighters and Nirvana songs, but I’m not what you’d call a super fan. I am now a super fan of Dave Grohl. What a mensch.

Sure, he tells fun stories about what it’s like to be a rock star. If you are into those, you’ll get them here. The best parts, however, are when he talks about his real life. He considers his mom his best friend. His love for his daughters and the importance he places on being a good father is so touching. He talks openly about his decades-long journey in processing his grief over the loss of his friend Kurt.

He also has fun stories about meeting his music heroes, and they’re not necessarily who you’d expect. Sure, groups like Rush and AC/DC are there, but the way he describes freaking out over getting to meet Little Richard, Elton John, and Huey Lewis was truly endearing. In those moments, he’s just a humble fan. He never loses his sense of gratitude and awe about where he is in life and how he got there.

Dave Grohl is an epic storyteller. Listen to it on audio if you want to hear him tell these stories directly into your ears.



Drive-thru Food and Toiletries Collection for Area Shelters – October 8, 2022

By Sallie Broome

As prices go up for groceries, gas and other items, your donations for our neighbors in need provide critical support. [Clarendon Presbyterian Church](#) sponsors a drive on the second Saturday of each month to help.

[Bridges to Independence](#)

Bridges operates Arlington County's largest emergency family shelter, known as the Sullivan House, which has approximately 45 beds across 10 separate apartment units. It is a temporary solution for those with little or no resources. While there, families receive intensive case management – assessing their situation, providing Bridges program resources, or referring to other resources. The families are treated with the utmost respect and positivity, are welcomed with open arms, and receive whatever immediate needs they may have – food, diapers, personal supplies, basic kitchen items, gift cards and more – thanks to donations from the community. Bridges usually needs food and household supplies such as paper towels and toilet paper.

[New Hope Housing](#) – Residential Program Center
The Residential Program Center Shelter is a 44-bed shelter

for men and women, run in partnership with Arlington County Department of Human Services. New Hope Housing took over operations of RPC on February 3rd, 2020. New Hope Housing is almost always looking for donations of T-shirts and boxers in various sizes.

Each month, these organizations let us know what their priority needs are at that time, and we publicize them in a monthly email to remind the community of Clarendon's supply drive. Watch your inbox early in October for an email via the Ashton Heights listserv.

The October Drive will be held on **Saturday, October 8**. Thank you for supporting the monthly food and supply drives since very early in the pandemic!



Neighborhood Shredding Event!

Mark your calendars for October 8th
from 10 AM to 1 PM



Location: Arlington Forest Shopping Center 4821 1st St N
The mobile shredding truck can hold up to 10,000 pounds of paper.

What is allowed: They can shred paper clips, binder clips, staples, butterfly clips, spiral notebooks, notebooks with a binding spine, metal-tabbed hanging folders, and the thin metal strips that are on presentation folders along with your paper.

What is not allowed: They cannot shred cardboard, x-rays, or CDs along with the paper as it will contaminate and dilute the paper load causing the recycler to not accept it. They cannot shred three-ring binders as the metal spine and the rings are too much for the shredder.

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Meet Your Neighbor – Welcome the Faires family!

By Erika Cohen Derr

Long time residents know Ashton Heights to be a special corner of Arlington, but the best qualities of our neighborhood are often evident when new families join the community. Welcome to the Faires family - Ashley, Chris and Maddie (6) - who moved to Ashton Heights this year, representing a new and “boring” (read: settled) chapter in their lives.

Chris and Ashley met in Pensacola, Florida as both were in flight school. As a dual-military family, their assignments have brought them on tours around the country, and finally to a stable placement for both. Ashley is originally from Cleveland, Ohio; she studied aerospace engineering in college and went on to train as a Navy pilot. Her career has included two tours on the USS Carl Vinson aircraft carrier, and more recently, with the Aerospace Engineering Duty Officer. Chris hails from Fort Worth, Texas. After college, he joined the US Marine Corps and later transitioned to the US Coast Guard, where he works with the Department of Homeland Security on long range surveillance efforts.

While stationed in Pensacola, Ashley and Chris met through a running club, training for marathons and other road races. Their career commitments meant that in their courtship and early years of marriage were sometimes spent stationed apart. Most recently, they lived in Norfolk, Virginia, where daughter Maddie was born. Ashley's orders took effect in 2021, a year before Chris's, so she moved to Northern Virginia ahead of schedule. The day-to-day distance may have been tough, but Ashley made the best of it by scouting locations for the family's new home, joined by Chris and Maddie on the weekends. A testament to strong friendships, Ashley's long time best friend joined her for the year from Minnesota, and the two lived in the heart of Old Town Alexandria, steps from the nightlife that reminded Ashley of the benefits of living in a thriving urban area (but perhaps with a little more distance from the late night establishments). “We showed up at the rental agency, and it was me, my husband, my kid, my best friend and my dog. Who knows what they were thinking!” recalls Ashley. “It was a great year, the distance notwithstanding” says Chris, remembering the family weekends spent exploring the region from the heart of Old Town, considering how to make this place their next home.

In contrast, Ashton Heights offered much that appealed to the Faires family. The location - Metro accessible, and splitting the couple's commuting distance between Dulles and Southeast DC - seemed convenient, and the walkable neighborhood offered lively restaurants and shopping that was close, (but not too close!). The schools, of course, were a big draw. Maddie started kindergarten this fall, and the PTA-sponsored “meet ups” made the transition a little easier. The neighborhood pets provide good company for the

Faires' dog, Kenny. Chris and Ashley were briefed on Ashton Heights' Halloween traditions, and are excited for the costumes, house decorations, and all-around merriment. But the welcoming character of the neighborhood is perhaps best embodied through the Faires' neighbors on Ivy Street; living across the street from AHCA President Scott Sklar has its benefits! They have front row seats to whiskey tastings, insight into the conservationist ideals of the community, and friendly neighbors on all sides who can lend a helping hand. Maddie was even invited to name the 49th flamingo! (Her name is Gilbert.)

The Faires family is looking forward to getting to know the neighborhood further, and enjoying all that life in Ashton Heights has to offer. The end of August brought many exciting milestones: birthdays, the start of the school year, Maddie's first lost tooth, Ashley's promotion ceremony, the Coast Guard Ball, and visits from both sets of grandparents. Perhaps the best is yet to come, as Chris, Ashley, Maddie and Kenny settle into the routine of life in Ashton Heights.



Ashton Heights neighbors, help strengthen our community! Nominate yourself or a neighbor for the “Meet Your Neighbor” newsletter column.

Nominations are welcome via email (erikacohenderr@gmail.com) or by filling out the form at the following link: bit.ly/AHMYN
Your community looks forward to meeting you!

Breaking News: Arlington Arts Center changes its name!

By Catherine Anchin, Executive Director

Hello Ashton Heights neighbors! For nearly fifty years, Arlington Arts Center has built a reputation for launching the careers of emerging artists and presenting some of the finest contemporary art exhibitions in the mid-Atlantic region. And as part of our plans to create a strong, sustainable future for the organization and to better reflect the breadth of what we do, we're changing our name to Museum of Contemporary Art Arlington!

After much reflection and research, we realized that our premier location and mission afford us a unique opportunity to serve as the only art museum in Arlington. Our mission to enrich community life by connecting the public to contemporary art and artists through exhibitions, education programs, and an artists-in-residence program will remain the same.

As a contemporary arts organization, one of our strengths is the ability to connect our community with living artists, so that each of us can explore firsthand the ways that artists navigate the challenges and strengths of our shared society. And, as a non-collecting museum, our organization is nimble and prepared to evolve in step with the contemporary art field as it evolves over time.

We're reopening our doors as the Museum of Contemporary Art Arlington on October 1 with a full day of activities from 12-8pm. Our fall exhibitions will be on view from October 1 – December 18 featuring *Assembly 2022: Time and Attention*, our first national biennial exhibition showcasing contemporary artists from around the United States, and *Let Them Kids Be Kids*, a wonderful exhibition by artist-in-residence Lex Marie.

It is our goal that when you visit the Museum of Contemporary Art Arlington, you will experience some of the most cutting-edge art by local, regional, national, and international artists, intersecting within our galleries, and then, further embrace Arlington's place within the global arts community.

In addition, we're offering more education classes and public programs including a new series *The Practice: Yoga for Creative Minds* on Friday mornings. Visit our website, www.mocaarlington.org, for more information to see what events and programs we will host in the coming months!

And most importantly, thank you for all the support you have shown us. We are incredibly grateful to be a part of the Ashton Heights community and for your continued support as we embark on this exciting chapter in our history. Please do visit and say hello when you're in the galleries next!



Fall Family Celebration

Saturday, October 22 | Noon to 3:00 pm
Columbia Gardens Cemetery Grounds

Let us know if you will come. Call 703.527.1235 or email info@columbiagardenscemetery.org.
3411 Arlington Blvd., Arlington, VA 22201

Celebrate fall with us at a special afternoon filled with activities for adults and children.

- Explore the grounds with the Agents of Discovery App
- Find out how to grow roses from our rosarian
- Paint a pumpkin
- Learn how honey is made from our beekeeper
- Enjoy delicious refreshments and more!



ESTABLISHED 1917

Road Safety in Arlington

Community Safety and Security Corner

By Christina Schultz



It seems like every time we look at the local news, there is another traffic accident involving a pedestrian or bicyclist – often with fatal consequences. From the fiery crash into Ireland’s Four Courts to a woman killed crossing near Thomas Jefferson Middle School to a child struck riding a bike along Langston Blvd., Arlington streets are not without unfortunate scenes. In some of these incidents, the driver remained on the scene until the authorities could respond and investigate, while others were hit-and-runs. Our own neighborhood listserv has recounted scenes of drivers speeding down our narrow streets.

Several factors contribute to the rise in these incidents. Of particular note is the significant increase in accidents caused by drivers under the influence, which corresponds to national trends. The Arlington County Policy Department documented an increase in crashes where alcohol was a factor from 96 in 2020 to 143 in 2021 – an increase of nearly 49 percent. This year has already seen 116 alcohol-related crashes. Other major factors include speeding, turning left at an intersection, turning right across bicycle lanes, and failing to yield to pedestrians.

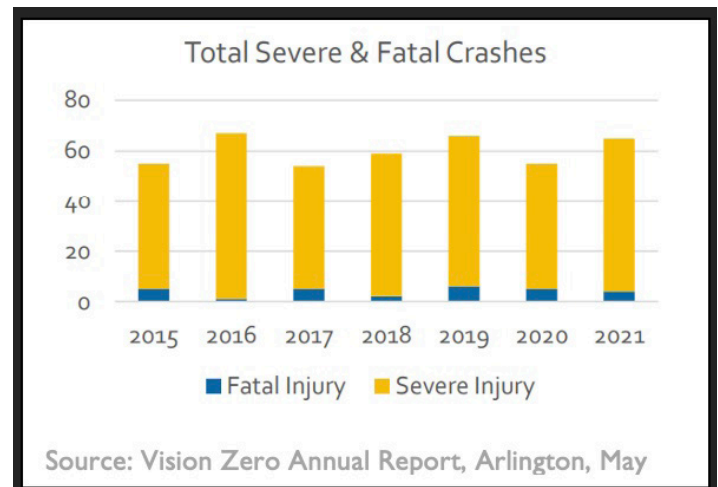
Arlington County’s [Vision Zero annual report](#), released in May 2022, shows that in the initiative’s first year there was a 30 percent decline in automobile crashes over previous years (61 severe incidents), but no change in traffic fatalities with four pedestrians killed at intersections. The number of severe crashes involving bicycles remained constant over previous years with no fatalities.

Vision Zero also tracks [hot spots](#) of all reported

crashes to identify individual intersections or locations that experience high numbers of incidents. In and around Ashton Heights, there are a number of areas that have unfortunately earned this designation, based on tracking from 2016 to 2020, and may require you to look both ways – twice:

- Arlington Blvd and Washington Blvd
- Wilson Blvd and Washington Blvd
- Wilson Blvd and N Fillmore St
- Washington Blvd and N Kirkwood Rd
- N Glebe Rd and N Carlin Springs Rd
- Wilson Blvd and N Oakland St

Vision Zero does more than simply report, however. A number of traffic safety measures were tested to determine how better to meet the strategy’s goal of eliminating all traffic fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing residents’ safe, healthy, equitable mobility. Feedback gathered as part of the initiative showed that people feel safe while driving or using transit, but less so while biking and walking. The top three safety concerns include: speeding/aggressive driving, distracted travelers, and drivers not following laws and signals.





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Lyon Park ANNUAL YARD SALE – Saturday, October 29, 2022

The Lyon Park Community Center will hold its annual yard sale on Saturday, October 29, 2022 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Lyon Park. This is a rain-or-shine event. Please note for this event, you must prepay, and the deadline is Sunday, October 23rd.

- Unload all your accumulated trash – or TREASURE!
- Rent one space for \$15 or two for \$25
- Residents and guests (yoo hoo! Ashton Heights?!?!) are encouraged to participate
- Need a table? Rent ours for \$5 each.

Let us do the advertising and attract the crowd. For information, or to volunteer to help, contact Margaret Scrymser at scryms23@comcast.net.



Development Committee Update Jack Spilsbury and Alexander Tuneski, Co-chairs AHCA Development Committee

Planning for redevelopment on the western edge of Clarendon, including along Wilson Boulevard and 10th Street adjacent to Ashton Heights, continues to progress. The AHCA will be participating this fall in the County's Site Plan Review Committees (SPRCs) that will be considering the first two developer applications to be reviewed under the recently updated Clarendon Sector Plan:

Joyce Motors: The Site Plan Review Committee for the Joyce Motors site held its first public meeting on September 12, with Development Committee member Joan Fitzgerald representing Ashton Heights (AHCA). This project involves a proposed 110-foot residential building containing 241 units, including preservation of the Joyce Motors historic facade. The County has scheduled a second SPRC meeting on Thursday October 13 (7-9 pm). The September SPRC discussion focused on how to activate the adjoining streetscape along Irving Street, underground parking requirements, landscaping needs, and the pedestrian experience and safety along 10th Street. See link at: <https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Projects/Project-Types/Site-Plan/10th-and-Irving>

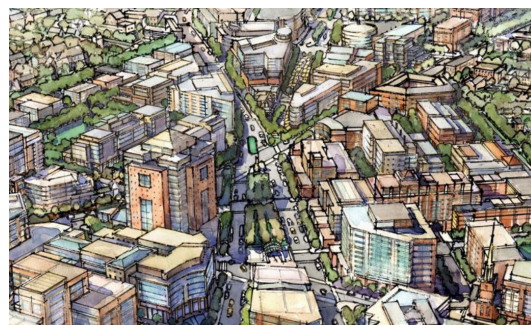
Silver Diner: The County launched an online public comment period through September 26, on the proposed redevelopment on the south side of Wilson Blvd stretching from The Lot on 10th Street to the Silver Diner. AHCA Representative and Development Committee co-chair Alexander Tuneski shared the online survey on the AHCA listserv and invited member comments as we formulate the Association's positions during the review process (contact at: atuneski@gmail.com). The first meeting of this SPRC, which will include virtual public participation, is tentatively

scheduled for the evening of October 20. See link at: <https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Projects/Project-Types/Site-Plan/3200-Wilson-Blvd>

This project includes:

1. A 286 unit, 10-story, multi-family apartment building fronting on 10th Street, with 16,000 sq ft. of retail on the ground floor and 130 underground parking spaces;
2. A 229-room, 10-story hotel where the Silver Diner is located. The proposed hotel will have a restaurant with outdoor dining on the corner of Wilson and Irving, a rooftop bar that is open to the public, a small conference center, and 80 underground parking spaces;
3. A new 10th Road that will split these two buildings between 10th Street and Irving, and also run along the back side of the Joyce Motors residential project.

While generally compliant with the recently updated Clarendon Sector Plan, immediate areas of concern with this proposed hotel and residential building include parking, traffic management, the location of loading docks, and potential noise from the hotel's rooftop bar. We continue to welcome additional input from neighbors -- including via the listserv -- as these review processes go forward.



Neighbors Helping the Homeless

By Lisa MacVittie adapted from a prior article by Carol Brandt

In honor of World Homeless Day on October 10th, please read about the We See You Foundation which is celebrating its one-year anniversary. The Foundation's founder, Nick Ruge (18), was born in Arlington and is a Lyon Park resident.

During a trip to New York City, Nick saw a homeless man with a sign that read, "I feel invisible." Nick was deeply moved by that sign. In that moment, Nick crouched down to make eye contact and had a conversation with the man to let him know that he mattered and was seen. Nick's innate kindness, plus this experience (among others), prompted Nick and the Ruge/MacVittie family to build on his desire to help the homeless. Nick's vision and passion led his family to create the **We See You Foundation**. Nick's brother, Jake, is the President of the Foundation and the Board of Directors includes their parents (Lisa and Andy), Ashton Heights resident Tom Parker, and a family friend. Notably, Nick's grandparents are included in the core group of volunteers and supporters. This team is critical to the Foundation's success.

The Foundation's goals are to increase awareness of our area's homeless population and to raise money to be able to assist more people, but its main purpose, in essence, is to help our unhoused neighbors feel valued and seen. Lisa says, "These people are ignored every day. The goal is to acknowledge our homeless neighbors and try to make their days a little easier." During a recent encounter with a homeless neighbor, Nick asked what else they can be doing to help, and he responded, "Just the fact that you stopped to talk with us is amazing!"

Homelessness is all around us. In 2021, approximately 5,111 people in D.C. and 171 people in Arlington were experiencing homelessness, with chronic homelessness increasing in both locations. To address the overwhelming need, the Foundation distributes duffle bags filled with seasonal items, toiletries, food and water, clothing, a

first aid kit and tents. During the distribution process, Lisa and her family engage in conversations with those who are willing to learn more about how to help. The Foundation is also advocating for other organizations that work with the homeless community by highlighting them with their #WeSeeYouWednesday on social media.



Nick Ruge - We See You Founder

Jake reflects on how rewarding the Foundation has been, "I'm so proud of what Nick and our family has done in the past year. Not only with our ability to help those in need directly, but spreading the word and encouraging others to 'see' the homeless." Nick added, "The world can use a little more kindness. It's surprisingly easy to reach out to someone in need, and it's just amazing how much joy you can feel from such a simple act of connection." Nick's grandparents summed it all up: "This is our small way to pay it forward, whether it be time, money or needed items. That thoughtful, intentional connection is critical. We can send the message, 'We see you. You are not forgotten.'"

If you are ready to support the Foundation's mission after reading this, you can find more information on the Foundation's website: www.weseeyoufoundation.org. Items for the duffle bags are available for purchase from an [Amazon Wish List](#). Additionally, donating automatically adds your name to the Foundation's mailing list enabling you to keep up with their work. However, you can join the Foundation's mailing list at any time. You can find "We See You" on these social media platforms: [Facebook](#), Instagram (@[weseeyoufdn](#)) and Twitter (@[WeSeeYouFDN](#)).

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and then select the month that you're interested in reading.



LYON PARK PARADE OF COSTUMES, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29 11AM AT LYON PARK

GOBLINS, WITCHES, DOCTORS, NURSES, FRONT LINE WORKERS, FAIRIES,
SUPERHEROES AND MORE SHOULD APPEAR IN THE PARK BEFORE 11AM

PARADE STARTS AT 11 AM PROMPTLY (WEATHER-PERMITTING)

UPDATED PARADE INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE LYON PARK
WEBSITE WWW.LYONPARK.ORG AND POSTED ON NEXTDOOR

THE BONFIRE WILL BE HELD ON HALLOWEEN - OCTOBER 31 - THIS YEAR

Restaurant Review – Hawkers By Vinh Nguyen

Website: eathawkers.com/locations/arlington/
4201 Wilson Blvd (Ballston Exchange)
703-828-8287

Singapore in the US? Hawkers brings to Ballston a geographic and cultural tour of Asia through a varied menu of Asian street food and fanciful drinks.

We had waited anxiously for the restaurant to open. That first Friday the place was jam packed as we asked for a table (45 minutes wait, please) – and it was just as crowded on subsequent occasions. The outdoor space is festive with strung lights, colorful seating and umbrellas. A walk up bar is open on both sides, bringing outdoor and indoor parties together.

The place is one big party and LOUD, with the waitstaff belting out sake bomb chants periodically. Colorful cocktails flash by, and there are well-curated Sake and Japanese whiskey lists in addition to brews and wine. We're not big drinkers, but those cocktails look like a ton of fun!

So where are we going? To **China**, with *baos*, wontons, dumplings, egg rolls, fried tofu, crispy pork belly, chicken

lo mein, and beef *haw fun* among others. **Korea** is present with its own version of *baos*, fried chicken, *kimchi*, *bulgogi* skewers and lettuce wraps, and fried rice. **Vietnam** makes a showing through garden rolls, noodles and spring rolls, and green papaya salad. **Thailand** contributes satay skewers, *tom yum* soup, basil fried rice, and *pad thai*. From **Malaysia** and **Singapore** come dishes with curry sauce: *roti* for dipping; chicken curry stew; and laksa ramen in a coconut and curry broth. Featured noodles including *char kway teow* rice noodles; *hokkien mee* egg noodles; and Singapore noodles. A few **pan-Asian mashups** complete the diverse menu.

We did not sample everything, but really liked everything we tried. Skewers were moist and tasty. The *xiao long bao* dumplings surprise with a burst of broth as you bite into them. Dipping the *roti* in the curry sauce reminded us of the Peter Chang version. Edamame beans are richly spiced up with chili and garlic. The *yaki udon* noodles were good and packed some heat. The *haw fun* rice noodles are rich with *wok hei*, that inimitable flavor that can come only from well-seasoned woks worked over eyebrow-searing heat. The Singapore noodles featured a heady curry and turmeric aroma. The dessert donuts dipped in caramel sauce were great fun.

Service is eager and food comes out fast. Some kinks will presumably work out over time (once our drinks came out 20 minutes after our food). Be ready to PARTY!



REMINDER!!

The **November 8, 2022** election is just around the corner and here are some important dates to keep in mind!

September 23: Early voting begins

October 17: Last day to register to vote or update your voter registration

October 28: Last day to apply for a mail-in ballot. You can review the ballot here: <https://vote.arlingtonva.gov/Elections>

For further details, visit the Arlington County Election website: <https://vote.arlingtonva.gov/Home>

Ashton Heights Pet of the Month By Deborah Hartman

Nessie is happy to be a new member of Arlington's Ashton Heights neighborhood, although as an indoor only cat you won't see her out and about. She enjoys looking out of windows. We are not sure what her pedigree is, but she clearly looks like she has royal lineage.

She is about 6 years old, and her new humans are Andrew Semprebon and Deborah Hartman, and she has a sister feline named Katie-Bo.

Deborah found Nessie, the cat formerly known as Chessie, on Petfinder.org, and went out to the Rise Above Animal Rescue in Pasadena, Maryland, to adopt her. Nessie prefers to sleep and hide much of the day, and come out for lots of play in the evening, and early morning, especially around 3 a.m.



Curbside Food Scraps – You Can Make a Difference! By Amy Miller

Consider making a change this fall to help the environment by reducing food waste and promoting healthy soils. How can you make this happen? Start collecting food scraps in your own bucket or the county provided kitchen caddy. Simply collect, empty into your organics green cart and set that cart out on collection day. Learn more: bit.ly/3rEJWl6

I've been recycling our food waste since the program started and it's been a rewarding process seeing how much food waste we're keeping out of the trash and instead, creating compost.

Some highlights of what you can compost:

- Dairy and eggs
- Grains and bread
- Fruit, vegetables and nuts
- Food-soiled paper (paper napkins, paper towels, greasy pizza boxes)
- Meats and seafood
- Coffee grounds, filters and tea leaves



Other tips:

- To eliminate odors, use a compostable liner in the caddy or wash the caddy from time to time in the dishwasher or by hand.
- Moisture can be a problem, so try to drain excess liquid from food scraps before putting in your caddy. You can also line the bottom of your caddy or your green organics cart with newspaper and sprinkle with some baking soda.

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