



Ashton Heights News

www.ashtonheights.org

January 2023

President's Column - 2023 Opportunities and Obstacles By Scott Sklar, President, AHCA

Year end 2022, was a rush of issues and challenges. I don't expect any change for 2023. And in fact, I expect that the issues confronting Arlington's growth, government's directional changes, increases in certain crimes, and increasing traffic congestion will be providing some new challenges.

For 2023, the top ten topics AHCA is following proactively, not in any order of priority are as follows:

1. Planning and Zoning - Clarendon:

several planning and zoning processes have been on our plate. AHCA Development Committee co-chairs Jack Spilsbury and Alexander Tuneski, as well as a very active AHCA Development Committee have been working very hard to stay on top of the issues and participate in the processes and input to meetings. Of these, Clarendon re-development has been our focus – addressing building sizes, parking, tapering and setbacks, tree canopy & native plants – and our signature issue working with our surrounding civic association partners – a large park on the county-owned block where the 10th St N. firestation sits. We are fighting hard for this, because we believe it is a signature issue in the midst of several large cement buildings all going up in the area.

2. Missing Middle Housing (MMH)

and Housing: the County has proposed an approach that

has caused quite an uproar on increasing housing density in principally single-family communities. AHCA hosted a meeting on this issue, addressing it from multiple viewpoints, and we took a survey of AHCA residents (see results on page 7).

While many AHCA residents support the original intended purpose - to make housing ownership affordable to mid-salary county workers such as teachers, police and fire – an overwhelming majority (over 75%) see the proposed approach as not meeting that goal and creating tensions on other issues including county infrastructure, traffic and parking, schools, tree canopy loss, etc. AHCA has banded together with area civic associations to coordinate and continually meet with the County Board. The AHCA Development Committee has led the response with active involvement by the AHCA Tree Canopy and AHCA Transportation Committees. The County Board vote will be in January 2023.

3. Crime and Safety:

crime issues have remained steady here in the Ashton Heights area, but some crimes such as car break-ins, catalytic converter thefts and car heists have been increasing. Christina Shultz coordinates our Arlington County Police briefings at our AHCA monthly meetings, but if there are

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AHCA Monthly Meeting Wed., Jan. 18th, 7 - 9 p.m.

Clarendon United Methodist Church 606 N. Irving St.

- 7:00 p.m.** Mingle and chair setup
- 7:30 p.m.** Scott Sklar, AHCA President and Committee reports
- 7:45 p.m.** Status report - Missing Middle (MM) Upzoning
- Ashton Heights' own Barbara Taylor will discuss the current state of play on MM. This is a status report on the process and proposals and is not intended to be adversarial.
- 8:00 p.m.** President, Scott Sklar will moderate questions submitted in advance. We are asking that those questions be, in fact, questions and minimally biased. Obviously, your views will inform the discussion you would like to hear, but please assume good faith on the part of your neighbors in attendance.
- 8:30 p.m.** Summary on various development projects - highlights and concerns, Jack Spilsbury and Alex Tuneski, co-chairs of the AHCA Development Committee --
- 9:00 p.m.** Adjourn



Editor's Note: View the newsletter in **full color** at www.ashtonheights.org! Mark your Calendar - articles for the February 2023 Ashton Heights newsletter are due by January 20th. Please send submissions to: amylmiller4@gmail.com.

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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Save the Date: Lyon Park Pancake Breakfast

We're back to eat pancakes and visit with neighbors after a hiatus of 2 years! Proceeds to support the Lyon Park Community Center.

Date: Saturday, January 28, 2023

Time: Pancakes 8 -10:30 a.m.; coffee and coffee cake: 10 - 11 a.m.

Cost for Pancake Breakfast: Adults \$12, Kids ages 4-10 \$5 and Kids ages 3 and under \$3

Cost for Coffee and Coffee Cake (if you come only for this): Free with donation

Location: Lyon Park Community House, 414 N. Fillmore St, Arlington, VA

Helpers Needed: Contact Margaret Fibel at MFIBEL002@GMAIL.COM if you're willing to help on Friday or Saturday.



Photo credit: Katarzyna Dziemidowicz from Pixabay

In Memoriam: Bob Blakely

By Ann Felker



Photo by Brian Trompeter, InsideNOVA

Bob and Christal Blakely moved to Ashton Heights when they were in their mid 20's, just a week after the country celebrated its Bicentennial. It says in his obituary that he started Northern Woods Tree Service with a chainsaw and a dream in 1977, soon after moving to the heart of Ashton Heights.

Christal died last summer and Bob died in a beltway accident last month, leaving behind a loving trio of daughters and their families - and all of us who depended

on Bob's concern for our heritage trees.

Reading all the tributes that came across our very local list serves, it would seem that AHCA and Lyon Park residents relied heavily on Bob's expertise, but more than that, on Bob's inclination to be a genuine person for each of his many clients - the trees and their protectors (does anyone really own a tree?). His prescription for saving trees, or taking them down only as a last resort, was delivered with a generous portion of joy-filled Blakely family stories about pies, holidays, basketball games, Wisconsin and love, all of which led to a good reason for his tree decision. He often had to be reminded to send a bill, but the trees were taken care of.

If you go to the Northern Woods website, Bob's motto, "Our Commitment, Your Legacy" appears in the introductory paragraph. The use of the word "Our" is

significant because his way of doing business included a high degree of owner involvement (up ladders with chain saw in hand), as well as deep respect for his loyal team of employees. It is ironic that what he calls "your legacy" - our well managed tree canopy - is now going to outlive him. One neighbor compared Bob to that famous Dr. Seuss Character, "the Once-ler" of Lorax fame who shouted "UNLESS someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not." We heard you, Bob.

Memorial service information can be found here: www.everlyfuneralhome.com/tributes/Robert-Blakely



Arlington

Bunny Hop

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President's Column, continued from page 1

other ideas or concerns on how we tamp this down, please do not be shy.

- 4. Traffic and Parking:** county changes in the number of on-street parking permits, increasing apartments/condos being built on our boundaries, changes in zoning relating to MMH, and just more people in Arlington as we rebound from COVID, are increasing pressures on our roadways, and on pedestrians, bicyclists, etc. that are causing greater concerns. Patrick Lueb chairs our AHCA Transportation Committee and is who you should contact with questions or concerns.
- 5. Tree Canopy & Native Plants:** AHCA is a leader on tree canopy and native plants, due in large part to our dedicated chair Brooke Alexander who tirelessly testifies at county meetings and educates on the issue. Our tree canopy is one of the signature attributes living here and is continually under threat as a barrier to noise, light, and air pollution, and a sanctuary for wildlife.
- 6. Schools:** this tends to be a cyclical issue, and our committee chaired by Caroline Rogus and Greg Morse is always ready. Greg is looking for a replacement, so now is the time to recruit a new co-chair. Please contact Greg or me if interested in this position.
- 7. Stormwater Management:** Christine Lewicki (chris22203@gmail.com) has been AHCA's designated contact on this issue and served on a multi-association county effort on the Spout Run watershed area, and with MMH there will be other pressures our community needs to keep track of, so please feel free to contact Christine with your thoughts and concerns.
- 8. Open Spaces and Playgrounds:** this has been AHCA's other signature issue and Chris Horvath is our lead, tracking park issues as well as the Arlington County

Neighborhood Conservation Program. Please contact Chris with any concerns or questions.

- 9. Noise & Light:** Martha Casey has taken the lead on the issue and an AHCA committee on night-time noise from area bar establishments including Don Titos, Darna, and others has been active. The committee was able to drive better county coordination on this problem to ensure noise enforcement. And we owe thanks to our Arlington County Manager, Mark Schwartz, who stepped up and took the reins to help resolve the issues.
- 10. Informing:** Dave Shutz is our VP for Programs and plans our monthly AHCA meetings. Amy Miller is our AHCA newsletter editor and Betsey Lyon is our listserv moderator. This team makes sure we get information to you. It is a two-way street, meaning they need your feedback on information needs, the best format, and vehicle to get what AHCA members want. Please feel free to email them or me, as your AHCA President.

Our AHCA Committee chairs, co-chairs, sub-committee chairs are listed on page 2 of the AHCA Newsletter. Feel free to send an email with ideas, suggestions, concerns, and yes, joining a committee or initiating an effort.

We win by working together, discussing issues respectfully with each other – because we are ALL on this ship together. Thank you for being an AHCA member, coming to AHCA monthly meetings at the Clarendon United Methodist Church social hall, reading this newsletter, being active on the listserv, and participating in AHCA Committees, and events.

Have a wonderful winter season.

Drive-thru Food and Toiletries Collection for Area Shelters By Sallye Broome

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the Drive-thru Food and Toiletries Collections for Area Shelters this past year. Clarendon Presbyterian Church started these in response to the uptick of homelessness and shelter intake at the beginning of the pandemic. Our partners in this work, [New Hope Housing](#) and [Bridges to Independence](#) are working hard to meet the needs of every applicant.

In 2021, we collected over 1,000 bags/boxes. This year, with the pandemic waning, we collected a total of 364 bags/boxes. Unfortunately, the need for community support is still strong, particularly during the winter months. Every donation goes directly to a person or a family in need. We plan to continue the

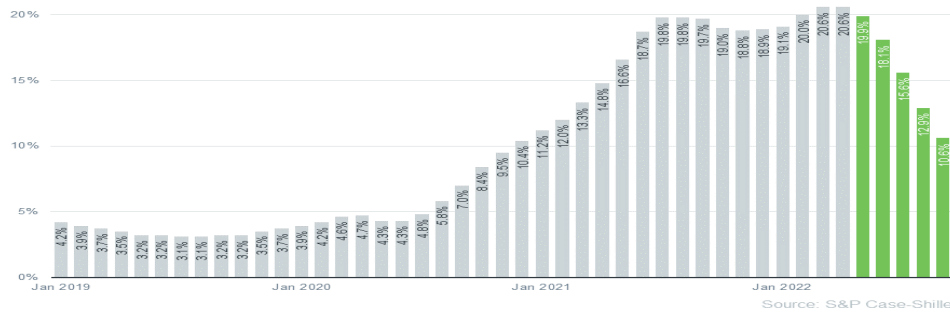
collections in 2023 on the second Saturday of each month, weather permitting. If you are on the Ashton Heights listserv, watch your Inbox for a reminder. **January 14, 2023** is the first collection for 2023.



The graph below shows home price growth has moderated in recent months as buyer demand has slowed in response to higher mortgage rates. While home price growth is moderating month-over-month, the percent of appreciation year-over-year is still well above the home price change we saw during more normal years in the market. The bars for January 2019 through mid-2020 show home price appreciation around 3-4% a year was more typical (*see bars for January 2019 through mid-2020*). The latest data for this year shows prices have still climbed by roughly 10% over last year. Inventory is still low compared to more normal years. For a potential home seller, that means your house should still be in demand for potential buyers if you price it right.

Home Price Growth Since January 2019

Year-Over-Year Percent Change in Home Prices



If you have questions about home prices or how much equity you have in your current home, let's connect so you have a professional's advice. Put my 38 years of local Arlington market expertise to work for you.



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A Quiet Threat Lurking in Our Homes

Community Safety and Security Corner

By Christina Schultz



It is an invisible, silent killer. There have been a number of high profile cases, such as last November when three Americans died at an Airbnb in Mexico City. One of the worst incidents occurred after the February 2021 winter storm in Texas that knocked out power causing people to search for alternative heating methods which left 11 people dead and landed more than 1,400 residents in emergency rooms. The culprit was carbon monoxide poisoning.

Carbon monoxide (CO) is an odorless, colorless gas, produced any time a fossil fuel is burned. It comes from cars, heaters, and cooking equipment that run on carbon-based fuels. When we are exposed to CO gas, the CO molecules displace the oxygen in our bodies. Because we are unable to use our senses to detect it, dangerous concentrations of the gas can potentially build up in our homes without our notice until we become sick. And because symptoms are similar to the flu, early signs of CO poisoning are easily ignored.

These symptoms include headache, dizziness, weakness, upset stomach, vomiting, chest pain, and confusion. Long-term complications may include chronic fatigue, trouble with memory, and movement problems. Breathing too much CO can make you pass out or kill you.

People who are sleeping or intoxicated can die from CO poisoning before they even have symptoms. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Protection (CDC), each year in the United States, about 20,000 people go to the emergency room for carbon monoxide poisoning, more than 4,000 are hospitalized, and over 400 people die from unintentional CO exposure not linked to fires.

The good news is that carbon monoxide poisoning can be prevented by simple actions (see box on page 6). It starts with installing CO detectors near every sleeping area in our homes and checking them regularly to be sure they are functioning properly.

Ideally, the level of CO indoors should be the same as CO concentrations outside. If you are concerned about measures in your own home, the Arlington County Fire Department offers free home safety checks to residents of Arlington. You can request a home safety check by calling your local fire station (TTY 703-228-4610).

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How to prevent CO poisoning in your home

- Install a battery-operated or battery back-up CO detector in your home.
- Have your heating system, water heater, and any other gas, oil, or coal burning appliances serviced by a qualified technician every year.
- Do not use portable flameless chemical heaters indoors.
- If you smell an odor from your gas refrigerator have an expert service it.
- Only buy gas equipment that carries the seal of a national testing agency.
- Make sure your gas appliances are vented properly.
- Have your chimney checked or cleaned annually.
- Never patch a vent pipe with tape, gum, or something else.
- Never use a gas range or oven for heating.
- Never burn charcoal indoors.
- Never use a portable gas camp stove indoors.
- Never use a generator inside your home, basement, or garage or less than 20 feet from any window, door, or vent.
- When using a generator, use a battery-powered or battery backup CO detector.

– CDC, Carbon Monoxide Poisoning, Frequently Asked Questions



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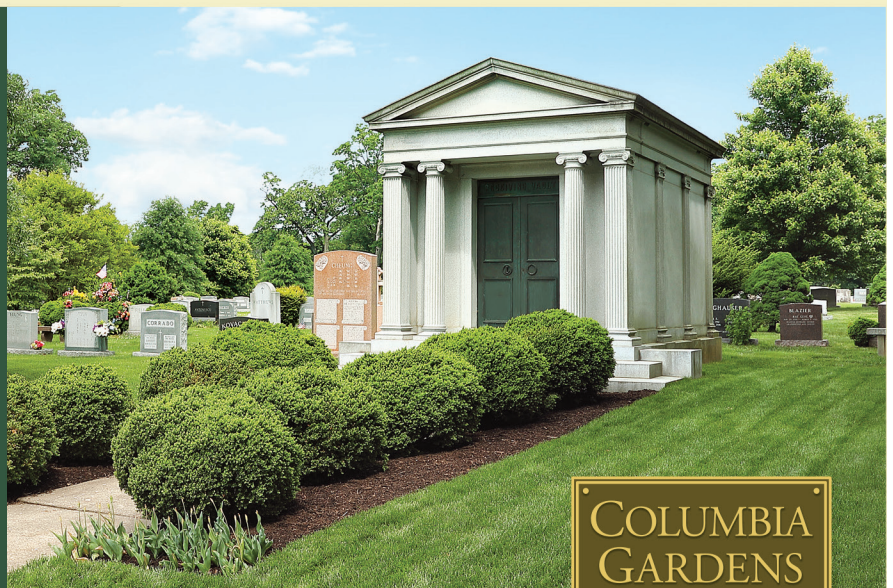
NOMINATIONS

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!

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Art Appreciation in Ashton Heights

By Erika Cohen Derr, adapted from a November 2, 2022 story on [ArlNow.com](#) by Matt Blitz

Take a stroll around Ashton Heights, and you'll be wow-ed by some of the hidden and not-so-hidden works of art that stud the landscape. Earlier this fall, a new sculpture emerged at the corner of Pershing and Monroe that holds special meaning for our community.

"Sunrise and Moonlight," the latest carving by internationally-known chainsaw artist Andrew Mallon, was commissioned by residents Jim and Marilyn Roberts to give new life to the trunk of a century-old oak on their property. The august tree was slated for removal due to safety concerns, but the Roberts' saw the opportunity to bring to this corner a work of art that could be enjoyed by the whole neighborhood. Better still, in retaining Andrew, they brought the neighborhood connection full circle.

Mallon, owner and proprietor of AM Sculptures, grew up in Ashton Heights, one of ten children in his family. He attended local schools, swam on the Fort Myer Squids swim team, and sought outlets for his creative talents. After several years as a professional carpenter, Mallon became a full-time chainsaw artist in 2016. His work can be seen throughout the neighborhood and the region, including this newest carving that evokes concepts of time and place.

The Roberts' description of "Sunshine and Moonlight" connects the sculpture to the tree from which it emerged, and the neighborhood we call home. "Andrew's uplifting depictions in the remaining solid oak trunk of 'Sunshine,' facing East, and 'Moonlight,' facing West joyfully portray the thousands of days and nights witnessed by the great oak and offer artistic beauty and inspiration to those who view Andrew's master work" reads the family's statement. "Andrew's dynamic and decorative Art Deco styling in this oak carving hearkens back to the 1920s and 1930s origins of the Ashton Heights neighborhood."

The sculpture was unveiled earlier this fall, after a week of carving that provided entertainment and fascination by the whole neighborhood. For those who missed it, you're in luck! You can learn more about chainsaw carving and watch Andrew at work on the latest season of "[A Cut Above](#)." The Discovery Network's reality series features chainsaw artists from around the world competing in weekly challenges to demonstrate their skill, technique, and vision for transforming raw materials into art. Andrew's art can also be viewed online in the photo gallery on his website, [amsculptures.com](#). But the ultimate experience comes from lacing up those sneakers and taking a walk around Ashton Heights to glimpse "Sunshine and Moonlight" or one of Andrew's other carvings in full display, at any time of day or night.



Photos courtesy of Jim Roberts

Development Committee Update and Survey Results

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

On January 21, 2023, the County Board will hold a preliminary vote on its proposal to promote development of “Missing Middle” housing (MMH) in single-family home neighborhoods. Final enactment of the proposed zoning code amendments could happen as early as the Board’s March 2023 meeting.

The zoning amendments would allow by-right construction of 2-8-unit buildings in Arlington’s lowest-density neighborhoods. To help guide its engagement on the County’s MMH proposals, the AHCA conducted an online survey of Ashton Heights residents last month. A total of 186 residents responded to our 30-question survey advertised on the AH listserv and in the newsletter.

Overwhelming Opposition to the Proposal, but Support for Some Underlying Policy Goals: 78% of respondents opposed the County’s Missing Middle Housing proposal with only 11% supporting or strongly supporting it. The remainder were neutral or undecided.

While most of our community supported some of the MMH proposal’s stated policy goals, the overwhelming majority did not believe the proposal will achieve these goals.

- At least in principle, 59% of respondents support or strongly support policies that will make it easier for middle income individuals to purchase homes in Arlington.
- However, only 38% favor policies to stimulate a wider variety of these “missing middle” housing types, including duplexes, townhomes, and other multi-unit housing.
- Just 9% believed the MMH proposal would achieve its goals of more economic diversity and more housing options for middle income families.

Significant Concerns about the Proposal: Community members expressed concerns that the proposal would negatively impact the environment, quality of life, and quality of services in our community. The biggest concerns were:

1. loss of tree coverage (73% cited as a significant concern; 96% as a concern),
2. reducing available parking (53% cited as a significant concern; 91% as a concern),
3. increasing rental rather than owner-occupied properties (63% cited as a significant concern; 86% as a concern),

4. overcrowding schools/parks (44% cited as a significant concern; 85% as a concern),
5. MMH designs clashing with existing single-family housing (41% cited as a significant concern; 84% as a concern),
6. increasing noise (31% cited as a significant concern; 82% as a concern),
7. increasing flooding (44% cited as a significant concern; 79% as a concern),
8. loss of privacy (29% cited as a significant concern; 73% as a concern), and
9. decreasing property value (29% cited as a significant concern; 58% as a concern).

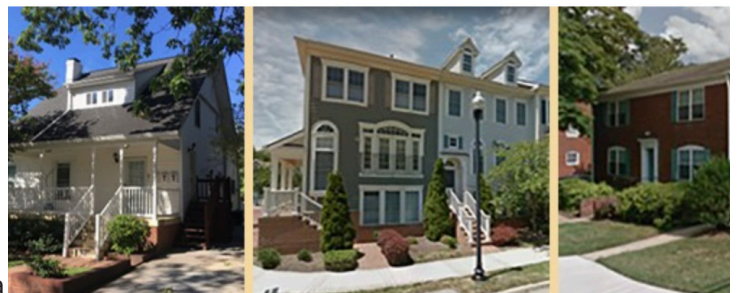
Desired Modifications to the Proposal: If the MMH proposal is approved, only 20% of respondents believe that it should be implemented in all single-family zoning areas in the County.

- If enacted, 44% of respondents strongly support limiting MMH development to existing high-density corridors like National Landing, Rosslyn-Ballston, Shirlington, and Langston Blvd
- 24% also would consider extending missing MMH to other major four-lane roads throughout the County).

Respondents were most opposed to the construction of larger multiplexes.

- 44% believe that future development of single-family zoned areas should be limited to single-family homes.
- 56% would support a proposal to permit building duplexes in neighborhoods currently zoned for single-family homes.
- However, only 22% would support re-zoning to permit up to 3-unit residential buildings, 17% up to 4-plex buildings, and 8% up to 6-plexes,
- Just 3% would support re-zoning to allow 8-plexes.

If the proposal is enacted, our community strongly favors requiring more on-site parking than either the 0.5 or 1



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Development Committee Update, continued from page 8

space per unit options currently being contemplated.

- 38% supported requiring one parking space per bedroom for multi-unit housing,
- 17% supported requiring two spaces per unit, 30% favored one space per unit, and 6% favored 0.5 spaces per unit,
- Only 8% supported no required spaces.

A majority of respondents (ranging from 51% to 61%) also favored restrictions that would require (i) all front doors to face the streets, (ii) each building to have at least one garaged space, (iii) all buildings to be pre-approved models, and (iv) parking to not be perpendicular to the street.

75% believed other alternatives should be studied such as creating investment land trusts to protect demolition of starter homes and rehab them with certain price caps, or putting these starter homes and multi-family buildings under coops or control of an MMH housing authority.

A Flawed Process: Finally, survey respondents expressed strong concerns about the process that the County has used to develop the MMH proposal. 70% believed the process has been unclear and confusing, while 69% viewed it as rushed and 52% as unreasonable. In stark contrast, only 4% viewed it as clear and easily understood, 7% as appropriately paced, and 6% as fair and reasonable.

Next Steps: At its January meeting, the County Board is expected to approve a "Request to Advertise" for public hearings on the MMH proposals (find the County's draft proposal at this link: https://arlington.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=44&clip_id=4170&meta_id=214866).

The Planning Commission could conduct the first of these hearings at its March meeting. Then the Board would hold its own MMH hearing and vote on approving the amendments, possibly later that month. The AHCA welcomes additional input from members with a view towards taking a position in these hearings. We also encourage interested members to consider attending, speaking, or submitting written comment.

How to Build a Firefly Habitat

by Brooke Alexander, Native Plant and Tree Canopy Coordinator



Ashton Heights' most abundant fireflies are most populous on the 4th of July. My family looks forward to their appearance and I hope that you're able to enjoy them in your yard as well.

The most abundant fireflies are the common eastern firefly (*Photinus pyralis*). You're probably familiar with the j-stroke flash of the males in the air, followed by the sedentary flash of the females on the ground or understory. According to Blandy Farm scientists, there are several hundred species of fireflies in Virginia. Much

more research is needed to establish all of their natural histories.



Here is what is known. Fireflies (also known as lightning bugs) are actually beetles. They undergo complete metamorphosis, so they have 4 life stages. The

egg stage lasts 3 weeks; larvae 1-2 years; pupa 3 weeks; and adults 1-2 months. The stage that we generally

observe is the adult stage. But note that most of a firefly's life is spent as a larvae, on the ground and in the ground.

In order to have adult fireflies, we need to make sure that the egg, larvae, and pupal stages are successful in our yards. The best habitat is organic soil which grows food for the larvae. So, a garden with native plants is vastly superior to grass. Firefly larva, as it turns out, are actually fierce predators, eating soft bodied invertebrates, such as snails and slugs, many of which are pests. (This is part of a balanced ecosystem.)

Here are some ideas on how to build a firefly habitat:

- Change a portion of your lawn to a garden with native plants
- Don't rake all your leaves and put them on the curb; you are raking up firefly larvae and throwing them away.
- Leave the leaves. Or make a pile of leaves somewhere in your yard to grow firefly larvae.
- Leave the grass longer. Mow less frequently.
- Don't mow at dusk (when fireflies are starting to become active)
- Eliminate the use of pesticides and herbicides in firefly habitat
- Minimize light pollution (adding light to firefly habitat decreases their ability to communicate with each other)

For more on firefly identification, see the field guide: [Fireflies, Glow-worms and Lightning Bugs](#) by Lynn Faust (2017). For more on observing fireflies visit: [FireFly Watch](#).

Restaurant Review – Seamore's By Vinh Nguyen

Website: www.seamores.com/location/arlington-va/
2815 Clarendon Blvd., Arlington, VA 22201
703-442-4300

The Arlington outpost is the first Seamore's location outside of the NYC area. Their mantra is sustainable seafood, purveyed according to strict standards, and they came to the DC area specifically because of our proximity to the Chesapeake Bay. Ironically, because of low stock, Seamore's is temporarily not serving the bay's signature crabs. (There's always Quarterdeck...)

The featured and most popular dish is "The Reel Deal". You choose from a daily selection of about 6-7 fish, for which the fillets are gently pan-seared and served over a bed of seasonal vegetables (currently rutabaga mash, swish chard and sofrito, quinoa with black rice) and a choice of 4 sauces. A giant blackboard shows what the fish look like and which are available. Over a couple of dinners, we tried sea bass, red drum, arctic char, and flounder; the fish was perfectly cooked each time, but some of us thought the seasoning was a tad heavy. We are partial to the red curry and charred scallion sauces but the others are good too.

We tried a couple of other mains. The lobster roll was just as we had it in Maine: abundant meat, fresh, with minimal dressing. Fish and chips disappointed: not crunchy enough on the outside and mushy inside; we'll give it another chance the next time. Lobster mac+cheese was terrific, with perfectly cooked pasta, hearty and complex cheese, and generous chunks of lobster. Make sure to pick the fries as a side (or just

get them regardless). They are fresh, thinly cut and crunchy, and the portion is generous.

We loved every appetizer we tried. Both the firecracker cauliflower and buffalo shrimp had a kick to them, the latter cooled down with a mild blue cheese sauce. The tuna poke, refreshingly dressed with ponzu, was as good as can be found around town. The clam chowder was delicious but a little overpriced. Oysters were fine, but the selection was modest.

There is only one dessert, but don't skip it: churros sandwiching a generous scoop of caramel chocolate ice cream over a caramel sauce. We also enjoyed the pilsner and IPA draft beers.

An early WaPo review was critical of the service, but this was absolutely not the case for us. The staff was very knowledgeable and friendly. This will definitely be in our restaurant rotation for a while, as there remain many intriguing choices on the menu to try.



*Photos from
Seamore's Instagram*



Ashton Heights Pet of the Month By Greg Helms

Sage is a much-loved Shih-Tzu and a neighborhood old-timer. He has been protecting the streets of Ashton Heights on his nightly walks for nearly 17 years (or at least Ivy and Jackson Streets). When still a pup, all 5 pounds of him planted himself on the corner and stared down a stranger walking on 6th street prompting assurances from the stranger that he was "just passing through". Sage also read the riot act to my daughter's 65-pound pit bull when he got in Sage's personal space (Sully was a pup at the time, and still smaller than Sage).

When not busy defending the neighborhood, Sage loves to nap, especially by the wood stove on wintry days. And at 17, he does more napping than patrolling the neighborhood these days. Even though he has slowed down considerably, he still loves getting dog treats, and when returning from his evening walk, races down the hall to the back of the house to be sure that everyone knows he is home, and all is well in the neighborhood.



KIDS, INC.

Our local youth are ready to help when the household hands are not enough.

Send updates to Ann Felker:
gr8est9@gmail.com



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For privacy reasons, the Kids Inc. listings are not included in the online version. Please consult the PDF posted to the Ashton Heights listserv or the hand delivered newsletter.

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