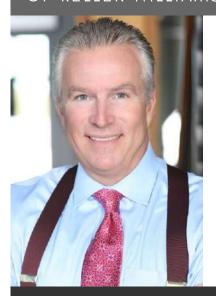


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Congratulations to Our Holiday Lights Contest Winners!



43281 Wayside Circle

Thank you to all of the residents who participated in the annual holiday lights contest this year! Our top three finishers were:

- 1st Place 43281 Wayside Circle (also featured on our cover)
- 2nd Place 42979 Farmingdale Drive
- 3rd Place 43521 Golden Meadow Circle
- Special Mention to the residents who decorated the beautiful tree in the common area off Summerwood Circle!



42979 Farmingdale Drive



43521 Golden Meadow Circle



Common area tree off Summerwood Circle.



Summerwood Circle tree, beautifully lit at night.

Across the Fence

This is a monthly community publication for the residents of Ashburn Farm. Published by the Ashburn Farm Association. Alicia Lough – Editor Jeremy Cushman – General Manager David Tighe – President, Board of Trustees

4400 Total Circulation, mailed to residents and owners. Printing by GAM Printers, Sterling, VA.

DEADLINES:

Display Advertising – 10th of the preceding month Classified Advertising – 10th of the preceding month Committee Reports/Community News – 15th of the preceding month

For more information on Advertising Specifications and Guidelines, please see the back pages of this newsletter.

All material (news, advertising, etc.) is subject to editing at the discretion of the Editor and/or General Manager. Ashburn Farm Association does not endorse or attest to the services offered by any advertisement and will not be held responsible as a result.

Ashburn Farm Association Staff

The Association Staff is responsible for enforcing the rules and regulations of the Association. The staff cannot make or change rules nor can they make arbitrary exceptions to existing rules. We are happy to assist you with any questions you may have or provide information. The Association Office is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Jeremy Cushman - General Manager
William "Chip" Mathews - Director of Operations
Karen Lowe - Architectural & Covenants Director
Chrissy Gier - Covenants Department Support Staff
Rachel Hess - Covenants Inspector
Cheri Jean - Financial Coordinator
Alicia Lough - Communications Coordinator
*Kristen Cornwell - Information, Events, & Rental Coordinator

*Notary Public at Large for the Commonwealth of Virginia (call for information or appointment; \$5/document)

Ashburn Farm Association

21400 Windmill Drive Ashburn, Virginia 20147 Phone: 703-729-6680, Fax: 703-729-0247

Email: info@afhoa.net

Ashburn Farm

Assessments & General Information

Collection Policy

Assessments are due the first day of each month. Any installment of the annual assessment not paid to the Association within thirty (30) days after the due date shall be considered delinquent and a late charge of \$25.00 shall be assessed to the Owner and posted to the Owner's account for every thirty (30) days delinquent.

Home Sales

Effective July 1, 1989, the Virginia General Assembly enacted a new law entitled the "Virginia Property Owner's Association Act". This act requires the seller of a home to make certain disclosures to the intended purchaser of their lot. All home sales in Ashburn Farm are subject to the Virginia Property Owner's Association Act. A written request of the Association Disclosure Package and a check in the amount of: \$225.00 for an electronic disclosure (on CD-R) for townhome/single family; \$250 for a paper disclosure for townhome/single family; \$100 for electronic or paper disclosure for condo; are required to begin processing. A rush fee of \$50.00 may be paid to receive your disclosure within 3 days. Checks should be made payable to the Ashburn Farm Association. A form is available on the website or at the Association Office. The completed package will be issued within 14 calendar days to the requesting party or agent. For further information, please contact the Association Office.

Further Information

Please feel free to contact Summit Management Services for further information or with any questions you may have about your assessment account.

Summit Management Services, Inc. www.summitmanage.com Phone: 301-495-0146 accountsreceivable@summitmanage.com

Ashburn Farm Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees is an all-volunteer resident group that is responsible for interpreting the covenants and rules governing Ashburn Farm. Board of Trustees meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Windmill Community Center located on Windmill Drive. All Ashburn Farm homeowners are encouraged to attend. The next BOT meeting is scheduled for September 1, 2020.

David Tighe - President
Scott Batchelder - Vice President
Cary Hancock - Secretary
Steve Lubore - Treasurer
Rich Oakley - Trustee
Doug Brewer- Trustee
Mark Fedak - Trustee

Board Briefs

A complete draft of the BOT meeting minutes will be reviewed and voted on at the next BOT meeting. The complete set of minutes may be viewed at: https://ashburnfarmassociation.org/board-of-trustees/.

At the BOT meeting held on December 1, 2020, the following items were discussed:

- President, Dave Tighe, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.
- A motion passed (6/0/1/0) to approve the November
 3, 2020 meeting minutes, as submitted.

PUBLIC FORUM

- A resident of Hedgerow Terrace brought a concern to the Board regarding the earlier trash collection time for single family homes. She would like the collection time for Hedgerow Terrace to be returned to 7 AM.
- A resident of Golden Meadow Circle also addressed the Board with concerns about Patriot's early pickup time. He asked the Board to have Patriot return to its 7 AM collection time on Golden Meadow Circle or vary the schedule to start in different areas each week.
- After the discussion, the Board members made the decision to move the collection start time back to 7:00 AM. Mr. Cushman will speak with Patriot to let them know what was decided.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- Information was provided regarding the electrical/ lighting work that is taking place in the community. He noted that much of the original electrical conduit in townhome areas is buried under the sidewalk; this has led to conduits breaking and streetlight outages when sidewalk pads have needed to be replaced. Repairs are being made to the broken conduits to prevent the problem from happening again in the future.
- The Association continues to receive concerns from neighbors about a property on Deep Furrow Court.
 Lawn service was conducted on the property. The front door was left open for a significant amount of time, and the Sheriff's Office was notified. The property seems to have been vacant for quite a while, and administrative foreclosure on the property is still being considered.
- Dumping continues to be a problem in the community.
 Signs have been placed to remind resident that

dumping is not allowed. The possibility of placing dumpsters in the community was discussed. Concerns have also been received regarding residents blowing their leaves into the street and leaving them.

OLD BUSINESS

- Willowbrook Drive & Rockfield Court Drainage
 Concern Update The engineering firm that looked
 at the drainage issue has provided feedback and a
 solution for the common area. Several large trees will
 need to be removed from the common area, as they
 are blocking the flow of the water. A motion passed
 (7/0/0/0) to approve the installation of a swale in
 the area of Rockfield Court and Willowbrook Drive,
 amount NTE \$12,000.
- Trash Collection Issues & General Trash Concerns –
 This issue was discussed during the Public Forum, see
 above.
- 21358 & 21362 Clear Water Court Drainage Concern Update – Ms. Barozi has been working with the Board since October 2019 to find a resolution to drainage problems on her property. She has gotten an estimate of \$11,000 from a contractor to make repairs to her home that she says are a result of her neighbor's modifications to his yard. She would like the Board to intervene and find a solution to her drainage issue. The property plats were reviewed. The discussion was tabled to be reviewed in Executive Session.
- Architectural Standards Update Resolution 12012020:
 A motion passed (7/0/0/0) to approve #1 of the

 Architectural amendments, with the removal of fences for yards with in-ground pools and houses that back to the W&OD sentence.

A motion passed (7/0/0/0) to approve the changes to the Standards for "Sheds, Playhouses, and Greenhouses – single family pre-fab wood or resin sheds" as written by the ARB, with the addition in the Exterior paragraph, adding "no after-market features to be added without ARB approval".

A motion passed (7/0/0/0) to approve item #3 of the Architectural amendments for single family decks and townhomes decks, including "Deck design and construction must meet Loudoun County building code" and "railing design and construction must meet Loudoun County standards".

Continued on page 10...





703-304-5173

Lori@LoriChristCPA.com -Certified Public Accountant -Enrolled to Practice before the IRS

- *Individual Tax Planning & Preparation
- *Bookkeeping for Small Businesses
- *Monthly Financial Statements
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- *Small Business Set up
- *Sales Tax Returns, Payroll Tax Reports



Association Assistance During COVID-19

In response to the Coronavirus pandemic, the Ashburn Farm Association Board of Trustees voted to suspend the annual property inspections until next year to allow Members to focus their full attention and resources towards their own wellbeing and that of loved ones.

The Association continues to respond to Resale Disclosure requests, Exterior Alteration Applications submitted, as well as concerns reported by email or phone. Additionally, the Association will continue responding to member notifications for compliance with the health and safety aspects of the Covenants & Architectural Standards, such as trash and parking enforcement, lawn maintenance to reduce the presence of rodents, etc. Property owners will be notified of severe violations of the Covenants and/or Architectural Standards noted while responding to one of the aforementioned examples.

The work completed over the past six months to ensure the notification aspect of the annual inspections is paramount has been codified and will be in place when annual inspections resume in 2021; as will the changes to the Association's Architectural & Maintenance Standards.

Additionally, due to the circumstances created by the Coronavirus pandemic, the Ashburn Farm Association Board of Trustees, will suspend late penalties for those financially affected.

We know that during the pandemic, as well as once it's under control, Association Members may be working less, unemployed, have other expenses, fall ill, or have family members that fall ill or need financial or other assistance. To seek relief from late penalties for non-payment of assessments Members will need to provide a written statement regarding the financial impact the Coronavirus pandemic has had. Please send an email to dues@afhoa.net, briefly explaining your situation.

This is not a waiver of assessments. The Ashburn Farm Association Board of Trustees is unable waive assessments, which are required by the Covenants. The intent of this resolution is to waive late fees/penalties for those affected by the coronavirus crisis as defined by the members in their own words.

The lasting effects of the Coronavirus pandemic are unknown, and the Association wants to support the Members every way it can during this time. Please contact us to discuss what assistance we can offer.

2021 Homeowner Assessments

Summit Management has experienced delays in the production and mailing of the 2021 homeowner assessment coupon books. The coupons are expected to be in the mail by January 8th and received shortly after. Please remember that HOA assessments are due on the 1st of each month. The new assessment amounts are below:

| <u>Assessments</u> | 2021 Monthly Fee | 2021 Quarterly Fee |
|---------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Public Street (VDOT-maintained) | \$ 88.97 | \$266.91 |
| Private Street (HOA-maintained) | \$100.09 | \$300.27 |
| Condo (Privately-maintained) | \$ 66.09 | \$198.27 |

- If you are signed up for ACH payments through Summit Management, your payments will automatically update to the 2021 dues amount.
- If you are signed up for recurring payments through your bank, you will need to log into the link below and update your payment amount: https://onlinepay.allianceassociationbank.com/Login.aspx

When making payments to Summit Management, please use the following information:

Management ID: 6657 Association ID: ASH

Property ID: House number + first three letters of street (i.e., 21400WIN).

If mailing your payment, please send your check or money order to:

Ashburn Farm Association

C/O Summit Management, Processing Center

P.O. Box 95366

Las Vegas, NV 89193-5366

Please contact Summit Management if you have any questions concerning your account or payment options:

Summit Management Services, Inc.

www.summitmanage.com

Phone: 301-495-0146

accounting@summitmanage.com



Ashburn Volunteer Fire & Rescue January Newsletter

Alas, our ever popular annual Chili Cookoff - usually held in January - has been cancelled. We will take a look at how Covid-19 solutions progress and see if we can reschedule for some time later in Spring. Stay tuned for more details on all our events at: https:// ashburnfirerescue.org/events.

(Virtual) Prospective Members Meeting - Jan 26th - 7:00-9:00pm. Learn more about volunteering with AVFRD. Operations and Admin members needed . Many benefits. See our website for more information and how to apply. https://ashburnfirerescue.org/volunteer/process/

Save The Date: March 13th - Picnic to Go - Drive-Through BBQ - Our first event was so popular that we will do it again. Look for more details at our website. A great opportunity for good eatin' - no cooking - and a safe solution to the pandemic.

Virtual Bingo - Our first event in December was very well attended so we are planning another some time in the coming months. Follow us at https://ashburnfirerescue;org/events.

Founders Hall - Station 6, Ashburn Road - The perfect event & meeting space. With space for 225 people, modern amenities and simple rental terms, this is the right choice for your event - big or small. Accessible, friendly, and fun for you, family, friends and more! For more information go to: https://ashburnfirerescue.org/facilities-apparatus/founders-hall/

Christmas Tree Collection

Patriot Disposal will be collecting trees on Monday, January 4th and Monday, January 11th. Trees must be placed on the curb with all lights, wire, tinsel, and decorations removed. The trees should not be placed in plastics bags.

FIRE-RESCUE

If the above dates do not work for your family, Loudoun County is also offering five locations for residents to drop off their Christmas trees for recycling from Sunday, December 26, 2020, through Wednesday, January 20, 2021.

Only natural, cut trees and wreaths are accepted; no artificial trees or wreaths. The trees will be converted into mulch, which is available for free year-round to Loudoun County residents at the Loudoun County landfill, 21101 Evergreen Mills Road, Leesburg.

Whether dropping a tree off at one of the Christmas tree collection sites or at the curb, remove all ornaments, lights, tinsel, wire, stand and tree bag. Dispose of the tree bag in your regular trash. If you wish to recycle a natural wreath, remove all wires, bows, twine, lights and ornaments before recycling the wreath. If removal of these items is not possible, then dispose of the tree or wreath with your regular garbage.

The Christmas Tree Recycling Program is a public service for Loudoun County residents only. Tree vendors operating in Loudoun County who have leftover trees may recycle them at the Loudoun County landfill for \$62 a ton. Netting, rope, wire, tags and other items must be removed prior to recycling. Visit loudoun.gov/landfill or call 703-771-5500 for more information.

For residents, Christmas trees will be accepted for recycling free of charge at the following locations through January 20, 2020:

- Leesburg: Loudoun County Landfill Recycling Center, 21101 Evergreen Mills Road, Leesburg, 20175, Open Monday through Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Lovettsville: Game Protective Association, 16 South Berlin Pike, Lovettsville, 20180, Open daily.
- Purcellville: Franklin Park, 17501 Franklin Park Drive, Purcellville, 20132, Open daily, 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- South Riding: Town Hall, rear parking lot next to tennis court, 43055 Center Street, South Riding, 20152, Open daily.
- Sterling: Claude Moore Park (use Loudoun Park Lane entrance), 46150 Loudoun Park Lane, Sterling, 20164, Open daily, 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

More information about the Christmas Tree Recycling Program and other Loudoun County recycling programs is available at loudoun.gov/recycle.

Ashburn Farm Snow Removal Policy

The Association is responsible for snow removal on private streets (townhome streets and Perennial Lane). The Ashburn Farm Association is not responsible for removing snow, or treating, state or county maintained public (VDOT & Loudoun County) roadways (all single family home streets, except Perennial Lane). Recreational areas and parking lots will be cleared on an as needed basis, at the discretion of the Association.

- Snow removal will start after two inches (2") of snow has accumulated on paved surfaces, or at the discretion of the Association.
- All single-family homes (excluding those on Perennial Lane) are located on state or county (VDOT & Loudoun County) owned streets; snow removal on those streets is the responsibility of VDOT / Loudoun County. To contact VDOT please call 703-383-VDOT (8368).
- Please allow 18 hours for every 6" of snow accumulation for the roads to be cleared. If you're essential personnel, or are required to be available for work around the clock, please make private arrangements or park on a VDOT street.
- Ice melt will be applied at the discretion of management and the conditions in each neighborhood, unsafe conditions should be reported to the Association immediately. Ice melt application trucks will patrol Association owned streets after a snow or ice event, and after a melt/ freeze cycle (warm day/freezing night) immediately following the snow or ice event at the discretion of the management. Please ensure that you are wearing appropriate clothing, footwear, etc. to best deal with the conditions present at the time.
- All snow removal equipment contracted by the Association must maintain a minimum of thirty-six inches (36") of clearance from all parking spaces. The snow that accumulates within the thirty-six inches (36") is the sole responsibility of the person(s) assigned to or using the parking space. Curbside and open parking spaces will not be cleared.
- Vehicles parked curbside in the townhome areas must be moved to allow for snow removal. Failure to do so will result in a less efficient snow removal process and parked vehicles could become stuck due to snow deflecting off plows. Owners that find themselves in this situation due to an unmoved car will be responsible for clearing these areas.
- Please do not clear snow from driveway entrances or vehicles and place in/on the street, thinking a plow

can/will remove it. The pile will become packed and will require specialized equipment to remove and will be charged to the responsible party.

- Take caution when clearing snow from a driveway, parking space, etc. prior to the street or parking lot plowing by the snow removal contractor, as snow may be unintentionally deflected by removal equipment during plowing and may come to rest in driveways or parking spaces. In cases such as these, neither the Association, nor the snow removal contractor are responsible for clearing deflected snow. It is the responsibility of the resident to clear this snow.
- Snow should never be deposited onto streets, sidewalks, parking spaces, utility strips, or parking lot islands. If shoveling or blowing snow, deposit it onto your own property or grass covered common areas. This applies to contractors, residents, or anyone hired to perform snow removal service by a resident. The Association is not responsible for removal of snow piled in the street, in a parking space, or on the sidewalk by residents or a contractor hired by residents; however, should the Association be forced to remove it, the responsible party will be charged.
- Snow will be removed from Association owned mailboxes in the townhome areas by the snow removal contractors to allow mail delivery.
- The Ashburn Farm Association is not responsible for removing the snow from sidewalks in front of townhomes or single-family homes. This is the sole responsibility of the resident.
- Only sidewalks and trails that are used by students
 to travel to and from schools will be cleared when an
 accumulation of 2" or more has occurred, or at the
 discretion of the Association. The application of ice
 melt will be minimal on these areas. Please ensure that
 the footwear and clothing choices are suitable for the
 conditions.

Please contact the Association Office 703-729-6680 or email snowremoval@afhoa.net if you have comments or concerns regarding snow removal. To ensure your concern is addressed as quickly as possible please include clear contact information: your full name, street address, time of call and your concern.

Be A Good Neighbor

With the onset of winter weather, please be sure to clear sidewalks and walkways of snow and ice.

Board Briefs (continued)

A motion passed (7/0/0/0) to approve item #4 of the Architectural amendments, as written. This change would allow insect traps/killers that do not emit any noise and must meet the lighting standards in Ashburn Farm.

A motion was made to approve #5 of the Architectural amendments, as written. This would allow white and other natural-colored rocks to be used in landscaping. A friendly amendment was made to include the following: "Rock or loose stone must be contained, and it must not cover an area of more than 1000 sq. ft. in single family yards; special circumstances may be considered in townhomes. A second amendment was made to include, "The use of rock against foundations along the home is allowed". The amended motion passed (5/2/0/0), with Mr. Brewer and Mr. Tighe opposing.

A motion was made to approve #6 of the Architectural amendments, as written. This would allow additional types of outdoor play equipment with ARB approval. The motion passed (6/1/0/0), with Mr. Brewer opposing.

A motion was made to approve item #7 of the Architectural amendments, as written. This motion updates the rules for Satellite dishes. A friendly amendment was made to include, "Additional satellite dishes will be considered on a case-by-case basis. The amended motion passed (7/0/0/0).

A motion was made to approve item #8 of the Architectural amendments, as written. This motion updates the rules for driveway extensions. A friendly amendment was made to include, "must be level and must be well-maintained and designed to support weight of vehicle". The motion passed (5/2/0/0), with Mr. Brewer and Mr. Tighe opposing.

A motion was made to approve item #9 of the Architectural amendments, as written. A friendly amendment was made to include, "any rain barrels placed in the front of a property must be fully obscured by landscaping". Another friendly amendment was made to include, "rain barrels must be equipped with a debris/insect screen". The motion passed (6/1/0/0), with Mr. Tighe opposing.

A motion was made to approve the proposed options as a Standard in the Unique Neighborhood fencing. A

friendly amendment was made to include "fences to be painted with a clear sealer". The motion passed (7/0/0/0).

NEW BUSINESS

- Association 2021 Board Meeting Schedule A motion passed (7/0/0/0) to approve the 2021 Board Meeting Schedule.
- Late Fee Policy Review Mr. Cushman will write a resolution for the Board for the January BOT meeting that will allow the GM and Financial Coordinator to negotiate some late fees for Members.
- Association Pool Management Minimum Wage Increase Addendum – A motion passed (7/0/0/0) to approve the addendum from Crystal Aquatics for the next three years.
- Association Inspection Notice, Process & Letters The current notices and letters were provided to the Board members for review. A letter will go out to all residents explaining the new inspection process, a checklist of violation items homeowners should look for on their home, along with an opt-out form for the annual inspections. Residents that are not opting-out will have an inspection as if the home were to be sold and can request a copy of the noted violations. Additionally, for 2021, only homeowners whose homes are considered to have significant violations will receive a violation letter.

INFORMATIONAL

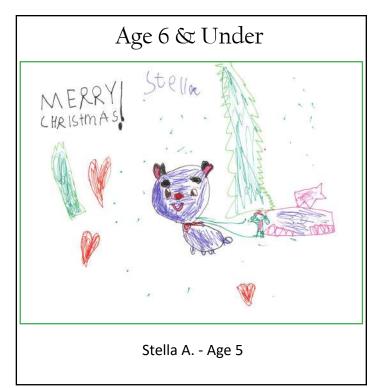
 Association Delinquent Status Report – The Board members agreed to have Dr. Lubore, as Treasurer, write off \$3,641.76 for a foreclosed property.

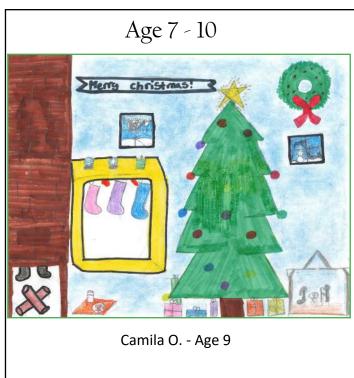
ADJOURNMENT

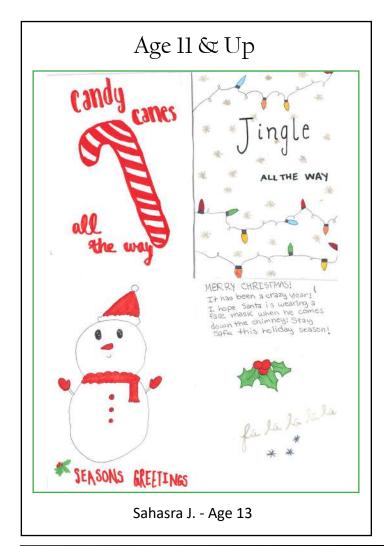
- Mr. Tighe moved the meeting to Executive Session at 10:46 PM.
- The Board returned from Executive Session at 11:08
 PM. A motion passed (7/0/0/0) to adjourn the regular business meeting at 11:09 PM.

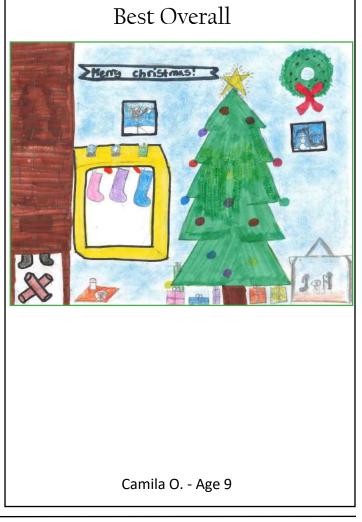
Minutes for the Ashburn Farm Board of Trustees (BOT)
Meeting are developed from meeting recordings and
BOT member input. The complete set of minutes may be
viewed at: https://ashburnfarmassociation.org/
board-of-trustees/.

Christmas Card Contest Winners!









Wayside Circle Traffic Calming

In early 2019 the Association received a concern from Member on Wayside Circle regarding speeding and asked that the Association contact Loudoun County Department of Transportation and Capital Infrastructure on behalf of her and her neighbors to review Wayside Circle for traffic calming with the additional notation of requesting additional signage and/or enforcement on Claiborne Parkway, to which Wayside adjoins. At the June 2019 Meeting the Board asked that I gather additional support from other residents on Wayside Circle before the Association took any additional action.

In July of 2019 after hearing concerns from additional residents the Board voted to contact Loudoun County Department of Transportation and Capital Infrastructure and request that a traffic calming study be performed on Wayside Circle to determine if the issue meets the criteria to warrant traffic calming measures. To qualify for traffic calming measures the traffic on Wayside Circle must be between 600 and 4,000 vehicles per day and the 85th percentile of the collected data must be 10 MPH over the posted speed limit.

This study was completed and confirmed that 624 vehicles travel Wayside Circle daily and that the posted 25 MPH speed limit is exceeded by 10 MPH when looking at the 85th percentile of the data collected. This confirmation triggered the next phase of the traffic calming process facilitated by Loudoun County Department of Transportation and Capital Infrastructure, which was a mail-in balloting process to gauge community support, which required that of the 191 households that live on Wayside Circle or a connecting street, 97 must approve of the traffic calming plan proposed by VDOT, to reduce speeding on Wayside Circle. The plan was to install two speed humps and additional signage as shown below.



The balloting opened on November 2nd and remained open until December 2nd. Ballots received with a postmark of December 2nd, were counted/included with the results.

| Final Count as of Dec 9 | Total | % of Total |
|--------------------------|-------|------------|
| Number of votes received | 124 | 65% |
| Number of votes YES | 77 | 40% |
| Number of votes NO | 47 | 25% |

The measure did not pass as the votes in favor of traffic calming did not reach the more than 50% approval from the community and concludes the process.

The Association would like to sincerely thank the community members that brought the issue forward and those that participated in the balloting measure; as well as the Loudoun County Department of Transportation and Capital Infrastructure, the Ashburn District Supervisor and his staff, and the other county and state staff involved, for their time and diligence in this effort during a difficult year.

We Want to Hear from You!

Do you have an article you would like to write and contribute to the *Across the Fence* newsletter? Here's your chance!

We would love to hear about any of the following:

- Areas of expertise that you can share with residents? Home maintenance, gardening, landscaping, cooking, health, pets, exercise, etc.
- Upcoming community event?
- Recent accomplishment of a community member?
- Community volunteers needed?
- Random acts of kindness?
- Great photos of the community or members?

For article and submission guidelines, see below.

- Please include a title for your article.
- To submit, email your article to editor@afhoa.net.
- Include "Newsletter Submission" in the subject line of your submission email.

Ice storm. Photo by Jeremy Cushman.

- Include your first name, last name, and a contact email address in the body of your message. Your name (but not your e-mail) will appear in the newsletter (unless you ask to be anonymous).
- Articles should be sent as an attachment, in Word (.doc or .docx). Please do not send in .pdf format.
- Related pictures are highly encouraged to be submitted along with your article.
- Please send photos as .jpg files, and attach images to the same email as your article submission.
 Include a short (1 sentence) caption of each image.
- If photos include people, it is the contributor's responsibility to obtain approval from the subject prior to submission (and parents' approval, if the subjects are children).
- Articles should not be used as advertising or endorse any product, service or, enterprise.

Note: The Board of Trustees and/or BOT Secretary reserve the right to modify or reject submitted articles.





Bridge near Starflower Way. Photo by Ramona Batchelder.

Tree Removal in Ashburn Farm

The Association is approaching a nearly 50% overage for the tree removal budget for 2020. From January through October of this year, the Association has been billed for 404 trees, at an average cost of \$347.21/tree. This is in addition to another approximately 45 trees and saplings removed at no cost, or those removed by the Association's staff. This total does not include the additional 100+ trees damaged during the snow/ice storm on December 16 (see page 15).

Questions have been asked about the cause of this budget overage and the reasons for so many trees needing to be removed. There are several reasons, some driving a larger portion than others, many overlapping/contributing but are:

- Age of the community/size of trees
- Borers & other insect damge
- Growing/leaning towards the sun
- Wind/snow/ice/water damage
- Unknown death
- Liability

Large areas of the community back to wooded common areas with 80-100' tall ash, oak, maple, and other trees, many of which have been growing towards the sun for the past 20+ years. In several places, the areas of sunlight are near homes, where there is open sky. The trail areas are similar in that the construction of the trails created open sky and a void where trees can lean towards and take advantage of the sunlight. Over the years, this has resulted in large trees that lean severely both towards homes, and/ or over trails and other property we want to protect or keep safe.

The tree in the picture to the right is approaching 12" diameter at the base, and it is less than 24" from the Association Member's fence.
Trees like this one are just some of the trees that the Association removes at an average of \$347/tree.

The tree in the photos below fell through a Member's rear yard,



grazing some shrubs and narrowly missing a nearby fence. This tree fell from about 30' back into a tree save area where visibility is difficult until fall.





The tree removal budget has been underfunded in years past, and it, unfortunately, remains strained even still. The Association manages approximately 200 acres of tree save areas as a means of reducing resident concerns, as well as reducing liability for the Association. Increasing the tree removal budget by \$25,000 - \$50,000 would help reduce the overages that are occurring. The money could be spent annually or every other year on tree maintenance and pruning both behind single family and townhome properties. Any remaining balance could be spent on pushing back wood lines from maintained grassy or trail areas. Wood line encroachment is something the Association fights against constantly, and generally lose ground. The \$100,000 tree removal budget would eventually catch up, if supported by an adequately funded tree maintenance fund. This is also contingent on preventing tree specific boring insects, like the Spotted Lantern Fly. It is estimated that three years of funding at this level would provide the handle needed to begin to realign the tree removal budget with actual expenses.

Maintenance Minute



Ashburn Farm received 4-6" of snow on December 16, over a 14-hour period. The storm left fine, powdery snow; wet, heavy snow; sleet; and freezing rain - pretty much every type of winter precipitation. Unfortunately, the freezing rain will have a lasting impact on the community because of the damage to more than 100 trees in the common areas. About 40 of those needed removal or remain in need of pruning to remove large, damaged sections.

The Association also lost numerous trees the day after the storm. As the saturated ground began to thaw, the additional weight of the ice on many trees was too much for their roots to bear. Thankfully, there was little damage to personal property from Association trees, and it was limited to fences.







Events Around Loudoun County

Jan 1/1, 1/2, 1/3, 1/8, 1/9, 1/10, 1/15, 1/16, 1/17, 1/22, 1/23, 1/24, 1/29, 1/30, 1/31 - Winter Wanderland Ice Display 2021

1602 Village Market Blvd SE, Leesburg, VA

(571) 291-2288

Location: Village at Leesburg Time: 9:00 AM to 10:00 PM

Price: Free

2021 is looking CHILL ② Every weekend in January, join us for socially-distanced fun and wander among the wondrous ice sculptures displayed throughout Village at Leesburg. You can Drink in the Good Life with a hot beverage to-go as you admire the sculptures. If you need a warming break as you are wandering around the property, pop into one of our more than 60 boutiques, restaurants and entertainment experiences.

The sculptures will feature a different theme each weekend, so be sure to come back and see what's new. And to add to the fun, if you can guess the week's theme correctly, you will be entered to win a \$100 gift card to the store of your choice each week.* If you guess the theme correctly all five weekends, you will be entered to win an additional \$100 gift card to the store of your choice.*

Join us to stroll through our Winter Wanderland at Village at Leesburg this season!

Jan 2 & 9 - Kids Pizza Making Class at Wild Wood Pizza

1600 Village Market Blvd, Suite 120, Leeeburg, VA

(703) 443-1600

Location: Wild Wood Pizza Time: 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM

Price: \$10

Count on your kids being covered in flour, tomato sauce, and full of memories in this hands-on pizza making experience at Wild Wood Pizza at Village at Leesburg!

Chef Curtis Allred and his team believe that kids learn best by doing. This hands-on class will teach kids how to roll and knead dough, create authentic pizzas from scratch, and watch along as the Wild Wood team uses our woodburning oven to perfectly cook your child's creations.

This is a great event for a fun family experience -- and an investment in future homemade pizza dinners as a family.

Tickets are \$10 per attendee. Each ticket includes the cost of an in-class pizza making kit and a non-alcoholic beverage. Adults are welcome to purchase beer, wine and

cocktails at the bar. *A parent or guardian must remain on site during the class.

SHOW OFF YOUR SKILLS: Our DIY pizza kits will be available to-go after the class for only \$10! Children of all ages are invited to participate. Children under the age of 10 require a parent or guardian supervision.

Dec 4-Jan 30 - Festival Invernale (Italian Winter Festival)

21453 Epicerie Plaza, Sterling, VA

(571) 375-1750

Recurrence: Recurring weekly on Thursday, Friday,

Saturday

Location: Cascades Overlook Plaza

Time: 4:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Price: Free

Come snuggle up at one of our three warm fire tables while enjoying a unbelievably priced, specially made holiday beverage and while here at the Cascades Overlook Plaza take some family photos at our beautifully lit 10' high interactive holiday photo stations!

Stroll down the plaza with our holiday music and make sure you visit our wonderful retailers and one of our eleven restaurants for a memorable meal. Don't forget our 45' Christmas tree and Star of Bethlehem where you can wish upon a star!

Lastly help us make a child happy by donating a new, unwrapped Toy (drop at Urbano)

Jan 2-10 - Historic Downtown Leesburg - Walking Tour

16 S King St, Leesburg, VA

(703) 973-6400

Recurrence: Recurring weekly on Sunday, Saturday

Location: Very Virginia Shop Time: 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM

Price: FREE

Free walking tours of historic downtown Leesburg! Starting at the Very Virginia Shop, local historian John Dooney hosts 40 minute walking tours of historic downtown Leesburg - from the early drumbeats of the Revolutionary War through the Civil War, Reconstruction and beyond. After the tour, taste free samples of the famous Virginia peanuts and other gourmet foods! Check out a wide array of local souvenirs.

Tours are Saturday and Sundays at 12:00 pm. Tours are free, however please text or call to confirm tour availability. Other dates and times may be arranged.

Events Around Loudoun County

Contact the Very Virginia Shop at 703-973-6400 for details.

Jan 7, 1/14, 1/21, 1/28 - Wood Fired Pizza Making Class + Wine and Beer Pairing

1600 Village Market Blvd, Suite 120, Leeeburg, VA

(703) 443-1600

Location: Wild Wood Pizza Time: 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Price: \$25

Join us for an adults-only wood fired pizza making class

with wine and beer pairings!

About this Event

Join Chef Curtis Allred for a wood-fired pizza making

experience to remember!

Each attendee ticket includes: Individual pizza making kit 2 adult beverages (beer or wine) Guests must be 21+ to attend.

Jan 9 - Cocktails with Cupcake

500 N Pendleton St., Middleburg, VA

For more information, please call 540.326.4020 Recurrence: Recurring weekly on Friday, Saturday

Location: Salamander Resort & Spa

Time: 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Meet the newest (and sweetest) member of our team, Cupcake! Our friend may be little in size but this miniature horse has a big personality. Each week she joins our team in the Living Room to greet our guests and welcome them to their home-away-from-home.

During this time, enjoy Gold Cup's new Cupcake Cocktail with vanilla vodka, dark and light Godiva, housemade whipped cream topped with rainbow sprinkles. \$14 per drink

Jan 13 - Blue Sky Puppets: Bananas

36441 Blueridge View Lane, Purcellville, VA (540) 338-7973

Location: Franklin Park Performing & Visual Arts Center

Time: 10:00 AM to 11:45 AM

Price: \$5 Purchase online: www.franklinparkartscenter.org Blue Sky Puppet Theater presents Bananas. Audience members learn songs-and then vote on the best performance! Get up, dance, sing and be healthy! One of our most popular shows — with plenty of time for a meet and greet afterwards!

Jan 15 - StageCoach Bandits Improv Comedy Show 20937 Ashburn Road, Suites 115 and 120, Ashburn, VA 571-477-9444

Recurrence: Recurring monthly on the 3rd Friday

Location: Virtual Event Time: 7:30 PM to 9:00 PM Price: \$15 Reservations required.

Improv troupe for StageCoach Theatre Company, the StageCoach Bandits are Loudoun County's funniest improv comedy team! Join us monthly for THIRD FRIDAY

IMPROV!

Just like "Whose Line Is It Anyway?", the Bandits perform short-form improv using suggestions from the audience. The show also includes several comedy skits. Shows are completely interactive. No show or game is ever the same twice!

Jan 16 - Live Music with Jason Masi at Breaux Vineyards

36888 Breaux Vineyards Lane, Purcellville, VA

(540) 668-6299

Location: Breaux Vineyards Time: 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Enjoy good wine and live music by Jason Masi from 1PM until 5PM. Reservations are required for all inside, patio, and fire pit seating and can be made online OR calling us at

(540)668-6299.

Jan 16-18 - MYHockey Congressional Cup Mid-Winter Classic

19201 Compass Creek Parkway SE, Leesburg, VA Presented By: MYHockey Tournaments Location: Ion International Training Center Join us for the MYHockey Congressional Cup Mid-winter Classic January 16-18, 2021. The event will be played at the ion International Training Center and Ashburn Ice House.

Jan 23 - Classic Movie Musicals Nights!

36441 Blueridge View Lane, Purcellville, VA (540) 338-7973

Presented By: Franklin Park Performing Arts Center Location: Franklin Park Performing & Visual Arts Center Time: 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Price: \$3 purchase online www.franklinparkartcenter.org Yes, we did say movie musicals, shown in the theatre of the Arts Center! The movies will be a surprise, but you can surprise us and come dressed as your favorite musical character and parade across our stage! Seating will be socially distanced and a maximum of 50 tickets are available. Water will be sold. No snacks or food is permitted in theatre.

January Fun Page

New Year's Word Search

E N D S E R T E M E N D N N T M E E E N M K E R E

BABY

BALL

CALENDAR

CELEBRATION

CLOCK

CONFETTI

COUNTDOWN

EVE

FAMILY

FRIENDS

.....

HAPPY

JANUARY

MIDNIGHT

NEW YEAR

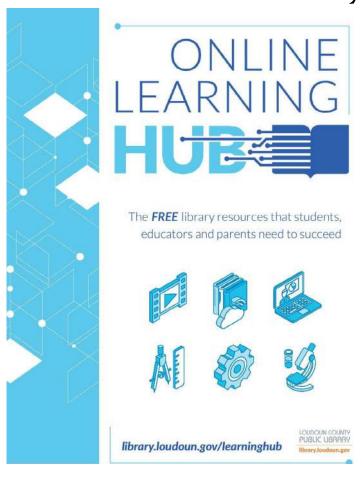
NOISEMAKER

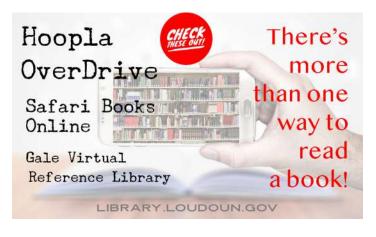
PARTY

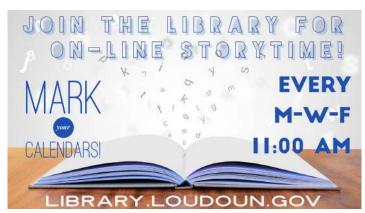
RESOLUTION TOAST



Library Corner

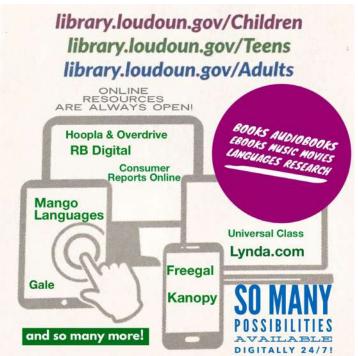












Ashburn Farm Odd Job Squad

The Odd Job Squad is always being updated! Residents are frequently looking for some extra help with those little jobs around the house. If your child is interested in making some extra cash and helping out his/her neigh-bors, just fill out the form below and email, mail, or fax it to the Association Office. Sign-ups are ongoing throughout the year.

The Odd Job Squad list will appear monthly in the newsletter according to the information submitted on the form below. This information will not be published in our online newsletter. The Ashburn Farm Association makes no claim as to the qualifications of the participants of this program.

Parents: Please note that even if your child is currently on the Odd Job Squad list, you must re-register them annually. Anyone not registered by January 25 th will be removed from the list.

| Child's Name | | | Age |
|-------------------------|----------------------|---|-------------|
| Street | | | |
| Phone Number | | | |
| Services Available (cir | cle all that apply): | | |
| Pet Sitting | Yard Work | Office Work | Car Washing |
| Babysitting (Red Cros | ss Certified - Y/N) | Snow Shoveling | |
| Other (please specify | ·): | | |
| | | have his/her name, address and tenth for the purpose of participation | • |
| Parent's Signature | | Date | |

Any changes to the above information must be made in writing to the Ashburn Farm Association Office. Our mailing address is: 21400 Windmill Drive, Ashburn, VA 20147. You may also send changes via email to

ayoung@afhoa.net, or via fax to 703-729-0247. Thank you!

Advertising Information and Specifications

The following information lists the specifications for display advertising in Across the Fence. All advertising is due (copy and payment) by the **10th of the preceding month** of the issue.

| Size | Price/mo | Extended Contract* |
|--------------|----------|--------------------|
| 1/8 Page | \$110 | \$100/mo |
| 1/4 Page | \$180 | \$170/mo |
| 1/2 Page | \$350 | \$335/mo |
| Full Page | \$700 | \$680/mo |
| Inside Cover | | |
| 1/4 Page | \$220 | \$215/mo |
| 1/2 Page | \$430 | \$420/mo |
| Full Page | \$800 | \$775/mo |

^{*}Extended contracts refer to advertising commitments for a period of six months or more. Pre-payment of the term is required in order to take advantage of the extended contract discounts.

An Insertion Order Form must be submitted with ad. Forms are available at the Association Office or via fax and our website. Advertiser must provide in digital form (PDF or TIF files only, PC formatted). Ad copy may be in black & white or color. Ads will run as-is; no alterations will be made by the Association. Ads exceeding the proper size reserved will not run.

Space Reservation and Payment Requirements

Ad space is limited and reserved on a first come-first served basis. Payment in full is due for ad space before the deadline (except for extended term contracts – these are due at reservation). We do not bill – pre-payment of ad space is mandatory. **Make checks payable to Ashburn Farm Association.** If payment is not received by the deadline, the space becomes forfeited. We will not refund payment due to missed deadlines for copy. Copy submitted must meet the required specifications. We will not be held responsible if copy is not submitted by the deadline even though payment has been received.

Advertising copy and payment can be mailed to:

Ashburn Farm Association Attn: Alicia Lough, Editor 21400 Windmill Drive Ashburn, VA 20147

Note: The Editor reserves the right to reject any advertisements for any reason. Ads that are deemed inappropriate or distasteful for this publication will not be run. No political advertising permitted. Advertising orders cannot be canceled after the deadline without prior arrangements. Questions can be forwarded to ayoung@afhoa.net or 703-729-6680.



Ashburn Farm Odd Job Squad

Please consider the following young people for your odd job needs! The Ashburn Farm Association makes no claim as to the qualifications of the below-mentioned persons.

Please be sure to update your contact information regularly. Thank you!

Classifieds

Businesses & Services

Handyman Services

For repairs in your home. Small jobs and odds and ends. Plumbing, electrical, water heater replacements, bathrooms, and more... Free estimates. Call: 571-426-2126.

JOIN A VIRTUAL PILATES CLASS!

Get fit from the safety of your own home! No equipment required. 30 min "Core" Conditioning WED @10a, 50 min Reset My Neck WED @6p, 45 min Pre-Pilates THUR @10a and 50 min Mat Method FRI @9a. For full class description and pricing please visit www. pilateswithvanessa.com under "Classes" or call/text Vanessa at 703-297-1148.

Bookkeeping Services

I provide virtual bookkeeping services to small and mid-sized businesses and nonprofits all over the USA. We are QuickBooks Certified ProAdvisor with 25+ years of experience with various industries. Call Manjit Sahai at 703-406-0256 or e-mail msahai@everypennyaccounts.com.

Bane Electrical Service LLC/Small Commercial & Residential

Trouble shooting experts! Specializing in High Chandelier installs, Recessed light installations and Home Inspection items. In Ashburn since 1999! Call (703-723-6501) or email baneelectric@comcast.net.

Certified Personal Trainer - Virtual Sessions Available

Certified Personal Trainer and Weight Management Consultant with over twenty years of experience would love to help you get stronger, leaner, and gain overall fitness. Learn how to be a healthier you by way of virtual sessions! Call Debbie (Ashburn Farm resident) at 703-615-1665. Website: DebRuns.com.

PRIVATE MATH TUTORING

I will tutor your math student in your home. Improve their abilities in middle school, SAT/ACT, high school and college mathematics. Contact Steve Lubore, Ph.D. at 703-729-9248 or gr82learn@comcast.net.

BGEST Home Care

House cleaning residential/commercial. Move out/in. Weekly - biweekly - monthly. Other services. Painting interior/exterior. Pressure washing deck/seal. Good references. Licensed and insured. Call for free estimate. 703-726-1514 or 703-989-5759. Email: bgesthomecare@msn.com.

Looking for A Full-Time Lawn Service?

I offer a full range of lawn care services for single family homes. Mowing, (including trimming, edging, and blowing off debris); weed control; lawn fertilization; aeration; and many other yard care services. Contact Dan Baltich at 571-278-1885 for a FREE estimate.

Reiki & Hypnotherapy at the OM Center -

Relax, refocus, and heal anxiety, depression, fears, and boost confidence, and overall healing. Call to schedule a gratis introductory reiki session or discounted hypnotherapy session with Kelly DeMarce. www.theOMcenter.com. Serving Ashburn for more than 15 years. 703-724-9899.

2021 Monthly Assessments:

Public Street Homes \$88.97 Private Street Homes \$100.09 Condos \$66.09

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

A maximum of 40 words is permitted. Information is subject to editing at the discretion of the Editor. Ads submitted over 40 words will be edited as needed. Ad copy can be submitted by e-mail to ayoung@afhoa.net. Payment (where applicable) will need to accompany any e-mailed ad in a timely manner to assure it will run. In order to take advantage of the discounted rates for Ashburn Farm residents, you must provide an address and daytime telephone number to accompany your ad. Rates are listed below.

| Business Ad | Resident \$10 | Non-Resident \$25 |
|-------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Personal Ad | Resident FREE | Non-Resident \$25 |

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING CLASSIFIED ADS IS THE 10TH OF THE PRECEDING MONTH.



Serving the community for over 20 years with personal and expert care combined with the latest technology!

- Comprehensive Eye Examinations -Adults & Children
- Treatment of Eye Disease/Emergencies of the Eye Using the Latest Advanced **Technologies**
- Advanced Therapies for Relief of Dry Eye
- Laser Vision Correction Consultations
- Vision Training / Developmental Optometry
- Contact Lens Specialists RGP, Bifocal, Disposal, Astigmatic, Colors
- Ortho-K/CRT (Non-Surgical Vision Correction)
- Extensive Line of Designer Frames and Sunglasses
- Over 2,000 Frames in Stock (Something for Everyone)
- Licensed, Professional Opticians



Dr. Robert M. Allen Dr. Diana J. Slavin Dr. Mallory Kuchem Dr. Roshni Patel Dr. John W. Dresely, Jr Dr. Jennifer Sun Dr. Kelly Joedicke Dr. Stacy M. Jaffe

Convenient Evening & Weekend Hours ... Most Insurance Plans Accepted ... One Hour Eyeglass Service Available

44050 Ashburn Village Blvd., Suite 163 Ashburn (Located in the Ashburn Village Shopping Center) (703) 726-0005

Chantilly Professional Building 3910 Centreville Road, Suite 100 - Chantilly (703) 830-6380

WINDOWS • DOORS • SIDING ROOFING • TRIM • GUTTERS

- **Locally Owned**
- **Prompt & Dependable**
- 28 Years Experience
- Class A License# 2705157976

the **EXPERTS FREE Estimates Quality With Competitive Pricing**













st present ad at time of estir Not valid with other offers

Any Installed Door Purchased from Virginia Exteriors

Doors must be purchased from Virginia Exteriors. Must present ad at time of estimate. Not valid with other offers.

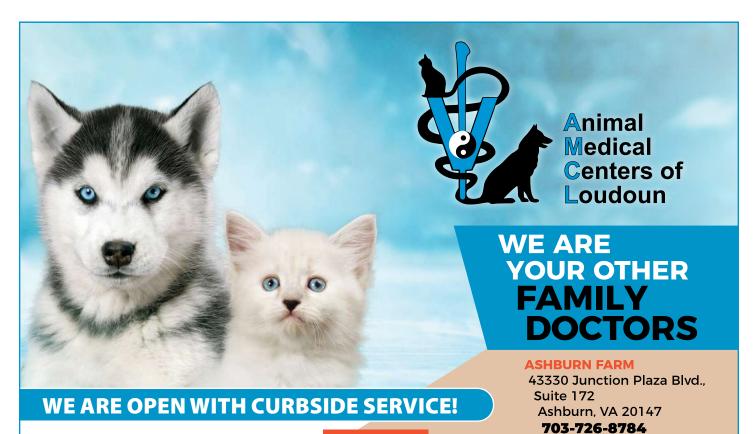
0% (

Whole House Trim & Gutter Replacement

10% (

Any Roof Replacement Over 1200 sq. ft.

With this coupon. Must present ad at time of estimate.
Not valid with other offers.



Worried About the Cost of Pet Care?

As your pets' advocate, we promise to offer the highest quality of care and work with you to make it affordable.

To help ease any financial burden, we offer:

- · Customized Payment Plans
- · Interest Free
- · No Credit Check Required

We also offer:

- ✓ Blood work & in-house laboratory BRAMBLETON
- ✓ Preventive Care
- ✓ Vaccinations
- ✓ Surgery
- ✓ Nutrition Counseling
- ✓ Digital Radiography
- ✓ Ultrasound
- ✓ Herbal and homeopathic medicine

42385 Ryan Rd., Suite 112 Ashburn, VA 20148 703-327-8471

LOUDOUNVET.COM

MON-FRI: 7AM-7PM SAT: 8AM-1PM SUN: CLOSED

DR. PANOPOULOS | DR. KINGSLEY | DR. MYZIE | DR. TAYLOR | DR. KLIMAVICZ | DR. GRASSO | DR. SOKOLOW

Coming in February...

February 1: Assessments Due February 2: BOT Meeting February 11: ARB Meeting February 14: Valentine's Day

February 15: President's Day (Assoc. Closed)

February 19: B&F Meeting February 25: ARB Mtg/Hearings

