

August 2020



## Signs in Quaker Hill

Homeowners are reminded that Quaker Hill covenants restrict the use and display of signs within the community, e.g., real estate, contractor, and political signs. All signs are subject to time restrictions.

Real estate signs advertising a property for sale are permitted if they meet the Alexandria City Code with respect to size and content. Small temporary signs put up by a company performing repairs may be displayed as long as they are removed at the completion of the project. During an election year, political signs in support of candidates for public office may be displayed for 30 days prior to a primary or general election and *must* be removed the day after the primary or general election is held. Political signs are restricted to no more than 12 inches x 16 inches in size. Signs may only be placed on private property, not in the common area.

## **Quaker Hill Projects**

The Quaker Hill Board is currently evaluating proposals to renovate the pool, replace the pool deck and surrounding fence to meet current height regulations, and address other issues, including drains. Enhancements such as extending the entry steps into the pool itself (since it is a narrow step area) are also being considered, depending on costs. The proposals are extensive and will require research and careful consideration by the Board. Updates on this project will be provided in future Quill issues. In the meantime, residents are welcome to attend Board meetings, which are now held via conference call, to hear about the pool renovation and other community projects on the fourth Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m. Questions, concerns, and comments may be emailed in advance of the Board meeting to Northern Virginia Management (NVM) at nvm@ northernvirginiamanagement.com. If you wish to participate by phone, email NVM before 4:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting to obtain call-in information.

The Board also is addressing drainage issues throughout the community. Exterior area drains and connecting underground drain pipes located behind the townhomes at the west end of Quaker Hill Drive were evaluated, and proposals are being sought to repair/replace a section. Alternative designs and materials are being considered for use in ameliorating the drainage problem. Other areas with erosion issues are also under study and may involve the installation of plantings and other natural materials, as well as Grasscrete pavers, where appropriate.

## **Raccoon Sightings**

Several residents have reported raccoons in our community in recent weeks. As we all know, they can become a nuisance. AlexandriaAnimals.org has helpful information regarding these masked bandits, including ways to discourage them and listing organizations that may be of some help. Locking trash can lids or using bungee cords or a heavy brick/object on the lid may discourage their behavior. Avoid leaving pet food or pet treats outside, keep an eye on bird feeders, and consider capping your chimney. Approaching the raccoons is highly discouraged. There are many private professional services that will trap and safety and humanely remove raccoons and other wildlife from your premises. The Animal Welfare League of Alexandria does not remove naturally occurring wildlife from the outdoors (including foxes, squirrels, opossums and other animals) unless they are in the living spaces of a home. They will not assist in removing wildlife from attics and garages.



# Trash Disposal

Residents of single-family detached homes and townhomes are reminded that trash containers may not be placed outside earlier than 5:00 p.m. on the evening before collection and must be returned to storage not later than 7:00 p.m. on the day of collection. Please put your trash can out of view on non-pick up days.

The regular trash collection day is Tuesday. During a week when Monday or Tuesday is a holiday, you may call the City's Office of Solid Waste at 703-746-4410 or check the city of Alexandria website at http://ci.alexandria.va.us for information on trash collection.

## **TMP**

The City of Alexandria requires Quaker Hill to participate in the city-wide Transportation Management Program (TMP) that promotes the use of mass transit. Part of our monthly assessment



fee funds this program. As a bona fide resident of Quaker Hill, you are eligible to purchase certain mass transit media at a reduced price. The TMP offers:

ITEM	COST TO YOU
off Metrorail fare	

Amount to be specified by resident per SmarTrip card

Maximum benefit **per household, per month** is \$250 \$125.00

SmarTrip Card \$1.00

Alexandria DASH pass (1 month unlimited rides) \$22.50

#### How to Place an Order for SmarTrip cards or Alexandria DASH passes:

- 1. Call Northern Virginia Management at (703) 941-9002 and leave a message.
- 2. Email Northern Virginia Management at nvm@northernvirginiamanagement.com.

Please note that all orders must be paid in full in advance before NVM will send your media. Make checks payable to Quaker Hill Community Association.

#### How to Add fare to your SmarTrip card:

- Register your SmarTrip card with NVM. A maximum of four cards may be registered with the NVM.
- 2. The \$250 maximum benefit may be split among the four registered cards. You cannot register cards issued by an employer through an employee benefits program.
- Mail your payment in advance to: Northern Virginia Management 4306 Evergreen Lane, Suite 101 Annandale, Virginia 22003
- If the household has registered multiple cards with NVM, the card number must be noted, along with the amount to be added per card.

Cards and benefits may not be sold or transferred to others. Misuse may result in the temporary or permanent loss of TMP benefits.

## Quaker Hill Community Association Information

#### **Board of Directors**

Mary Beth Cockerham, President Stephen Stine, Vice President Lennin Lopez, Secretary Rose Gillespie, Treasurer & Newsletter Marjorie Stein, Director

## Clubhouse Telephone

703-823-1911/1912

### Northern Virginia Management

703-941-9002

nvm@northernvirginiamanagement.com 4306 Evergreen Lane, Suite 101 Annandale, Virginia 22003

The Quaker Hill Community Association Board of Directors meets at 7:00 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of every month at the Quaker Hill community center. Association members who wish to bring an issue

before the Board should write to the Board in advance, c/o NVM, 4306 Evergreen Lane, Suite 101, Annandale, Virginia 22003, or call any Board member. Meeting date changes will be posted on the clubhouse bulletin board. Please email NVM to obtain the minutes of monthly QHCA board meetings.

#### **Quaker Hill Condominium Association**

Management Company: First Service Residential, 703-385-1133

Association President: John Sesler, jsesler@comcast.net

### Important Numbers to Remember

Police—Fire—Medical Emergency\* 911

Police Non-Emergency 703-746-4444
Police Non-Emergency TDD line 703-838-4896

Online Crime Reporting www.alexandriava.gov/police

National Poison Control Center **800-222-1222**Animal Control **703-746-4774** 

\*The Alexandria Police Department is located at 3600 Wheeler Ave.; the closest fire station (#207) is located at 3301 Duke Street.



# Update on Alexandria's Trash and Recycling Services

Trash and recycling services that were paused during the Spring, have resumed. Please note the following:

- Trash placed outside city-issued bins will now be collected.
- Bulk collections must be scheduled in advance.
- The Household Hazardous Waste & Electronic Collection Center has resumed regular operations (Saturdays and Mondays from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.).
- Curbside yard waste will now be collected on Fridays rather than regular collection days until further notice.
- Mulch delivery can now be requested online.

All Quaker Hill residents are reminded that trash containers may not be placed outside earlier than 5:00 p.m. on the evening before collection and *must* be returned to storage not later than 7:00 p.m. on the day of collections. Trash containers also *must* be stored out of view on non-pickup days. Residents who do not comply may be cited.

The Board also encourages residents to drop off their glass containers at the purple bin drop-off locations to ensure that glass will be recycled. The most convenient drop-off location to Quaker Hill is 3224 Colvin Street (behind the CVS). The City has not recycled glass placed curbside since January. Glass placed in recycle bins is sent to landfills, the least sustainable and most expensive option.

## Residential Parking Enforcement

The City of Alexandria resumed residential parking enforcement and other parking regulations on July 20. This applies to public streets in the Quaker Hill community, including Quaker Hill Drive from the intersection of Yale to the west end of the condos, Ellsworth Street, and Dartmouth Road, from the intersection of Yale to the intersection of Princeton Blvd. These streets require a residential parking permit to park for more than 3 hours from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The Quaker Hill Community Association (QHCA) governs the use of visitor parking spaces in our community. Residents may not use visitor spaces as supplemental parking, and the use of visitor parking is restricted to seven days in a 30-day period. If you feel you have an exceptional circumstance or a temporary situation that may require the use of a visitor space beyond the seven-day limit, please contact NVM at 703-941-9002 or nvm@northernvirginiamanagement.com.

## **Neighborhood Social Media Connections**

Several of our neighbors have mentioned that NextDoor.com, a free social-media application, is one way to connect to the surrounding Seminary Ridge neighborhood, of which Quaker Hill is a part. NextDoor.com usage data indicate 41 percent of the Seminary Ridge community has signed up to participate. The Board reminds residents that the site generates a lot of email traffic, and users cannot block messages from other users. As a rule, QHCA cannot endorse NextDoor.com, which is owned by the Face Book Audience Network, or any other company/organization.



Residents are also encouraged to consider signing up for Alexandria's eNews service, which delivers news on nearly 100 topics to citizens via text, email, or voice messages. Stay up to date on weather emergencies, Alexandria City Public Schools announcements, changes to the trash collection schedule, and other relevant information. Visit alexandria.va.gov and search for eNews to sign up.



## **New Virginia Traffic Safety Laws**

The City Council reminds residents to be aware of new Virginia traffic safety laws effective as of July 1, 2020. These laws cover the following traffic-related situations:

- Drivers must stop and remain stopped for a person crossing at any marked/unmarked crosswalk until the person has passed the lane where the driver has stopped. This law pertains to areas where the posted speed limit is 35 miles per hour or lower.
- It is illegal for a driver of any other vehicle to pass the stopped vehicle in an adjacent lane or behind the stopped vehicle.
- Pedestrians or people in wheelchairs may cross at any clearly marked mid-block crosswalks, marked crosswalks at intersections, and unmarked crosswalks at intersections.
- Drivers who cause a fatality or serious injury of a vulnerable road user due to carelessness/distraction can be charged with a Class 1 misdemeanor. A vulnerable road user includes people in wheelchairs, pedestrians, bikers, skaters, and those in animal-drawn vehicles, as well as those who use electric scooters, electric bikes, and electric boards.
- It is illegal for drivers to use a bicycle lane to pass another driver.

These traffic safety laws support Alexandria's Vision Zero Initiative to end traffic-related fatalities and injuries. As part of the Vision Zero Initiative, the City has painted several crosswalks in our neighborhood and added new speed bumps on Yale Drive. Go to alexandriava.gov/visionzero for more information.

## West End Transitway

The Northern Virginia Transportation Authority awarded \$75 million to the City of Alexandria for construction of the first phase of the Duke Street Transitway project. The first phase of the project will include funding for additional buses, shelters and amenities, and some roadway design improvements. The planning and design of the Transitway is slated to begin this fall with input from the community. When completed the Duke Street Transitway will provide additional transportation capacity and infrastructure improvements to the segment of Duke Street between the King Street-Old Town Metro Station and the former Landmark Mall.

The City will coordinate the Transitway project with other traffic congestion and safety initiatives along Duke Street, which is considered a high-crash corridor in the Vision Zero Action Plan, noted earlier. Alexandria recently completed Transit Signal Priority projects along Duke Street, and installed an Emergency Vehicle Pre-emption project at the intersection of Quaker Lane and Seminary Road. These initiatives allow buses, fire trucks and other emergency vehicles to get through traffic signals quicker and improve travel times.





# Alexandria Farmers' Markets Update

Alexandria farmers' markets are now permitted to include on-site transactions, on-site food preparation, and non-food vendors provided Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' guidelines and Northern Virginia's best practices for "Forward Virginia Phase 3" are followed.

Farmers Markets are conveniently located at five sites:

- Old Town Farmers' Market—301 King Street (City operated)
- Old Town North Farmers' Market—901 North Royal Street
- Del Ray Farmers' Market—East Oxford and Mount Vernon Avenue
- Four Mile Run Farmers' and Artisans Market—4109
   Mount Vernon Avenue
- West End Farmers' Market—4800 Brenman Park Drive



# Guns Banned on City Property and Streets

On July 1, Alexandria became the first city to regulate firearms on public property. Specifically, the City Council voted unanimously to ban guns, ammunition and related components from city buildings, parks, and recreations and community centers. Most civilians carrying guns cannot stand on streets and sidewalks adjacent to special events or they will be subject to a first-degree misdemeanor charge punishable by up to one year in jail and a fine of up to \$2,500.



# Virginia Tech Innovation Campus Update

The Alexandria City Council approved land-use plans for the seven buildings that will comprise the Virginia Tech Innovation campus, located at the Potomac Yards movie theater site. The first building is scheduled to be completed in 2024. The initial phase of development work adjacent to the campus also has been be approved by City Council.

Dr. Lance Collins, who was Dean of Engineering at Cornell University, has been selected as inaugural vice president and executive director of the Innovation Campus. He will oversee the development of the new campus. Dr. Collins was a key member of the leadership team that partnered with New York City to build Cornell Tech on Roosevelt Island in 2017.

The first students will begin enrollment in fall 2020 in existing Virginia Tech academic space located in Northern Virginia, while temporary space will be brought online in the interim to begin creating the tech ecosystem for the future campus.

Several virtual meetings have been held over the past few months and are available for your viewing online. Go to www.alexandriava.gov.

Want to view past issues of our newsletter?

You can find them at www.QHCA.org.



c/o Northern Virginia Management 4306 Evergreen Lane, Suite 101 Annandale, Virginia 22003