



THE AUBURN VILLAGER

A newsletter to communicate with and serve our beautiful community

Upcoming Meetings

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
3rd Tuesday of each month at 7pm (next meeting May 19th)

LANDSCAPE: Tues. May 12

Be sure to check the AV website for the most up-to-date meeting details.

Serve on the 2020 Auburn Village Board Election Committee

Please consider running for the Auburn Village Board of Directors, or volunteering be on the Elections Committee! In light of COVID-19, we have postponed our annual meeting (normally held in June) to Sept. 15, 2020. Contact management with any questions or to find out more about volunteering on the committee or Board.

Newsletter Ideas?

Is there any information you'd like to see in this newsletter? Please email jlessard.av@gmail.com

Auburn Village Board of Directors Tour of the Property

On a Saturday in early March, Auburn Village Property Manager Juan Zuluaga led a tour of the property to help board members (and owners) learn more about our property. This tour informed the board as they began their budgeting and reserves planning efforts. It was great to learn more about the property, and even crawl underneath the buildings to view the structure and electrical elements. You can see a few board members in the picture below, wearing special suits to prevent damage to their clothing as they waded through the crawl spaces. Although heavy and awkward to wear at first, the suits really came in handy! Thank you Juan, we are grateful for your detailed tour, and for your willingness to work on a Saturday!





Ways to Contact Auburn Village and Stay Connected

- Auburn Village Condo Website:
www.auburnvillagecondo.com
Website includes Office Hours, Auburn Village News Flashes and Events, email addresses for Board of Directors, Events, Meeting Agendas and Minutes, documents, and much more!
- Facebook:
www.facebook.com/AuburnVillage/
- Office Phone: 703.548.7856
- email: management@auburnvillagecondo.com
- After Hours Emergency: 888.660.7132

Amid COVID-19, do you need a hand? Auburn Village neighbors are ready!

Friends, as Auburn Village neighbors shelter at home, a group of residents are offering to help those who need it. If you need help with shopping, errands, or other difficulties, or if you would like to volunteer to help, contact us at 571.867.9099 or AuburnVillageNeighbors@gmail.com or keep an eye out for each other, check in on those who you are friendly with (and even those you have not yet met), those who live alone, who are elderly, and others, and stay connected and engaged - at a safe social distance, of course!

Keep Those Window Lintels Un-Wrapped!

For any residents considering replacing their windows, make sure the installer knows to keep the steel window lintels unwrapped! Wrapped lintels can cause moisture issues inside of your home, and damage the interior of your property and your neighbor below you if you are on the top floor. See the picture below for an example of an unwrapped lintel. Note that you can see a line of metal above the white window trim. The community will be sending out future guidance for owners whose lintels are covered in vinyl, a common practice of some window installers.



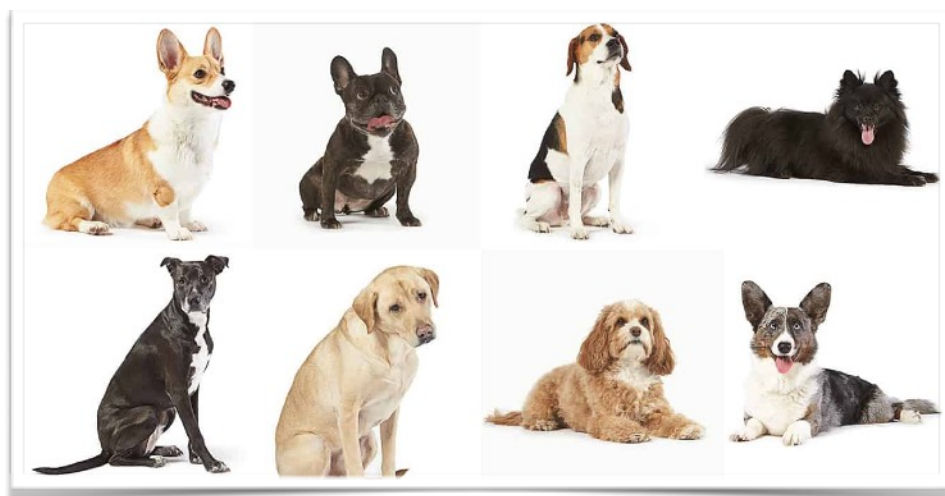
The Lovely Dogs of Auburn Court

One of the distinctive charms of Auburn Village is our dogs. We have a great many dogs of all kinds, and their beauty and variety of personalities are a joy to all of us, dog owners and dog watchers alike. The community of dog owners forms one of the most cohesive and friendly groups at Auburn Village. We are lucky to have them.

At the same time, it is important that dogs be kept on leash as required by Alexandria ordinance and our own Auburn Village regulations. This is to ensure safety and to prevent the occasional incidents that sometimes have resulted in serious fights between dogs and confrontations between residents. The Auburn Village Board and management respectfully ask all dog owners to keep their dogs on leash at all times per the law.

We are fortunate in having other convenient alternatives nearby. Go to alexandria.gov/dogs to find a list of six fenced dog parks and 12 unfenced dog parks in Alexandria, several of which are close to Auburn Village. (Note, currently most of these parks are closed due to COVID-19, but hopefully they will open soon). One of the best dog parks in the area is the Shirlington Village Dog Park, it has a puppy area and a nice natural water run.

So, please keep your dog on leash out in public and always in Auburn Village. That will make us a better community - safe, harmonious, and still, as always, dog friendly.



Tree Report: 7 Trees Gone, 26 Planted

Residents have noticed some trees have been taken down at Auburn Village, and some new ones planted. Here's an explanation to let you know what's happened, and what's ahead.

Last October, our landscaper inspected our trees and found seven large trees that were seriously damaged by pests or disease. We consulted carefully before concluding they were at risk of falling and could not be saved, so they were removed in November. They included three white pines and four red oaks, some of them quite striking and beloved.

On the plus side, we also planted 26 new trees last fall, and you can see them throughout the property, all of them robust and just starting their spring greening. They include a variety of excellent trees recommended by City of Alexandria arborists: white oak, swamp white oak, scarlet oak, Kwanzan cherry, dogwood, black gum, and one variety we are particularly proud to have: the American Elm. The American Elm, which a century ago graced the streets of many American cities as the tree of choice, was nearly wiped out by Dutch Elm disease, but in recent years some trees with a natural resistance to the disease have been discovered and propagated, and we have four of them. Curious which ones they are? Soon we will attach labels to many of our trees, and then you'll be able to identify them easily.



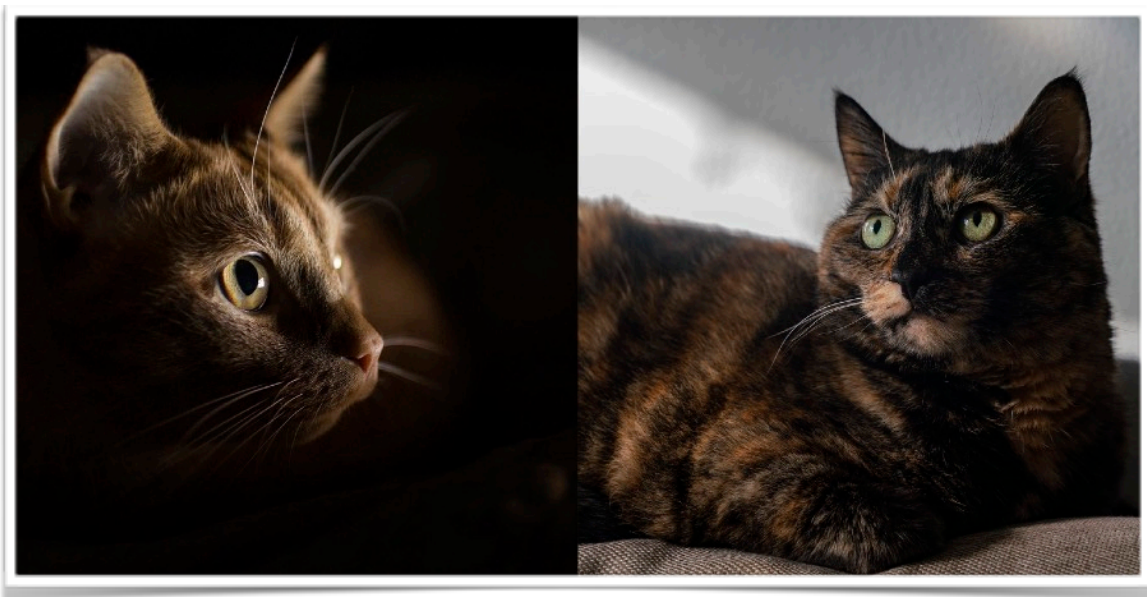
We're not done yet. In August we will host a Tree Walk to determine where in Auburn Village we need to plant new trees, and that will lead to a new round of tree planting in the fall. We'll advertise the Tree Walk in advance – it's a lot of fun and everyone is welcome. Whether we'll need to keep social distance or not ... well, that's TBD!

Having Contractors Work in Your Condo

If you find it necessary to have repairs done to your unit that involve electrical or plumbing work, please make sure that you obtain a contractor who is properly licensed and insured. This will assure that the work is being done correctly and lessen the possible damage that may be caused to other units or common structure due to faulty repairs. We have found several recent examples of severe structural damage caused by improper plumbing repairs. Contact Juan Zuluaga with any questions; he is more than happy to help!

Spotlight on the Pets of Auburn Village!

Meet Alejandro, a 9-year-old orange male tabby and Venti, an 8-year-old female tortie. They've been calling Auburn Village home for more than 6 years and live with Board Member Alex Snyder and Landscape Committee Chair Tim Williams. Both are proud Ohioans and were saved from having to live in a pile of the famous Nelsonville Star Bricks! Alejandro's hobbies include playing fetch, eating green beans, and jumping on the bed exactly 1 minute before the morning alarm is set to go off. He can also be found in the bathtub every afternoon splashing in his bowl of water—ironically he hates baths. Venti divides her time between the living room and bedroom where she can be seen watching her favorite squirrels and birds. However, she has no love for the cardinal that visits each day. We're not sure how that relationship soured. Venti is also a master at opening every door or drawer and can manage to disappear for hours in our tiny condo. Many of our friends don't believe she exists because they've never seen her in person. At night they both sit on their respective couches and watch their favorite shows. [Photo Credit ©Alex Snyder]



Auburn Village loves its pet residents! Please email jlessard.av@gmail.com with pictures and stories of your pets, and we'll make sure to include them in a future newsletter!

Open for Business!

We are worried about our local small businesses during this time. Help them stay afloat, if you are able, by ordering a delivery! We're in this together! Here are just a few of them:

Restaurants Featuring Curbside Pick-Up and/or Delivery

- ✦ Al's Steak House: alssteakhouse.business.site, 703.836.9443
- ✦ Bagel Uprising: bageluprising.com, 703.566.8459
- ✦ Cheesetique Del Ray: cheesetique.com, 703.706.5300
- ✦ Dairy Godmother: thedairygodmother.com, 703.683.7767
- ✦ Del Ray Cafe: delraycafe.com, 703.717.9151
- ✦ Del Ray Pizzeria: delraypizzeria.com, 703.549.2999
- ✦ Evening Star Cafe: eveningstarcafe.net, 703.549.5051
- ✦ Hops N Shine: hopsnshine.com, 703.566.1509
- ✦ Holy Cow: alxhgr.com, 703.666.8616
- ✦ Junction Bakery and Bistro: junctionbakery.com, 703.436.0025
- ✦ Kaizen Tavern: kaizentavern.com, 703.836.1212
- ✦ Lena's Wood-Fired Pizza and Tap: lenaswoodfire.com, 703.683.5330
- ✦ Market2Market: m2mdelray.com, 571.312.3010
- ✦ Northside10: northside10.com, 703.888.0032
- ✦ Planet Wine: planetwineshop.com, 703.549.3444

- ✦ Pork Barrel BBQ: alxhgr.com, 703.822.5699
- ✦ Sicilian Pizza: sicilianpizzava.com, 703.838.0202
- ✦ Smallcakes: smallcakesnova.com, 703.664.0312
- ✦ Spice Kraft (also offering free lunch to local school children): spicekraftdelray.com, 703.836.6363
- ✦ Stomping Ground: stompdelray.com, 703.567.6616
- ✦ Swing's Coffee Roasters: swingscoffee.com, 703.370.5050
- ✦ The Sushi Bar: alxhgr.com, 571.257.3232
- ✦ Taqueria Poblano: taqueriapoblano.com, 703.548.8226

Retailers

- ✦ Bellies & Babies: belliesbabies.com, 703.518.8908
- ✦ Del Ray Farmer's Market: delrayfarmersmarket.com (Pickup Orders Sat. 8am - 12pm)
- ✦ Kiskadee: kiskadeeshop.com, 703.549.0813
- ✦ The Dog Store: thedogstore.com, 703.685.9166
- ✦ Nature's Nibbles: naturesnibbles.com, 703.931.5241
- ✦ Neighborhood Pharmacy of Del Ray: delraypharmacy.com, Rx2Go app
- ✦ Stitch Sew Shop: stitchsewshop.com
- ✦ The Purple Goose: thepurplegoose.com
- ✦ Truly-Life Eco-Gifts: truly-life.com