

# all FAIRLINGTON BULLETIN



www.fca-fairlington.org

APRIL 2015

Volume 41, Number 4

## *Fairlington 5K kicks off springtime, April 11*

### *Inside this month!*

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Hundreds of Fairlingtonians will be running and walking through the neighborhood on Saturday, April 11, as the second annual Fairlington 5K kicks off to raise money for Abingdon Elementary School and A Cure for Ellie. Race-day registration opens at 7:30 am, and the starting gun fires at 8:30 am.

The out-and-back course begins at Abingdon Elementary, circles through north and south Fairlington, and returns to the school. Last year's race drew more than 700 registered runners and walkers, and scores of residents lined the route, cheering their neighbors on. A similar crowd is expected this year. The race is truly a community-wide event.

Residents along the race route will have restricted access for car traffic for the duration of the race. Roads will open and close as the race progresses. Police will be present at major intersections.

In addition to the 5K, there will be a one-mile fun walk option for families with young children and other non-runners. Registrants for the full 5K have

the option to run or walk the route.

Runners and walkers are encouraged to register prior to race day. To register for the race, go to [www.fairlington5K.com](http://www.fairlington5K.com). The registration fee for adults is \$35; for children ages 10 to 16, the fee is \$20; and for children ages 6 to 10, the fee is \$15.

*Continued on page 11*



*Runners set their watches as last year's race gets set to start. Photo by Guy Land.*

**Streets along the race course will be closed to traffic during the race. See page 13 for a map of the course.**

# Coming up ...

The FCA Board invites all Fairlington residents to attend its meetings, which occur on the second Wednesday of the month at the Fairlington Community Center (3308 S. Stafford St.) unless otherwise noted. Before the beginning of each monthly Executive Board meeting, FCA members may address the board on matters affecting the community, limited to three minutes per member.

## April 8 preliminary agenda:

**Special presentation:** Discussion of real estate development and traffic issues with Danny Abramson, co-owner of Abramson Properties (developer of Alexandria Gateway); Katie North, Urban Planner, Alexandria Department of Planning and Zoning; Lisa Jaatinen, Project Manager, Alexandria Department of Transportation and Environmental Services; Bob Garbacz, Transportation Division Chief, Alexandria Department of Transportation and Environmental Services.

### Regular Board business:

- Approval of March minutes
- Officer reports
- Committee reports
- Unfinished business
- New business

## Online resources:

Find more information on the FCA website, [www.fca-fairlington.org](http://www.fca-fairlington.org). Sign up for updates delivered to your inbox.



Find us on Facebook at Fairlington Appreciation Society.

Find the latest AFB online at the FCA website the week before hard copies hit doorsteps.

### USEFUL CONTACTS

|  |   |
|--|---|
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| Police, Arlington (non-emergency)  | 703-558-2222  |
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| Dominion (power outages)   | 888-667-3000  |
| Fairlington Community Center   | 703-228-6588  |
| Metrobus Complaints  | 703-228-7929  |
| Miss Utility   | 811   |
| Pothole Patrol Hotline   | 703-228-6485  |
| Shirlington Library  | 703-228-6545  |
| Street Light Hotline   | 703-228-6511  |
| <a href="http://www.arlingtonva.us/departments/EnvironmentalServices/dot/traffic/streetlights/index.htm">www.arlingtonva.us/departments/EnvironmentalServices/dot/traffic/streetlights/index.htm</a> |   |
| Helicopter Noise Complaints  | Bob Laser (FAA)<br><a href="mailto:bob.laser@faa.gov">bob.laser@faa.gov</a> |

### Fairlington Citizens Association

PO Box 6182 • Arlington, VA 22206-0182  
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### All Fairlington Bulletin

Published monthly by the FCA  
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**Assistant Editor:** Christine Chirichella

**Advertising Manager:** Beth Andrews

**Distribution Manager:** Noemi Riveira

**Writers:** Jennifer Davies, Nicole Van Hoey, Janis Johnston, Carol Rosen, Andrew Vitols, Chris Weathers, Anne Wilson, Michelle Woolley, Julie Zachariadis

### — DEADLINE —

6 PM, **10th of month** preceding publication month for commercial advertising, mini-ads, and editorial copy.

Send material on disk with paper proof to:

FCA • PO Box 6182 • Arlington, VA 22206-0182

E-mail editorial announcements to:

[editor@fca-fairlington.org](mailto:editor@fca-fairlington.org)

E-mail commercial and mini ads to:

[admanager@fca-fairlington.org](mailto:admanager@fca-fairlington.org)

Drop off location: Drop box in the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford Street

### COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING RATES

Artwork and check made payable to **FCA** are due the 10th of the month preceding desired publication date. Direct inquiries regarding advertising file requirements to Beth Andrews at 571-403-1942.

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|----------------------------|------------|-----------|-------|
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**Fairlington is a National Register and Virginia Landmark Historic District**

**For more information, visit [www.fca-fairlington.org](http://www.fca-fairlington.org)**

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## FCA Calendar

### FCA monthly meeting

Wednesday, April 8, 7 pm  
FCC, 3308 S. Stafford St.

### Fairlington Diners

Thursday, April 9, 6:30 pm  
Idylwood Grill  
Idylwood Plaza, 2190 Pimmit Dr.  
Falls Church

### Fairlington 5K

Saturday, April 11, 8:30 am  
Abingdon Elementary School

### Fairlington Farmers Market Opening

Sunday, April 19, 9 am  
FCC, 3308 S. Stafford St.

### Fairlington Diners

Monday, April 27, 6:30 pm  
Ramparts Restaurant  
1700 Fern St., Alexandria

### Book Group

Tuesday, April 28, 7:30 pm  
FCC, 3308 S. Abingdon St.



Plan now to visit the Fairlington Farmers Market on opening day, Sunday, April 19.

Web design by Global Thinking,  
Alexandria, VA, [www.globalthinking.com](http://www.globalthinking.com).

*Some images in this publication may be digitally enhanced.*



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

After more than two years of planning, the Fairlington Farmers Market is slated to open April 19! This marks a major milestone for our community.

When a 2013 online survey of Fairlington residents suggested widespread support for a community market, FCA quickly set up a volunteer working group to scope out the options. They researched the requirements, visited other markets, talked with vendors, examined alternative locations, conducted door-to-door surveys of nearby residents, and met with county staff.

This is Fairlington's market. It's not intended to draw in customers from DC or the far suburbs of Northern Virginia. It was developed by Fairlington residents for Fairlington residents, and they will shepherd its operation.

I predict the market will become a popular community gathering place. A leisurely visit to the farmers market—enjoying fresh coffee, chatting with neighbors, picking out locally grown produce—will become part of the standard Sunday routine (perhaps on the way to or from church) for scores of residents. It will add to our sense of community and become a good way of informally spreading the word about happenings in the neighborhood.

At the same time, the market is designed to minimize adverse impacts on nearby residents. FCA supported the conditions the county board imposed on the market's permit and license. These include restrictions on noise and trash, along with steps to reduce traffic and parking issues. FCA will monitor these and will work with the county and the market manager if problems arise.

The opening of the market is a tribute to the vision and work of a group of dedicated volunteers. Co-Chair Melissa Beene first encouraged me to tackle this and kept me enthusiastic. The organizational skills and persistence of the other Co-Chair, Lane Erwin, are simply amazing. Former FCA board members Carrie Street and Jacob Gelbaum kept the project on track. North Fairlington owner Rob Swennes generously and frequently shared his experienced insights.

And while many people made contributions to the work, a small group have been there day-in and day-out: Doug Penn, Jeff Kost, Candace McFetridge, Julie Zachariadis, Cheryl Goodman, Eliot DeLaCruz Kriviski, and Lisa Schwanger.

These folks represent the best of Fairlington. Later this month, we can all literally enjoy the fruits of their labor. Thank you, team.

See you at the market!

Guy Land, FCA President  
[president@fca-fairlington.org](mailto:president@fca-fairlington.org)



# Historically *Spring* Has Always Been *The Best Time* To *Sell* in Fairlington!

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# Fairlington Farmers Market set to open on April 19



The Fairlington Farmers Market (FFM) is now a reality! Opening Day for the market is Sunday, April 19. The market will be held every Sunday between April 19 and November 22, from 9 am to 1 pm, along the back plaza and back parking lot of the Fairlington Community Center (FCC), located at 3308 S. Stafford St.

As a local, producer-only market, each vendor at the FFM grows, raises, bakes, cooks, or prepares the food or products being sold, all within 125 miles of Fairlington. While you're picking through organic fruits and veggies, sipping freshly ground coffee, shopping for grass-fed meats, cut flowers, eggs, jams, juices, or sweet and savory baked goods, you can get to know the folks who grow and make your food.

As this newsletter went to press, there were 11 confirmed vendors. We'll have meat and eggs from Liberty Delight Farms and Sandy Bottom Acres; produce and fruit from Kuhn Orchards, Pleitez Produce, Shenandoah Valley Produce, and Spring Valley Farm and Orchard; baked goods, bread, and juices/smoothies from Atwater's Bakery, Vera's Bakery, and Kiwi Kuisine; flowers from Good Gardner; and coffee from Beanetics.



vendors on the market's website (<http://www.fairlingtonfarmersmarket.org/>). Information on the types of payments each vendor accepts, as well as which ones accept VA Senior Checks and SNAP/EBT, will be posted soon.

The market website also offers FAQs and ways to support the market by volunteering or offering financial/in-kind support; click Get Involved. Also on the website, you can sign up to receive occasional or weekly emails on market news and happenings; click Contact.

This is a for-Fairlington, by-Fairlington effort, so we'll need a host of volunteers to ensure our market is successful. Please consider joining the fun! We'll be hosting Open House/Orientations at the FCC on Tuesday, April 7 from 7 to 8:30 pm and Saturday, May 2, from 12:30 to 2 pm. You can also sign up for shifts at the Get Involved tab on the website.

The market is operated by Field to Table, Inc., a non-profit that also operates the weekly market in Westover. Fairlington owner Rob Swennes serves as the market manager, aided by a Market Steering Committee composed of Fairlington residents, who coordinated the process of starting the market, including determining market policies, selecting vendors, securing sponsors, and recruiting volunteers, to ensure that this will be a true community market.

We encourage visitors to walk, bike, or take a bus to the market. If you drive, please be a good neighbor and avoid parking directly in front of the residences across from the community center. Street parking is available along S. Utah Street, 32nd Street, in the community center parking lot, and along Quaker Lane.

—Julie Zachariadis



Photo by Guy Land.

If you'd like to learn even more about our vendors, sign up for our weekly market email or follow us on Facebook and Twitter. We'll be highlighting each vendor between now and the market's opening, and you can find more information about





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# April 8 FCA meeting to spotlight major King Street projects



*Abramson Properties plans a major mixed-use development at the corner of King and Beauregard Streets, which is currently occupied by a small shopping strip and a vacant lot. Photo by Guy Land.*

A major real estate developer and City of Alexandria staff will discuss pending projects along King Street at the FCA meeting on Wednesday, April 8, at the Fairlington Community Center. Presentations will feature plans for the proposed Alexandria Gateway project at the corner of King St. and Beauregard St. and outline street improvements planned for that intersection.

Danny Abramson, co-owner of Abramson Properties (the developer of the Gateway project), will review general plans for the property at 4600 King St. Katye North, a planner in Alexandria's Department of Planning and Zoning, will describe the next steps in the city's permitting process. Lisa Jaatinen, Project Manager for the Alexandria Department of Transportation and Environmental Services, will brief residents about upcoming changes that are planned for the intersection where King Street crosses Beauregard (to the south, in Alexandria) and Walter Reed Drive (to the north, in Arlington).

Abramson briefed the community on the Gateway project in May 2014. Since that time, there have been two major changes in the general concept for the development. The first is the inclusion of the small retail strip on the corner where the check cashing business operates. That property, which has been under separate ownership, was not previously a part of the development.

North said Alexandria is "extremely happy" to see that parcel included in the development. "It will make the project much stronger overall."

The other major change to the development is the elimination of a planned hotel, which will be replaced by a five-story office building with retail at street level.

Abramson points out that the proposal is still being tweaked, but other key elements include a Harris Teeter grocery store, a 14-story, 400-unit high rise apartment building, and a below-ground parking facility.

Alexandria also plans major improvements at the King and Beauregard intersection: creating an additional left-turn lane in each direction on King; installing medians down the center of King; widening sidewalks; and installing a 10-foot, shared-use path on portions of King and Beauregard.

Originally, construction on the project was scheduled to begin this spring, but has been delayed. Staff cite complications with utility relocation issues. The city has already purchased the land necessary to expand the sidewalks and accommodate the additional pedestrian space.

—Guy Land

## Capital Bikeshare now accepts cash

In a one-year pilot program designed to expand usage of Capital Bikeshare, Arlington County is now accepting cash payment from Arlington residents for an annual membership and user fees. Previously a credit or debit card was required.

Three Bikeshare stations serve Fairlington, with locations at the Fairlington Community Center, the South Fairlington end of the S. Abingdon St. bridge, and S. 31st St. between Fairlington and Park Shirlington. There are also Bikeshare stations in Shirlington.

Arlington residents can sign up for a Capital Bikeshare membership at any of Arlington's five Commuter Store locations. To sign up, residents must bring either a current government-issued photo ID with their Arlington address shown or a passport, Permanent Resident Card, or Employment Authorization Card, along with a copy of a utility bill dated within the past 60 days with their name and Arlington address.

Residents can open an account for as little as \$16 toward the standard price of an annual membership with monthly installments. This covers the \$7 monthly membership fee plus usage fees for trips beyond the first 30 minutes. Another option is paying \$100 in cash for the annual membership cost of \$75, and the remaining \$25 will be put towards usage fees.



IF IT DOESN'T CHALLENGE YOU  
IT DOESN'T CHANGE YOU. -Fred DeVito

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## Home tour to feature creative renovations

The 2015 Fairlington Home and Garden Tour, sponsored by the Fairlington Historical Society, will soon be here! The tour will be held on May 16, from 11am until 3 pm.

In addition to showcasing our community's architecture, grounds, and the unique character of each of our neighborhoods, this year's tour again features beautiful homes with renovated kitchens and bathrooms, unique décor, and beautiful gardens. Please plan to attend this enjoyable event.

You can reserve your tickets by returning the flyer inserted in this month's *All Fairlington Bulletin*. Tickets may be picked up as well as purchased at the following locations:

North Fairlington Community Center,  
3005 S. Abingdon St.

- At the Fairlington Yard Sale  
(Fairlington Historical Society table),  
Saturday, May 2, 8 – 11 am
- On tour day, Saturday, May 16, starting at 10 am

Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St.

- Friday, May 1, 6 – 8 pm

If you would like to help with the tour, we are still seeking more volunteers to serve as home sitters to guide tour participants through our featured homes. Volunteer shifts last just 2½ hours, so you have plenty of time to tour the other homes. If you are interested in helping with the tour, or would like to nominate your home or garden, please email us at [FairlingtonTour2015@gmail.com](mailto:FairlingtonTour2015@gmail.com).



*The spring Home and Garden Tour is the perfect way to experience Fairlington. Photo by Guy Land.*

## Cub Scout information night planned



Is your son interested in scouting? Cub Scout Pack 350 will host a fun-filled Scout Information Night on Wednesday, April 8, from 7 to 8 pm in the fellowship hall of the Fairlington United Methodist Church, 3900 King St., Alexandria.

Boys in grades one through five may join Cub Scouts, and families with kindergarteners are welcome to come to the information night. Those interested may also join in Pack 350's summer activities. More information about Pack 350 is available online at [pack350.mypack.us](http://pack350.mypack.us) and on Facebook at [facebook.com/CubScouts350](https://facebook.com/CubScouts350).

## All Fairlington Bulletin seeks new editor

Are you the next editor for the *All Fairlington Bulletin*? We are looking for candidates with experience in writing, editing, and newsletter management to fill the position of editor for the *All Fairlington Bulletin*. Candidates should have a solid writing background, a creative flair, and the ability to manage a team of volunteer writers tasked with reporting on community events and activities. Ideally, the editor should have a background in journalism, communications, or publications management.

The monthly newsletter requires approximately five to 10 hours each week researching, writing, and editing articles, communicating with contributing writers, taking photos, and reviewing and editing page proofs. Working on the *Bulletin* is a fun and valuable way of using your writing and editing skills to let your neighbors know what's going on in the community. The FCA offers a small stipend each month with this position. To be considered for the editor position, contact [president@fca-fairlington.org](mailto:president@fca-fairlington.org).

# BONNIE B.'S RECENT SALES AND LISTINGS



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Children under 5 are free (a children's T-shirt can be purchased separately at registration).

Registration fees for the family fun walk range from \$20 for an individual to \$55 for a family of five.

Race packets can be picked up Thursday, April 9, or Friday, April 10, between 3 and 6 pm at Abingdon Elementary.

The race is coordinated by Joe Reed, the Abingdon PE teacher and a resident of Fairlington Arbor, and Joe Hartman, an FCA board member and president of Fairlington Court.

The race organizers still need a few volunteers to help with logistics. To sign up, send email to fairlington5K@gmail.com.

#### **Before the race, the silent auction, April 8**

New this year, a silent auction on Wednesday, April 8, sets the stage for the race. The auction will be held at the North Fairlington Community Center, 3005 S. Abingdon St., from 6 to 8 pm, to bolster race proceeds. Items include donations from the Washington Capitals and Washington Nationals, as well as summer camp registrations, a private yoga session, an American Girl doll, a free lunch for two with some members of the Arlington County Board, and dozens of other treats.

## **Run for Abingdon and Ellie**

Net proceeds from the race will go to Abingdon Elementary and A Cure for Ellie. Ellie McGinn is a first grader at Abingdon Elementary and a Fairlington resident who was diagnosed with Leukodystrophy (LBSL) in September 2011. LBSL is a rare degenerative brain and spinal cord mitochondrial disease. Due to this genetic disorder, Ellie's body does not produce a protein essential for the production of myelin. Myelin is a critical substance for the brain and nervous system, provides insulation, and helps transmit signals from the brain to the rest of the body. There is, as yet, no known cure for LBSL.

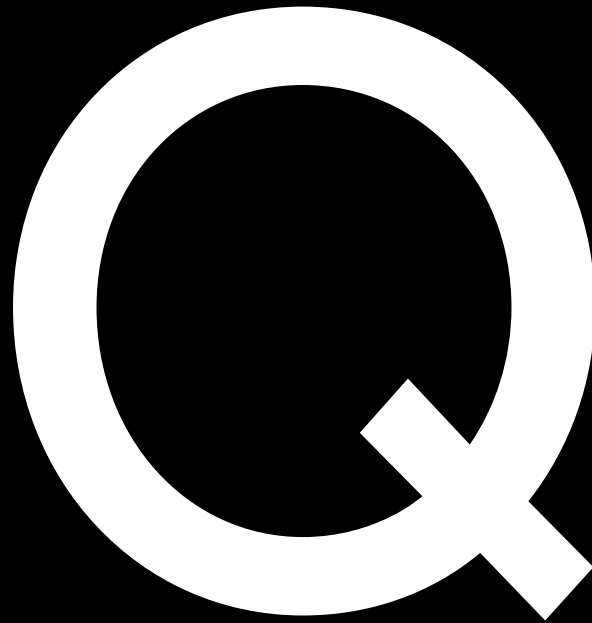
Race proceeds will also be used to benefit Abingdon students in a variety of ways, such as eye glasses for students, Field Day activities, and school supplies. Final decisions on specific uses will be determined later in the spring. Proceeds from last year's race supplied additional books for the Abingdon library and support for Field Day activities.



*Ellie McGinn (left) crosses the finish line at last year's 5K. Below, more than 700 participants, including the Abingdon Cardinal, ran the race. Photos by Guy Land.*







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# Heads up! Roads will close during 5K race

Roads along the race route in Fairlington will be closed the morning of Saturday, April 11, for the Fairlington 5K to ensure a safe event for all. The Arlington County Police Department is pretty strict—they just do not want cars moving on the street while there are runners present due to the obvious safety concerns. And while they won't do a rolling road closure, they will likely do a rolling reopen—meaning that they will open roads working forward from the start line to the finish.

Based on last year's race experience, road closures should last a total of less than two hours, probably from 8:15 to 9:45 am for the 8:30 race start.

If there is a medical emergency, police are trained to handle that situation and coordinate with Arlington County Fire Department, who have been briefed on the race and are aware of the location of the road closures. Police will be monitoring key intersections along the route.

To help alert all residents in advance of the race and road closures, FCA will put out five sandwich-board sign reminders across north and south Fairlington. In addition, we will leaflet cars along the route several days before the race.

With these alerts, and the information in this newsletter, we hope to keep inconvenience to an absolute minimum. Any residents who have early morning obligations that occur during the road closure time period should be able to plan for moving their cars out of the race zone ahead of time or making other arrangements.

Of course, there are always inconveniences associated with an event that requires road closures, however brief. We hope that Fairlington residents will adjust morning plans, if necessary, in order to accommodate a community-wide outdoor event that benefits our neighborhood school and advances the cause of finding a cure for mitochondrial disease.

—Joe Hartman

## After the race, the Spring Festival

At the end of this year's race the Abingdon PTA will sponsor the Abingdon Spring Festival—an event that's open to the entire community. The festival will feature food, live music, moon bounces, games, face painting, and more. Tickets for the Spring Festival are \$5.

## Street-by-street 5K race route



Race map (above). Streets along the route will be closed to all traffic during the race and will reopen once the racers have passed through that area.

- Race begins in the parking lot of Abingdon Elementary School.
- From the school proceed down S. 29th St.
- Turn left on S. Abingdon St., go past S. 31st St., and cross over the Abingdon St. bridge.
- Turn right on S. 36th St., follow along S. 36th St. and cross over S. Wakefield St.
- Bear right, staying on S. 36th to the roundabout
- Turn left onto S. Stafford St.
- Follow S. Stafford St., crossing S. 35th St., and continue past S. 34th St. to the Fairlington Community Center (FCC).
- Continue past the FCC on S. Stafford St., crossing S. 33rd St.
- Proceed down the hill, turning right to stay on S. Stafford St. past S. 32nd Rd.
- Turn left onto S. 32nd St., go past the Utah Park baseball field, and turn left onto S. Utah St.
- Proceed up S. Utah St. to S. 34th St. and turn right onto S. 34th St.
- Turn right onto S. Wakefield St., loop around the pool and tennis courts, and return to S. 34th St.
- Turn right onto S. 34th St.
- Continue on S. 34th street, go across the Abingdon St. bridge, continue on S. Abingdon St. past S. 31st St.
- Turn right onto S. 29th St., arriving back at Abingdon Elementary.

# Vihstadt outlines issues facing Arlington County Board

Arlington County Board member John Vihstadt made his first official visit to speak at the Fairlington Citizens Association meeting on March 11. He led a lively discussion on a range of county actions, including the ongoing budget process and many developments and planning initiatives.

According to Vihstadt, the main fiscal challenge facing Arlington is the explosive growth in county schools. The school board estimates a \$13 million shortfall in its budget. For the county board to fund this amount while maintaining all existing county services would require a 2-cent property tax rate increase, though the board directed the county manager to keep a property tax rate increase out of the new budget.

The board is examining additional ways to fund new school construction, and Vihstadt recommends looking at the possibility of having developers contribute to the costs of new schools, like they do for affordable housing, undergrounding utilities, and landscaping. He noted, though, that county staff have suggested that there are legal restrictions on the county's ability to do this.

Vihstadt said he favors cutting the county's general operating budget in order to meet the schools' budget shortfall, and the county manager has already proposed some "nips and tucks" to the operating budget. He noted



*FCA President Guy Land and Abingdon PTA Co-President Jen Davies discuss the Abingdon Elementary School expansion project with county board member John Vihstadt. Photo by Michelle Woolley.*

that even without an increase in the property tax rate, "the average property owner will still take an out-of-pocket hit between \$300 and \$400 because of rising assessments." Vihstadt welcomed comments on the budget from residents, either via the county website or email.

## Setting priorities

In response to a question about how the board prioritizes spending, Vihstadt noted that the county does not have a formal process for prioritizing spending.

County board member Libby Garvey, who also attended the meeting, explained that she wants the board to create a strategic plan for spending over the next several years. Vihstadt said core services, such as infrastructure, maintenance, public safety, and education should be the priorities.

He advocated hiring an internal auditor, a function cut during the recession, in order to assist with budgeting priorities. But he said he would like to go further and hire an independent auditor that reports directly to the board rather than to the county manager. He pointed out that this would require state approval, and legislation to provide this authority is currently before Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe.

At the end of March, the county is rolling out a hotline for county employees to report fraud and abuse. Once the bugs are worked out of the system, the public will also be able to use the hotline. Vihstadt would also like more transparency for residents to review county contracts on the county website.

Vihstadt reported that the county board has launched a Community Facilities Study Committee in partnership with the school board. For the first time in 30 years, the committee will perform a comprehensive review of all public land across the county and create location criteria for community facilities, such as schools, community centers, and fire stations. The committee will review resources, community needs, and site-specific criteria such as public transportation access, environmental considerations, and synergies with the surrounding area.

The committee is composed of 24 people and there is an



*FCA board members Joe Hartman, Mark Jones, Kent Duffy, and Carol Dabbs visit with Michelle Woolley at the March FCA meeting. Photo by Guy Land.*



accompanying Resident Forum with representatives from Arlington civic associations, including FCA board member Gretchen Fallon. The committee's draft report is expected in September and its final report is due in November.

## ***Planning activities***

In January, the county kicked off the Shirlington Crescent-Four Mile Run Study, which is a planning project to study land use goals and objectives for a 95-acre area along South Four Mile Run Drive and Shirlington Road (the area west and north of the Weenie Beenie). Fairlingtonians may visit the doggie daycare, car wash, truck rental, auto repair, or other businesses along the industrial stretch of South Four Mile Run, and Vihstadt said the county goal is to figure out "how to gussy up the area and protect the small businesses there."

The county also plans to make some near-term and inexpensive upgrades to Jennie Dean Park near Shirlington, including fixing up an unusable Little League field, but it will not make longer-term improvements until the Shirlington Crescent-Four Mile Run planning project is completed. Additionally, the county has a long-range plan to revitalize Four Mile Run near the water treatment plant, turning this area into an attractive community asset with recreational uses.



*FCA board member Mark Jones clomped through snow drifts the first week in March to put out sign reminders for the Vihstadt visit. Photo by Gretchen Fallon.*

## ***Fairlington projects***

The Abingdon expansion and overall expansion of Arlington Public Schools continues, with Abingdon construction still slated to begin in spring 2016. Vihstadt said that the school board and county board are communicating with each other "better than they have in quite some time."

Vihstadt also mentioned the Fairlington Farmers Market, which will open April 19. He stated that the county

will monitor market traffic, litter, and parking as part of the use permit granted last fall. Also on the grounds of the Fairlington Community Center, the playground and exercise station will be receiving improvements in the next few years as part of the Department of Parks and Recreation's long-term capital improvement plan. FCA Treasurer Ed Hilz pointed out that Parks and Recreation will engage FCA in the planning when it starts.

Vihstadt noted that Fairlington residents are known for being actively engaged and connected to the county. In this vein, he asked that residents consider volunteering to serve on county commissions. There is a two-page application on the board's website, and there are currently openings on the 50 standing advisory groups, including the planning commission. Vihstadt also said he is "sensitive to north Arlington receiving perceived favoritism" and that he "wants every neighborhood to feel like it's getting its fair share." He encouraged residents to "keep hammering the board" if they don't feel like they are getting sufficient attention.

—Michelle Woolley

## ***County seeks options for more classroom space***

The Arlington County Board's recent rejection of plans to build a new elementary school next to Thomas Jefferson Middle School has residents in South Arlington concerned about where the area's quickly expanding student population will attend school. Although adding more relocatable classrooms on school properties will certainly be considered as part of a short-term solution, the county board and the school board have launched a broader review of county facilities, the Community Facilities Study, to find temporary locations for classrooms.

That review is expected to include the Fairlington Community Center (FCC). Formerly an elementary school, the FCC offers offices, a gym, a large multipurpose space, large kitchen, and outdoor recreational options, including a playground—all key aspects for a temporary school site.

On the other hand, the FCC currently enjoys extensive community use for education programs, neighborhood meetings, civic activities, and early childhood offerings. The classroom space within the building is often booked up throughout the day and into the evening. Organizations that make it their home, such as the Virginia Cooperative Extension, would have to look for

*Continued on page 19*

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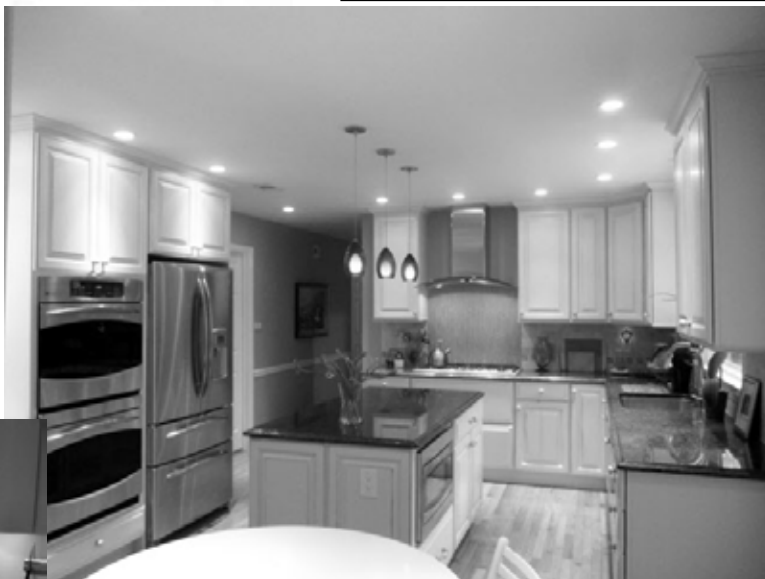
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# County plans Walter Reed Drive improvements



*Arlington County Capital Projects Manager Valerie Mosley describes proposed improvements to Walter Reed Dr. Photo by Guy Land.*

Arlington County plans to make a number of improvements to a section of Walter Reed Dr. between Arlington Mill Dr. and Four Mile Run Dr. Valerie Mosley, Capital Projects Manager with the Arlington Transportation Division, outlined the proposed changes at the March FCA meeting.

She noted that this section of Walter Reed connects two of the county's busiest multi-use trails—Washington & Old Dominion and the Four Mile Run Trail. It is also a major access point to Shirlington and the county's school bus and truck fleet on S. Taylor St.

According to Mosley, the improvements are designed to encourage bicycle and pedestrian traffic in that area while facilitating vehicle traffic.

Key elements include new crosswalks and curb ramps, raised bike lanes on both sides of Walter Reed, widened vehicle lanes, a larger pedestrian island and improved crossings at the Arlington Mill Dr. intersection, wider sidewalks and ADA-complaint bus stops, and upgraded technology at the intersections.

Fairlington residents at the meeting expressed concern about the proposal to create a separate, raised bike lane, fearing that serious injury could occur if a rider fell from the bike lane into the vehicle lane. Mosley said that the proposed approach, which has been used in a number of other cities, was designed to enhance safety.

Other residents asked that the "slip lane" (the separate right turn lane from Arlington Mill onto Walter Reed) be

eliminated, noting that the slip lane creates a danger for pedestrians attempting to cross Walter Reed. Mosley said that Walter Reed was not wide enough to allow right turns at the stop light and that the new technology and crosswalk markings would reduce the likelihood of accidents involving pedestrians.

The county has been conducting community outreach on the proposal for several months. Later in the spring the county is expected to assess the public comments, finalize the concept, and move forward with the design work. For information on the proposal go to <http://projects.arlingtonva.us/projects/south-walter-reed-drive-improvements-arlington-mill-drive-four-mile-run-drive/>.

—Guy Land

## School board approves Abingdon concept design

The Arlington School Board has approved the concept design for the expansion and rehabilitation of Abingdon Elementary School, clearing the way for the design team to develop a more detailed schematic design for the building. The design reflects the recommendations of two citizen advisory committees that include Fairlington residents.

Key elements include preserving most of the school playing field, moving the gym to the west end of the building and shifting the cafeteria to the current site of the gym, and adding a three-story classroom building behind the existing building. The design provides 27,000 feet of additional space in order to accommodate 136 more students.

FCA President Guy Land told the school board that FCA supports the concept design. "There are trade-offs, but we feel this design strikes a good balance," he said. He noted that the design preserves substantial green space, improves traffic flow at Abingdon St. and 29th St., increases the number of on-site parking spaces, and has a massing that does not overwhelm the neighborhood.

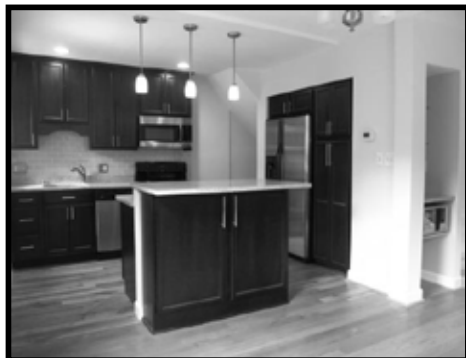
In remarks to the school board, FCA Secretary Carol Dabbs stressed the educational benefits of the new design—comments that resonated with school board members—while advisory committee chair Jen Davies noted the substantial work that has gone into crafting the design.

*Continued on page 19*



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— Denice McCullough, Fairlington Resident

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- At the Yard Sale (FHS Table) - Saturday, May 2, 8:00 am – 11:00 am
- On Tour Day - Saturday, May 16, starting at 10:00 am

**Fairlington Community Center**, 3308 S. Stafford Street

- Friday, May 1, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

The Fairlington Historical Society, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization and all contributions are deductible in accordance with the provisions of the Internal Revenue Service Tax Code.





## The Fairlington Farmers Market opens Sunday, April 19th!

Come join the fun! As a local, producer-only market, everyone who sells at our market grows, raises, bakes, cooks or prepares the food and products themselves, all within 125 miles of Fairlington. You'll have access to fresh, high-quality food, get to know the people who are growing and making the goods, and connect with your neighbors!



You'll find us on the back plaza of the Fairlington Community Center (3308 S. Stafford Street), **Sundays from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM.**



The best place to find all the details of the market is our website - **[www.fairlingtonfarmersmarket.org](http://www.fairlingtonfarmersmarket.org)**



**Join our email distribution list** to stay up to the minute on market happenings. Just send us an email at [info@fairlingtonfarmersmarket.org](mailto:info@fairlingtonfarmersmarket.org).



**We need your help!** Interested in lending a hand? Drop in for an overview and orientation at the Fairlington Community Center on April 7<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM or May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 12:30 PM – 2:00 PM. You can also sign up for shifts and learn more about other volunteer opportunities on our “Get Involved” page.

We encourage you to walk, bike or bus to the market – but if you drive, **please be a good neighbor and avoid parking directly in front of the residences across from the community center.**

# Fairlington news clips

## **Used bicycle collection April 18 at ECARE**

Put your old, unwanted bicycle to good use! Donate it to Bikes for the World at the Environmental Collection and Recycling Event (ECARE) on Earth Day, Saturday, April 18, from 8:30 am to 3 pm, at Thomas Jefferson Middle School, 125 South Old Glebe Rd.

Sponsored by Arlington County, this multi-commodity recycling event offers Arlington residents the opportunity to safely recycle household hazardous waste, computers and electronics, and small metal scrap items. Local non-profits accept bicycles and anything bicycle-related, household goods, and eyeglasses and durable medical equipment.

Protect the Earth—reduce your footprint through reuse and recycling. For information on the bicycle project, visit [www.bikesfortheworld.org](http://www.bikesfortheworld.org) or contact [office@bikesfortheworld.org](mailto:office@bikesfortheworld.org) or 703-740-7856.

## **Ornamental edibles in landscapes and containers**

Learn how to grow ornamental edible plants in containers on your deck, balcony, or patio. This workshop, taught by Master Gardeners, will cover soil, containers, maintenance, and selection of suitable plants. It's perfect for Fairlington residents who want to beautify the landscape and then dine on the fruits of their labors.

The course is Monday, April 20, from 7 to 8:30 pm, at the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. Registration is requested; signup online at [mgmv.org](http://mgmv.org). Questions? Telephone 703-228-6414 or email [mgarla-lex@gmail.com](mailto:mgarla-lex@gmail.com).

## **Northern Alexandria Native Plant Sale**

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Vendors are listed on the sale website at [www.NorthernAlexandriaNativePlantSale.org](http://www.NorthernAlexandriaNativePlantSale.org). The sale is entirely organized and run by volunteers. Questions?

Contact Scott Knudsen at 571-232-0375 or [sknudsen@earthlink.net](mailto:sknudsen@earthlink.net).

The sale is Saturday, April 25, from 9 am to 2 p.m. at the sale's new location at The Church of St. Clement at 1701 N. Quaker Lane. (The sale has moved from its old location at 3601 Valley Drive.)

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### *Classroom space options, continued from page 15*

alternative space. Other factors, like pick-up and drop-off for students, would need to be closely examined for impact on the nearby residents.

Finally, there would be the question of the FCC's proximity to an existing elementary school. Although Abingdon Elementary School is already feeling the pressure of enrollment growth, plans are moving forward for a \$28.75 million expansion and rehabilitation of Abingdon to increase its capacity by 2017. Converting the FCC to a temporary school site would require a significant redrawing of the lines for Abingdon's service area.

As the county's review committee works throughout the year on its assessment of demographic forecasts and an inventory of county-owned buildings and property, FCA will monitor its work and keep Fairlington residents informed about its final report of recommendations, expected in November.

—Chris Weathers

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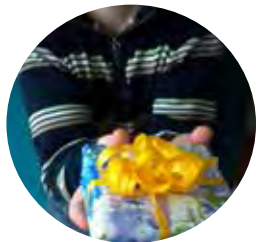
### *Abington design, continued from page 17*

"We have worked hard to understand the varying perspectives of all stakeholders, the educational priorities of the school, and the potential impact on property surrounding Abingdon Elementary School," Davies said. "This process has required compromise and goodwill from both the neighborhood and the school community." A North Fairlington resident, Davies chairs the Building Level Planning Committee. She is also Co-President of the Abingdon PTA.

School board members commented on the collaborative approach between the community and APS that has marked the development of the concept design.

The design work is expected to go forward while there continue to be on-going discussions about several things including the extent of off-site parking for the school.





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# Consignment event generates record sales

The Fairlington MOMS Club hosted its semiannual consignment sale on March 7 at the Fairlington Community Center (FCC). Despite weather conditions closing the FCC the day before and limiting set-up time, MOMS Club volunteers were able to organize all the merchandise the morning of the sale and pulled off another successful event.

There were over 5,000 items for sale, with prices totaling over \$16,000. Most of the items sold, and proceeds benefited the March of Dimes. Leftover items were donated to My Grandmother's House, a new non-profit that provides baby and toddler clothing, toys, and equipment to families in need in rural Virginia.

The sale was so popular this year that for more than an hour and a half after the sale began, shoppers had to wait their turn in line to enter to prevent the sales floor from becoming overcrowded. The sale requires multiple coordinators, and this year a total of 50 MOMS Club members volunteered to put the event together.

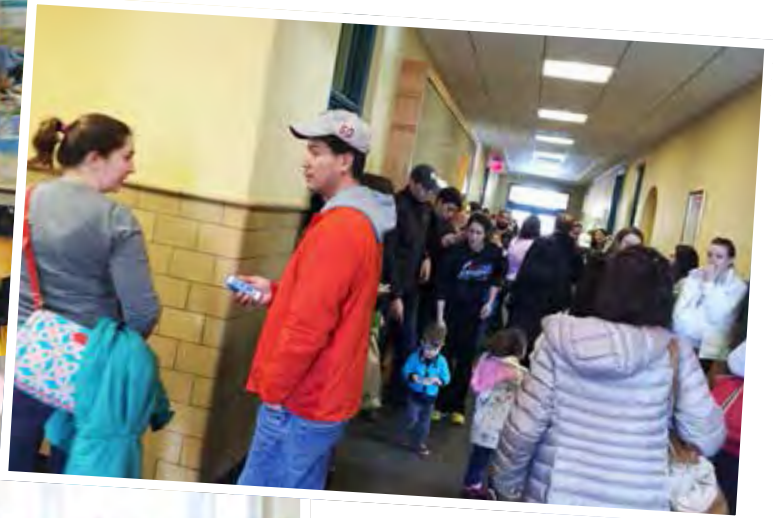
For the first time ever, shoppers were given the opportunity to pay \$10 for an early shopping pass, allowing them entry 30 minutes before the official start of the sale. Proceeds from the passes were also donated to the March of Dimes.

The next consignment sale will be at the FCC in the fall.

MOMS Club member Silvana Yaroschuk has also organized a swap for the past five years, which now coincides with the consignment sale. MOMS Club members bring children's clothes, toys, and gear to a room in the FCC, and any members can pick up items they need, regardless of whether they have items to swap, for free. Leftover items are donated to charity. "It's a great cycle. I have seen stuff my boys used when they were babies recycled through more than five swaps," Yaroschuk said.

The increasing popularity of the consignment sale and events like the swap show what a great neighborhood Fairlington is for families with young children. These events also illustrate the importance of volunteers in making our neighborhood such a thriving and active community.

—Michelle Woolley



Photos by Lucy Beadnell.





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## Survey reveals residents' tastes for new community events

Summer concerts on the community center grounds topped the list of potential new community activities in an online survey of Fairlington residents' preferences earlier this year. More than half the respondents (52 percent) said they were very interested in the concerts, and another 31 percent said they were somewhat interested.

Other ideas garnering significant support included an electronics recycling event, movie night at the community center, a paper shredding activity, and a health and fitness expo. FCA sponsored a paper shred event in 2013 but did not do one last year.

For formal presentations, residents expressed a desire for a session on unit renovation options, with 81 percent of respondents saying they were interested in such a discussion. Next on the list were presentations about nearby real estate developments, followed by TV and telecommunications options, and crime and safety.

The FCA Board will be exploring ways to implement

some of these in the coming months. To make them happen will require a small nucleus of volunteers for each one, much the way volunteers worked to create the farmers market. Fortunately, a number of survey respondents also said they were willing to help with several of these.

If you would be interested in giving a little time to translate some of these ideas into successful community events, please let us know at [president@fca-fairlington.org](mailto:president@fca-fairlington.org).


—Guy Land

### Keep up with FCA

You can follow the work of FCA by finding information on the website, [fca-fairlington.org](http://fca-fairlington.org). Sign up for email updates, reminders about upcoming events, and schedule changes.

Join FCA's Facebook page at Fairlington Appreciation Society.


Better still, join your neighbors at an FCA meeting or sponsored event. Even better, volunteer to help out at an event.



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# neighborhood news

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## ***Fairlington Diners***

The Fairlington Diners gather a couple of times a month for relaxed dinners nearby. We focus on having a good meal and an opportunity to chat with neighbors. In March, we visited Copperwood Tavern in Shirlington, which many of our members highly recommended.

Here's what's planned for April:

Thursday, April 9, 6:30 pm, Idylwood Grill, in Idylwood Plaza, 2190 Pimmit Dr., Falls Church, 703-992-0915, <http://idylwoodgrill.com>. This hidden gem, just off Route 7, is a little further away than some of our favorites, but is highly praised by those who've eaten there. It is described as a neighborhood spot featuring Mediterranean-American food with an unpretentious but stylish décor.

Monday, April 27, 6:30 pm, Ramparts Restaurant, 1700 Fern St., Alexandria, 703-998-6616, [www.rampartstavern.com](http://www.rampartstavern.com). This is a local favorite that we visit frequently. On Mondays, they offer half-price on burgers with the purchase of a beverage, and the rest of the menu is also available.

Please call Carol at 703-379-6840 if you plan to attend, and leave a voicemail if you don't reach her—include your name and how to contact you the day of the event, in case plans change. If you want to receive a copy of these notices early in the previous month, send your email address to [carol\\_dabbs@yahoo.com](mailto:carol_dabbs@yahoo.com).

## ***Book Group***

Join the Fairlington Book Group in April to discuss *Wish You Well*, by David Baldacci.

According to *Publishers Weekly*, the author, who is well known for his legal thrillers, "triumphs with his best novel yet, an utterly captivating drama centered on the difficult adjustment to rural life faced by two children when their New York City existence shatters in an auto accident."

The Book Group will meet on Tuesday, April 28, at 7:30 pm in the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford Street. We hope you'll join us.

## ***Card players welcome***

Join your Fairlington neighbors for a friendly game of Canasta. No previous experience is necessary to enjoy this card game. We are happy to teach you. The group meets Tuesday mornings at a local church hall near Fairlington. Call Carol Ann at 703-931-8533.

## ***Fairlington Babysitting Co-op***

If you are looking for a night out without the kids or an afternoon to yourself, look no further than the Fairlington Babysitting Co-op. For more than 30 years, the Co-op has been a community of parents helping parents right here in our neighborhood.

The Co-op is a network of Fairlington families who exchange free babysitting services. It's perfect for parents who would like to know dependable adults to watch their children and meet other families in the community.

For more information or to request an application, email the coordinators, Jamie Maloney and Sheri Weathers, at [fairlington.babysitting@gmail.com](mailto:fairlington.babysitting@gmail.com).

## ***MOMS Club of Arlington-Fairlington***

Members (and their children) of the MOMS Club of Arlington-Fairlington VA chapter of the International MOMS Club participate in fun activities, service projects, Parents' Night Out, meetings with interesting speakers, and group activities such as our walking, dinner, and book clubs. Our weekly age-specific playgroups start as young as birth and go up to 3+ years old.

The MOMS Club meets monthly for general meetings. Please contact [fairlingtonmomsclub@gmail.com](mailto:fairlingtonmomsclub@gmail.com) for meeting and membership information. Parents and parents-to-be are welcome to join us, and children are always welcome. For more information about the club visit [www.fairlingtonmomsclub.com](http://www.fairlingtonmomsclub.com). Annual dues of \$25 support our club activities and charitable projects.



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# DOWN TO EARTH patio gardening



*Gardeners, grab your gloves!*

With wintry mixes blanketing the Fairlington landscape for much of February and early March, I wondered if the miniature goblets known as Crocus ever would show their purple, yellow, and white colored petals.

Black ice, crusty windshields, boots, knit hats, mittens, scarves. Ugh. Finally, it's time to talk spring. With that, here are some tips/reminders to get your patios ready for another season.

**Leaf removal:** Leaves are organic, but piled and matted from the melting snows they prohibit plant roots from breathing. Neglected piles of damp leaves invite mold and mildew. And they attract nesting critters. Once the leaves are raked or pulled away, you may find some tender perennials that were dormant in winter. Such specimens have dead leaves or no foliage at all, so it's easy to "miss" them in a cluttered garden.

**Pruning:** Some specimens need to be pruned at a certain time of year. With others, it makes no difference. However, if the branches of one plant are intertwined with or lying on another plant, it's time for a barber's attention. Out-of-control branches or vines are invasive, and they rob a nearby specimen of sufficient sunlight (which thwarts photosynthesis) and the necessary ground water needed for survival.

**Soil tilling:** It's always sensible to till, since this opens channels for moisture to drain down to plant



*Crocuses. Photo by Guy Land.*

roots. Soft soil invites earthworms, which are natural tillers. Loose soil particles more readily permit plant roots to take in nutrients from deep underground. Compacted soil, rock, or clay clogs the transport of vital necessities every plant needs—like the human circulatory system when choked with trans-fats or cholesterol.

**Plant roots:** A root ball naturally will sink if the soil is "too" soft. This situation is unhealthy as well, since the roots in the ball are challenged taking in ground water. If a root ball is malleable, try inserting a spade fork around the ball and gently lifting it. If the ball doesn't move, just fork the soil around the circumference of the plant. This loosens the soil that may have been compacted around the ball.

**Fertilizer:** I'm not a fan of using fertilizer, since over-application can burn or damage plant roots. And with annuals, perennials, ground cover, and dwarf shrubs, the root ball is more fragile with fibrous—not woody—roots. When the mineral content of a fertilizer particle con-

tacts a fibrous root, it may "shock" the plant. Usually, I apply acidic fertilizer to only certain evergreens: Yew, Laurel, Azalea, Boxwood, Falsecypress Rhododendron, Euonymus, Cypress, Spruce, Fir, and Holly. These are hardy evergreens with a mature, woody root system. When applying the fertilizer, first fork the soil around the root ball and modestly (by hand) sprinkle the fertilizer around the base of the plant.

**Mulching:** Merely "stacking" mulch around the base of a plant isn't sensible, but proper mulching has many benefits. Mulching keeps plant roots warmer in winter and cooler in summer; keeps soil, in general, warm, so that water, oxygen, minerals, and earthworms can readily move; prevents weed growth; curbs erosion or soil muddiness in heavy rains, thus keeping the water in place for plant roots; gives off a pleasant odor; is attractive, especially with its texture; and is organic, and thus is healthy for plants.

**Pressure-washing:** Now is the time to clean your patio hardscape—concrete, brick or stone—to remove the algae and soil that stained it over winter. Since the machine has a high-velocity sprayer, do this chore before planting and mulching this spring.

And now that we're free of snow, sleet and ice, keep the birdbaths filled with water!

—Bill Sullivan  
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## ***Abingdon showcases iPads on Digital Learning Day***



*Second-graders show parents how to access and check out e-books.*

This past fall, Abingdon second- and fifth-graders each received their own personal iPads as part of a county-wide Arlington Public Schools (APS) initiative to ensure that all students have a device by 2017. The iPads provide new and powerful learning opportunities for students across all subject matter. Abingdon's "Tech Team," headed by Kerry Abbott and Michelle Jaeckel, have worked hard with teachers and students throughout the year.

After a very snowy March, students were able to benefit from online assignment posts and virtual discussions on message boards using new digital technology. On March 13, the students who received iPads were able to demonstrate their skills to teachers and parents and show how they are learning and com-

municating through technology. Dubbed "Digital Speed Dating," groups of students were set up at tables throughout the library and given three minutes to interact with parents on specific programs. Just like speed dating, a bell sounded at the end of each mini-session and parents would move on to another table. Students worked hard to make a great impression on their audience.

Some second-grade groups demonstrated how they could access and check out e-books using the program called Padlet. Others showed parents how the Word Study language arts program could be digitized for better organization and teacher accessibility. The students preferred this format over cutting out words on paper, which can often get lost throughout the week. Another group demonstrated how they could host a digital poetry slam, posting their poems and illustrations for the whole class to see through Padlet.



*Fifth-graders demonstrate interactive science program. Photos by Abingdon PTA.*

Fifth-graders brought digital learning to a whole new level. One group of students demonstrated how they created their own "published" e-books using Book Creator, including their own illustrations and narrations on each page. Another group showed parents how iTunesU and Schoology allowed the homeroom teacher, Ms. Hale, to give video assignments which students accessed at home. Perfect for snow days! One of the most interesting tables had students utilize the program Aurasma, or augmented published writing. Using the iPads, parents could place the device over a printed document, like a short story, and view pictures and videos of the story, which brought it to life. It was pretty cool.

Suffice to say that all thirteen groups made a favorable impression during each date. Parents, teachers and the Tech Team were very proud of the students' accomplishments.

## ***April calendar:***

April 7: Classes Resume

April 8: Silent Auction 6-8 pm, PTA will offer FREE childcare for students at school

April 11: Fairlington 5K (8:30 am) and Spring Festival (9:30 am)

April 21: PTA Meeting, 6:30 pm

April 22: Early Release

April 30: Project GIFT Showcase: Technology

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# Animal Talk

## Annual poop rant!

Spring is here, bringing with it Daylight Saving Time, flowers in bloom, and the annual AFB poop rant to remind dog owners that it is the law (not to mention the considerate thing to do) to scoop your dog's poop. In a community as large and densely populated as Fairlington, pet owners need to be especially diligent about picking up after their dogs. According to an online source, one 75-pound dog produces 500 pounds of poop a year. Multiply that by the number of dogs in Fairlington, and you get...well, a lot of poop!

Dog waste is obviously unpleasant to look at and step in, but it's also a health and environmental hazard. Pet feces can contaminate the water supply, putting all of us at risk of illness. Feces left on the ground can spread disease and create a messy, unsanitary, and unhealthy situation for all of us—especially the many children in the neighborhood who might play in the grass. Leaving poop on the ground



*This is Fairlington's worst form of littering. Inexplicably, people drop their doggie poop bags on the ground at corners and curbs, as if these were designated collection points—they are not! Trash cans are often a short walk away. Photo by Christine Chirichella.*

even puts other dogs at risk—my own dog contracted a parasite called toxidia, which is caused by ingesting fecal matter.

Last but not least, I want to remind dog owners to properly dispose of the used bags in trash receptacles provided throughout the neighborhood. Every day I see poop bags strewn on the ground wherever lazy dog owners feel like leaving them. It is not only unsightly to see bags scattered all over Fairlington, but also against the policy of the condo associations. Be a good citizen and take those few extra steps to throw the poop bag away instead of just assuming the trash collection crews will find every randomly

tossed bag in the neighborhood. Please do your part to help keep Fairlington beautiful, safe, and healthy—and still pet-friendly.

—Christine M. Chirichella

## ***Dog poisonings create dismay, fear, and heightened vigilance for dog walkers***

In late January, an alarming story about pet dogs being poisoned in northern Arlington was first posted on neighborhood blogs, then reported in the *Post*, and finally confirmed by the Animal Welfare League of Arlington.

Raw sausages or pieces of meat were left on sidewalks in a neighborhood near Lee Highway. In short order, in separate incidents, the meat was gobbled up by two dogs that were on routine walks with their owners. The dogs became ill with symptoms including anxiousness, restlessness, an accelerated heart rate, vomiting, and distended abdomens. Both dogs have since recovered.

One dog owner found a similar piece of meat left on a sidewalk near his home and gave it to the welfare league for testing. A group of neighbors and AWLA staff then searched the area of the dog poisonings and found several more pieces of meat with pills or capsules hidden inside. AWLA sent the tainted meat samples away for toxicology testing, and they later confirmed that the capsules contained caffeine.

No additional incidents of dog poisonings have been reported, but AWLA continues to investigate and asks anyone who may have information to call 703-931-9241.





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[paul@hamiltontaxservices.com](mailto:paul@hamiltontaxservices.com) • 703.307.2478

## For sale: Fairlington T-shirts



Show your neighborhood pride with a Fairlington T-shirt. T-shirts are \$15 and available in white or hunter green in 100% cotton. Sizes S, M, L, and X-L. Child sizes are also available. To order, send an e-mail to [president@fca-fairlington.org](mailto:president@fca-fairlington.org) or contact any FCA board member. Call the FCA at 571-403-1943 to leave your name and number.

## Pet & Plantcare by Gerri, LLC

- Walking
- Sitting
- Playgroups
- Medications

Gerri Horan  
703.379.7719

SINCE 1999



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## Doggie-Do (and cats too!) Neighborhood Pet Services

Affordable, affectionate care, whether you're here or there.

Walking, bark-park visits, play dates, boarding, daycare, sitting, and more...  
What can we do for you?

Andrew & Kerryn Zechiel  
[www.doggie-do.biz](http://www.doggie-do.biz)



703-583-4973  
[doggie-do@doggie-do.biz](mailto:doggie-do@doggie-do.biz)



## NOTICE TO ALL ADVERTISERS

Due Date for All Ads: 6 pm on 10th of the preceding month (Apr 10th for May issue)

Payment: BOTH payment and ad copy must be received by the 10th.  
Make checks payable to "Fairlington Citizens Association."

NEW E-Mail Address for All Ads: [admanager@fca-fairlington.org](mailto:admanager@fca-fairlington.org)

Mailing Address for All Ads and Checks: FCA-AFB, PO Box 6182, Arlington, VA 22206-0182

Drop-Off Location for Ads and Checks: Drop-Off Box in Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford Street. The FCC is closed Sunday. Open 8 am – 9 pm M – F, and 8 am – 5 pm Saturday.

# MINI-AD FORM

Mini-ad copy can be e-mailed to [admanager@fca-fairlington.org](mailto:admanager@fca-fairlington.org) and then submit your payment by mail to FCA AFB, PO Box 6182, Arlington, VA 22206-0182 or drop off ads and checks to the drop-off box in the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford Street. E-mailed ad text will not be processed until payment is received.

Write key words from your ad on the check for reference. (Example: "Yard Sale" or "Lost Camera")

Cost is 50 cents per word (e.g., “998-0000” and “stove” are each one word; “interior/exterior” are two words).

Please include the following information with all ads:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (h): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (w): \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Category (see newsletter for options): \_\_\_\_\_

Mini-Ad Text (please print clearly): \_\_\_\_\_

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LONG AND FOSTER  
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OFFICE

[ArlingtonAlexandriaSales.Lnfre.com](http://ArlingtonAlexandriaSales.Lnfre.com)

4800 S. 31st Street | Arlington, VA 22206 | 703-998-3111

## February TOP PRODUCERS



Kristin Usaitis  
Top Listing agent



Pat Shannon  
Top Producer

## FEATURED LISTINGS OF THE MONTH



Arlington—Remodeled private end unit town home. Updated kitchen, bathroom and hardwood floors \$329k. Call Pat Shannon



Arlington—Spacious & sunny 2 level condo townhouse in Arl. Village \$285k. Call Kristin Usaitis



Arlington—Spacious 3 lvl TH shows well. Updated with granite counters, hrdwd flrs. Call Rob Allen



Falls Church—Contemporary 2 level condo with lake views. Fireplace, sky light and cathedral ceiling. Updated gourmet kitchen. \$395k. FX8525726



Del Ray—Gorgeous & charming bungalow. Sun drenched rooms and hardwood floors. It shines! \$695k. Call Kristin Usaitis



Alexandria—Sun filled home with lots of rich finishes. Private lot, high end appliances and a 3 car garage. \$999k. Call Pat Shannon

**SERVING FAIRLINGTON**  
 & ALL NORTHERN VA

