# **BULLETIN**

**APRIL 2019** 



FAIRLING TON FRCA

www.fca-fairlington.org

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## Fairlington 5K takes to the streets April 27



Hundreds of runners participated in last year's Fairlington 5K. Photo by Guy Land.

The sixth annual Fairlington 5K will take place Saturday, April 27, beginning at 8 am at Abingdon Elementary School. There is also a special "1K Walk & Fun Run" for those with small children or participants seeking a less challenging course. The 5K is sponsored by "A Cure for Ellie" in partnership with the FCA and Abingdon Elementary.

The race has grown in both size and scope every single year; race organizers estimate that nearly 800 people will be reg-

istered as runners or walkers in one of the two events this year. This is truly a community event with Fairlingtonians registering as participants, volunteering at water stations, or lining the streets to cheer on their friends and neighbors **(related: see map on page 21 for street closures)**.

Each year before the Fairlington 5K, race organizers host a fun and laid-back "silent auction" at the Fairlington Villages Community Center, located at 3005 S. Abingdon St. in North Fairlington. This year's auction is set for Friday, April 5, and nearly 100 items both big and small will be up for grabs.

"We are very fortunate to have the support of many generous people in the community," said Beth McGinn, co-founder of "A Cure for Ellie," one of the event organizers. "Our guests are going to walk away with some great deals on everything from spa packages and gym memberships, to a rare Napa Valley wine collection, tutoring services, jewelry, toys, and much, much more. We also have a two-night stay at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Palm Beach, Florida. There is really something for everyone."

Like the race, proceeds raised at the auction support research into a cure for LBSL, a rare and degenerative brain condition that affects Fairlington 5th grader Ellie McGinn.

Continued on page 21

**Plan ahead!** Streets throughout Fairlington will be closed on April 27. See map on page 21 for details.

Volume 45, Number 4

## 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.

### FCA monthly meeting April 10

**Special presentation:** Staff from the City of Alexandria Department of Transportation and Environmental Services will discuss Alexandria's plans for improving drainage along King Street.

#### **Regular board business:**

- Approval of March minutes
- Officer and
- committee reports
- Unfinished business
- New business

**Meeting minutes:** Minutes of prior meetings can be found on the FCA website.

#### **Online resources:**

Find more information on the FCA website, 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.

Web design by Avatar Systems Ltd., Alexandria, VA, www.avatar-systems.com.

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#### Fairlington Citizens Association

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#### Fairlington Neighborhood Conservation Committee

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All Fairlington Bulletin

Published monthly by the FCA Circulation: 3,449 households

Editor: Susan Renehan Advertising Manager: Beth Andrews Distribution Manager: Noemi Riveira

#### — 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 Email editorial announcements to: editor@fca-fairlington.org Email commercial and mini ads to: 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.

Ad Size	Height	Width	Rate
1/8 page	2 3/16 in.	3 5/8 in.	\$47
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Full-Page	9.5 in.	7.5 in.	\$395
Back Cover (Full Page)	9.5 in.	7.5 in.	\$505
Full-Page Insert (1 Side)	11 in.	8.5 in.	\$525
Full-Page Insert (2 Sides)	11 in.	8.5 in.	\$570

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#### Calendar

**Fairlington 5K Silent Auction** Friday, April 5, 6 pm Fairlington Villages CC 3005 S. Abingdon St.

**Fairlington Knits** Monday, April 8, 6:30 pm FCC, 3308 S. Stafford St.

**Mosquito and tick presentation** Tuesday, April 9, 7 pm FCC, 3308 S. Stafford St.

**FCA monthly meeting** Wednesday, April 10, 7 pm FCC, 3308 S. Stafford St.

**Fairlington Diners** Thursday, April 18, 6:30 pm Tempo Restaurant 4231 Duke St., Alexandria

**Fairlington Knits** Monday, April 22, 6:30 pm FCC, 3308 S. Stafford St.

**Book Group** Tuesday, April 23, 7:30 pm FCC, 3308 S. Stafford St.

**Fairlington 5K** Saturday, April 27, 8:30 am

**Fairlington Diners** Monday, April 29, 6:30 pm Samuel Beckett's 2800 S. Randolph St., Arlington

## Big Dig



Workers engaged in a major sewer repair project in Fairlington Meadows in early March. Photo by Guy Land.

**Contributors this month:** Lucy Beadnell, Randal Black, Lynne Blasi, Julie Butler, Sara Tuke Carr, Jennifer Davies, Donna Felipe, Guy Land, Carrie Lewis, Gabby Phillips, Joe Reed, Susan Renehan, Rebecca Sayres, Thora Stanwood, Bill Sullivan, Lorin Venable, and Lindsay Willmann.

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



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Judging by the capacity crowd at FCA's February Amazon briefing, there is considerable interest in

Fairlington about the substance and impact of the Amazon headquarters project.

My sense is that the level of interest in our community, along with that of areas like Aurora Highlands and Del Ray, is higher than that in much of the rest of Arlington. I think our residents see the potential for more direct impacts on them than on some other neighborhoods.

One positive consequence that will reach countywide is the major dent it will make in Arlington's office vacancy rate, which in recent years has hovered around 19 percent. This high vacancy rate depresses commercial real estate tax revenue, and that results in more of the property tax burden being borne by residential property owners like those in Fairlington.

It's probably unreasonable to expect significant reductions in residential property taxes. County leaders face the imperative of additional revenue to support ballooning school enrollments, expanding infrastructure needs, and the public cry for more park space—all of which were in play well before the Amazon decision ever occurred.

But the Amazon project can enable more of that revenue to come from commercial real estate taxes than would otherwise have been the case. It will help hold down residential property tax increases.

One of the big unknowns is what the impact will be on home prices in Fairlington. Real estate friends say it's really too soon to say. There may have been an early flurry of speculative pricing right after the announcement, but the question is where prices will settle over the longer term. Fairlington renters worry that higher rental costs will drive them out of Fairlington, while Fairlington owners hope for substantial increases in resale prices. It can cut both ways.

FCA has not taken a position on the project. Our role is helping you better understand the project and its impact. In February we brought you presentations by two county board members and the Alexandria city manager. We are working with Amazon to schedule a presentation by the company. We are also looking at potentially inviting the developer to visit. In addition, we will be running articles in this newsletter looking at various aspects of the project.

I invite you to share with me your ideas on topics we should explore, either through in-person presentations or by articles in the *Bulletin*, so that we can respond to your interest.

Guy Land, FCA President president@fca-fairlington.org

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### Fairlington's second outdoor movie to be held May 4

In a few short weeks, FCA will host its second outdoor movie night to encourage Fairlington residents to get out and enjoy the company of their community. A large screen will be set up on the field behind the FCC on Saturday, May 4.

Residents are invited to bring blankets, chairs, and their favorite theatre snacks to set up a picnic on the FCC field and enjoy a viewing of "Moana" under the stars. The movie is set to begin at sundown (around 8 pm), but those attending are encouraged to come early to set up and visit with friends and neighbors. Please note that alcoholic beverages are not permitted on FCC grounds.

Though there are floodlights behind the FCC, the further reaches of the field will be much darker when the movie ends around 9:50 pm. Residents are encouraged to bring flashlights, camping lanterns, or phones equipped with flashlight settings to navigate their way home after the show.

As those who have attended other outdoor movie showings can attest, bug spray is always a good idea. Subtitles will be provided throughout the film, which is approximately 113 minutes long.

In the event of cancellation for inclement weather, an announcement will be made on the FCA website and Facebook page. A make-up date will then be announced in the *All Fairlington Bulletin*.

We hope to see you there!

—Lindsay Willmann

### Don't miss the popular Home and Garden Tour, May 11



The 2019 Fairlington Home and Garden Tour, sponsored by the Fairlington Historical Society, will soon be here! It is scheduled to take place on Saturday, May 11, from 11 am to 3 pm.

This very popular biennial event showcases the community's architecture, grounds, and the unique character of each of our neighborhoods.

You can reserve your tickets by returning the ticket purchase request form in this issue of the *All Fairlington Bulletin*. You may pick up or purchase tickets in South Fairlington at the Fairlington Community Center (Friday, May 3, between 6 and 8 pm) or in North Fairlington at the Spring Yard Sale, Fairlington Villages Community Center (Saturday, May 4, between 8 and 11 am). See also the ticket order form on page 33.

Tickets can also be picked up or purchased on the day of the tour at the Fairlington Villages Community Center, between 10 am and 2 pm. Please note tour hours end at 3 pm. We are still in need of volunteers to serve as "house sitters" with the homeowners on the day of the tour. If you are interested in helping, please email us at: rsayres@yahoo.com.

-Julie Butler & Rebecca Sayres

### FCA to co-sponsor mosquito and tick presentation on April 9



Photos courtesy of CDC.gov.

With spring and summer arriving soon, mosquitos and ticks will be joining us for our outdoor activities. Mosquitoes and ticks can transmit disease and they are also just plain annoying. A single female mosquito can lay 100-200 eggs at a time, and they need very little water.

But it's still possible to enjoy the outdoors with a few good management strategies. To help you learn how to better protect yourself, your family, and your yard from mosquitoes and ticks, the FCA, the Virginia Cooperative Extension, and the Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia (MGNV) are sponsoring a presentation on Tuesday, April 9, at 7 pm at the Fairlington Community Center.

Master Gardener and MGNV President Joan McIntyre will talk about common mosquitoes and ticks in Virginia, where and when they are most active, environmentfriendly strategies that can help control populations, and how people can protect themselves. Broad spectrum pesticides harm many insects, including necessary pollinators. Other controls are less harmful and can be more effective.

We can take action to mitigate mosquitos and ticks for a more enjoyable outdoor life in Fairlington this spring and summer.

-Randal Black



## Fairlington landscape committees hold first ever joint meeting

In February, Fairlington Arbor initiated and hosted an energetic and enthusiastic meeting of the landscape/ grounds committees from across South and North Fairlington. The purpose of the on-going gatherings is to share ideas, resources, and experiences, and collaborate on ways to enhance the beauty and eco-system of Fairlington.

A primary goal of the group is planting native perennials, shrubs, and trees, and pollinator-friendly plants that benefit bees, butterflies, and birds. Anne Wilson, Master Gardener and Fairlington Villages Grounds Committee member, said, "People are becoming more aware that sustainable landscaping, which includes native plants, effective storm water management, and reducing the use of pesticides, has environmental, economic, and health benefits." Expanding the area of native plants to all of Fairlington increases these benefits.

The Arbor implemented a native plants program last year and will be adding more native and pollinatorfriendly plants, including those beneficial to the rapidly declining monarch butterflies. Arbor Green Thumbs Committee member Leslie Cameron said, "As we increase the number of native plants and implement sustainable landscape practices, we provide necessary support to our entire eco-system." Another resident noted the increasing number of hummingbirds in the Arbor.

To educate residents about native plants and sustainable landscaping, the group is planning self-guided walk-

### Northern Alexandria native plant sale

This year's sale will be held Saturday, April 27, from 9 am to 2 pm in the parking lot of The Church of St. Clement at 1701 N. Quaker Ln.

Come find native perennials, shrubs, and trees for sun or shade! A dozen or more vendors from three states (VA, MD, & PA) will be hosted at this event, the largest native plant sale in the D.C. metro region!

Vendors are listed on the sale website at www. NorthernAlexandriaNativePlantSale.org. The sale is entirely organized and run by volunteers. Questions? Contact Scott Knudsen at 571-232-0375 or sknudsen@earthlink.net. ing tours and children's programs. Everyone is invited to follow the Arbor's Fairlington Arbor Gardening and Grounds Facebook page for information regarding native plants, pollinators, gardening tips, and resources.

The group also discussed ways to mitigate storm water runoff in Fairlington, which is part of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. Several associations are taking advantage of the county's StormwaterWise grant program by installing rain gardens and other conservation landscaping practices.

Another common concern of the group is mosquitos and ticks. The group worked with the FCA, the Virginia Cooperative Extension and the Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia to sponsor a talk on Tuesday, April 9, at 7 pm at the FCC that will teach you how to protect yourself and your family from these pests.

Members of the group are also urging the City of Alexandria to correct the standing storm water, a breeding ground for mosquitos, in the median between King St. and the service road from Bradlee Shopping Center to I-395.

Join in on fun gardening projects in your community by visiting your community's website for contact information.

—Randal Black



*Fairlington Villages will hold its spring yard sale starting at 8 am on May 4 in the parking lot of the Fairlington Villages Community Center, 3005 S. Abingdon St. Photo by Guy Land.* 

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## Monique O'Grady addresses APS budget, growth at FCA meeting

On Wednesday, March 13, the Fairlington Citizens Association (FCA) hosted Arlington County School Board member Monique O'Grady at its regular monthly meeting.

O'Grady, who was elected to the school board in 2017, is the newest member of the school board but she is a long-time volunteer and advocate for Arlington county schools. Before taking office on January 1, 2018, she served on a number of committees including the South Arlington Boundary Committee and the APS South Arlington Working Group. She has



Arlington School Board member Monique O'Grady and Abingdon PTA Co-President Jeni Hornback. Photo by Susan Renehan.

three children who are all graduates of APS or current APS students.

In her remarks, O'Grady talked about the changes that APS will experience in the coming year. She mentioned, in particular, the new schools that will open in the fall of 2019 including Drew Model School as a neighborhood school, the new Fleet Elementary School, and a new middle school building for H.B. Woodlawn.

O'Grady explained that the number of new schools is a direct result of the growth that APS is experiencing. "We are growing," O'Grady confirmed. "We are now at about 27,500 students in our school system. You're going to see us grow a lot."

APS projects a 24% increase in enrollment by 2028. O'Grady acknowledged the challenges that number presents. "We are constantly looking at what we can do for space," she said.

Many Fairlington residents in attendance had specific questions about the elementary school boundary process that took place in the fall. O'Grady took a number of questions from parents concerned about the next boundary process, scheduled to take place in 2020. She acknowledged that the boundary process has been challenging for many families, while underscoring the need to accommodate all the new students that are joining APS. "We are looking at ways to fill the new schools," she said.

Another major concern facing APS is the current budget shortfall. O'Grady spoke about the challenges before the school board as they work on the proposed budget. "I've been an APS parent for 22 years—to me this is a really troubling budget," said O'Grady. "There are a lot of cuts in this budget." O'Grady went on to explain that the proposed cuts are sorted into "tiers" to help establish what services would need to be cut or drastically reduced, based on varying funding models.

Jeni Hornback, Abingdon PTA Co-President, echoed

O'Grady's concerns. She pointed out that Abingdon Elementary might lose funding for their exemplary instruction classes, such as architecture, living history, and engineering. "To cut our exemplary instruction would be devastating to Abingdon. That is our identity. We built our identity around those wheel classes," Hornback said. "We would lose two staff members who teach our wheel classes and we would need to recreate our identity again."

The school board is currently working on the budget and O'Grady encouraged everyone to be involved in the process by attending hearings or going to www.apsva.us/ engage to see the latest work and provide feedback.

O'Grady also talked about the APS Strategic Plan and how it guides the school board in their work. A five-part plan, the strategic plan is meant to ensure that students are achieving their goals. The board will provide updates every 90 days to keep the community updated on their progress.

—Susan Renehan

#### Help Wanted

FCA is looking for assistance with live-streaming its monthly meetings. If you are interested, please email vp@fca-fairlington.org.



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## Alexandria staff to discuss King St. drainage at April 10 FCA meeting

Staff from the City of Alexandria Department of Transportation and Environmental Services will discuss Alexandria's plans for improving drainage along King St. from Quaker Ln. toward I-395 at FCA's April 10 monthly meeting. The session begins at 7 pm in the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St.

Jesse Maines, the city's stormwater management division chief, will lead the presentation, which will focus on the drainage ditch that runs between King St. and the service road next to Bradlee Shopping Center.



The medians along King Street can retain standing storm water for several days after a rainfall. Photo by Bill Gillespie.

for the King St. work, and the meeting affords Fairlington a chance to help shape the plan. "We'll be looking at what are the kinds of things that can be done here," he says.

He points out that the soil in that area doesn't infiltrate well, which makes some drainage options less effective. He also says that the project must take into account traffic flow. Tall, dense plantings, for example, would interfere with traffic sight lines.

According to Maines, three factors will ultimately be considered in developing an overall plan for the King St. area: stormwater management, traffic management, and landscaping. The businesses in Bradlee Shopping Center will also be consulted as the plan is developed.

Alexandria expects to determine its priorities for the next round of stormwater work this summer.

Maines notes that the city is in the initial planning stage

As part of its Chesapeake Bay protection work the city

has been focused on stormwater management at larger

sites in Alexandria, such as the Ben Brenman Park. The

city is now looking to develop a management plan for

city-owned buildings and city rights-of-way. The goal is

to reduce pollution and better manage water flow.

-Guy Land

### Fairlington presidents share information

The Fairlington presidents held their quarterly meeting on Monday, January 14, 2019, at the Fairlington Villages Community Center. It was a snow day but that did not stop the presidents. Six out of the seven condo associations and Fairlington Court were represented.

The Fairlington Villages president explained the latest addition to their trash and recycling project. A trash/ recycle center was created to accommodate unusual situations when a resident is not able to put his/her trash out during the designated morning hours.

The county issued a recycling violation to one of the condo associations stating that a recycling bin is required to be placed next to each trash bin. The violation was rescinded because all Fairlington has a recycling program through Capitol Services. Thus, Fairlington meets the county's recycling requirements.

As Fairlington ages, signs of wear and tear are becoming costly issues: failure of electric supply lines, collapsing sewer lines, foundation cracks, roof replacement, brick and mortar repairs, etc. Experiences with contractors and engineers were discussed.

The associations differ in their interpretation of whose responsibility it is for the normal maintenance items, such as repair or replacement of windows and doors, gutters, dryer ducts/vents, patio fence, plumbing, etc. At least one association has a formal chart of responsibilities which was shared with all.

Lobby renovations in multi-unit buildings was of interest as many have not been updated or redecorated for years. At least two types of contractors are needed-- one to design the interior and one to implement the design.

Other topics included concerns about the I-395 sound walls (residents feel that inadequate notice was given for residents to comment on the need for and potential impact of the walls) and the question of how to solve problems that arise when the condo association property manager is juggling multiple properties with limited time to focus on the needs of any individual association.

—Thora Stanwood

## FCA sponsors Amazon briefing for capacity crowd

On Monday, February 25, a standing-room-only crowd turned out for a community briefing on the proposed Amazon headquarters project. The event, sponsored by the FCA, featured Arlington County Board members Libby Garvey and Erik Gutshall along with the City of Alexandria city manager, Mark Jinks.

Guy Land, President of the FCA, opened the event by explaining that the FCA's role is to provide residents with information but that the FCA was not taking a formal position on the Amazon



Alexandria City Manager Mark Jinks, FCA President Guy Land, and Arlington County Board member Erik Gutshall at the FCA-sponsored Amazon briefing. Photo by Susan Renehan.

headquarters. Land welcomed the assembled crowd and noted that this was the first time the FCA had hosted two county board members along with the Alexandria city manager.

"I'd like to tell you a story," began County Board member Libby Garvey. "Once upon a time there was a sleepy little southern town which was a bedroom community for Washington, D.C." Garvey, a long-time Fairlington resident, went on to summarize the recent history of Arlington and the growth and development it has experienced over the past 50 years. She concluded by saying that Arlington has built a wonderful community with world-class schools based on a long period of strong economic growth.

Garvey revealed that the last two decades had presented challenges as well. "In the last 20 years Arlington has

lost 25,000 jobs and BRAC (the Base Realignment and Closure process) has led to a high office vacancy rate," she explained. "The vacancy rate was at a high of 22% in 2015."

Garvey expressed concern that the needs of Arlington are growing while the tax revenue has been shrinking and that Arlington has become a "onecompany town"—relying heavily on the federal government to fill up its empty office spaces. "Amazon will allow Arlington to get away from being a onecompany town," she said.

The announcement in November 2018 that Amazon had chosen Arlington for one of its new East Coast headquarters (sometimes dubbed "HQ2") was the result of a long process of negotiations. Unlike other cities which vied for Amazon's business, Arlington did not use politicians and elected officials to parse the details of the dealmaking, instead relying on professional staff members from the Virginia Economic Development Partnership.

"None of the board members did any of the negotiating with Amazon," Garvey explained. "Board members came in at a high level in order to say what direction we wanted to pursue."

Arlington County Board member Libby Garvey discusses the county's office vacancy rate. Photos by Guy Land.

form of a revenue-sharing agreement (see sidebar for details) as well as promises by Amazon to bring 25,000 high-paying jobs and build a brand-new office campus

The deal includes both incentives for Amazon in the



Arlington County Board member Erik Gutshall speaks with residents following the briefing.

#### Amazon incentive package

The economic incentive package that was offered to Amazon includes:

- Revenue-sharing agreement. Arlington County will calculate the increased revenue that results from the Transient Occupancy Tax ("hotel tax") and Amazon will receive 15% of the increase to put toward their new headquarters building. Amazon must occupy 64,000 sq. ft. of office space by 2020 in order to qualify for the revenue share, which is projected to be \$23 million.
- State funds. The state has approved \$750 million in subsidies to be paid over 15 years, contingent on Amazon providing an agreed-upon number of

high-paying jobs during that time. In addition, the state has pledged \$295 million in transportation improvements, and \$375 million for a new Virginia Tech Innovation Campus in Alexandria as well as expanded graduate offerings at George Mason University's Arlington campus.

• Arlington County will provide infrastructure and transportation improvements, including a \$360 million investment in transportation improvements in the Crystal City region.

For more information on the Amazon project, go to www.arlingtonva.us/amazon.

that will be open to the public.

"We don't have to pay them to come— they want to come, they want to be here," Garvey said.

Alexandria city manager Mark Jinks agreed. He said that Virginia's proposal to Amazon involved far fewer economic incentives that those of other potential sites. "That isn't what Amazon wanted. They wanted a community; they wanted infrastructure," Jinks explained.

Part of that infrastructure is coming in the form of the new Virginia Tech Innovation campus in Alexandria. Even before Amazon expressed any interest in coming to Arlington, there were plans in place for Virginia Tech (VT) to open a new campus in northern Virginia with a technology-focused curriculum.

The VT Innovation campus, which is slated to encompass one million square feet, will be designed over the next



Fairlington resident Gianni Grimaldi talks with Alexandria City Manager Mark Jinks.

year with the work scheduled to be completed in 2023. While the new Innovation campus is being designed and built, classes for the new program will take place at a nearby temporary location starting as soon as this fall.

In addition to the Innovation campus, there were multiple other ways in which Arlington and Alexandria's existing resources and infrastructure fit with Amazon's "wish list."

County board member Erik Gutshall said he appreciated the fact that Amazon's priorities fit within Arlington's existing long-term plans and objectives. He is optimistic about the benefits of not only the increased tax revenue but also the increased attention that will be brought to issues like transportation and affordable housing.

"Not only does Amazon fit in our long-term plans, but it also gives us the focus and the chance to have these conversations," Gutshall explained. "We are already seeing the state step up, but it will also give us that revenue stream to address the challenges that we have."

—Susan Renehan

#### Amazon to brief Fairlington

At FCA's request an Amazon representative has agreed to brief the Fairlington community on their plans for the new Crystal City headquarters. We are still working out the dates for the presentation, with the goal of holding it in late April or early May at the Fairlington Community Center. Please check FCA's website for updates.



## Jennifir Birtwhistle

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## Farmers Market to open May 5

It's spring and that means it's almost time for the return of the Fairlington Farmers Market. The market kicks off its fifth season on Sunday, May 5, from

9 am to 1 pm with games and fun activities for shoppers of all ages!

Almost all our vendors will be back, along with some new ones – more details will be announced soon on the market website and our Facebook page. We also hope to feature more "pop-up" vendors this year to offer shoppers even more variety. A pop-up vendor may come a few times a year, or once a month...we'll let you know ahead of time so you can plan your shopping trip. You can help the market committee select pop-up vendors by taking a short survey: https://www.surveymonkey. com/r/FFM2019



*The Farmers Market is an opportunity to purchase locally sourced produce, baked goods, and other specialty items. Photos by Guy Land.* 

The survey includes a few other questions that will help us continue to enhance the market. Please take the survey by April 15—thanks in advance for your ideas!



The market also needs volunteers to help with planning special events, assisting with marketing and social media, and setting up the information booth. Vendors handle their own set up and sales. If you can help for an hour or more this spring, summer, or fall, please contact volunteer@fairlingtonfarmersmarket.org.

To find out what our vendors will be bringing each week, sign up for our weekly e-newsletter at fairlingtonfarmersmarket.org. Stay connected by following Fairlington Farmers Market on Facebook and posting on Twitter @FairlingtonMkt.

Find the market on the back patio of the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

*—Lynne Blasi* 

## Silver Diner seeks permit for restaurant in West Alex development

A Silver Diner restaurant could be coming to the Fairlington area, according to paperwork recently filed with the City of Alexandria. The owners of the Silver Diner, a chain of 15 restaurants in the DC/Baltimore area, have filed an application to operate a restaurant in the new West Alex development at King and Beauregard Sts.

The permit application envisions a 300-seat full-service restaurant on the King St. side of the development.

The Silver Diner menu includes homestyle choices, sandwiches and salads, vegan and vegetarian fare, and all-day breakfast. It features produce from more than 15 local farms that support sustainable agriculture.

The West Alex development, which is currently under construction, consists of office space, apartments, and retail space. It will be anchored by a large Harris Teeter grocery store.

FCA will discuss the restaurant's application at its April 10 meeting. The application will be considered by the Alexandria Planning Commission on May 7 and the City Council on May 18.

—Guy Land

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## **MOMS Club® Consignment Sale a huge success**

The MOMS Club<sup>®</sup> Spring 2019 Consignment Sale on March 2 was a huge success! More than 50 sellers, most of whom are MOMS Club members, supplied over 5,600 items for the sale. The day yielded nearly \$11,000 in sales, with some additional funds brought in through the sale of a limited number of early shopping passes.

Eighty percent of the proceeds go back to the sellers, and the balance is donated to Doorways for Women and Families, a local non-profit organization that supports people trying to emerge from homelessness, domestic violence, or sexual assault.

As always, the sale relied heavily on a group of volunteer coordinators and dozens of MOMS Club members, who spent Friday and Saturday setting up the sale, organizing items to be sold, running the registers, helping shoppers, and finally packing it all up at the end of the day.

Many of the sellers donated some or all of their unsold items to the Good Stuff Thrift Store, a new volunteer run store that donates all proceeds to people in need of basic health care services. They are just getting started and were so grateful to have a large donation of such high-quality clothing for their shoppers. The toys were donated to a new toy lending library for children with disabilities.

The semi-annual sale will be held again in September or October of 2019. Be sure to like and follow the sale's

Facebook page facebook.com/ FairlingtonMomsClubConsignmentSale for updates.

-Lucy Beadnell







The MOMS Club Spring consignment sale drew a large crowd and raised thousands of dollars for a local charity. Photos by Guy Land.



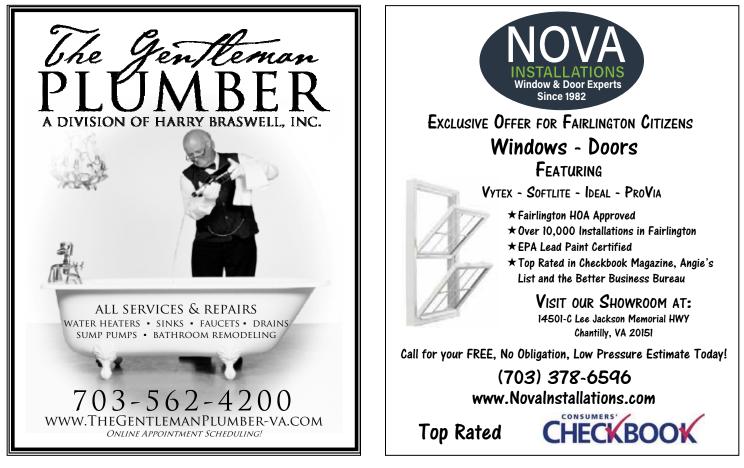
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#### 5K, continued from page 1

"The crowd has really grown over the years," added McGinn. "It's not just Ellie's classmates' parents anymore. We have a ton of people from all age groups and backgrounds, and many families from other schools. We are really excited about that."

There is no fee to attend. Complimentary adult beverages and light food are provided. Doors open at 6 pm and bidding starts promptly at 7 pm. The Abingdon PTA will once again provide free babysitting for children ages three and up.

Registration is open now for the race on Saturday, April 27. Make sure to sign up now to place your t-shirt order. Register today at www.Fairlington5K.com.

#### —Joe Reed



As in previous years, runners will head down S. Abingdon St. and cross the I-395 overpass into South Fairlington and then proceed down S. 36th St. They will then take S. Stafford St. and loop around the Fairlington Community Center, eventually coming up the hill on S. Utah St. before heading back on S. 34th street to end at the school. Roads will close on a rolling basis starting at approximately 8 am and reopen shortly after the last runners pass through the area. Make plans now if you live along the race course and need to get out between 8 and about 9:30 am the day of the race.

### Renovated playground ribboncutting ceremony set for May 4

Mark your calendars—the FCA and Arlington's Department of Parks and Recreation invite you to celebrate the newly renovated playground on Saturday, May 4, at 11 am. The event is appropriately scheduled on Arlington County Neighborhood Day. Representatives from the county, including county board members, will be in attendance along with FCA board members.

To support the event, FCA has teamed up with the county to provide face painting, balloon art, and a scavenger hunt. FCA is also looking forward to debuting its new line of Fairlington t-shirts, which will be available for purchase.

The much-anticipated playground renovation and exercise station has been delayed due to a very rainy fall. At the time of print, the contractor expects the playground to be ready for play by mid-March.

—Jennifer Davies

## APS to hold transportation meeting at Abingdon April 11

Arlington Public Schools (APS) will be conducting another Bus Transportation Services Review in Spring 2019. As stated on the APS website, "This process will inform updates to APS transportation policy and procedures, and help identify efficiencies in our system as we manage resources and meet the needs of our growing student population."

In particular, challenges related to enrollment growth, budgets, staffing, and traffic congestion are being considered for any upcoming changes. Currently, APS transportation has been piloting using one bus in the morning instead of two for the south side of Fairlington.

APS Transportation would like to hear from parents about how transportation is going in the neighborhood. Kristin Haldeman from APS Transportation will be holding a series of community meetings, including a meeting at Abingdon Elementary on Thursday, April 11, at 7 pm. All Abingdon families are invited to join.

The APS School Board plans to take action on transportation policy updates in June 2019, with any changes to bus transportation services to be implemented for the 2019–20 school year. More information, including the Bus Transportation Survey can be found here: https:// www.apsva.us/transportation-review/.

—Sara Tuke Carr

## No Matter What, You are Welcome Here!



### You are Invited to Fairlington United Methodist Church

Sunday, April 7th at 9:30 & 11 am - "Making a New Thing" Sunday, April 14th at 9:30 & 11am- Palm Sunday "Preparing" Thursday, April 18th at 6:30pm- Holy Thursday Intergenerational Communion Meal

Friday, April 19th at 7:30pm- Tenebrae Good Friday Service Sunday, April 21 at 9:30 and 11am- Easter Sunday "Believe"

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## FINS registration begins May 1



Build your child's confidence and comfort in the water while reviewing some basic water safety and stroke skills with FINS (Fairlingtonians Interested in Neighborhood Swimming). The FINS pro-

gram is a regular summer fixture in Fairlington and a fun way for kids to strengthen swim skills. It also encourages camaraderie and good sportsmanship.

FINS runs for three weeks from July 8 to 26, and consists of four 30-minute lessons Monday through Thursday and one fun group swim meet each Friday. The program rotates weekly between three different condominium association pools in South Fairlington. Lessons are meant to supplement, not replace, swimming instruction programs. Instructors encourage young kids to enjoy swimming, take turns in lap lanes, and play water games safely. Important pool safety and capability concepts, like treading water, front and back floating, lap lane protocols, straight-leg kicking, and swimming with faces submerged are taught; proper stroke techniques are introduced to stronger and older swimmers. The cost for the three-week summer session and t-shirt is \$70 per child.

The program is open to Fairlington resident children five to ten years of age (rising kindergarten through rising fifth grade). To request a registration form for the July 2019 program or to ask additional questions, email fairlingtonfins.swim@gmail.com.

Registration for returning participants and age-related siblings will be May 1 to 15. Registration for new participants will be May 16 to 30. If the number of registrations exceeds open slots, participants will be selected by a random lottery in June.

-Lorin Venable & Gabby Phillips, FINS Co-Coordinators

## Letter to the Editor

Perhaps not since the decision to build the Pentagon has more opportunity knocked so loudly on Arlington County's door than when Amazon decided to locate its second corporate headquarters, HQ2, here.

Fairlington would become an essential partner for the Pentagon and I think we ought to offer Fairlington as a neighborhood ready and willing to partner with Amazon. This could entail everything from helping Amazon employees locate in Fairlington to serving as a testbed for Amazon initiatives.

On the initiatives end of the spectrum, what if we helped Amazon with new delivery schemes? Drones? Autonomous vehicles? New security protocols?

Our dining-out group could rate dining venues for Amazon's restaurant delivery service. Maybe restaurants would give a discount, which we could disclose up front, of course.

Our book club could review volumes for Amazon book offerings. Maybe Amazon would give a volume dis-

count (no pun intended) which we could disclose.

Perhaps Alexa could connect neighbors in Fairlington and issue alerts, like fire or smoke alerts to all units within a building? What if someone's security alarm is also connected to Alexa and it sent out a larger alert that someone is trying to break in?

Not sure Amazon will venture into 5G WiFi, but we could offer our neighborhood as a testing ground?

On every Fairlington recycling day, there are piles of Amazon boxes that could live another day if we opened a container reuse center. Fairlington residents could drop off their Amazon boxes broken down so others needing boxes could come and pick them up. Yes, in my old age, I have become a greenie.

If we form an Amazon committee, I would be willing to serve, would you?

T. Kent Keyser, Fairlington Villages

The All Fairlington Bulletin welcomes letters to the editor and will print them as space permits. However, the opinions expressed are those of the writers and do not represent endorsement by this publication or the FCA. In addition, the AFB reserves the right to edit letters for length or clarity, and the AFB may refuse to print letters that are not appropriate for a community newsletter.



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## ABING School news



## Integrating the arts into education takes center stage at Abingdon



Abingdon students analyze photos to learn about line, shape, and color. Photos courtesy Abingdon Twitter Feed @ abingdonGIFT.

Abingdon's March showcase focused on the many ways teachers integrate arts into everyday lessons across the curriculum to increase student engagement and learning. Abingdon has partnered with the Kennedy Center for the Arts for 13 years—a partnership that has provided great benefit to Abingdon students and staff. All Abingdon staff members take part in at least one course or workshop each year at the Kennedy Center. In addition, Kennedy Center coaches make frequent visits to the school, doing demonstration lessons, collaborating with teachers, and working directly with students.

This year, all Abingdon second- through fifth-grade staff are taking a course in integrating visual arts into daily lessons. For example, teachers work with students to analyze the illustrations in a book through "sneak peaks" before reading the words. Students learn to look at facial expressions, clothing, and background in illustrations to help add to the context of the story and develop their understanding of the text.

Teachers in the younger grades are taking a course in "Tiny Toy Tales," which focuses on helping students

learn to retell a story from beginning to end. These skills are essential for building a literacy foundation.

Throughout Abingdon, students write and perform "tableaux" in which they create moving pictures to tell a story or act out an important history or science concept. Students have designed tableaux to enhance their learning on such diverse topics as bird migration and the Great Depression.

Through the Kennedy Center partnership, Abingdon is also able to provide additional benefits to students, such as field trips to the Kennedy Center and the National Portrait Gallery, and visits to the school by guest musicians.



4th graders perform a tableau on the Great Depression.

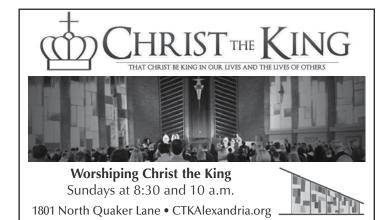
The March arts integration showcase was attended by hundreds of parents, as well as representatives from the Kennedy Center—including 50 people from around the country attending a Kennedy Center conference. Attendees were able to see first-hand student demonstrations of how they use the arts to deepen their understanding of content and strengthen their academic skills. According to Amy Duma, Director of Teacher and School Programs at the Kennedy Center, "Arts are a powerful way of incorporating students in learning and helping develop 21st century skills."

-Carrie Lewis

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## Spring 2019 Neighborhood College seeks applications

Neighborhood College is a free civic leadership development program for Arlingtonians that helps participants become more effective community activists and leaders.

The program seeks current and emerging grassroots neighborhood leaders who want to contribute to improving their communities, are interested in addressing local issues, and are willing to devote time and energy to community activities.

Participants will learn about various county departments, improve their communications skills, and gain the resources needed to impact their communities.

Classes will be held Thursdays, April 25–June 13, 6 to 9:15 pm. Participants are expected to attend all eight sessions and to commit to performing at least 10 hours of volunteer work in Arlington County within six months of completing the program.

The deadline for applications is April 5, 2019. To apply or for more information, visit https://projects.arlingtonva.us/neighborhood-conservation/college/neighborhood-college-2019/ or contact Naudy Martinez at 703-228-7933, or via e-mail at nmartinez@arlingtonva.us.

## STAMOS

Democrat for Commonwealth's Attorney Arlington County and the City of Falls Church

Dear Fairlington Friends and Neighbors,

Theo Stamos has been our outstanding Commonwealth's Attorney for 7 years. I hope you will join me in voting for Theo in the Democratic primary on June 11. Vote at your usual Fairlington polling place at the Community Center for South Fairlington and Abingdon School for North Fairlington, or early absentee.

The safe and secure neighborhood we enjoy in Fairlington and Arlington is due in part to the excellent work that Theo does as our Commonwealth's Attorney. She has long helped remove from our community those who prey on the weak and vulnerable. But she's also helped begin programs like the Second Chance Program and Drug Court that gives young people, especially, the opportunity to join an early intervention program



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rather than be swept into the criminal justice system inappropriately. I know personally young Fairlingtonians whom Theo has helped and kept from being treated inappropriately by our justice system.

Theo is a good friend and an outstanding public servant. Visit her website at **www.theostamos.com** for more information, or feel free to talk to me personally about her. Please join me in supporting Theo and casting your vote for her in the Democratic Primary, Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>.

Sincerely, Libby Garvey, Arlington County Board Member

## Wakefield Happenings

#### Wakefield's Plant Sale

April 27 from 9 am to 1 pm, pre-orders accepted until April 3

You can support Wakefield High School's biggest fundraiser by simply ordering spring plants for your garden or container. Choose from a wide variety of colorful annuals, tasty vegetables, aromatic herbs, and more, with most plants under \$5. Help us reach our goal of raising \$10,000 for teacher grants. Order today, don't delay—www.wakefieldptsa.org/plantsale. Pick up orders at Wakefield's Plant Sale on April 27 from 9 am to 1 pm.

### Senior Project and AP Capstone

Spring brings the completion of a major achievement that is unique for Wakefield seniors. All Wakefield seniors must complete a Senior Project. Wakefield is the only Arlington high school with this universal requirement.

Each senior chooses a topic of personal interest that demonstrates an aspect of new learning and growth. Students put in over 100 hours of work towards their project.

They work with a mentor to find real-world application of their topic, write an in-depth essay, present to a panel, and complete a community service component.

Past topics included teen suicide prevention, starting a DJ business, researching medical careers, beekeeping, improving school spirit, women as business entrepreneurs, and creating smart phone apps.

This year, a portion of the Wakefield senior class is the first Arlington class completing an AP Capstone project through College Board. These students complete a twoyear intensive college-level research course.

AP Capstone students use scholarly journals, surveys, and other research methods. The first year focuses on how to conduct scholarly research. Second-year students design and explore unique research topics such as using music to improve memory in elementary classrooms, the effectiveness of services available for students with physical disabilities, exploring racial bias in AP classes, and the varieties of common Spanish recipes throughout history and countries.

AP Capstone students complete and orally present an extensive paper (over 20 pages) that is submitted to College Board for final grading.

#### Save the Date

Wakefield's Spring Musical, Chicago, will be May 3-4 and 10-11.

-Donna Felipe

## **Gunston News**



The Gunston wrestling team. Photo by Stacey McGinnis.

burg Middle School. They both placed third in their respective age and weight groups.

Gunston Middle School boasts a variety of interscholastic sports teams including soccer, basketball, swimming, diving, hockey, and wrestling. On March 6, Gunston students and Fairlington residents Beau Branch and Owen McGinnis participated in a county wrestling meet at Williams-



The FCA unveiled a new t-shirt design. Shirts will be on sale at FCA events this spring and summer.

*—Jennifer Davies* 

New t-shirts est. 2019

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## neighborhood news

## 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. No long-term commitment needed; just call to sign up when you want to attend (see below).

Thursday, April 18, 6:30 pm, Tempo Restaurant, 4231 Duke St., Alexandria, 703.370.7900, www.temporestaurant.com. In the West End, Tempo Restaurant is one of Alexandria's best-kept secrets. This elegant but unpretentious neighborhood restaurant serves a blend of northern Italian and French cuisine, featuring fresh seafood. Please contact Carol by 6 pm Wednesday, April 17, if you plan to attend.

Monday, April 29, 6:30 pm, Samuel Beckett's, 2800 S. Randolph St., Arlington, 703.379.0122, www.samuelbecketts.com. There is a special burger menu on Mondays, 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 at yahoo.com.

## **Book Group**

Join the Fairlington Book Group in April to discuss *Growing Up*, Russell Baker's Pulitzer Prize-winning autobiography about growing up in America during the Great Depression.

The Book Group welcomes first-time visitors and dropins. No commitment required! Join us for our discussion, even if you haven't read the book. We are meeting on Tuesday, April 23, at 7:30 pm in the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. We hope you'll join us.

## Canasta Group Doubles the Fun

Our local Canasta group has multiplied the cards, the luck and the fun. We are now playing "Hand and Foot," a Canasta-type card game played coast to coast. Join this local group, which plays Tuesday mornings at a church hall near Fairlington. Having card-sense is helpful, but we're happy to teach you the rules of this game. Call Carol Ann at 703-931-8533.

## Fairlington Knits

Please join us at the Fairlington Community Center, room #118, on Monday, April 8, and Monday, April 22, from 6:30 pm–8:00 pm for a knit and crochet meet-up. Bring what you're working on, share what you know, and meet other like-minded crafters. All levels of knitters and crocheters are welcome. See the event posting on Facebook in the Fairlington Appreciation Society's event calendar where you can let us know you are coming, post questions, and see who else can join. For more information, contact Turner at Turnerwork@aol.com.

## Fairlington Babysitting Co-op

If you are looking for a night out without the kids, or an afternoon to yourself, join the Fairlington Babysitting Co-op. For more than 30 years, Fairlington families have been exchanging free babysitting services using a card system. It's perfect for parents who would like to know dependable adults to watch their children and meet other families in the community. Email fairlington. babysitting@gmail.com to join.

## Fairlington MOMS Club

The MOMS Club of Arlington-Fairlington VA<sup>®</sup> is a group for moms of young kids to find friends, get support, and have play opportunities for the kids. The Club participates in a number of annual service projects to help our community, four big annual parties, routine playdates and crafts, and moms' nights out. We have a great listserv for sharing advice and connecting to other Fairlington families. We welcome all moms! Please email fairlingtonmomsclub@gmail.com for information on joining and visit us online at www.fairlingtonmomsclub. com. \$30 in annual dues goes to support the club's work and service projects. The MOMS Club of Arlington-Fairlington VA is the local chapter of International MOMS Club<sup>®</sup>. Our specialty is



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## DOWN TO EARTH patio gardening



## A look back at late-winter blooms

Some flowers in local landscapes shunned Old Man Winter's icy wind-chill temperatures the past two months by preening in colorful pastels. And that's just their "nature." If you missed seeing them, here's a review of our late-winter bloomers:

**Winter jasmine:** This dime-sized flower sometimes blooms in January. Some mistake it for forsythia but winter jasmine grows like a vine. It's usually planted atop a brick or stone wall so its long stems cascade into a yellow "waterfall." Its leaves are oneinch ovals and its branches are evergreen and soft to the touch. There is no sense putting your nose to a flower since there is no fragrance.

**Crocus:** This bulbous flower grows wild like daffodil. You'll notice these goblet-shaped flowers collecting in the middle of a lawn. They appear en masse, creating faint swaths of lavender, blue, white, orange, and yellow. It might be the smallest flower in the landscape.

**Primrose:** Another small flower, primrose has petals in maroon, yellow, orange, white, blue and violet. Each has a yellow center so defined, it looks like a miniature doily stitched inside the flower's throat. The leaves at the base have a pebbly but soft texture. Press your thumb on any leaf and it feels "mushy." Primrose also may be grown indoors under direct light with ample moisture in the soil.

**Mahonia:** Erect sprays of yellowbeaded flowers reach off the tips



*A tulip magnolia on Buchanan St. Photo by Guy Land.* 

of this plant's branches. And the flower gives a lemon scent. But watch setting your face close as its spiny leaves may prick you. While the foliage is lime green and shiny, pigmentation causes some leaves to turn maroon or orange.

**Redbud:** This ornamental tree's flowers form before the foliage. When in bloom, the neon-pink flowers cling to the dark brown branches like pink necklaces. A cluster of redbud trees grow in a court on South Utah St., just before South 34th St. Heart-shaped leaves of olive or maroon fill the canopy a month after the flowers form. And black, eight-inch-long fruit pods hang from branches in the fall.

**Tulip magnolia:** Just a couple weeks ago, you might have noticed five-inch-wide, soft pink flowers in the shape of coffee mugs. When it blooms in early March, this tree's petals sometimes turn brown due to persistent freezes and chilly winds. When the petals flutter from the branches, they collect on the grass to form a pink carpet. This ornamental is 10-feet-tall with a similar spread.

**Star magnolia:** White flowers grow from the branch like extended fingers. Each petal radiates in a different direction. Maybe that's why it's called a "star" magnolia. This tree blooms about the same time as the tulip magnolia.

**Daffodil:** No matter the weather, this bulbous flower nods its head off a thin stem in late winter. Like the crocus, daffodil is seen growing in lawns. The flower is either yellow, yellow with orange or white with orange centers. Each bloom has two layers of petals with the outer layer resembling a tight bonnet. Bluishgreen foliage surrounds the tallstanding flower.

**Camellia:** No chill prohibits this shrub from forming rosette flowers in red, pink or white – each with a yellow eye. A sturdy, vertical grower seen on trellises or against facades, this evergreen sets colorful buds nestled in green casing before exploding into showy blooms during fall and winter. If your garden is devoid of color in winter, try planting one at your patio fence. It has glossy, evergreen leaves that form a dense backdrop to its flowers.

—Bill Sullivan www.sullivanslandscaping.net



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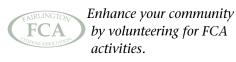
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- Checks payable to "Fairlington Citizens Association."
- Send mini-ad copy via email, regular mail, or drop off at FCA drop box.
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Email: admanager@fca-fairlington.org

Mailing Address: FCA-AFB, PO Box 6182, Arlington, VA 22206-0182. Drop Box Location: Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. (Hours: 8 am–9 pm, M-F, 8 am–5 pm, Saturday; closed Sunday.) Cost: 50 cents per word.

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