



All Fairlington Newsletter

President's Message

Hello Neighbors,

Spring has finally arrived! I welcome the change of season (allergies aside.) Change is often welcomed when it is expected or anticipated, even if we are not quite ready for it. Expecting a new baby, trying a new diet or exercise routine or planning a move all require preparation and adjustment. My oldest is graduating from Wakefield High School this June and will leave for college. This will bring a change for our whole family.

Unfortunately life can also present changes we did not expect. Those are definitely harder. Sometimes we need help adjusting. Our March FCA meeting focused largely on the impact of the federal government's policies on our community, particularly for those who have lost their jobs. As a board, we are asking local officials to be responsive during this challenging time. FCA will continue to post information on Facebook about local job fairs while we consider how to better foster networking right here in Fairlington.

There won't be an FCA meeting in April, but we're hoping to arrange a speaker for May's. Stay tuned for details.

– Jennifer Davies, president@fca-fairlington.org



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FCA Board Reacts to Federal Government Policies

At the March monthly meeting, FCA focused on how the Fairlington community has been adversely impacted by the federal government’s cuts, freezes and policies. All members of the board knew of neighbors and friends who have been affected. Some of the main issues identified were:

- Job loss—either through DOGE cuts, federal grant freezes or suspended federal contracts
- NIH medical research freeze of life-saving research for a young community member
- ICE presence at Park Shirlington leading to fear and parents not sending children to school
- As a Title 1 school, Abingdon Elementary stands to lose significant federal funding
- Record-high turnout at our local food distribution supported by Capital Area Food Bank

In response, FCA will continue to post job fairs and work opportunities on its social media channels, including the upcoming free job fair and expo on April 5 organized by Leadership Center of Arlington. In addition, FCA sent a letter to Delegate Alfonso Lopez urging that he and his colleagues take action to help mitigate the negative impacts the community is currently facing. FCA also considered creating hyperlocal networking opportunities within the neighborhood.



“If You Lived Here” Starring Fairlington!

WETA's latest episode of its hit real estate show “If You Lived Here,” which aired on March 24, featured South Arlington and Fairlington. Appearing in the episode are Kay Houghton—of Kay Houghton and Associates—as the realtor showing the three properties, and Beth Hoffman, president of the Fairlington Historical Society, speaking about Fairlington during WWII.

Hosts Jen and Ricardo explore three homes in bustling South Arlington—home of WETA!—with Kay. They tour Carlton Condos on Four Mile Run then head to Fairlington to see a unit that gives an intriguing insight into the past residents of the neighborhood. Finally, they check out a Claremont dream home! A watch party will be held at WETA on April 7 (tickets are limited) and will be shown again in the spring in conjunction with an Earth Day-Arbor Day event.

If you missed the episode, you can watch the Fairlington and neighborhood highlights on WETA's YouTube channel:

[This Renovated 1940s Fairlington Townhome Offers Open Concept & Historic Charm](#)

[Step Inside a 1965 Arlington Condo with Surprising Space & Views](#)

[Fairlington: From Wartime Housing to Beloved Community](#)

[Tour This Stunning Home in Arlington's Claremont Neighborhood](#)

For more information, contact president@fairlingtonhistoricalsociety.org.

April Events Calendar

Interested in having your event included? Email afbeditors@yahoo.com

Book Group

Tuesday, April 22, 7:30 p.m.

Fairlington Community Center

3308 S. Stafford Street, Room 103

Book this month: Founders' Son: A Life of Abraham Lincoln by Richard B. Brookhiser

Fairlington Diners

Thursday, April 24, 6:30 p.m.

Osteria da Nino Italian Ristorante

2900 S. Quincy Street

Contact Carol at 703-379-6840 or carol_dabbs at yahoo dot com no later than 24 hours before the event. Please include your name and how to contact you the day of the event, in case plans change.

Northern Virginia Native Plant Sale

Saturday, April 26, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

The Church of St. Clement parking lot

1701 N. Quaker Lane

Details: www.NorthernAlexandriaNativePlantSale.org

Fairlington Free Clothing Swap

Saturday, April 26, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Fairlington Villages Community Center parking lot

3005 S. Abingdon Street

Fairlington Moms' Club

Are you a Fairlington Mom looking for more support, play opportunities for kids, or just a group of friends in the same period of life for some fun? The Fairlington Moms' Club is the place for you. We offer:

- Playgroups for different age groups, accommodating all moms, no matter your schedule
- Family holiday-themed events
- Moms' night out
- Meal trains and support for when you need it most
- Our very own classifieds listserv and WhatsApp group

All moms welcome! Please email Fairlingtonmomsclub@gmail.com for further information.



Save the Date: Fairlington Farmers Market Opens May 4

Mark your calendars for the return of the Fairlington Farmers Market! This year marks the 11th season of our popular neighborhood market, and many of your favorite vendors will be back, along with live music and special events. The market will be open every Sunday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. through November 23, and is located on the back patio of the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. A list of vendors will be published in the May edition of the newsletter.

Thank you to our returning sponsors: Active and Connected Family Therapy, Fairlington Citizens Association, Fairlington Dental, Fairlington United Methodist Church, and Kay Houghton & Associates. We appreciate your commitment to supporting our market!

Learn about what our vendors will be bringing each week and plan your visit ahead of time by signing up for our weekly e-newsletter at field2table.org. Stay connected by following [Fairlington Farmers Market](#) on Facebook and [@fairlingtonmarket](#) on Instagram.

– Lynne Blasi

Spring Clothing Swap on April 26

Start cleaning out your closets! The 10th Semi-Annual Fairlington Free Clothing Swap will be on Saturday, April 26 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Fairlington Villages Community Center parking lot (3005 S. Abingdon St.). Come shop for FREE spring/summer clothing, shoes, and accessories for all ages and genders!

Donations should be good condition, seasonally appropriate clothing and accessories (spring/summer only—no coats, sweaters, flannels, snow gear, etc), organized by gender (-ish) and size (Mens and Womens sizes S-XL, Plus Sizes, Maternity, Baby/Kids newborn-5T, S-XL). We also accept shoes, jewelry, handbags, hats, scarves (fashion, not winter), bathing suits, kids dress-up

Volunteers are needed from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. to help with sorting, setup, and shopping assistance. And volunteers get to “shop” while they work. Sign up to volunteer [HERE](#).

Please email freeclothingswap@gmail.com with any questions. All remaining items are donated to local charities.

– Alexis Mahoney

Abingdon Elementary News

Spring Break is April 14–18.

Fifth Graders Overnight at Outdoor Lab

Abingdon fifth graders traveled to the APS Outdoor Lab for an adventure-filled time exploring, caring for the lab’s animals, cooking together and enjoying the great outdoors. Thanks to everyone who helped make this and other student trips possible.

Arbor Day Celebration

Abingdon has been selected as the recipient of two trees, one to be planted near the back playground and the other by the track. To celebrate, the school will host ceremonies on the morning of Friday, April 11. The school chorus, school community officials and Eco Action students will talk about the school garden and how to help take care of our new plants. All are invited to attend - look out for additional details soon on our Facebook page.

Read-a-thon: A Page-Turning Success!

Thanks to all who supported Abingdon students in their annual read-a-thon. This celebration of reading helps inspire students while also raising significant funds for the Abingdon PTA. This year’s event yielded more than \$14,000 in donations to support Abingdon families and staff!

Skating & Pizza Ushers in Spring



Thanks to all who joined us for our rescheduled Skate Night and Nighthawk pizza fundraiser at West Post! One hundred and thirty-four Abingdon skaters took to the ice on a warm spring night. Huge thanks to our sponsors at Arlington Pediatric Dentistry for their support.



For the Love of Nature

When I was teaching, I used a game to illustrate how quickly deer take over a habitat. Kids were lined up in two rows facing each other, one side had one person representing a single deer. On the other side was everyone else, representing things that deer needed for survival - water, food, and space. The deer would walk over and choose a resource then return to its spot but now as two deer. By round three you were up to eight deer and resources were at the tipping point. If deer outnumbered the resources, they died.

In the past, Arlingtonians hunted deer for food. Natural predators helped, but they have been pushed out as native habitats have shrunk. But deer are

blooming? Deer also reduce the undergrowth of native plants in our parks. Fewer native plants mean fewer insects, fewer insects mean fewer birds, and so on. There are other immediate dangers, like hitting a deer with your car or picking up a tick.

Arlington's target for a sustainable deer population is 15 to 20 per square mile. An aerial drone survey found 300 deer, an underestimate since federal property was excluded, with most concentrated in parks. We're not the only ones with this problem. Surrounding jurisdictions, except Alexandria, have culled their deer with sharpshooters, archers or used fencing to keep deer out of areas. If the deer killed is disease-free, the meat is distributed to food pantries.

To learn more, visit [Arlington's deer management page](#).

And follow [Fairlington Gardening Community](#) on Facebook!

– Sue Davis

Editor's Note: Some Arlington groups have come out against the culling of deer populations in this way. The FCA has not issued any recommendations on the topic.



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