

all FAIRLINGTON BULLETIN



AUGUST 2010

Volume 36, Number 8

www.fca-fairlington.org

Calendar

FCA Monthly Meeting

There will be no FCA meeting in August.

MOMS Club meeting

Wednesday, August 11, 3:30 p.m.
FCC

Fairlington Diners

Wednesday, August 11, 7:30 p.m.
The Fish Market
Alexandria

Fair Golds business/social

Thursday, August 19, noon
FCC

Fairlington Diners

Monday, August 23, 7:30 p.m.
Ramparts Restaurant
Alexandria

Thirty Somethings

Date, time, place, and activity
TBA by e-mail

Book Group

Tuesday, August 24, 7:30 p.m.
North Fairlington CC

See Neighborhood News on pages 21 – 22 and related articles for details about calendar events.

As the summer heats up, so does crime



Captain Nuneville and Officer Morrison supervised traffic and crowd control at Fairlington's July 4th parade—one of several holiday events attended by the ACPD Third District team.

As azalea blooms faded and temperatures began to climb, Arlington's Third District police saw an uptick in crime. There may be no seasonal connection, but the increase was sufficiently noticeable (despite an overall, nationwide decrease in violent crime) that ACPD Third District commander Captain Michelle Nuneville reported in July, "This has been a busy time for us, with a lot of activity going on."

Larcenies from autos continued to occur near schools—specifically, in parking lots near Wakefield High, Kenmore Middle, and Campbell Elementary School. In most instances, more than one vehicle was broken into and electronic equipment such as iPods, laptops, and radios were taken. Also targeted for car break-ins was the Columbia Pike corridor. The police did make an arrest in the Fairlington area on May 31 after two men were seen entering several vehicles; both men were charged with grand larceny. "We ask that you keep your car doors locked, remove valuables, and report anything suspicious, especially during the evening and overnight hours," said Captain Nuneville.

Robberies, too, were up: In May, there were two robberies in Nauck, and one each in the Douglas Park and Fairlington communities—alcohol played a role in the incidents. In June, there was an increase in the theft of catalytic converters, especially around the western end of the Columbia Pike corridor and particularly targeting Toyota Tacoma and 4Runner trucks. These thefts occurred mostly during the daytime hours, so Captain Nuneville advised awareness: "Please pay attention to anyone you see underneath one of these trucks. If it looks like they are removing a vehicle part, most likely the part involved is a catalytic converter."

The district team also noted a number of incidents wherein police officers were assaulted. During the two-week period ending July 7, for example, there were three incidents of assault on police—again, alcohol was involved. For example, the following was reported on June 28 in Shirlington: "A female subject was arrested for being drunk in public. During the detention, she kicked the officer several times." Like most of us, Captain Nuneville finds

Continued on page 3

Coming up ...

The FCA Board invites all Fairlington residents to attend its meetings, which occur on the second Wednesday of the month unless otherwise noted. If you would like to discuss a neighborhood issue at the meeting, please e-mail president@fca-fairlington.org or leave a voice-mail message at 703-243-1735 by the Sunday before the meeting. You can find more information on the FCA Web site, www.fca-fairlington.org, and by logging on to Facebook and joining "Fairlington Appreciation Society."

NOTE: There is no FCA meeting in August.



The dog days of....February.

AFB on the Web

The AFB is posted online at www.fca-fairlington.org a week earlier than the hard copy hits your front stoop.

Web design by Global Thinking, Alexandria, VA,
www.globalthinking.com.

USEFUL CONTACTS

Police, Alexandria (non-emergency)	703-838-4444
Police, Arlington (non-emergency)	703-558-2222
Animal Warden	703-931-9241
Dominion (power outages)	888-667-3000
Fairlington Community Center	703-228-6588
Metrobus Complaints	703-228-7929
Miss Utility	800-552-7001
Pothole Patrol Hotline	703-228-6485
Shirlington Library	703-228-6545
Street Light Hotline	703-228-6511
www.arlingtonva.us/departments/Environmental	
Services/dot/traffic/streetlights/index.htm	
Helicopter Noise Complaints	Colonel Steward Remaly
	Jeryl.Ludowese@jfhqncr.northcom.mil

Fairlington Citizens Association

PO Box 6182 • Arlington, VA 22206-0182
703-243-1735 • president@fca-fairlington.org

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All Fairlington Bulletin

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— 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

E-mail 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 703-243-1735 #1.

Ad Size	Height	Width	Rate
1/8 page	2 3/16 in.	3 5/8 in.	\$47
1/4 page	4 5/8 in.	3 5/8 in.	\$94
1/2 page	4 5/8 in.	7.5 in.	\$195
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

Publication of advertisements in no way implies an endorsement by the FCA or its board members of the advertisers' products or services. AFB reserves the right to refuse any advertisement based upon either content or artistic expression. The opinions expressed by columnists and letter writers are theirs and should not be taken as reflecting the opinions of the FCA or its board members. AFB reserves the right to edit or refuse contributions. All photographs are © copyright the photographer or source identified.

Fairlington is a National Register and Virginia Landmark Historic District

For more information, visit www.fca-fairlington.org

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Continued from page 1

it hard to understand why some people “get feisty” with police: The assaulter “never wins, and it just doesn’t look good to have an ‘assault on a police officer’ conviction on your record.”

You can sign up to receive periodic crime-report summaries by e-mail by going online to the county’s Web site page for news-alert subscriptions, www.arlingtonva.us/subscriptions/subscribe.asp.

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Some images in this publication may be digitally enhanced.



PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Our popular Fourth of July parade aptly illustrates why Fairlington continues to thrive—we come together and we participate and connect. Participation might mean something as simple as just showing up. At other times, it can mean voicing your

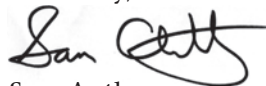
opinion or offering suggestions on issues affecting the community. With just a little more involvement, participation could mean volunteering your time and effort on behalf of others. Perhaps the greatest leap into getting involved is standing for office—offering yourself as the representative of friends and neighbors and then working to deliver on the promises you make to them.

Part of the mission of this citizens association is to represent the community—as members of the Arlington County Civic Federation and the Alexandria Federation of Civic Associations, we work with other civic associations on issues that affect us all (transportation, county and city services, etc.). In addition, we are a member of START (Smart Transportation Alternatives for Riders Tomorrow), a regional grass-roots organization made up of over a dozen civic associations in northern Virginia. In these capacities, we interact with members of the Arlington County Board, the Alexandria City Council, as well as our state delegate. The more we reach out, the better we stay informed of recurring issues/policies/laws that can affect this community (for good or ill), as well as learn about new initiatives—this allows us to keep you informed, hear from you, and act on your responses as we strive to ensure the high quality of life in Fairlington.

Want to learn more about how you can join us in this effort? Let me know. We are always on the lookout for residents to serve as delegates to the civic federations and to attend meetings regarding transportation issues like HOT Lanes and BRAC-133.

We’re now heading into the fall get-out-the-vote season, culminating in the General Election on Tuesday, November 2, when voters go to the polls to elect candidates for the offices of House of Representatives (8th District), County Board, and School Board. The ballot will also include state and local questions. In the next few months, the FCA hopes to host elected officials from our county, state, and federal governments as guest speakers. This gives us the opportunity to ask questions, voice our concerns, and participate in our civic duty. Stay tuned to the latest developments in forthcoming issues of this newsletter as well as on our Web site, www.fairlington-fca.com.

I remain,
Faithfully,


Sam Anthony

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Phoenix Bikes builds bikes and youth leaders



Phoenix offers budding mechanics a chance to earn their own bikes. Photograph courtesy of Phoenix Bikes.

The Phoenix Bike Shop on nearby Four Mile Run Drive is more than just a bike repair and sales store, where you can get a low-cost tune-up or find a quality used bike. Phoenix Bikes is also a community mentoring project—an after-school youth development and leadership training program. As part of Phoenix's Earn-A-Bike program, teenage intern mechanics spend after-school hours learning the basics of bike mechanics and maintenance, as well as business skills, as they work their way toward earning their own bike. They also tackle new problems in the shop, go on BMX and road rides with the Phoenix team, and work with adult role models in the shop.

The shop's goal is to have eight to twelve donated and refurbished bikes ready to ride out the door each week when the shop is open for sales: on Friday, 3 to 7:30 p.m., and on Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The shop's Web site provides a listing of bikes available for sale—click on the Bike Shop tab and go to “bikes in stock.” The biking novice can also learn about different types of bikes by viewing the photos and reading the helpful text entries. For example, one photo of a simple bike is accompanied by this description: “This is an example of a Cruiser. Used as a category on this site, Cruiser refers to beach bikes, classic 3-speeds, some city bikes, and others. These come in to the shop fairly regularly, and we usually have at least one or two ready each week, often more.” Currently there are also plenty of inexpensive children's bikes decorating the sign in front of the shop.

Phoenix Bikes is located at 4200 S. Four Mile Run Drive, in Barcroft Park along the Four Mile Run and W&OD bike trails. For more information, go online to www.phoenixbikes.org.

Talks scheduled with APS Superintendent

This month, Arlington Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Pat Murphy will participate in a series of chats with county residents. These gatherings are being held on several dates at various times and locations to give Arlingtonians an opportunity to talk with the schools chief about a wide range of school-related topics, and to ask questions or provide feedback in small, informal settings. Anyone interested in attending these gatherings should RSVP directly to the numbers listed below. Space is limited to the size of each location.

Wed, Aug 4 (7 – 9 p.m.)
Westover Branch Library
1644 N. McKinley Road
703-228-2581

Wed, Aug 11 (7 – 9 p.m.)
Host: African American Leadership Council of Arlington
Langston-Brown Community Center
4854 Lee Highway
703-228-2581

Thur, Aug 26 (11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.)
Courthouse Plaza
2100 Clarendon Blvd., Room 311
703-228-2581

For more information, contact APS Community Outreach Specialist Dawn Willard at 703-228-2581 or dwillard@arlington.k12.va.us.

Arlington—the best place to raise a family

Arlington tops the list for *Parenting Magazine's* best American cities for raising families. The magazine conducted a nationwide survey of a panel of mothers to determine the most important factors in choosing the best cities. The moms' choices were: quality of schools; affordability and availability of quality housing; low crime rates; job availability and growth; number of registered sex offenders; recreational opportunities; quality/quantity of pediatricians/family physicians; commute time and distance; proximity to a good children's hospital; quality/quantity of childcare facilities and preschools; and air quality. The rankings were weighted in favor of health, safety, education, economy, and recreation. For complete information, go online to www.parenting.com.



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Letters to the editor

The last time I shopped at Whole Foods Market, I noticed that they are participating in a new plastics recycling program called Gimme 5. You can drop off your clean yogurt cups, hummus tubs, margarine and butter tubs, cottage and cream cheese tubs, take-out/clam-shell containers, and other #5 plastics. The stores located at 1700 Duke Street in Alexandria and 2700 Wilson Boulevard in Arlington are participating in the Gimme 5 program, which turns #5 plastics into new consumer personal care products, like toothbrushes and razors, marketed under the brand name Preserve. At Whole Foods, you can also recycle Brita water pitcher filters—wrap the filters in a plastic bag before dropping them off in the Gimme 5 bin. For more information, go online to www.preserveproducts.com/recycling/gimme5locations.

Like most municipal recycling streams, North Fairlington's curbside recycling program does not accept #5 plastics, so this initiative is a convenient alternative to dropping them off at one of the county's recycling drop-off centers and it is kinder to the environment than discarding them with your household trash.

Claudia Jellett
North Fairlington resident

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.



Bake sale success: On July 4th, the Great American Bake Sale raised nearly \$1,400 during a mere two-hour selling window after the parade. It's the annual event's highest total yet, reported sale organizer Cathy Malin, who sends thanks to Dogma, for event sales proceeds from doggie treats; to Great Harvest Bread, for their generous donation of breads and cookies; and especially to the generous Fairlington residents who baked and bought homemade sweet treats at the sale. *Photograph by Gretchen Fallon.*

Arlington praised for financial management

For the tenth consecutive year, Arlington County's debt has received the highest rating, AAA/AAA/Aaa, by Standard & Poor's, Fitch Ratings, and Moody's Investor Services. All three agencies credited Arlington's outstanding financial management, solid reserve levels, and financial flexibility. Arlington is one of only 35 counties in the United States to carry the coveted triple-A bond rating from all three rating agencies. For more information, go online to the county Web site, www.arlingtonva.us, and search bond rating.

Arlington is a Tree City, for the 14th year

Arlington County has received its 14th consecutive Tree City USA Award from the National Arbor Day Foundation. For more information, go online to ww.arborday.org/treecity. For more information about Arlington's trees, visit www.arlingtonva.us and search trees.



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Red light cameras installed

In June, Arlington police installed PhotoRED cameras at four heavily trafficked county intersections:

Eastbound Lee Highway at North Lynn Street

Southbound Ft. Myer Drive at westbound Lee Highway

Westbound Lee Highway at Washington Boulevard

Northbound North Glebe Road at Fairfax Drive

Under the red-light camera surveillance program, cars that run a red light are photographed, and the drivers pay a \$50 fine, but the infraction is treated as a civil offense, such as a parking ticket, and does not go on the offender's driving record. Following last month's 30-day awareness period, when violators received only a warning, the cameras are now fully operational and violators will be ticketed. For more information, go online to the county Web site, www.arlingtonva.us, and search PhotoRED.

County's Human Services Department is moving

Department of Human Services programs previously headquartered at 3033 Wilson Blvd. are moving this summer, effective July 4, to 2100 Washington Blvd. (Sequoia Plaza). The new center's location will save money (an estimated \$7 million over the 13-year lease), provide better access for clients with ART bus stops and free parking available in an above-ground garage, and allow services integration and room for growth. Phone numbers will not change. For more information, go online to the county Web site, www.arlingtonva.us.

County spaces for public use

Need a spot for a meeting, party, or special event? A moon bounce or kiddie activity for your party? A garden plot? A picnic shelter? Arlington County has a wonderful infrastructure of rooms, fields, pools, pavilions, and recreation areas available for use by the public. To find out more or reserve a space, contact the Facilities Scheduling Unit, 703-228-1805.

Heat advisories are here

It happens every year: Hot temperatures combined with high humidity cause heat indices to soar into the "perceived" 100 degree range. To avoid heat-related illness during periods of excessive heat, public health officials offer the following advice:

- Stay indoors and limit your exposure to the sun.
- Use sunscreen and wear a wide-brimmed hat if you must be out in the sun.
- Drink plenty of water, even if you're not thirsty, and wear loose, lightweight, and light-colored clothes.
- Be aware that children, the elderly, and people with chronic illnesses are usually the first to suffer from the heat.
- Check on neighbors who may be at risk or do not have access to air conditioning.
- Don't forget your pets: Provide a cool space and plenty of water.



Weather comes in all flavors—like, February.

Weather radios

The American Red Cross and the Arlington County Office of Emergency Management say that a weather alert radio is a handy addition to your emergency supply kit. These radios will deliver weather watches and warnings from the local National Weather Service offices, 24 hours a day. They can be programmed to receive alerts for specific areas, and some have a tone alert that will activate the radio even if the audio is turned off. You can buy receivers (radios) at many retail outlets, including electronics, department, sporting goods, and boat and marine accessory stores, and their catalogs. They can also be purchased via the Internet from online retailers or directly from manufacturers.

A Fairlington Fourth

For this year's 4th of July parade and follow-on activities, the weather was fine, the crowds large, and the decorations inventive and festive. Thanks go to the co-sponsors of the event—the FCA and Fairlington Villages, with particular thanks to Carrie Street and Melanie Alvord, co-chairs of the FV Activities Committee. We are also grateful to the Third District team of the Arlington County Police Department for traffic control, to AFD Station 7 "C" shift for showing off Engine 107, and to County Board member Mary Hynes for attending. In the North Fairlington Community Center parking lot, the Fife & Drum Corps

continued to entertain an appreciative audience, as the lines inched forward for hot dogs and cold drinks and coffee and donuts supplied by FCA. The Great American Bake Sale did a brisk business and augmented total sales with proceeds from Dogma, the canine bakery (now in Shirlington). Also busy were the tables hosted by the MOMS Club of Arlington-Fairlington, who distributed temporary tattoos, and the FCA table, where the day's supply of Fairlington T-shirts sold out. Thanks, also, to Purofirst for a most welcome supply of ice cream treats.

Photographs by Gretchen Fallon and Guy Land.





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Jazz and wine in Shirlington

Shirlington's annual wine and jazz festival is back for a few more weeks of evening enjoyment, Thursday evenings through August 19, on the plaza in front of the library. In the event of rain, the jazz event will not be rescheduled and performances are subject to change without notice. For more details, call 301-998-8395 or go online to villageatshirlington.com. Arlington Food Assistance Center volunteers help pour wine and collect drink tickets, and proceeds from wine sales benefit AFAC.

Free summertime movies in Rosslyn

Rosslyn's outdoor summer film festival features movies from the 90s every Friday night at dusk in Gateway Park (1300 Lee Highway at the foot of Key Bridge), through September 3. Highlights include *Wayne's World*, *Office Space*, *Home Alone*, *Dumb & Dumber*, *Airheads*, and much more. People are encouraged to bring blankets and low chairs to picnic in the park before the show. Show up early for the pre-show 90s-themed games and prizes. The movies play rain or shine. (In case of severe weather, including heavy rains and strong winds, movies will be cancelled.) Free and open to the public, the screenings are just two blocks from the Rosslyn Metro, and parking is available across the street from the park at the Atlantic Parking Garage for \$3 after 6 p.m. (enter N. Moore Street). Please note that Gateway Park is an Arlington County facility and alcohol consumption is not permitted on the premises. Go online to rosslynva.org for a complete schedule of shows.

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or call the FCA at 703-243-1735 to leave your name and phone number. Visit www.fca-fairlington.org for additional details or to find the next FCA event.

Ballston's markets

Ballston holds a weekly outdoor farmers market in Welburn Square, featuring locally-grown produce, on Thursdays, 3 to 7 p.m. through October. In the same space on the second Saturday of every month, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., you can find the Ballston Arts and Crafts Market, where local artists and crafters offer one-of-a-kind, hand-crafted pieces, like organic bath and body products by Herban Lifestyle, quirky plushes by Grumpy Haters, bookbinding by Moonlight Bindery, handspun bags and accessories by Bette's Bags, and Polaroid jewelry and artwork by Jerseymaids. Remaining dates for the arts market are August 14, September 11, and October 9. For more information, go online to <http://ballstonfarmersmarket.blogspot.com>.

Consolidated recall information

Last month, the *Washington Post* reported on the phenomenon of "recall fatigue"—people ignoring calls to destroy or return defective consumer products, because they are overwhelmed by the hugely increasing number of scattered recall notices. To illustrate the volume: McDonald's asked customers to return 12 million glasses emblazoned with the character Shrek; Kellogg's warned consumers to stop eating 28 million boxes of Froot Loops and other cereals; Chef Boyardee asked the public to return 15 million pounds of Spaghetti-Os, and seven companies recalled 2 million cribs—that was "just a fraction" of the total for the month of May, 2010.

Because of the increasing volume, six federal agencies with vastly different jurisdictions have joined together to create www.recalls.gov, an online "one-stop shop" for U.S. government recalls. The Web site alerts Americans to unsafe, hazardous, or defective products, in consumer product areas such as cars, boats, food, medicine, cosmetics, and environmental products. You can follow the tabs for the latest recall information, report a dangerous product, or learn safety tips. You can also sign up for e-mail alerts.

Shirlington Library news: For complete program descriptions, go online to the library Web site at www.arlingtonva.us/departments/Libraries/LibrariesEvents.aspx.



New fitness option: *Dynamic Living*, the personal-training fitness studio newly opened in the Fairlington office park, is offering 25 percent off a first-time, 10-class pass for all new customers from Fairlington during the month of August. The studio is located at 4840 B 31st Street South. For more information, go online to www.dynamiclivingfitness.com or call 703-379-3932 for an appointment.

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FAIRLINGTON

community center news

Construction update

Construction of Phase 2, outdoor site improvements is almost completed. Note the new, spacious parking lot. And stay tuned for information on the grand re-opening event in September.

Summer classes and workshops

Summer classes are still available at the FCC. Get the complete description online or go to the FCC to pick up a copy of *Enjoy Arlington*—and watch for the fall issue, due at the end of August. For questions or registration, go online to www.arlingtonva.us or call 703-228-4747. Contact the FCC at 703-228-6588.

Classes, teens and adults

Paint with tissue paper, ages 16 to adult
440143A Tues, Aug 3, 7 – 9 p.m., 5 sessions, \$178

Senior center events

Regularly scheduled programs are Tuesday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for residents 55 and older. Call Emma Valencia at 703-228-7791 for more information. Special programs include (call for times):

August 3: Bethesda Farmers' Market

August 4, 11, 18, and 25: Jane Franklin dance class

August 6, 13, 20, and 27: Sewing class

August 6, 13, 20, and 27: Sudoku mental exercise

Senior Center community service projects

Help Arlington kids get back to school
Dressing dolls for the Salvation Army

Cooperative playgroup

Monday and Wednesday, or Tuesday and Thursday, or Fridays only, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. For tots 12 to 36 months (1 to 3 years old). Contact: prfairlingtonplaygroup@fastmail.net.

The playgroup is now taking fall registration applications from Arlington County residents and from non-residents. Fairlington Cooperative Playgroup has classes for 1- and 2-year-olds. Children must be 1 but not yet 3 by September 30 to qualify for the fall session of playgroup. Applicants MUST preview a class before applying. For more information, please visit the Web site at www.fairlingtonplaygroup.org or e-mail pr@fairlingtonplaygroup.org.

Master Gardeners plant clinic

Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – noon. Help Desk, 703-228-6414.

Open play in gym, 13 and older

Saturday from 3 to 5 p.m., Sunday from noon to 3 p.m.

FCC hours and contact info

Monday through Friday,
8 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Saturday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Sunday, closed.

Hours were effective February 1 but are subject to change. For updates and more information, call the FCC at 703-228-6588. The center manager is Patrick Mallon, 703-228-6590, pmallon@arlingtonva.us.

FCC programs

The FCC has six multi-purpose rooms, art studios, a gymnasium, a state-of-the-art fitness room, day-lockers, accessible pre-school and school-aged playgrounds, outdoor basketball courts, a fitness trail, a playing field, a picnic shelter, and accessible public restrooms. There is indoor open play for children 13 and under in the multi-purpose gym on Saturday, 3 to 5 p.m. and Sunday noon to 3 p.m.—children must be supervised by an adult (18 and older). In addition, there are a Senior Program, a creative pre-school (three to five years old), parent/child Co-op Program for children one and two years old, and summer camp.



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DOWN TO EARTH patio gardening



It's bake time in Fairlington gardens

There's a reason customers don't contact me in July and August to plant flowers or shrubs—it's hot. And new plant roots struggle to become established when the soil is dry and water is minimal. That's especially true this year. In June, we had 18 days when it was 90 degrees or above. (Last year, there were two such days.) In late June and early July this year, triple-digit extremes began to seem common—five days when the mercury reached 99 and above, with a record-breaking 102 on July 7—and the area recorded sultry 90+ temperatures in 17 of 21 days.



Relentless sun and heat challenge garden plants. Photograph by Corey Hilz, www.coreyhilz.com.

Even established plants suffer in this kind of relentless heat. Across from Virginia Hospital Center, there is a home with three tall junipers in a corner garden—two of the trees are flourishing, while one's foliage is brown. The reason? Since all three had similar sun exposure, water availability, and soil pH, the dying juniper was simply genetically weaker.

Sometimes the planting of a specimen during intense heat “shocks” the root system. How? Inside a tight rubber or plastic container, water moisture is held against the circumference of the soil, and this insulates the roots. As long as the plants are watered at the nursery (which they are), it's unlikely water will evaporate from the edges of the root ball. But yank the container away, pry loose

the roots, and stick the plant into a hot, dry hole and those roots can dry out instantly. Out of their cocoon, they become devoid of moisture. By the time the plant is watered, shock may have set in.

This can happen even with sun lovers like *Miscanthus* (Chinese ornamental grass), *Lagerstroemia* (crape myrtle), *Syringa* (lilac), or *Chamaecyparis* (falsecypress). While those plants' culture calls for direct, all-day sun, their roots still require irrigation, and that need is heightened in repeated heat indexes of 105+.

The same principle applies to sod. Note the thousands of square feet of new turf laid at the Fairlington Community Center in late June. Days

later, strips of the green turf had browned up, usually around the edges, where evaporation is the highest. You may have noticed the sprinklers going full bore for days after the sod was installed. Even though the “root ball” of sod is two inches thick, those roots still need to meander through the ground's thicker, rockier texture, which is far less moist than a wet piece of new sod. And that's the challenge. Sod put down in summer needs to be watered to the point where it resembles a wet, green sponge.

As for watering with an irrigation system, hose, or jug, do so in the early morning before the sun dries up what you've watered and wilts you as well. Early-hours

watering will saturate the root zone, which absorbs water until midday, and it will forestall the effects of late afternoon sun that cooks the patio and dries out the soil.

Sprinklers are less work, but they apply scattered droplets that mostly coat the plants' leaves and branches. It's the root zone or drip line (where the furthest branches extend) that needs irrigation. If you have a small tree, try planting beneath the canopy, where shade keeps the soil cooler and more moist.

—By Bill Sullivan,
www.sullivanlandscaping.net



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ABINGDON *school news*



Abingdon concludes the 2009-10 school year with a busy schedule



Students read their poetry aloud to classmates, teachers, and parent-guests. Photograph by Michelle Marston.

The last couple of weeks of school were busy ones for Abingdon students, teachers, and parents. On June 17, Abingdon held its Poetry Anthology Release Party. Throughout the year, students in every grade participated in a special learning experience centering on poetry. Working with the Kennedy Center's Changing Education Through the Arts program, Abingdon teachers developed a year-long curriculum culminating in a school-wide poetry book. All students learned how to write and appreciate poetry. Students in grades two to five also studied art from the Smithsonian's American Art Museum to inspire their writings. Thanks to the generosity of our community, which made the Abingdon PTA's

fundraising activities so successful over the year, every student at Abingdon got a copy of the book for free.

Abingdon held its final Wheel Night of the year on June 22, showcasing what the students have created and learned in Communications, Architecture, Instrumental Music, Math Lab, and Science Lab in the final quarter of the school year. This quarter's Communications productions took us under the sea and West with the pioneers. The set for the "Go West" production even included covered wagons thanks to the creative genius of teacher Kerry Abbott and superstar parent-volunteer Deb Staren-Doby.

Students also participated in Market Day, an annual activity that teaches kids math and economics through real-life experiences. Each grade developed a product to market and sell to their fellow students. For instance, this year's second graders made mystery plants—Dixie cups of dirt with a mystery seed—and sold them at Market Day for 25 cents each. Students were encouraged to bring in change and shop at the other grades' booths.

Field day—Abingdon style

On June 18, all Abingdon students from Pre-K to fourth grade participated in Field Day, while fifth grade students went on their end-of-year field trip to Kings Dominion. Organized by Abingdon P.E. teachers, Joe Reed and Mike Collazos, students spent the day outside getting loads of exercise in the sun. Games included relays, water bal-

loon tosses, a tug-o-war, parachute games, and volleyball.

In addition, the children enjoyed two moon-bounces, sno-cones, and a pitchburst—a sort of "dunk tank" where a water balloon is released when a bulls-eye target is hit with a ball. Two local high school students who help Abingdon teachers volunteered to sit under the water balloons. But, by the end of the day in the 90-degree heat, the Abingdon kids were asking to take their place!

In keeping with Abingdon's arts theme, students also enjoyed a tie-dye station, where they created colorful mementos of the day from their white T-shirts, tank tops, socks, and even pillow cases. And we topped the day off with a special concert by a four-piece jazz ensemble.

Papa John's pizza cards available

Abingdon has teamed up with Papa John's to help raise funds for the school and make dinner more affordable for you this summer. We are selling Papa John's pizza cards for \$15 apiece. Each card entitles the bearer to an unlimited number of free large pizzas—buy one large pizza and get one free—ordered now through July 2011. It is good for carryout at any of more than 180 Papa John's locations in the D.C.-metro area. Anyone interested in obtaining a card, please contact Michelle at 703-625-9597 or michellecmarston@gmail.com.

—By Michelle Marston, Abingdon PTA co-president

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neighborhood news

Fair Golds

The Fair Golds, an Arlington County social group in and around the Fairlington area (including Alexandria), meets at the Fairlington Community Center at noon on the first and third Thursdays of each month, with the exception of the months of July and August when there is only one meeting on the third Thursdays of those months. The meetings begin with a brown-bag lunch. Dessert and beverages are provided.

In August, the Fair Golds will have a business/social meeting on Thursday, August 19. We always welcome guests and/or new members. The only requirement is that you be over 55 years of age. Please feel free to join us at one or more of our meetings and see if Fair Golds is a group you would be interested in joining. We try to arrange a special program or engage a speaker for the second Thursday meeting of the month. If you would like more information about Fair Golds, feel free to call Gertrude Frankel at 703-931-3759 or Vernetta Kukulich at 703-548-8571.

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 Diners

We're an easy-going group of Fairlington and non-Fairlington friends who gather for dinner a couple of times a month, and focus on having a good meal in great company. Come out and join us this month. We'll go to the Fish Market in Alexandria since we didn't get a quorum in June. And we'll return to Ramparts for our fix of half-price burgers for the month.

Wednesday, August 11, 7:30 p.m., The Fish Market, 105 & 107 King Street, Old Town, Alexandria 22314, 703-836-5676, www.fishmarketva.com. Join us for lobster night: one-pound, whole Maine lobsters with potatoes and cold slaw for \$14.99—as long as they last. We've been here several times; it's always great seafood (although the menu includes other selections) and good company in an informal atmosphere.

Monday, August 23, 7:30 p.m., half-price burger night at Ramparts Restaurant, 1700 Fern Street, Alexandria, VA 22302, 703-998-6616. The new burger menu has proved to be very tasty; regulars are developing new choices for "the usual."

Please call Carol to let us know that you plan to attend, so we can choose the right size table when we arrive. Prior to the day of the event, please call at 703-379-6840. On the day of the event, please call by 6 p.m. at 202-647-2624. (NOTE: *The number changed in December.*) If you leave a voicemail, please include your name and how to contact you the day of the event, in case of a change in plans. If you'd like to be included in our e-mail list, please send your e-mail address to carol_dabbs@yahoo.com.

Fairlington Thirty Somethings

We will not be hosting a happy hour during the month of August. We will keep you posted by e-mail regarding plans to go inner tubing. If you are interested in inner tubing, please send an e-mail to Kavita Kalsy. If you want to be added to the list, please contact Jeff Hewitt at j.b.hewitt@verizon.net or Kavita Kalsy at kkalsy@hotmail.com.

Book Group

We will meet on Tuesday, August 24, at 7:30 p.m. in the North Fairlington Community Center to discuss "Thinks..." by David Lodge. For further information, please contact Kavita Kalsy at kkalsy@hotmail.com.

Fairlington Babysitting Co-op

Fairlington families have been enjoying the benefits of this unique organization for 30 years. Parents who are ready for some time away from the kids but don't know who to call should consider joining the Babysitting Co-op. 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. Whether a parent is single or married, working or staying at home, the Babysitting Co-op can accommodate diverse schedules and situations.

The Co-op works on a card system, where each member starts out with 15 one-hour cards and can use them to

neighborhood news

Continued

pay for sittings. Sittings may be requested during the day, evenings, or weekends. During the day children are normally brought to the sitter's house, and in the evenings the sitter usually comes to the children's house; however, different arrangements may be made. The Co-op holds quarterly social events where children play together, parents converse, and a few business items are discussed.

For an application or more information, contact us via our Google Groups Web site at fairlington.babysitting@gmail.com.

MOMS Club of Arlington-Fairlington

Are you a stay-at-home parent, pregnant, or on maternity leave, and looking to connect with other Fairlington moms and dads? The MOMS Club of Arlington-Fairlington, VA chapter of the International MOMS Club may be for you. Members and their children participate in general monthly meetings, member planned outings/events, family meal support, Parents' Night Out, and much more. The weekly age-specific playgroups start as young as birth to 6 months and go all the way up to 3+

years old. Playgroups are great for kids but they also offer parents a chance to find support and friendship.

In the last year members have also worked on several community service projects benefitting Abingdon Elementary School, the Arlington Food Assistance Center, and the March of Dimes. Most recently we hosted a booth at the Fairlington 4th of July parade, where we gave out patriotic temporary tattoos to the kids and answered questions about the club.

If you would like to learn more about the club and meet other parents, please join us for our general meeting on Wednesday, August 11 at the Fairlington Community Center. Children are welcome. For more information about the club, the general meeting, or membership, please contact the membership VP at fairlingtonmoms@yahoo.com. Annual dues of \$25 support quarterly group functions and community service projects.



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Mini-ads

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MICHELE'S MAIDS. Reliable, experienced, honest and affordable. LICENSED, BONDED, & INSURED. Regular, one-time, or move-out cleaning available. Specializing in detailed cleaning. No machines to talk to. 703-820-1808.

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FAIRLINGTON MAID SERVICE. Serving Fairlington since 1978. Family owned and operated. Our staff is reliable, trust-worthy, punctual, and detail oriented. Our prices are reasonable, our service is thorough, plus we love pets, too. 703-820-8635.

JADA'S CLEANING SERVICE. Reliable, experienced and good references. Weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, occasionally, move in/out, windows and offices. Other services: carpets steams cleaned. Call us for free estimates (703) 569-7799.

PURRFECTLY KLEEN CLEANING SERVICE, INC. Residential green cleaning. Professional, English speaking, thorough and reliable service. We are licensed and insured, with workers legal to work in the United States. References from long time clients are always available. Visit our website for pricing and details on the services we provide. www.purrfectlykleen.com. Contact 703-509-8393 or e-mail info@purrfectlykleen.com.

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PET & PLANTCARE BY GERRI, LLC. Reliable, loving care for your dogs, cats, rabbits, birds, or fish. Petsitting, playgroups, walks, feedings, medications. Indoor/outdoor plantcare. Established 1999 by 19-year Parkfairfax resident; bonded and insured. Competitive rates; flexible arrangements. Call 703-379-7719.

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FAIRY DOG WALKER. Attention new and seasoned Fairlington residents with furry friends! Are you looking for someone caring and trustworthy to walk your puppy/dog during the day? Look no further! Fairlington resident with excellent rates. Call Heather at 303-931-1313 or e-mail fairydogwalker@aol.com.

DOG WALKER & PET SITTER-REASONABLE RATES. Special rates for regular walks. Mature, responsible, reliable and dependable woman with excellent Fairlington references. Suzanne Mitchell: Pal4Paws.Suzanne@gmail.com or call 703-868-8894.

DOG WALKING/CAT SITTING. Dependable, flexible, caring pet care services. Long-time Fairlington resident offers mid-day walks, vacation and holiday coverage, overnights, for your special pet. Excellent references. 703-820-0720

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NOTICE TO ALL ADVERTISERS

Due Date for All Ads: 6 pm on 10th of the preceding month (Aug 10th for September 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

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

MINI-AD FORM

Mini-ad copy can be e-mailed to 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:

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Address: _____ Phone (w): _____

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Category (see newsletter for options): _____

Mini-Ad Text (please print clearly): _____

DOMINION FOR SALE! 2913 S. Columbus St.

Open House!

Sunday, August 15 --- 1:00 to 5:00 pm



Lower Bath- New floor plan!

100% REMODELED THIS SUMMER! \$100K in Upgrades!

Everything Is Brand New!

- ✓ Dominion – 4 feet wider than a Clarendon!
- ✓ 3 levels, plus floored attic for lots of storage
- ✓ End unit – lots of light!
- ✓ 2 bedrooms, 2 full baths
- ✓ Gorgeous Designer **ISLAND** Kitchen!
- ✓ Breakfast bar with Pendant lighting
- ✓ Designer Finishes!
- ✓ Stainless Steel Appliances
- ✓ 42" Kitchen Cabinets
- ✓ Full-Size **pantry**
- ✓ Granite countertops
- ✓ Mini "home office" niche on main level
- ✓ Full-size bath in lower level – **new floor plan!**
- ✓ Big walk-in Shower – Taupe Marble & Mosaic Tile
- ✓ Stacked full-size Washer-Dryer in separate niche
- ✓ Classic **Carerra Marble** bath on upper level
- ✓ Hardwood floors – just refinished!
- ✓ New paint throughout
- ✓ Recessed lighting
- ✓ No paneling - lower level!
- ✓ Floating wood laminate floor in lower level
- ✓ Custom cabinets & shelving
- ✓ New light fixtures
- ✓ All New Windows
- ✓ New HVAC
- ✓ Perfect Courtyard – look out on grass, easy parking

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www.DominionForSale.com

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Dupont Circle
 Washington, DC

4 BRs/3 BAs
 Sq ft: 2,828
 Price: \$2,100,000
 MLS# DC7367390

Fairlington
 Arlington, VA
 Monticello

1 BR/2 BAs
 Sq ft: 1,720
 Price: \$392,000
 MLS# AR7373945



Bella Vista
 Arlington, VA

1 BR/1 BA
 Sq ft: 866
 Price: \$339,000
 MLS# AR7323165

Abington Row
 Old Town Alex.

1 BR/1 BA
 Sq ft: 893
 Price: \$399,900
 MLS# AR7323098



Overlook
 Alexandria, VA

2 BRs/2.5 BAs
 Sq ft: 1,522
 Price: \$358,500
 MLS# AR7355053

Douglas Park
 Arlington, VA

3 BRs/2 BAs
 Sq ft: 1,800
 Price: \$474,000
 MLS# AR7377782



The Chatham
 Arlington, VA

Efficiency
 Sq Ft: 533
 Price: \$195,000
 MLS# AR7353214

Rivergate
 Alexandria, VA

3 BRs/2.5 BAs
 Sq ft: 1,665
 Price: \$865,000
 MLS#: AR7337658



4800 South 31st Street
Arlington, Virginia 22206
ArlingtonSouthSales.Infre.com
ArlingtonSouth.va@longandfoster.com

703-998-3111