

all FAIRLINGTON BULLETIN



www.fca-fairlington.org

AUGUST 2021

Volume 47, Number 8

PHOTOS: Fairlington patriots turn out for annual parade

Inside this month

Features

Firetruck parade1
 Trash fires3
 Gardening demos5



Park Shirlington5
 Electric charging stations7
 Survey results7
 July 4 photos..... 8-9
 Fairlington FINS9
 Blood drive17
 Farmers market18-19

Departments

For the love of nature13
 Fairlington pet profiles15
 Neighborhood news23
 Patio gardening.....27
 Mini ads30-31

As part of a fun Fourth of July weekend just outside our nation's capital, Fairlington was treated to a fun parade of firetrucks and police motorcycles on the morning of Sunday, July 4.



A police officer waves to parade-goers from his motorcycle during the 2021 Fourth of July parade. Photo by Guy Land.

The two firetrucks and an ambulance were led by two police motorcycles and began the parade at Abingdon Elementary. After winding through North and South Fairlington, the parade ended at the Fairlington Community Center on the south side.

The annual parade usually involves the participation of residents who join the emergency vehicles on their decorated bikes, scooters and on foot. Since the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions began last spring, the parade has not been open to resident participants. Instead, they are encouraged to decorate their doors and front porches to show their patriotic spirit.

This year, Fairlingtonians of all ages lined the parade routes, decked in red, white and blue, and waved pinwheels and flags which Fairlington Villages and the Fairlington Citizens Association (FCA) had supplied to each of the associations.

The parade participants stayed at the community center after the parade ended, regaling local children with "rides" on the trucks and motorcycles. Children were able to sit on their vehicles and even try on some of their gear.

FCA and all of Fairlington is grateful to the Arlington Police Department and the Arlington County Fire Station 9 for spending their free time in Fairlington.

—Julie Butler

Flip to pages 8-9 for a full spread of Fourth of July photos.

Coming up

The FCA Board invites all Fairlington residents to attend its meetings that 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 have three minutes to address the board on matters affecting the community. Due to COVID-19, meetings are being held virtually and streamed on FCA's Facebook page.

FCA monthly meeting August 11

The FCA board will hold a work session. There will be no special presentation.

Regular board business:

- Approval of July minutes
- Unfinished business
- Officer and committee reports
- 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 Citizens Association.

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

Web design by Avatar Tech LLC, Alexandria, VA, www.avatar-tech-llc.com.

USEFUL CONTACTS

If you see something immediately alarming or suspicious, call 911.

Police, Alexandria (non-emergency)	703-746-4444
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	811
Pothole Patrol Hotline	703-228-6485
Shirlington Library	703-228-6545
Street Light Hotline	703-228-6511

www.arlingtonva.us/departments/EnvironmentalServices/dot/traffic/streetlights/index.htm

Helicopter Noise Complaints Mike Lucier (VA 8th Dist.)
202-225-4376

Fairlington Citizens Association
PO Box 6182 • Arlington, VA 22206-0182
571-403-1943 • president@fca-fairlington.org

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All Fairlington Bulletin

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— DEADLINE —

6 p.m., **10th of month** preceding publication month for commercial advertising, mini-ads, and editorial copy. Editorial announcements, story suggestions, and letters to the Editor should be sent to: afbeditors@yahoo.com.

Ad payment can be sent to: FCA • PO Box 6182 • Arlington, VA 22206-0182, locally dropped-off at the drop box in the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford Street, Arlington VA 22206 or pay via PayPal to fca.fairlington.ads@gmail.com. Ad file(s) should be included with payment and emailed to the Ad Manager at fca.fairlington.ads@gmail.com.

COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING RATES

Artwork and checks made payable to FCA are due the 10th of the month preceding desired publication date. Direct inquiries regarding advertising file requirements to the Advertising Manager 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 Insert (1 Side)	11 in.	8.5 in.	\$525
Full-Page Insert (2 Sides)	11 in.	8.5 in.	\$570

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Fairlington is a National Register and Virginia Landmark Historic District
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Calendar

Fairlington Knits!

Monday, August 2, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
See page 23 for details

Fairlington diners

Wednesday, August 11, 6:30 p.m.
See page 23 for details

FCA monthly meeting

Wednesday, August 11, 7 p.m.
Virtually on FCA Facebook page

Fairlington Knits!

Monday, August 16, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
See page 23 for details

Book group

Tuesday, August 24, 7:30 p.m.
See page 23 for details

Police investigate community center trash can fires



A melted trash can found near the Fairlington Community Center in South Fairlington. Photo courtesy Facebook.

Arlington County fire officials are investigating a recent rash of incidents involving trash can fires near the Community Center in South Fairlington. If you see anything of concern or any suspicious behavior please contact the Arlington County Fire Department at 703-228-4644.

—Barbara Berti

Contributors this month: Barbara Berti, Regina Bethencourt, Lynne Blasi, Julie Butler, Bobby Calise, Guy Land, Angela McNamara, Andy Raab, and Bill Sullivan.

Some images in this publication may be digitally enhanced.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

If you've spent any amount of time walking around Fairlington this summer, you've no doubt noticed—even if you didn't reflect on it—the large number of tweens and even some teens in the neighborhood.

This demographic change is creating a new vitality in the community.

It is also a marked break from the pattern that Fairlington has experienced for most of its 45 years as a condominium community. Those of us who are old-timers will recall that in the late 1970s and early 1980s there were almost no children of any age in Fairlington. Indeed, some of you have seen the advertisement that ran in an issue of Playboy in the late 1970s highlighting this as a great community for singles. (The Fairlington Historical Society has a copy.)

But even when the demographics shifted to more young families, the pattern tended to be that families would move in and by the time the kids were either in preschool or early elementary school, the families would find our small units too confining, and they would move farther out to larger homes, often single-family residences.

Over the past five or six years, however, that migration pattern has slowed significantly. Families with children are staying put. Their kids are graduating from Abingdon Elementary and going on the Gunston Middle School. Many will be students at Wakefield this fall.

COVID sparked the creation of “courtyard pods,” groups of children of roughly similar age living near each other whose parents were comfortable having them play and hang out together. These pods were critical to providing a social environment for children when classes were predominantly virtual. Observing many of those drove home to me how the family profile of Fairlington is changing.

Of course, that changing family profile inevitably creates tension as the interests of growing kids bump into the desires of older adults. That has sparked debates about access to tennis courts, the need for basketball courts, questions of noise, and even debates about chalk art. When managed in the right way, though, those differences can create a tension that helps keep the community vibrant and resilient.

What I find remarkable is that even though Fairlington has gone through dramatic demographic transformations over the past five decades, it has managed to maintain its special character and feel as a small-town community inside the beltway. It has done a great job of managing change.

This is yet another illustration of what makes Fairlington special. Thanks for your contribution to this success.

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

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Community center teaching garden to offer small-space gardening demos

Leslie Cameron and Angela McNamara, fondly known to *Bulletin* readers as frequent contributors to the “For the Love of Nature” column, are the new coordinators for the Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia (MGNV) teaching garden at the Fairlington Community Center (FCC).

This year, Cameron and McNamara plan to redesign a section dedicated to small space gardening, or how to use plants to decorate beautifully and sustainably on the small patios and balconies of Fairlington.

The teaching garden (also called a demonstration garden) has been growing at the FCC since 2007. It features two large raised beds and several in-ground planting areas. Since its conception, the teaching garden has been focused on educating visitors on growing edible plants and vegetables, as well as ornamentals.

“We are facing many challenges in terms of damage to our ecosystems and there is a lot individuals can do in their yards and patios and balconies to make a difference,” said



New demonstration garden coordinators Leslie Cameron (left) and Angela McNamara pose for a snap outside of their garden at the Fairlington Community Center. Photo by Ed Colonna.

Cameron. “We very much want to encourage people to come by.”

Both Cameron and McNamara are Fairlington residents and certified master gardeners and have volunteered with MGNV in several ways. McNamara currently sits on the MGNV board. The garden coordinator position is volunteer.

Fairlington visitors to the teaching garden will learn about lending a helping hand to the ecosystem by growing native plants that provide homes and food for natural visitors including birds, bees, and butterflies. Cameron and McNamara also plan to teach how to select plants

that will thrive in each space, depending on soil and sun conditions.

The redesigned small-spaces section of the garden is still several weeks away from completion but has plans in the works to start with gardening work-days on farmers market Sundays, in the hopes that market visitors will stop by to gather information, and perhaps, a packet of seeds.

—Regina Bethencourt

County board approves plan for Park Shirlington

The Arlington County Board has unanimously approved a financing framework that will preserve existing affordable housing at Park Shirlington and will prevent future development on the site. The action came at the board’s July 17 meeting. Fairlington Citizens Association (FCA) President Guy Land spoke in favor of the proposal.

Under the plan, the Park Shirlington owner (a partnership between Standard Property and Foundation Housing) will maintain all 293 apartments as affordable housing and will abandon plans for any significant increase in density on the property.

It will undertake a complete renovation of the units, which will begin in 2022 and will be phased. The renovation method would allow all existing tenants to remain at the property during the renovation. There would be no displacement of tenants.

In his comments to the county board, Land noted that

the proposal would avoid the possibility of major new development on the property. Earlier plans had called for more than doubling the number of units on the property.

County board members and staff praised the package, noting both that it helps maintain the current stock of affordable housing and that it advances the county’s emphasis on equity and diversity in the county.

The owner expects to build a new leasing center and an amenity facility. The location has not yet been determined.

Project financing would come, in part, from a long-term loan from the county’s Affordable Housing Investment Fund, as well as the federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credit.

Final approval of the loan documents is expected in December.

—Guy Land

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Until this crisis is over, we will continue to monitor the developments set by the CDC and our local governments and will make any necessary adjustments to our practices to keep you safe.

We support our community and feel that it is everybody's job to limit risk of exposure and spread of COVID-19 and in that light, we encourage you to take advantage of telephone, Facetime, and video consultations for all your home improvement needs.

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New plan could mean more electric charging stations for Fairlington

Arlington County is in the process of developing a master plan to decarbonize transportation, which includes additional sites for public charging and converting all government vehicles to an electric fleet.

Demetra McBride, bureau chief in the Arlington County Department of Environmental Services, says this 16-month project will include strategic site mapping for public charging, tracking federal and state funding opportunities, and working with Dominion Energy Virginia to make sure there is sufficient power capacity in targeted areas.

Part of the master plan will include mapping all current car ownership in the county, based on the number of electric vehicles in a particular section of the county.

This will be a starting point for determining the location of new charging stations, along with any public hearings that the county could schedule in the coming year.



Electric car is hooked up at the charging station in the North Fairlington Community Center parking lot. Photo by Guy Land.

It could mean new charging stations for county property sites, including Fairlington Community Center on the south side.

McBride estimates that new charging stations around the county will be ready for installation between July and December of 2022 and adds that electric vehicles help drivers save money on car maintenance and reduce emissions by 66 percent.

According to the United States Department of Energy, there are more than 43,000 public charging stations in the country. Fairlington Villages currently has two charging stations, located in the North Fairlington Community Center parking lot on Abingdon St.

Erin Moran, Fairlington Villages Office Manager, said

Continued on page 17

Survey results show Fairlingtonians eager for more local events

In a recent survey, conducted in the spring and early summer by Fairlington Citizens Association (FCA), residents shared their opinions on what they love about life in Fairlington and what concerns them moving forward.

Approximately 80 percent of the 187 residents who responded to the survey expressed a clear interest in more local events celebrating the arts, with 62 percent indicating they would like to see more concerts by Fairlington residents, students, and groups.

When it comes to staying abreast of happenings in Fairlington, 80 percent of residents said they get their information from the *Bulletin* (72 percent read the printed version), with 68 percent using Facebook and 56 percent just talking to their neighbors.

The Farmers Market was the favorite Fairlington event, followed by the July 4 fire truck parade.

Traffic and roads (48 percent) are the issue most Fairlington residents are concerned with, followed by real estate

development (35 percent) and police/crime (34 percent). Other concerns not listed in the survey included the use of pesticides, quality of life, and affordability.

When comparing resident concerns by parental status, parents' (of children under 18 currently living in their household) top concerns were racial equity/diversity (44 percent) and education/schools (40 percent), while non-parents' top concerns were traffic/roads (52 percent) and real estate development (39 percent).

The survey was conducted online from April 26 through July 5 with 88 percent self-identifying as owners, 47 percent as residents of 11 or more years, and 31 percent as parents of children under 18 living in their household. In exchange for completing this survey, respondents were offered a chance to win a \$50 gift card to a Shirlington restaurant of their choice. The randomly selected winner was Cinnamon Baker. Congratulations!

—Bobby Calise

Oh say can you see? It's a Fairlington Fourth!

Friends and family gather in their finest patriotic gear on Fairlington sidewalks and parking lots to watch the parade roll by on a blistering hot Fourth of July morning. *Photos by Guy Land.*





FINS are back!



Fairlington FINS swimmers pose for a snap outside of Fairlington Arbor pool. Photo courtesy Katarina Lesandric.

After a year off due to the pandemic, the neighborhood swim organization, Fairlington FINS (Fairlingtonians Interested in Neighborhood Swimming), kicked off a shortened swim season for 2021. Thanks to the Fairlington Mews and Fairlington Arbor communities for hosting us. The FINS are especially grateful to Coach Jacqueline Branch as well as moms, Cara and Julie, for helping the young group of about 25 Fairlington swimmers enhance their swimming skills. They are looking forward to a full season in 2022. For more information visit www.fairlingtonfins.org.



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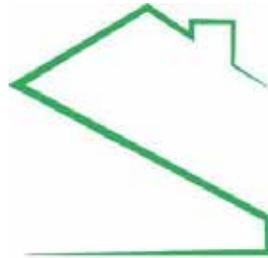
Record-low interest rates could make mortgages more affordable for those considering an investment property.

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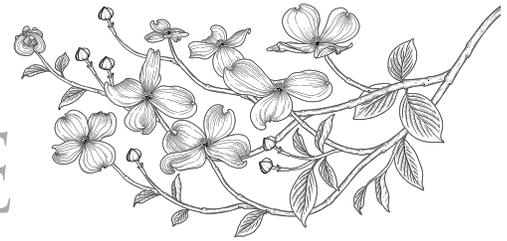


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For the love of NATURE



How Fairlington Villages' rain gardens help manage stormwater

One inch of rain on a 500 square foot surface amounts to more than 300 gallons of water. The week of June 8 we had four inches of rain, so that same surface had more than 1,200 gallons of water fall on it. Now multiply that by every roof in Fairlington, every tennis court, pool deck, parking lot, sidewalk, patio, well, you get the picture—that is a lot of water. And every drop of it carries pollutants from the air itself and the surfaces it touches directly into the storm drains, where it continues, unfiltered, into our local waterway, Four Mile Run, and from there to the Potomac River and the Chesapeake Bay.



Rain garden in Fairlington Villages.
Photo by Angela McNamara.

To meet the federal Clean Water Act requirements, every new building constructed in Arlington and Alexandria is required to contain all the rain that falls on that property until it percolates into the soil. Fairlington is grandfathered out of meeting that requirement. But we have nearly 322 acres of land, and as demonstrated in the opening lines, quite a sum of water runoff. So, what can we do? One thing we can do is build rain gardens.

What is a rain garden?

A rain garden is an effective approach to removing pollutants from stormwater before it reaches Four Mile Run and to mitigate flooding. These gardens are strategically placed to capture stormwater from our impervious surfaces—those roofs, tennis courts, pool decks, etc.—and from overland flow across the property, that is, across our grass. A rain garden design is a bowl that collects water for 24–48 hours until it can fully absorb into the ground. Rain gardens are best when planted with native plants indigenous to Virginia because these require less maintenance once established, have deep roots that soak up lots of water, and provide food and habitat to wildlife. As water percolates, the soil itself cleans the runoff before it makes its way into our waterways.

Why grass lawns alone are not enough

Grass lawns in urban areas are not very good at capturing water and letting it percolate into the soil. The original construction of Fairlington removed the loose and easily permeable topsoil. The remaining soil is densely compacted from construction and subsequent maintenance equipment. Grass roots are relatively shallow, and unlike native plants, they don't loosen and deeply aerate the soil.

Where to see rain gardens in Fairlington Villages

Fairlington Villages, alone, hosts 8 rain gardens on a more than 93-acre property. The box below shows you were to find them. To see photos of the rain gardens in beautiful color, check out Fairlington Gardening Community on Facebook.

Fairlington Villages Rain Gardens

- 3071 S Buchanan St.—back corner
- 3074 S Abingdon St.—back side/corner
- 3014 Abingdon—back corner
- 4817 31st St.—back corner
- 4875 S. 28th St.—behind the unit
- 4864 and 4862 S. 28th St.—back corner
- 4836 S 29th St.—across the path—or from 2936 S. Columbus St. —right side
- 2854 S Columbus St.—behind the unit on the steep hill

—Angela McNamara

Feel free to send comments or questions to fortheloveofnature@googlegroups.com and follow Fairlington Gardening Community on Facebook.



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FAIRLINGTON *pet profiles*

Big Dog: Meet Pim



Pim is a 92 lb. Newfound/
Great Pyrenees mix
between 5–7 years old.
Pim came to South Fair-
lington from Baltimore,
but we'll let her tell you
her story...

*How did you get your name?
Did it really come from
the famous racetrack in
Baltimore?*

I was found on the street by Baltimore Rescue. I must have been lost for a long time because my coat was terribly matted so the rescue people gave me a haircut and shampoo which made me feel much better. My fur is mostly white with black on my head. I am quite a big girl with long legs and yes, I think I was named Pim after the famous racetrack—Pimlico in Baltimore.

*How did you end up in Fairlington? Do you like it here?
What makes it special?*

I stayed at a foster home until I was rescued. My mom had been trying to rescue a dog for a long time and was very excited when she saw me on the rescue website. But my photo didn't show my true size. When my mom and dad came to my foster home, they were surprised to see how big I was! After a visit with me, they decided to take me home with them.

You are a big dog...tell us about yourself...can you explain your size? Do you see yourself as 'big'?

At my foster home I slept in the basement so when I arrived at my new home, I wouldn't go down to the lower level because I thought I might have to sleep there (and still won't), and I was also afraid of going upstairs too. But one night there was a terrible storm and I ran upstairs because I am afraid of thunder. I put my wet nose on mom's nose and she woke up and said, "Oh, you are here!" After that, I decided to sleep on the floor right next to my mom every night. At 6 a.m. I jump on the bed but don't move until she gets up. Is that a big dog or little dog thing?

Little Dog: Meet Teddy-Ro



Little Teddy-Ro lives in North Fairlington. He is a muts-a-palooza...a mix of Poodle, Fox Wire Terrier, Schnauzer and something else. He had his DNA test as part of his 'My Gotcha Day Gift' in August. Teddy is 2 years old and weighs 16 lb. He was found abandoned on the streets of Prince George's County, MD and taken to a shelter.

*How did you get from PG County street life to Fairlington?
Do you like it here? What makes it special?*

I was found running loose and spent two weeks in a scary shelter. This nice lady came and picked me up and drove me to my new mom. We've been together ever since! I just love Fairlington, especially all my new friends who give me love and some even give me special treats.

You are a little dog...tell us about yourself...Do you see yourself as smaller than other dogs you meet?

I like long walks, seeing friends, especially on nice days, treats, and my meals, especially in the snuffle mat. And let me tell you, I love to wrestle. My mom tells me I'm little when I wrestle with my big dog friends Phineas and Bear, but I don't see it and I think I can win each and every time with my scrappy street dog moves.

What do you think of big dogs? Do you see them as different or the same as you?

I like most dogs but some big dogs, especially if they are fluffy or running past me, make me nervous. So, I like to bark at them to let them know I'm here protecting my mama. That's the fox terrier in me coming out.

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that these two stations were installed in the fall of 2016 by Kolb Electric. This was part of an arrangement between Fairlington Villages and Arlington County during the Abingdon Elementary School reconstruction project because of the use of that parking lot for Abingdon staff members during the school day.

Currently there are 19 residents who use the charging stations, including two South Fairlington residents. Please contact Moran at emoran@fairlingtonvillages.com for rates and to register. The overall time to charge a vehicle and the range of how far you want to drive depends on the make and model of the car.

There are also two additional charging stations within a mile of North and South Fairlington, one located at 2900 S. Quincy St. in Shirlington and the other located at the Safeway in Bradley Center (3526 King St.).

For additional information on where to find additional electric charging stations in the area and the Commonwealth visit <http://environment.arlington.us/drive-electric-arlington/#/find/nearest> or <http://www.511virginia.org> and look under EV Charging Stations.

—Andy Raab

FCA plans blood drive



Jeff Schmidt prepares to give blood during last December's drive. Photo by Brooke Schmidt.

FCA is planning to host a Fairlington blood drive later this summer. Similar to the one last December, it will benefit Children's National Hospital.

The details are still being worked out, but we are hoping to again use the Fairlington Community Center. Participation will require advance sign-up online. Look for more information on FCA's Facebook page.

Last year Fairlington residents donated enough blood units over two days to help 145 children.

If you are interested in donating, please email FCA Board member Jennifer Clardy Chalmers, jclardy@gmail.com.

—Guy Land

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Farmers Market approaches 1K weekly visitors



When the Fairlington Farmers Market held its first gathering in spring 2015, no one anticipated how quickly it would become such a valued part of the neighborhood and surrounding community.

Now in its seventh season, it is a not-to-be-missed Sunday morning destination and has grown to include new vendors, more variety, ready-to-eat foods, special events and family activities, information from community groups, and live music.

The market is a true community hub where residents can gather and catch up with their friends and neighbors.

Thank you to everyone who shops at the market and contributes to its success, and to our generous sponsors: Fairlington Citizens Association, Fairlington Dental, Fairlington Presbyterian Church, and Kay Houghton & Associates.

Each week, about 700–1000 shoppers visit the market.

“We are excited that this number has steadily increased this season,” said Tracey McGovern, a member of the market committee. “The last two weekends in June had close to 1000 shoppers both days. Vendors and volunteers have commented on the many new shoppers coming to the market, including new residents and others who have heard about the market from friends and neighbors.”



The first week of August is designated as National Farmers Market Week by the Farmers Market Coalition. This year's celebration is August 1–7, and the market will mark the occasion on August 1 with gratitude and giveaways.

Farmers markets are a valuable platform for bringing communities together with nutritious food, supporting the livelihoods of local farmers and producers, contributing to the wellbeing of our planet, and much more.

The significant role of farmers markets in our food system was especially emphasized this past year during the global pandemic. Our market committee and managers have quickly adapted to implement innovative safety practices, keeping our community healthy and fed.

Like most activities and events in Fairlington, the farm-

ers market is volunteer-led. A small committee works throughout the year to plan the market and work with vendors, the community center, and Field to Table, the company that oversees our market.

Volunteers are urgently needed so the market can continue to operate each week. Help is needed from 8:30–10 a.m. to assist with setting up the information tent, placing signs and safety cones, and answering questions from shoppers, and again from 12–1:30 p.m. with breakdown when the market closes. Vendors handle their own set up and sales. Please let the committee know if you can volunteer for a shift this summer or fall by contacting fairlingtonfm@gmail.com.

—Lynne Blasi



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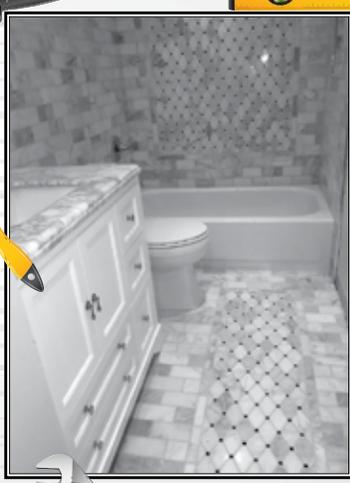


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—Mary Thomasson,
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neighborhood news

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. In June, we ventured back to Shirlington, dining at the Carlyle, one of our favorites.

Here's what's planned for August:

Wednesday, August 11, at 6:30 p.m., Joe Theismann's Restaurant, 1800 Diagonal Rd, Alexandria, VA 22314, (703) 739-0777, <https://www.theismanns.com/>. There is free parking in a garage next to the restaurant after 5 p.m. This will be our first foray into Alexandria since the pandemic. The menu has a wide variety of American bar food, very well prepared, served in an informal atmosphere.

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

Please join the Fairlington Book Group on Tuesday, August 24, to discuss *The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration*, by Isabel Wilkerson. Because of the length of the book, we will read the first half in August and the second half in September.

"In this epic, beautifully written masterwork, Pulitzer Prize-winning author Isabel Wilkerson chronicles one of the great untold stories of American history: the decades-long migration of Black citizens who fled the South for northern and western cities, in search of a better life." —Amazon.com

We will meet outdoors at the Fairlington Community Center, weather permitting, at 6 p.m., or if necessary we'll meet that evening on Zoom at 7:30 p.m. Please call Carol at 703-379-6840 to be added to our email list in order to receive details about our meeting.

Join us for two virtual Fairlington Knits! and Crochets meet-ups in August

Tune in online to join two Fairlington Knits! and Crochets meetings in August: Monday, August 2 and Monday, August 16, from 6:30–7:30 p.m.

Join fellow crafters for a virtual evening of knitting, crochet, and fellowship. Knitting/crocheting together, showing off our work, and talking with like-minded people helps us feel part of a community and has been proven to create a sense of calm.

We meet virtually, at the same time, on the first and third Monday of each month until we can meet in person again. Log on to see what everyone is working on, ask for help/advice, or for inspiration for a project. All levels of crafters are welcome—beginner to expert.

Email Turner for the log-on information to join the calls: Turnerwork@aol.com.

Fairlington Bocce

Interested in a fun outdoor activity with neighbors and friends? Then you are interested in playing bocce! To express interest or get more information, shoot an email to marcyakel@gmail.com.

Fairlington Moms' Club

The Fairlington Moms' Club is a group where moms can meet friends, form a support network, and create opportunities for children. The Club organizes several community service projects, routine playdates, craft days, family parties, and moms' nights out. We have a great listserv for sharing advice and connecting with other Fairlington families, as well as our own classifieds listserv. We welcome all Fairlington moms! Please email fairlingtonmomsclub@gmail.com for further information.

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DOWN TO EARTH patio gardening



Finding inspiration in famous landscaping

In my landscaping world, summer begins when it's hot and that is late April. Come May, the hot steam rolls in, piggybacked with humidity until the second week of October. So, August is actually the fourth month of summer for gardening. But August also is vacation time and back-to-school shopping. In August, we're on our sun-soaked Fairlington patios just long enough to grill dinner. Then it's back indoors to relish the fixin's with a cold beverage.

So, while we escape our sticky, humid patios, let's look at some other landscapes—ones we may have visited, seen in a movie, or on television.

White House South Portico:

Standing at the iron fence and looking at the rounded portion of the White House, you'll notice six pillars framing a two-level balcony. On either side are Southern Magnolia trees. Just off center in the lawn is a fountain surrounded by a 6-foot-tall evergreen edge that looks to be a Yew (since I'm not going to clear the fence for a closer look). On the side perimeters in the lawn are three prominent trees—Cherry, Blue Atlas Cedar and Norway Spruce.

JFK gravesite: Sedum ground cover fills spaces between marbled, gray stone surrounding the graves of President John F. Kennedy, his wife, Jacqueline, son Patrick, and daughter Arabella. Moss and fescue (a grass) also have been planted in those hardscape crevasses. The stone is cut to fit around a circular granite platform which houses an eternal



Sedum ground cover fills the spaces between the stones surrounding the gravesites of the Kennedy family. Photo courtesy Arlington National Cemetery.

flame—powered by natural gas and ignited electrically. Rectangular black slate headstones mark each of the four graves. Ground cover is ideal to soften the look of a large stone patio since its roots are fibrous and tiny.

"Leave it to Beaver" TV set:

More than one opening was filmed but in one version, Wally Cleaver (Tony Dow) runs out of the house. Over his shoulder is a crooked tree trunk which looks to be a Monterey Cypress. It has a skinned bark with most of the foliage at the tops of the tallest limbs. On either side of the front door are pots housing holly shrubs—too confined a space for these specimens. In another opening, a white-flowering wisteria vine is closely cropped on trellises which outline the door—the perfect accent to June Cleaver's (Barbara Billingsley's) dress, heels, and pearls.

"The Munsters" TV set: Photo-shop came 20 years after this TV sitcom, so the mangled, dead-looking trees in front of the Victorian-style house on the show set used to be living. Prevalent along the iron fence at 1313 Mockingbird (why not Buz-zard?) Lane are out-of-control weeds and an un-cut lawn—the ideal "no-maintenance" display. Somehow, a spruce and holly were thriving on the front lawn.

"Gone with the Wind" movie

set: Built in 1836 in Covington, GA, the Greek Revival home featured in the famous movie is currently framed by two gingko trees but the female bears highly malodorous fruit. Cypress evergreens line the right side of the property. Closely cropped holly hedges frame two brick walkways along the entrance to a wide brick staircase. A Juliet porch (but of course) enclosed with a banister railing hovers over the main door.

"The Waltons" & "Mayberry

R.F.D." TV sets: If you loved the former, you'll be disillusioned to know that sleepy country home sat on a Warner Brothers lot in Burbank, CA—"beautiful downtown Burbank" Johnny Carson used to say. For "Mayberry R.F.D.", false cypress and dwarf blue spruce grew along the front of the home. A year later, unkept azaleas took their place for "The Waltons" 9-year run on CBS. A wandering vine (pyracantha, maybe) crawled over the top of the Waltons' front porch.

—Bill Sullivan

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JOEL RIGGS REMODELING AND HOME IMPROVEMENTS: Joel Riggs Home Repair Service. Your Fairlington specialist. Kitchen and bath renovations, bath ceramic tile repair, painting, drywall, handyman services, trim work, flooring, carpentry, wallpaper removal. Free design services. Free estimates. VA. Class-A lic./ins., fast turn around time. 20 years N. Va. Experience. Joel 703-929-4676.

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Due date for ads and payment: 6 pm on the 10th of the preceding month (July 10 for August issue).

- Checks payable to "Fairlington Citizens Association."
- Pay via PayPal at fca.fairlington.ads@gmail.com.
- Send mini-ad copy via email, regular mail, or drop off at FCA drop box.

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.

Include with ad copy: Name, address, phone #, email address, and ad category (see Mini-ads for options).

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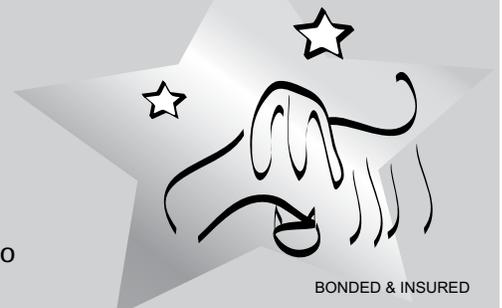
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