

all FAIRLINGTON BULLETIN



www.fca-fairlington.org

DECEMBER 2010

Volume 36, Number 12

The "big dig" at S. Utah & 34th Streets

If you've been to the community center in the last month, you will have noticed the large construction project underway at the intersection of S. Utah and 34th Street S. The county is replacing existing sanitary sewer main pipes with new, larger diameter pipes, and Fairlington stands to benefit from this capital investment in the neighborhood's infrastructure. The need for the upgrade was identified after sewer backups occurred in some homes in the area.

The project will be executed in four consecutive phases, one phase at a time, and the work for one phase will be completed before work starts on the next. Phase 1 affects the road from the intersection and going north (downhill) on S. Utah. Phase 2 will affect the road from the intersection and going south (toward King Street) on S. Utah. Phase 3 will affect the road, again, from the intersection and going north on S. Utah. Phase 4 will affect 34th Street S., from the intersection at S. Utah and going east to the traffic circle. Along S. Utah, the old 10-inch pipe will be replaced by a 14-inch-diameter pipe.

Along 34th St. S, the 8-inch pipe will be replaced by a 14-inch pipe.

During each phase, there will be excavation for an entrance/exit pit about 30 feet long by 10 feet wide in the roadway. Each pit will be backfilled, paved, and restored to its original condition before work begins on the next phase. Each phase will take an estimated three to four weeks to complete, and the entire project is expected to be completed by about the middle of February, 2011.



The county's contracted construction company, Anchor Construction, will employ a relatively new technology called pipe-

Continued on page 5



Photographs by Gretchen Fallon.

Calendar

FCA Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, December 8, 7 p.m.

Fair Golds business meeting

Thursday, December 2, noon
FCC

MOMS Club meeting

Wednesday, December 8
FCC
Call for details.

Fairlington Diners

Sunday, December 11, 6:30 p.m.
Covered dish supper
Call for details.

Del. Englin's snow forum

Wednesday, December 15, 7 p.m.
Minnie Howard School
Alexandria

Fair Golds Holiday luncheon

Thursday, December 16, noon
Chez Andree
Alexandria

Fairlington Diners

Tuesday, December 21, 7:30 p.m.
Ramparts Restaurant
Alexandria

See Neighborhood News on pages 22 – 23 and related articles for details about calendar events.

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."

Preliminary agenda:

7 p.m. Special meeting: 2011 FCA board elections.

7:30 p.m. Regular business meeting:

- Approval of November minutes
- Treasurer's report
- Old business
- New business
- Officer and committee reports

8 p.m. Special program: Wayne Wentz, bureau chief of the Transportation, Engineering, and Operations division of Arlington County's Department of Environmental Services, will review county policies regarding the public streets and curb-side parking and then answer residents' questions.

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	Bob Laser (FAA) bob.laser@faa.gov

Fairlington Citizens Association

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

Board of Directors

Officers

Sam Anthony, *President*
Christine Chirichella, *Vice President*
Stan Hanzel, *Secretary*
Ed Hilz, *Treasurer*

Directors

Carol Dabbs
Reed Franklin
Mark Jones
Rosiland Jordan
Brenda Kriegel

Fairlington-Shirlington Neighborhood Conservation Committee

Chair: Ed Hilz • 703-379-6435 • treasurer@fca-fairlington.org

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

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Fairlington is a National Register and Virginia Landmark Historic District

For more information, visit www.fca-fairlington.org
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Whither the sign? Recently, one of the FCA's white sandwich board signs used to announce FCA events—costing \$200—has gone missing from its perch near an intersection in Fairlington. If you took the sign, please return it to the community center (3308 S. Stafford), no questions asked. Or if you know of its whereabouts, leave a message where it can be picked up on the FCA voice-mail, 703-243-1735, or send an e-mail to president@fca-fairlington.org.

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Some images in this publication may be digitally enhanced.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The final FCA meeting for this calendar year is also my final one as president of the citizens association. As I look back over the past year, I am satisfied with the efforts and accomplishments of the FCA and of our residents—you attended meetings and asked questions, you read the newsletters and wrote back, you called and e-mailed us with your concerns and suggestions. FCA responded with the return of Fairlington Day in May and the July 4th parade, both of which drew enthusiastic crowds. In addition to sponsoring events, we monitored crime, transportation, development, and construction issues which affect our community; we represented Fairlington at civic federation meetings; and we listened to your concerns about the proposal for HOT lanes on I-395 and the BRAC-133 project on Seminary Road.

At monthly meetings, we hosted representatives from our historical society, the county police and fire departments, the county board, school board, and staff from Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources and the census bureau. As part of our effort to improve communications and outreach, we upgraded our Web site and hosted our first Council of Presidents meeting. And we worked with many partners as we helped preserve the Fairlington models.

Our success this year was a team effort. Deserving of our thanks are the leaders of the condo associations, the Fairlington Historical Society, the Abingdon PTA, the MOMs club chapter, the babysitting co-op, Fair Golds, Fairlington Diners, and Fairlington Thirty-Somethings—each helped make this community a better place to live! Special thanks to the tireless efforts of the staff of the *All Fairlington Bulletin*, specifically, editor Gretchen Fallon and ad manager Beth Andrews.

As I look back over the past three years as FCA president and one year as secretary, I remember how I got started: In the summer of 2006, with my dog at the Utah Street dog park, I met fellow Fairlingtonian Tracy Darroch, who told me stories about the citizens association and the interesting work they did. From then on, I was hooked. Thank you, Tracy and Wags the dog! Throughout my tenure, I could not have learned and improved without the support of past officers and directors, especially Bob Schaffer, Tom McNally, Greg Van Hoey, Maureen Ryan, Hugh Baumgardner, Virginia McGee, Becky Beaman, Francis Driscoll, and Nancy Hunt—your honesty, civility, and devotion to this community set the standard for me to follow. And my most heartfelt appreciation goes to the officers and directors who finished this year with me, Ed Hilz, Stan Hanzel, Christine Chirichella, Carol Dabbs, Brenda Kriegel, Reed Franklin, Mark Jones, and Rosiland Jordan—you served this community honorably and I am proud to call you all my friends.

It has been a privilege and I remain, faithfully,

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Continued from page 1

bursting, which, as a “trenchless” method, will save time and money overall as well as avoid the need to cut up the entire street for the duration of the project. Anchor will have an employee on site 24 hours a day when the pumps are running, to ensure there are no sewer system backups, and they will notify surrounding residents if/when there will be a temporary interruption of service.

Residents who live near the intersection may have wondered about the no-parking signs they see posted along the street, with particular concern for how street parking might be restricted during the upcoming holiday season. Charles Boateng, the construction manager for Arlington County’s Department of Environmental Services, Engineering and Capital Projects Division, clarified that no-parking signs will move to different sections of the streets as the work advances from one phase to the next—only the street frontage of the phase immediately under construction will be impacted by parking restrictions. But residents are cautioned to pay close attention to the signs—violating cars will be towed. For the most part parking restrictions are in force during the work day,



from 8 a.m to 5 p.m. But some portions of the streets adjacent to the intersection will be marked “No Parking” at all times. That means no parking 24/7, including overnight hours, weekends, and holidays. In either case, cars parked in a no-parking zone will be “relocated,” as the county calls it.

Cars will continue to be able to go through the intersection during the project, but during construction hours movement sometimes will be flag-controlled: You will want to watch for the signs saying “Stop” or go “Slow,” and at times you may be directed to follow a “Detour” sign. During part of the project, Metro bus 22A will be rerouted to follow bus 25’s route, because there will not be enough space for large vehicles to get through the intersection. Bus riders can check details about detour routes and temporary bus stops by contacting the Shirlington bus station staff at 703-820-4981; or e-mail your question to Questions@CommuterPage.com; or visit the Shirlington Commuter Store on S. Quincy Street (Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.). For more information about the sewer project, contact Charles Boateng, the project manager, at 703-228-3754 or cboat@arlingtonva.us.

FCA meeting, December 8: Election

At 7 p.m. on December 8 at the FCA meeting, the election of FCA officers and board members for 2011 will be held. The slate is:

Reed Franklin, president

Rosiland Jordan, vice president

Carol Dabbs, secretary

Ed Hilz, treasurer

Directors: Kent Duffy, Mark Jones, Brenda Kriegel, Guy Land, and Bryan Pettigrew.

FCA meeting, December 8: Speaker

At 8 p.m. on December 8 at the FCA meeting, Wayne Wentz, bureau chief of the Transportation, Engineering, and Operations division of Arlington County’s Department of Environmental Services, will discuss county policies governing all things about the public streets in Fairlington. Included will be such topics as how certain areas of curb are designated as no-parking areas; how someone obtains zoned/permit-parking designation for portions of the public streets; and how the county’s conversion to LED streetlights will proceed. Mr. Wentz will then answer residents’ questions.

FCA wants your opinion!

Help us to plan for the coming year by participating in a brief online survey. Make your voice heard and help to improve our community by letting us know what you want from the FCA. One lucky participant will be chosen at random to win a free Fairlington T-shirt (a \$10 value!). Enter through December 31 at www.fca-fairlington.org.

Money talks in Arlington

Arlington County will hold a Community Budget Forum on Thursday, December 2 at 7 p.m. in the Central Library auditorium (1015 N. Quincy Street) to discuss the county’s FY 2012 budget. For more information, go online to the county Web site, www.arlingtonva.us, and search ManagementAndFinance/budget/.



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Letters to the editor

I'd like to draw attention to the fact that most plastic is now recyclable—including yogurt containers.

A few years ago, the trash collection companies expanded their acceptance of plastics, including #1 through #7 as recyclable products. This is a change from the old days when things like #5 yogurt containers were not recyclable.

I don't know if the expansion applies to all trash contractors in our communities, but it does apply to Capitol Services of Virginia (which covers, at a minimum, the Commons and the Meadows in south Fairlington). The trash/recycling guide for the Commons, updated in June, can be viewed online at www.Fairlington.org/commonstrashrecyclingrules2010.pdf.

Iolaire McFadden
Fairlington Meadows

Editor's note: Arlington County Code requires all apartments and condominiums to provide an on-site opportunity for residents to recycle. Multi-family properties must provide recycling services for, at a minimum, cans, glass bottles, and newspaper; some go further to conform to the county's larger collection goals. Updated in 2010, county guidelines call for recycling these plastic items: Plastic bottles and jugs with necks, labeled Number 1 through 7 as marked inside the recycling symbol (small triangle) on the bottom of the item (e.g., milk and laundry detergent jugs, soda and water bottles). Also now included are wide-mouth containers like yogurt cups, margarine tubs, peanut butter jars, as well as rigid plastics like flower pots, buckets, laundry baskets, toys, and children's play equipment. Also as part of the new guidelines, residents can now leave the plastic caps on their recycled glass bottles. (NOTE: Not acceptable are Styrofoam, plastic food trays and cups, or clamshell containers.) Check with your condo association board or Web site to verify whether, and to what extent, your trash/recycling collector conforms to the county's expanded guidelines for plastics recyclables. The seven condo association Web sites can be accessed from the FCA Web site, www.fca-fairlington.org; click the left tab "Community Links."

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.

More snow?

Weather forecasters say that last year's Snowmageddon, the historic, once-in-a-generation series of snowstorms in December 2009 through February 2010, is unlikely to be repeated in the Washington area this winter. Instead, we will have an "average" winter, with occasional snow events and some volatile swings in temperature—cold streaks followed by thaws.

Delegate Englin hosts weather event response forum, December 15



Photograph by Steve Andrews.

Virginia State Delegate David Englin (D) will host a "Snowmageddon /Treemageddon" community forum at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, December 15, in the Minnie Howard school auditorium, 3801 West Braddock Rd., Alexandria. Representatives from state and local agencies, Dominion, Comcast, and Verizon have been invited to brief local residents on their response plans for snow and storm events and to answer questions from citizens.

Delegate Englin noted that "between last winter's paralyzing snowstorms and the hellacious wind in August that devastated homes and neighborhoods with damage from felled trees," he received numerous questions from constituents who were frustrated by the response from utilities and state and local agencies. The forum will provide an opportunity for constructive discussion about effective responses to future emergencies.

The 45th district of the Virginia House of Delegates includes the central and Old Town portions of the City of Alexandria; the Fairlington, Abingdon, and Shirlington precincts of Arlington County; the Belleview, Marlan, Kirkside, and Grosvenor precincts of the Mount Vernon Magisterial District in Fairfax County; and the Mount Eagle and Cameron precincts of the Lee Magisterial District in Fairfax County. For more information, go online to www.davidenglin.org.

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FHS celebrates anniversary, return of models



Left to right, FHS founding member Cindy Kunz and FCA president Sam Anthony cut the cake to commemorate the return of the Fairlington models, now on display at the FCC. Nancy Hunt, FCA past president, locates her home on the models. Photographs by Gretchen Fallon.

The Fairlington Historical Society was busy on the evening of October 28, hosting enthusiastic supporters at not one, but two celebratory events. At the Fairlington Community Center, FCA president Sam Anthony welcomed guests and residents, including FHS members Cindy Kunz, Terry Placek, and Patty Clark who applauded the return of the Fairlington models to the FCC. The large models (the triangle, showing south Fairlington, is seven feet wide at the base, and six feet tall; the rectangle, showing north Fairlington, is six-and-a-half feet wide by four-and-a-half feet high) can now be seen mounted on the wall of the FCC's north corridor, near room 103.

When Fairlington was converted from rental housing to condominiums in the 1970s, the models, originally designed as table-top displays, were used by sales agents to show potential home buyers the layout of the neighborhood. After forty years, the models had fallen into disrepair and posed a storage problem. They were rescued from almost certain destruction through the advocacy efforts of the historical society and contributions from the FHS, the FCA, and Fairlington's seven homeowners associations. Salvaged from the dust bin, the models underwent rehabilitation work by the county's Historical Preservation Program, directed by program coordinator Michael Leventhal. While party attendees eagerly located their own homes on the models, Leventhal explained part of their appeal: "While the models are not themselves historic, they do allow viewers to understand the sheer size of this historic complex and the enormous pastoral setting the buildings are laid in."

The evening's festivities then moved to the North Fairlington Community Center—the building on S. Abingdon Street, now owned by Fairlington Villages condo association, was the original site of the sales office during Fair-

lington's 1970s condominium conversion. There, the FHS celebrated its tenth anniversary year with a World War II-era buffet dinner of 1940s comfort food. Hors d'oeuvres recalled what would have been typical cocktail-party or finger-food fare for Fairlington's first hostesses: Ritz crackers and a variety of spreads, a platter of crudités, "pigs in a blanket," and creamy chicken salad. The recipes were provided by Cindy Kunz's mother, who remembered entertaining with these dishes some 60 years ago.

Apply now for 2011 class of Tree Stewards

The Tree Stewards of Arlington and Alexandria are volunteers dedicated to improving the health of urban trees through educational programs, tree planting and care, demonstrations, and tree maintenance throughout the community. New volunteer training will be held on Tuesday evenings, starting February 8, 2011, and running through April, with some Saturday morning sessions. Fun and interactive training is provided by recognized experts in tree care and citizen advocates. Join us and learn how to care for trees on the streets, in parks, at schools, churches, temples, and your neighborhood. Tree Steward programs are open to all, and some scholarships are available. For more information and to complete an application, visit the Tree Steward Web site at www.TreeStewards.org or call 703-527-2349 ext 4.





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Schools reaching their limits

—excerpted from Arlington County press releases and the Sun Gazette Newspapers

Average class sizes across the Arlington Public Schools system could rise again next year, as APS tries to keep pace with a growing student population. “All signs are pointing up” when it comes to student enrollment, said Alison Denton, APS acting director of facilities, during a November briefing to School Board members. The student body grew by 5 percent over the past year, and it is expected to increase another 4.5 percent by next year. With a current enrollment of just over 21,000, anticipated growth may bring the school system to 100-percent capacity by 2013—and then keep on increasing. School officials project as many as 26,000 students could be in schools by 2016.

Increasing class size again next year is one possibility for dealing with crowding. In addition, APS is now buying, rather than just renting, classroom trailers (called “relocatables” in APS jargon). They are starting to convert non-classroom spaces for use by students. Possibilities for longer-term management involve redistricting and employing a staggered day at secondary schools. Some schools will be more crowded than others, but the problem exists county-wide: APS officials say that, by 2015, elementary schools will average 112 percent of capacity, middle schools 110 percent, and high schools 108 percent. For more information, go online to www.arlington.k12.va.us/aps.

Shirlington Library’s informal book club

“Read between the lines” is an informal book club that meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 1 p.m. at Shirlington Library. There is no specific, pre-chosen book to discuss. Rather, readers share whatever they’re currently reading, and all genres are welcome. For more information, contact the library programs office, 703-228-0328.

Holiday volunteering

For ideas and holiday volunteer opportunities, go online to www.arlingtonva.us and search volunteer.

Library cuts draw complaints

Meeting in late September and again in October, Arlington County Board members heard complaints about the reduced hours at public libraries that went into effect in July, with the FY2011 budget. When pressed by library boosters to reconsider restoring the lost hours, members pointed out that Central Library remains open seven days a week, with some reduced hours, while alternating days were cut from operating schedules at branch libraries.

Acknowledging the chilly budget climate, board chairman Jay Fissette said in September “difficult choices had to be made.” In October, the board rejected suggestions that there was money available now to fund restoration of library hours. Barbara Favola added, “We went through the budget very carefully.” County officials directed staff to begin compiling a list of places besides county libraries that could serve as learning centers. The list would incorporate schools, community centers, and non-government libraries, such as those at local colleges and universities.

The board indicated that library-hours cuts would be looked at again during deliberations for the FY2012 budget. The budget process has begun, and the new FY2012 budget will take effect in July 2011.

DHS Secret Santa program requests gift cards

The Department of Human Services is asking for help this holiday season to provide gift cards for children in foster care, people with disabilities, and low-income seniors and families. Arlington residents become Santa’s helpers by donating gift cards from area stores (like grocery stores, drug stores, Target, Wal-Mart, etc.), and then DHS will distribute them to more than 1,000 needy individuals in Arlington. Gift cards should not exceed \$50 each, but you can submit as many as you like. Donations are generally tax deductible.

Mail or hand-deliver gift cards by December 17 to: Secret Santa Program, c/o Kurt Larrick, DHS, 2100 Washington Blvd., 4th Floor, Arlington VA 22204. Cards may be designated for a particular beneficiary group or not. Undesignated gift cards are especially welcome. Include the value of the gift card (if it’s not printed on the card), a return address so DHS can acknowledge the gift and send a tax form. For more information, contact Kurt Larrick, 703-228-1775.



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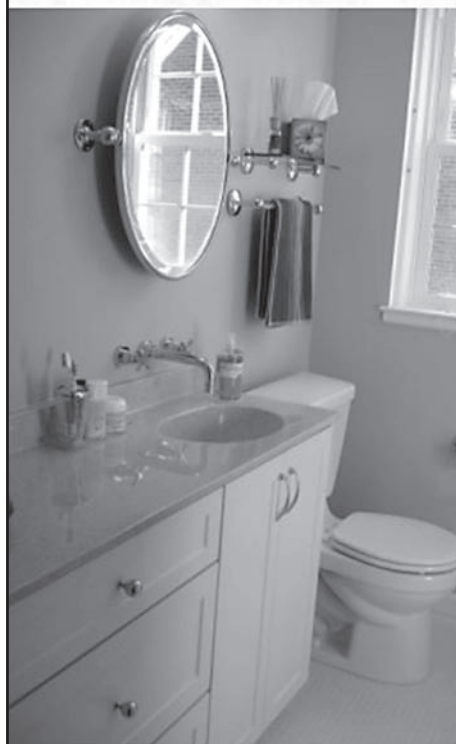
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Anti-theft tips for bikes

In 2010, 394 bicycles were reported stolen in Arlington. The Arlington County Police Department wants to remind residents to protect their bikes from theft with these tips.

Most owners of stolen bikes used chains with padlocks or cable locks, but neither method provides sufficient security. A properly secured U-lock is strongly recommended. Most effective is to use a U-lock combined with a cable or chain. For how-to details, visit the ACPD Web site (see below).

Do not make your bike an easy target or a crime of opportunity. Don't leave it unlocked on the front porch, on the patio, in a shed, or in an open garage.

Register your bike with ACPD. You will receive a decal to serve as a visible deterrent to theft, and your information will be on file in case the bike is stolen.

Keep a photograph of the bike, and make a record of the serial/ID number (located on the frame between the pedals), the brand/style, and any distinguishing features.

If you see someone (particularly with a backpack) spending time around the bike racks (particularly at the Metro or mall or in your building garage or parking lot) or taking too long to unlock a bike, it may be suspicious. Call the ACPD non-emergency line, 703-558-2222.

Go online to the ACPD Web site, www.arlingtonva.us/Departments/Police, and follow the links to crime prevention and bicycle safety. You can register your bike, file an incident report, and visit the recovered-bikes page. ACPD also operates an Abandoned Bicycle hotline, 703-228-4057.

Generic Tamiflu is a fake

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration warned consumers in September about a potentially harmful product called "generic Tamiflu," which is being marketed and sold over the Internet. FDA tests revealed that the fraudulent product does not contain Tamiflu's active ingredient, oseltamivir; rather, it contains cloxacillin, an ingredient in the same class of antibiotics as penicillin. For more information, go online to www.fda.gov.

Election of November 2

In the general election of November 2, Arlington voters returned Democratic incumbent Chris Zimmerman to the county board. With all precincts reporting as of November 3 (not counting absentee ballots), Zimmerman won a new term with 30,099 votes, or 57.3 percent of the county total. That compared to 18,989 votes or 36.1 percent for Republican Mark Kelly and 3,117 or 5.9 percent for Green Party candidate Kevin Chisholm. The Fairlington precinct (south Fairlington) fairly mirrored the county's result: Zimmerman received 61.68 percent of the vote; Kelly 32.8 percent; and Chisholm 4.97 percent. For county-wide and precinct-by-precinct results, go online to the county Web site, www.arlingtonva.us, and search election results.

Flu shot linked to reduced risk for heart attack

Reuters News reported this fall that middle-aged and older adults who get the flu vaccine may be less likely to suffer a first-time heart attack in the following year than those who skip the shot, according to a study published in the Canadian Medical Association Journal. The findings do not prove that the flu shot, by itself, can prevent heart attacks. But they add to evidence that flu infection can trigger heart attacks in some people, and that preventing the flu through vaccination might lessen that risk.

There's still time to get a flu shot

It's not too late to get a flu shot, say the experts at CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention). Yearly flu vaccination usually begins in September or as soon as the flu vaccine is available, and vaccination continues throughout the flu season, into December, January, and beyond for as long as the vaccine is available. This is because the timing and duration of the flu season varies. While flu outbreaks can happen as early as October, most of the time influenza activity peaks in January or later. For more information, go online to www.flu.gov.



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— Edward Getterman,
Fairlington Resident

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— Rick Micker, Former Fairlington Condo VP

I am writing to tell you about how satisfied I am by the work your employees did. Your employees were so careful with my new paint and newly refinished floors. I was very pleased by the care taken to clean my air ducts. I would recommend your company to others.

— Denice McCullough, Fairlington Resident

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FAIRLINGTON

community center news

Holiday closings: FCC will be closed on Christmas Eve, Christmas day, New Year's Eve, and New Year's Day.

Holiday giving: Toys for Tots

Help less fortunate children experience the joys of the season by donating a new, unwrapped toy for elementary-aged children by 5 p.m. on Friday, December 17. Drop off new toys in the donation box in the FCC lobby.

Classes and workshops

Get the complete description online or go to the FCC to pick up a copy of *Enjoy Arlington*. For questions or registration, go online to www.arlingtonva.us or call 703-228-4747. Contact the FCC at 703-228-6588.

Fitness challenge for teens

Join the FitArlington Teen Fitness Challenge, a program run by teens for teens. Work out at the four county fitness centers, including the FCC, where your peer mentor will help you create a fitness program customized to your individual goals and strength level. Drop into fitness class (e.g., yoga, cycling, body sculpting, and more) led by certified spotters. You must attend introductory training sessions to receive your membership card and continue working out at Teen Fitness locations. Graduates from our program can work out in any county fitness centers. Training sessions are available by appointment. \$15 covers your membership costs until you graduate from high school. For more

information, contact Shanan Knox, sknox@arlingtonva.us, 703-228-7782 or go online to www.arlingtonva.us and search teen fitness.

Basic wire wrapped Christmas ornament

Create delicate wire-wrapped ornaments for your home or as a gift. Learn basic wire wrapping skills while using wire wrapping jigs and other tools. A supply fee of \$20 will be paid to the instructor the day of the class. Inst: Debbie Hogan. One session for adults, \$26, Sat., Dec. 4, 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., #140107A.

Mystery academy magic craft camp

This fun, active program is designed for children who are interested in constructing their own props, tricks, and magic apparatuses to perform magic with a holiday theme. Make your own trick card, make a magic paper Christmas tree, or create and paint your own magic wand. For more information and to register, visit www.mysteryacademy.com or call 240-449-9394. Ages 6 to 12, \$200, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Mon., Dec. 27 through Thurs., Dec. 30.

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 who hold a 55+ pass. Call Emma Valencia at 703-228-7791 for more information. There are no events on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Eve.

Master Gardeners plant clinic

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

FCC hours and contact info

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

Saturday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Sunday, closed.

Holiday closings observed.

Hours 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.

Open play in gym, 13 and older

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

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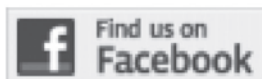
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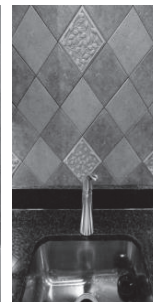
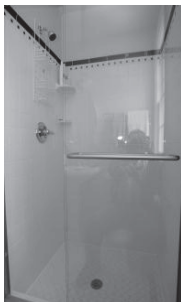
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DOWN TO EARTH patio gardening



An herb garden is a chef's dream

Cooler weather finally arrived the first of November. With that comes the scent of simmering casserole dishes along with aromas of soups and stews in the crock pot. You can easily boost the flavor of these dishes with herbs from the garden. If you haven't already done so, try planting these in containers for next season:

Bay. The aromatic leaf of the bay laurel plant, the fresh leaves are mild and don't develop flavor until several weeks after picking and drying.

Oregano. This is a mint family herb that is also more flavorful when dried. It is a pasta sauce requirement and is also featured in Greek salad. Oregano typically flavors mutton and lamb in Turkish kebabs.

Basil. This is another mint family herb that is used routinely in Italian dishes (sweet basil), south-east Asian cuisine (Thai basil), and middle-eastern food (lemon basil). The plant is native to Iran and India.

Chives. The smallest onion family herb, chives are often used to accompany fish, potatoes, and soups. It is also grown in gardens to repel insects, just like the Citronella plant does with mosquitoes. Chives' violet flower is used in bouquets.

Garlic. Another onion family herb, the garlic bulb can be minced or mashed to use in spreads on breads and in pasta sauces. Because of its pungent smell and taste, garlic is also grown in the garden to repel moles and rabbits.

Clove. Dried cloves are familiar to Americans when stuck into ham



Lavender flowers make the rosemary plant a stand-out in the kitchen garden.

shanks for flavoring. Clove is also used in Indian cuisine, to make cigarettes in Indonesia, for teas in India, and for incense in Asia. Clove oil has medicinal uses—relief for a toothache when applied directly to a cavity or as a soothing agent for a skin burn. You can also find clove oil in aromatherapy products.

Parsley. Parsley is a kitchen staple, appearing often as a garnish or edible additive. In the garden, you may notice swallowtail butterflies, bumblebees, and caterpillars visiting the plant for a meal. Parsley can be added to potato and rice dishes or

sprinkled over a hot pasta sauce.

Rosemary. Known for its lavender flowers and for drought-tolerance in the garden, rosemary is also familiar in the kitchen—you may have noticed that when burned, rosemary smells like mustard. Its bitter taste can be found often in Mediterranean foods, with their reputation for healthfulness, since rosemary is a good source of iron, calcium, and vitamin B-6. It also treats gout, reportedly.

— Bill Sullivan,
www.sullivanlandscaping.net



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Join us for Movie Night on December 3

Our first Movie Night of the year is coming up on Friday, December 3. We hope you'll join us for our feature presentation, *How to Train Your Dragon*. Doors to the multi-purpose room open up at 6 p.m. and the movie starts at 6:30. Feel free to bring blankets, pillows, and even your pajamas for an evening of family fun. Admission is free. We'll also sell raffle tickets for giveaways, including the DVD, the book that inspired the movie, and other prizes. The PTA will sell pizza (\$1 a slice or \$8 for a whole pie) as well as popcorn, other snacks, and drinks (50¢ each).

Show us your PTA membership card and you'll get your popcorn free! Membership is only \$5/family, and if you still want to join, go to www.abingdonpta.org and print out the membership form under Get Involved. And, you know, you don't have to be a parent or teacher to support the Abingdon PTA.

Save the date for Friday, January 7 for our next Movie Night, too!

Thank you for another fantastic Fall Festival

Many thanks to everyone who attended our annual Fall Festival on October 22. This year, we raffled off 31 different prizes, many of which were donated by local companies or families. Festival-goers bought tickets for the raffle or received them for making a donation of a can or box of non-perishable food for the Arlington Food Assistance Center. Many thanks to these great community businesses for their support:



Photo top: Abingdon's fourth-grade violinists performed at our first Project GIFT showcase of the year on November 3. Photograph by Eric Golden.

Photo bottom: Fifth graders sold Project GIFT and Abingdon T-shirts at the Fall Festival to raise money for their annual field trips. Anyone interested in buying one and supporting the fifth grade, please call Michelle at 703-625-9597. Photograph by Eric Golden.

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And an extra special thanks to Great Harvest Bread Company, which

donated the prize baskets and gift certificates for our apple baking contest.

Thank you also to our Fall Festival organizing committee: Kate Maxwell, Deb Staren-Doby, Jenny Johnson, Natalie Garrett, Nancy Buchholz, and Jane Temoshok. And thanks to all the parents and teachers who volunteered their time and talents to make the Fall Festival a great success.

—By Michelle Marston, Abingdon PTA co-president

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 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.

This month the Fair Golds will hold a business meeting on Thursday, December 2. On Thursday, December 16, we will celebrate the season with a Holiday Luncheon at Chez Andree. We always welcome guests and/or new members over 55 years of age. Please feel free to join us at our meetings to 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, call Gertrude Frankel at 703-931-3759 or Vernetta Kukolich 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

December brings a special annual treat for Fairlington Diners. Once again, Sharon has graciously invited us to her house for a covered-dish supper and gift exchange (see below). We're a low-key group of Fairlington and non-Fairlington friends who gather for dinner a couple of times month, and focus on having a good meal in great company. Come out and join us this month!

Saturday, December 11, 6:30 p.m. For the covered-dish supper, each attendee is expected to bring food or drink to share, and we'll have the now-traditional gift swap (\$10 limit). Please call Sharon at 703-578-1763 so she can coordinate food and drink and provide you with the address and directions if needed.

Tuesday, December 21, 7:30 p.m. Fish night at Ramparts, 1700 Fern St, Alexandria, 703-998-6616. This is something



Pack 350 would like to express its appreciation to all of those in Fairlington who participated in the Scouting for Food Program on Saturday, November 13. Through the efforts of all, the Scouts delivered 567 pounds of food to AFAC. Photograph by Susan Snare.

we thought we'd try as a way to decompress during the holiday season.

Please call Carol to let us know if 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. Please leave a voicemail if you don't reach Carol directly—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, send your e-mail address to carol_dabbs@yahoo.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 Co-op can accommodate diverse schedules and situations.

The Co-op works on a card system, where each member

neighborhood news

Continued

starts out with 15 one-hour cards and can use them to pay for sits. Sits 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 the FBC via Google Groups at <http://groups.google.com/group/fairlington-babysitting> or by e-mail at fairlingtonbabysitting@gmail.com. The Fairlington Babysitting Co-op looks forward to hearing from you!

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.

If you would like to learn more about the club and meet other parents, please join us for our general meeting on Wednesday, December 8, at the Fairlington Community Center. Children are welcome. For more information about the club, the general meeting, or membership, please contact Angela Klaus (Membership VP) at fairlingtonmoms@yahoo.com. Annual dues of \$25 support quarterly group functions and community service projects.

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Arlington students to design car decal

Arlington high school students have until December 17 at 5 p.m. to submit their artwork, featuring something related to Arlington, for consideration by the county treasurer's office as the design for the 2011-12 vehicle decal. Like most municipalities in Virginia, Arlington uses decals to determine whether car owners have paid personal property taxes, but, since 2002, Arlington has turned the design competition into an annual community event. Starting in January, the four top designs will be voted on by Arlington residents at the county Web site. The final winner will be announced in February, and the four finalists each will receive a \$500 savings bond. The winning design will be displayed next year, in two-inch by one-and-a-half-inch format, on about 155,000 cars in Arlington.

For more information and submission forms, go online to the county Web site at www.arlingtonva.us, and follow links to the treasurer's office. For questions, contact Arandia, at 703-228-3057 or by e-mail at karandia@arlingtonva.us.

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INCOME TAXES. We can prepare your Federal and State Income Taxes. New home-owners and all-50-state taxes our specialty. Electronic Filing. Convenient location, evening and weekend hours. 30% discount for Fairlington Residents. Visit www.cpa-coker.com for more information, directions. Call for appointment 703- 931-3290.

Massage*REFLEXOLOGY*REIKI* YOGA. Self-care starts with you. Create a class or purchase a private session to pamper you. Certified Fairlington resident. Gift certificates available. www.moorethanyoga.com. 703-671-2435.

COMPUTER HELP. Fairlington resident will help resolve problems with computers and other electronic equipment. Jim 703-820-8767 - jandgonline.com.

HUGHES COMMUNICATIONS. Complete installation or repair of telephone, CATV, or data wiring and outlets. All work performed by owner/technician Al Hughes. 40 years experience. Licensed and insured. All services are schedule for a specific appointment time. All work guaranteed, with free estimate, if necessary. Call 703-354-4528 with any questions or to schedule an appointment.

I FLAUT! DO YOU? Does your child love playing music? For pleasure or competition? My passion is helping all abilities and ages thrive and learn. Adults welcome. Former GWU flute professor. Call 703-998-7223 for a free lesson. www.lynnhertel.com.

HOME ORGANIZING SERVICES! Get yourself organized before the holidays. Ask about our gift certificates and give the gift of organizing to a friend or family member. Contact Di by e-mail at di@simplifywithdi.net or call 703-909-1300. www.simplifywithdi.net.

HEALING TOUCH. Massage therapy services. 1225 Martha Custis Drive Suite 2. Alexandria, Va. 22302. 5-10 minutes from Fairlington. Phone 703-980-5304. For more information check out: www.healingtouchmassagetherapy.biz.

MINDFUL MEDITATION FOR ENHANCED CREATIVITY. This 9-session group introduces you to meditation to enhance your creative potential; assisting people who are creative in the arts, or any area of life, to be centered and confident in their being as they create. Held at Convergence at 1801 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria, VA. Next group starting February, 2011. Contact Rusty Lynn at rustylynn@earthlink.net for more information.

HAIR SALON SERVICES in your home! Mobile hair stylist performs cuts, color, highlights, sets, up-dos, and makeup, all within the privacy of your home. Perfect for busy families and upcoming holidays. Let the salon come to you! Contact Jennifer at 202-285-1845 or jenorendi@hotmail.com.

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CHILD CARE. Professional child care in my home. FT/PT. CPR and first aid. Excellent references. Worked with children for 23 years. Infants welcome. Call Pat at 703-370-2603.

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SULLIVAN'S LANDSCAPING. Ready for a new look in your patio? Email or call Bill at SULLIVAN'S LANDSCAPING, INC. billsullivan41@gmail.com or 571.213.9567. My prices are affordable and my customer service is proven. Interested in learning about landscaping? Register for my class at: www.sullivanslandscaping.net

Improvements

HANDYMAN. Windows, glass, clogged drains, storm door repairs, fixtures, garbage disposal installation, etc. Dave Pearce. 703-201-6303.

WINDOW REPAIR. Best prices. Quality work. Check my ad on new vinyl windows! Dave Pearce. 703-201-6303.

DOOR SOLUTIONS. 1,000's of pleased customers since 1992. An expert in Fairlington doors. Website: www.doorsolutions.biz (information/prices). Email Bill: bill@doorsolutions.biz.

PAINTING. Greg the Painter – Sixteen years Fairlington resident, quality interior painting and drywall repair. Large and small jobs. Call 571-242-2702.

MICHAEL PACHECO CONTRACTING. 40 YEARS EXPERIENCE. No job too small. Interior renovation to include: painting, finish carpentry, window sills and casings, complete kitchen and bathroom remodeling, plaster repair. We also remove wallpaper, tile installation, tile grouting, linoleum kitchen and bathroom floors, and wall to wall carpeting. Installation of exterior doors all types including storm doors. General household repairs. Your home left clean and neat. Old fashioned quality at an affordable price. WE ARE NOW RUNNING A SPECIAL. WE WILL BEAT ANY WRITTEN ESTIMATE BY \$200.00. Call Michael at 703-379-6725.

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Mini-ads

HOME IMPROVEMENT. Ask to see finished bathrooms and kitchens to compare quality and price. Call Fairlington Maintenance Service. 703-379-7733. fairlingtonmaintenance.com

KITCHEN CEILING. Serving Fairlington since 1978. We have developed several ceiling designs. Talk to us about your kitchen renovation needs. Call Fairlington Maintenance Service. 703-379-7733. fairlingtonmaintenance.com

HOME IMPROVEMENTS AND REPAIRS. Serving Fairlington since 1978. Hundreds of bathrooms and kitchens renovated. Other services include painting, plumbing, window repairs, leak detection and correction, dryer vent replacement, regrouting, recaulking, drywall repairs, etc. Call Vic Sison at Fairlington Maintenance Service 703-379-7733. fairlingtonmaintenance.com

STAPLES REMODELING. For all of your remodeling needs. Kitchens, bathrooms, basements and painting. Call 703-499-2249 for a free estimate. Visit our website at www.staplesremodeling.com.

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LOCKSMITH/HANDYMAN. Locks rekeyed, replaced, or combined to one key. Plumbing, electrical, window, etc. Specializing in Fairlington. Call Jason Langhorne at 703-945-7661. E-mail : Jason.Fairlington@gmail.com.

CUSTOM FINISH CARPENTER. 15 years experience in all general carpentry, specializing in finish carpentry. Doors, windows, casings, base boards, dado rails, crown moulding , window seats, book shelve,closets. No job too small! Fairlington resident. Contact me for free quotation at (C) 301-801-1370 or (H) 571-970-5623. jamesfreeman.carpenter@gmail.com

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MICHELE'S MAIDS. Reliable, honest & affordable. Specializing in detailed cleaning. Serving Fairlington for over 13 years. LICENSED, BONDED & INSURED. Fairlington references available. No Machines to talk to. 703-820-1808 Visit our website at www.michelesmaids.net

HOUSE CLEANING. Reliable, experienced, good references, flexible scheduling, reasonable rates. We bring our own equipment. Weekly - bi-weekly - monthly - occasionally. One-time, move-in/out, offices. For free in home estimate call Maryen/ Raul at 703-321-5335.

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.

HOUSE CLEANING. Experienced, honest, detailed cleaning. Excellent references from Fairlington residents. Weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, occasionally, move-in/out. Call 703-820-2116 or 703-597-1226.

Pet Services

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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ALWAYS CARING PET CARE. Dog walking, cat sitting. Reliable, flexible, midday, holiday or vacation care for your pets. Serving Fairlington for over 10 years. Excellent references. 703-765-0990.

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.

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HOUSING SHARE - FAIRLINGTON. Active, employed, young senior. Female. Rent negotiable. Option to help with children, household, meal prep, pets. References 703-371-1671.

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BONDED & INSURED

NOTICE TO ALL ADVERTISERS

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

Name: _____ Phone (h): _____

Address: _____ Phone (w): _____

City, State, Zip: _____ E-mail: _____

Category (see newsletter for options): _____

Mini-Ad Text (please print clearly): _____

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