BULLETIN





www.fca-fairlington.org

DECEMBER 2016

Volume 42, Number 12

Santa Claus set to ride through Fairlington December 10

Santa Claus is coming to town.

It seems to arrive quicker and quicker each year, but Santa's annual ride through the neighborhood aboard Arlington Fire Station 7's Engine 107 is set for Saturday, December 10, between 3 and 5 pm.

The Jolly Old Elf takes a break from his toy-making duties at the North Pole in order to wave to and visit with kids of all ages, with the help of Fairlington's firefighter helpers. His red suit cleaned and pressed, his black boots shined, and his snow-



Santa Claus waves to all his fans as he rolls through the streets of Fairlington on Engine 107 at last year's Santa ride. Santa makes a return engagement on Saturday, December 10. Photo by Guy Land.

white beard primped and readied by Mrs. Claus and North Pole stylists, Mr. Claus will board Engine 107 and make his way through Fairlington neighborhoods on both sides of the S. Abingdon St. bridge.

With Engine 107 lights flashing, Santa will weave methodically through several neighborhood streets. But if there is an emergency requiring Santa's mode of transportation for the day and his helpful firefighter friends, the man some have called kindest ever to guide a team of reindeer understands that would be more important.

Right now, Santa's schedule calls for him to climb down from Engine 107 to greet his fans, young and old alike, at the North Fairlington Community Center at 3005 S. Abingdon St., and the Fairlington Community Center at 3308 S. Stafford St.

See Santa's scheduled route through Fairlington on page 9. A map of the route is available on the FCA website (fca-fairlington.org).

So we expect no pouting or crying, just waves and shouts of joy from Santa fans young and old.

—Bob Bradley Santa's route on page 9

Inside this month

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Coming up ...

The FCA Board invites all Fairlington residents to attend its meetings, which occur on the second Wednesday of the month at the Fairlington Community Center (3308 S. Stafford St.) unless otherwise noted. Before the beginning of each monthly Executive Board meeting, FCA members may address the board on matters affecting the community, limited to three minutes per member.

FCA monthly meeting December 14

Election: The annual election of officers and directors for the Fairlington Citizens Association will be held.

Regular board business:

- Approval of November minutes
- Office reports
- Committee reports
- Unfinished business
- New business

Online resources:

Find more information on the FCA website, www.fca-fairlington.org. Sign up for updates delivered to your inbox.

Find us on Facebook at Fairlington Appreciation Society.

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

Web design by Global Thinking, Alexandria, VA, www.globalthinking.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/Environmental

www.arlingtonva.us/departments/Environmental Services/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

Board of Directors

Officers Guy Land, President Jonathan Ansley, Vice President Ed Hilz, Treasurer Lindsay Willmann, Secretary Directors Hugh Baumgardner Kent Duffy Evan Harvey Chris Weathers

Fairlington-Shirlington Neighborhood Conservation Committee

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

All Fairlington Bulletin

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Assistant Editor: Christine Chirichella
Advertising Manager: Beth Andrews
Distribution Manager: Noemi Riveira

— DEADLINE —

6 PM, **10th of month** preceding publication month for commercial advertising, mini-ads, and editorial copy.

Send material on disk with paper proof to:

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

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Calendar

Fairlington Diners

Friday, December 9, 1:30 pm L'Augerge Chez Francois 332 Springvale Rd. Great Falls, VA 22066

Santa on the Fire Truck

Saturday, December 10, 3-5 pm

FCA monthly meeting

Wednesday, December 14, 7 pm FCC, 3308 S. Stafford St.

Christmas Day

Sunday, December 25 FCC closed Monday, December 26

New Year's Day

Sunday, January 1 FCC closed Monday, January 2

Trees a crowd



Workers for J.L.Tree prune a county tree on S. Stafford St. The county pruned many of the street trees in North and South Fairlington this fall. Photo by Guy Land.

Contributors this month: Bob Bradley, Christine Chirichella, Jeni Hornback, Guy Land, Bill Sullivan, Anne Wilson.

Some images in this publication may be digitally enhanced.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In December, the Arlington County Board will vote on regulations governing short-term rentals of residential units, such as those that are frequently advertised on Airbnb or craigslist.

County zoning currently doesn't formally authorize these rentals but according to the county, back in the summer there were roughly 1,600 of these short-term rentals listed in Arlington.

Through the regulations, the county is trying to strike a balance between residents who are concerned about threats to the character of their neighborhood and owners who would like to rent out their units for a few days, while also ensuring the health and safety of the renters.

The draft rules have a couple of implications for Fairlington. First, the regulations would not override more restrictive condo rules and bylaws.

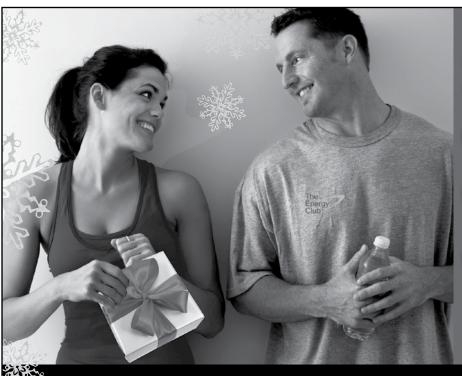
Most of the condo bylaws in Fairlington appear to prohibit short-term rentals. The Fairlington Villages bylaws, for example, say that "No condominium unit within the project shall be rented for transient or hotel purposes... for any period less than one month." Under the county's proposed rules, short-term rentals arguably would continue to be banned in North Fairlington, and the county's proposed provisions wouldn't have any effect.

Second, even if the condo bylaws permit short-term rentals, the state building code may impose requirements that make these rentals impractical in Fairlington. According to county staff, the state building code, which supersedes county rules, treats short-term rentals in multi-family properties as a hotel and subjects them to hotel-like requirements.

In response to a question from FCA in November, county staff said that the state building code would definitely cover short-term rentals in high-rise condo buildings and in apartment-style condo buildings, like those in North and South Fairlington. What county staff haven't yet focused on is what the impact of the rules would be in garden-style condos. Obviously, Fairlington has elements of both.

In crafting the regulations, most of the attention of staff has been on single-family houses, which is where most of the interest in short-term rentals is coming from, though it's worth noting that earlier this fall there were over a dozen Fairlington rentals listed on Airbnb. FCA will continue to monitor the regulations and work with interested Fairlington condo associations.

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



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Election day in Fairlington

A steady stream of Fairlington voters enjoyed sunny skies and mild temps as they cast ballots in last month's election. Fairlington residents vote in two locations—the South Fairlington Community Center (the "Fairlington" precinct) and, this year, the North Fairlington Community Center (the "Abingdon" precinct).



Campaign signs, and a couple of voters, adorn the front of the Fairlington Villages Community Center on Election Day on November 8. Photos by Guy Land.

At the polling place in South Fairlington, Girl Scouts from Wakefield High School hosted a morning bake sale for hungry voters, while in North Fairlington a group of young entrepreneurs offered a discount on lemonade for voters who were wearing an "I Voted" sticker.



Members of the Girl Scouts sell some of their wares in front of the FCC polling place.

Georgetown University students conducted an exit poll survey of voters leaving the North Fairlington polling place. That precinct was one of eight in Arlington selected by a political analytics course. Thirty precincts were sampled across Virginia, Maryland, and the District.

In the voting itself, the two precincts in Fairlington generally followed broader patterns in the county and reflected the county's strong embrace of Democratic candidates. According to unofficial returns from the Virginia Department of Elections, Hillary Clinton carried



Youngsters get involved in the process by selling lemonade to voters on Election Day.

both precincts by large margins. Countywide, Clinton received 75.8 percent of the vote to Donald Trump's 16.6 percent. Fairlington's Abingdon precinct went for Clinton with 74.4 percent, while her totals dropped off a bit in South Fairlington, which gave her only 69.7 percent.

The two precincts also gave Fairlington resident Libby Garvey strong support in her bid for re-election to the county board. In South Fairlington, Garvey picked up 74.5 percent, out-performing her countywide average of 70.1 percent. In the Abingdon precinct, her vote dropped to 69.1 percent.



A Georgetown student administers an Election Day survey to a Fairlington voter on November 8.

Arlington saw the most voters ever to cast ballots—121,807—but General Registrar Linda Lindberg noted that because of population increases, this year's turnout percentage (82 percent) fell short of the all-time record turnout of 85 percent set back in 1992.

—Guy Land



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Preliminary plan revealed for King Street bridge repairs

Preliminary plans for the refurbishing of the King St. bridge spanning I-395 were put before residents and the Fairlington Citizens Association at its monthly meeting on November 9.

The bridge, which was constructed in 1970, has been classified as structurally deficient. However, that does not mean it is in any imminent danger of a catastrophic event.

"It needs some attention," said Brian Morrison, senior structural engineer for the Virginia Department of Transportation, who gave the 25-minute presentation. The substructure of the bridge is classified as poor in condition, compared with the deck (good) and superstructure (fair).

The final design of the project is currently taking place and expected to last through the summer of 2017. Public information meetings are expected to take place in



Wear and tear of the substructure of the King Street bridge over I-395 is clearly visible. Photo courtesy of VDOT.

the winter of 2017. Morrison said the project could be advertised for bid in October 2017 "if construction funding becomes available."

Construction could begin in 2018 and could take up to two years

to complete. Morrison stated that much of the work will be done at night or in other off-peak hours.

The scope of the project includes replacing the existing railings and repairing the deck, including closing the expansion joints at all the piers. Steel beams will be cleaned and painted and bearing assemblies replaced.

Work on the substructure will call for lane shifts on I-395 as four piers and two abutments get the attention. For the substructure, deteriorated concrete will be repaired and an Impressed Concrete Cathodic Protection (ICCP) system, which includes a titanium mesh with electrical current that works against corrosion, will be put in place.

The bridge project also proposes bicycle and pedestrian improvements, including widening the shoulders on each side of King St., and reconstructing the current four-foot wide sidewalk to an eight-foot wide sidewalk centered in the median.



Brian Morrison, a senior structural engineer with the Virginia Department of Transportation, outlines some of the plans the agency has for repairing the bridge. Photo by Bob Bradley.

The price tag for the project is estimated at \$11.8 million, and Morrison said there are funding mechanisms in place for infrastructure projects.

There are potential traffic headaches associated with the project, as closures and detours will occur in both directions for five weekends each, according to preliminary plans. When the westbound lane and the I-395 ramp are closed, those traveling on King St. will be diverted to Van Dorn St., where they can access I-395 at exit 5. Vehicles wanting to stay on King St. will operate from Van Dorn to Braddock Rd., to Beauregard St.

When the eastbound lanes are closed, the plan is to divert traffic from Beauregard to Braddock. Motorists can then either remain on Beauregard or take Van Dorn to get back to King St. Those traveling on I-395 looking to go eastbound on King will be detoured to Quaker Lane.

Concerns raised at the meeting about the preliminary plan included scheduled HOT Lanes, the I-395 project, and a retail development and roadway improvement plan for the intersection of Beauregard St. and King St.—projects whose timelines intersect.

Morrison said that with the improvements, the bridge would have a lifespan of up to 75 years.

—Bob Bradley



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Santa's route through Fairlington

- 1. Leave Station 7 at 3 p.m.
- 2. Left onto S. Abingdon St.
- 3. Left onto S. 31st crossing S. Buchanan St.
- 4. Right onto S. Columbus Street crossing S. 30th St.
- 5. Right onto S. 29th St. crossing S. Buchanan St.
- 6. Right onto S. Abingdon St.

- 7. Stop at North Fairlington Community Center parking lot for 15 minutes (3005 S. Abingdon St.)
- 8. Left onto S. Abingdon St., cross bridge onto S. 34th St., and turn right on S. Wakefield St.
- 9. Turn left onto S. 36th St., cross over S. Utah St. and S.Taylor St.
- 10. Left onto S. Stafford St, continue to the Fairlington Community Center parking lot for a 15 minute stop (3308 S. Stafford St.)
- 11. Left onto S. Stafford St., continue past S. 32nd Rd.
- 12. Left onto S. 32nd St.
- 13. Left onto S. Utah St.
- 14. Right onto S. 34 St. and return to fire station

Holiday festivities at the Village at Shirlington

The Village at Shirlington is a festive destination in December, with restaurants and shops, trees covered in little white lights, a beautiful holiday tree, and a variety of activities for the whole family. Take a look at what's planned and share in the holiday spirit.

Shirlie Lights Up the Village.

Tuesday, November 29, 6–8:30 pm. Come be a part of the Christmas tree lighting ceremony, have your photo taken with Santa, or take a horse and carriage ride around Shirlington. Donations of nonperishable food items are being collected for the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC).

Santa Paws: Pet photos with Santa. Sunday, December 4, and Monday, December 5, 6:30–9 pm at Dogma Bakery and Boutique. Don't forget about that special

pet in your life during the holidays. Come have a photo taken with Santa and your pet. This special promotion



It's officially the holiday season with the decorated Christmas tree in Shirlington. Photo by Guy Land.

is limited to the first 75 people in line. Photos are \$25 each and proceeds benefit the Lucky Dog Animal Rescue on December 4, and Bully Paws and Vindicated Pit Bull Rescue on December 5. For more information, call 571-422-0370.

6th annual breakfast with Santa and holiday food drive.

Saturday, December 17, 8 am–11 am at the Hilton Garden Inn. Join the efforts of Hilton Garden Inn and AFAC with their mission of fighting hunger in Arlington. Make a donation of non-perishable food items and enjoy breakfast with Santa. Please call 703-820-0440 and ask for Mallori or select option 2 for the sales department to make your reservation. Seating is limited.

Holiday movies at the Shirlington branch library. The Shirlington library presents a holiday movie series Sunday nights at 7 pm. December 7, Elf, (Rated PG); December 14, Christmas Vacation, (Rated PG-13); December

21, Christmas Story, (Rated PG). For more information, contact the library at 703-228-6465.

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County issues draft rules for short-term rentals

Arlington County has issued proposed rules governing short-term residential rentals that are listed through online platforms such as Airbnb and craigslist.

The county board will vote on the new rules on December 10.

The county zoning office has received both questions about how to conduct this use of property legally, as well as complaints about existing short-term residential rentals. According to county staff, the new regulations will enable the county to address problems and concerns if they arise and provide standards to allow this use in a way that protects public health and safety and the character of residential neighborhoods.

Data collected by the county indicate that during August and September this year, there were between 900 and 1,600 listings in Arlington.

The new rules would treat these rentals as a form of home business. They would be limited to owner-occupied units that are the primary residence of the owner. Rentals would be limited to no more than 30 days a year. The rules would limit the number of lodgers to no more than six, or two per bedroom, and all the lodgers must be part of one party.

The residence would have to meet certain health and safety codes, including having a smoke detector, carbon monoxide detector, and fire extinguisher. The draft regulations would also limit the ability of the owner to prepare and serve food and beverages to the lodger. For rentals in multi-family properties, the units would also be subject to the requirements of the statewide building code, which would look at them as hotels.

Owners wishing to rent out their homes would need a permit from the county. The permit would be good for two years. Since these rentals are viewed as home businesses, owners would be liable for taxes on the income from the rentals.

According to Deborah Albert, the county's senior planner, the new zoning regulations would not override more restrictive condominium rules but would govern rentals in condos that currently have no restrictions on short-term rentals.

The Virginia General Assembly considered legislation this spring that would have precluded the ability of local governments to enforce local zoning rules restricting short-term rentals. Governor McAuliffe referred it to the Virginia Housing Commission to study and craft legislation for consideration in 2017. Arlington County wants to get its system in place before any statewide legislation is enacted.

—Guy Land

FCA holding annual election for officers, directors

Elections for the Fairlington Citizens Association Board of Directors for 2017 will be held at the monthly meeting on Wednesday, December 14 at 7 pm at the Fairlington Community Center.

The candidates comprise the current makeup of the board, but there remains an open seat for a director.

The candidates are Guy Land, president; Jonathan Ansley, vice president; Lindsay Willmann, secretary; Edward Hilz, treasurer; and directors Chris Weathers, Hugh Baumgardner, Kent Duffy, and Evan Harvey.

Something in Commons



Fairlington Commons officers Julia Bryan, Robin Davis, and Bernie Weaver celebrate the success of their first arts & crafts fair in October. Photo by Guy Land.

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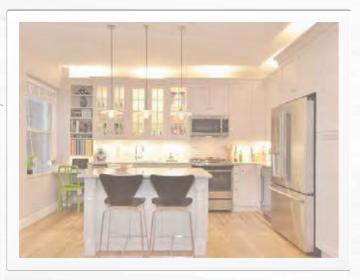
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Fairlington gets electric vehicle charging station

Have you been thinking about getting an electric vehicle but are worried about where you could recharge it? North Fairlington now has an electric vehicle charging station, and it's available to all residents of North and South Fairlington.

Earlier this fall the Fairlington Villages condo association installed the neighborhood's first charging station. Featuring two designated parking spaces and two chargers, the station is located in the parking lot adjacent to the Fairlington Villages community center, 3005 S.

Abingdon St.



Two new electric chargers are ready for the use of Fairlington residents. Photo by Guy Land.

"We believe the station will be an asset to the entire neighborhood," said condo Board President Terry Placek. "If there is significant demand for this new amenity, the Board will consider installing other stations in the community."

Placek noted the condo board looks at ways to address residents' future needs and enhance the association's amenities. She said that the pilot charging station responds to the growing interest in electric vehicles.

Fairlington residents have previously asked both FCA and the Fairlington Villages condo association to consider installing charging stations to encourage the use of electric vehicles in the neighborhood.

The charging station spaces are open to any North or South Fairlington owner or resident on a first come, first served basis. New users must first register with the condo management office, 3001 S. Abingdon St., to gain access to the station. Users must vacate the space within two hours of a completed charge.

The cost to charge will be \$0.15 per kWh for North Fairlington residents and \$0.20 per kWh for South Fairlington residents.

The North Fairlington station joins roughly a dozen other charging stations in Arlington.

—Guy Land

A check for Ellie



Fairlington resident and Abingdon PE teacher Joe Reed, joined by FCA President Guy Land and Abingdon Principal Joanne Uyeda, present a check for \$20,000 to Beth McGinn for the work of A Cure for Ellie. The check represents proceeds from the popular Fairlington/ Abingdon 5K run/walk back in the spring. Additional funds from the race were provided to Abingdon Elementary. Next year's 5K is scheduled for Saturday, April 29, so plan your training schedule now. Photo by Andrew Vitols. See related story on page 19.



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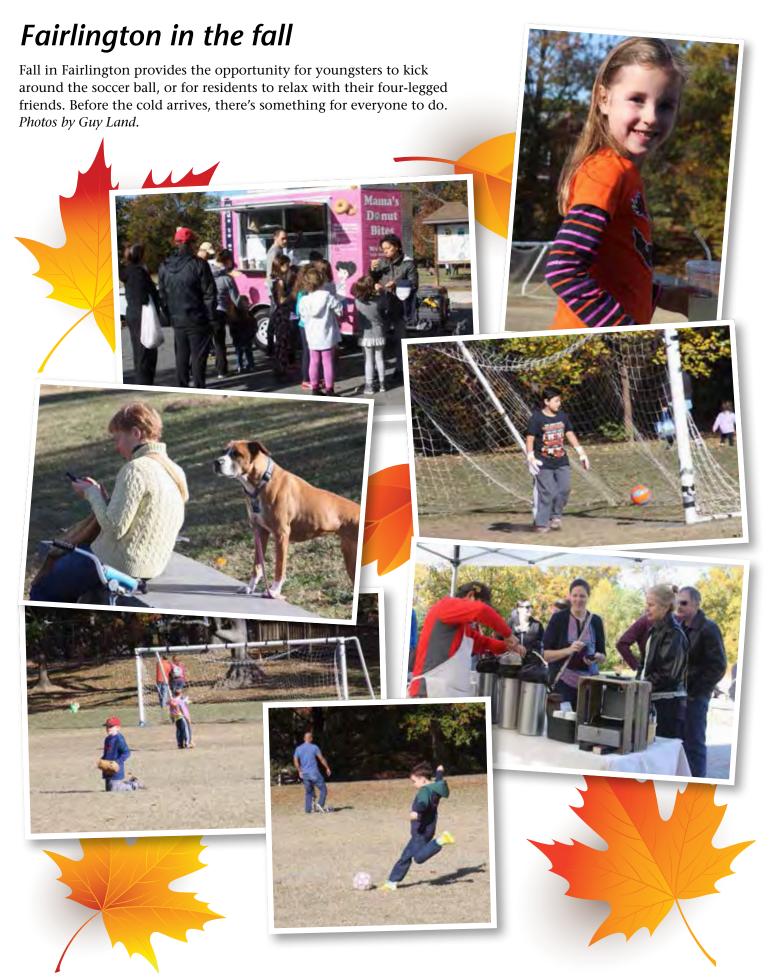




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^{**}The Home Projects® Visa® credit card is issued by Wells Fargo Financial National Bank, an Equal Housing Lender. Special terms apply to qualified purchases charged with approved credit at participating merchants. Minimum monthly payments are required during the promotional (special terms) period. Interest will be charged to your account from the purchase date at the APR for Purchases if the purchase balance is not paid in full within the promotional period. Paying only the minimum monthly payment will not pay off the purchase balance before the end of the promotional period. For new accounts, the APR is 28.99%. If you are charged interest in any billing cycle, the minimum interest charge will be \$1.00. If you use the card for cash advances, the cash advance fee is 5.0% of the amount of the cash advance, but not less than \$10.00. This information is accurate as of 01/06/2016 and is subject to change. For current information, call us at 1-800-431-5921. Offer expires 12/31/2016.





Holday pet activities

The holidays are a favorite time of year for Fair-

lingtonians and their pets. Here are some fun ideas to make the most of this time of year.

- Attend special pet activities hosted by local businesses and organizations, for example Dogma Bakery's pictures with Santa or the Animal Welfare League of Arlington's 5k walk.
- Dress up your pet with cute holiday costumes, available at most local pet stores.

- Post your holiday pet pictures on Fairlington's Facebook pages to spread some holiday cheer.
- Make or buy a special, high quality dinner for your pet, though beware giving them too much people food or dangerous ingredients like chocolate or grapes.
- Secure a professional pet photography session or commission a painting/drawing as a gift.
- Wrap a gift for your pet to open they usually love the process and sometimes love the packaging more than the gift itself.
- Find pet-friendly hotels to bring your pet on holiday travel with

- you, or secure boarding or pet care early if you can't bring them along.
- Volunteer at or donate to local shelters to make the holidays special for pets waiting for their forever home.
- Have a therapy-certified pet?
 Research where you can bring
 them (a nursing home or children's hospital?) to bring cheer
 to those not able to celebrate at
 home.

Happy holidays to you and your furry family!

—Christine Chirichella

Chairs and volunteers needed for 2017 Home and Garden Tour

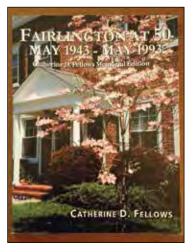
The Fairlington Historical Society is searching for chair(s) and volunteers to begin planning for the biennial Home and Garden Tour scheduled for May 2017.

This very popular event will again open some of Fairlington's most inventively renovated and decorated homes and patios. If you are new to the community, there is no better way than helping with the tour to get ideas for your own home and to learn about the contractors who do this kind of work.

If—and only if—a chair and volunteers can be secured before January 10, 2017, a kick-off reception will be held for anyone willing to open their home for the tour and to help manage the event on Friday, January 27, 2017 in the North Fairlington Community Center (7 pm).

Interested? Please contact us at www.fairlingtonhistoricalsociety.org or call Patty Clark at 703.820.7328.

Need a Fairlington holiday gift?



The Fairlington Historical Society's *Fairlington at 50: May 1943–May 1993*—the definitive history of our community—is available for \$20 plus \$3.00 for postage and handling.

Filled with photographs, history, stories of Fairlington's development and neighborhood life, and featuring an update to 2003, the book is a perfect holiday gift for neighbors and former neighbors.

Download the order form at fairlingtonhistoricalsociety. org or call Patty Clark (703.820.7328).

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ABING School news



Fairlington 5K, auction brings hope to Abingdon family

Abingdon Elementary School and the Fairlington Citizens Association recently presented a check for \$20,000 to A Cure for Ellie, a nonprofit foundation launched in 2013 by the parents of Abingdon 3rd grader Ellie McGinn, who suffers from a rare and degenerative disease known as Leukoencephalopathy with Brain Stem and Spinal Cord Involvement and Lactate Elevation.

The genetic condition affects the brain and spinal cord, most often developing in children. It impairs children's ability to walk, then to stand and coordinate fine and gross motor skills.

The funds were raised during last April's Fairlington 5K & Silent Auction. Now entering its fourth year, the race and auction have helped the McGinn family raise enough money to jump start medical research at the Kennedy Krieger Institute in Baltimore, which will provide a roadmap towards nanotherapy, the outcomes of which will become a powerful tool for testing new and effective medications to save Ellie and others with the disease.

The family must now come up with \$3.8 million to keep the research effort going. In order to raise awareness and additional funds, Ellie recently took to Facebook and Twitter to issue "The Ellie Challenge," calling on friends and family to attempt to correctly say the name of her hard-to-pronounce disease on video for a chance to rename it.

Those who fail have been asked to make a donation of any size to fund critical research.

All who participate are asked to post their videos on Facebook or Twitter and issue the same challenge to three others that they know. Dozens of Abingdon families have already taken the challenge.

"One boy in Ellie's class pronounced the name correctly and suggested we call it 'The Awesome Disease,'" said Ellie's mom Beth. "So far, that is our frontrupper."

Next year's Fairlington 5K will be held Saturday, April 29, 2017. The Silent Auction will take place the week before on Friday, April 21. For more information, visit the race website at fairlington5k.com.

Pokémon Go mania hits Abingdon

Abingdon teachers, Meghan Fatourus, Cassidy Nolen, and Jackie Firster have developed a creative way to get kids excited to learn about Arlington's historic past.

They recently debuted an Abingmon Go game based on the wildly popular Pokémon Go app. Students in grades 2 through 5 are encouraged to participate in the voluntary project before and after school.

To create the game, Ms. Firster, Abingdon's Gifted Services Teacher, took Arlington County bike maps and linked QR coded videos about historical markers for various locations on the map. Students scan the codes for the historic locations and then preview videos on their iPads, which all Arlington Public School students in grades 2–5 are issued.

Ms. Fatourus, the Abingdon Librarian, ordered historical books about Virginia that the students can also review for more information. Students that complete a location are awarded a Pokémon character on a card and once they have received three Pokémon cards, they earn a 3D printed badge created by Mr. Nolen, Abingdon's STREAM Coordinator.

To complete a location, students must prepare a short writing piece about why the historical marker is significant and why it should be considered as a Pokémon Go stop. The writing piece can be their choice of a comic strip, a newsletter, or a letter to the Pokémon Go developers. Students also have the option of reading a Virginia nonfiction book in the library and writing a brief summary of the book.

This is just another example of the way that Abingdon's teachers are integrating technology into the school curriculum, as well as providing students with a fun and creative way to learn about Virginia history.

—Jeni Hornback



The Abingmon Go map that helps kids learn about Arlington's historic past. Photo by Jeni Hornback.

Thank you Fairlington!

It's been a great year. We wanted to take a moment to express our gratitude to the Fairlington community for making it so wonderful.

Thank you for listing your home with us!





Thank you for buying your home with us!

Thank you for attending our fun events!



We couldn't have had such a great year without you! We are excited about the future and ready to help with all of your real estate needs!



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neighborhood news

Fairlington Diners

The Fairlington Diners usually 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 November, we had a lovely dinner at Clyde's, which included a couple of new neighbors we enjoyed meeting.

We've planned only one event for December, but it's a special one:

Friday, December 9, 1:30 pm, L'Auberge Chez Francois, 332 Springvale Rd, Great Falls, 703-759-3800, http://www.laubergechezfrancois.com. As a special treat to kick off the holiday season, we'll enjoy lunch (either à la carte or the three course Prix Fixe lunch for \$43, including a glass of wine, plus tax and gratuity) at this superb restaurant in a delightful setting.

If you will attend, please RSVP to Carol at 703-379-6840 by noon on Thursday, December 8, so the reservation can be for the correct number, and to arrange carpools. Please 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.

To receive a copy of these notices early in the previous month, send your email address to carol_dabbs at yahoo.com.

Book Group

The Book Group is not meeting in December. Look for the next group meeting in the January edition of the *Bulletin*.

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 Babysitting Co-op

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

Email the coordinators Elizabeth Shea, and Monica and Jeremy Wedemann, at fairlington.babysitting@gmail. com to request more information and an application.

Home improvement seminars coming in March

Building on the success of last spring's home improvement showcase, FCA is planning a day-long set of home improvement seminars in March. Featuring major contractors who do work in Fairlington, the seminars will highlight common strategies owners have used in upgrading their units.

From kitchens to bathrooms to basements to doors and floors, contractors—and a few of their clients—will describe how to go about tackling the quirks of Fairlington's construction. The seminars will be a "how to" guide for those who are thinking about making major enhancements—and increasing value—to their units. Plus they'll offer some ideas you may not have thought about for design options.

So start making your list of questions, and watch next month's *Bulletin* for more details.

—Guy Land

Enjoy the Holiday Season with Saint Clement

1701 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria, VA

Christmas Tree & Wreath Sale opens November 27!

- * 5:30-7:30 pm Friday
- * 10:00-7:00 pm Saturday
- * 12-7:00 p.m. Sunday

\$10 per foot, Fresh from North Carolina, trimmed and tied to your car for you.

2nd Annual Holiday Bazaar December 3, 2016 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Get a jump start on your holiday shopping and support St. Clement and their outreach programs at the same time! One Stop Shopping!

Milk & Cookies with Santa December 4, 3:30-5:00 p.m.

Bring the kids for story time with Santa, a holiday movie, and a fun snack. Admission is free, donations gratefully accepted.

https://stclementsanta2016.eventbrite.com

Christmas Movies at St. Clement December 16 from 6:00-8:30 p.m.

We'll start with How the Grinch Stole Christmas and continue through the Rankin & Bass Christmas Specials.

Christmas Eve Saturday, December 24



5:00 p.m. Children's
Pageant & Holy Eucharist
10:00 p.m. Carols & Music
10:30 p.m. Festival Christmas

Holy Eucharist
Reception to
follow

Christmas Day
Saturday, December 25
10:00 a.m. Festival Christmas
Holy Eucharist



North Fairlington's seventh rain garden approved, installed

In late October, Arlington County approved North Fairlington's seventh rain garden, located at 4821 South 31st St. in Ward 2. The rain garden collects storm water runoff from several of the adjacent areas and allows it to be absorbed more slowly, reducing erosion that has been problematic in the past.

In compliance with Arlington County guidelines the rain garden is landscaped with native plants and a permeable mix of soil and sand to enhance drainage.

To encourage homeowner associations to establish storm water management practices such as rain gardens, the county has now increased the monetary size of grants available.

In addition to the new rain garden in North Fairlington, rain gardens are also in Ward 2 (3069 Buchanan St. and 3052 S. Abingdon St.), Ward 4 (4875 S. 28th St.), Ward 5 (4836 S. 29th St.), and Ward 6 (2854 S. Columbus St.)

making the Association the leader in non-public storm water management in Arlington County.

—Anne Wilson



Fairlington Villages operations manager Mark Johnson, left, discusses the new rain garden with condo board and committee members during the October grounds walkthrough. Photo by Guy Land.



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County slates Four Mile Run Valley workshops

Arlington County officials encourage Fairlington residents to share their ideas on the future of the Four Mile Run Valley during a series of visioning workshops the first week of December.



The study area is the southern end of Nauck, adjacent to Shirlington Village along Four Mile Run. It includes the

dog park (which is popular with Fairlington residents), recreation and open spaces along Four Mile Run (including Jennie Dean Park), street design and transportation, stream restoration and environmental improvements, and historic and cultural resources.

Although the area being considered isn't next to Fairlington, many Fairlington residents use the facilities

along Four Mile Run or frequently pass through that area, and the county wants your suggestions.

The kick-off event is Friday, December 2, from 7 to 9 pm at Gunston Middle School. An interactive design session will occur Saturday, December 3, from 9 am to 1 pm at Drew Middle School. An open planning studio will feature the planning team on Sunday, December 4 from 10 am to 6 pm at 2700 S. Quincy St., 2nd floor. An open house will share the progress to date on Tuesday, December 6, from 6 to 8 pm at Drew Model School.

The parks master plan which these workshops will help craft will provide a vision for the comprehensive replacement and realignment of existing park features and the addition of new park amenities.

For more information, go to www.4MRV.com.

—Guy Land

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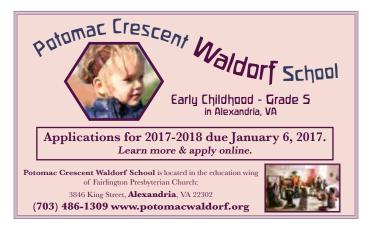
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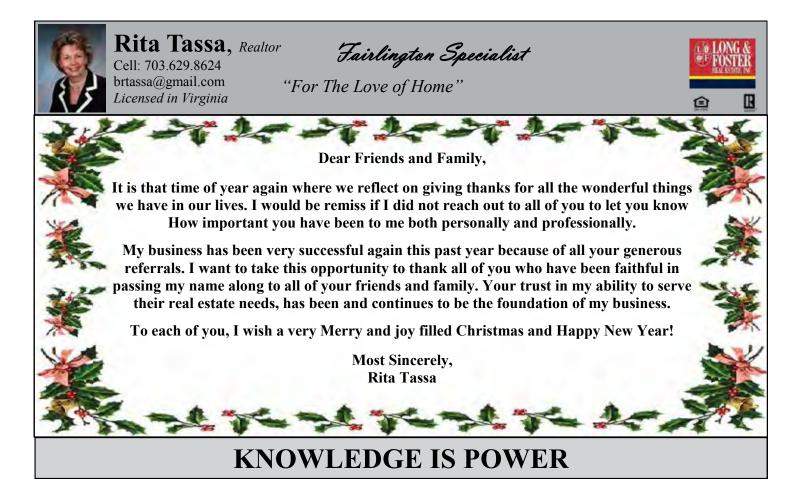
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15th Annual Messiah Sing-Along in Alexandria

Part 1 and Hallelujah Chorus
Guest Soloists

Laura Whittenberger, soprano; Mary Burke, alto; Chuanqi Shang, tenor; Christopher Edwards, bass
YOU ARE THE CHORUS

Georg Philipp Telemann Concerto in G Major for two Violas, TWV 52:G3

Mary Dausch and Elizabeth O'Hara Stahr, violists with the Amadeus Orchestra Dr. Louise C. Wilson, Conductor

Sunday, December 4, 2016 at 4:00pm

Fairlington United Methodist Church, 3900 King St., Alexandria, VA 22302 Info: 703-671-4057 www.fairlingtonumc.org Free Admission & Parking Bring your own Messiah score or purchase a G. Schirmer edition - \$9.00 at the door

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SULLIVAN'S LANDSCAPING. Now is a good time for removing annuals, pruning perennials, gathering leaves and spreading mulch. Some evergreens still may be planted this month. Contact Bill at Sullivan's Landscaping: 571.213.9567 or billsullivan41@gmail.com. Visit my site at www.sullivanslandscaping.net.

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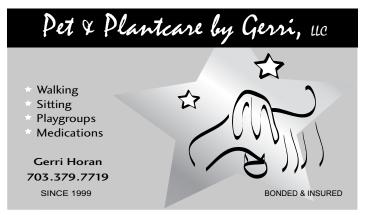
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Happy holidays, **Fairlington**



A color version of this newsletter is available online at www.fca-fairlington.org.



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MINI-ADS INSTRUCTIONS

the preceding month (Dec. 10 for Jan. issue).

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

Due date for ads and payment: 6 pm on the 10th of **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. Examples: "998-0000" and "stove" = one word; "interior/exterior" = two words.

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



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Our office has been located in the Fairlington Community since the 1970's! WE are your neighborhood experts! 4800 S. 31st Street, Arlington, VA 22206

On behalf of our entire office, thank you for your support with our Thanksgiving Food Drive. Your generous donations helped ensure families in the community were properly nourished this Thanksgiving holiday. As the year comes to a close, we wish you and your family a safe and Happy Holiday Season. Here's to a wonderful New Year!



2911 Dinwiddie St #A-2 1BR+ Den/2BA Hermitage Bill Groom 703-283-2596



3050 S Buchanan St #C-2 2BR/1BA Sherwood Julie Flory 703-599-3111 **Joanne Ritchick 571-215-3350**



2933 S Columbus St 2BR/2BA Clarendon II **Joanne Ritchick 571-215-3350** Julie Flory 703-599-3111



2911 Dinwiddie St #A-1 1BR+ Den/2BA Hermitage Barbara Kirkland 703-405-5920



3344 Wakefield St #A 2BR/2BA Clarendon (End) Pat Shannon 571-237-4767



4623 S 31st Rd #B1 2BR/1BA Staunton Britt Grouby 703-409-0486



2951 S Columbus St 2BR/2BA Clarendon (End) Nancy Kozlowski 703-820-1620



4884 S 28th St #B 2BR/2BA Clarendon II Sammie Huang 202-436-0187

We are now accepting donations for New, Unwrapped Toys Before Tuesday, December 20th. Our office is an official Toys for Tots drop-off location. We are open seven days a week. Monday - Friday 9-5pm and Saturday - Sunday 10-5pm.



5506 Justis Place Alexandria, VA 22310 5BR/3BA SFD Pat Shannon 571-237-4767



14716 Cranoke St Centreville, VA 20120 4BR/2BA/1HBA SFD Dayna Wagner 703-447-7268



10965 Inspirational Point Pl Manassas, VA 20112 5BR/3BA SFD Harry Bowen 904-738-4419

