BULLETIN



DECEMBER 2018

Volume 44, Number 12

www.fca-fairlington.org

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Santa Claus is coming to Fairlington December 15

The temporary closure of Fire Station 7 will not stop Santa and his elves from visiting Fairlington this year! The fire truck will make its customary tour of the neighborhood on December 15, from 3 to 5 pm.

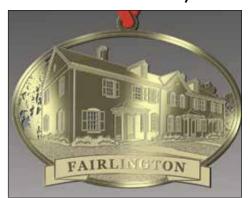
Santa and his firefighter elves will bring joy to the children of Fairlington as they make their way through both the north and south sides of the neighborhood. With engine lights ablaze and a muted siren announcing their arrival, the crew and their jolly friend will follow their traditional route through Fairlington's streets, stopping for Santa to greet fans at both the North



Santa and his elves will return once again to Fairlington, waving to the children in the neighborhood from the fire truck. Photo by Guy Land.

Fairlington Community Center (3005 S. Abingdon St.), and the Fairlington Community Center (3308 S. Stafford St.).

Last chance before the holidays!



Don't miss your chance to have this commemorative Fairlington ornament hanging on your tree this year! See page 5 for order details.

As always, if duty calls and Santa's firefighter friends have to use their truck to help others in an emergency, their journey may be cut short.

Please join your friends and neighbors to celebrate Santa and our wonderful team from Fire Station 7! See Santa's scheduled route through Fairlington on page 33, and check out the FCA website for a map of his ride (www.fca-fairlington.org).

—Lindsay Willmann



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 annual meeting December 12

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

Regular board business:

• Approval of November minutes

• Unfinished business

- Officer and committee reports
- New business

Meeting minutes: Minutes of prior meetings can be found on the FCA website.

Online resources:

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

↓ Find us on Facebook at Fairlington Appreciation Society.

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

Web design by Avatar Systems Ltd., Alexandria, VA, www.avatar-systems.com.

USEFUL CONTACTS

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

Services/dot/traffic/streetlights/index.htm

If you see something immediately

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

Directors

Guy Land, President Chris Weathers, Vice President Ed Hilz. Treasurer Evan Harvey, Secretary

Hugh Baumgardner Jennifer Davies Kent Duffy Rebecca Savres Lindsay Willmann

Fairlington 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 Email editorial announcements to: editor@fca-fairlington.org Email commercial and mini ads to: admanager@fca-fairlington.org Drop off location: Drop box in the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford Street

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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 (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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Calendar

Fairlington Diners

Saturday, December 8, 12:30 pm L'Auberge Chez François 332 Springvale Rd., Great Falls

FCA monthly meeting

Wednesday, December 12, 7 pm FCC, 3308 S. Stafford St.

Firetruck Santa

Saturday, December 15, 3–5 pm

Fairlington Diners

Tuesday, December 18, 6:30 pm Ramparts Tavern & Grill 1700 Fern St., Alexandria

Christmas Day

Tuesday, December 25 FCC closed

New Year's Day

Tuesday, January 1 FCC closed

Halloween: A family affair



Halloween is a much-celebrated holiday in Fairlington, with neighborhood decorating contests, the annual Abingdon parade, and entire families dressing up to trick or treat together. Photo by Guy Land.

Contributors this month: Christine Chirichella, Sheila Faulkner, Donna Felipe, Cindy Kunz, Guy Land, Carrie Lewis, Julie Marshall, Andrew Raab, Rebecca Sayres, Bill Sullivan, Lindsay Willmann, and Chris Weathers.

Some images in this publication may be digitally enhanced.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope you were able to drop by Fairlington's 75th anniversary reception earlier this fall. It was a remarkable evening.

A show of hands revealed a crowd with an almost equal mix of folks who have lived here for 20 years or more and people who've called Fairlington home for less than five years. One of the impressive things about Fairlington is how it has remained vibrant despite major demographic and economic changes.

The mix of people at the reception and the warm conversations with neighbors underscored that. Walking among the crowd, I heard people comparing stories about their experiences in Fairlington. This was capped off with personal vignettes from our featured speaker, Arlington County Clerk of the Circuit Court Paul Ferguson, who grew up in Fairlington and still owns a unit here.

One of the evening's delightful surprises was the presence of Sheila Faulkner, who lived in Fairlington in 1943 as a girl—she is truly an "original Fairlingtonian." We've shared a bit of her story on page 19. And linking the stages of Fairlington's life, we were also joined by Mary Maglia, the first owner—and still a resident—in North Fairlington after the conversion of the property to condos in the 1970s.

Thanks to the Fairlington Historical Society, which cosponsored the reception with FCA; a volunteer planning committee, led by Barbara Berti; the sponsors who underwrote the costs of the event; the local elected officials who joined us; and the Fairlington Villages condo association, which provided the venue.

Dynamic and enduring communities have an appreciation for their history. Each month this year we've featured "Fairlington's 75th Lookback," with old photos and descriptions from Fairlington's past, coordinated by FHS trustee Cindy Kunz.

The reception and articles have spotlighted several key things about Fairlington—its architecture, its green spaces, its history, its organizations. But ultimately the reason we cherish Fairlington is its people. That's each of you. At a time when the social fabric sometimes seems to be fraying nationally, that fabric remains very strongly woven here. And that's what's enabled Fairlington to thrive through seven and a half decades. We celebrate 75 years of residents just like you, who moved into a great community and worked to make it even better.

Happy 75th, Fairlington. Here's to another 75 years of showing the world what a vibrant community looks like, even inside the beltway.

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



and thankful to have spent another year working and serving the Fairlington community. We're proud to call many of you not only neighbors, but also friends.

Fairlington is truly a special neighborhood.

We wish you all a joyous & safe holiday season! Kay, Chris, Yolanda, Doug, Steve, Kerry, & Brett









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FCA elections to be held at December 12 meeting

Elections for the 2019 Fairlington Citizens Association (FCA) Board of Directors will be held at the annual meeting on Wednesday, December 12, at 7 pm at the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St.

Board members are elected at the annual meeting and hold office for a term of one year or until their successors are elected. All of the nine positions are up for election each year. Seven of the nine current board members have indicated their interest in remaining on the 2019 board, and one new candidate has expressed interest, leaving one vacancy.

The candidates are Jennifer Davies, Kent Duffy, Ed Hilz, Guy Land, Rebecca Sayres, Chris Weathers, Lindsay Willmann, and Samuel Wolbert. Current Directors Hugh Baumgardner and Evan Harvey will be leaving the board and we thank them for their service.

The board meets monthly, coordinates a variety of community events, and serves as Fairlington's voice in dealing with local jurisdictions. Individual board members are on point for specific activities or initiatives, while the group as a whole examines larger issues that affect the community or enhance the quality of life in Fairlington.

A few recent issues that the FCA has been tracking include the Abingdon school boundary, Fire Station 7 temporary closing, neighborhood conservation improvements, and the I-395 express lanes and sound walls. It has hosted activities like the home remodeling seminars, Fairlington movie night, and Santa on the Firetruck coming up this month.

If you would be willing to volunteer a few hours a month, consider this important leadership position. Anyone interested in serving should email FCA Vice President Chris Weathers, vp@fca-fairlington.org. For more information, contact any current FCA board member.

—Christine Chirichella

Chairs and volunteers needed for 2019 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 2019. Do you love this event and want to see it continue? Please come forward! This year's tour will only happen if

Get your ornament in time for the holidays!



The FCA and Fairlington Historical Society (FHS) are selling Fairlington brass-plated ornaments to commemorate Fairlington's 75th anniversary. The price for each ornament is \$10. Ornaments may be purchased online using Paypal or a major credit card on the FCA website, www.fca-fairlington.org and picked up at the Fairlington Villages Management Office, 3001 S. Abingdon St., during operating hours. Ornaments will also be available for purchase at the next FCA meeting on Wednesday, December 12. If you have questions, please contact FCA Board Director, Rebecca Sayres at rebecca@fca-fairlington.org.

a chair(s) is identified—otherwise there will be no 2019 tour.

If held, this very popular event will 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(s) and volunteers can be secured before Friday, January 11, 2019, 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 18, 2019, in the North Fairlington Community Center (7 pm).

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



County Manager addresses budget and Fire Station 7 at FCA meeting

Arlington County Manager Mark Schwartz addressed the Fairlington community at the November 14 meeting of the Fairlington Citizens Association (FCA). The County Manager is the principal administrative officer for the county, responsible for fostering economic and fiscal sustainability, as well as the day-to-day operations and management of a broad range of services.



County Manager Mark
Schwartz focused a good portion
of his FCA presentation on the
recently announced selection of
Crystal City as a second headquarters location for Amazon.
Photos by Guy Land.

Schwartz touched on the estimated 2020 fiscal year budget gap of \$20-\$35 million for the county and \$40 million for Arlington Public Schools, which will force very tough decisions for the county board regarding program cuts and taxes. One area that the county will not sacrifice, according to Schwartz, is public safety measures, mostly related to maintaining and recruiting quality personnel through competitive salaries, incentives, and benefits.

Schwartz spent the majority of his presentation covering the recent announcement of Amazon's selection of Crystal

City as a second headquarters location. He was able to relate how Amazon's presence will help mitigate some of the county's budget struggles with an expected revenue of \$330 million over the next 15 years. Since the commercial vacancy rate has created the largest hole in county revenue, Amazon's move to Arlington will be a big step toward gaining funds to better balance the budget.

Amazon is expected to have 25,000 employees in place in Arlington by 2030. Schwartz was quick to explain that this does not mean 25,000 employees transferring to the area, but rather future employees may already be in the area as the company hires or locates positions.

Based on Nestlé's recent headquarters move to Arlington, Schwartz expects no more than 20 percent of Ama-

zon's employees to have or take residence in Arlington County. He maintains that this venture will not create more problems for housing in our area, but will not necessarily make it any better. If anything, Schwartz believes it will bring more attention and resolutions to the housing issues the county faces as the company's local work force grows over the next 10 to 12 years.

Arlington County and Arlington Economic Development will be jointly hosting a series of live video sessions about Amazon in Arlington on their Facebook pages.

With several Arlington County Fire Department firefighters from temporarily-closed Fire Station 7 present at the meeting, including newly appointed Fire Chief David Povlitz and Captain Craig Brightbill, Schwartz was also able to broach the status of Fairlington's fire station. The station was shut down in October due to a significant crack in the six-inch slab that supports the engine bay of the station, which is located over the sleeping quarters.



Newly appointed Fire Chief David Povlitz, Station 7 Captain Craig Brightbill, and Battalion Chief Matthew Herbert attended the November meeting to address the station's temporary closure.

The county is still researching options and plans to have a direction for repair by December or January. Schwartz pointed out that they are focusing on a solution for the current physical issue with the structure. Chief Povlitz also explained that there will be a county-wide comprehensive planning process for the fire station to begin in 2019. This process will involve community input and is expected to yield a four- to eight-year facility and staffing plan for the department.

—Chris Weathers



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County board approves farmers market renewal

THE PLANT OF MARKET

The Arlington County Board has approved a one-year renewal of the use permit for the Fairlington Farmers Market. The unanimous decision came during the board's October 20 meeting.

Field to Table, Inc., which operates the market, had requested a one-year extension in order for it and the volunteer market committee to consider possible changes to the use permit and license agreement, such as potential changes to the market hours, number of vendors, and space allocated to the market.



November's chilly temps couldn't deter market shoppers from selecting fresh vegetables from Pleitez Produce Farm. Photo by Guy Land.

Rob Swennes, President of Field to Table, explained that while the group is not currently planning major changes to the operation of the market, it might want to preserve its options for longer-term changes. He promised to confer with the community before proposing any permit changes next year.

The county manager's background memo for the county board noted FCA's support for the market and its renewal, and FCA's view that the market is an asset to the community. The memo indicated that FCA had received no complaints about the market.

—Guy Land

Fire Station 7 closes temporarily

The Arlington County Fire Department (ACFD) announced on October 25 its plans to temporarily relocate Fire Station #7 (Engine 107), at 3116 South Abingdon St., until further notice due to structural and safety concerns in the station. A recent engineering evaluation noted concerns with the station's apparatus bay floor and whether it can support modern-day fire equipment. Part of the living quarters for the fire fighters is located below the apparatus bay.



Fire Station 7 is closed for repairs and the crew and Engine 107 have been temporarily relocated. Photo by Guy Land.

Fire Station #7 serves the Fairlington area and parts of South Arlington, as well as neighborhoods in Alexandria and Fairfax (through a mutual aid agreement). Four fire stations will continue to serve the Fire Station #7 area, the closest being Fire Station #9 at 1900 S. Walter Reed Dr.

The county is conducting a more thorough inspection of the concrete slab to determine feasibility and the extent of possible rehabilitation and repair options. The fire station is expected to be out of service until the analysis is complete. Fire Station #7 personnel and equipment have been moved temporarily to Fire Station #4 in Clarendon (3121 N. 10th St.).

Built in the 1940s, Fire Station #7 is the county's only one-bay station where the apparatus bay is located above a lower level. The weight of engines housed at the station has roughly doubled since the station was built, including an approximately 60 percent increase in weight since the 1983 renovation.

Editor's note: Despite the temporary closure of Fire Station 7 and relocation of Engine 107 and its crew, Santa on the Firetruck will ride again through the neighborhood on December 15, from 3 to 5 pm, barring unforeseen emergencies that come up that day.



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– Erik, Arlington, VA



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School boundary changes could split Fairlington

Arlington Public Schools (APS) has been working for months on revising elementary school boundaries in anticipation of the opening of the new Alice W. Fleet Elementary School and Drew Elementary as a full neighborhood school in 2019.

The goal in this fall's 2018 boundary change process is to create new attendance zones for Fleet and Drew, and work toward balancing enrollment for the other elementary schools in this process, including Abingdon.

An initial boundary map released in September showed both North and South Fair-

lington remaining in the Abingdon boundary. However, at an October 10 school board work session, a proposal was made to re-zone South Fairlington to Drew Elementary.

Subsequently, APS released a revised boundary map on October 17 that moved South Fairlington students to Drew. The public had until October 29 to provide comments. APS held community meetings and offered open office hours to hear feedback, and many parents and concerned citizens offered their support to keep Fairlington students together at Abingdon.

Additionally, the Fairlington community mobilized with petitions, flyers, a Facebook page (Fairlington United), and tables outside the Fairlington Farmers Market. The FCA sent a letter to the school board in support of keeping all of Fairlington within the Abingdon zone.

As a result of hearing feedback, a revised map proposal was released at a school board work session on October 24 showing all of Fairlington being served by Abingdon, and on November 5 APS released this map as the starting point for further discussion by the school board.

This map was presented as part of the Superintendent's recommended set of elementary school boundary changes as an information item at the school board's November 8 regular meeting. The new version does not fragment Fairlington. All of FCA's territory (including Park Shirlington and Shirlington House) would continue to be served by Abingdon Elementary. This proposal is



Arlington School Board Chair Reid Goldstein discusses proposed elementary school boundary changes with FCA Board Director Jennifer Davies and Maureen McMorrow at the Fairlington United table outside the Fairlington Farmers Market. Photo by Guy Land.

slated to be voted on, either as is or with amendments, at the school board's December 6 meeting.

However, the APS projections for enrollment at Abingdon indicate that the school would be at 131 percent of capacity in 2021, so Abingdon will be part of a boundary change process in 2020 under the Superintendent's proposal.

At the November 8 school board meeting, FCA President Guy Land and FCA Board Director and former Abingdon PTA co-President Jennifer Davies spoke to the board about keeping Fairling-

ton students at Abingdon. In his remarks, Land outlined the key reasons behind this, including the high level of support FCA has given the school. Additionally, he explained that Abingdon is a true neighborhood school, with students who are both classmates and neighbors, and teachers who live in Fairlington. And finally, maintaining all of Fairlington within the Abingdon boundaries advances key APS objectives of the boundary process—proximity, contiguity, and walkability.

Davies focused her comments on the investment and commitment Fairlington families have made to the school over the past decade. She pointed to the potential adverse impact to the school community should approximately 140 students be removed from Abingdon. She also urged school board members to look at the 2018 school enrollment numbers that show the school being slightly under-capacity and recommended waiting until 2020 to re-zone Abingdon should projections be overestimated.

For more information, visit the APS website at www.apsva.us/engage or www.apsva.us/elementary-school-boundary-change.

To stay up to date on neighborhood activities surrounding the school boundary, join the Fairlington United Facebook page, where you can get all the latest updates and find out how you can get involved.

—Christine Chirichella



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Fairlington 2018 Wrap Up

UTA OF			
Unit size	# Sold	Avg Days on Market	Avg Sold Price
1br/1bth	26	33	\$286,044
1br/2bth	40	38	\$400,482
2 br/1+bth	34	33	\$370,347
2br/2+bth	98	32	\$474,497
3br/1+bth	11	47	\$512,909
			. O M

*Information gathered from BrightMLS as of 11/11/18. Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed.



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Work begins on northbound 1-395 sounds walls

Construction of sound walls along I-395 officially began in November. Brent McKenzie from Transurban, the private contractor managing the I-395 express lanes project, and Paul Noshimoto from the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) presented the first phase of the project, known as H/J 1, at the November 14 meeting of the Fairlington Citizens Association (FCA).



Transurban's Brent McKenzie explains the first phase of the sound wall project to Fairlington residents. Photo by Guy Land.

The sound walls are part of a larger project to ease traffic congestion along I-395. Current High Occupancy Vehicle lanes are being widened from two to three lanes and converted to Express Lanes. A regular and muchneeded fourth lane is being created between Duke St. and Edsall Rd.

In fall 2017, homes in Fairlington that were expected to be impacted and/or benefited by the sound walls were able to vote for or against the specific proposed phase of the project that affected them.

Voters in the Mews and Fairlington Villages rejected the walls, but voters along northbound I-395 from King St. to the Shirlington Circle approved the construction of sound walls earlier this year. Parkfairfax voters along part of Quaker Ln. and Martha Custis Dr. also voted for sound walls.

The first phase of the wall in our community will be erected along the northbound lanes of I-395 as it passes Fairlington Commons, Fairlington Green, and Utah Park

up towards Quaker Ln. Staking the area for placement of the wall and space for construction and equipment began in early November.

The project requires approximately 20 feet of clearance for construction, while the wall is expected to be approximately 30 inches in width, once completed. Vegetation and trees are subject to clearing in this area, which lies solely on VDOT property. There will be an effort to plant new trees upon completion of the walls; however, VDOT is not held to a strict standard ratio for replacement. There is expected to be some construction noise associated with the wall construction as well. In the early phases, residents may hear drilling into the ground to place the support beams for the wall.

The H/J 1 phase of the sound wall construction is expected to be completed by July 2019. The slide presentation from Transurban can be viewed at www.fca-fair-lington.org.

—Chris Weathers

Home Improvement Showcase coming January 26

The Fairlington Home Improvement Showcase is set to return for its fourth year running on Saturday, January 26, at the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St.

The event will once again feature contractors who know the intricacies and quirks of our historic buildings and help unit owners improve their homes. The seminar format will highlight common strategies contractors use to create a brand-new kitchen, finish an attic, install new windows and doors, and brighten up a basement, just to name a few remodeling possibilities.

There will be many opportunities to ask questions and learn about unique design options that can enhance the quality of living and value in Fairlington.

More details, including the format, speakers, and schedule, will be announced on Facebook and on the FCA website, www.fca-fairlington.org.

—Chris Weathers

Fairlington celebrates 75 wonderful years

The Fairlington Historical Society (FHS) and Fairlington Citizens Association (FCA) commemorated the 75th anniversary of the community's 1943 founding last month with a celebration held at the North Fairlington Community Center. The event was preceded by a series of printed *Bulletin* articles contrib-

uted by the FHS that looked back over the history of life in the community over the last

three-quarters



of a century.

FCA President Guy Land welcomed guests and introduced the evening's speakers: State Senator Adam Ebbin; County Board Members Libby Garvey and John Vihstadt; and former Fairlington resident, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Arlington County

and the City of Falls Church Paul Ferguson.





Arlington County Board
Member John Vihstadt, former
Glen President Thora Stanwood,
and 75th Anniversary
Celebration Committee
Chair Barbara Berti

FCA President Guy Land and Clerk of the Circuit Court Paul Ferguson



Mews President Renee Powlette (third from left) and friends





Arlington County Board Member Libby Garvey





75th logo by Vickie Spindler Graphic Design. Photos by Guy Land and Harry Reem.

Senator Ebbin presented and read a Virginia Senate Commemorative Resolution honoring Fairlington during the year of its 75th anniversary. Land presented a Certificate of Recognition bestowed by Virginia Governor Ralph Northam recognizing October 20, 2018, as Fairlington's 75th Anniversary in the Commonwealth and calling this observance to the attention of all Virginia citizens.

The celebration hosted approximately 300 past and present Fairlington residents. The FHS slideshow, *Fairlington: Our Home and History*, based on Catherine D.

Fellows book, Fairlington at Fifty and featuring photos of community life by FCA President Guy Land and Fairlington Villages owner Robert Tetro, played on a continuous loop and sparked many memories and conversations. Fairlingtonians enjoyed hors d'oeuvres from Osteria da Nino while toasting the joyous milestone.

Continued on page 17

See additional coverage of the event on page 19, including a story from a former resident who lived in Fairlington in 1943.

The committee, along with the FHS and FCA would like to thank all of the sponsors who made this memorable night possible:

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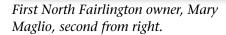
Greenstreet Gardens Yuengling Lager and Yuengling Golden Pilsner





Senator Adam Ebbin presented and read a resolution honoring Fairlington.









Historical Society Trustee Cindy Kunz and Luetta Donalds







LAUREN KOLAZAS

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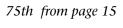




FCA Board Directors Jennifer Davies and Rebecca Sayres



FCA Board Directors Kent Duffy and Jennifer Davies with county board member John Vihstadt



Many attendees chatted about their own milestones that occurred while living in Fairlington—first homes, marriages, births, career changes, and more—that made the neighborhood particularly special to them.

The Fairlington 75th Anniversary Celebration Committee planned

and coordinated this very special evening. Special thanks to committee participants and volunteers: Barbara Berti, Sharon Bisdee, Joan Carter, Patty Clark, Jennifer Davies, Robyn Dickey, Cynthia Kunz, Guy Land, Carolyn Lathey, John Lathey, Terry Placek, Harry Reem, Rebecca Sayres, Vickie Spindler, and Chris Weathers.

-Rebecca Sayres



Villages President Terry Placek and General Manager Greg Roby



Former Villages President Ray Brule







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Alexandria approves Presbyterian church housing proposal

The Alexandria City Council has given final approval to a proposal by Fairlington Presbyterian Church and Wesley Housing Development Corporation to build 81 units of affordable housing on the back of the church's parking lot at 3846 King St.

All of the units would be reserved for low-income housing, with the maximum household tenant income not to exceed roughly \$66,000 for a family of four.

FCA President Guy Land wrote City of Alexandria staff indicating FCA's support for providing affordable housing and stating that FCA believes the proposal aligns well with the church's history and mission.

He also noted that Fairlington Presbyterian Church has been a valued and supportive member of the larger Fairlington community, including being a sponsor of the Fairlington Farmers Market. A number of Fairlington residents attend Fairlington Presbyterian, with several of them serving in leadership roles at the church.

The FCA Board took no position on the specific design of the pending proposal, though it had heard no complaints about it from any Fairlington residents.

There would be 15 one-bedroom units, 55 two-bedroom units, and 11 three-bedroom units, along with community space and on-site management by Wesley. The building would have 83 parking spaces, mostly underground.

Tentative plans call for construction to begin in June 2020 and be complete by December 2021.

—Guy Land

Sheila Spillane Faulkner: A true Fairlington original resident

Former Fairlington resident Sheila Faulkner attended the October 20 event celebrating Fairlington's 75th anniversary and was the only one in attendance who had lived here when Fairlington was first built.

I was 11 years old when we moved into Fairlington. My father had offered offered his services to the Navy and he was made a Commander. We were living outside New York City but it took my father a year to find housing here.

I think we must have been the first family to move in to 4308 S. 36th St. The photo of me facing 4308 shows one



Sheila Faulkner in front of a newly planted tree on S. 36th St. Photo courtesy Sheila Faulkner.

spindly tree that my parents might have planted—they loved gardening. But I think the Virginia red clay stymied my mother having never gardened in red clay.

A warehouse with building supplies was along Route 7 and across Route 7 was an abandoned air field with a control tower. The road that became Shirlington Highway did not exist but was a two-lane dirt road. Shirlington did not exist.

The townhomes have been reconfigured in the basement level since we lived there. There was a door (with a padlock) which you passed through to a full basement running under the entire length of all the homes.

Most everyone in the area was in uniform (Navv/ Marines, Air Force, Army, or Coast Guard). If you saw a male civilian in a business suit, he was called a \$1-a-year man someone who had volunteered his services for the war effort as he had a skill or profession that was needed.



Sheila Faulkner, an original resident, attended the event. Pictured with FCA President Guy Land. Photo by Francine Vannicola.

My friends and I were like the Little

Rascals. We played cowboys and Indians, cops and robbers, and imitated the movies we saw on Saturday afternoon. I think our group consisted of seven or eight.

After the war we returned to New York. My parents and I made a return visit probably in 1946. By then, Shirlington had a post office and, I think, a dry cleaner.

—Sheila Faulkner

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Fairlington's 75th Lookback: Featuring Fairlington

This is the last in a year-long series of articles about Fairlington's history marking its 75th anniversary. The Bulletin thanks the Fairlington Historical Society for these great retrospectives.

The nation's history resonates in Fairlington: with the footsteps of native Necostin people; with those of George Washington and John Carlyle in the Colonial Era; with those of the Union soldiers defending Wash-

ington at Fort Reynolds; and with those of men and women conducting the World War II effort.

From the first residents of our buildings in 1943 to today, Fairlingtonians are a community of people from all over the country, indeed all over the world—many helping to conduct the daily business of national and international affairs in their many realms. This kind of history, durability, and diversity can be an inspiration.

Fairlington's first creative appearance was in advertising. Originally, of course, no advertising was needed. With the wartime housing shortage in Washington, the Defense Homes Corporation received letters applying for tenancy even before construction had begun. During conversion to condominiums in the mid-1970s, though, the community was actively marketed to single people who worked downtown and especially on the Hill.

"Fairlington Villages has more congressmen than some states" proclaimed one local ad that invited prospective owners to consider that "... after a hard day on the Hill, [you're] just 15 minutes from the serenity of our rolling hills. Our quietly winding streets. Giant old shade trees. And large expanses of lawn."*

A regional ad in *Playboy* magazine in 1976 had a similar pitch. "I love the city. Eight hours a day," it

announced. Fairlington's construction quality, brick exterior, and hardwood floors were extolled,

along with all that was new: air conditioning, plumbing, heating, kitchens and baths, recreation rooms and dens, patios, decks, and balconies. This ad featured an even more hopeful 10-minute commute.**





David Brinkley commented about Fairlington in his 1988 book, Washington Goes to War. Noting that most "... government-financed war housing was shabby, makeshift and explicitly temporary..." he recognized the community as different. "Fairlington at least had sturdy, well-designed housing (most of it still standing today and now expensive townhomes and condominiums)."***

A few years later, Catherine D. Fellows quoted Brinkley in her neighborhood history, *Fairlington at Fifty: 1943–1993*, and she speculated about what made Fairlington so different. She credited the commitment and exacting standards of the architect, Kenneth Franzheim, for the quality of original construction and the vision of Walter Hodges of CBI Fairmac for the quality of the buildings and grounds renovation during conversion.

But, ultimately, she noted simply that, "Sometimes a place derives a special dimension, not only from the land but from the history that claimed and later changed it."****

—Cindy Kunz

*Ad copy, no date.

^{**}Playboy. October 1976, Volume 23, No. 10, page 67.

^{***}Brinkley, David, *Washington Goes To War*. Alfred A. Knopf, New York, 1988. Pp. 237–8.

^{****} Catherine D. Fellows, Fairlington at Fifty: May 1943–May 1993 – The Catherine D. Fellows Memorial Edition. The Fairlington Historical Society, 2012. Page 1.

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Fairlington splits votes for county board



Arlington County Clerk of the Circuit Court Paul Ferguson greeted voters and handed out sample ballots at the Fairlington Community Center on a rainy election day November 6. Photo by Guy Land.

Voters in the two Fairlington precincts yielded different outcomes in November's hotly contested election for Arlington County Board between incumbent John Vihstadt (I) and challenger Matt de Ferranti (D). The North Fairlington precinct (Abingdon) went for Di Ferranti, while the South Fairlington precinct (Fairlington Community Center) gave Vihstadt a majority of its votes.

Countywide, de Ferranti won 53 percent of the votes, compared to Vihstadt's 46 percent.

In the North Fairlington precinct (which also includes Park Shirlington and Shirlington House), de Ferranti beat out Vihstadt by a margin of 53 to 47 percent. In the South Fairlington precinct (which includes only voters from South Fairlington), Vihstadt got 55 percent of the votes, compared to de Ferranti's 45 percent.

In the race for Arlington School Board, incumbent Barbara Kanninen handily defeated Audrey Clement, getting 63 percent of the vote in the North Fairlington precinct and 67 percent in South. Her countywide total was 68 percent.

In the closing weeks of the campaign, both de Ferranti and Vihstadt spent time in Fairlington talking with voters. Both attended the 75th anniversary reception in late October, and each made an October visit to the Fairlington Farmers Market to chat with customers.

Voters in both precincts joined the rest of the county in overwhelmingly approving the four bond issues that were on the ballot. Despite a steady drizzle for much of the day, turnout was heavy. According to county officials, more registered voters in Arlington cast votes than in any other non-presidential election in the county's history.

In all, 107,406 voters, or about 71 percent of those registered, cast ballots. Absentee turnout was also recordbreaking, with just over 20,000 ballots cast—again, the highest ever for a non-presidential election.

—Guy Land

No right turn on red at 28th and King



Photo courtesy of roadtrafficsigns.com

Drivers turning right from S. 28th St. onto westbound King St. will no longer be able to turn right on red, according to a plan announced by the City of Alexandria on November 16. The "no turn on red" restriction comes as part of the city's Vision Zero Initiative to improve safety on Alexandria streets.

Vision Zero is a multidisciplinary, multi-national traffic safety concept

that aims to achieve a transportation system with no deaths or serious injuries. The Alexandria City Council endorsed the concept in 2017 and instructed the City Manager to develop an implementation plan.

The new restriction will go into effect before the end of December. The city has installed sensors in the right lane of S. 28th St. that can yield a green signal at that intersection even if there is no traffic in the left lane of S. 28th St.

The engineering priorities for the first year of Vision Zero are to improve safety for all modes of travel, focusing on increasing safety for vulnerable road users (e.g., people walking and biking, children, and seniors).

A similar "no turn on red" restriction will apply to right turns from Park Center Dr. onto eastbound King St.

-Guy Land



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—Ben Herring,

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Animal Talk

Meet library volunteer Bo Marshall

My dog Bo and I volunteer with Arlington Public Library's "Paws to Read" program. We volunteer at either the Shirlington or Columbia Pike branch. During our one-hour volunteer period, Bo will typically listen to four different readers of varying levels.

After brief introductions, many readers want to learn more about Bo. "What kind of dog is he?" "How old is he?" "Is Bo a boy or a girl?" "Why is there a black spot on his tongue?" Answers: Bo is a five-year-old golden retriever, Bo is a boy, and the spot on his tongue is a freckle.

Many of the readers put a lot of thought into the books they choose, and many of the stories feature animals—dogs in particular. One



Fairlington resident Bo Marshall, a golden retriever, loves listening to kids read to him. Photo by Julie Marshall.

question I often get, after the child selects their books is, "Do you think Bo will like these books?" As for Bo, he loves going to the library. He knows what we're doing when we get there and eagerly watches the readers enter the room, hoping they will come read to him.

I just can't say enough great things about this program. It's a minimal time commitment, and provides so many benefits to the readers. They get to choose their own books and read to a dog who patiently listens, often while receiving head pats and ear scratches. It's just as much fun for us as it is for the kids!

I love volunteering with Paws to Read, and am grateful to play a small role in encouraging a life-long love of reading in the participants.

—Julie Marshall

"Paws to Read" a success at Shirlington Library

All parents want their children to be successful readers, and finding resources to assist in that effort can be a great benefit. The Arlington Public Library's "Paws to Read" program provides a stress-free way for reluctant readers to practice, gain confidence, and improve their skills.

This program offers elementary-age students (grades K–5) a chance to spend 15 minutes reading to a specially trained dog. Without needing a library card, adults can go onto the library website (www.library.arlingtonva.us), go to "Paws to Read," and sign up for a 15-minute slot.

According to Mike Nelson, Youth

Services Coordinator at the Shirlington branch, all participating dogs (and their handlers) are trained through PAL (People. Animals. Love.), a non-profit organization.

"Paws to Read" is held twice a month on Wednesdays from 5:30 to 6:30 pm. Prior to their session, the children can meet their dog. Adults are encouraged to stay out of the meeting room while the child is reading to the dog.

National research shows that this program works, with children's reading fluency increasing up to 30 percent with regular sessions. Nelson knows the program is working with the positive feedback from



Shirlington Library's "Paws to Read" program encourages children to read to dogs, who offer a stress-free audience. Photos courtesy Arlington Public Library.

adults, and children checking out more books and signing up for additional sessions to read to the dogs.

—Andrew Raab

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neighborhood news

Fairlington Diners

The Fairlington Diners gather a couple of times a month for relaxed dinners nearby. We focus on having a good meal and an opportunity to chat with neighbors. In November, we visited Clyde's, as we often do this time of year, and had a delicious meal.

For December, we'll have our traditional event at the L'Auberge Chez François, and also visit Ramparts for tacos.

Saturday, December 8, 12:30 pm, L'Auberge Chez François, 332 Springvale Rd., Great Falls, VA 22066, 703-759-3800, 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 \$44, including a glass of wine, plus tax and gratuity) at this superb restaurant in a delightful setting.

Because we do need a reservation, please call Carol at 703-379-6840 if you plan to attend, no later than 6 pm on Friday, December 7. Do 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.

Tuesday, December 18, 6:30 pm, Ramparts Tavern & Grill, 1700 Fern St., Alexandria, VA 22302, 703-998-6616, www.rampartstavern.com. We'll return to this perennial local favorite on a Tuesday, when they offer a special price on tacos, making it Taco Tuesday. The rest of the menu is also available. Please call Carol at the number above if you plan to attend, so we can get the right size table when we arrive.

If you want to receive a copy of these notices early in the month preceding the event, email carol_dabbs at yahoo. com.

Need a Fairlington holiday gift?

The Fairlington Historical Society's *Fairlington at Fifty: 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, and stories, the book is a perfect holiday gift for neighbors and former neighbors. Download the order form at www.fairlington-historicalsociety.org or call Patty Clark at 703-820-7328.

Canasta Group Doubles the Fun

Our local Canasta group has multiplied the cards, the luck, and the fun. We are now playing "Hand and Foot," a Canasta-type card game played coast to coast. If playing your hand was fun, there may be wild cards waiting in your foot! Join this local group, which plays Tuesday mornings at a church hall near Fairlington. Having cardsense is helpful, but we're happy to teach you the rules of this game. 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 fairlington. babysitting@gmail.com to join.

Fairlington MOMS Club

The MOMS Club of Arlington-Fairlington VA® is a group for moms of young kids to find friends, get support, and have play opportunities for the kids. The Club participates in a number of annual service projects to help our community, four big annual parties, routine playdates and crafts, and moms' night outs. We have a great listserv for sharing advice and connecting to other Fairlington families. We welcome all moms! Please email fairlingtonmomsclub@gmail.com for information on joining and visit us online at www.fairlingtonmomsclub. com. The \$30 in annual dues goes to support the club's work and service projects. This is the local chapter of the International MOMS Club®.

Book Group

The Fairlington Book Group will not meet in December. We hope you'll join us in January as we finish our discussion of *The World Remade: America in World War I*, by G. J. Meyer.

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ABING School news



Abingdon welcomes students' favorite authors

This fall, Abingdon fifth-graders had the chance to meet J.A. White, famous author of *Nightbooks* and *The Thickety* series. Mr. White shared writing advice and talked with students about creating "choose your own adventure" interactive stories.



Author J.A. White speaks with Abingdon 5th-graders, fall 2018. Photos from Abingdon Twitter Feed, @AbingdonGIFT.

This most recent visit was the latest in a series that has allowed Abingdon students to learn from the authors of the books they love to read. Students have the opportunity to meet people who have made careers out of writing, learn about the creative writing process, and build their own reading and writing skills.

Hooray for Books, an independent bookstore in Alexandria, has sponsored several author visits to Abingdon over the last few years, including the latest visit by J.A. White. Other sponsored authors have included Peter Brown (The Wild Robot, The Curious Garden, Children Make Terrible Pets, Mr. Tiger Goes Wild), Dan Gutman (Baseball Card Adventures, My Weird School),

Jonathan Auxier (Peter Nimble & His Fantastic Eyes, The Night Gardener), Michael Northrop (Tombquest), and Caroline Carlson (The Very Nearly Honorable League of Pirates, The World's Greatest Detective, The Door at the End of the World).

In addition, Abingdon has used proceeds from the school's annual book fair to sponsor visits from Laurie Keller (*The Scrambled States of America, Arnie the Doughnut, Do Unto Otter*), Laura Murray (*Gingerbread Man Loose in the School*), and Zachariah O'Hora (*Wolfie the Bunny, Stop Snoring Bernard, No Fits Nilson, My Cousin Momo*).



Zachariah O'Hora teaches Abingdon 1st-graders to illustrate characters, spring 2018.

According to Abingdon Librarian Megan Fatouros, "Author visits leave a lasting impression, as students read more and are exposed to different authors and illustrators. Students continue to check out books by visiting authors for years afterwards."

—Carrie Lewis

Wakefield winter activities

The winter sports season has begun at Wakefield High School. Catch both the boys' and girls' basketball teams as they start their road back to state level championship tournaments. Wakefield hosts the annual George Long Hoops Tournament between Christmas and New Year's Day.

The performing arts department is on full display with winter concerts and play performances. *Peter and The Starcatcher*, a prequal to Peter Pan, will be performed the first two weekends in December, while the music department concerts are the week of December 10 to 14 (Guitar 12/10, Band 12/11, Orchestra 12/12, and Choral 12/13). All concerts and performances are at 7 pm in the Wakefield Auditorium or Black Box theatre. To learn more visit https://wakefield.apsva.us.

Abingdon Calendar

December 6

School board meeting on proposed boundary revisions 7 pm, Syphax Education Center

December 11

Holiday Shop 6 to 7:30 pm

December 12

Early Release Spirit Day!

December 24

Winter Break



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DOWN TO EARTH patio gardening



Ode to Camellia

I've never met a woman named Camellia but I know a few called Rose. Women's names typically come from flora—Rose, Violet, Daisy, Daphne, Heather, Lily, Erica, Iris, Jasmine, Holly, and Poppy but why aren't there more women known as Camellia?

I ask because the Camellia is one of the prettiest flowers and most attractive shrubs in the landscape—especially in winter—which is thrust upon us every November.



Camellia buds on S. Columbus St. Photo by Guy Land.

I was at a nursery the other day looking for a colorful specimen for a customer. Nowhere could I find something with a bright splash of red, pink, yellow, lavender, or white. As I was leaving, my steps were halted by a bank of four-to-six-foot Camellias totally in bloom.

The Camellia flower is four-inches wide with yellow eyes consisting of protruding and twisting pistils and stamens. I even noticed a small bumblebee craning its neck into the throat of the flower to do his or her pollinating duty. And I know that it was a blustery day in November, not one where you would want to be in your garden and admiring the plant specimens. But don't tell that to a Camellia.

Buy yourself a Camellia and you will have 12 months of interest with flowers from September into early April. The fall blooming species (sasanqua) flowers just before the winter blooming (japonica) grabs your eye from Christmas to Opening Day on the baseball diamond. Flowers open with pink, red, or white petals. Each eye (or center) is yellow. The only "drawback" is there is no fragrance. Camellia thrives from our plant hardiness zone (7b) down to Florida. Just think of those poor New Englanders who can't plant one since it isn't winter-hardy in colder climates.

The habit of a Camellia is erect and vertical so the specimen is best situated against a wood fence or brick wall in partial shade. It is a stately grower and even in floral dormancy shows off its hunter-green foliage. Camellias grow like an open hand with extended fingers—ideal for an espalier effect. This is why most are grown and showcased on trellises.

Like a Rhododendron (and yes, even the Rose), the bud of a Camellia



Camellia. Photo courtesy Pixabay.

is compressed and curved like the closed bill of a bird and perfect for a small bud vase. I know since my mother used to cut and insert them into crystal for our dining room table setting. The Camellia is so floriferous, its branches are dotted with these colorful buds wrapped in tight green tepals just waiting to burst into a colorful rosette.

Camellias aren't cheap. Nor should they be. You may buy a two-foot-tall specimen for \$35 but be prepared to spend \$200 for one that is five-to-six-feet-tall and trellised. For this price, you get a year-round display of foliage and flower. And in the middle of winter, it sure tops looking out your dining room or kitchen window and seeing nothing but fence panels staring back at you.

—Bill Sullivan www.sullivanslandscaping.net

17th Annual Messiah Sing-Along in Alexandria

December 2nd at 4pm

Fairlington United Methodist Church, 3900 King St. Alexandria, VA 22302

Choruses Parts 1, 2, and 3 ***YOU ARE THE CHORUS!****

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Handel Organ Concerto in F Major, Op. 4, No. 5, HWV 283 Julie Vidric Evans, organist and the Amadeus Orchestra

Albinoni Concerto for 2 Oboes in C Major, Op. 9, No. 9 Wesley Nichols and Emily Tsai, oboists and the Amadeus Orchestra Dr. Louise Wilson, Conductor

FREE Admission and Parking Bring your own music, or purchase a Messiah score, \$9.

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Santa's route through Fairlington

- 1. Leave Station 7 at 3 pm
- 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. 34th St. and return to fire station



Mini-ads

Publication of advertisements in no way implies an endorsement by the FCA or its board members of the advertisers' products or services.

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CPR & BLS Certification trainings in Fairlington by American Heart Association certified instructor. CPR and AED for the general public, with certification for your job requirement or non-certification for personal purpose. BLS PROVIDER CPR for clinical staff/health care providers. Date Thursday January 17th. Times: 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM, 2:30 to 5:30 PM and 6:00 to 9:00 PM. Contact 202-810-3358 Text is ok.

Gardening/ Landscaping

SULLIVAN'S LANDSCAPING.

Weeds growing wild? Shrubs in need of pruning? Want new plantings and mulching? Thinking about a new flagstone patio? Reach Bill at Sullivan's Landscaping. I'm in my 29th year serving the homeowners of Fairlington. I grew up here, still live nearby and will provide testimonials to my work. E-mail or call: Billsullivan41@gmail.com or 571.213.9567.

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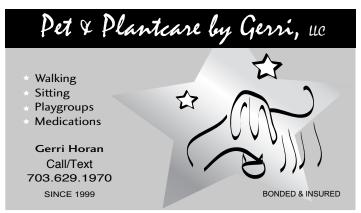
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For sale: Fairlington ornament



Celebrate Fairlington's 75th anniversary with a brass-plated commemorative ornament. The price is \$10 each. Ornaments may be purchased online using PayPal or a major credit card on the FCA website, www.fca-fairlington.org and picked up at the Fairlington Villages Management Office, 3001 S. Abingdon St., during operating hours.

MINI-ADS INSTRUCTIONS

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

- Checks payable to "Fairlington Citizens Association."
- Send mini-ad copy via email, regular mail, or drop off at FCA drop box.
- Send checks via regular mail or drop off at FCA drop box.

Email: admanager@fca-fairlington.org

Mailing Address: FCA-AFB, PO Box 6182, Arlington, VA 22206-0182

Drop Box Location: Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. (Hours: 8 am–9 pm, M-F, 8 am–5 pm, Saturday; closed Sunday.)

Cost: 50 cents per word.

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

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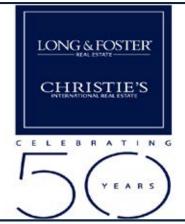
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