

All Fairlington Newsletter

President's Message

December 2025

And just like that, 2025 comes to a close. In many respects, it has been a challenging year. For the Fairlington Citizens Association (FCA), it was a year of transition. With new leadership, we launched the new digital newsletter (which we are still improving), tried new programming such as CPR training, and invited Del. Alfonso Lopez for the first time to Fairlington. We also made less visible operational changes.

We kept Fairlington traditions like the July 4 Parade, Outdoor Movie Night, Firetruck Santa Parade, and presentations from county board members. FCA also continued to support the Capital Area Food Bank's monthly food distribution at Park Shirlington. In November, a record 179 families accessed food at the site. We also did our best to meet you at the Fairlington Farmers Market on Sundays. Hopefully, you connected with one of us at these many activities.

On behalf of the FCA Board of Directors, we wish you peace, and we hope for kindness toward all our neighbors this holiday season.



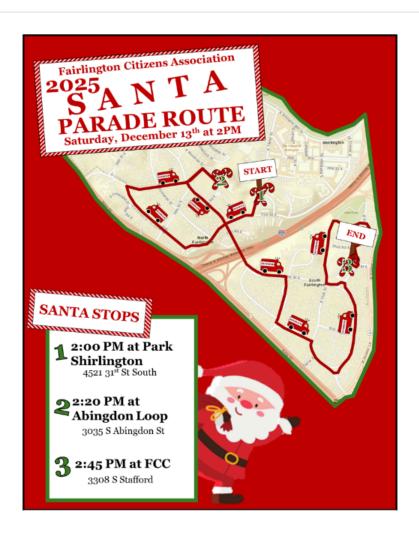
—Jenn Davies, <u>president@fca-fairlington.org</u>

Fairlington Community Resident Survey

FCA will be planning for 2026 and how best to serve the community. We would love to hear from residents on your interests and what you would like to see from your civic association. Please let us know by answering this survey. Thank you!

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Santa Claus Is Coming to Park Shirlington and Fairlington

Fire Station 9 has confirmed with Santa that he and his firefighting elves will once again parade through the neighborhood on Saturday, December 13, starting at 2 p.m. Santa will greet families, hand out candy canes, and let children check out the fire truck.

Starting in Park Shirlington, Santa and Fire Station 9 will proceed along their route through Fairlington on both the north and south sides of the neighborhood. As always, if duty calls and Santa's firefighter friends must use their truck to help others in an emergency, their journey may be cut short.

wonderful team from Fire Station 9!

Note: In case of inclement weather, Santa will travel the parade route but will not stop. He will proceed along the route and make an indoor stop at the Fairlington Community Center at the end of the parade.

Join the FCA Board

Elections for the 2026 Fairlington Citizens Association (FCA) Board of Directors will be held in person on Wednesday, December 10 at 7 p.m. at the Fairlington Community Center. Board members are elected at the annual meeting and hold office for a term of one year. All of the nine positions are up for election each year. Board members receive no financial compensation for their service, but they have the satisfaction that stems from helping strengthen the Fairlington community.

Please let FCA President Jennifer Davies know if you are interested in running for a position on the board, president@fca-fairlington.org. We did not have a full board of officers in 2025 and we were not able to do as much as we could have. We would love to have more community members engaged.

The annual meeting will also see a report from the FCA president on the past year's activities and an update on the organization's finances. Residents will also have an opportunity to suggest priorities and activities for FCA for the coming year.

All residents and owners in Fairlington are members of the association.



A Very Village Holiday

Mark your calendars for Saturday, December 6, and stroll next door to the Village at Shirlington (2700 S. Quincy St., Arlington) for A Very Village Holiday, 4 to 7 p.m. The event kicks off at 4 p.m., right after Santa's police-escorted parade through Arlington County.

Enjoy a holiday market with local artisans, live music, festive food and drinks, and photos with Santa himself. Visit the <u>Very Village Holiday event page</u> to learn more.

December Events Calendar

Interested in having your event included? Email afbeditors@yahoo.com.

FCA Annual Meeting & Elections

Wednesday, December 10, 7 p.m.

Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St, Room 100

Elections for the 2026 Fairlington Citizens Association (FCA) Board of Directors will be held. The meeting will be entirely in person.

Fairlington Historical Society Holiday Display Contest Registration Deadline

Friday, December 12, midnight

Second Saturday Crafternoon Workshop

Saturday, December 13, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St.

Free drop-in art fun at the Fairlington Art Studio! Flurry on by to make 3D snowflakes in this month's staff-guided session.

Firetruck Santa Parade

Saturday, December 13, 2 p.m.

Fairlington Diners

Thursday, December 18, 12 p.m.

L'Auberge Chez Francois, 332 Springvale Rd, Great Falls, VA 22066, 703-759-3800 We'll enjoy lunch (either a la carte or the 3 course Prix Fixe lunch for \$62-68, depending on the entree chosen, plus tax and gratuity) as is our tradition at this superb restaurant in a delightful setting. Please email carol_dabbs at yahoo dot com not later than 48 hours in advance if you plan to attend—include your name and how to contact you the day of the event, in case plans change. If you want to receive a copy of these notices early in the previous month, send your email address to the email above.

Fairlington Book Group

The Fairlington Book Group will not hold a regular meeting in December, but will meet in late January to discuss *Cue the Sun!: The Invention of Reality TV* by Emily Nussbaum. More details about the January meeting will be available in next month's newsletter.

Fairlington Moms

Are you a Fairlington Mom looking for more support, play opportunities for kids, or a group of friends in the same period of life for some fun? The Fairlington Moms' Club is the place for you. We offer:

- · Playgroups for different age groups, accommodating all moms & schedules
- · Family holiday-themed events
- Moms' nights out
- · Meal trains and support for when you need it most
- · Our very own classifieds listserv and WhatsApp group

All moms welcome! Please email fairlingtonmomsclub@gmail.com for further information.



Fairlington Historical Society

Light Up Fairlington Holiday Display Contest

Before you know it, the winter holidays will be here—and we want Fairlington to shine brighter than ever! The Fairlington Historical Society is excited to announce a Holiday Display Contest to celebrate the season in style. So untangle those lights, polish the menorahs, arrange the kinara, fluff up the wreaths, and get ready to make Fairlington festive!

Two Ways to Win:

- Classic & Traditional: Celebrate the beauty of timeless holiday decor
- Creative & Modern: Anything goes—let your imagination sparkle, let your inflatables soar!

Prizes will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in each category! Winners will be announced on December 21.

Deadline to register: December 12 at midnight.

To register: Email <u>president@fairlingtonhistoricalsociety.org</u> with your (or a friend's) address.

No matter what you celebrate—Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, or simply the joy of winter—let's light up Fairlington together!



Photo by Sue Davis.

For the Love of Nature

Opt Out of a Throwaway Christmas

I love Christmas; it's my holiday. About 20 years ago, I got fed up with the aftermath—a living room filled with wrapping paper, ribbon, and tissue that was just going into the landfill. I decided to change it. I began making felt bags for presents. I made a few the first year and continued until I now have about 35 or so. They are reusable and store flat in a cube container.

But why stop there? I started making gift tags from old cards and scraps to recycle. A round biscuit cutter is my pattern. They are tied to the bags, and I reuse many of them as well. Plus, I can have all the Christmas presents wrapped in an evening.

No time for making bags? Instead, think carefully about how you wrap your presents and make sure you've used materials that can be recycled. Old maps are great! Arlington County has instructions and guidelines on its website. Check it out!

-Sue Davis

Government Updates

Election Recap

The November 4 elections yielded decisive victories for the Democratic party, both locally and statewide. In ranked choice voting, Arlington County Board member Takis Karatonis was re-elected with 64.65% of the vote. Democratic School Board candidate Mo Brant won with close to 67% of the vote. In the Fairlington precincts, Takis earned slightly more than the county vote total; over 68% and Bryant earned about the same percentage (close to 67%). Both elected officials will be sworn-in in January 2026.

The City of Alexandria's races for Sheriff and Commonwealth Attorney ran unopposed with 96% vote to support. House of Delegates, Elizabeth Bennet, also unopposed.

for more details.

Visit the Arlington and Alexandria election web pages for details.

Promote Your Business in the All Fairlington Newsletter

Want to reach engaged Fairlington neighbors each month? The All Fairlington Newsletter (AFN) offers digital advertising options tailored for local businesses looking to build visibility. With strong open rates and distribution across email, the FCA website, and Facebook, AFN provides multiple touchpoints with the community.

Ad space is limited and offered on a first-come, first-served basis. Ads and sponsored articles are due by the 20th of the month prior to publication.

To learn more or reserve your space, contact fca.fairlington.ads@gmail.com





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