

all FAIRLINGTON BULLETIN



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www.fca-fairlington.org

Home Improvement Seminar set for February 3

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The third annual Fairlington Home Improvement Seminar will showcase the advice and expertise of remodeling and repair contractors who are well-versed in the fun and foibles of improving a Fairlington home. The day-long event on Saturday, February 3, will feature seminar sessions at the Fairlington Community Center (FCC), 3308 S. Stafford St., starting at 9 am in Room 118. Attendees will also have a chance to consult with contractors on a more personal basis before and after each session in Room 134.

The seminar format will be similar to last year and provide an opportunity for in-depth discussion of home renovation and repair issues and options. Space will be limited based on room occupancy codes. Those interested in attending a session will be admitted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Fairlington homeowners can find solutions to several different home improvement challenges. Remodeling contractors and repair and upgrade service providers, who are familiar to *Bulletin* readers, and neighbors who have used those contractors' services will host the seminars. Topics could include kitchen remodeling, bathroom makeovers, plumbing challenges, window and door replacement, electrical and lighting options, flooring upgrades, and effective landscaping.



Fairlington contractor Bob DeLong discusses remodeling options with attendees at last year's home improvement seminar. Photo by Guy Land.

Contractors from previous years are currently considering their intention to participate. If you have any recommendations for contractors who have done exceptional work in your home, please don't hesitate to contact FCA Vice President Chris Weathers at Chris.Weathers@SothebysRealty.com or 703-402-4648.

Contractors that have committed so far are DeLong Home Improvement, GH Contractors & Handyman Services, and Nova Installations.

A final seminar schedule will be published in February's *Bulletin*, on the FCA website and Fairlington

Continued on page 11

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 January 10

There will be no guest presentation at the January meeting. The board will hold a work session to consider the 2018 budget and the schedule of activities and programs for the year.

Regular board business:

- Approval of December minutes
- Officer and committee reports
- Unfinished business
- 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.

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Metrobus Complaints	703-228-7929
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Shirlington Library	703-228-6545
Street Light Hotline	703-228-6511
www.arlingtonva.us/departments/Environmental Services/dot/traffic/streetlights/index.htm	
Helicopter Noise Complaints	Mike Lucier (VA 8th Dist.) 202-225-4376

Fairlington Citizens Association

PO Box 6182 • Arlington, VA 22206-0182
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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:

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Email editorial announcements to:

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Email commercial and mini ads to:

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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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Calendar

New Year's Day

Monday, January 1
FCC closed

Fairlington Diners

Wednesday, January 10, 6:30 pm
Rabieng Thai Restaurant
5892 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church

FCA monthly meeting

Wednesday, January 10, 7 pm
FCC, 3308 S. Stafford St.

Martin Luther King Day

Monday, January 15
FCC closed

Helicopter forum

Tuesday, January 16, 7:30 pm
Abingdon Elementary

Book Group

Tuesday, January 23, 7:30 pm
FCC, 3308 S. Stafford St.

Fairlington Diners

Monday, January 29, 6:30 pm
Ramparts Tavern & Grill
1700 Fern St., Alexandria

Home Improvement Seminar

Saturday, February 3, 9 am
FCC, 3308 S. Stafford St.

Sidewalk talk



Workers prepare to install the new raised crosswalk across S. Abingdon St., one of the last components of the Abingdon School renovation project. Photo by Pat Teske.

Contributors this month: Patty Clark, Janis Johnston, Guy Land, Carrie Lewis, Rebecca Sayres, Bill Sullivan, and Chris Weathers.

Some images in this publication may be digitally enhanced.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Your civic association is planning another strong lineup of activities for 2018. We see these as ways to add value to your investment in Fairlington. Here are some of the things FCA is working on.

- **Home improvement seminar.** Back for a third year is our very popular home remodeling showcase, featuring contractors who work in Fairlington. Join us February 3 and get some good ideas for upgrading your unit.
- **Family movie night.** Last fall's inaugural movie night was a big success, so we expect to be hosting one or two more this year. Start thinking about movie titles you'd like us to consider.
- **Fairlington's 75th anniversary.** As the article on page 15 notes, we're planning several activities to mark this milestone in Fairlington's history—a community-wide reception, a geocaching hunt for kids, and an expanded history walk. We hope to engage the whole community in this year-long celebration.
- **Fairlington 5K run/walk.** Now is the time to start getting in shape for our fifth annual 5K to benefit Abingdon Elementary and A Cure for Ellie. Hundreds run the course through North and South Fairlington each year, making it truly a neighborhood race.
- **County board and staff.** We expect to again invite one or two members of the Arlington County Board and key staff to brief the community on major county activities.
- **Real estate development projects.** We'll continue to update you on development projects being planned or implemented near Fairlington.

The work of FCA is undertaken by volunteers. This is a good time to acknowledge and thank them. I begin with the FCA board, all of whom serve without compensation. They are a good group. Jonathan Ansley, who has been our vice president, is leaving the board. We thank him for his work. The other board members are returning for another year, and they are joined by Rebecca Sayres, whose byline you may have seen in the *Bulletin* several times last year.

Key community leadership also comes from non-board volunteers—the folks who guide the farmers market, the master gardeners who focus on sustainable landscaping, the trustees of the Fairlington Historical Society, the leaders of the MOMS Club, and the boards and committees of the eight condo and homeowner associations. Thank you.

But there's always a need for more volunteers. Please consider carving out a little time to help us. We need you.

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



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County board approves Fairlington Park renovation



In response to comments from Fairlington residents, additional swings were included in the final design for the renovated playground. Photo by Guy Land.

The Arlington County Board has approved a contract for renovating Fairlington Park at the Fairlington Community Center. The project includes a new playground for both two-to-five and five-to-12 age groups, outdoor fitness equipment, a picnic area, better handicapped accessibility, and drainage and stormwater management improvements.

The county board approved the \$2.1 million project at its December 16 meeting. Construction is expected to begin in the spring, with completion occurring this fall.

In 2016, county staff held several meetings with Fairlington residents to refine the plans for the playground. In response to these meetings, the final design increased the number of swings, something many parents requested.

According to Aaron Wohler, the county landscape architect who is coordinating the project, the playground will be closed during the renovation. The entire play area needs to be excavated and graded for the stormwater management aspect of the project. Consequently, the contractor will want to remove all of the existing elements at once.

In a December letter to the county board, FCA indicated its support for the renovation, but expressed disappointment that all of the playground would be inaccessible for most of the spring and summer.

During December's county board discussion of the contract, board member Christian Dorsey cited FCA's concern about the entire playground being closed during the renovation. County Manager Mark Schwartz said he had instructed county staff to work with the contractor and see if there were ways to keep parts of the playground open during the renovation.

During construction, the athletic field will be closed due to the renovation of the site circulation surrounding the field.

The scope of work includes the following activities:

- Removal and replacement of existing site furnishings
- Removal and replacement of play/exercise equipment. New equipment includes three swings, composite play structures (more traditional platform style) for both young and older age groups, climbing apparatuses (ropes, cubes, sky cabins)
- Removal and replacement of pathways (playground area)
- Removal of amphitheater and a few trees
- Installation of new sand area with play apparatus, water spigot, and shade structure
- Installation of a picnic area with three picnic tables
- Stormwater management/drainage
- Milling and overlay of existing asphalt walkways with eight-foot uniform width throughout the park
- Park signage, including a bulletin board
- Fencing and gates around the play area for two- to-five-year-olds
- Landscaping/irrigation

The drawing of the renovated playground can be found at <https://projects.arlingtonva.us/projects/fairlington-park-project>.

—Guy Land

Rep. Beyer to host helicopter noise forum

Congressman Don Beyer will host a community forum on helicopter noise on Tuesday, January 16, from 7:30 to 9 pm at Abingdon Elementary School. The forum will be with the Department of Defense (DoD) and is part of a study Beyer had included in the National Defense Authorization Act in 2016.

The provision was proposed by Beyer in response to frequent complaints from constituents, particularly in Fairlington, about excess noise from military helicopters. It directs DoD to study changes to the region's helicopter flight routes, operating procedures, and types of helicopters flown in the national capital airspace to mitigate the effect of noise on the region's neighborhoods.

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New FCA board selected for 2018

A new Executive Board of the Fairlington Citizens Association (FCA) was selected at December's annual meeting. Fairlington residents returned eight sitting members, and elected one new member to the board.

The FCA is a county-recognized umbrella civic organization for North and South Fairlington, Park Shirlington, and Shirlington House. The FCA'S mission is to promote activities that make Fairlington a better community in which to live, serve as a forum for discussion of residents' concerns, and represent their views to local government.



The 2018 FCA board. Left to right: Treasurer, Ed Hilz; Hugh Baumgardner; Secretary, Evan Harvey; Kent Duffy; President, Guy Land; Jennifer Davies; Vice President, Chris Weathers; Rebecca Sayres; and Lindsay Willmann. Photo by Jonathan Ansley.

compensation for their service on the board. All Fairlington residents and owners are members of the FCA. The FCA does not rely on member dues to fund the civic association.

President Guy Land reported on 2017's major activities pertaining to engagement with elected officials and staff, the monitoring of development and transportation issues, and enriching life in Fairlington. Specifically, Land highlighted Cap-

tain Adrienne Quigley as well as Arlington County Board members John Vihstadt and Katie Cristol, who addressed the FCA this past year; the I-395 sound walls and Fairlington Presbyterian affordable housing proposal; and the well-received inaugural Family Movie Night.

Treasurer Ed Hilz reported that the Association's year-to-date finances showed a net profit of roughly \$9,000. FCA is the only Arlington civic association that doesn't charge dues. The group's main source of revenue is the income from advertising in the *Bulletin*. It was noted that the FCA will continue to sponsor community events like the annual Fourth of July Parade and Fairlington Farmer's Market.

Additionally, Land previewed items on tap for 2018, including events to commemorate Fairlington's 75th anniversary, the contractor showcase, Abingdon 5K run/walk, another Family Movie Night, and the annual Fourth of July parade. Land indicated the FCA would continue to monitor and report on development near Fairlington.

Lastly, Land issued a call for volunteers to help with upcoming activities. He noted, "Donating even an hour or two a few times a year to help with neighborhood activities would make a real difference in the FCA's ability to fulfill its mission of making Fairlington the best place to live that it can be." Anyone interested should contact a board member or email president@fca-fairlington.org.

—Rebecca Sayres



Last year's board officers Jonathan Ansley, Lindsay Willmann, and Ed Hilz confer at the December meeting. FCA thanks departing board member Ansley for his service. Photo by Guy Land.

Returning to officer slots are President Guy Land and Treasurer Ed Hilz. Chris Weathers will serve as Vice President, and Evan Harvey will fill the Secretary position. Returning board members are Hugh Baumgardner, Jennifer Davies, Kent Duffy, and Lindsay Willmann. Joining the board is South Fairlington homeowner Rebecca Sayres, who has contributed to the *Bulletin* throughout 2017. Jonathan Ansley did not seek re-election.

The candidates were elected without opposition. Officers and directors serve one-year terms and receive no



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Arlington approves affordable housing conservation district

The Arlington County Board is moving forward with a proposal to create a Housing Conservation District framework to encourage the preservation of affordable housing. The district would include Park Shirlington Apartments and Shirlington House, which currently have a significant number of affordable housing rental units.

The framework would apply to neighborhoods generally composed of garden-style apartment complexes with market-rate affordable rents. Housing is considered “affordable” when a household spends no more than 30 percent of its monthly income on rent or mortgage payments. Rents that are “market-rate affordable” are within the means of households earning up to 80 percent of area median income.

The framework and associated incentives for developers

Park Shirlington changes ownership



Park Shirlington Apartments. Photo by Guy Land.

A new owner has taken over Park Shirlington Apartments, promising to rehabilitate and preserve the property as affordable housing. Located at 4510 S. 31st St., Park Shirlington has 294 units.

Standard Property Company, in partnership with the National Foundation for Affordable Housing solutions, acquired the property from Home Properties in early December. The financing for the sale included a \$6 million loan from Arlington County’s Affordable Housing Investment Fund. The county board approved the loan in late November.

In 2013, Home Properties proposed to replace the existing 294 apartments with 750 new apartments in five buildings that would be three- to five-stories high, with most of the units being market rate with rents competitive with those in Shirlington. These plans were put on indefinite hold in 2014 when Home Properties announced a change in its business strategy and exited the new development business in order to concentrate on acquiring and upgrading older properties.

Continued on page 13

or apartment owners would encourage the construction and preservation of affordable rental housing, and attempt to prevent the loss of market-rate affordable housing.

Market-rate affordable housing in Arlington has been diminishing rapidly because of strong housing demand, which has boosted rents.

The Housing Conservation District would cover apartment buildings and complexes in 12 general areas in the county, including Shirlington, with the designated area covering Park Shirlington and Shirlington House.

The framework would allow for a spectrum of development projects within the conservation district, ranging from renovations and minor additions, to infill and redevelopment. In exchange for the ability to complete these projects, property owners and developers would be required to dedicate a share of on-site housing units for lower- and moderate-income households.

The conversion of affordable apartments to townhouses, however, would require the developer to satisfy a special exception use requirement, thereby reducing the

Continued on page 19

Alexandria affordable housing project advances

Fairlington Presbyterian Church and its development partner, Wesley Housing Development Corporation, have prepared a revised concept for converting part of the church’s parking lot to 81 affordable housing units. The property is located at 3846 King St., just across King from Fairlington Mews.

Representatives from the church and the developer briefed the neighbors on the revised plans on December 11. The plan will be considered by the City of Alexandria this year. A public hearing would likely occur this fall, with construction expected to begin in the summer of 2020 and be completed by the end of 2021.

The project is designed to address the shortage of affordable worker housing in Alexandria. All of the units would be reserved for low-income households, with the maximum household tenant income not to exceed roughly \$66,000 per year for a family of four.

—Guy Land

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County board approves aquatics center

After more than 10 years of planning and negotiating, the Arlington County Board in late November approved a \$60 million contract for the design and building of the Long Bridge Aquatics & Fitness Center, Arlington's first free-standing aquatics center.

Located just up I-395 at the north end of Crystal City near the 14th St. Bridge, the project will also include development of 10.5 acres of additional park space, including environmental remediation, public gathering areas, one or more rain gardens, and parking.

The existing Long Bridge Park, which is already popular with Arlingtonians, features three full-size, multi-sport, lighted fields, a network of walkways, views of capital monuments, public art, healthy vending machines, and a three-quarter acre rain garden that directs runoff from the park's sports fields and parking lot into a planted garden of native shrubs and perennials.

The centerpiece of this park expansion project is a 50-meter pool, which will offer one-, three-, and five-meter diving. It will be large enough that even when swim events are taking place, lanes will be open to the public. The facility will also include a second leisure/family pool, a fitness center, and community rooms.

In a first for the county, the project used a design-build approach to help hold costs down. Funding for the park was approved in a prior bond issue. Construction may begin as early as July 2018.

—Guy Land

County leaders outline budget challenges

Arlington County Manager Mark Schwartz and Arlington Public Schools (APS) Superintendent Dr. Patrick Murphy outlined budget challenges and other policy issues to members of the Arlington County Civic Federation at its December meeting. FCA is an active member of the federation.

Murphy noted that this fall's enrollment in APS, roughly 27,000 students, is the largest in the school system's history. Projections call for enrollment to continue to grow at a rate of 2,100 to 2,200 students per year.

These enrollment increases are driving the construction of new schools across the county, including new high schools at the Arlington Career Center on S. Walter Reed



FCA President Guy Land (center) visits with Arlington County Manager Mark Schwartz (left) and Arlington Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Patrick Murphy at the December meeting of the Arlington County Civic Federation. Photo by Bryna Helfer, Arlington Assistant County Manager and Director of Communications.

Dr., and a new neighborhood elementary at the Reed-Westover Building on N. McKinley Rd.

Schwartz reported that the county board had instructed him to prepare a budget for FY19 that contained no increase in the tax rate, though he noted that because of an increase in assessed values, actual taxes paid by residents would likely increase modestly.

He said that keeping the current tax rate would likely result in a shortfall of \$12 to \$15 million, which would have to be offset by reductions and efficiencies.

Schwartz stated that the county's residential real estate market is the strongest it's been in the last four years, but that commercial vacancies continue to exert downward pressure on tax revenues.

Schwartz said that the county's biggest challenges were those that come from growth. "I'm very optimistic about the future of our county," he said.

—Guy Land

Home improvement, continued from page 1

Appreciation Society Facebook page, and posted outside the FCC's large, multipurpose room on the day of the event. The event is free and open to all residents and visitors.

—Chris Weathers

Happy holidays, Fairlington style!

Fairlington residents young and young-at-heart enjoyed the sights and sounds of the season as Santa made several visits, carolers serenaded the Mews, and outdoor decorations brightened the neighborhood.

Photos by Guy Land.



I-395 sound wall voting continues

With voting on the southbound I-395 express lanes sound walls completed (but not yet reported), attention now turns to the sound barriers on the northbound side, with voting expected to begin soon.

The noise analysis firm facilitating the voting process is preparing a memorandum describing the outcome of the voting process in North Fairlington. The results of the voting will then be released to the public.

As of mid-December, balloting for residents benefited by the proposed sound walls along northbound I-395 had not yet begun. The private contractor had been working with Fairlington Mews to schedule an additional outreach meeting to inform residents of the need for a temporary construction easement along the King St. entrance ramp to northbound I-395 before distributing ballots. Ballots should be distributed once that meeting has been set.

The first ballot will be sent by regular mail, and eligible residents will have 21 days to return it. If the response

rate is not greater than 50 percent, a second ballot will be sent by certified mail to anyone who did not return the initial ballot. Residents will have 15 days to return the second ballot.

If the proposed sound barrier is approved by the community, construction would occur during the current stage of the project, which stretches from now to fall 2018.

According to Geoffrey Vetter, communications specialist with AECOM (the private company coordinating the public outreach on the express lanes project), work will continue on the project throughout the winter season. He encourages commuters to drive safely and pay attention to on-road signage if they're traveling near the area of lane closures.

Residents who would like more information about lane closures impacting traffic may subscribe to the project's newsletter at www.395expresslanes.com/stay-informed.

—Guy Land

Park Shirlington, continued from page 9

Representatives of the purchasing team briefed the FCA board on the sale in November. Joe Oullette, a principal at Standard Property Company, said that detailed plans for the property had not yet been developed, but that the general plan was to retain the existing buildings and “sprinkle in” additional units over the next several years.

—Guy Land



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— Denice McCullough,
Fairlington Resident

When it comes to heating and air conditioning, there's only one name anyone should even think about—that's Frosty's.

— Rick Micker, Former Fairlington Condo VP

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— Edward Getterman,
Fairlington Resident

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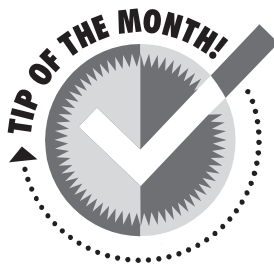
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FCA plans 75th anniversary festivities

A celebratory catered reception with speakers, a kids' geocaching hunt, and a revised reprise of the fall history walk are among the activities the FCA board is working on to mark Fairlington's 75th anniversary in 2018. FCA will partner with the Fairlington Historical Society to provide opportunities for residents to learn more about our community's history.

FCA is also exploring reproducing photos of Fairlington—both early and more contemporary ones—that would be suitable for framing. These are likely to be available for online ordering later in the spring.

All of these options drew strong support in the online survey FCA hosted in November and December. A wine reception led the list of potential events, garnering the endorsement of 41 percent of the respondents. A picnic or BBQ came in second, with the support of 30 percent

of respondents. The history walk was the first choice of 15 percent of those who took the survey.

Over half of those responding said they would be interested in purchasing reproductions of early photos. Other popular commemorative items included a Fairlington calendar, mugs and drinkware, and anniversary T-shirts.

Many residents provided helpful suggestions and comments, and the board is considering how to weave some of those into its planned activities.

Volunteers are needed to help make this anniversary celebration special. Please let FCA know if you can donate just a couple of hours to help mark this milestone in our neighborhood's history.

—Guy Land

Fairlington's 75th lookback: Boundary Stone

To celebrate our 75th anniversary, we'll take a look at Fairlington's history in each issue of the Bulletin this year.

One of Fairlington's significant historic assets is Boundary Stone Southwest #4, one of 40 milepost stones that mark the original District of Columbia. It is located on King St., between S. Wakefield St. and the entrance ramp to I-395, just outside the newly replaced Mews boundary fence. After many years of obscurity, shrouded in shrubs on the narrow shoulder of King St. and obscured by a chain link fence, the stone and its enclosure is now very accessible thanks to the gate conveniently placed in the new fence by the community-spirited Mews board.

The Stone was placed in 1791 by a party led by surveyor Andrew Ellicott. Ellicott's description of the area at the time is a stark contrast to the current surroundings. "The country through which we are now cutting one of the ten-mile lines is very poor. I think for near seven miles, on it there is not one house that has any floor except the earth, and what is more strange it is in the neighborhood of Alexandria and Georgetown."

In 1846, the entire southwest portion of the District—including most of the land on which Fairlington is located—was retroceded from the Federal City back to Virginia. The boundary

stones remained in place, although, some—including our #4—were damaged or moved.

In 1915, the District chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) took on the task of preserving all of the stones. They erected protective iron cages around them, added explanatory plaques, and took on the long-term task of maintenance. Of these, 34 remain today.



*Fairlington's Boundary Stone.
Photo by Guy Land.*

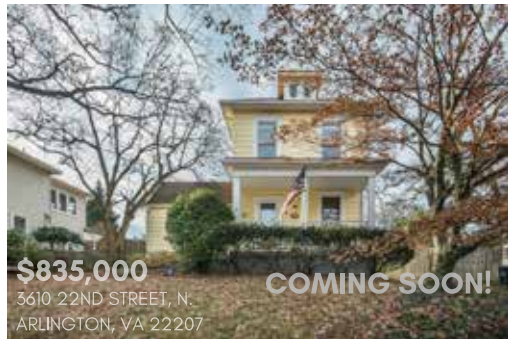
Six years after Fairlington construction was completed, in 1949, the DAR historian reported that our #4 stone was in poor condition, "... broken off almost even with the ground." In 1970, two years before Fairlington's conversion to condominiums began, King St. was widened and the DAR noted that the stone had been buried, but was rescued and re-set 13 feet north of its original location (*The Fairlington Boundary Stone*, DAR, 2002).

For more on our Boundary Stone, go to www.fairlingtonhistoricalsociety.org.

For locations and descriptions of all 40 boundary stones, go to www.boundarystones.org.

—Patty Clark

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The sound of music is alive at Wakefield High School



Wakefield music students from the 90-voice concert chorus and Madrigals Chamber Chorus include five members who reside in Fairlington. The choir not only raised their voices in holiday song, but they also held a drive for cash donations and grocery gift cards to help families of Wakefield students in need during the holiday season. Photo by Janis Johnston.

Music education is thriving in our neighborhood schools, but unless you have a child attending Wakefield High School, you may not know about its award-winning music program and schedule of free concerts. If you missed the high school's chorus, band, and orchestra winter concerts in December, don't dismay. There are more opportunities to take in some free neighborhood musical entertainment this year.

Each September, Fairlington has generously supported the Wakefield music program during its annual Tag Day fundraising event. This year, students knocked on doors to raise more than \$20,000 from the Wakefield community, including generous contributions from Fairlington residents. Donations to the music program help purchase new instruments, uniforms, and music, in addition to providing scholarships for students to travel to the annual spring music competition, this year in Myrtle Beach, SC.

While there are a number of Fairlington families with students attending Wakefield, the school's music department hopes to expand its audience beyond family members and share its music with the broader community.

If you would like to hear some local student music and

Fairlington 5K coming April 28

Dust off your running shoes and your Fitbit and start training for the fifth annual Fairlington 5K Run/Walk for Abingdon Elementary and A Cure for Ellie. More than 600 runners took to the streets of Fairlington last year and a similar crowd is expected this year. You can register for the race, or find out more about sponsoring or volunteering at www.fairlington5k.com. See next month's issue of the *Bulletin* for more information.

experience a return on your fundraising investment, mark your calendars and plan to attend one of Wakefield's upcoming spring musical events at 1325 S. Dinwiddie St. Concerts usually last for about one hour and admission is free.

Wakefield Concert Calendar, Spring 2018

Thursday, April 26, 7 pm: Chamber Music Night, Wakefield's Black Box Theatre

Thursday, May 24, 7 pm: Band/Guitar Concert, Wakefield Auditorium

Tuesday, June 5, 7 pm: Spring Choral Concert, Wakefield Auditorium

Thursday, June 7, 7 pm: Spring Orchestra Concert, Wakefield Auditorium

—Janis Johnston

County to acquire Shirlington Rd. property

At its October 24 meeting, the Arlington County Board voted to authorize the purchase of land at 2629 and 2633 Shirlington Rd. for ART bus parking and storage. The parcels are next to the Cube Smart storage building (2631 Shirlington Rd.). Last year, the county executed a seven-year lease on 2629 Shirlington Rd. for ART bus parking.

An appraisal commissioned by the county reported that the land parcels have a current market value of \$20.5 million.

According to the county manager, within six months, 13 vehicles will be added to the fleet, and an additional six buses will be added by 2020. A permanent location is needed for ART to provide the operations facility necessary to support the system's needs. The growth that is underway and planned was approved in the board-adopted 10-year Transit Development Plan.

A year ago, the owner of the property proposed a swap of the Shirlington Rd. property for a parcel on N. Quincy St. (the Buck property), which the county had an option to purchase. However, the county had been looking at different uses for that property and is not prepared to do a swap at this time.

The county board vote also authorized acquisition of the property by eminent domain if an effort to purchase the property is unsuccessful.

—Guy Land

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Animal Talk

Pets of Fairlington: Meet Brutus

I'm not that bashful, so I volunteered to kick off the "Pets of Fairlington" column. My name is Brutus, and I am a black Brazilian Mastiff with a white chest. I look intimidating because I am 140 lbs., but I'm actually very easy-going (maybe that's due to my age).

I am 12 years old, from the Pittsburgh area. I was supposed to go to a home in New Orleans in 2005, but a big hurricane hit in September which left me stranded. Luckily, my mom found me the following month online and I didn't have to go to a shelter.

I love tracking squirrels and chasing them up trees. My usual hangout is the Shirlington Dog Park, where I pal around with my friends Camo and Bella. My best friend Calvin lives in the same court as me in the Mews. This is convenient since we enjoy walking together in the afternoon.



When it's not too hot out, I sometimes go on hikes at Turkey Run Park or Hemlock Overlook. On special occasions, I get a scoop of vanilla ice cream. This is by far my favorite treat. I hope to see you around the neighborhood on my walks!

—Rebecca Sayres

"Pets of Fairlington" is a new, occasional addition to the Animal Talk column that will spotlight pets living in the neighborhood. Want your pet to be considered for "Pets of Fairlington"? Email editor@fca-fairlington.org and please include your pet's name, breed, color, age, the area of the neighborhood where the pet lives (association, cross streets), favorite treats/activities/hangouts, and any pet peeves, along with a current photo at 300 dpi if possible. We will notify you if your special pet is chosen for an upcoming column.

Affordable housing, continued from page 9

likelihood that buildings in the Housing Conservation District would be converted to townhouses. Potential impacts from townhouse development would be assessed on a case-by-case basis, with the goal of mini-

mizing negative impacts on existing nearby properties.

By including Park Shirlington within the Housing Conservation District, the kind of major townhouse development that was proposed for that property in 2013 would likely be subject to more stringent scrutiny than under current county rules. Park Shirlington was recently sold to a private developer who has stated an intention to maintain the property as affordable housing.

FCA had expressed its general support for the concept of the Housing Conservation District, viewing it as a way to limit major townhouse redevelopment in Park Shirlington, preserve the character of the community, and maintain a diverse population in the area. FCA was concerned about the impact that any increased density on that site could have on increased enrollment at Abingdon School.

—Guy Land

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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 December, we enjoyed our now-traditional trip to L'Auberge Chez Francois for a wonderful meal, elegantly served, in their dining room decorated for the holidays.

Here's what's planned for January:

Wednesday, January 10, 6:30 pm, Rabieng Thai Restaurant, 5892 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041, 703-671-4222, www.rabieng.com. It's just beyond Bailey's Crossroads—very close to Fairlington. This is a favorite of several of our regulars.

Monday, January 29, 6:30 pm, Ramparts Tavern & Grill, 1700 Fern St., Alexandria, VA 22302, 703-998-6616, www.rampartstavern.com. We'll visit this perennial local favorite on a Monday, when they offer half-price burgers with the purchase of any beverage. The rest of the menu is also available.

Please call Carol at 703-379-6840 if you plan to attend, and leave a voicemail if you don't reach her—include your name and how to contact you the day of the event, in case plans change.

To receive a copy of these notices early in the previous month, email carol_dabbs@yahoo.com.

Book Group

Join the Fairlington Book Group in January to discuss *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald.

"This exemplary novel of the Jazz Age has been acclaimed by generations of readers. The story of the fabulously wealthy Jay Gatsby and his love for the beautiful Daisy Buchanan, of lavish parties on Long Island...is an exquisitely crafted tale of America in the 1920s."
—Amazon.com

The Book Group welcomes first-time visitors and drop-ins. No commitment required! We are meeting on Tuesday, January 23, at 7:30 pm in the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. We hope you'll join us.

Card players welcome

Join your Fairlington neighbors for a friendly game of Canasta. Some card playing experience is helpful, but we are happy to teach you the rules of Canasta. 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 coordinator, at fairlington.babysitting@gmail.com to request more information and an application.

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. \$30 in annual dues goes to support the club's work and service projects. The MOMS Club of Arlington-Fairlington VA® is the local chapter of the International MOMS Club.

Paint, Build, Create

Join your neighbors for a day of creative exploration at the second annual event on Saturday, January 20, from 11 am to 2 pm at the Fairlington Community Center. Guests of all ages can enjoy a variety of free activities, including art-making projects, tasting stations in the kitchen, a cardboard build room, a teen lounge project, and senior projects. Visit <https://parks.arlingtonva.us/paint-build-create/> for more information.

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DOWN TO EARTH patio gardening



Plant symbolism

Throughout winter, there is little dynamic growth in our gardens except the evergreens, everblues, or the few evergreens that flower (Camellia, Mahonia, PJM Rhododendron). But looking underneath the surface, we can see how plants are symbolic when applied to life. Below are some that convey messages in religion, sport, charity, sentiment, and politics. Keep these meanings in mind when making your plant selections for spring.

Fig Leaf is a symbol of personal modesty dating to the Book of Genesis in the Bible. It is used by Adam and Eve as cover. The leaf is wide and can grow eight inches long with a five-inch width. The fruit ripens in August and is used in jams, cookies, and biscuits. A fig tree needs space and reaches 10 feet tall with



Daffodils on S. 33rd St. Photo by Guy Land.

a similar spread. The specimen likes full sun. It's easy to prune since the branches are succulent-like and soft.

Forget Me Nots are tiny, five-petaled flowers that show in pink or blue, each with a yellow eye. Each bloom is only a half-inch wide. Myosotis is the less-affectionate sounding Latin genus. The flower is placed on gravesites—pine for a female loved one and blue for a male loved one.

Narcissus or Daffodil is a symbol used by the American Cancer Society for its March fund-raiser, *Daffodil Days*. The daffodil is seen as a symbol of hope. Flowers are purchased and delivered to those touched by cancer, with proceeds going toward research. Just off the south-bound lanes of Shirley Highway (I-395) and just west of the bridge that connects North and South Fairlington, there is a swath of yellow on a grassy slope when the flower blooms in March.

Olive Branch is pictured on the Great Seal of the United States. In the bald eagle's right claw is a branch filled with leaves and berries. In his right talons are 13 arrows, depicting the 13 original colonies. It symbolizes peace around the world. Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat brought an olive branch to the United Nations General Assembly in 1974. It is naturally found in the Mediterranean geographic region of Spain, Italy, Greece, and Turkey.

Palms are given to congregants in the Catholic Church on Palm Sunday, which precedes Easter Sunday

by one week. Leaves of the Palm also symbolize celebration or triumph and are distributed to winners in athletic competitions. A Sabal Palmetto tree is depicted on the state flags of Florida and South Carolina—the latter known as the "Palmetto" state.



Primrose. Photo courtesy Pixabay.

"Primrose Path" refers to a life of leisure. The primrose is the first flower to arrive at the nursery in late winter. Each flower has a yellow eye with petals in vivid purple, pink, orange, blue, or white. The flower lasts until early summer. The Primrose leaf is basal with sunken veins. It is a very tender perennial in our hot climate.

—Bill Sullivan
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"Amazing Abingdon" on display

Students, teachers, and parents gathered at Abingdon's first Project Gift Showcase of the year to celebrate the innovative learning strategies and projects integrated every day into Abingdon's classrooms. Students from pre-K through 5th-grade demonstrated to their parents the unique approaches they use to think, create, and problem-solve in all academic subjects.

Preschooler parents learned how their children connect the language of geometry and art to improve their understanding of concepts in both disciplines. Kindergarten students demonstrated their use of puppets and technology to retell familiar stories.



First-graders teach their parents math games at Amazing Abingdon. Photo from Abingdon Twitter Feed @AbingdonGift.

First-graders taught their parents math games that enrich learning, and first-grade teachers guided families through the research behind creating lifelong readers. Second-grade parents learned how their

children are becoming independent and flexible math thinkers, while third-grade parents participated in an interactive math workshop.



Second-graders share their math thinking with their parents during Amazing Abingdon. Photo from Abingdon Twitter Feed @AbingdonGift.

Fourth-grade parents learned to play digit card games they can enjoy with their children at home, and also explored how students with learning disabilities learn to steer the course of their lives, as opposed to being silent messengers. Fifth-graders demonstrated hands-on and technology-based geometry games.

Abingdon science lab and Spanish teachers also shared the innovative strategies used with students in all grade levels.

Future showcases will focus on the integration of technology into students' daily learning, and the use of art to enhance academics through the school's partnership with the Kennedy Center.

Abingdon community helps families in need

Abingdon's Community Liaison, Caty Bronco, worked with Abingdon parent Nicole Van Hoey to

prepare Thanksgiving holiday food boxes for 20 Abingdon families in need. The MOMS Club of Arlington-Fairlington® generously donated beautiful baskets filled with pantry staples such as brownie and cake mixes, canned goods, paper supplies, and other holiday meal essentials. Great Harvest Bread Co. once again supported Abingdon families by donating several dozen delicious dinner rolls and 20 amazing pumpkin pies! Abingdon families and staff donated over \$700 to purchase turkeys, boxes of fresh produce (including green beans, potatoes, sweet potatoes, and mixed greens), and canned goods to help provide holiday meals.



Fairlington MOMS Club holiday baskets for Abingdon families in need. Photo by Abingdon PTA.

Abingdon and Fairlington families also helped fulfill the holiday wishes of Abingdon families in need by donating gifts and gift cards, and making monetary donations to purchase and assemble holiday food baskets with fresh fruits, vegetables, pantry staples, and proteins.

—Carrie Lewis

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SILVER PLATE BOWLS. Professionally appraised at \$20.00 each: 2 Oneida Paul Revere reproduction 6" silver plate bowls and 1 Vintage Gorham 9" silver plate bowl. Call/text Debbie 703-203-9444.

Services

INCOME TAXES. We can prepare your Federal and State Income Taxes. Fairlington home-owners our specialty for over 30 years. Convenient evening and weekend hours. 30% discount for Fairlington Residents. Visit www.cpa-coker.com for more information, directions. Call for an appointment with a FREE Retirement Check-up included. (703) 931-3290.

WELLNESS with MOORE THAN YOGA offers: Yoga, meditation, breathing techniques, infant massage (monthly classes), children's massage, reflexology (personal pampering, pregnancy & labor induction), Reiki & more. Private session or create a class. www.moorethanyoga.com. 703-671-2435.

TRAINER. Trainer with over 20 years experience for strength, flexibility or boxing. Numerous past and present clients from Fairlington. Call Don for consultation at 571-286-8544.

IRS ENROLLED AGENT can prepare your individual and business income taxes, provide advice, and respond to IRS and State tax letters. Bookkeeping and Small Business / Government Contractor support services too. Former Fairlington resident with 25 years of experience. Flexible time and place appointments. Visit www.alexandria-tax-bookkeeping.com for more information, or call Christine R. Coker at 703.407.7545.

LUXURIOUS IN-HOME MASSAGE.

Enjoy a restorative massage in the comfort of your home by an experienced, fully licensed Parkfairfax therapist for a very affordable price. Therapeutic and relaxing 70-minute massage for \$70. First-time special: 90 minutes for \$80. Call Mark Herrenbruck, Encore Massage. 703.987.0283.

TUTOR AVAILABLE. Tutor available after school for elementary, middle school and special education support. Can meet in your home or at the library. 5+ years teaching experience, with a Master's in Special Education. Call to discuss rates/availability, 703-863-9004

Gardening/Landscaping

SULLIVAN'S LANDSCAPING.

Based adjacent to the Fairlington community, is available 12 months a year for patio maintenance. Designs and installations are done from mid-March into November. For 29 years, I've served Fairlington homeowners. I grew up on South Stafford Street and know most of the condo association officials and residents here. My garden column has run in this newsletter since 1996. Contact me to beautify and maintain your patio. Billsullivan41@gmail.com or 571.213.9567.

Home Improvements

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

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

HOME IMPROVEMENTS AND REPAIRS.

Serving Fairlington since 1978. Hundreds of bathrooms and kitchens renovated. Other services include painting, plumbing, window repairs, leak detection and correction, dryer vent replacement, regrouting, recaulking, drywall repairs, etc. Call Vic Sison at Fairlington Maintenance Service 703-379-7733. E-mail vsison0117@yahoo.com.

BATHROOM RENOVATION SALE.

Example: Clarendon II. New tub, faucets, toilet, tiles for wall and floor, vanity and top, painting, medicine cabinet, light fixture. Labor included. \$6,900. Fairlington Maintenance Service. Call 571-212-4151 or 703-379-7733.

DOOR SOLUTIONS. A Fairlington doors expert. 1,000's of pleased customers. For contact, scheduling, and useful door information, please visit: www.doorsolutions.biz

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

Doggie-Do (and cats too!) Neighborhood Pet Services

Affordable, affectionate care. whether you're here or there.

Walking, bark-park visits, play dates, boarding, daycare, sitting, and more... What can we do for you?

Andrew & Kerryn Zechiel
www.doggie-do.biz



Pet & Plantcare by Gerri, LLC

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- ★ Sitting
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- ★ Medications

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703.629.1970
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BONDED & INSURED

STAPLES REMODELING. For all of your improvement needs. Specializing in kitchens, bathrooms, basements and painting. Give us a call to set up an appointment for a free estimate at 703-499-2249 or visit our website at www.staplesremodeling.com.

INTERIOR PAINTING. Chelsea Paint and Paper, Inc. Painting, wallpapering, and plastering. 25 years experience. Professional, clean, neat, reliable. Licensed, bonded, insured. References available. Free estimates. Steve Chute. 571-216-9338/703-912-1450. Chute285@aol.com.

MARIO'S HOME IMPROVEMENTS. 18 years experience, kitchen and bath granite counter top remodeling, tile, plumbing, electrical, carpentry, crown molding, painting, wallpaper removal, drywall. Call Mario 703-501-7506. mzambrana60@yahoo.com

HARDTIMES HANDYMAN SERVICES. Home and office repair, rental maintenance, painting, drywall repair, pressure washing, minor electrical and plumbing, to do lists and more. Free estimates, fair pricing and friendly service. Since 2008. Fairlington references available. Tim Miles cell 443-995-3825. timmiles74@gmail.com.

ELECTRICAL SERVICE. Master electrician. Lights, fans, panel replacements. Licensed, insured credit cards Allegro LLC 703 314 1287 info@allegroLLC.net

House Cleaning

MICHELE'S MAIDS. Reliable, honest, affordable. BACKGROUND CHECK ON EVERY EMPLOYEE. Window cleaning now available. LICENSED, BONDED INSURED. 15 years in Fairlington. Fairlington references available. No Machines to talk to. 703-820-1808 Visit our website at www.michelesmaids.net

FAIRLINGTON MAID SERVICE. 703-820-8635. We are family owned and operated serving Fairlington since 1978. Your neighbor is our best reference. Call for a free estimate and detailed explanation of our service.



Enhance your community by volunteering for FCA activities.

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

HOUSE CLEANING. Reliable and experienced. Good references. Flexible scheduling. Reasonable rates. We are licensed, insured, and employees covered through Worker's Comp. We bring our own equipment. Weekly, biweekly, monthly, occasionally, one-time, move in/out, offices. For free in-home estimate, call Maryen/Raul at 703-321-5335.

Pet Services

PET & PLANTCARE BY GERRI, LLC. Reliable, loving care for your dogs, cats, rabbits, birds, or fish. Petsitting, playgroups, walks, feedings, medications. Indoor/outdoor plantcare. Established 1999 by 19-year Parkfairfax resident; bonded and insured. Competitive rates; flexible arrangements. Call/text 703-629-1970.

HOME ALONE FELINES. Professional in-home cat sitting and adoption services. homealonefelines@gmail.com; 703-671-5504; www.hafr.org



Join the Fairlington conversation on Facebook at the Fairlington Appreciation Society.

MINI-ADS INSTRUCTIONS

Due date for ads and payment: 6 pm on the 10th of the preceding month (Jan. 10 for Feb. 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. 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).

30% Discount on Tax Preparation

We can prepare your Federal & State income taxes. Fairlington homeowners our specialty for 25 years.



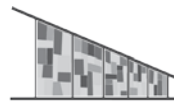
Visit www.cpa-coker.com for more information. Call today to schedule an appointment and get a **FREE** Retirement check-up!

Charles Coker, CPA 703.931.3290
charles.coker@cpa-coker.com



Worshiping Christ the King
Sundays at 8:30 and 10 a.m.

1801 North Quaker Lane • CTKAlexandria.org



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REAL ESTATE

CHRISTIE'S
INTERNATIONAL REAL ESTATE

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
office # 703.998.3111



A big thank you to the
community of
Fairlington and
surrounding areas for
your generosity to
Toys for Tots 2017.



We also had wonderful
community response to
our ARC coat and
AFAC food drive.



We are proud to be a
part of this giving
community, and thank
you for your support!



\$469,900

3059 Buchanan St., S #A-2
1BR/2BA Monticello
Pat Quinlin 703.835.7312



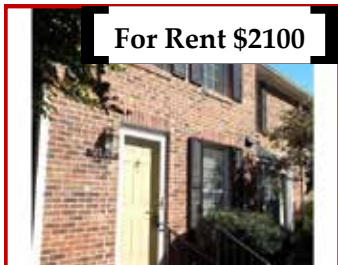
\$370,000

4675 Lawton Way #101
Alexandria, VA 22311
2BR/2BA Condo
Joanne Ritchick 571-215-3350
Julie Flory 703-599-3111



\$464,900

2726 Fort Drive
Alexandria, VA 22303
2BR/2BA/ 1HBA Duplex
Harry Bowen 904-738-4419



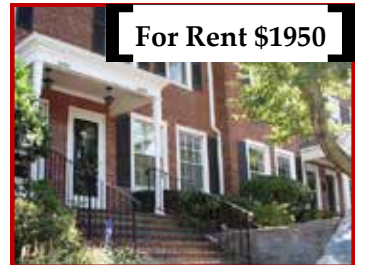
For Rent \$2100

2528B Arlington Mill Dr.
Arlington, VA 22206
2BR/1BA/1HBA Townhouse
Joanne Ritchick 571-215-3350



For Rent \$2100

4848 28th St., S #B
2BR/2BA Clarendon II
Larisa Martin 202-280-0000



For Rent \$1950

2864 Abingdon St.,
2BR/2BA Clarendon II
Nancy Kozlowski 703-824-7614



For Rent \$2750

3405 Stafford St., #A
3BR/2BA Dominion
Barbara Kirkland 703-405-5920



For Rent \$2775

2922 Dinwiddie St., S
3BR/2BA Dominion
Pat Quinlin 703-835-7312



For Rent \$2400

4855 28th St., S #A2
2BR+Den / 2BA Mt Vernon
Joanne Ritchick 571-215-3350

Let your New Year's resolution be to buy a home! *January* and *February* typically are the slowest months of the year for sales and face far less competition than the typical spring market. Plus, interest rates are rising! Don't delay, call our office **703-998-3111** and ask to speak with one of our many qualified Realtors® today.



***Did you know? We have an on-site notary. Monday-Friday 9-5pm
Call 703.998.3111 to schedule an appointment.***