

# all FAIRLINGTON BULLETIN



www.fca-fairlington.org

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Volume 42, Number 7

## Fairlington fired up for the Fourth with parade, bake sale

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Just how big of a birthday cake would you need to fit 240 candles?

It's something to think about on the Fourth of July when Fairlington helps celebrate Independence Day with a red, white, and blue celebration that features a festive parade and the 14th annual No Kid Hungry Bake Sale.



*A few raindrops didn't dampen the enthusiasm at last year's Fourth of July parade. Photo by Guy Land.*

The party starts at 9:45 am at Firehouse 7 at 3116 S. Abingdon St., and a Yankee Doodle entourage is not only wanted, it's expected. Fairlington neighbors are encouraged to decorate strollers, wagons, bikes, scooters, kids, dogs, cats—even yourselves—in red, white, and blue.

Led by the perennial fife and drum corps, the parade begins at 10 am and marches along S. Abingdon St., concluding at the Fairlington Villages Community Center parking lot, 3005 S. Abingdon St.

If marching is not your style, join the spectators cheering along the sidelines. After the parade, take part in the community-wide after party that includes free cold drinks, ice cream, and hot dogs. Curious children can climb aboard Engine 107 after it finishes bringing up the end of the parade.

The 14th Annual No Kid Hungry Bake Sale will also take place at the event. Please bring home-baked treats of muffins, cookies, cakes, and pies to the table in the North Fairlington Community Center, 3005 S. Abingdon, between 9 and 10 in the morning. No fillings or frosting please.

Each year, hundreds of area residents take part in what has become a Fairlington tradition, co-sponsored by Fairlington Villages and the FCA. Volunteers are needed to make this event a success. For more information about helping out with this popular event, please email [activities@fairlingtonvillages.com](mailto:activities@fairlingtonvillages.com).

—Bob Bradley



*The No Kid Hungry Bake Sale was a big hit last year, and figures to be the same this July 4. Photo by Guy Land.*

# 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 July 13

**Special Presentation:** Dr. Reuben Varghese, Arlington County Health Director, will discuss mosquito control and the Zika virus.


### Regular board business:

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

### Online resources:

Find more information on the FCA website, [www.fca-fairlington.org](http://www.fca-fairlington.org). Sign up for updates delivered to your inbox.

Find us on Facebook at Fairlington Appreciation Society.

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

Web design by Global Thinking, Alexandria, VA, [www.globalthinking.com](http://www.globalthinking.com).

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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
<a href="http://www.arlingtonva.us/departments/EnvironmentalServices/dot/traffic/streetlights/index.htm">www.arlingtonva.us/departments/Environmental Services/dot/traffic/streetlights/index.htm</a>	
Helicopter Noise Complaints	Mike Lucier (VA 8th Dist.) 202-225-4376

### Fairlington Citizens Association

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### All Fairlington Bulletin

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**Assistant Editor:** Christine Chirichella

**Advertising Manager:** Beth Andrews

**Distribution Manager:** Noemi Riveira

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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.

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**For more information, visit [www.fca-fairlington.org](http://www.fca-fairlington.org)**

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## Calendar

### Fourth of July Parade

Monday, July 4, 10 am  
3116 S. Abingdon St.

### FCA monthly meeting

Wednesday, July 13, 7 pm  
FCC, 3308 S. Stafford St.

### Fairlington Diners

Thursday, July 14, 6:30 pm  
Del Ray Cafe  
205 E. Howell St., Alexandria

### Fairlington Diners

Monday, July 25, 6:30 pm  
Ramparts  
1700 Fern St., Alexandria

### Book Club

Tuesday, July 26, 7:30 pm  
FCC, 3308 S. Stafford St.

## Show your market pride



Melissa Beene, a Fairlington Farmers Market co-chair, proudly displays a Fairlington Farmers Market tote bag, which can be purchased at the market every Sunday from 9 am to 1 pm. The new must-have tote bags are a joint undertaking of the market and FCA and cost \$7. Photo by Guy Land.

**Contributors this month:** Jonathan Ansley, Bob Bradley, Lynne Blasi, Christine Chirichella, Jennifer Davies, Gretchen Fallon, Guy Land, Bill Sullivan.

Some images in this publication may be digitally enhanced.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Convenient public transportation options are an important attribute of Fairlington. Proposals are being developed that could modify, and in some cases enhance, those options.

**Bus routes to the Pentagon.** As noted on page 11, Arlington is looking at changing the bus service through Fairlington. Under the staff proposal, the 22A/C route would be eliminated, the 87 ART would loop through Fairlington to Shirlington, and the rush hour frequency of the 7A/Y through North Fairlington would almost double. The 22F, which runs from the Pentagon to NOVA through South Fairlington, would not be changed.

FCA is working with the county to try to ensure that the current level of overall peak service to both North and South Fairlington, which is generally about every 10 to 12 minutes, is not reduced. Replacing the 22C with the 87 ART could add significant time to the commute for South Fairlington residents, who would need to take the 87 ART to the Shirlington transit station and then transfer to the 7A/Y for the Pentagon.

**Bus rapid transit along King Street.** The Northern Virginia Transportation Commission staff is recommending bus rapid transit (BRT) from Mark Center along Beauregard to King St. and on to Tysons. Staff examined three options: BRT, enhanced bus service, and light rail. The Commission held information briefing sessions for the public in June.

While the BRT route wouldn't directly reach Fairlington, it could provide an alternative to congested King St. for people who are going to Tysons Corner. The route would also be part of the proposed West End Transitway from Mark Center to the Pentagon.

**395 HOT lanes.** Several aspects of this project could affect Fairlington. Implementation of 24/7 HOT lanes would require drivers to pay a fee, which would be based on traffic conditions, so Fairlington residents who use the current lanes in the off hours would have to pay a fee. But VDOT officials suggest that the HOT lanes would shift some current traffic from the non-HOV lanes to the new HOT lanes, thereby easing congestion along the regular 395 lanes.

Under the agreement between the private contractor and the state, the contractor is required to contribute funds to improve public transit options in the area served by the HOT lanes. The amount of funding and the particular option that would be supported have not yet been determined but there could be benefits for Fairlington.

FCA will monitor these proposals and work to maintain good transit options for our residents.

Guy Land, FCA President  
[president@fca-fairlington.org](mailto:president@fca-fairlington.org)



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# Abingdon construction begins in July

Following final approval of the construction contract by the Arlington School Board in May, major construction on the expansion and renovation of Abingdon Elementary School is set to begin in early July. When the work gets underway, Fairlington residents are likely to see a variety of construction-related impacts, including construction vehicles on Fairlington streets and workers on site six days a week and holidays.

Construction workers are not permitted to park in the neighborhood. Arlington Public Schools (APS) has negotiated a lease arrangement with the Fairlington Presbyterian church just across from South Fairlington in Alexandria for construction workers to park in the church parking lot. The construction contractor will run vans to take the workers to the construction site. "We will do everything we can to prevent workers from parking in the neighborhood," APS project manager Aji Robinson told residents at a community briefing on May 26.

Robinson acknowledged that there would be a "significant amount" of construction traffic along S. 29th St. at the entrance to the school property, but he noted that the county is providing temporary construction access to the site through the county's Trades Center property adjacent to the back of the school. He noted that this should reduce the amount of construction traffic along S. 29th St.

Construction work will occur between the hours of 7 am and 6:30 pm, Monday through Friday, and 10 am to 6:30 pm on weekends and holidays. "We will be working holidays," Robinson said. Construction traffic is not supposed to be on the streets between 6 and 9 am and 3:30 and 6:30 pm to minimize impacts during rush hour.

APS has selected Heery International to manage the construction and oversee the work of the general contractor. Sandra Hagen, a senior project manager with Heery, is the community liaison for the project. With an office on site, Hagen and her staff will be at the construction site every working day to help monitor any adverse impact on the community and ensure that the county-imposed construction rules are followed.



*An architectural drawing of what the front of Abingdon Elementary School will look like after construction is completed. Drawing courtesy of Arlington Public Schools.*

She encourages residents to contact her with questions or to report any issues with the construction contractor or its employees at [shagen@heery.com](mailto:shagen@heery.com), 202-740-7874.

Much of the Abingdon playing field has already become home to classroom trailers ("relocatables"), with up to 18 classrooms slated for the site. Much of the remainder of the field will become temporary school parking during construction. The current school parking lot will become the construction staging area.

APS has negotiated an agreement with Fairlington Villages to reserve 15 parking spaces in the parking lot next to the condo community center for the exclusive use of the school.

During the project, APS will install a new raised crosswalk along S. Abingdon St. at the walkway to the school. The walkway itself will be widened. There will also be improvements at the intersection of S. Abingdon and S. 29th St., and additional lighting will be installed along the walkway through Ft. Reynolds Park. These are the major off-site elements of the construction project.

In the briefing, Robinson addressed residents' concerns about the loss of trees on the school site. He noted that for every tree that was removed, APS must replace it with a new tree. He reported that 146 trees are being removed, six are being transplanted, and 147 new trees will be planted.

APS has been working with the owners and residents of 80 units near the school property to monitor any impact on the foundations of the buildings resulting from the construction work.

Construction is scheduled to be substantially completed by the fall of 2017, in time for the opening of school.

—Guy Land

For questions about the activities of the construction general contractor, contact Sandra Hagen, [shagen@heery.com](mailto:shagen@heery.com), 202-740-7874.





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# ***U.S. House bill includes amendment to study NOVA helicopter noise***

The issue of helicopter noise and traffic that permeates the skies above Northern Virginia neighborhoods such as Fairlington has taken a new turn.

The U.S. House of Representatives in late May passed the National Defense Authorization Act, which included an amendment authored by Rep. Donald Beyer (8th District) which calls on the Secretary of Defense to conduct a study, in coordination with the Federal Aviation Administration, on the effects of military helicopter noise on communities and individuals in the District area.

The amendment also calls for recommendations to be made for the reduction of any effects of noise on individuals, structures, and property values.

Directed to be involved in the study, according to the amendment, are members of the Armed Forces, law enforcement agencies, community stakeholders, including residents and local government officials, and organizations with an interest in reducing military helicopter noise.

"Northern Virginia communities are realistic about the noise helicopters generate and are sensitive to the operational needs of the military," Beyer said. "But the routes and altitude caps dictated by the FAA are not designed for military aircraft. Given the military's insistence on using such heavy, loud aircraft it is only right that they work with the FAA to re-examine the existing route structure and offer some possible solutions."

Anyone living in Fairlington and the surrounding region is well aware of the numbers of trips that are made by helicopters going to and from the Pentagon, as more than 140 of those trips are made each day, with 75 percent of them military in nature. Beyer said that the noise causes a constant disturbance to residential areas is always a source of concern and derives complaints from many constituents.

To that end, lawmakers penned a June 9 letter to Secretary of Defense Ash Carter and FAA Administrator Michael Peter Huerta, shining a light on the issue.

"Even when the helicopters adhere to flight procedures and routes," the letter reads, "the noise and vibrations



*A V-22 Osprey military aircraft takes off near the Air Force Memorial in Arlington. Photo courtesy of Department of Defense.*

created by these trips can be alarming, especially when passing so close to residential areas at the low altitude dictated by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)."

Especially concerning, the letter stated, is the addition of the military V-22 Osprey to local residential airspace.

The proposed study directs the Department of Defense, working with the FAA, to reevaluate air traffic control, air space design, airspace management, and the types of aircraft in operation, to address helicopter noise problems.

The letter was signed by Beyer (D-Va.), Rep. Barbara Comstock (R-Va.), Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.), Gerry Conolly (D-Va.), and Washington D.C.'s Eleanor Holmes Norton (D).

In December, the first community meeting dedicated to discussing helicopter noise, hosted by Arlington County Board chair Libby Garvey. At that Dec. 16 meeting were representatives from the FAA and the military, including the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard.

"It's definitely our intent to fly friendly and to support the local community as much as possible," Colonel Timothy Brown said at the meeting. Brown is a Commander in the U.S. Army Air Operations Group.

"This is a great feedback opportunity for us to take lessons and really work on training and communicating with our pilots so that everyone is able to support this goal as much as we can within the restraints of the airspace that we're operating in," he added.

Despite assurances that the military was listening to citizen concerns, as residents and representatives from neighborhoods closest to Reagan National Airport shared them, it became clear that the FAA doesn't have a lot of regulatory power over military aircraft.

"I want to make it clear that we do not have a lot of regulation over noise produced by military aircraft," said Rebecca Cointin of the FAA's Office of Environment and Energy said at the time. "The FAA does not control, certify or regulate them."

—Bob Bradley



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# Verizon FiOS slowly but surely making its way to Fairlington

Verizon FiOS, the sought-after, state-of-the-art, high-speed fiber optic internet and television technology is methodically making its way into Fairlington.

All seven Fairlington condo associations have signed the agreements that spur Verizon into FiOS action, but a near two-month strike by Verizon workers, which was settled last month, put high-speed into neutral.



*A Verizon worker installs FiOS to a dwelling. Photo courtesy of Arlington County.*

But Fairlington condo association representatives working with Verizon officials are plodding ahead. Each association had to reach an agreement with Verizon, which then triggered an engineering site survey to determine easements, rights of way, and building aesthetics.

Each condo association is in different stages with the communications giant.

The Commons approved the premises access license (PAL) in April, and in early May, Board President Bernie Weaver and property manager John Adams met with representatives from Verizon's FiOS contractor teams to conduct a survey of the Commons as a first step in producing and submitting a draft installation plan for board approval.

Verizon representatives attended the May 17 board meeting, where they presented additional installation information and answered questions. Current planning is to install the required infrastructure necessary for each unit to obtain FiOS service if desired, although the actual decision to obtain that service will be at co-owner discretion.

The Arbor signed the PAL on March 1. During March and April, Scott Hummel (the Arbor's general manager) and Arbor Vice President Bill Gillespie met with Verizon

representatives several times to work out an acceptable cabling plan. After a lot of discussion, two "mock-ups" showed how cabling might be accomplished.

Arbor units will be cabled from the rear of the unit. Second story units (Braddock units) will be accessed from a red-brick colored conduit that runs from the ground to the eave on the back of the unit. Gillespie said the Arbor is now waiting for Verizon to provide a detailed engineering design.

In the Glen, the board voted to approve an attorney-amended PAL. An attorney is to finalize the document before sending a signed copy to Verizon for its approval/signature, according to board president Jay Yianilos.

The Mews, which is a bit ahead of the curve, is having all access to the units done from the back of the buildings (townhouse style and B buildings).

"We plan on running PVC pipe up to each individual unit, regardless of service, so that the look is the same for future installations," said Mews president Renee Powlette.

She added that, as of mid-June, the Mews informed Verizon of its final thoughts but had not heard back.

In the Villages, Verizon said it will not do a design for the Alexandria section. Board President Terry Placek said board members agreed to go forward with only the Arlington section and a site survey was being scheduled as of June 11.

Fairlington Green approved and returned a signed PAL agreement to Verizon in late May, but has not yet received any further feedback or plans for next steps from Verizon, said Stacey Knobler.

The Meadows signed the PAL on April 1 and, because of the size of the Meadows property, a preliminary survey was done on April 20, but representative Bill Russell said the site survey has not been completed.

Joe Hartman, president of Fairlington Court, said there has been no movement since signing the PAL.

—Bob Bradley



*Verizon workers lay cable on a residential street. FiOS is making its way to Fairlington. Photo courtesy of Arlington County.*

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# County considers bus route changes

Arlington County is considering significant changes to bus service in Fairlington. Under the county's Transit Development Plan, the 22A and 22C, which primarily serve South Fairlington (with one stop in North Fairlington), would be discontinued and replaced by the 87 ART, while peak service on the 7A and 7Y would almost double in frequency. The 22F would remain unchanged.

In a public briefing in early June, county staff explained that ridership on the 22A and 22C, which currently runs from Ballston to the Pentagon, was very low outside of Fairlington, making it hard to justify continued service along much of that route.

The 87 ART would replace those 22 routes at 20-minute intervals during peak hours, looping back to the Shirlington transit station before continuing on its regular route along Army-Navy Drive to the Pentagon. South Fairlington riders would likely change to the 7A or 7Y at Shirlington, but this would make the overall travel time



*The Metrobus 22A and C are scheduled to be discontinued in 2018 under the county's Transit Development Plan. Photo by Bob Bradley.*

from South Fairlington to the Pentagon longer.

The 22F, which runs through South Fairlington and along Route 7 between the Northern Virginia Community College and the Pentagon, would continue to operate at 20-minute intervals during peak hours. Service on the 7A and 7Y, which runs through North Fairlington to the Pentagon, would be increased to one every 7.5 minutes.

Members of the FCA Board and other interested residents have been meeting with county staff

to explore options for maintaining frequent rush hour bus service through all of Fairlington.

The county board is tentatively scheduled to consider the proposed changes at its July 16 meeting. It would make recommendations to WMATA, which would hold public hearings on proposed service changes. The changes would likely go into effect in 2018.

—Guy Land

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## Fairlington voters give Garvey strong margin



Led by her neighbors in South Fairlington, voters in the two voting precincts that serve Fairlington gave incumbent Libby Garvey a strong margin in her Democratic primary race for re-election to the Arlington County Board against Erik Gutshall, a member of the Arlington County Planning Commission.

In the Fairlington precinct Garvey garnered 68 percent of the vote, while voters in the Abingdon precinct gave her 54.8 percent of the vote. The Fairlington precinct consists solely of South Fairlington residents, while the Abingdon precinct includes North Fairlington and parts of Courtbridge and The Arlington condominiums.

Across the county, Garvey won with 54.87 percent, according to unofficial returns released by the county.

Her substantial vote in South Fairlington was an important component of her overall margin. Countywide, Garvey won by 1,484 votes. More than 10 percent of that margin came from one precinct—Fairlington. The precinct that gave her the biggest margin of votes, though, was the Madison precinct in North Arlington.

According to county voting registrar Linda Lindberg, voter turnout across the county was 11 percent.

Garvey had mounted a special effort to turn out Fairlington voters, including circulating a flyer endorsing her candidacy signed by roughly 50 Fairlington residents. In the weeks leading up to the election, both Garvey and Gutshall visited the Fairlington Farmers Market to talk with customers about their candidacies.

Garvey faces independent Audrey Clement in November's election.

—Guy Land



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# Sen. Ebbin touches on range of topics at FCA meeting

From the state budget to transportation, and voting rights to gun violence, Virginia State Senator Adam Ebbin covered a variety of topics and fielded audience questions while addressing the monthly meeting of the Fairlington Citizens Association on June 8.

Sen. Ebbin, elected to the senate seat for the 30th District in 2012 after serving eight years in the Virginia House of Delegates, outlined some of his accomplishments and initiatives, but preferred to turn the meeting over to the audience of about 20 people, and he was impressed with the queries that came his way.

"You're asking good, specific, policy-wonk questions," he said.

The HOT Lanes, the proposed project that would add a lane to the HOV portion of I-395 for an eight-mile stretch to the Pentagon, was of particular interest to one questioner, who asked about Transurban, the company managing the project, and if the company could be held accountable for violations while constructing the plan.

Ebbin said that at the moment, there is a memo of understanding and that the project is in the midst of an environmental impact study, but assured the audience that those issues regarding fines or penalties would be included in the final contract. Sen Ebbin had put forward a bill that would have lowered penalties for drivers charged with toll violations, such as affixing a transponder improperly, and would also cap associated fees. The measure was defeated by the Senate Transportation Tolling Subcommittee.

Sen. Ebbin appeared upbeat about the HOT Lanes project, pointing to the fact that money raised by tolls would go to transportation issues.

On the issue of the Metro, Sen. Ebbin, who is also a member of the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission, said he believes the system needs a dedicated funding

source, by raising the gas tax or other means. He talked about the SafeTrack maintenance project that is under way. He pointed out that the Metro was built as a two-track system, instead of three, which would have alleviated travel delays that passengers are dealing with now.

As for the budget, Sen. Ebbin said that the 2016–2018 budget included an increase in education funding of \$4.9 million in Arlington, \$4 million in Alexandria, and \$30 million in Fairfax County. It includes salary increases for teachers, state employees, and university professors, he said.

On gun safety, Sen. Ebbin reported there was an agreement reached with the General Assembly that would require gun owners served with a permanent protective order to relinquish their firearms within 24 hours. Another part of the deal requires state police to be present at every gun show in the state and be available to perform voluntary background checks, if requested by the gun seller.

One initiative that was defeated, Sen. Ebbin said, was a measure that would have prohibited adults from allowing children under the age of four access to firearms and penalizing individuals who are carrying concealed weapons while intoxicated.

Sen. Ebbin also proffered a bill that would restore voting rights to those convicted of a felony.

The senator touts himself as someone who advances progressive priorities, which besides gun safety and improving schools, includes clean energy incentives and ending discrimination in state employment.

Sen. Ebbin represents 200,000 people in Arlington, Alexandria, and parts of Fairfax County's Mount Vernon and Lee Magisterial Districts. The senator can be contacted at [district30@senate.virginia.gov](mailto:district30@senate.virginia.gov) and [AdamEbbin.com](http://AdamEbbin.com).

—Bob Bradley



*Sen. Adam Ebbin stands alongside Keith June of Fairlington Glen during the Fairlington Citizens Association monthly meeting on June 8 at the Fairlington Community Center. Photo by Bob Bradley.*

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# Fairlington Farmers Market



## *This year's market has definitely got soul*



Fairlington Farmers Market vendor Margaret Gardner runs Margaret's Soul Food and Catering. Photo by Guy Land.

### **Vendor Spotlight: Margaret's Soul Food**

Summer is here and the Fairlington Farmers Market is brimming with fresh produce, meats, eggs, flowers, baked goods, honey, jams, goat cheese, and coffee! Market visitors asked for more foods to eat on site, and now you can enjoy ready-to-eat foods from several new vendors, including Margaret's Soul Food. As you enter the main entrance of the market, you can't miss Margaret Gardner's colorful food truck, friendly smile, or the aroma of her mouth-watering cooking. Meet Margaret and learn more about Margaret's Soul Food and Catering, her inspiration for recipes, and her favorite food.

**Q.** Why did you start your business?

**A.** I did corporate work basically for the last 15 years. My daughter has asthma and I wanted to be self-employed so I could spend more time with her. I was wrong—I'm so busy! So when she comes to work with me, that's when we have that time together.

**Q.** What kind of food do you sell?

**A.** I do Jamaican, barbeque, and soul food.

**Q.** How did you pick soul food?

**A.** I'm from the South—Tappahannock, Virginia. My son's father is from Jamaica, so that's how I learned to

cook Jamaican food.

**Q.** How long have you been cooking soul food, and how did you learn to make certain dishes?

**A.** About 15 years, and my mom and sister taught me.

**Q.** If you had to pick one of your favorite dishes from the truck, what would it be?

**A.** The Jamaican food—the oxtails are really good! My son's father taught me to make those.

**Q.** What kinds of spices do you use in your cooking?

**A.** Jamaican jerk seasoning, habanero pepper, and of course salt, garlic salt, and a little onion... that's the key you know... you have to season your food, and make sure it's not too salty but just right.

**Q.** How long have you been doing farmers markets?

**A.** About seven or eight years. I started out in D.C. at the Department of Transportation, and now everybody wants good home cooked food.

Be sure to stop by Margaret's for delicious barbeque, pulled pork, fried chicken, Jerk chicken, green beans, collard greens, potato salad, and her famous mac and cheese!

—Lynne Blasi and Alana Ceesay

### **Market reminders**

Walking or biking to the market is a great way to get your exercise in for the day. If you drive, please be a good neighbor and avoid parking directly in front of the residences across from the community center. There is plenty of parking along S. Utah St., 32nd St., the community center parking lot, and along Quaker Lane.

Special thanks to the volunteers helping out at the market on Sundays! Help is needed with set up, greeting customers, staffing the market booth, and breakdown. Shifts are just two hours; to sign up for a specific date and time, visit [www.fairlingtonfarmersmarket.org/get-involved.html](http://www.fairlingtonfarmersmarket.org/get-involved.html). Consider volunteering with a friend or family member, or fly solo and meet some of your interesting neighbors. Thanks for helping and see you at the market!

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## Fairlington Sales

### Listed

Address	Transaction Date	Model	Closing Price
4711 30th St S #A2	31-May-2016	Mt. Vernon	\$408,700

### Sold

Address	Transaction Date	Model	Closing Price
4827 28TH ST S #B	28-Apr-2016	Clarendon	\$429,700
4608 31st Rd S #A1	30-Nov-2015	Barcroft	\$340,000



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## Fairlington Rental Experience

### Listed

Address	Transaction Date	Rental Price	DOM*
4605 31ST RD S #C2	27-May-2016	\$2,050	2 days
3351 STAFFORD ST	7-Mar-2016	\$2,050	7 days
3351 STAFFORD ST	9-Mar-2015	\$1,950	22 days

### Rented

Address	Transaction Date	Rental Price
4271 35TH ST S #A2	16-Apr-2016	\$2,100
3351 STAFFORD ST	7-Mar-2016	\$2,050
3046 ABINGDON ST #A2	1-Mar-2016	\$1,850
2994 COLUMBUS ST S #B2	15-Jan-2016	\$1,350
2985 COLUMBUS ST	1-Apr- 2015	\$2,395

\*Days on market indicates how many days property was available before a rental application was submitted and accepted

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# Construction coming at King and Beauregard

City of Alexandria officials and members of the community met in late May to discuss the impact of upcoming intersection improvements at King and Beauregard Streets.

This project is not that of the proposed the Alexandria Gateway mixed-use project which is also at the same intersection.

The project will include the addition of a second left turn lane in each direction from King St. to Walter Reed Dr. and Beauregard St. There will also be wider sidewalks and landscaping between the sidewalk and traffic lanes with the goal of enhancing pedestrian access and safety.

The work will be done in three phases.

Phase one of the construction was to begin around June 20 and will continue for about nine months. It will include closing the two slip lanes on King Street to enhance pedestrian safety. It will also include the construction of two retaining walls. One will be in front of Bolling Brook Towers and the other in front of the City



*A view of the King and Beauregard intersection in Alexandria. Photo by Guy Land.*

of Alexandria Health Department. It will also involve tree removal.

Phase two will last from Winter 2017 through Winter 2018. It will involve relocating utilities underground mainly along King St.

Phase three is estimated to begin in Spring 2018 and end in the Fall 2019. This phase is likely to include the majority of the visible changes. It is still being designed, but will include a median on King St. to 28th St.

During all phases, there will be periodic lane closures between the hours of 9 am and 3:30 pm.

Although some community members expressed concern about changes in the originally announced project plans, city officials explained that the changes were due to increased cost in obtaining the right of way.

For more information, see the City of Alexandria's project page at [www.alexandriava.gov/KingBeauregard](http://www.alexandriava.gov/KingBeauregard).

—Jonathan Ansley

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## Health official to discuss Zika and mosquitoes July 13

Arlington County's public health director, Dr. Reuben Varghese, will discuss the county's response to the Zika virus and mosquito control steps at the July 13 FCA meeting. The session begins at 7 pm in the Fairlington Community Center.

The Zika virus is expected to spread more widely during the summer mosquito season, but officials say outbreaks in the U.S. are likely to be limited. To date, there have been more than 500 cases of Zika in the continental U.S., all of which so far have been associated with overseas travel.

Arlington is using a phased, risk-based response that includes public health interventions appropriate to the level of Zika virus risk in the community. The county's response is based on guidance from the Virginia Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Because Zika is a relatively new public health concern, county health officials say they are prepared to be flexible and adapt their response as they learn more about the virus.

The county recommends several steps to reduce exposure

to mosquitoes, including:

- Use an effective repellent, such as DEET, Picaridin, or Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus.
- Drain all sources of standing water to prevent mosquitoes from breeding. Clean out birdbaths once a week. Turn over or remove containers in patios where rainwater collects, such as potted plant trays, buckets, and toys.
- Make sure door and window screens are intact.

Stormwater facilities generally do not pose a mosquito risk. Mosquitoes require a minimum of five days and an aquatic environment to mature from egg to adult. Stormwater facilities are typically designed to drain within 72 hours and therefore do not provide an adequate breeding environment for mosquitoes.

The City of Alexandria Health Department offers briefings on the third Wednesday of each month through October at various locations throughout Alexandria.

—Guy Land

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# Animal Talk

## How to find a lost pet

Fairlington is home to likely as many dogs and cats as people. Pets become part of our family, and it's heartbreaking when they accidentally go missing. On various Fairlington Facebook pages, missing or found pets are a frequent topic of discussion. Below are some tips to consider should your pet become lost:

- Make sure your pet is micro-chipped and your account with the microchip company is up to date. (Did you know there is an annual fee to do this?) This will enable vets or animal shelters to find you more easily should your pet get picked up and brought to a local facility.
- When outdoors, be sure your pet is wearing its collar with ID, including your cell phone number.
- Make sure you have current photos showing unique features of your pet that will help it to be identified.
- Create a flyer that can be distributed in the area that your pet was last seen. Be sure the flyer contains current photos, the word REWARD, information on identifying marks, the pet's name, the pet's breed and coloring, your name and contact info, day/time/location the pet was last seen, and information on the pet's temperament and any medical issues. These flyers can also be handed out during a search.
- Use the power of your social networks to circulate the flyer electronically through email; Facebook; local neighborhood groups; local pet stores, vets, groomers, and rescue groups; or lost pet sites like [petambalert.com](http://petambalert.com).
- Gather your friends and neighbors to regularly search and flyer the area where the pet was last seen—be sure to get permission to flyer first. Some businesses will even let you access their survey cameras to look for the pet. You may want to consider leaving food and water in the area and set up watch for the pet to return.
- Consider hiring a professional tracker, who will use its own dogs and skills to survey the area the pet was last seen.

These are just a few suggestions to help find a lost pet. The most important thing is to be persistent and get the word out to a large group of people so they can in turn help you spread the word and search for your missing pet. Here's hoping this is advice you never have to use!

—Christine Chirichella

### MISSING



This article was inspired by Echo, pictured here, who was missing at press time. She was last seen near the Safeway at Bradlee in mid-June. If anyone has any information, please contact [sekrishnan@hotmail.com](mailto:sekrishnan@hotmail.com) or 703-825-0620. Photo by Sheela Krishnan.



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# ABINGDON *school news*



*Students in an Abingdon Elementary School classroom in 1954.*

## **Abingdon PTA throws 'Favorite Decade Throwback' school dance**

Abingdon Elementary School families and staff celebrated the school's seven decades of educating children with an end-of-year dance that highlighted the school from the 1950's through today.

"Since the school will be under construction for most of next year, we wanted to have a least one large event the whole school community

could attend and enjoy," said PTA co-president, Jennifer Davies.

The cafeteria was decorated with various themes—from disco balls to poodle skirts—to capture the school's 1949 construction to its pending renovation and expansion. A DJ light show kept the crowds dancing from "Hound Dog" to the latest Justin Timberlake hit, while



*Dance Emcees and Fairlington residents Julie Brady and Diana Funk ready to go! Photos by Jen Davies.*



*Fairlington resident and Abingdon's Information Technology Coordinator Kerry Abbott with her daughter channeling the 70's and 80's.*

**New School Dedicated In Arlington**  
*The Washington Post (1923-1954); Aug 21, 1950; ProQuest Historical News pg. B1*

## ***New School Dedicated In Arlington***

Arlington's new 10-room Abingdon Elementary School was dedicated yesterday as School Board Member Dr. E. R. Draheim warned that the county still has too many temporary classrooms.

The ceremony was held in the auditorium of the \$299,470 building at 30th and S. Abingdon sts. Draheim praised the "fine new school building," but noted the county still has 44 temporary classrooms in church basements and anywhere space is available.

It would take four and one-half buildings the size of the Abingdon Elementary School to accommodate students now in temporary classrooms, Draheim said. He urged parents and students who filled the auditorium not to forget that other school children were without such facilities. He said the school board needs "county-wide support" for future bond issues to pay for a new junior and a new senior high school and additional elementary classrooms.

School Superintendent William A. Early presented the keys of the school to its principal, Miss Mary Barbour, formerly head of John Marshall School.

a moon bounce and photo booth rounded out the fun activities.

In addition, "Abingdon Archives" were unearthed and put on display, including the school's initial construction cost in 1949 (\$300,000), as well as school pictures from decades past.

All in all it was a great evening and a wonderful way to conclude the school year.

—Jennifer Davies





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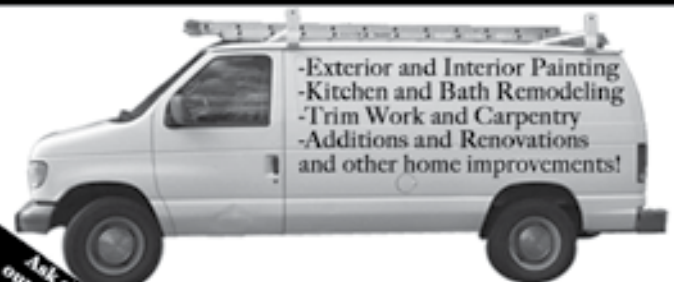
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# neighborhood news

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## ***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 June, we enjoyed hamburgers at Whitlow's for a change.

Here's what's planned for July:

Thursday, July 14, 6:30 pm, Del Ray Café, 205 E. Howell Ave., Alexandria, 703-717-9151, [www.delraycafe.com](http://www.delraycafe.com). From the owners of La Bergerie, a French café serving farm-to-table French-American cuisine from local, natural and organic foods.

Monday, July 25, 6:30 pm, Ramparts, 1700 Fern St., Alexandria, 703-998-6616, [www.rampartstavern.com](http://www.rampartstavern.com). We'll return to 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. If you want to receive a copy of these notices early in the previous month, send an email to [carol\\_dabbs@yahoo.com](mailto:carol_dabbs@yahoo.com).

## ***Book Group***

Join the Fairlington Book Group in July to discuss *The Nightingale*, a novel by Kristin Hannah.

The author tells the story of two sisters in occupied France during World War II and the choices they have to make to survive.

The Book Group welcomes first-time visitors and drop-ins. No commitment required! We are meeting on Tuesday, July 26, at 7:30 pm in the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford Street. We hope you'll join us.

## ***Card players welcome***

Join your Fairlington neighbors for a friendly game of Canasta. No previous experience is necessary to enjoy this card game. We are happy to teach you. The group meets Tuesday mornings at a local church hall near Fairlington. Call Carol Ann at 703-931-8533.

## ***Fairlington Babysitting Co-op***

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

Email the coordinators, Yulia Tuinstra and Anne Viser, at [fairlington.babysitting@gmail.com](mailto:fairlington.babysitting@gmail.com) to request more information and an application.



*Youngsters beat the heat at the Fairlington Glen swimming pool during mini-heat wave, when the temperature topped 90 degrees, in early June. Photo by Bob Bradley.*

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# DOWN TO EARTH patio gardening



## *Answering some ground-breaking landscaping questions*

Questions on landscape design lead to comprehensive answers. There are many ideas to practice and they depend on budget and imagination. Below are queries that I commonly field, along with my take on them.

### **Q. Is a lawn practical for a Fairlington patio?**

**A.** Sure, for the larger yards, such as a Mount Vernon model. There is so much space, you can have a small deck and shrub beds in addition to a lawn. Begin by digging up what spotty grass there is. Fill holes with topsoil and then tamp down. Use an iron rake to smooth the soil and unearth any surface rocks. Then soak the soil before laying the sod.

Tall fescue has the strongest blade for pedestrian or pet traffic. It also does well in sun or shade. Each piece is 2 feet by 5 feet or 10 square feet. Once it is unrolled with dirt side facing up, soak it until the soil is muddy. Then turn it over, stretch it out and lay the sod pieces in a checkerboard fashion. There's no need to use pins for the corners unless there is severe slope in the grade. With excess sod, use a utility knife to cut what you don't need. Be sure to water a new sod lawn daily for 10 days until the grass roots are established.

### **Q. What's the best thing for beneath the balcony?**

**A.** The quickest and cheapest way is mulch or pea gravel. For more decoration, spread an inch of stone

dust and then lay in 1-inch-thick pieces of flagstone. A good pattern is 2x3-feet, 2x2-feet and 1x2-feet. Leave a half-inch between the pieces and sweep in stone dust on top of the new "floor" once all the pieces have been positioned.



*The use of a trellis for a flowering vine is recommended for your Fairlington patio, because once a mature vine attaches to and through fence panels, it becomes messy and difficult to prune. Photo courtesy of House of Hawthornes.*

### **Q. Are raised beds a good idea?**

**A.** They are if bending over is challenging while gardening. If you prefer a border around the beds, use 4x4-inch or 6x6-inch treated pinewood. Stack the wood two or three levels high. You may even treat (stain) the wood with a sealer (clear or a tint of color).

### **Q. What about a flagstone wall?**

**A.** This is also a suitable border for a shrub or perennial garden bed. A

dry-stack wall of modest height in a serpentine fashion gives the look of an English garden. Use amoeba, not geometric pieces when laying in the wall. Building it too tall gives a bulky look.

### **Q. What about container gardening?**

**A.** This method works best when you have a flagstone or brick patio. Hardscapes housing decorative pots are attractive and neat. Fill the pots with annual or perennial flowers. The pots don't have to be basic terracotta. Porcelain pots with a colorful glaze add pizzazz to any patio.

### **Q. Should I have a trellis for a flowering vine?**

**A.** Yes. Once a mature vine attaches to and through the fence panels, it becomes messy and difficult to prune. Try inserting an iron trellis no taller than the fence. Position it six inches out from the fence and submerge it deep into the soil. Plant the vine's root ball before the base of the trellis. An iron trellis provides a sturdy post for any vine.

Honeysuckle, star jasmine, clematis, Carolina jessamine, and trumpet vine are suggestions. Wisteria has a beautiful lavender flower color but its branches are as thick as your finger, so make sure this vine's branches don't overgrow the trellis and attach to the fence.

—Bill Sullivan  
[www.sullivanlandscaping.net](http://www.sullivanlandscaping.net)



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# ***Hurricane season upon us—be prepared for the worst***

A tree branch can fall at any time during or after a storm, and it almost surely will happen sometime during the Atlantic coast hurricane season, which began June 1 and runs through November 30.

Fallen tree branches can cause power outages in Fairlington—if the branch falls on overhead electric lines in Alexandria that feed the underground electric-line routes in Fairlington or damages the supply from the Falls Church substation. High winds and driving rain can be destructive—remember the after-effects of the micro-burst storm in August 2010 and the violent derecho in June 2012.

If memories are long enough, you may recall Hurricane Isabel in September 2003, when many households went without electricity for four or five days.

Get stormweather ready, now, with these online resources for storm preparedness and weather event information: [www.Hurricanes.gov](http://www.Hurricanes.gov), critical hurricane advisories and marine forecasts; [www.Weather.gov](http://www.Weather.gov), the latest forecasts; [www.Ready.gov](http://www.Ready.gov), preparedness information; [www.nhc.noaa.gov](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov), National Hurricane Center at NOAA; [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org), preparedness information; [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov), safety and preparedness information.

—Gretchen Fallon

## ***Officials needed for upcoming election***

The Alexandria Voter Registration and Elections Office is recruiting election officials for November 2016 (as well as future elections).

You must be a registered voter in order to be eligible; we will provide training prior to election day. Any bilingual individuals are especially helpful, but we welcome everyone.

There are opportunities to serve at polling places all over Alexandria. A small stipend is given or you may choose to volunteer your time.

The Alexandria Elections Office at 132 N. Royal St., Suite 100, is holding an open house on Thursday, July 28, from 5 to 9 pm and Saturday, July 30, from 8 am to 5 pm.

Sign up online—[www.alexandriavoter.org](http://www.alexandriavoter.org) and click “Be

a Precinct Election Officer.”

Email [Alyssa.Glomb@alexandriava.gov](mailto:Alyssa.Glomb@alexandriava.gov) with any questions. The office is responsible for registering voters and conducting elections in the City of Alexandria. It emphasizes core values of integrity, transparency, and accuracy.

## ***Park briefing set for June 29***



*Kids use the playground at Fairlington Park, behind the Fairlington Community Center. The county is planning on upgrading several portions of the park, and county staff received 342 responses to an online survey as to what residents would like to see happen there. Photo by Guy Land.*

Staff of the Arlington County Department of Parks and Recreation was to brief the Fairlington community on plans for renovating the Fairlington Park on Wednesday, June 29, at 6:30 pm in the Fairlington Community Center.

Proposed improvements for the area behind the community center include a new track around the field, new exercise equipment, removal of the amphitheater, and expansion of the playground.

Renovation plans include creating a new stormwater collection area (rain garden) at the northwest corner of the field, as well as improvements to the existing rain garden.

The projected timeline for the project is two to three months for the public process (present and discuss conceptual design options and agree on final conceptual design).

Completing the design drawings is expected to take four to five months, bidding and board approval should take about two months, and construction is scheduled to begin in late spring or early summer in 2017.

County staff solicited input from the community regarding Fairlington Park through an online survey and received 342 responses.

—Guy Land



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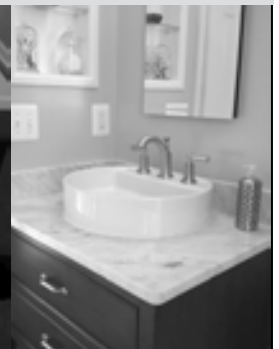


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## Vehicles run into Bradlee Center building days apart, no one hurt

Two vehicles in the span of 10 days ran into different businesses at the Bradlee Center shopping mall on King St. in Alexandria.

On May 20, an SUV plowed into the front window of the Hallmark store, shattering the glass and damaging the brick façade at the bottom of the building. No major structural damage was reported and the area has since been repaired.



Just 10 days later, a Mini Cooper raced forward and crashed into the automatic teller machine at Capital One Bank just yards away from the Hallmark store.

There were no reports of injuries in either accident, Alexandria police and fire officials said.

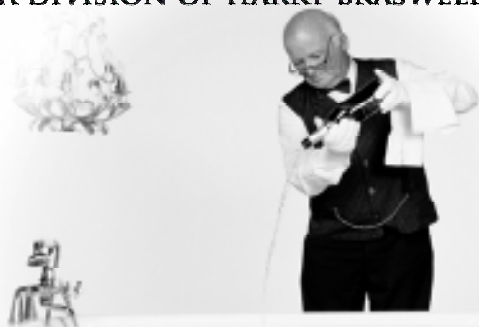
—Bob Bradley



(Left) An SUV is parked in the window of the Hallmark store at the Bradlee Center shopping center on May 20. (Right) This Mini Cooper made a deposit into the Capital One Bank ATM machine at the Bradlee Center. Photos courtesy of Alexandria Fire Department.

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# Mini-ads

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A color version of this newsletter is available online at [www.fca-fairlington.org](http://www.fca-fairlington.org).



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## MINI-ADS INSTRUCTIONS

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

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

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Take time on this special day to understand what independence means to you. This Independence Day, take a step back and cherish your life and the country you live in while appreciating the sacrifices people made to give us independence today. Best wishes to you for a safe and joyful 4th of July.

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