

# all FAIRLINGTON BULLETIN



www.fca-fairlington.org

JULY 2020

Volume 46, Number 7

## Show your patriotic spirit on your patio, porch, and panes

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Fairlington has been celebrating July 4th for two decades and has drawn large crowds and county board members to its parade along Abingdon St. This year, the Fairlington Citizens Association (FCA) and Fairlington Villages (the co-sponsors of the parade) made the decision early on that the parade cannot happen this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. There will not be a fifer and drummer leading families and children in decorated scooters, bikes and strollers.



Last year's July 4th celebration included fifers, a parade, refreshments, and zero social distancing. Photo by Guy Land.

FCA did not want to just give up this year but sought ways to celebrate at a responsible and safe distance. To that extent, plans are underway for two ways to make July 4th as festive as possible:

- Decorate your porch, patio, or window pane. Instead of scooters and bikes, show your creativity along balconies and fences. Can your courtyard make a continuous sidewalk chalk design or theme? Please take photos and send them to fairlingtonfourth@gmail.com.
- Inspired by the popularity of fire truck Santa, FCA has invited Station 9's fire trucks for a drive-by parade through the neighborhood. Although we had not received confirmation at press time, we are optimistic they can come. So prepare to line the streets (at a socially responsible distance) to cheer on the trucks. There will be no stops along the parade route. Please check out our website or FCA's Facebook page prior to the 4th for the latest information.

FCA will be purchasing flags and chalk to help get you started. Look for bins with supplies set up by pool entrances or high traffic areas in most of the condo associations. Fairlington Villages will have a bin set up by the management office. Fairlington Glen will be decorating each court entrance with flags and pinwheels.

—Jennifer Davies

## 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 8

There will be no presentation at the July 8 meeting. The Board will hold a virtual meeting, which can be viewed live on FCA's Facebook page and later on FCA's YouTube channel.

#### Regular board business:

- Approval of June minutes
- Unfinished business
- Officer and committee reports
- New business

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

#### Online resources:

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



Find us on Facebook at Fairlington Citizens Association.

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](http://www.avatar-systems.com).

### USEFUL CONTACTS

If you see something immediately alarming or suspicious, call 911.

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Police, Arlington (non-emergency)	703-558-2222
Animal Warden	703-931-9241
Dominion (power outages)	888-667-3000
Fairlington Community Center	703-228-6588
Metrobus Complaints	703-228-7929
Miss Utility	811
Pothole Patrol Hotline	703-228-6485
Shirlington Library	703-228-6545
Street Light Hotline	703-228-6511
<a href="http://www.arlingtonva.us/departments/EnvironmentalServices/dot/traffic/streetlights/index.htm">www.arlingtonva.us/departments/EnvironmentalServices/dot/traffic/streetlights/index.htm</a>	
Helicopter Noise Complaints	Mike Lucier (VA 8th Dist.) 202-225-4376

#### Fairlington Citizens Association

PO Box 6182 • Arlington, VA 22206-0182  
571-403-1943 • [president@fca-fairlington.org](mailto:president@fca-fairlington.org)

#### Board of Directors

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#### All Fairlington Bulletin

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**Editor:** Susan Renehan

**Advertising Manager:** Katarina Lesandric

**Distribution Manager:** Noemi Riveira

#### — DEADLINE —

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

Send material on disk with paper proof to:

FCA • PO Box 6182 • Arlington, VA 22206-0182

Email editorial announcements to:

[editor@fca-fairlington.org](mailto:editor@fca-fairlington.org)

Email commercial and mini ads to:

[admanager@fca-fairlington.org](mailto:admanager@fca-fairlington.org)

Drop off location: Drop box in the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford Street or pay via PayPal at [fca.fairlington.ads@gmail.com](mailto:fca.fairlington.ads@gmail.com)

#### 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 the Advertising Manager at 571-403-1942.

Ad Size	Height	Width	Rate
1/8 page	2 3/16 in.	3 5/8 in.	\$47
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Full-Page Insert (1 Side)	11 in.	8.5 in.	\$525
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**Fairlington is a National Register and Virginia  
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**For more information, visit [www.fca-fairlington.org](http://www.fca-fairlington.org)**

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## Calendar

### **Independence Day (observed)**

Friday, July 3

### **Independence Day**

Saturday, July 4

### **Fairlington Knits**

Monday, July 6, 6:30 pm  
See p.23 for details

### **FCA monthly meeting**

Wednesday, July 8, 7 pm  
(remote work session only)

### **Fairlington Diners**

Thursday, July 23, 6:30 pm  
See p.23 for details

### **Book Group**

Tuesday, July 28, 7:30 pm  
See p.23 for details

## Making a splash



*With most Fairlington pools still closed, families have found creative ways to beat the heat. Photo by Guy Land.*

**Contributors this month:** Lynne Blasi, Julie Butler, Jennifer Davies, Guy Land, Susan Renehan, Rebecca Sayres, Bill Sullivan, Lorin Venable, and Chris Weathers.

*Some images in this publication may be digitally enhanced.*



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"Is FCA willing to say that Black lives matter in Fairlington?" a resident asked during FCA's virtual board meeting last month. Speaking as one board member and the organization's president, I answer firmly and clearly: Yes.

Traditionally FCA has not taken stands on broader questions of law and social policy. We have instead focused on more pragmatic questions that affect our community. Last month's board meeting is a good example. We had a briefing on a permit application for the West Alex development and considered plans for sponsoring a July 4th celebration in the age of COVID. Both have an impact on Fairlington.

But there are times when an organization and a community must engage in the great debate of the day. It needs to do so respectfully and thoughtfully. Our community—all of us—are diminished when there are people who live here who don't feel that they are fully accepted and welcomed, who feel that we, their neighbors, are indifferent to the slights and disrespect they encounter daily because of the color of their skin.

And that recognition compels us to say Black Lives Matter in Fairlington, to Fairlingtonians.

One of my neighbors points out that when someone says "Save the Rain Forests," that's not suggesting they think no other forests need saving. Rather, it simply means that there are certain unique qualities and challenges presented by rain forests that need addressing in their own right. And a focus on saving the rain forest generates a greater appreciation for all the other forests.

So it is with Black Lives Matter. Affirming that Black Lives Matter recognizes a unique and troubling history whose impacts persist today. And in acknowledging that, we affirm the value of other lives as well. FCA's statement on racism and discrimination makes it clear that we believe Fairlington must be a place that welcomes residents of all races. Our focus on Black Lives Matter can strengthen that commitment.

Fairlington should be a bridge-building community. FCA is a logical convener for conversations on race that can help build those bridges. These are several compelling models, including Arlington's own *Challenging Racism*. In the coming weeks we will be crafting a process for education and discussion among Fairlingtonians about diversity, inclusion, acceptance, and unconscious bias. We invite you to join us.

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



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# FCA makes statement on racial equity

The last few weeks have seen events on a local and national stage that pushed the Fairlington Citizens Association (FCA) to realize it had the opportunity to try and serve as a model for larger society. Fairlington is on an important path towards greater inclusivity and change for the better. On several neighborhood-focused forums, members of our own community mentioned that they did not feel welcome in Fairlington and it was at that point that it became imperative that we issue a statement as our first step.



Rock art in Fairlington. Photos by Guy Land.

The words written in the statement represent how the FCA is already discussing how to move forward with different programming, educational opportunities, and community events that will specifically focus on inclusivity, racism, and discrimination. There is much learning still to do, but the FCA intends for



A sidewalk in Fairlington.

every step forward to be a step towards a more welcoming and inclusive Fairlington.

It is important to note the last paragraph of that statement, as the FCA Board of Directors is only a group of nine people. We have more than 7,000 residents in Fairlington and every one of us should strive to be more inclusive, welcoming, and considerate, as it is the people

*Continued on page 11*

## FCA's Statement on Racial Equity

Due to the events seen across the country and even in our community over the last week, regarding the injustice that Black Americans have faced in our country, the Executive Board of the Fairlington Citizens Association believes it is important to speak out on these issues as they affect our neighborhood.

The FCA's bylaws state, "the purpose of the association shall be to unite the influence and endeavors of the Fairlington Community by promoting, through purposeful and constructive cooperation, activities to make Arlington and Alexandria, and specifically Fairlington, a better community in which to live." Thus, the FCA's stated goal is to make our community better, and in so doing we not only encourage but demand inclusivity, kindness and peace in our neighborhood. Fairlington is a community of strong values and strong ties to our neighbors. Racism, discrimination, and other forms of hate will not be tolerated by the FCA and any of the communication platforms that we control.

The FCA stands with Black members and all persons

of color in our community who choose this neighborhood to call home, who choose this neighborhood to work, and who choose this neighborhood to send their children to school. We recognize that we can all do our part in creating a safe and inclusive space for everyone. We will continue to try to create an unprejudiced and inclusive community for all.

The FCA Board of Directors volunteer for this role because we want to make our neighborhood a better place. It is for this reason we strongly reaffirm that Fairlington welcomes every person irrespective of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, age, or religious belief. The FCA will continue to encourage all residents to volunteer in an effort to strengthen our community.

We ask that you please take this opportunity to get to know your neighbors, to reach out to those who may be hurting, and to continue to be the kind and helpful neighbors that are integral to Fairlington.

*June 5, 2020*





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– Patty, Fairfax, VA



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– Erik, Arlington, VA



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## Special election to be held in July

There is a special election to be held on July 7 to fill the vacant seat on the Arlington County Board. Tragically, Arlington County Board member Erik Gutshall passed away in April following a brief illness.

The candidates for the special election for county board are Bob Cambridge (R), Susan Cunningham (I), and Takis Karantonis (D). The election will have in-person voting; although voters are encouraged to vote by mail, the deadline for a request for an absentee ballot to be received was June 30. Mail ballots may be dropped off at specific locations on certain dates and times, up until election day.

Early in-person voting for the July 7 special election continues through July 4. Early voting takes place at the Bozeman Government Center (Courthouse Plaza), 2100 Clarendon Blvd. To participate in early voting, voters should bring a photo ID. You do not need to bring an application; it will be completed in person when you come to vote.

Early voting takes place Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, as well as Saturday, July 4. The early voting site will be closed on July 3 for the observance of the Independence Day holiday.

Information on both the election and the candidates can be found on the website of the Arlington County voting and elections page, [vote.arlingtonva.us/](http://vote.arlingtonva.us/)

elections/. All registered voters are eligible to vote in this election. The voter registration deadline for the July 7 election was May 26.

—Susan Renehan

### Fairlington polling places (for Arlington residents)

For those Fairlington residents who reside in Arlington County, here are the two polling places:

Fairlington precinct  
(for those who live in S. Fairlington)  
Fairlington Community Center  
3308 S. Stafford St.

Abingdon precinct  
(for those Arlington residents in N. Fairlington)  
Abingdon Elementary  
3035 S. Abingdon St.

On election day, all polling places are open from 6 am to 7 pm.

For voting assistance, visit [vote.arlingtonva.us](http://vote.arlingtonva.us) or call 703.228.3456.

## Arlington County Democrats announce results of caucus

The Arlington County Democratic party announced that Cristina Diaz-Torres and David Priddy have received the party's endorsement for Arlington County School Board. The Arlington County Democrats conducted a vote-by-mail caucus to determine the two school board candidates who will receive the party's endorsement in the November election.



Cristina Diaz-Torres.  
Photo courtesy  
Cristina Diaz-Torres.

Although the party's caucus for school board candidates is normally conducted in-person, the party shifted to a mail ballot in order to comply with the governor's guidance on social distancing.

The party chose a system called Instant Runoff Voting (IRV) to utilize in this caucus. Under this system, voters ranked the candidates according to prefer-

ence so that there was no need for a follow-up contest to determine the top two candidates.



David Priddy. Photo  
courtesy David Priddy.

Diaz-Torres and Priddy were the top two vote getters after the second round of voting as part of the IRV. Additional candidates who participated in the caucus included Steven Krieger, Sandy Munnell, and Terron Sims.

The two endorsed candidates are heavy favorites to win the two vacant seats in the November general election.

Arlington County School Board members serve four-year terms staggered among the five members. There is one member elected each year, except in presidential election years, in which two members are elected.

—Susan Renehan

**we stand  
with you**

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# VDOT begins renovation of King St. bridge

VDOT has begun work on a year-long project to rehabilitate the King St. bridge over I-395. The work will address major corrosion in the substructure as well as improve pedestrian access in the area.

Construction will result in lane closures weekdays during non-rush hours and weeknights from 10 pm to 5 am. Nighttime lane closures will also occur on Saturdays and Sundays.

Built in 1970, the bridge has been classified as “structurally deficient,” with some of the substructure in poor condition and the superstructure rated only fair. “Structurally deficient” does not mean that a structure is in danger of imminent failure, but that its condition has deteriorated to a point where it requires significant repairs to continue to safely carry today’s traffic loads.

According to VDOT the bridge averages up to 43,000 vehicles per day.



*The King St. bridge requires significant repairs which have begun and will continue for approximately one year. Photo by Guy Land.*

The rehabilitation aspects will include repairing and resurfacing the concrete bridge deck, replacing the railings, cleaning and painting steel bridge beams, repairing deteriorated concrete in pier caps, and treating the pier columns and abutments with a protective material. The project will repair the King St. pavement adjacent to the bridge.

Pedestrian improvements include widening the westbound King St. sidewalk between S. 30th St. and Park Center Dr., upgrading

the curb ramps and pedestrian signals at King St. and Park Center Dr., as well as at eastbound King St. and Menokin Dr. It will also widen the median sidewalk between S. 30th St. and Menokin Dr.

A major pedestrian component is the addition of a new westbound King St. crossing at S. 30th St. (the entrance to Fairlington Villages). When VDOT briefed the community

*Continued on page 11*

## FCA archives Facebook page

FCA has made the unfortunate but necessary decision to cease operating the Fairlington Appreciation Society Facebook group, known as FAS. While there is much good that has come from this group, there have also been periodic episodes of anger and toxic behavior that have caused real angst and harassment for our neighbors.

FAS was archived—put in read-only status—on June 14. Our sincere thanks to the volunteer moderators who have done their best to keep FAS going.

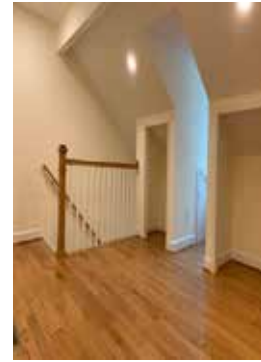
FCA will continue to provide updates on civic association activities on our FCA page, which is separate from FAS. Residents can join the several unaffiliated replacement groups that have been organized on Facebook.

Over the years, we’ve tried several different ways to moderate FAS with varying levels of success, or not. The real emotions that come with traumatic national and

local events have routinely exceeded our ability to equitably manage the group.

Really, this reflects the problems and challenges the country is experiencing writ large. It’s difficult and time-consuming to balance competing views on a format like Facebook; often one person’s troll is another person’s truth teller. It’s also clear that a dynamic, active neighborhood Facebook group being attached to a civic association is overly complex.

Since we are not able to keep FAS equitable and lack the resources to do more, FCA decided to archive the group while seeking proposals from residents who could better manage FAS separately from FCA. Or if a new administrator is not identified, to delete the FAS permanently. As of this writing in mid-June, the decision has not yet been made. Any updates will be available on the FAS announcements tab.



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 home renovations.





Former FCA Board Member Tracy Darroch and her daughter Tess hold a banner proclaiming "Black Lives Matter" on the Abingdon bridge. Photo by Guy Land.

that make Fairlington so special and all should feel it.

In these socially distant times, reach out to your neighbors, help when you can, and when you can't, don't underestimate the powerful fact of a friendly wave or a smile.

The FCA Board adopted the statement by a vote of 8-1.

—Julie Butler

## Face coverings available for Fairlington and Park Shirlington residents

Through an outreach program from the Arlington County Department of Human Services (DHS), FCA has acquired 200 reusable, cloth masks for distribution to the community. This program is intended for vulnerable populations in need of proper face coverings as we continue to follow safety guidelines related to the COVID-19 spread. The face coverings are free for members that are within the FCA community boundaries.

Fairlington condo association boards and the Park Shirlington management office have been notified to help identify residents who are in need and to also help with distribution. Face coverings will be distributed beginning in mid-June until supplies run out. If you or a neighbor are in need, please contact your management personnel or Chris Weathers at 703-402-4648. FCA may be able to request more face coverings from DHS if a continued demand is established.

—Chris Weathers

## Twilight vigil



On June 2, Fairlington neighbors gathered on the Abingdon bridge at twilight to hold a candlelight vigil in memory of George Floyd, whose death sparked nationwide protests. Photo by Carolyn Miller Ericson.

## VDOT from page 9

on the project in late 2016, FCA expressed concern about the impact of that proposed crossing on traffic merging from southbound 395 or entering Fairlington Villages.

According to VDOT, some day and overnight lane closures along the 395 general purpose lanes, as well as overnight lane closures along the 395 Express Lanes may be scheduled.

The original plan for the work had included the complete closure of alternating directions across the bridge, with traffic being directed through the neighborhood. The current plan does not completely close traffic in either direction, but will close one side at a time by shifting traffic to the other side.

The \$13 million project is financed with federal and state funding, including State of Good Repair funding used for maintenance of structures and bridges. The project is slated for completion in summer 2021. VDOT had originally planned for construction to occur in 2018, but lack of funding, coupled with work on the 395 Express Lanes, resulted in delaying the project.

—Guy Land



# Ways you can support Black lives in Fairlington:

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- Get involved  
& donate
- Support Black  
owned  
businesses
- Think of the  
alternatives  
before calling  
the police
- Vote

For more information visit:  
<https://linktr.ee/SupportBlackFairlington>

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# Developer proposes West Alex senior living building

The owner of the West Alex development at the corner of King and Beauregard Sts. is proposing to build a 117-unit assisted living facility (“continuum of care”) on the remaining undeveloped parcel on the site, 3425 N. Beauregard St. The property was originally approved for an office building, but according to Duncan Blair, attorney for the developer, the current market will not support an office building.



*This artist's rendering shows the proposed development at the corner of King and Beauregard Sts. Image courtesy Benchmark.*

The facility will be operated by Benchmark Senior Living, which owns and operates 61 senior living centers in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions. Eric Gardner, Benchmark's Vice President for Development, outlined the plans for the project at FCA's June 10 virtual meeting.

Maya Contreras and Carson Lucarelli of the City of Alexandria Department of Planning and Zoning also attended the meeting.

The building that was originally approved for office use is being modified to be a residential building, but the essential design and character remain the same as the 2015-approved plan. The applicant is requesting that the approved height be increased to allow an additional story of living space and to allow rooftop structures as amenity space for residents.

The parking required for the new use is the same or less than the office use and the traffic generated by the use is less than the office use.

Other planned activities on the site include a Harris Teeter grocery store, Silver Diner restaurant, Guidepost Montessori School, and Array apartments. Blair reported that the grocery store, diner, and school are on track to open later this year, while the apartment building is already leasing.

The proposed building will include private apartments for the residents as well as extensive common areas for daily living, dining, activities, and resident care. The first seven floors of the building and the penthouse will

serve the general assisted living population, while the eighth and ninth floors will be built out to care for residents with various forms of dementia, including Alzheimer's.

The proposed project will also provide outdoor space for active and passive recreation for the residents and their guests. The building will be staffed 24/7 with, on average, approximately 75 full-time equivalent staff.

The new building would complete the buildout of the property, which

previously housed a strip mall. “We’re excited to see this corner come to life,” Contreras, the city planner, told the board.

The application is expected to go before the Alexandria City Council in early fall.

—Guy Land

## COVID-19 concert



*A Fairlington Arbor resident shares his gift of music with neighbors on a beautiful summer day. Photo by Guy Land.*



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Peter was very kind, helpful, and very cost effective without sacrificing quality. We love our new carpet floors! Thank you, Peter!

**Najia G.**  
★★★★★ Verified  
Excellent service! the guys were on time for the job. Worked quietly, and professionally. Cleaned up after the job was done and were very polite and respectful. I am so impressed. Thank you.

**Chelsea C.**  
★★★★★ Verified  
Peter and his team were professional, affordable, and efficient. Would definitely keep them in mind for future projects.

**Chris C.**  
★★★★★ Verified  
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## ***There's still time to be counted!***

If you haven't filled out your Census 2020 form, it's not too late. Although nearly 70 percent of Arlington households had responded by mid-June, that means that roughly 30 percent had not yet completed the 2020 Census.

The original target date for responding to the Census was April 1, but at that time many Arlingtonians were more focused on adjusting to the new COVID-19 environment and may not have remembered to fill out the Census form.

Arlington receives approximately \$50 million annually from federal grants based on Census data. Completing the 2020 Census helps guarantee that Arlington will receive the correct amount of federal funding for the next ten years.

In addition, policymakers use census data to decide allocations for Arlington Public Schools, crime victim assistance, school breakfast and lunch programs, infrastructure projects including roads and transit, and much more.

Residents can respond to the 2020 Census online, by phone, or by mail. To fill it out online, go to [2020census.gov](https://2020census.gov). By phone, call 844-330-2020 for English and 844-468-2020 for Spanish. For mail, the Census Bureau sent English-only forms to Arlingtonians. Households that received a paper copy by mail can fill it out, place it in the envelope provided, and drop it in a mailbox.

## ***FCA streams virtual meeting***

Roughly 35 people watched the livestreaming of FCA's June Board meeting, as the organization shifted its regular meeting to a virtual format. COVID-19 phase 1 restrictions governing Northern Virginia precluded FCA from holding face-to-face meetings in the Fairlington Community Center.

Under the virtual format, interested residents were able to watch the full meeting on FCA's Facebook page and type in comments in the Facebook chat box. The meeting was recorded and is available on FCA's YouTube channel, accessible through FCA's website.

"This is part of our effort to stay connected to Fairlington residents and better engage the community in our work," FCA President Guy Land said at the beginning of the meeting.

The board generally followed its usual meeting procedures, just adapting them to a virtual environment. Viewers who are residents or non-resident owners were

invited to submit comments electronically through the chat box. Some of these were answered in real time by a board member, while others were summarized orally for the board. All board members received copies of the comments.

The response to the online session has been positive. "I appreciate that the board provided access to the meeting online," one resident emailed. "I hope you continue that even when in-person meetings resume." FCA will be considering the purchase of equipment to permit live streaming when the meetings return to the Fairlington Community Center.

## ***Lucky Run Trail improvements***



*In mid-June, Arlington County completed work at the intersections of S. Walter Reed Dr. with S. Dinwiddie St. and S. Wakefield St. in order to reorient the Lucky Run trail crossings to align with the existing signalized crosswalks at S. Walter Reed Dr. At both locations, this involved the removal and replacement of two curb ramps with standard curb and gutter as well as the conversion of a short trail spur to green space. At S. Walter Dr. and Dinwiddie, the south curb ramp was upgraded. At S. Walter Reed Dr. and Wakefield St., the north and south curb ramps were upgraded and widened. Limited sidewalk and trail work occurred as well. Photos by Guy Land.*



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# Q&A About Fairlington Cares, Inc.

FCA has voted to create a new nonprofit organization, Fairlington Cares, Inc., to serve people in the general Fairlington area. Here are some general questions about the new entity.

## What's the relationship between FCA and Fairlington Cares?

While FCA will oversee the creation of Fairlington Cares, the two organizations will be separate and distinct entities. Under the draft bylaws, one director of Fairlington Cares will always be a member of the FCA Board. More directors could potentially be FCA board members, but the draft bylaws specify at least one. That will facilitate communication and collaboration between the two groups while maintaining the independence of each.

## Will FCA be financially responsible for Fairlington Cares?

Under the proposal, FCA will pay the various filing fees, but once it is created, Fairlington Cares, Inc. will be a separate legal entity. It will have its own bank account and will be responsible for its own finances, record-keeping, and fundraising. Like the Fairlington Farmers Market, FCA may choose to make an annual contribution to the work of Fairlington Cares, but it will not be obligated to do so. FCA will have no ongoing financial responsibility for Fairlington Cares. But like the Farmers Market, FCA will likely promote the work of Fairlington Cares through its communication channels.

## What is the value of an affiliation between FCA and Fairlington Cares?

Fairlington Cares benefits from the strong reputation of FCA and its messaging channels (Facebook, website, *All Fairlington Bulletin*) and FCA benefits by having a related vehicle to help residents support activities in ways that

FCA itself might not be able to. By establishing this organization to serve Fairlington residents and their neighbors, FCA adds value to the community. Having at least one FCA Board member on the Fairlington Cares board helps keep the two separate organizations working toward common goals.

## Will Fairlington Cares duplicate other nonprofit efforts?

The goal of Fairlington Cares is to fill gaps that are not currently being served by existing nonprofits, not to duplicate existing efforts. It gives Fairlington residents a way to ensure that their contributions are targeted to the needs of residents of Fairlington or nearby communities. Fairlington Cares will augment the work of other organizations and will seek to be a strong partner with them.

## Why do we need Fairlington Cares?

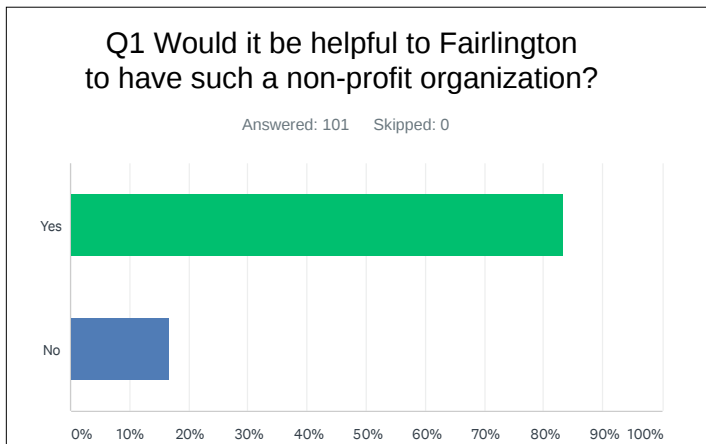
The COVID-19 situation has revealed gaps in the ability to raise and distribute funds to meet the variety of needs of residents in the Fairlington area in a coordinated and effective way. Some organizations that focus on our area are limited in the types of assistance they can provide, while other organizations with broader missions lack the ability to target funding to our area. Much of the response so far has been ad hoc, led by committed Fairlington residents, but without an organization that can both collect contributions, as in a GoFundMe page, and distribute them in ways that will maximize the impact in our neighborhood.

## What will Fairlington Cares do?

It will provide a broad range of assistance for humanitarian and educational purposes, including food, clothing, rental assistance, transportation assistance, school supplies and other educational resources, and financial assistance. While it is being created to respond to COVID challenges, it will also be able to respond to impacts created by major storms, government shutdowns, or other kinds of emergency situations. It will provide a ready vehicle to respond quickly to unanticipated crises.

## Can Fairlington Cares make payments to individuals?

A cash grant can be made to address an individual's need arising out of a disaster or emergency. These are often called disaster relief grants, and they must be directly related to the organization's charitable purposes. The kinds of needs include but are not limited to things like medical costs, temporary housing, financial aid to



The FCA conducted a survey of Fairlington residents to determine the potential support for a new nonprofit organization.

Continued on page 27



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# Volunteers needed for Fairlington Farmers Market

The Fairlington Farmers Market is off to a strong start. Please help ensure the continued success and smooth operation of the market by volunteering for a short shift this summer and fall.

Our market is run by a small committee of six Fairlington residents and a market manager and assistant manager. We need help setting up and removing directional signs at the entrance/exit, placing traffic cones and tape to assist in crowd control, ensuring that shoppers are wearing a face mask or covering and maintaining proper social distancing, answering questions from shoppers, and putting out the hand sanitizing stations and water generously donated



by market sponsor Kay Houghton & Associates. We also greatly appreciate long-time sponsors Fairlington Citizens Association and Fairlington Presbyterian Church.

Volunteers will receive instructions and a mask and gloves. If you have questions, please visit the market information table at the entrance.

If you can help, please sign up at our volunteer site, SignUp.com: <https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/3262055/false#/invitation>. We need your help and greatly appreciate your support!

As we enter our second month of being open, the





market is running smoothly and shoppers and vendors are pleased. As restrictions begin to ease and Arlington county enters Phase 2 in reopening plans, information and updates will be forthcoming. In the meantime, for your safety and that of our vendors, please follow these guidelines:

- Please wear a face mask or covering at all times while in line and at the market
- Practice safe distancing and stand at least 6 feet from others
- Enter the market via the fire lane entrance from S. Utah St. and follow the one-way signs as you make your way through the market. You can exit into the parking lot on S. Stafford St.

- Come prepared with your grab & go shopping list; have pre-order confirmations ready for pick-up
- Do not eat, socialize, or linger within the market

The best way to stay up-to-date and plan your shopping trip is to check our Facebook page or sign up for our email newsletter for weekly updates. Information about specific vendor pre-ordering and product availability is listed on our Vendor Information page. We look forward to the market continuing to evolve over the next several months.

—Lynne Blasi



*Although the market operations look different than in years past, it remains a popular place on Sunday mornings. Photos by Guy Land.*

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**As a progressive, independent leader, Susan has led nonprofit boards and community planning efforts across the region.** Here in Arlington, she is a founding member of JFAC, chaired the Dorothy Hamm Middle School BLPC, and championed the Stratford Historic Interpretation Committee.



Susan started out renting in Crystal City and East Falls Church in 1995. Today, she and husband, Philip Eliot, own a home in Donaldson Run and have two school-aged daughters.

# VO TE

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- ☐ **Early in person** at 2100 Clarendon Blvd. from 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM.  
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Also open Saturday, June 23 and Saturday, July 4
- ☐ **At the polls on Election Day,** July 7, from 6:00 AM - 7:00 PM.

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# Pools in Fairlington delay, reconsider opening schedules

Although summer in Fairlington would normally mean pool season, the social distancing and restrictions associated with the pandemic have meant that most Fairlington residents are missing their poolside views.



Fairlington Glen's pool on a Saturday in mid-June. Photos by Guy Land.

Each of the Fairlington condo associations makes their own determinations as to whether they will be able to operate their pools each summer and if so, how they will operate. Any pool in Arlington or Alexandria (other than a private backyard pool for a single family) must be independently issued a permit to operate before it can open for the season. There is also the issue of finding sufficient staff to clean and guard the pools.



A sign in Fairlington Villages seeking available lifeguards.

For information on the latest plans for your pool's operations, contact your condo association.

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I would like to see the FCA board take up the following as community issues that the organization will take steps to improve: Racism, Diversity and Inclusion, Equity.

Racism is an issue affecting all communities in this country, including Fairlington. I would like to see the FCA provide education to the community about our racist past and present. The History of Fairlington on the FCA website mentions that what is now Fairlington used to be a plantation. It talks of the white landowners, but there is no mention of the enslaved people who lived and worked on this land.

It also does not say that when Fairlington was built in the early 1940s it was a whites only community or when people of color were allowed to move into the neighborhood. We cannot gloss over the ugliest parts of our history and I would like FCA to revisit the information provided on the history of Fairlington with that lens, and to search for additional channels outside of the website to educate our community about our history, including the *All Fairlington Bulletin*. I would also

like to see FCA partner with local organizations that are fighting racism in Arlington today to provide education, discussions, and training in our community. Some examples include SURJ NoVa and Challenging Racism.

Equity in education conversations are happening around the county, and as an organization that speaks for our community and serves as a point of contact for Arlington county and the City of Alexandria, I would like to see the FCA involved in these conversations.

Lydia Redway  
Fairlington Villages

*The All Fairlington Bulletin welcomes letters to the editor and will print them as space permits. However, the opinions expressed are those of the writers and do not represent endorsement by this publication or the FCA. In addition, the AFB reserves the right to edit letters for length or clarity, and the AFB may refuse to print letters that are not appropriate for a community newsletter.*



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## Abingdon PTA recognized as a leader

Arlington's Community Council of PTAs (CCPTA) has been coordinating with APS schools across the county to learn what each respective school community has been doing to support families during the COVID-19 school shut-down. Abingdon Elementary and Taylor Elementary were the only two schools to have responded in every category identified by the CCPTA (see graphic).

As has been previously reported in the May and June issues of the AFB, Abingdon PTA—with support from FCA and the Fairlington community—has provided hot meals, school supplies, pantry staples, books, and other forms of support to students and families in Park Shirlington, Columbia Grove, and Wildwood Park apartments. Abingdon has partnered with Taylor Elementary PTA which has helped support these efforts and plans on holding a virtual 5K later this summer.

It is truly a collaborative effort. Amber Scivolette Mustafa, a Fairlington Villages resident and PTA Co-president about to enter her second term commented, "We thank all of those who have donated gift cards, clothing, food,

School Support Efforts for Arlington Families								
School(s)/Partnerships	Who Is Being Served		Distributing Funds*		Distributing Food		Distributing Supplies (School and/or Basic Needs)	Distributing Books (New and/or Used)
	Own Community	Broader Community	Grocery Gift Cards	Rent Relief	Groceries	Meals		
Abingdon Elementary	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Taylor Elementary	✓		✓			✓		✓
Arlington Career Center	✓		✓					
Arlington Tech	✓							
Arlington Science Focus Elementary	✓						✓	✓
Ashlawn Elementary	✓		✓				✓	
Barcroft Elementary	✓		✓		✓		✓	✓
Tuckahoe ES	✓		✓		✓		✓	✓
Barrett Elementary	✓		✓		✓		✓	✓
Campbell ES	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
Carlin Springs ES	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
Hoffman-Boston ES	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓
Kenmore MS	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓
Claremont Immersion	✓	✓			✓	✓		
Dorothy Hamm MS	✓		✓					✓
Drew Elementary	✓		✓		✓			

\*Finances separate from the PTA

School support efforts as of 6/7/20 based on information shared with the Arlington CCPTA

Arlington's CCPTA published an updated summary of the efforts of the Arlington PTAs. Abingdon Elementary was identified as a leader in this effort. Image courtesy Arlington CCPTA.

and school supplies as well as contributions to our rent assistance program. We hope to continue our efforts throughout the summer or as long as needed."

## School's out for summer



On the last day of school, many Abingdon families held a celebration in their courtyard complete with balloons, color accessories, and inspired dance moves. Photo by Guy Land.

## School Support Efforts for Arlington Families

### \*\*Notes on School Partnerships and Joint Communities\*\*

By no means a comprehensive list, some highlights on the ways schools and communities are working together to support Arlington families:

- Kenmore's school community has partnered with several other school communities and countywide support efforts to host three food and supply distribution efforts, with more planned for this summer, supporting families in the Barcroft, Carlin Springs, Campbell, Hoffman-Boston, and Kenmore communities.
- Abingdon has set up three sites to support the Abingdon, Barcroft, Campbell, and Claremont communities, providing fresh food, hot meals, snacks, supplies, and educational support materials, in addition to a rent relief fund and collection efforts for grocery gift cards and household needs.
- Five PTAs (ASFS, DHMS, Glebe, Key and Taylor) joined forces to coordinate book donation drives for Key's Grab-n-Go and other sites, which has led to a new book donation drive through One More Page Books, online book fairs through R.E.A.D. (Read Early and Daily), and a focus on setting up additional book distribution sites.
- Taylor and Tuckahoe are sponsoring a joint Virtual 5K/IM Fun Run to support the Abingdon, Barcroft, Carlin Springs, and Hoffman-Boston communities.

Arlington CCPTA summarized the efforts of all the Arlington PTAs, and highlighted Abingdon's comprehensive approach.

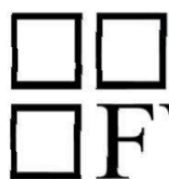
To assist in the efforts, please contact AbingdonPTACO-VIDRelief@gmail.com.

—Jennifer Davies





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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. There's no commitment to attend regularly; many people attend as their schedules permit, or based on the choice of restaurants.

Thursday, July 23, 6:30 pm, Zoom dinner. While we will continue our hiatus from restaurant meals through July, we'll try dining together on Zoom again this month! Please email the organizer at carol\_dabbs at yahoo.com if you want to receive an invitation to this virtual event.

Please watch this space in the August *AFB* for news about possible August restaurant visits.

If you have questions or suggestions about this group, call Carol at 703-379-6840 (leave a voicemail for a return call), or you can email her to be added to the email list.

## **Book Group**

Please join the Fairlington Book Group at 7:30 pm on July 28 to discuss *Act One: An Autobiography* by playwright Moss Hart. If the Fairlington Community Center is open at that time, we will likely meet there; otherwise, we will hold a virtual meeting on Zoom. Those on our email list will automatically receive a Zoom invitation. Please call Carol at 703-379-6840 to be added to our email list.

"Moss Hart's *Act One* is not only the best book ever written about the American theater, but one of the great American autobiographies, by turns gripping, hilarious, and searing." —*New York Magazine*

We hope you can join us!

## **Join Fairlington Knits! virtually, on July 6**

Join us for a virtual evening of knitting, crochet and fellowship Monday, July 6, from 6:30-8 pm via Zoom.

We're meeting on Zoom so we can share what we're working on, ask for help/advice, or for inspiration for a

project. Log in from your home to talk with other like-minded people about projects that might interest you.

Email Turner for the Zoom information to join: Turner-work@aol.com.

## **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' nights out. We have a great list-serve 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](http://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 International MOMS Club®.

## **Fairlington FINS 2020 Canceled**

The FINS (Fairlingtonians Interested in Neighborhood Swimming) program has been a regular summer fixture in Fairlington for many years. However, out of concern for swimmer safety and due to the uncertainty of when and if the South Fairlington pools were going to open and how many swimmers would be allowed at each pool, I had to make the decision to cancel FINS for the 2020 season.

Like many of you, my children and I are sad that we will not have FINS this summer, but we hope everyone remains healthy and safe during the summer months. We look forward to returning to a more normal summer next year and seeing you all in the pools and lap lanes!

—Lorin Venable, FINS Coordinator



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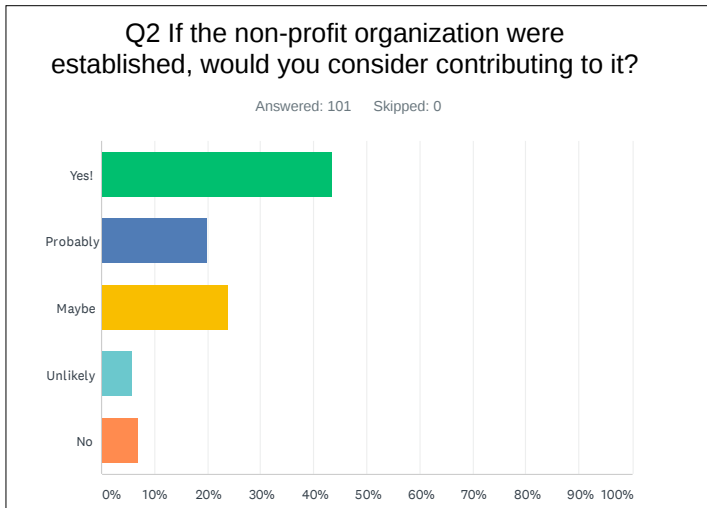


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## Online survey shows support for nonprofit

Over 60 percent of respondents to an online survey hosted by FCA in May and early June indicated they would likely contribute to a new nonprofit focused on Fairlington, while an additional 24 percent said they might contribute. Over 80 percent said that having such a nonprofit would be helpful to Fairlington.

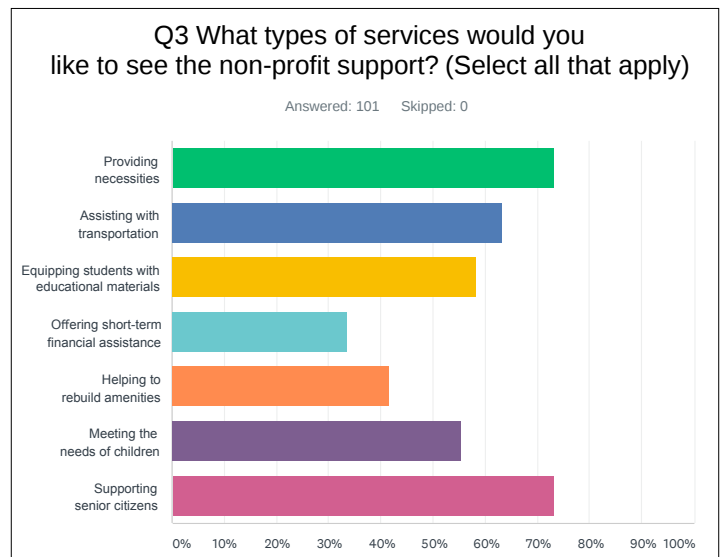


*More than 60% of respondents said either “Yes” or “Probably” when asked if they would be willing to donate to the new nonprofit.*

Respondents indicated they would like to see the nonprofit provide essential necessities such as groceries, clothing, and basic living supplies, as well as support senior citizens in helping sustain independent living. More than 70 percent of those who filled out the survey indicated support for those services. Only a third said the nonprofit should offer short-term financial assistance.

Residents suggested several other types of activities that the nonprofit should consider, including supporting community anti-racism efforts and education on sustainability.

While support for the concept of the nonprofit was strong, several comments cautioned against duplicating



*The survey showed strong support for providing necessities such as groceries and basic living supplies, as well as supporting senior citizens in helping sustain independent living.*

the efforts of existing organizations. “For long term viability of any non-profit, it needs to serve a true need, not just duplicate what others are doing without working with those others,” one noted. “Needs are met through established organizations and you will detract from that important work,” another respondent warned.

Several focused on the importance of communicating and reassessing the community’s needs on an ongoing basis, while others suggested practical ideas for leadership and setting priorities to help it be successful. “I’m sure this wonderful community will support a ton of great work through the organization,” one concluded.

The survey was posted online and publicized through FCA’s Facebook page and website. There were 101 respondents.

—Guy Land

---

*Q & A, continued from page 17*

enable remaining at home or to meet rent or mortgage payments on a primary home. Fairlington Cares will need to demonstrate that the recipient is part of a charitable class and keep good documentation.

### **What will be the primary differences between FCA and Fairlington Cares?**

FCA is a 501(c)(4), which is a nonprofit status for civic leagues and social welfare organizations. These organiza-

tions are set up to promote the common good and general welfare of people in the community. Contributions to FCA are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal individual income tax purposes. Fairlington Cares will be a 501(c)(3), set up for charitable and educational purposes. Contributions to Fairlington Cares will be deductible on federal individual income tax returns.

### **Who are the leaders of Fairlington Cares?**

The initial directors of Fairlington Cares are FCA President Guy Land, FCA Vice President Jennifer Davies, and Fairlington Mews resident Michael McGinn.



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Until this crisis is over, we will continue to monitor the developments set by the CDC and our local governments and will make any necessary adjustments to our practices to keep you safe.

We support our community and feel that it is everybody's job to limit risk of exposure and spread of COVID-19 and in that light, we encourage you to take advantage of telephone, Facetime, and video consultations for all your home improvement needs.

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# Get prepared for hurricane season



Whipping winds, torrential downpours, power outages, and floods—hurricane season in the Atlantic brings a host of dramatic and dangerous weather with it. Hurricane season began June 1 and runs through November 30.

An above-normal 2020 Atlantic hurricane season is expected according to forecasters with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Climate Prediction Center. The Center has predicted a likely range of 13 to 19 named storms (winds of 39 mph or higher). Of those, NOAA predicts 6 to 10 could become hurricanes (winds of 74 mph or higher), including 3 to 6 major hurricanes (Category 3, 4 or 5, with winds of 111 mph or higher).

The first named Atlantic storm of 2020, Tropical Storm Arthur, came weeks ahead of the official start of hurricane season. Satellites picked up Arthur's formation on May 17th, as it made its way towards North Carolina. Fairlington is not immune from calamitous weather events and their byproducts. In years past, severe storms have rolled through the community leaving power outages, fallen trees, and other damage.

To mitigate damages when these events occur, it is important to be prepared. Arlington County residents can stay informed of severe weather and impending emergencies by enrolling in Arlington Alert ([ArlingtonAlert.com](http://ArlingtonAlert.com)).

Enrollment will permit the county to instantly notify you with updates; instructions on where to go, what to do, or what not to do; whom to contact; and other important information. Arlington Alert is free and open to all residents, commuters, and visitors.

City of Alexandria residents can receive emergency noti-



*A lightning strike took out a tree at 31st and Buchanan Sts. during a thunderstorm last year. Photo by Guy Land.*

fications by text or email by subscribing to the city's free Alexandria eNews service at [alexandriava.gov/eNews](http://alexandriava.gov/eNews). Get storm-weather ready, now, with these additional online resources for storm preparedness and weather event information.

Locally, visit [emergency.arlingtonva.us](http://emergency.arlingtonva.us), [alexandriava.gov/Hurricane](http://alexandriava.gov/Hurricane), or [vaemergency.gov/hurricanes](http://vaemergency.gov/hurricanes). Nationally, go to [hurricanes.gov](http://hurricanes.gov), [weather.gov](http://weather.gov), [ready.gov](http://ready.gov), [red-cross.org](http://red-cross.org), and [fema.gov](http://fema.gov).

—Rebecca Sayres



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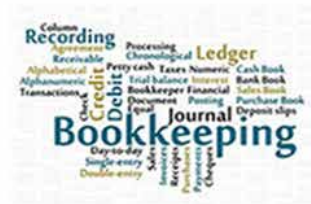
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# DOWN TO EARTH patio gardening



## *Fairlington patio gardening FAQs*

I was thinking about customers' concerns and wanted to offer suggestions if not solutions. There always is a Plan B, C, or D when the first attempt at having a beautiful garden fails.

**"My crape myrtle trunk is black and the leaves are grayish"**—The culprit is sooty mold and it looks like fireplace ashes were rubbed on the branches and rubbed on the leaves. A botanist could give an hour lecture on this but here is the skinny: it's a fungus that forms from honeydew, an excrement of sap-sucking insects. I know, lovely. I've seen it on two customers' crape myrtle trees. What eliminated the fungus was neem oil spray (which you can find at a garden center).

**"My azaleas and rhododendrons don't bloom"**—Azaleas are in the genus, rhododendron. And they are of the same family, ericaceae. Excess nitrogen in the soil, the lace bug, and lack of sunlight are principal reasons flowers don't appear on azaleas.

Plus, if they were pruned late in the calendar year, that will compromise blooms the following spring. Age can be another factor of "non-performance" flower-wise, although older specimens do flower every year. Azaleas and rhodos flower in shade but there has to be enough sunlight—the catalyst in how plants are nourished. Photosynthesis uses solar energy, carbon dioxide, and rainwater to produce oxygen and sugars that fuels a plant's growth (in terms of new leaves and flowers). Rhodos prefer shade. It is the state flower of

Washington, where the climate is cooler than in the D.C. area.

**"All my plants are green"**—This is the ideal invitation for either a maroon-leaved specimen (barberry, lorapetulum, or coral bells) or one with variegation in the form of yellow or white spots or streaks (hosta, aucuba, daphne odora, euonymus, yucca, liriopoe, or miscanthus grass).

The barberry has a rounded shape and situates well within an all-ever-green landscape. And variegation is both artistic and bright. Think also about a dwarf nandina which has reddish leaves in winter and maroon leaflets on its newest growth.

**"How do I have color all year?"**—Two answers, here. Either design the garden so shrubs/perennials/ground cover all bloom at different times or fill your car trunk with as many annuals as will fit.

Annuals come in all colors and live from mid-April until the first or second frost (in December). This is a DIY project since they can be planted either in the soil or in containers using a trowel. Now, for specimens, I could give a lengthy lecture here. If you choose this route, keep a copy of this and follow suit in your garden in 2021. In winter (January-March), winter-blooming camellia, forsythia, mahonia, Lenten rose, and winter jasmine bloom and each one in yellow. Lenten rose also blooms in mauve.

Early bulbous flowers show in spring (hyacinth, crocus, daffodil). Other bulbs flower later (iris, tulip). Shrubs

that flower in early spring are pieris, Scotch broom, azalea, lilac, and rhododendron. Spring-flowering perennials are coral bells (pink), brunerra (blue), and bleeding heart (pink, white). Summer bloomers are azalea "encore," clematis, rosa "knockout," deutzia, Russian sage (lavender), cherry laurel (white), hydrangea (blue, pink), lamium (magenta), periwinkle (blue), wisteria (lavender), trumpet vine (orange), hibiscus (all colors), and salvia (purple).



*Fairlington magnolia. Photo by Guy Land.*

Come fall, oak leaf hydrangea, fall-blooming clematis (white), and sedum (pink) show as does the fall-blooming camellia. I've eliminated some but the aforementioned are all available at local garden centers and perform well in our climate. As for ornamental trees, dogwood, redbud, hawthorn, tulip magnolia, and star magnolia show from March into April. Southern magnolia blooms in summer. Crape myrtles flower from mid-June into early October.

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



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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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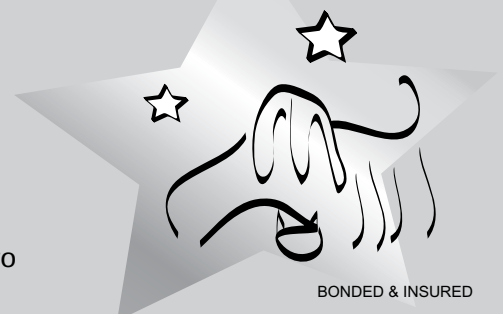


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## Happy 4th of July



Don't forget to pick up chalk and flags for a socially distanced neighborhood celebration  
(see p. 1 for details).

### MINI-ADS INSTRUCTIONS

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

- Checks payable to "Fairlington Citizens Association."
- Pay via PayPal at fca.fairlington.ads@gmail.com.
- Send mini-ad copy via email, 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.

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2BR/2.5BA  
**For Rent \$2,300/month**  
Listing Agent Joanne Ritchick



Arlington Office | 703.522.0500 | 4600 Lee Hwy, Arlington VA 22207  
Falls Church Office | 703.534.9660 | 6299 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church VA 22044

