

all FAIRLINGTON BULLETIN



JULY 2021

Volume 47, Number 7

www.fca-fairlington.org

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The Fourth of July firetruck parade is back

After Independence Day 2020's fire truck parade success despite difficult circumstances last year, FCA has decided to bring it back.

They anticipate a parade route similar to the Fairlington Santa ride and the Fourth of July parade last year.

In addition to the fire truck parade, FCA and Fairlington villages will be providing American flags and pinwheels so that we may show our patriotic pride as the fire trucks roll down our streets.

Please check the FCA website and the FCA Facebook page for updates regarding the exact parade route. The firetruck parade will begin at 10 a.m. on Sunday, July 4. Participants are asked to line the parade route in their patriotic gear and wave on our local fire station 9 fire trucks.

—Julie Butler



Fairlingtonians wait for the firetrucks to pass by during the July 4 parade in 2020. Photo by Guy Land.

Park Shirlington owner commits to maintain affordable housing

After two years of looking at redevelopment options, Standard Property and Foundation Housing (Standard/Foundation), the partnership that owns the Park Shirlington apartments on S. 31st St., has announced that it plans to make a long-term commitment to maintain all 293 units as affordable housing on the existing site.

The commitment is contingent on the partnership securing an acceptable financing package.

Under the proposal, which was outlined to the county's Housing Commission in June, the owner will undertake a complete renovation of the units, while maintaining the existing footprints of the buildings. No new apartments are planned for the site, though there could be a new leasing office and a new amenity building near the pool away from the street.

According to Steven Hahn of Standard, no additional density will be sought for the property.

Continued on page 7

Coming up

The FCA Board invites all Fairlington residents to attend its meetings that 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 have three minutes to address the board on matters affecting the community. Due to COVID-19, meetings are being held virtually and streamed on FCA's Facebook page.

FCA monthly meeting July 14

The FCA board will hold a work session. There will be no special presentation.


Regular board business:

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

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

Online resources:

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

 Find us on Facebook at Fairlington Citizens Association.

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

Web design by Avatar Tech LLC, Alexandria, VA, www.avatartech-llc.com.

USEFUL CONTACTS

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

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Police, Arlington (non-emergency)	703-558-2222
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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
www.arlingtonva.us/departments/EnvironmentalServices/dot/traffic/streetlights/index.htm	
Helicopter Noise Complaints	Mike Lucier (VA 8th Dist.) 202-225-4376

Fairlington Citizens Association

PO Box 6182 • Arlington, VA 22206-0182
571-403-1943 • president@fca-fairlington.org

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All Fairlington Bulletin

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— DEADLINE —

6 PM, **10th of month** preceding publication month for commercial advertising, mini-ads, and editorial copy. Editorial announcements, story suggestions, and letters to the Editor should be sent to: afbeditors@yahoo.com.

Ad payment can be sent to: FCA • PO Box 6182 • Arlington, VA 22206-0182, locally dropped-off at the drop box in the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford Street, Arlington VA 22206 or pay via PayPal to fca.fairlington.ads@gmail.com. Ad file(s) should be included with payment and emailed to the Ad Manager at fca.fairlington.ads@gmail.com.

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Artwork and checks 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
Full-Page Insert (2 Sides)	11 in.	8.5 in.	\$570

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Fairlington is a National Register and Virginia Landmark Historic District

For more information, visit www.fca-fairlington.org

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Calendar

Fourth of July firetruck parade

Sunday, July 4, 10 a.m.

FCC closed

Monday, July 5

Fairlington Knits!

Monday, July 5, 6:30–7:30 p.m.

See page 19 for details

FCA monthly meeting

Wednesday, July 14, 7 pm

Virtually on FCA Facebook page

Fairlington Diners

Thursday, July 15, 6:30 p.m.

See page 19 for details

Fairlington Knits!

Monday, July 19, 6:30–7:30 p.m.

See page 19 for details

Book group

Tuesday, July 27, 7:30 p.m.

See page 19 for details

The Fairlington lemonade economy is fierce!



Young Fairlingtonians Duncan Carr and Satya Reisinger make a profit on the afternoon heat outside the Commons Pool. Photo by Guy Land.

Contributors this month: Regina Bethencourt, Barbara Berti, Lynne Blasi, Julie Butler, Guy Land, Andy Raab, Bill Sullivan, and Anne Wilson.

Some images in this publication may be digitally enhanced.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In mid-July the Arlington County Board is expected to approve in concept a package that can result in the preservation as affordable housing of all 293 apartments at Park Shirlington on 31st St.

As a result, the owner will abandon plans that had called for construction of condos and townhouses that would have more than doubled the number of units on the property.

This is a win for the community in multiple ways.

It preserves a sizeable stock of affordable housing for lower-income families. This kind of housing is in short supply in Arlington and it is good that the larger Fairlington community has these units. The proposal would result in the complete renovation of all the apartments without displacing any residents.

FCA has supported efforts to not only preserve affordable housing but to also increase the stock of that housing. That's why, for example, we supported in concept the construction, now underway, of affordable housing next to Fairlington Presbyterian.

The families who live in Park Shirlington, whose children attend Abingdon Elementary, add to the richness of our neighborhood. During COVID FCA Board members and Fairlington residents reached out to Park Shirlington residents, responding to needs for food, rental assistance, and other support.

It is good to know that they can continue to be our neighbors—for a long time. The Park Shirlington owner is committing that the property will remain as affordable housing for 75 years.

Another win for the community is that it eliminates the threat of significantly increased density on that site. The owner has said that the only major additions it plans for the property are a new leasing center and a new amenity building.

FCA had expressed concern about the original proposal to greatly boost density, which could result in additional traffic and could potentially have increased enrollment pressure at Abingdon Elementary.

Achieving this result was not easy. At one point it looked like negotiations between the county and the owner had stalled and were near collapse. But the persistence of the county board, the commitment of the owner to affordable housing, and the availability of attractive financing options combined to produce the proposed package.

There are still financial details to be worked out, but the proposal promises to remove the uncertainty that has shadowed that part of our community for almost four years.

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

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Because your safety, health, and peace of mind is our top priority, you can rest assured we are taking every precaution to ensure your safety and well-being. We have asked all members of our team to wash their hands repeatedly throughout the day and requested they do not come in to work if they feel sick or if they have a fever. They have also been instructed to be extra vigilant to wipe down all surfaces before, during, and after their shifts, to wear protective gloves and masks, and to support the social distancing guidelines with homeowners and co-workers.

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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County officer shares guidelines for improving neighborhood diversity

County chief race and equity officer, Samia Byrd, presented the history, focus and plan for increasing opportunities for minorities in Arlington at the FCA board meeting on June 9.

The invitation to Byrd to present to FCA is part of a larger initiative in Fairlington that was spurred by the Black Lives Matter protests in summer 2020, which also garnered a controversial response among the community.

A committee on diversity and inclusion, made up of FCA board members and Fairlingtonians, emerged last fall with plans to foster conversations about bias, equity, and privilege using resources provided by its partnership with the county's Dialogues on Race and Equity (DRE) program.

Byrd's presentation in June focused on conversations as the most important tool neighbors have to help promote inclusion in their community.

"Just sitting down and talking to someone," she said in response to a question asking what Arlington residents can do to help. "One of the things I hope we can do better after the pandemic is to go into the communities and have those conversations."

Her visit, and its preamble published in the *Bulletin* in



Samia Byrd, the chief race and equity officer for Arlington county, shared best practices for promoting neighborhood inclusion at the virtual FCA meeting on June 9.

June, prompted mixed reactions among the community. Several community members wrote to express frustration at the seemingly partisan nature of the initiative.

"Though you don't use the word 'Democrat', you are advocating political positions in controversial matters where there is far from universal agreement, but in a sneaky platitude-laden non-forthright way," wrote Fairlington resident Timothy Starker.

Continued on page 15

Fairlington neighbors raise funds after large Shirlington fire

The Citizen at Shirlington Villages apartment complex caught fire shortly before 6:00 a.m. on Monday, May 24. Citizen resident Niles Stansen was exercising outside the property when he saw the fire and called 911 around 5:45 a.m. He then assisted in getting residents out of the building by knocking on doors.

Hundreds of firefighters from the Arlington County Fire Department responded quickly and described the fire as a "large attic fire." They had it under control by 6:35 a.m. There were no injuries reported. Many parts of the apartment complex were without power for an additional day and a half.

Estimated damage from the fire is about five million dollars, according to Stansen. More than 60 residents from



Large flames rise from the attic of one of the buildings at The Citizen on May 24. Photo courtesy wjla.com.

approximately 20 apartments were affected. Many lost all their possessions. Residents were relocated to other apartments at The Citizen, area hotels, or with friends. The Animal Welfare League of Arlington helped house resident pets that needed a temporary home.

Several Fairlingtonians took to Facebook on the Fairlington Appreciation Society (FAS) group to gather funds and resources for residents affected by the fire. So far "Citizen

Fire Fund" collected more than \$2000 and those funds have been used for Target and Adara Spa gift cards. Those interested in donating further can contact Holli Selman (heselman@yahoo.com).

—Andy Raab



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Farmers Market loosens pandemic restrictions



Shoppers enjoy a crowded Farmers Market Sunday. Photo by Guy Land.

Fairlington residents enjoyed a Farmers Market experience that felt a little more like normal this past June as falling COVID-19 numbers prompted the loosening of pandemic restrictions.

Shirlington continued from page 1

The renovations would not begin until 2022 and would be phased. Standard/Foundation proposes a renovation method that would allow all existing tenants to remain at the property during renovations.

Projected financing would come, in part, from a long-term loan from the county's Affordable Housing Investment Fund (AHIF), as well as the federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credit. The amount and terms of the loan are being negotiated with the county.

The units would be maintained as affordable housing for 75 years. This condition would be recorded in the land records and would bind any subsequent purchaser in the event that the current owner should sell the property.

The income mix of the affordable units will average no more than 60 percent of Area Median Income. The finalized income mix of the units will be considered by the county board concurrently with the finalized loan documents later this year.

In 2019 the owner proposed demolishing the units on the north side of 31st St. and constructing new market-rate townhouses and condos, essentially doubling the density on the site. To maintain the same number of affordable housing units, the 2019 proposal called for

All entrances and exits at the market are now open, and social distancing is not required. People who are not fully vaccinated are encouraged to wear face masks to protect shoppers and visitors who may be immunocompromised, unable to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, or are under age 12.

The July 18 Farmers Market will bring a special treat—Fairlington Appreciation Day with free ice cream, courtesy of market sponsor Kay Houghton & Associates. The ice cream truck will be located in the parking lot on S. Stafford St.

The market is held rain or shine every Sunday on the back patio of the Fairlington Community Center from 9 am to 1 pm.

Looking ahead, National Farmers Market Week is August 1–7, which will bring extra fun and opportunities to celebrate favorite vendors..

—Lynne Blasi



Park Shirlington will remain affordable housing for low-income residents, in an effort to maintain economic diversity in Arlington. Photo courtesy The Franklin Johnston Group.

a seven-story apartment building on the south side of property (between 31st St. and I-395). The current plan completely replaces the 2019 proposal.

The county board is expected to consider the general framework of the proposal at its July meeting, with final approval of the loan documents slated for December.

FCA has invited Standard/Foundation to brief the community later this summer.

—Guy Land



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– Janene, Arlington, VA



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– Patty, Fairfax, VA



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– Erik, Arlington, VA



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Fairlington Mews throws first post-pandemic pool party

Fairlington Mews pool is back to pre-COVID-19 normal this summer as 125 residents attended their first pool pizza party on Sunday, June 13, sans masks or restrictions. This is the first pool party held in Fairlington since 2019.

Mews Board President Renee Powlette said the board voted on a science-based approach to managing COVID-19 fears this summer and cited statistics showing that residents have a less than 1 in 1000 chance of contracting the virus outdoors, whether vaccinated or not.



Fairlington Mews residents enjoy the first pool party of the season, and the first in Fairlington since 2019. Photo courtesy Renee Powlette.

"I didn't hear anyone questioning having a pool party this year but my thought is, if you don't feel comfortable, don't come," said Powlette. "The transmission rate outdoors is practically non-existent. Also, most adults at this point are vaccinated. Between immunity from vaccinations and those who have already had COVID-19, there is pretty much no risk outside."

Most pools in North and South Fairlington are greatly reducing or removing their restrictions compared to last summer, but many still have mask requirements in some areas and capacity reduction rules in place, including removing or reducing residents' ability to bring guests and requiring sanitization of pool furniture.

Powlette said the presidents of all of the Fairlington neighborhood association boards have been in communication on an email chain, working together to share their pool plans for summer 2021.

Last year, the pool season launched late, led by Fairlington Commons, Fairlington Glen and Fairlington Mews who all opened two or three weeks after Memorial Day weekend. Fairlington Arbor, Fairlington Meadows and Fairlington Green followed later in the summer and Fair-

lington Villages did not open.

Most of the difficulty in opening the pools last year was due to the various pool companies' inability to recruit lifeguards because of foreign exchange program cancellations.

Powlette put in weeks of effort to find and recruit their own lifeguards, some from the Wakefield High School swim team and others through Facebook posts, in order to ensure adequate coverage.

"I really pushed opening it because every time I set foot out of the house, every single day someone would ask me, 'Are we opening the pool?'" said Powlette.

What was most frustrating, according to Powlette, was that the pool management companies charged the same fee regardless of the pool opening or not. In the case of Fairlington Villages, the co-owners paid full price for their pools, which did not open even one day in 2020.

Residents on the south-side did have access to their pools, but with substantial restrictions, including mask requirements while on the pool deck and walking in, banning the use of pool furniture and toys and limiting capacity significantly.

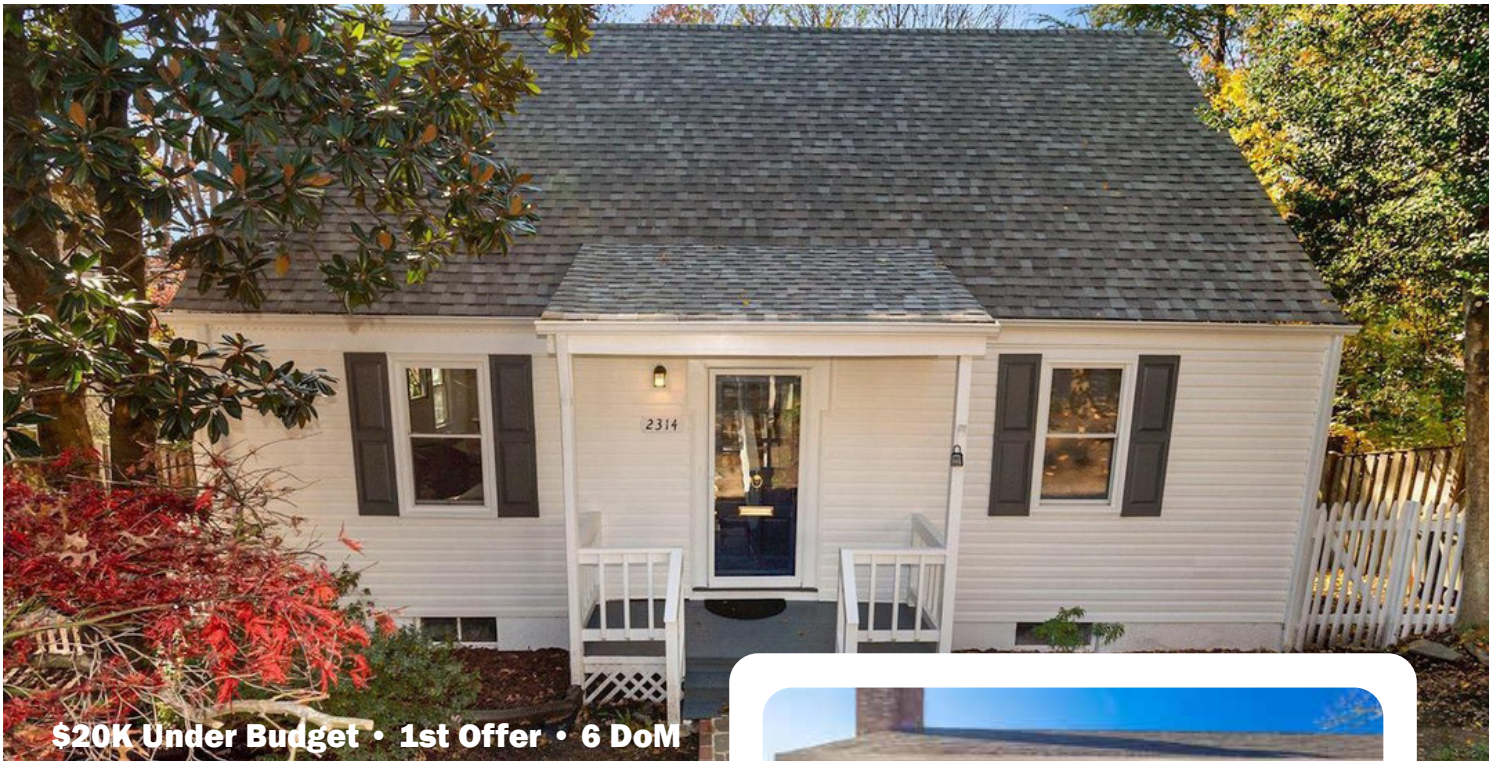
Some pools, including Fairlington Mews, lifted these restrictions as new scientific data about COVID-19 was published toward the end of the summer.

"We followed the CDC with everything we did," said Powlette. "The CDC never required masks outside, so we never required masks. When it came out that surface spread was not an issue, we brought our pool furniture back. We have had no negative repercussions from the decisions we made."

As residents tread carefully back into the realm of normal social life, differing opinions and levels of risk remain. Neighborhood leaders, like Powlette, are faced with the challenge of assuaging community fear, while keeping the facts at the forefront of major decisions.

—Regina Bethencourt





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HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT LIFE AFTER FAIRLINGTON?

As a former Fairlington resident and mother of three, I know leaving Fairlington can be hard.

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Regardless of age, all trees need room to grow above and below ground, adequate water, seasonal pruning, and protection from injury and disease. Native trees that are suitable for the local climate and placed away from buildings (right tree for the space) are most likely to thrive. How can we help?

Water young trees weekly for the first 2-3 years. The general rule is ten gallons of water per inch of the trunk's diameter. Allow soil to dry completely between waterings or use watering bags such as "treegators." After watering, the soil should feel moist at a soil depth of 2-3 inches. More mature trees need water during prolonged periods of drought.

Mulch can improve the surrounding soil and retain moisture especially during prolonged periods of hot weather. To prevent trunk rot and insect damage, mulch should be applied *NO MORE THAN* three inches deep and wide enough to come close to the drip line of the tree (the outermost branches). The tree should have a slightly raised ring of mulch around the tree, with no mulch touching the trunk—like a donut with a hole in the middle that is 3-6 inches from the trunk.

Prune as needed to remove dead branches and leaves so new ones can grow.



The courtyard kids of 28th Street South helping to plant a tree. Photo by Mark Johnson.

Provide Protection: The urban environment creates many tree stressors, from asphalt reflecting excess heat to the choice of de-icer we use in the winter. Contractor damage in the form of mowers, edgers, and other construction equipment poses as great a threat to urban tree health as do pests and diseases. When heavy equipment compacts the soil, tree roots are adversely affected. When tree trunks are nicked or more severely damaged, the tree then becomes more vulnerable to disease and pests.

As trees mature, monitoring their health is vital. Fairlington Villages maintains a tree "watch list"; a list of mature trees that are monitored at least annually by a certified arborist for signs of significant decline that

may present safety or other hazards.

You can support tree maintenance by:

- Involving children/youth in monitoring health of trees as an educational activity, noting changes from one season to the next and as the tree grows
- Supporting guidelines that protect trees from contractor damage
- "Adopting" trees near you—paying attention to changes and reporting signs that you think may indicate declining health

To learn more about tree care in Arlington and Alexandria check out treestewards.org or caseytrees.org.

—Anne Wilson

Feel free to send comments or questions to fortheLoveofNature@googlegroups.com, and we invite you to follow Fairlington Gardening Community on Facebook.

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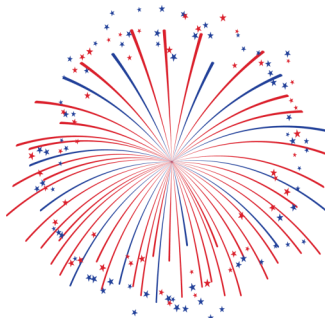
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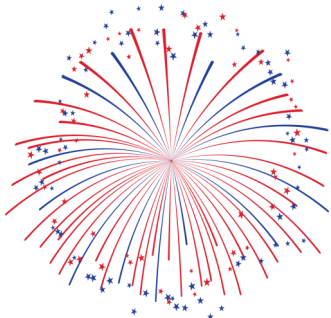
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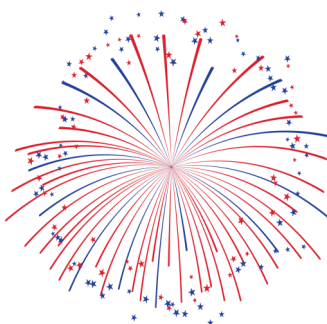
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pet profiles

Norwegian Elkhound enjoys hot Fairlington summer

Fairlington is home to only one Norwegian Elkhound. Her name is Freyja (pronounced Fray-a) spelled in authentic Scandinavian fashion and she has lived here a little over a year. The Elkhound can weigh up to 50 pounds and is a great tracker and hunter. The Elkhound is often used for moose hunting in their native country and although there aren't many moose here, Freyja has had success finding tennis balls as well as making new friends.

How did you get to your family in Fairlington? Where did you come from?



Last spring, my family decided it was time to add a furry member to their family. They found a breeder who happened to have four puppies. I lived with my three sisters until I was eight weeks old and then I moved to my forever home in Fairlington.

What is it like being the only Norwegian Elkhound in the community? Do you have an Instagram account?

It is kind of surprising that I am the only Norwegian Elkhound in the neighborhood considering how many dogs live here! Although I feel pretty unique, no IG account for me.

The Norwegian Elkhound is described as bold, playful and boisterous. Do you think that's accurate? How do you see yourself?

Yep, that sounds pretty accurate! I do like to play and bark at all my friends. I see myself as very friendly but also protective.

You live with children and adults. Any advice you can give other dogs dealing with children? How about dealing with adults?

I love being a part of a family! Children are great and enjoy teaching me new things. Sometimes though, they do get

a little crazy, so it's best to have your own space to get away when things get overwhelming. Adults are pretty easy to deal with—you just give them “puppy dog eyes” and they give lots of snuggles and sometimes treats.

What do you like best about living where you do?

I like being able to take walks around our awesome neighborhood. I get very excited to go outside because I get to meet new friends, dog and human alike. I also really, really like finding tennis balls all over the neighborhood! I'm glad to see the pools are open now. I've been told there might be a doggie dip for me some day.

County Officer, continued from page 5

Another resident, Mike Gutshall, wrote, “this is a great community that should be celebrating the diversity and inclusive behavior of our residents with a message of celebration and an interest in continuous improvement. Where is the reinforcement of what is being accomplished with the opportunity to keep moving forward?”

After the presentation, FCA board member Jenn Davies asked Byrd about ways to respond to people who claim there is no racism in Fairlington.

Byrd said that the best way to reach these individuals is to make the case with data and also with personal stories.

“There are still going to be people who don't want to participate,” she said.

Byrd presented the county's five critical questions to address racial disparity: Who benefits? Who is burdened? Who is missing? How do we know? What do we do?

Fairlington residents interested in participating in this initiative can contact Lydia Redway at lydia.redway@gmail.com.

—Regina Bethencourt



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Fairlington bucks trend in Lt. Governor voting

The two Fairlington precincts generally voted like much of the rest of the state in last month's Democratic primary, but Del. Mark Levine did much better in the Fairlington precincts than he did either statewide or in Arlington County generally in his race for Lt. Governor. Levine had represented the Fairlington precincts in Richmond.

Levine's popularity in the Lt. Governor's race, however, did not translate into votes in his campaign to be re-elected to the General Assembly, with Alexandria Vice Mayor Elizabeth Bennett-Parker handily defeating him. She carried both Fairlington precincts.

Levine carried both the Fairlington precinct, which votes at the Fairlington Community Center, and the Abingdon precinct, which votes at Abingdon Elementary. He garnered 35 percent of the vote at Abingdon and 28 percent in Fairlington. Countywide, Levine received 16 percent of the vote, and statewide, he picked up 11 percent of the vote, finishing a distant third in a seven-person field.

But while voters in North and South Fairlington pre-



Democratic Lt. Governor nominee Hala Ayala will face Republican nominee Winsome Sears this November. Regardless of outcome, the winner will be the first woman of color to occupy the seat. Photos courtesy www.halaforvirginia.com and www.winsomesears.com.



ferred Levine over the rest of the field for Lt. Governor, they turned instead to Bennett-Parker to replace him in Richmond, though her margin in those two precincts was much smaller than it was district-wide.

While she easily carried the Fairlington precinct, 61 percent to 39 percent, she pulled out a narrow victory in the Abingdon precinct, getting 50.38 percent of the vote to Levine's 49.62 percent. Across the full district, Bennett-Parker won 59 percent to 41 percent.

Because of delays in reporting numbers from the 2020 census, which will be used to redraw legislative districts, state law

permitted Levine to seek re-election while also running for Lt. Governor.

Bennett-Parker made a number of visits to Fairlington during the campaign, knocking on doors in South Fairlington and talking with customers outside the Fairlington Farmers Market.

—Guy Land

Fairlington Presidents discuss condo rule changes

In late April, the Fairlington presidents held their first in-person meeting since the start of COVID-19 restrictions. Much of the discussion centered on the effects of the pandemic. Various association projects continued on schedule during 2020; others were slowed or halted due to concern for employees' health, shortage of materials, etc. Some of the Fairlington associations eased the rules during the pandemic but are now starting to enforce them again.

The purpose of the Fairlington presidents meeting is to share information and to bring ideas and proposals back to their respective boards. Numerous requests during the year were sent to both Verizon and Comcast to bury exposed cables and to secure cable boxes. Some of the projects were slowly completed and others have yet to be started.

Clean energy sources, such as solar panels and electric charging stations were discussed. Solar panels have not

been allowed on Fairlington's slate roofs as yet but sky lights are permitted on the rear of the roofs in some of the communities. Solar panels in one's patio below the fence line may be a possibility.

Fairlington Villages has two electric charging stations which are also available to South Fairlington residents. Some of the other associations are considering the installation of charging stations.

They also discussed the Virginia General Assembly 2021 legislative update to condo rules, that included the legal right to email meeting notices; the authority to ban smoking inside individual units; and co-owners' right to request a veto of board decisions regarding the use of the common areas.

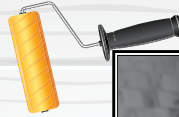
—Thora Stanwood

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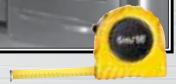
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—Mary Thomasson,
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neighborhood news

Fairlington Diners

The Fairlington Diners gather a couple of times a month for relaxed dinners nearby. We focus on having a good meal and an opportunity to chat with neighbors. In May, we ventured back to Ramparts, probably our most-visited restaurant.

Here's what's planned for July:

On Thursday, July 15 at 6:30 p.m. we will be visiting Rabieng Thai Restaurant. It's just beyond Bailey's Crossroads—very close to Fairlington--and has plenty of parking out front. This is a favorite of several of our regulars; it's always great food, in an informal atmosphere.

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 your email address to carol_dabbs at yahoo.com.

Book group

Please join the Fairlington book group on Tuesday, July 27 at 7:30 p.m. to discuss *The History of Love: A Novel* by Nicole Krauss.

"It's the sort of book that makes life bearable after all."
—*The Miami Herald*

The book group welcomes first-time visitors and drop-ins. No commitment required! Join us for our discussion,

even if you haven't read the book. Please call Carol at 703-379-6840 to be added to our email list in order to receive details about our meeting.

Join us for two virtual Fairlington Knits! and Crochets meet ups in July

Tune in online to join two Fairlington Knits! and Crochets meetings in July: Monday, July 5 and Monday, July 19 from 6:30–7:30 p.m.

Join fellow crafters for a virtual evening of knitting, crochet, and fellowship. Knitting/crocheting together, showing off our work, and talking with like-minded people helps us feel part of a community and has been proven to create a sense of calm.

We meet virtually, at the same time, on the first and third Monday of each month until we can meet in person again. Log on to see what everyone is working on, ask for help/advice, or for inspiration for a project. All levels of crafters are welcome—beginner to expert.

Email Turner for the log-on information to join the calls: Turnerwork@aol.com.

Fairlington Bocce

Interested in a fun outdoor activity with neighbors and friends? Then you are interested in playing bocce! To express interest or get more information, shoot an email to marcyakel@gmail.com.

Fairlington Moms' Club

The Fairlington Moms' Club is a group where moms can meet friends, form a support network, and create opportunities for children. The Club organizes several community service projects, routine playdates, craft days, family parties, and moms' nights out. We have a great listserv for sharing advice and connecting with other Fairlington families, as well as our own classifieds listserv. We welcome all Fairlington moms! Please email fairlingtonmomsclub@gmail.com for further information.



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DOWN TO EARTH patio gardening



A guide to summer-flowering perennials

Since July is our hottest month of the year, let's look at summer-flowering perennials that thrive in the sun. Perennials have smallish root balls, so you can plant some of them with a trowel. If your soil is compacted with clay, you'll need a shovel. Below is a list of summer perennials I favor:

Salvia: The vivid flowers on this drought-tolerant plant are purple or white and form on vertical spikes above the basal (bottom) foliage. It's a member of the mint family so rub a leaf between your fingers and you'll get a whiff of mint. Salvia is smallish—12-inches wide and 16-inches tall.

Russian Sage: Its bluish-green foliage clusters at the base of the plant while tiny, lavender flowers appear on long, thin stems above the plant. In full flower, Russian Sage can reach three feet tall, giving it a wispy look in a coffee-cup shape. Since the flowers are small and faint in color, it offers a soft look.

Red-Hot Poker: Since a heated piece of metal has a fiery-orange glow, this African native is aptly named. On a thick, two-foot long stem above basal foliage, singular orange flowers form in the shape of an egg with a faint band of yellow at its base—an interesting color combination also found in Columbine and Honeysuckle. Plant Red-Hot Poker in clusters. This way, the flowers are more dramatic.

Coreopsis: This summer shower has yellow or mustard-colored flowers



A summer bouquet with Coreopsis, Dianthus, Larkspur and Lavender graces a Fairlington Meadows fence post. Photo by Andrea Pratt.

the size of a nickel. Its foliage is needle-like, similar to that of the Asparagus Fern, and bunched at the bottom. The eight-petaled flowers on each plant are "here and there" so for a full-flower effect, plant two or three plants together. Coreopsis has a delicate appearance and is another plant with a 'soft' presentation.

Day Lily 'Stella de Oro': When in bloom, this flower becomes a mustard-colored trumpet. Maybe I should say it's gold-colored since "Oro" in Spanish means gold. You will notice these around Fairlington, usually clumped together near court signage or split-rail fencing along sidewalks. This day lily blooms from May to later this month. As you know, day lilies bloom once a day, then close their petals and wither come sundown. Another flower will bloom another day on the same stem. This cultivar is popular so you will find it at most nurseries.

Dianthus: I had to include this since one species—'Barbatus'—is

nicknamed 'Sweet William.' The most common Dianthus you'll find at nurseries has pink flowers and blue, basal foliage. A common cultivar is 'Cheddar Pink' that has pink flowers with undulating margins and white centers hosting protruding stamen. Dianthus's habit is like Coreopsis in that its foliage is showier than the flower. So, for more flower effect, plant two or three together.

Purple Coneflower: The petals actually are pink and over two inches long. The obscure feature is the plant's eye (or center)—a nugget of compacted, copper-colored seeds that sit one inch above the flat-shaped flower. Pinch the eye and it feels like a rubber cushion. Goldfinches feast on these seeds, especially in the morning. When a bird perches on the seed head for breakfast, the entire plant (with three-foot long stems) sways.

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

LOCAL & PROFESSIONAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT. We know Fairlington! Leasing, comprehensive tenant screenings, online rent collection, property inspections, itemized monthly e-statements & more. Contact Allegiance Property Management -info@allegiancepm.com, 703-824-4704, or www.allegiancepm.com

Gardening/Landscaping

SULLIVAN's LANDSCAPING: Want a new flagstone patio? How about a perimeter garden with a mix of low-maintenance evergreens and colorful perennials? Or just a garden clean-up to include shrub pruning, weeding and mulching? Contact Bill at Billsullivan41@gmail.com or call 571-213-9567.

Home Improvements

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

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

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

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

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

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



IRS Enrolled Agent can prepare your individual, business, amended and prior year tax returns, and respond to IRS and state tax letters.

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JADA'S CLEANING LLC. Reliable, experienced and good references. Weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, occasionally, move in/out, windows and offices. Other services: carpets steam cleaned. Call us for free estimates 571-643-8371 or mjadaservices@aol.com

MICHELE'S MAIDS. Reliable, honest, affordable. BACKGROUND CHECK ON EVERY EMPLOYEE. Window cleaning now available. LICENSED, BONDED INSURED. 15 years in Fairlington. Fairlington references available. 703-820-1808. Visit our website at www.michelesmaids.net

PET SERVICES

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

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.

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



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Under Contract!
(Multiple Offers)
Listing Agent
Patricia Quinlin



3927 6th St S
Arlington, VA 22204
3BR/2.5BA

Under Contract!
Listing price \$845,000
Listing Agent
Sherry Schaffer



Sherry Schaffer
703.402.9113
Sherry.Schaffer@LNF.com



Barbara Kirkland
703.405.5920
BarbaraK@LNF.com



311 Princeton Blvd
Alexandria, VA 22314
3BR/3BA

For Sale
Listing Price \$949,000
Listing Agent
Julie Flory



3529 N Utah St
Arlington, VA 22207
4BR/3.5BA

For Sale!
Listing price \$1,495,000
Listing Agent
Megan McMorrow



Megan McMorrow
703.403.5543
Megan@LNF.com



Julie Flory
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Kathy Koerner
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Kathy.Koerner@LNF.com



Joanne Ritchick
571.215.3350
Joanne@LNF.com



Kay Yancey
703.201.4292
Kay.Yancey@LNF.com



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