

all FAIRLINGTON BULLETIN



www.fca-fairlington.org

JUNE 2015

Volume 41, Number 6

Please note change of venue: The June 10 FCA meeting will be held in North Fairlington, at the Fairlington Villages Community Center building, 3005 S. Abingdon Street.

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June 10 FCA meeting goes to the dogs...and cats



*Photo courtesy of
AWLA.*

What should you do when you see a dog off leash? What situations warrant a call to or visit from Animal Control? Whose responsibility is it to deal with wildlife in the county? These are just a few of the questions that will be addressed by Alice Burton (*pictured*), Chief of Animal Control for the Animal Welfare League of Arlington (AWLA), at the FCA meeting on Wednesday, June 10, at 7 pm. The meeting will be held at the Fairlington Villages Community Center, 3005 S. Abingdon St. Burton's presentation will include a Q&A session to address residents' concerns.

Established in 1944 by volunteers, the AWLA is a private, nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization that provides sheltering and animal control services under a contract with Arlington County. Other services including low-cost spay/neuter, humane education, pet-loss support, emergency veterinary assistance, pet-assisted therapy, fostering, behavior helpline, and specialized medical treatment for shelter animals are all funded by donations. The Animal Control department is a busy one. In 2014, they ran 3,089 calls and approximately 4,000 park patrols. That's not counting the department's other responsibilities, like providing protective custody for animals at the AWLA and responding to tens of thousands of phone calls a year.

Burton has been at AWLA since 2002. Her main responsibility as chief is to support the deputies, as well as the rest of the staff at the league. She oversees every call that comes into Animal Control and makes sure that the department is serving the public and the animals in the community the best it can. She also spends a lot of time on the road, running calls and meeting with the public regarding difficult situations. With a recent increase in budget from the county, the Animal Control department will now have one chief, four deputies, and one dispatcher. The department is on duty from 7 am to 10:30 pm, seven days a week. From 10:30 pm to 7 am, they run emergency calls only. You can reach them at 703-931-9241 or visit www.awla.org for more information.

—Christine Chirichella

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.

June 10 preliminary agenda:

Note change of venue! The June 10 FCA meeting will be held at the Fairlington Villages Community Center, 3005 S. Abingdon Street.

Special presentation: Alice Burton, Chief of Animal Control for AWLA (Animal Welfare League of Arlington), will discuss AWLA's role in doggone situations.

Regular board business:

- Approval of May minutes
- Officer reports
- Committee reports
- Unfinished business
- New business

Online resources:

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



Find us on Facebook at Fairlington Appreciation Society.

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

Web design by Global Thinking, Alexandria, VA,
www.globalthinking.com.

USEFUL CONTACTS

Police, Alexandria (non-emergency)	703-838-4444
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
www.arlingtonva.us/departments/Environmental	
Services/dot/traffic/streetlights/index.htm	
Helicopter Noise Complaints	Mike Lucier (VA 8th Dist.)
	202-225-4376

Fairlington Citizens Association

PO Box 6182 • Arlington, VA 22206-0182
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.

Send material on disk with paper proof to:

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E-mail editorial announcements to:

editor@fca-fairlington.org

E-mail commercial and mini ads to:

admanager@fca-fairlington.org

Drop off location: Drop box in the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford Street

COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING RATES

Artwork and check made payable to **FCA** are due the 10th of the month preceding desired publication date. Direct inquiries regarding advertising file requirements to Beth Andrews at 571-403-1942.

Ad Size	Height	Width	Rate
1/8 page	2 3/16 in.	3 5/8 in.	\$47
1/4 page	4 5/8 in.	3 5/8 in.	\$94
1/2 page	4 5/8 in.	7.5 in.	\$195
Full-Page	9.5 in.	7.5 in.	\$395
Back Cover (Full Page)	9.5 in.	7.5 in.	\$505
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

FCA monthly meeting

Wednesday, June 10, 7 pm
NFCC, 3005 S. Abingdon St.

Real estate property tax

1st installment due
Monday, June 15

Aircraft noise meeting

Thursday, June 18, 7 pm
Arlington County Board Room
2100 Clarendon Blvd., #300

Book Group

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

Fairlington Diners

Thursday, June 25, 6:30 pm
Chez Andrée
10 E. Glebe Rd., Alexandria

Good things every Sunday at the Fairlington Farmers Market



Photo by Kendra Best.

The farmers market is served by the county's wi-fi system, just like the rooms inside the Fairlington Community Center. FCA asked the county last year to include the outdoor market area as part of the FCC's access to ConnectArlington, the high-speed fiber optic network that serves county facilities.

Stay up-to-date about market happenings, incoming crops, and vendor news by signing up for the FFM e-newsletter at www.fairlingtonfarmersmarket.org.

Some images in this publication may be digitally enhanced.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Did you go on the Home and Garden Tour last month?

Hundreds of Fairlingtonians were trekking across the community in this biennial event sponsored by the Fairlington Historical Society. What a great way to see the variety of creative ideas architects, designers, and contractors have implemented in updating our units. Kudos to Jackie Maguire for coordinating the tour and special thanks to those owners who let us tromp through their condos.

The historical society is a key institution in our community. It was established 15 years ago as an outgrowth of the effort that obtained Fairlington's state and federal historic designations. Led by Terry Placek, Cindy Kunz, and Patty Clark, the society's members work to enrich our knowledge and appreciation of Fairlington's history and character. Its *Fairlington at 50* is an unparalleled resource for information and photos about our past.

An excursion around Fairlington suggests the richness of our history. There's the boundary stone along King Street, between Wakefield and the ramp to 395, one of the 40 original stones marking the District of Columbia. Near S. Abingdon St. and 31st St. S. are the sites of Fort Reynolds and Battery Garesché, Union fortifications for the Civil War defense of Washington commanding the heights that overlook Four Mile Run. And there is the unique history of Fairlington itself as a planned residential community, designated by a marker at 32nd Rd. S. and Quaker Ln.

Several of you have suggested that we sponsor a tour spotlighting things in Fairlington's history. I think that's a great idea, and I'm hoping that some of you will volunteer to help us identify sites, write a little tour guide, and orchestrate the tour logistics. We could combine that with an intro to Fairlington's architecture. Let us know if you'd like to help.

One of the great things about the home tour is how it gets people into both North and South Fairlington. Lots of our residents rarely venture across the bridge—at least not on foot. "I'm hardly ever over there" is a comment I've often heard. The home tour helps break down that isolation. A similar thing is occurring with the new Fairlington Farmers Market. Both are important ways we build a stronger sense of community.

Join us as we explore new avenues for linking our residents and strengthening our community identity.

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

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School board approves schematic design for Abingdon Elementary

The Arlington School Board on May 7 unanimously approved the schematic design for the expansion and improvement of Abingdon Elementary School. The design team will now develop the detailed specifications that will be used to bid out the construction work.

In their discussion of the design proposal, school board members praised the close collaboration between Arlington Public Schools (APS) staff and the community. The design generally follows the recommendations of two citizen advisory committees that include a number of Fairlington residents.

The next step in the process is the approval of a use permit by the Arlington County Board. The permit, scheduled to go before the board in September, is expected to contain a number of conditions designed to minimize adverse impacts on Fairlington, particularly during the construction phase. The FCA will be working with APS and county staff on these conditions over the summer.

Key elements of the schematic design approved by the school board include preserving most of the school's playing field and its associated green space, moving the gym to the west end of the building and shifting the cafeteria to the site of the current gym, and adding a three-story classroom building behind the existing one, facing the county's Trades Center. Additional landscaping will create a buffer between the new gym and Courtbridge Condominiums.

In remarks before the school board, FCA President Guy Land noted that the design preserves critical green space, strikes a good balance between on-site and on-street parking, and is compatible with the neighborhood. "It doesn't overwhelm the community," he said.

The design calls for the relocation of several trees that were planted on school property by FCA and the Fairlington Historical Society (FHS) to mark milestones in Fairlington's history. FCA and FHS are working with the



Photo of artist's rendering courtesy of Arlington Public Schools.

design team to determine an appropriate location for the trees.

As the design has been refined, a number of changes have been adopted to keep the project within the budget that was projected in last year's bond issue. As a result, plans for geothermal heating and photovoltaic arrays on the roof have been dropped. But APS staff still expect the project to qualify for LEED certification for its energy efficiency components.

According to current APS plans, the project would go to bid in February 2016, with construction beginning next spring. The project would be completed in time for the beginning of school in September 2017.

—Guy Land

Aircraft noise meeting, June 18



The Arlington County Board will host a community meeting, open to all, with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the Metro Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) on June 18 at 7 pm in the County Board Room, 2100 Clarendon Blvd., #300. The meeting will allow residents to voice their concerns about aviation noise from airport traffic and helicopters over residential areas and hear possible solutions from FAA and MWAA.



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Fairlington's mix of generations can foster neighborly assistance



Photo by Gretchen Fallon.

Rosen (pictured) described the growing interest across the country in the “village movement.” The idea of the neighborhood or community village is a recent refinement of what just a few years ago was called aging-in-place. The idea is the same: Help older Americans stay in their homes as they age by providing neighborly assistance with simple tasks or referrals for complex services.

Broadly speaking, a village matches members’ requests for help with a network of local volunteers to assist with simple home maintenance, transportation, social opportunities, and more. Typically, the village requires an annual fee from senior participants and hires administrators to coordinate services. Arlington Neighborhood Villages (www.arlnvil.org) is one such organization that provides assistance to aging resident-members in Arlington. And there are many other village-like groups with less formal arrangements.

Although the recent survey of interest in expanding neighbor-to-neighbor services in Fairlington showed that the need for such assistance here is still small, it also revealed that many residents are willing to help create a support network. Fairlington thus offers the perfect environment, said Rosen, to experiment with voluntary arrangements that better link our generations and meet the varying needs of residents of all ages. (In Fairlington, two-thirds of the respondents expecting to need help from neighbors in the near future lived alone; only about half of those respondents were older than 55.)

Neighbor-to-neighbor assistance might be organized community-wide or at the condo association level, or even at the courtyard or building level. For example, simple projects might include maintaining a roster of neighbors who would like to be called in emergencies or creating a bulletin board (physical or electronic) to post

requests for tool sharing or gardening help.

Joining a membership-fee village model, said Rosen, is one way for aging residents to get the assistance they need, but she also pointed to an array of other kinds of supports already in place—through local governments, religious groups, civic groups, or hospitals—that people often just don’t know about. For example, Arlington’s Department of Parks and Recreation publishes a 55+ guide, which offers a wide selection of classes, field trips, and seminars available to older Arlingtonians.

In fact, said Rosen, a widespread lack of knowledge about what’s available in local community services is perhaps the biggest hurdle in connecting people of all ages with needed help. For that reason, FCA will help publicize information about local services in upcoming issues of the *Bulletin* and on the FCA website, fca-fairlington.org.

—Gretchen Fallon

FCA seeks board member



Looking for a way to become more involved with life in Fairlington? Consider serving on the FCA board. There’s an opening on the 9-member body, to fill a vacant seat from now to the end of 2015, and the board expects to fill the seat this summer. Board members are unpaid volunteers, whose one-year terms expire in December.

Board member Doug Penn resigned last month because his family is moving out of the D.C. area. For the past two years, Doug has been a key member of the farmers market committee. The FCA board expresses its appreciation to Doug for his valuable contributions to life in Fairlington.

Residents who are interested in filling the vacancy should talk with any current board member or send email to president@fca-fairlington.org.

—Guy Land



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FHS Home & Garden Tour drew hundreds of visitors

Sponsored by the Fairlington Historical Society (FHS), the Home & Garden tour is an ever popular neighborhood tradition. This year, one tour-goer summed up the experience: "I go on every tour—you always see something new and different. You always see creative solutions." Every other year, the tour allows neighbors to marvel at the way our homes can be renovated, with stylish kitchens and baths, ingenious storage ideas, rearranged spaces, and imaginative color schemes.



Photos by Guy Land.

These are precisely the things Fairlington residents love to see, dream about, and plan for. This year's tour showcased such unexpected features as interior French doors, driftwood-look tile, pendant lighting, kitchen islands and peninsulas, built-in bathroom storage, walk-in showers, and tank-less water heaters. Everyone agreed that pocket doors are genius!

More than 400 ticket holders enjoyed this year's tour. FHS thanks all the homeowners and volunteer home-sitters who made the tour possible, with special thanks to Jackie Maguire, the event coordinator.

—Gretchen Fallon

July 4th parade and bake sale— join in the fun!

Plan now to join friends and neighbors for Fairlington's very popular July 4th parade at 10 am and for the after-party in the parking lot of the Fairlington Villages Community Center. The parade route covers a few short blocks up S. Abingdon St., from the firehouse to the community center. Volunteering to help with parade planning is a great way for new residents to get involved and learn more about the neighborhood. Contact the event organizers, the Villages' Activities Committee, by sending email to activities@fairlingtonvillages.com.



Photo by Guy Land.

Another way to participate is to join in the yearly bake sale: That morning, between 9 and 10 am, take your home-baked donations of muffins, cookies, brownies, and bars (no frosting or fillings, please) to the Bake Sale for No Kid Hungry table in the parking lot. The 13th annual July 4th bake sale is sponsored by non-profit Share Our Strength. Note, too, that there's a raffle with donated gifts from local shops and restaurants. For more information, go online to NoKidHungry.org. For questions, or to volunteer to help set up or sell, send email to bake sale coordinator Cathy Malin, cmalin10@verizon.net.

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Check out the Market at
Fairlington.com

Jennie Dean Park may become bigger and better

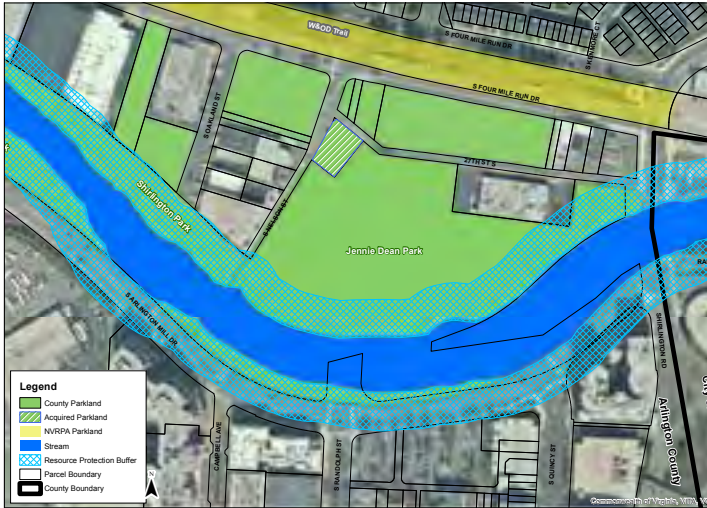


Photo courtesy of Arlington County.

The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), responding to an outpouring of community concern for the future of Jennie Dean Park, as well as increased demand for outdoor recreational facilities in the Shirlington area, is creating a master plan for renovation and expansion of the park. The current 22-acre park consists of a large, open grassy area at the eastern end of the site, near Shirlington Road, which lies adjacent to the 11 acres of Shirlington Park and the Shirlington dog park that meander westward to S. Walter Reed Drive along the grassy banks of Four Mile Run.

Jennie Dean's master plan area will include the existing park and five new properties that, according to the county, have been "strategically acquired" over the last decade for the park expansion (3660 S. 27th Street; 3600, 3700, and 3806 S. Four Mile Run Drive; and 2654 S. Oakland Street). The plan also will explore potential new park parcels and include the Shirlington dog park, which adjoins Jennie Dean. Existing park features, aging but still mostly serviceable, include a playground, two lighted baseball fields, two lighted tennis courts, a lighted basketball court, restrooms, and limited parking.

Last year, in the county's controversial subsidized-housing initiative called Public Land for Public Good, Jennie Dean was listed as a potential site for construction of taxpayer-funded affordable housing. Decried by nearby neighbors in Fairlington, Shirlington, and Nauck, who mounted a letter-writing and email campaign against it, the plan was also opposed by the citizens group Arlington Parks Coalition and by the Arlington Planning Commission. The initiative was dropped by the county board in January this year, deferring to the outcome of the year-long Community Facilities Study (see the story, page 13).

The phased build-out of Jennie Dean's new amenities would replace the current features, which, according to a planning document, are "in poor condition, beyond their useful life, and not ADA accessible." Development of the park is included as a major project element in the county's adopted FY 2015-2024 Capital Improvement Program, and initial funding might be available in 2018. Initial planning steps would include approval of an architect and engineering services contract, which could occur early in 2016, coincident with work on the broader Four Mile Run/Shirlington Crescent Sector Plan. Also, this year, renovation was completed on an athletic field, and DPR staff are considering a number of other temporary improvements that could be accomplished in advance of the park master plan.

—Gretchen Fallon

Fairlington's historic white oak

Last month, a group of about 20 Fairlington residents spent a delightful hour on a guided nature walk that featured the trees of North Fairlington. The tour was led by Carol Rosen, Master Gardener (*pictured below*), and Emily Ferguson, Master Naturalist and Tree Steward. Ferguson's expertise in trees and knowledge of Fairlington allowed her to identify a photo of S. Columbus Street, illustrating the urban impact on trees, in the book *Remarkable Trees of Virginia* (University of Virginia Press, 2008), by gardener Nancy Ross Hugo and Virginia Tech forestry professor Jeffrey Kirwan.



Photo by Guy Land.

ings at 3059 S. Abingdon Street—the impressive spread of the tree's canopy indicates that it was alive and

The most significant stop was under the spreading shade of a truly magnificent white oak that was awarded the county's Notable Tree designation this spring—the honor is meant to protect and show appreciation for the selected tree. Huge and stately, the white oak commands a knoll between two build-

Continued on page 23

SHIRLALA

★★★ MUSIC FESTIVAL ★★★

live music under the setting sun



JUSTIN TRAWICK & THE COMMON GOOD JUNE 4

KING TEDDY JUNE 11

THE SHACK BAND JUNE 18

DAN HAAS TRIO JUNE 25

NO CONCERT -- HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY! JULY 2

TAYLOR CARSON JULY 9

LLOYD DOBLER EFFECT JULY 16

PAUL PFAU - AS SEEN ON NBC'S THE VOICE! JULY 23

EWABO JULY 30

THE MORRISON BROTHERS AUGUST 6

DAN HAAS TRIO AUGUST 13

KING TEDDY AUGUST 20

SANDRA DEAN BAND FT. DARYL DAVIS AUGUST 27

EVERY

THURSDAY

6:30PM-8:30PM



Arlington property tax: First-installment payment due June 15

If you're a homeowner without a mortgage (Congratulations!), you will have received a real estate property tax bill from Arlington County in the mail around the middle of May for the first-installment payment due on June 15. (Second-installment bills will be mailed out around September 5 for payments due on October 5.) Homeowners with mortgages routinely pay property taxes through an escrow account with their mortgage companies.

Please note: Per Virginia Code, you, the individual homeowner, are responsible for knowing when property taxes are due and for paying on time (whether or not you receive a bill in the mail). Failure to pay on time could mean penalties and interest applied to delinquent tax bills.

Address changes: A resident's change of address is frequently the cause of her/his not receiving a tax bill in the mail—more precisely, the bill was mailed to the address current in county records, and the homeowner failed to update that information. If your mailing address has changed, you must notify Arlington's Department of Real Estate Assessments (DREA) with updated information, and you must contact DREA directly. Failure to do so may mean you will not receive future tax bills (incurring penalties and interest on delinquent tax bills). All change of address requests must be made in writing to DREA.

Department of Real Estate Assessment
2100 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 611
Arlington, VA 22201

Late-payment penalty update: This year the Arlington County Treasurer proposed, and the County Board approved, that the penalty fee for a real estate tax bill paid late by one month or less be reduced from 10 percent to 5 percent of the total tax bill. Delinquent tax bills paid more than 30 days after the payment-due date would incur the standard 10 percent late penalty fee.

Questions: For more information, go online to the county website, www.arlingtonva.us, and search real estate tax. Contact DREA, Monday through Friday, 8 am to 5 pm, by phone at 703-228-3920 or by email at realog2@arlingtonva.us.

County budget news

In April, the County Board approved the \$1.16 million FY 2016 budget, which included plans to close the money-losing Artisphere cultural center in Rosslyn; approve the extra \$6.2 million Arlington Public Schools had requested to deal with rising enrollment; and keep the property tax rate steady at \$0.996 per \$100 in assessed value. At the same time, due to the 4.9 percent rise in residential property assessments and a 1.8 percent increase in the water-sewer rate, the Arlington homeowner's tax and fee bill will rise an average of \$281 this year (a 4 percent increase). County government spending will increase 1.1 percent and APS spending will increase 4.5 percent compared to the previous fiscal year. —*Arlnow.com*

Study group inventories public facilities



Arlington County is taking a close look at its public facilities—lands, properties, structures, and buildings—which occupy 2 square miles inside Arlington's total area of 26 square miles. The year-long Community Facilities Study (CFS) is inventorying all county-owned facilities, and, by the end of the year, the study group will report to the county board on recommended criteria for best deploying county assets to meet future needs. The four

public facilities in Fairlington are Abingdon Elementary School, Station 7 firehouse, the Fairlington Community Center, and Utah Park. CFS's charge is to find a way forward amid competing demands for public spaces and the need to get more use out of them and fit more services into them. All CFS documents, including PowerPoint presentations delivered at meetings, can be viewed online at the project website, <http://bit.ly/ACGFacStudy>.



Fairlington Farmers Market celebrates Grand Opening

A steady flow of shoppers filled the Fairlington Community Center's back plaza on May 3 for the Grand Opening of the Fairlington Farmers Market. Market-goers sampled Goldrush apples while sipping coffee from Beanetics and munching scones from Vera's Bakery. Liberty Farm's rabbit was a hit (along with those fresh dog treats), and shoppers were seen cradling bunches of beautiful radishes from Pleitez Produce and early-season salad greens from Spring Valley Orchard. A total of 11 vendors offered great variety: spicy veg pasties from Kiwi Cuisine, Sunflower Flax bread from Atwater's, and sausages from Sandy Bottom.

Throngs of neighbors were joined by Mary Hynes, Chair of the Arlington County Board, and mem-

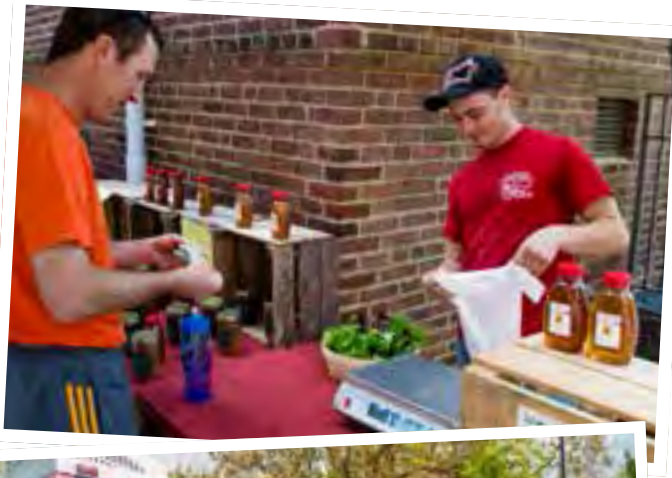
bers of the FCA board. Kudos to the orange-apron'd FFM committee members, who provide assistance and answer questions on market Sundays, and whose hard work over the last two years brought the market to Fairlington. A special thanks to Fairlington residents Lane Erwin and Melissa Beene for spearheading the effort to make the FFM such a success!

Keep informed about market happenings and incoming crops by signing up for the FFM e-newsletter at www.fairlingtonfarmersmarket.org.

—Lisa Schwanger



Cheese makers are Fairlington residents



"We bonded over cheese," says Kevin Miller of his wife Michelle. While they were dating, he made little *amuse bouche* cheese treats for her, and they got engaged over dinner at—where else?—Cheesetique in Shirlington. The Millers, Fairlington residents, are co-owners of District Cheese—a popular spot at the Fairlington Farmers Market—which makes small-batch, artisanal, gourmet cheeses, including ricotta, mozzarella, quark (pronounced "kvark," a soft, white curd cheese common to Germanic, Slavic, and Scandinavian countries), and the vendor's signature chevre (goat cheese).



Photo by Gretchen Fallon.

"But I don't like goat cheese!" Kevin has heard it before—the reluctance used to be commonplace, he says, although, happily, it's becoming less so all the time. The Millers respond by offering Fairlingtonians a free taste of District Cheese's "super-fresh" chevre, made within 48 hours of the Sunday morning market. The hand-crafted balance of tang and creaminess overcomes most doubts.

On the market's opening day in April, District Cheese's entire 35-pound inventory of all cheeses sold out—the most popular item was the honey chevre. While supplies last every Sunday, market-goers can also try bacon chevre, French herb chevre, "Sweet-tooth" chevre (honey chevre with dried cranberries and lemon zest), and a honey Dijon spread. Kevin says he's always experimenting with new combinations of flavorings and seasonings.

Kevin crafts the product line to exacting standards in a commercial kitchen—the multi-step process requires precise timings and temperatures. Michelle runs the business's finances, marketing, and social media outreach—on the website, www.districtcheese.com, take note of the Facebook and Twitter accounts, where shoppers may find various promotional opportunities. In addition to Sundays in Fairlington, District Cheese can be found at the Georgetown Farmers Market on Wednesdays and at the USDA Friday Farmers Market. Watch for new products, as the Millers grow the business and scale up production.

—Gretchen Fallon



Photos by Kendra Best and Guy Land.

Market reminders about parking and dogs

- Walk—don't drive—to the market. If you do drive, please avoid parking directly in front of the residences across from the community center. Street parking is available along S. Utah St., 32nd St. S., in the community center lot, and along Quaker Ln.
- Arlington County regulations prohibit dogs (except service animals) in the market area.



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STEM tykes plant seeds, learn about recycling



If you have driven across S. Abingdon Street between North and South Fairlington over the last several months, you have probably noticed that the recently-opened STEM Preschool has become a hub of toddler activity.

The preschool offers play-based education that highlights science, technology, engineering, and math ("STEM") subjects for students from age 2 to pre-kindergarten.

The school currently has 20 students divided into the 2-year-old Rockin' Robots room and the 3-4 year-old Telescope Troopers room. A third classroom for pre-kindergarten students is due to open this Fall. When FCA agreed to support the preschool's permit application before the Arlington County Board, it asked that priority be given to Fairlington families, and most of the students live in the neighborhood.

The preschool's owner and director, Portia Moore, explains STEM's curriculum: "Every week we have STEM-related themes and sensory tables to correlate to weekly themes to help children grasp the topic even more. The children love creating everything from clouds to robots."

Weekly themes have included the solar system, weather, motion, and recycling. "For our recycling weekly theme, arts and crafts were made from recycled materials," Moore said. The older students made bird feeders from repurposed plastic bottles that now hang on the playground fence. The younger students used bubble wands also created from plastic bottles.

In April, parents and students spent a Friday afternoon loosening and spreading dirt and planting flower and vegetable seeds in garden beds near the school's playground for Family Gardening Day. To prepare, students "planted seeds in our indoor Growlab and watched them grow, like our bodies grow!" Moore said.

Fairlington Glen resident Andrea Downing's daughter Jennie is in the 2-year-old classroom and loves STEM. "She asks to go to school every day, even on the week-ends. We love that STEM has themes—Jennie talks about what she learned about the themes, which is really excit-

ing." Fairlington resident Charlotte Tuttle's daughter Louisa is also reluctant to leave STEM at the end of the day. "I think what has been most impressive is the level of learning the kids are exposed to. It's not just colors and numbers," Tuttle said. "One evening at dinner Louisa told us, 'Worms live in habitats.' I was thrown! Did my 3-year-old just say that?"

STEM has both full-time and part-time options. As of May 11, it had two Monday/Wednesday/Friday openings in the 3-4s classroom and one Monday/Wednesday/Friday opening in the pre-kindergarten class. There are five families on the waitlist for the 2s class and two families on the waitlist for the 3-4s class.

Find more information at www.stempreschool.com.

—Michelle Woolley



Photos by Portia Moore.

Seeking an editor for this fine publication!

The FCA board is looking for a special Fairlingtonian to manage the incoming copy and photos for the monthly *Bulletin*, send the contents to layout on deadline, and supervise the production process as the *Bulletin* moves from Word documents and jpegs, through several iterations in PDF, to final files uploaded to the printer.

There's less original reporting and writing required in the job than in former years, because of the *Bulletin's* growing stable of regular contributors. And the editor is not alone in the enterprise—he or she will receive ample guidance



about what needs to be covered each month, from an editorial calendar that highlights events that recur each year and an active board (the publisher) that provides input for story ideas and copy. Still, the applicant should be a dab hand at basic copy correcting and fact-checking. Several internal reader reviews assist in polishing the copy.

A stipend acknowledges the editor's work, but it is still considered largely a volunteer position that can best be understood and filled by a resident of Fairlington. For more information, contact the FCA at president@fca-fairlington.org.

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The Fairlington Farmer:

What to do in June for a summer full of veggies

In the last *Fairlington Farmer*, we sowed early-season plants, and now we're fully into summer growing season! Here's what to do now to keep your veggie garden going and to maximize your summer harvest:

Harvest and enjoy. It's the end of the season for our early crops (lettuce, spinach, broccoli, peas), so pick them now and enjoy the fresh, nutritious fruits of your labors. You can continue harvesting early season crops until they sprout flowers—this is a sign they're preparing to produce seeds. Crops like cilantro, broccoli, and lettuce will grow tall shoots with a flower on top—you can pinch off the flowers to extend the harvest, but eventually the heat will be too much for them. When this happens, take the plants out of the ground to make space for your next round of plantings.

Add soil and compost. The soil may have eroded and settled since you first amended it in early spring, so, if needed, gently work a bit more soil into your bed.

Keep planting. Now is the time to plant your next round of crops. Sowing multiple rounds of plants is called "succession planting," and it enables you to extend your harvest. Here's what you can plant right now: herbs, pole beans, tomatoes, peppers, melons, cucumbers, squash, zucchini, and more.

Build supports. Some plants are vining types (e.g., cucumber, melons), which work well in our small spaces because you can grow them vertically. To support vines, build simple trellises—I recommend poles with wire or twine running along the fence or free-standing teepees. (Check your condo association's fence-use rules.) To make a simple teepee trellis, take three long garden poles, lay them side by side, and lash them together by weaving a wire or string around the top. Then stand it up, separate the bottoms of the poles into a triangle, and voila! You've made a trellis! Put this over your beans, and they'll wind themselves right up the poles.

Fertilize. Plants need nourishment just like we do, and I recommend using an organic fertilizer to support their continued growth throughout the season. I use Tomato Tone, which works well on all types of veggies. Follow the instructions on the label, generally applying a few tablespoons to the soil every couple weeks.

Water. We're entering the very hot days of summer, and our veggies need more water than ever. Water deeply first thing in the morning, being sure to water the soil, not the plants! This will help prevent the growth of fun-

gus and leaf-burn.

Monitor. Spend time in your garden every day, even for just a few minutes. Get to know your plants, watch them grow, see how they change, and look for signs of insects, disease, and weeds. Remember to jot down notes in your garden journal, to help you remember what's working and what isn't.

You're well on your way into our main growing season, so your garden will really take off in June. Enjoy the opportunity to be outside, get closer to nature, and appreciate the fruits of your labor!

—Rebecca Carpenter, Master Gardener
www.SproutKitchenGardens.com
Rebecca@SproutKitchenGardens.com



Pole beans wind their way up a teepee trellis. Photo by Rebecca Carpenter.

Interested in composting?

Looking for a good way to recycle the food waste from your kitchen? You're not alone. FCA has heard from Fairlington residents who are searching for a workable alternative to putting food waste out with the trash, and the leaders of the new Fairlington Farmers Market are interested in recycling options that would help vendors and users of the market.

Arlington County has also emphasized the importance of food waste recycling to its overall goal of boosting the county's recycling percentage, while the county's Urban Agriculture Task Force has recommended that the county institute a food waste recycling system.

FCA has launched an effort to examine options that might work in Fairlington. Christen Snow, a Fairlington Meadows resident, has agreed to help spearhead the search for solutions, including possibly contracting with a private vendor to handle food recycling by Fairlington residents. If you are interested in food waste recycling options and can give us a little time to research and flesh out options, let us hear from you. Send email to kocherpuffs@gmail.com.

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Fairlington 5K's fun and funds



Photo by Guy Land.

Under beautiful, sunny skies on Saturday, April 11, over 700 members of Fairlington and the Abingdon Elementary School community gathered for the 2nd annual Fairlington 5K. Participants chose either to run the 3.1-mile course or walk a 1-mile loop, both of which wound through North and South Fairlington. Many volunteers were on hand to cheer on runners, direct the course, and distribute water.

Following the race, participants and volunteers were treated to live music from Brent & Co., as well as bounce houses, face painting, and food trucks, all of which were part of a spring festival hosted by the Abingdon PTA.

Combined with proceeds from the silent auction held a few days before the race, more than \$23,000 was raised to benefit "A Cure for Ellie" foundation and Abingdon Elementary. Fairlington residents Beth and Mike McGinn, founders of "A Cure for Ellie," were thrilled with the support and enthusiasm of the community. The majority of the proceeds will go toward funding research at Johns Hopkins University to find a cure for Leukodystrophy-LBSL, the rare disease that afflicts Beth and Mike's oldest daughter, Ellie. The remainder of the proceeds will support the purchase of athletic and literacy resources for Abingdon.

Due to the overwhelming success of this event, and the increase in participation over last year, race organizers Joe Reed and Joe Hartman will be forming a Fairlington 5K race and auction committee. Look for more details to come, or send email to Fairlington5K@gmail.com if you would like to volunteer.

—Erin Sonn

Fairlington 5K sponsors win our thanks!

The FCA and Abingdon Elementary offer great thanks to the sponsors of the Fairlington 5K race in April for their generous support.

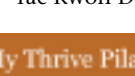
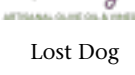
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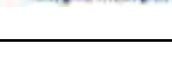


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neighborhood news

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Email the coordinators, Danielle Bloom and Monica Ekman, at fairlington.babysitting@gmail.com to request more information and an application.

Beat the heat— Play cards in A/C comfort

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

Fairlington 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 enjoyed our dinner at Tempo with new attendees—there seems to be an appetite for dinner out!

In June, we'll have one event:

Thursday, June 25, 6:30 pm, Chez Andrée, 10 East Glebe Road, Alexandria, 703-836-1404. We'll return to this restaurant (near Potomac Yards), which opened in 1964 and is known for its country French cuisine. Specialties include duck à l'orange, rack of lamb, chicken livers, and fresh seafood. There is an ample parking lot adjacent to the restaurant.

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@yahoo.com.

Book Group

Join the Fairlington Book Group in June to discuss *Bring Up the Bodies* by Hilary Mantel.

Bring Up the Bodies is the sequel to Mantel's bestseller, *Wolf Hall*. It continues her portrayal of Thomas Cromwell, chief minister to Henry VIII, and focuses on Cromwell's plot to bring down Henry's queen, Anne Boleyn, who failed to give the king a male heir.

The Book Group welcomes first-time visitors and drop-ins. No commitment required! If you're into historical fiction, join us in June, no strings attached.

We are meeting on Tuesday, June 23, at 7:30 pm in the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford Street. We hope you'll join us.

White Oak, continued from page 11

growing upward and outward long before the buildings were planted nearby in the 1940s. The oak stands about equidistant between Ft. Reynolds and Battery Garesché, which were front-line fortifications in the Defenses of Washington during the Civil War, and the tree might be almost that old. It's not possible to establish its age conclusively, because taking a core sample for examination could damage the tree. But easily 100 years old and more, this white oak has kept watch since the late 1800s. In that sense, the white oak is what's known as a "Witness Tree"—a living link to history.

—Gretchen Fallon



FCA president Guy Land stands in front of North Fairlington's historic white oak with neighbor Barbara Berti, who lives nearby and initiated the process that led to the tree's Notable designation.

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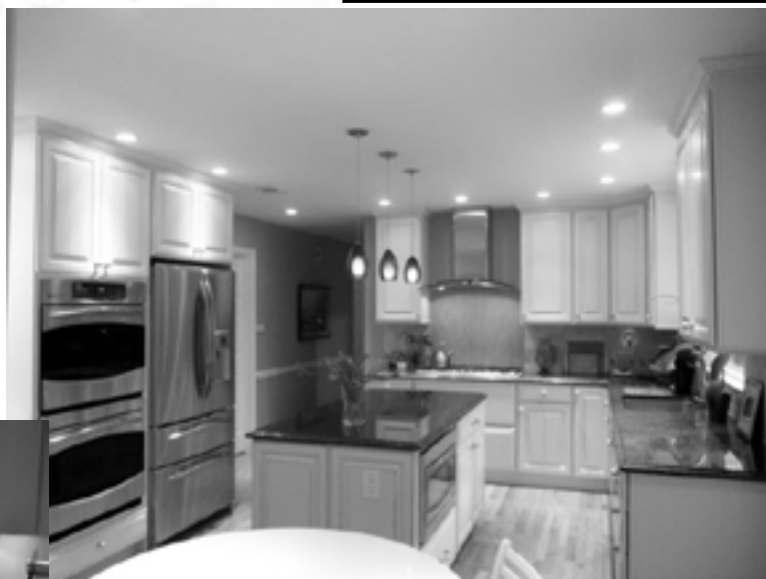
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Abingdon celebrates Teacher Appreciation Week



Photos by Abingdon PTA.

With the theme “We could not have PICKED a better school,” the halls of Abingdon were decorated as orchards of colorful paper fruit. Bananas, apples, plums, and oranges hung from the trees, each individually inscribed by students and families with notes of thanks and appreciation.

Throughout the week, the PTA treated teachers and staff to a catered breakfast, lunch, and coffee hour. Daily raffle drawings were held for tickets to events, gift cards to favorite restaurants, and wonderful gift baskets. All staff received daily treats in their in-boxes, from jelly bean packages—*You’ve BEAN a great teacher!*—to snack bags and vouchers for fresh baked bread. Local businesses like Great Harvest (owned by an Abingdon family) and Zoes Kitchen provided free or

donated food.

The week took a tremendous amount of volunteer hours by parents and some students. However, Abingdon staff could not stop smiling throughout the week and were truly touched by all the attention. Of course, we would not have it any other way!

Abingdon 5th grade teacher, Katherine Hale, wins Apple award

Congratulations to 5th grade teacher, Katherine Hale (pictured, right), who was recently named a 2015 Apple Distinguished Educator. Apple Distinguished Educators are part of a global community of education leaders recognized for doing amazing things with Apple technology in and out of the classroom. She was featured in an article on the Arlington Public Schools (APS) website earlier this year showcasing her skills at using technology to reach all students. An excerpt from the article:

Through the personalized lessons on the iPads, **each day**, Ms. Hale was able to effectively and efficiently assess each student’s academic progress, both in the classroom and at home. Based on the assessment information, Ms. Hale dynamically grouped and regrouped students for classroom instruction and individualized supplemental learning opportunities to address specific needs.

This differentiated, personalized environment created a very high level of student excitement and involvement. The achievement of the objectives laid out in the SMART goal confirmed that the



Katherine Hale.

model Ms. Hale piloted has the potential to be useful throughout APS.

Little Chris in her class summed it up when he told her, “It helped me a lot because it allowed me to take you home with me and had you teaching me.” —*from the APS website*



PTA co-president, Andrew Vitols, goes bananas for Abingdon staff (from left), Kindergarten teacher Emily Childress, music teacher Eric Green, and PE teacher Joe Reed.



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South Fairlington Metrobus routes will change

Metrobus riders in South Fairlington will see a change in bus service starting June 21. Route 25A will be eliminated and replaced by a single Route 22A in addition to rush hour lines 22C and 22F.

Metro posted the official advisory notice of route and schedule changes in May, with revised schedules to become available in early June, according to Fred Simms, WMATA Bus Operations Specialist.



Photo by Gretchen Fallon.

The 22A, 22C, and 22F routes will follow the same route through South Fairlington as the current 25A, 25C, and 25E routes: S. Stafford, S. 36th, and S. Utah to S. 34th Streets. However, due to the change, the revised 22 series routes will not go across S. 34th as the current 22A does. Instead, one stop on eastbound S. 34th at S. Utah that is served exclusively by 22A will be discontinued, since the revised 22 routes will turn at S. 34th and S. Utah Sts.

In addition, Simms noted that service passing the stops on S. Wakefield at S. 34th and S. 36th will be reduced to

rush hours only (running every 20 minutes) on the new Route 22C, which will replace Route 25C.

Representatives from Metro presented Fairlington residents with the proposed changes to the 22 and 25 bus routes at an FCA meeting last June. At that time, Metro solicited comments from residents and continued to gather comments on their proposed changes through the end of July. Those comments were presented at a public hearing last fall, and the WMATA Board approved the final plan at its January 2015 meeting.

ary 2015 meeting.

Weekday service for Route 22A (off peak) will remain every 30 minutes. Saturday service will run every 45 minutes, and service on Sundays will be hourly (8 am to 8 pm), which, Simms said, is in keeping with the existing Metrobus schedule. For more information on Metrobus schedules, visit wmata.com/bus.

—Janis Johnston

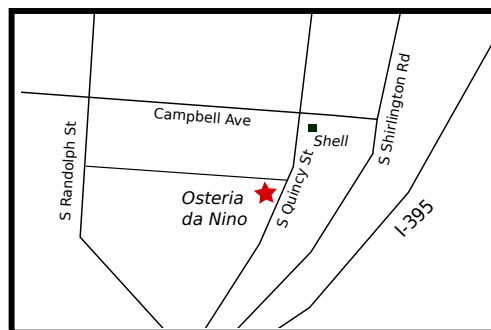


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