

all FAIRLINGTON BULLETIN



www.fca-fairlington.org

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Volume 42, Number 6

Senator Ebbin to be featured speaker at June FCA meeting

Inside this month

Features

Ebbin at June FCA meeting.	1
Composting presentation.	5
Fairlington Park plans.	7
Speeding in Fairlington.	7
Walter Reed Drive.	9
Farmers market opens.	11
Fairlington Farmer.	13
Fairlington 5K.	17



July 4 parade.	23
July 4 bake sale.	27

Departments

President's message.	3
Animal Talk.	15
Abingdon School News.	21
Neighborhood News.	23
Patio Gardening.	25
Mini ads.	34

Virginia state Senator Adam Ebbin will be the featured speaker at the Fairlington Citizens Association (FCA) meeting on Wednesday, June 8, at 7 pm, at the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. Senator Ebbin has represented the 30th Senate District, which includes all of Fairlington and points east along the Potomac, since 2012.

Senator Ebbin will provide a legislative update for the Virginia General Assembly's 2016 session. Senator Ebbin, who previously served eight years in the Virginia House of Delegates, has provided Fairlington residents with a thorough and detailed legislative review at previous FCA meetings.

The General Assembly recently addressed recognition of out-of-state concealed weapons permits, discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender orientation in state employment and housing, and the ability of public officials to refuse to perform same-sex marriages, among other hot button topics.

Senator Ebbin introduced legislation addressing a variety of issues, including voting rights, jobs, LGBT equality, gun violence, social and criminal justice, health care, taxes, government, and animal rights.

A Democrat, Senator Ebbin serves on three Senate Committees: General Laws and Technology; Agriculture, Conservation, and Natural Resources; and Local Government. He's a member of the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission and has chaired the Virginia Commission on the Prevention of Human Trafficking.

—Michelle Woolley



State Senator Adam Ebbin represents the 30th District in Virginia, which includes all of Fairlington. Photo courtesy of the office of Senator Ebbin.

Coming up ...

The FCA Board invites all Fairlington residents to attend its meetings, which occur on the second Wednesday of the month at the Fairlington Community Center (3308 S. Stafford St.) unless otherwise noted. Before the beginning of each monthly Executive Board meeting, FCA members may address the board on matters affecting the community, limited to three minutes per member.

FCA monthly meeting June 8

Special presentation: A visit from 30th District State Senator Adam Ebbin.

Regular board business:

- Approval of May minutes
- Office 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

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Shirlington Library	703-228-6545
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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

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

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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.

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Calendar

FCA monthly meeting

Wednesday, June 8, 7 pm
FCC, 3308 S. Stafford St.

Fairlington Diners

Monday, June 27, 6:30 pm
Whitlow's on Wilson
2854 Wilson Blvd., Arlington

Book Club

Tuesday, June 28, 7:30 pm
FCC, 3308 S. Stafford St.

Strolling through the community



Tree expert Emily Ferguson points out key aspects of maple leaves to participants in last month's FCA-sponsored Fairlington Spring Stroll. Thanks to Emily Ferguson and Anne Wilson for coordinating the educational excursion. Photo by Guy Land.

Contributors this month: Lynne Blasi, Bob Bradley, Rebecca Carpenter, Lynne Blasi, Rebecca Carpenter, Christine Chirichella, Jennifer Davies, Guy Land, Bill Sullivan, Michelle Woolley.

Some images in this publication may be digitally enhanced.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

June brings the end of the school year at Abingdon Elementary. While we have focused most of our coverage on the school's expansion and renovation construction—work begins in early July—the wrap-up of the year offers a good reminder that Abingdon is one of Fairlington's valuable assets.

Abingdon is truly a neighborhood school. Literally scores of Fairlington families have students enrolled there or have children who went there before moving on to middle school. In addition, close to a dozen Abingdon teachers call Fairlington home.

The leadership of the PTA is anchored by Fairlington residents. Outgoing co-presidents Jen Davies and Andrew Vitols live in North Fairlington. (They've done a terrific job.) Incoming president Jeni Hornback is a South Fairlington resident, and most of her supporting team of officers also come from Fairlington.

The Fairlington community warmly embraces Abingdon, as evidenced by the popularity of April's 5K, which was coordinated by Fairlington Arbor resident and Abingdon teacher Joe Reed.

But the value of Abingdon to Fairlington lies not just in how woven it is into the life of our community. It is also in the quality of the educational experience students enjoy.

Abingdon's fifth grade design team—an elementary architecture class!—won the state's SchoolsNEXT Design Competition, which challenges 5th- to 8th-grade students to design a school of the future, engaging them through interdisciplinary problem-solving, teamwork, STEAM, and real-world contexts. They finished second in the regional competition, in which they faced state winners from Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina.

And the Fairlington tie? The popular architecture teacher, David McDavitt, is a South Fairlington resident, and two of the four members of the student team live in Fairlington.

Kudos also go to one of the architects who has helped design the Abingdon expansion. Andrea Swiatocha helped the students link their competition ideas with the real challenges of designing the improved Abingdon School.

The design team's success reflects the blend of partnerships, collaboration, and interdisciplinary learning that causes Fairlington parents to rave about Abingdon.

Join me in saluting the parents, teachers, staff, and interested residents whose dedication makes Abingdon a great part of Fairlington.

Guy Land, FCA President
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Compost/recycling working group visits FCA meeting

The Fairlington Citizens Association received an update and some education about composting and recycling at its monthly meeting on May 11 at the Fairlington Community Center.

The Fairlington Compost/Food Waste Recycling Group spent roughly an hour discussing the advantages of composting, whether in the backyard, dropped off in another location, or picked up at the door by vendors. The key, said Christen Snow, who has taken the lead in this initiative, is to advance community interest in a composting program.

"We just ask that if this is something you care about, just talk about it," Snow said. "We need advocates in the community for this type of change."

A main component of the composting/food waste recycling effort is reduction in household trash. It was pointed out in the meeting that 30-40 percent of all waste is food waste, although Arlington County's rate stands at 27 percent, said Steve Ramirez, a member of the working group and a resident of the Mews.

In Fairlington, there is six-day trash pickup by Capitol Services, and composting advocates believe there could be a cost savings associated with composting. But the group was quick to point out that it is not about to force anything on anyone.

"We are not trying to step on anyone's toes or inconvenience anyone," Snow said. Rather, she added, it is about educating residents as to the advantages to com-

posting and food waste recycling.

The group has met with three of the condo associations and the response, the group said, has been positive. The goal is to recruit "composting champions" in the associations in order to try to build a larger consensus.

Snow said the aim this summer is to conduct a pilot project or a survey that would help read community interest. The group is still deciding which path it wants to take.

The group discussed four composting options and their associated costs.

The first was back yard composting, where residents purchase a bin (from \$25 to \$65) and drop in most food scraps, which can then be used in gardens, enriching the soil.

Another is a county pickup location, such as the FCC or Abingdon Elementary School, where residents would drop off food waste recycling in biodegradable bags, with costs covered by the County.

Third is condo association drop off locations in association common areas. A commercial vendor would empty the bin one to three times a week. The cost of the service would depend on the size of the pickup and the number of times per week.

Lastly is residential service, where each household would get a small container that would be picked up by a vendor. It is the most expensive option, but would be cheaper with more households buying in.

—Bob Bradley



Members of the Fairlington Composting/Food Waste Recycling Group, from left, Steve Ramirez, Christen Snow, and Tanja Crk shared their thoughts with FCA on May 11. Photo by Bob Bradley.

First installment of property taxes due June 15

The due date for the first installment of real estate taxes is Wednesday, June 15. Real estate bills were mailed in early May. Residents will not receive a bill if your taxes are paid from an escrow account through your mortgage. If you have a mortgage and receive a bill, please contact your

mortgage company as soon as possible.

For customers who are responsible for paying their real estate taxes, the Customer Assessment and Payment Portal (CAPP) is a convenient way to pay securely online. Even if you do not pay via the internet, CAPP has many other benefits, including emails to you about upcoming due dates. To learn more about CAPP, visit capp.arlingtonva.us or call 703-228-3702.

Continued on page 27



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ACPD's Quigley urges motorists to take care in neighborhood

There was plenty of chatter earlier this spring on Fairlington's Facebook page (Fairlington Appreciation Society) concerning cars speeding and running stop signs throughout the crowded neighborhood.

Some residents expressed safety concerns and what remedies could be implemented.

Capt. Adrienne Quigley, Third District Commander for the Arlington County Police Department, said her department has not received any specific complaints, but she stressed that residents should be vigilant.

"If people have specific intersections and locations they are concerned about, they can email me (aquigley@arlingtonva.us) and I can add them to our traffic complaint log," she said. "For speeding complaints, we can also deploy a classifier that tracks actual vehicle speeds for a period of time, usually a week. This system is not visible to the drivers and gives us a snap shot of the speeding problem in the area and the best time to enforce."

She added, however, the classifier usually shows that generally 98 to 99 percent of all of the vehicles are travelling within 10 mph of the speed limit or less, with close to 95 percent going the speed limit or less.

"If residents see someone driving aggressively and get a tag number, they can always call the non-emergency number and officers in the area can attempt to locate the offending vehicle," she said. The non-emergency number is 703-558-2222.

Other residents wondered whether there could be increased police presence in the neighborhood. Capt. Quigley said there were several factors at play. "I would need more information about what their concerns are, meaning do they want a greater presence at night due to safety concerns? Do they want a greater presence for traffic enforcement? Do they want a greater presence by the school at drop-off and pick-up?"

Quigley added that manpower is always an issue, and that it is difficult to have an officer somewhere all of the time. Installation of traffic calming measures, such as speed bumps, is done by traffic engineering, she said. For information, visit <https://transportation.arlingtonva.us/streets/>. "Often civic associations will come together and make a request," she said. "Traffic engineering will

then study the area and see if the request is feasible financially or necessary."

Quigley also said that, as always, call 911 in case of emergency. She cautioned, "Please don't assume someone else will report it because we have found that there are times everyone assumes someone else is reporting it and nobody does."

—Bob Bradley

County refines plans for Fairlington Park improvements

Arlington County staff are refining plans for the renovation of the Fairlington Park, with a briefing of the community likely in June. Check the FCA website for an update on the briefing.

The park is the area behind the community center that includes the field, track, exercise area, and playground.

The most dramatic changes would occur at the north end of the park.

General plans include eliminating the rarely used amphitheater and using that space to enlarge the current playground and

create play spaces for younger kids. Working concepts include adding plantings to divide the space into "green rooms" where small groups can play together. Another option is to include a retaining wall to separate this area from the current playground. The existing playground, which is heavily used throughout the day, would get new equipment.

New equipment will also mark the overhaul of the exercise area at the southwest corner of the property. An April online survey of Fairlington residents indicated that users preferred outdoor exercise equipment that was more like indoor weight-training equipment. The exercise area itself will remain in the same location.



The playground will see improvements and new equipment as part of the planned overhaul of Fairlington Park. Photo by Guy Land.

Continued on page 27

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Walter Reed Drive improvements on the horizon

There is a revised concept plan for the Walter Reed Drive (WRD) Improvement Project between Arlington Mill Drive (AMD) and Four Mile Run Drive (FMRD), according to the Arlington County Department of Environmental Services.

The Division of Transportation first notified the FCA of the proposed transportation project in December 2014. County staff received comments on the preliminary conceptual plan from many stakeholders, including the FCA. This resulted in a revised conceptual plan that was



This stretch of Walter Reed Drive between Arlington Mill Road and Four Mile Run Drive will see several improvements beginning in 2018.


shared with FCA and other stakeholders in June 2015, according to M. Valerie Mosley, capital projects manager for the Division of Transportation.

The proposed improvements and revised conceptual plan were well-received overall, she said, however some concerns remained regarding the crosswalk and the slip lane on Arlington Mill Drive. In response, county engineering staff further revised the conceptual plan to better support pedestrians and cyclists crossing the slip lane the Arlington Mill Drive/Walter Reed Drive intersection.

Arlington completed the conceptual plan last fall and is currently doing the design work. The project is expected to go to bid next spring, with construction occurring in 2017 and 2018.

The revised concept plan now includes the following components:

- New crosswalks and curb ramps, compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act(ADA) at both intersections
- ADA compliant bus stops
- Two multi-use trails, 10-ft wide and two-directional on each side of Walter Reed Drive

- A 3-foot wide utility/buffer strip between the trails and automobile lanes (similar to trail on Joyce Street near I-395)
 - Removal of striped median and restriping of automobile travel/turn lanes to be 11.5-feet wide at outside lanes and 10-feet wide for interior and turning lanes (all existing travel lanes are 10-feet wide)
 - Complete technology upgrades at the WRD/FMRD and WRD/AMD intersections, including new traffic signals, pedestrian signals, lights, LED signage, etc. A left turn warrant analysis will also be performed for FMRD at WRD.
- 
- Four Mile*
- Reconfiguration of Arlington Mill Drive westbound to one left and one right turn
 - Improved slip lane crossing at WRD/AMD intersection. Slip lane improvements (similar to existing slip lanes at the Fairfax Drive and N. Glebe Road and N. Glebe Road and Wilson Blvd. intersections)
 - Larger island with plantings and ADA-compliant curb ramps to better accommodate bike/pedestrian users
 - Raised crosswalk furnished with speed table markings between Four Mile Run Trail and island
 - Motion-activated flashing signal with approach signage to alert vehicles of crosswalk users (exact technology to be determined during design phase)
 - Realignment of Four Mile Run Trail as it approaches the AMD slip lane to improve visibility to and from the crosswalk and trail approach.
 - Permanent bicycle and pedestrian counters at both intersections
 - Pedestrian and bicycle way-finding signage
 - Street lighting, both sides of Walter Reed Drive

Additional information about the project and plan, including the revised conceptual plan, cross sections, and an illustrative sketch of the proposed AMD/WRD intersection can be found at the project website: <http://projects.arlingtonva.us/projects/south-walter-reed-drive-improvements-arlington-mill-drive-fourmile-run-drive>.

—Bob Bradley



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Fairlington Farmers Market open for business, and there's something for everyone



A big "Thank you" to everyone who came out for Opening Day of the Fairlington Farmers Market in May!

Despite the rain and chilly weather, excitement was in the air as the second season began. With 15 vendors offering everything from fresh

fruit juices, coffee, bread, pie, donuts, cheese, vegetables, fruit, meat, poultry, and eggs to breakfast and lunch foods, there truly is something for everyone.

New vendors include Bonaparte Breads, Margaret's Soul Food, and Walnut Hill Farm. Bonaparte Breads specializes in artisan breads, croissants, and pastries prepared in the classic French tradition. Stop by Margaret's Soul



Jo and Gene Burns check out the bread choices at Atwater's.

Food for mouth-watering BBQ ribs, pulled pork, mac and cheese, and more. Don't miss Walnut Hill Farm's delicious beef, lamb, dinner and breakfast sausage, chicken, and pork.

Want to know what the vendors will be bringing each week and what will be happening at the market? Sign up to receive an email update every Thursday to help plan your Sunday visit; go to www.fairlingtonfarmersmarket.org/contact.html.



Fairlington residents sample the apples at the Kuhn's Orchard stand.



A few raindrops couldn't stop hearty Fairlingtonians from picking up some fresh produce on the market's opening day. Photos by Guy Land.

The market is almost completely volunteer run. We especially rely on volunteers each Sunday, and encourage you to join us. Help is needed with both setting up and taking down the market tent and plaza areas, greeting shoppers,



The variety of juice flavors are always popular at Kiwi Cuisine.

and answering questions. Please consider signing up for a shift this season. It's only a two-hour commitment, leaving you plenty of time to shop and visit with your neighbors. Without volunteers, there

is no market! Sign up at www.fairlingtonfarmersmarket.org/get-involved.html. We appreciate any and all help—thank you!

Please help promote the market by posting photos on Facebook (Fairlington Farmers Market) and Twitter (@FairlingtonMkt). The market is open every Sunday, 9 am to 1 pm, Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St.

—Lynne Blasi

Arlington County regulations prohibit dogs at the farmers market.

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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 maximize your summer harvest:

1. **Harvest and enjoy!** It's the end of the season for our early crops (lettuce, spinach, broccoli, peas, etc.), 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 bolt—i.e., 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.
2. **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.
3. **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 vining plants, build simple trellises—I recommend poles with wire or twine running along the fence, or free-standing teepees. 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 made a trellis! Put this over your beans, and they'll wind themselves right up the poles.
4. **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—gen-

erally applying a few tablespoons to the soil every couple weeks.

5. **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 fungus and leaf-burn.



Pole beans winding themselves up a teepee trellis. Photo by Rebecca Carpenter.

6. **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!

Happy farming!

—Rebecca Carpenter
www.SproutKitchenGardens.com

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Animal Talk

Picking up after your dog

As dog owners, we are required by local ordinances and condo rules to pick up after our pets. Most of us are very good about this, and consider scooping poop to be part of the routine of being a responsible owner. There may be occasional slips, for example, if we forget a bag once in a while or run out unexpectedly. But for the most part dog owners are conscientious about picking up.



Photo by Bob Bradley.

But the onset of spring means more people are out and about, so this is a friendly reminder to dog owners to be considerate of our neighbors and do our part to keep the community beautiful.

According to an online source, one 75-pound dog produces 500 pounds of poop a year. Multiply that by the number of dogs in Fairlington, and you get...well, a lot of poop!

Dog waste is not only unpleasant to look at and step in, but also a health and environmental hazard. Pet feces can contaminate the water supply, putting all of us at risk of illness. Left on the ground, it can spread disease and create a messy, unsanitary, and unhealthy situation for everyone—especially the many children in the neighborhood who might play in the grass.

But it's not enough to just pick up after your dog. Owners need to follow through and dispose of poop bags in the trash receptacles provided throughout the neighborhood (also a condo rule). Every day I see poop bags strewn on the ground by owners who must assume that the trash collection crews will find every randomly tossed bag. Again, this is unsightly and unhealthy. Be a good neighbor and take those few extra steps to throw the poop bag away.

Fairlington is a wonderful place to enjoy the outdoors in the spring. Let's all do our part to keep the neighborhood beautiful, safe, and healthy—and still pet-friendly.

—Christine Chirichella

Transit commission to consider BRT along Route 7

Fairlington residents could avoid the traffic going to Tysons Corner by using bus rapid transit (BRT) along Route 7 under a staff recommendation to the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) announced in April. BRT consists primarily of dedicated lanes for buses, enabling them to avoid highway congestion.

The proposed BRT line would connect Tysons with Alexandria by generally following Route 7 from the Spring Hill Metrorail station in Tysons to the intersection of King St. and Beauregard St. near Fairlington, where the BRT line would join the proposed West End Transitway and continue to Mark Center.

"This regional solution will expand travel options in his key corridor," NVTC Chairman Jay Fisette said in a release. "By moving more people faster and more reli-

ability along Route 7, we will reap the benefits—such as reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and traffic congestion—associated with BRT. This solution will connect communities along the corridor and strengthen the region's transportation network." Fisette is a member of the Arlington County Board.

The Commission looked at three transit modes—BRT, light rail, and enhanced bus service. It also considered several different alignments, including terminating the line at the King Street or Van Dorn Street Metrorail stations, in addition to the recommended terminus at Mark Center. Staff concluded that the construction and operating costs for BRT along Route 7 are substantially lower than for light rail.

The Commission plans to hold public meetings in Alexandria, Fairfax, and the City of Falls Church in early June. A vote on the proposal is scheduled for July.

—Guy Land

Fairlington 5K attracts 600 entrants, raises \$30,000



A little spring rain couldn't dampen the spirits of more than 600 participants and those cheering them on at the third annual Fairlington 5K Run/Walk on April 23.

More than \$30,000 was raised from the race and the April 15 silent auction, benefitting Abingdon Elementary School and A Cure for Ellie, a fund set up to help Abingdon second-grader Ellie McGinn, who is battling Leukodystrophy, a rare degenerative brain and spinal cord mitochondrial disease.

"Despite the rain, the turnout was amazing. Everyone who crossed the finish line had a smile on their face," said Joe Reed, organizer of the race and a physical education teacher at Abingdon.

Reed added that over 100 people signed up the day before and the day of the race, which he said is something that didn't happen in previous years.

"Each year when the race has finished, I always realize just how lucky we all are to live in a community that supports their neighbors and school," he said.

Reed reiterated that the event has turned into something of a special one for the community "due to our neighbors, parents, students, and volunteers that help donate both their time and money to put on such a great event."

Although there was no shortage of winners, Thomas Shea, 41, of Arlington was the first to break the tape

with a time of 19:57. Michael Creadon, 48, of Arlington took second (21:03), and Jasper Cooke, 29, of Arlington took third (22:05).

On the women's side, Laure Ball Cooper, 34, of Arlington was first in 22:15, followed by Lara Zoeller, 32, of Alexandria (22:42), and Jessica Deep, 35, of Arlington (22:55).

Reed also made a point of thanking the many sponsors of the race:

Abingdon PTA, Abingdon Gift, Fairlington Citizens Association, A Cure for Ellie, Booz Allen Hamilton, Kay Houghton Realty, The Tom Team (donated ski condo that auctioned for \$600), Jennifir Birtwhistle-Realtor, Haithcock Family (donated a beach house for a week that went to two winners for \$3,000 each at the auction), Fairlington Farmers Market, Gyuricza & Hartman Family & Cosmetic Dentistry, Eat.Yoga.Drink., The Herald Group, LLC, Osteria da Nino, Capitol City Brewing Company, Animal Welfare League of Arlington, Capitol Rehab of Arlington, Copperwood Tavern, The Capital Wheel, The Cookery (formerly Ah Love Oil and Vinegar), Easy Yoga & Café, Dreamtix, Inc., Hilton Garden Inn-Shirlington, Great Harvest Bread Company, Gold's Gym, New District Brewing Company, PR at Partners, Orange Line Sports, Washington Nationals, Washington Capitals, Safeway, Tom Kise Photography, Harth Restaurant, Guy Land, David's II Car Wash & Detail Center.

—Bob Bradley







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— Rick Micker, Former Fairlington Condo VP

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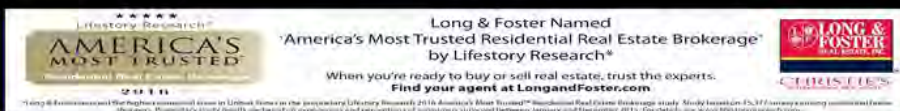


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Abingdon parents celebrate Teacher Appreciation Week

During the first week of May, the Abingdon PTA and numerous parent volunteers worked hard to make teachers and staff feel loved and appreciated. With the theme "How Sweet It Is," the school and entrance was adorned with giant lollipops



Lunch was served in observance of Teacher Appreciation Week at Abingdon Elementary School in mid-May.

and cotton candy sticks, and the interior of the halls filled with giant gumballs, popsicles, and ice cream cones.



There was plenty of ice cream to go around.



Cotton candy! How sweet it is!

On Monday, staff was treated to breakfast, including made-to-order crepes, on Wednesday, a professionally catered lunch and an ice cream social. 15 lucky staff members won a lottery to receive a professional massage right at school. Each day teachers won gift cards and small presents donated by parents.

The Hurst family, Fairlington residents and owners of Great Harvest Bread Company, also donated many



What would Teacher Appreciation Week be without some decorations?

delicious treats for the staff.

"The Teacher Appreciation Week went above and beyond this year," said literacy teacher Ms. Rube.

"Thank you for all the special treats, breakfast, lunch and the ice cream sundae bar. Also, winning the Starbucks card was not too shabby

either. We all felt very loved by the PTA! Thank you to everyone who made it happen!"



PTA volunteers get set to serve lunch from a fine-looking catered spread. Photos by Jen Davies.

"That was the best Teacher Appreciation Week I've seen since I've been teaching and that's two decades or so," said Ms. Firster, gifted resources teacher.

—Jennifer Davies

Key June dates

June 6—Project GIFT Showcase: Musical Performance at WHS

June 10—School Dance, 6:30 pm

June 15—Early Release, 12:26 pm

June 17—Field Day

June 22—Early Release, 12:26 pm

June 22—Fifth-Grade Promotion Ceremony

June 23—Awards Ceremony

June 24—Last Day of School / Early Release, 12:26 pm

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- Sue & Randy, SOLD: Alexandria



"Jen knows how to sell houses & sold ours in 4 days! She *understands* what needs to get done, is friendly, upfront and fair, and is *terrific* at *driving* and *managing* the process. We were very happy working with Jen and would recommend her to all our friends and family."

- Auda & Jeremy, SOLD: Alexandria

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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 enjoyed our visit to Idlywood Grill and Wine Bar and to Beckett's for burgers.

In June, we'll gather only once:

Monday, June 27, 6:30 pm, Whitlow's on Wilson, 2854 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, 703-276-9693. For a change, we'll venture over to Clarendon for Burger Night at Whitlow's; there's also happy hour until 7 pm. Parking nearby is highlighted on their website, www.whitlows.com. Described as the triumph of funky charm, this venerable establishment gets high marks for its burger night.

Please call Carol at 703-379-6840 if you plan to attend, and leave a voicemail if you don't reach her—include your name and how to contact you the day of the event, in case plans change. If you want to receive a copy of these notices early in the previous month, send an email to carol_dabbs@yahoo.com.

Book Group

Join the Fairlington Book Group in June to discuss *Founding Brothers: The Revolutionary Generation*, a study of the intertwined lives of the founders of the American republic—John Adams, Aaron Burr, Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and George Washington.

"In retrospect, it seems as if the American Revolution was inevitable. But was it? In *Founding Brothers*, Joseph J. Ellis reveals that many of those truths we hold to be self-evident were actually fiercely contested in the early days of the republic," says Amazon.com.

The Book Group welcomes first-time visitors and drop-ins. No commitment required! We are meeting on Tuesday, June 28, at 7:30 pm in the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford Street. We hope you'll join us.

Card players welcome

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

Fairlington Babysitting Co-op

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

Email the coordinators, Yulia Tuinstra and Anne Viser, at fairlington.babysitting@gmail.com to request more information and an application.

Celebrate July 4th at annual parade

Commemorate Independence Day with your Fairlington neighbors at the annual July 4th Parade! Decorate your strollers, wagons, bikes, scooters, kids, dogs, cats—even yourselves—in red, white, and blue and meet up with your neighbors at the Fairlington firehouse, 3116 S. Abingdon St., at 9:45 am.

Led by the perennial fife and drum corps, the parade begins at 10 am and marches along S. Abingdon St., concluding at the Fairlington Villages Community Center parking lot, 3005 S. Abingdon St. After the parade, take part in the community-wide after party that includes free cold drinks, ice cream, and hot dogs. Curious children can climb aboard Engine 107 after it finishes bringing up the end of the parade.

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

—Christine Chirichella

Just a few things people are saying about Jim...

Seller Testimonials

Jim Talbert did an excellent job assisting and managing the process for the sale of our condo in Arlington. He has a good understanding of the Arlington housing market. Plus, he was very responsive to our needs, provided constant updates, and followed up on requests - we were remote (California). We highly recommend Jim!

- Arlington VA Seller

"Jim was extremely attentive and knowledgeable as my real estate agent! Jim met with us and explained the home selling process from beginning to end, relieving a lot of the fear and angst one might feel in the process. In fact, Jim suggested the best showing techniques, ran a flawless open house, walked us through an offer, sat with us at settlement and celebrated with us in the end. Jim's real estate knowledge, experience, and friendly demeanor set him apart from other real estate agents. We definitely recommend him to any friends / family looking to buy or sell!"

- Lisa and Ray Briscoe

Buyer Testimonials

"As soon as we started with Jim we began seeing houses immediately. He really took time to understand what we needed and what our constraints were. He only showed us places we would be interested in, advised us about desirable neighborhoods, and most importantly helped us through the process of purchasing a home for the first time. He was great and we intend to recommend him to our friends and family since we may never need to move again." - Will, Reston, VA (Buyer)

"Jim worked hard to ensure I found the right house, in the right location at the right price. He was willing to set appointments and meet me with short notice which was very important for a busy out of town business owner like me. I would recommend him to my friends and anyone looking for a good agent, which in my opinion are very hard to find." - P. Lewis, Alexandria

"Jim Talbert gets an A+++++ for an outstanding job well done! His patience, understanding and knowledge of the industry deserve a trophy. Together with his guidance and assistance, we found our perfect dream home as first time home-owners, and the process went without a hitch. Thank you Jim!" - A. Dewitt



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DOWN TO EARTH patio gardening



When the heat is on, some plants handle it better than others

In early May, I heard a news report saying this summer was going to be hotter than normal. I thought to myself, “normal already is hot enough.” June is our first full month of heat and humidity, and hearing the phrase “heat indexes in the low hundreds” can be exhausting to a gardener.

With such brutal conditions, we have to be careful what we plant. Plants that sit in full sun throughout the summer need to be drought-tolerant with modest water needs. Purchasing and planting the right specimens ensures a healthy garden. Here are suggestions:

Juniper: This evergreen’s foliage can be bluish-green or a dull green. Though its texture is rough to the touch, it tolerates the sun and in some cases, produces pale blue fruit. The specimen comes in vertical shapes (skyscraper or blue point), ground cover (blue star, blue Pacific, or blue rug) or a bowl shape (common juniper).

Crape Myrtle: This tree grows in many sizes, so shop for one of the semi-dwarf cultivars that mature at 5–12 feet tall—ideal for a patio. Varieties usually found at the nursery are acoma (white-flowering), Hopi (light pink), Tonto (fuchsia), and Zuni (lavender). Crape myrtles can take all-day sun. They flower from June 20 to October 7 and are deciduous. Fall leaf colors come in orange, red, and maroon.

Lilac: This is one of the sweetest-smelling flowers, which bloom in lavender or white. Lilacs mature at 10 feet with an 8-foot width, but you may buy one at the nursery much



Small roses of the ‘knockout’ variety. Photo by Bill Sullivan.

smaller and prune it to a modest size. They become multi-trunked at the base, so situate the specimen in a corner. The Korean lilac (which resembles a shrub rather than a small tree) is usually sold at nurseries.

Rose: Purchase small ones in the ‘knockout’ variety. They foliate to the ground (unlike our grandmother’s leggy, thorn-filled varieties), which is more attractive. Knockout balloons to 6-feet tall and 5-feet wide, but can be pruned to a desirable patio size. This rose flowers from spring into early winter.

Euonymus: This is a perplexing genius to identify since it has so many different habits. Green spire has dark green leaves (one-inch, ovals) with branches that extend like candelabra. Silver King has vibrant white variegation on the leaf, which brightens a nighttime landscape. Winter Creeper is a crawling ground cover with white variegation on tiny leaves that turn a light pink in winter.

Salvia: An evergreen ground cover that loves heat and flowers in purple, white, or pink spikes in late spring through summer. Its foliage is basal (at the bottom) and clumped. It’s a member of the mint family with aromatic leaves. Salvia is a perfect accent or border plant.

Miscanthus: Commonly called Maiden Grass, it has cultivars with different blade shapes and markings. Gracillimus has slender blades with a thin white line down the center. Zeb-rinus has horizontal, buff markings on half-inch-wide blades. Cabaret has a thick blade with white stirpes down the center. Prune this specimen to the ground in late November so new spring growth isn’t cluttered with the previous year’s dieback.

—Bill Sullivan
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Fairlington Park, continued from page 7

The track around the field will be resurfaced, and the field will remain as open space to accommodate a variety of uses. Other enhancements will likely include more seating and picnic tables near the playground and enhanced landscaping near the Utah St. entrance. The county is also looking at enhancing the existing storm-water retention area.

According to Aaron Wohler, the county's landscape architect, the county is seeking community feedback on the plans for the renovation. Once resident comments have been considered, the county will move forward with detailed plans for the project. He hopes construction can begin early next spring, with completion near the end of 2017.

—Guy Land

Property taxes, continued from page 5

Also, for taxpayers experiencing financial hardship and unable to pay their real estate taxes by the due date, the Treasurer's Office, in partnership with a local bank, offers a Taxpayer Assistance Program (TAP).

TAP provides an interest-free, short-term loan, paid in 6–10 monthly installments, without a credit check. A small, nonrefundable origination fee payable to the bank is a requirement with the TAP application. Please visit the Treasurer's Office before June 15 to complete an application. For more information, email treasureroperations@arlingtonva.us or call 703-228-4000.

14th annual No Kid Hungry bake sale on July 4

Mark your calendars for the 14th annual July 4th bake sale for No Kid Hungry, sponsored by Fairlington Commons Condo Association and presented nationwide by Share Our Strength, a non-profit organization dedicated toward ending childhood hunger in America. To date, Fairlington has generously raised over \$17,000 for this worthwhile organization. Bake.NoKidHungry.org

Please bring home baked treats of muffins, cookies, cakes, and pies to the tables in the North Fairlington Community Center parking lot (in front of the tennis courts), between 9 and 10 am the morning of July 4. (No fillings or frosting as they will melt in the hot July sun.)

Following the parade, come and purchase goodies and raffle tickets to win gifts donated by local supermarkets, restaurants, and shops.

To volunteer to help sell, or with questions, contact Cathy Malin (cmalin10@verizon.net).

We can all “bake a difference” in support of kids!

—Cathy Malin

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Member who will address our current challenges while still investing in our County’s future.

As a County Board member, I’ll draw from my experiences as a community activist, APS parent, and successful small businessman to help Arlington thrive.”

- Erik Gutshall



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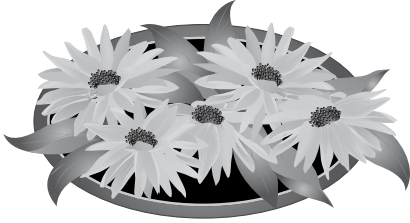
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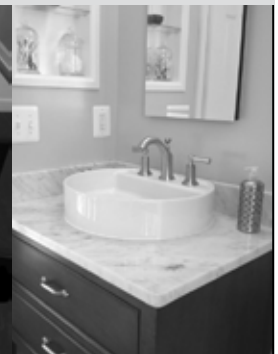
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SOLD

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Rita Tassa, *Realtor*
Cell: 703.629.8624
brtassa@gmail.com
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Reelect

LIBBY

Libby Garvey for
Arlington County Board



Dear Fairlington Friends & Neighbors,

I have lived in Fairlington for almost 40 years, and know that it is an amazing place to live, work, and raise a family; but we have the potential to be even better! I've served you for almost 20 years and I ask for your vote on June 14th so that I can continue working to realize the great potential of our community. -- Libby

VOTE JUNE 14, 2016

6:00 AM – 7:00 PM

North Fairlington

Abingdon School

3035 S Abingdon St

South Fairlington

Fairlington Community Ctr.

3308 S Stafford St

Vote absentee: 2100 Clarendon Blvd, Mon-Fri 8 am – 5 pm & Sat 6/11 8:30 am – 5 pm

libbygarvey.com f /libbygarveypage @libbygarvey

Paid for and Authorized by Libby Garvey for Arlington County Board

Mini-ads

Publication of advertisements in no way implies an endorsement by the FCA or its board members of the advertisers' products or services.

Services

INCOME TAXES. We can prepare your Federal and State Income Taxes. Fairlington homeowners our specialty for over 30 years. Convenient Mark Center/N. Beauregard Street office, with evening and weekend hours. 30% discount for Fairlington residents. Visit www.cpa-coker.com for more information, directions. Call for an appointment with a FREE retirement check-up included. (703) 931-3290.

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

COMPUTER HELP. Fairlington resident will troubleshoot problems with computers and other electronic equipment. Jim (703) 820-8767.

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SULLIVAN'S LANDSCAPING. Enrich your patio with flowers, evergreens, pruning and a fresh mulching. Contact Bill Sullivan for a free estimate. I've been beautifying Fairlington patios for 30 years. Billsullivan41@gmail.com 571.213.9567.

GROW YOUR OWN VEGGIES WITH SPROUT! Do you wish you could have your own vegetable garden, but not sure where to start, or don't have the time or energy? Sprout can



Enhance your community by volunteering for FCA activities.

help! Our team of Master Gardeners & Growers will create your very own organic vegetable garden, right in your Fairlington patio or balcony. Now is the last chance to get your summer garden going for this season, so contact us for free consultations in June (Rebecca@SproutKitchenGardens.com). Learn more at SproutKitchenGardens.com, or follow us on Facebook for garden-to-kitchen recipes and gardening tips.

PERSONAL TRAINING. Get in shape for summer now! Specializing in training all ages 50+. Lose 10-30 lbs. No flabby arms. Tight abs. Firm thighs. Private training with Betty. Over 25 years proven experience. Call 703-998-0866 now to get a free consultation. ultimaterunner@verizon.net

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

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

BATHROOMS AND KITCHENS. NEW WEBSITE. www.fairlingtonbathroomsandkitchens.com

KITCHEN CABINETS AND COUNTERTOPS. We found a supplier with quality cabinets and countertops at really affordable prices. Call Fairlington Maintenance Service. 571-212-4151. Visit us on the web: www.fairlingtonbathroomsandkitchens.com

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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.

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GRACE & ALBERTO. Alberto Matias Construction. Serving Arlington and Alexandria since 1989. New patios. Sidewalks: stone, natural brick, or pavers. gracedelcarmenmatias@gmail.com 703-795-4506.

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

Mini-ads

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

FAIRLINGTON MAID SERVICE. 703-820-8635. We are family owned and operated serving Fairlington since 1978. Your neighbor is our best reference. Call for a no obligation free estimate and detailed explanation of our services.

HOUSE CLEANING. Reliable and experienced. Good references. Flexible scheduling. Reasonable rates. We are licensed, insured, and employees covered through Worker's Comp. We bring our own equipment. Weekly, biweekly,

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PET & PLANTCARE BY GERRI, LLC. Reliable, loving care for your dogs, cats, rabbits, birds, or fish. Petsitting, playgroups, walks, feedings, medications. Indoor/outdoor plantcare. Established 1999 by 19-year Parkfairfax resident; bonded and insured. Competitive rates; flexible arrangements. Call 703-379-7719.

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

PET SITTING, DOG WALKING. Longtime Fairlington resident now retired. Very reasonable rates! Call Barbara at 703-307-7749 or email bramsey937@hotmail.com



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

For sale: Fairlington T-shirts

Show your neighborhood pride with a Fairlington T-shirt. T-shirts are \$15 and available in white or hunter green in 100% cotton. Sizes S, M, L, and X-L. Child sizes are also available.

To place your order: email president@fca-fairlington.org or contact any FCA board member.

MINI-ADS INSTRUCTIONS

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

- Checks payable to "Fairlington Citizens Association."
- Send mini-ad copy via email, regular mail, or drop off at FCA drop box.
- Send checks via regular mail or drop off at FCA drop box.

E-mail: admanager@fca-fairlington.org

Mailing Address: FCA-AFB, PO Box 6182, Arlington, VA 22206-0182.

Drop Box Location: Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. (Hours: 8 am – 9 pm, M-F, 8 am – 5 pm, Saturday; closed Sunday.)

Cost: 50 cents per word. Examples: "998-0000" and "stove" = one word; "interior/exterior" = two words.

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

30% Discount on Tax Preparation

We can prepare your Federal & State income taxes. Fairlington homeowners our specialty for 25 years. Convenient Mark Center / N. Beauregard St. office.



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4800 S. 31st Street, Arlington, VA 22206

office # 703.998.3111

Follow us on Facebook at Long & Foster Fairlington



Please join us on
Saturday, June 25th
from 12-3pm for a
Community Cookout!

Event will take place in the Long & Foster parking lot located at 4800 S. 31st Street.

RSVP is appreciated, but not required.

Call 703.998.3111 to RSVP

or for any questions. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Food, drinks, & fun provided by
Long & Foster Realtors & Insurance,
Prosperity Mortgage, and RGS Title.

3344 Wakefield Street #A
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Call her for more details.
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4829 27th Rd, S
2BR/2BA Clarendon II model
End unit
Listed for \$424,500
by Kristin Usaitis.
Call her for more details.
703.863.0367

3014 S. Buchanan Street
2BR/2BA Full Size Clarendon
model—Interior unit
Listed for \$450,000
by Dayna Wagner.
Call her for more details.
703.447.7268

Looking for a change? Check out these listings.



Porto Vecchio
1250 Washington Street #804, Alexandria
Listed for \$499,00 by Julie Flory and
Joanne Ritchick. Call Julie for more details
703-599-3111



Ridge View
4005 Javins Drive, Alexandria
Listed for \$465,000 by Dayna Wagner
Call her for more details 703-447-7268



Oak Run Park
4917 Tunlaw Street, Alexandria
Listed for \$679,000 by Julie Flory and
Joanne Ritchick. Call Julie for more
details 703-599-3111