

all FAIRLINGTON BULLETIN



www.fca-fairlington.org

MAY 2011

Volume 37, Number 5

Libby Garvey to report on APS's wealth of students—they test schools capacity

FCA monthly meeting

Wednesday, May 11, 7 p.m.

Fair Golds business meeting

Thursday, May 5, noon
FCC

MOMS Club meeting

Wednesday, May 11
FCC
Call for details.

FHS Home & Garden Tour

Saturday, May 14, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Fairlington

Fairlington Diners

Monday, May 16, 7:30 p.m.
Ramparts Restaurant
Alexandria

Fair Golds spring luncheon

Thursday, May 19, noon
Fort Myer Officers Club

Invasive plants removal

Saturday, May 21, 9 a.m. – noon
32nd Road S., Fairlington

Fairlington Diners

Monday, May 30, 6:30 p.m.
Indigo Landing
Alexandria

Memorial Day

Monday, May 30



APS Chair Libby Garvey.

Finding room for 5,000 more students over the next five years is the primary challenge facing Arlington Public Schools, according to county school board members who reviewed the topic for the Arlington Civic Federation this spring. At the May FCA meeting, School Board Chair Libby Garvey will provide further details about schools capacity, the major issue affecting APS, as well as share insights about the new Superintendent, APS's investments in instruction, and plans for the new Wakefield High School.

Enrollment in K through 12 is projected to grow from 21,000 this year to 26,000 by 2016, significantly exceeding the current capacity of the school system. APS

projections indicate that in just two years, there will be 834 more students than seats, and that increase will climb to 3,300 more students than seats in 2016. Enrollment at Abingdon Elementary is projected to grow from 552 students this fall to 629 in the fall of 2016, an increase of 14 percent. "Essentially, we're growing by one elementary school per year," said Garvey of APS.

The boom in enrollment reflects a variety of residential and demographic trends, including continued county growth, more children being born in the county, and more families with small children staying in the county rather than moving away as their children reach school age. To address the capacity challenge, the school board will look at a range of options, like increasing class sizes, relying on more "relocatables," or trailers, using different configurations of space, and potentially constructing one or more new schools. As ever, the difficulty is funding and coordinating the needs for capital investment across all county departments and projects, Garvey said.

A Fairlington resident for more than 30 years, Garvey served as president of the Abingdon PTA when her children were in school. She joined the school board fifteen years ago and has served as Chair four times. Currently, she is a candidate for the Virginia Senate in the 30th district.

Continued on page 3

Coming up ...

The FCA Board invites all Fairlington residents to attend its meetings, which occur on the second Wednesday of the month unless otherwise noted. If you would like to discuss a neighborhood issue at the meeting, please e-mail president@fca-fairlington.org or leave a voice-mail message at 703-243-1735 by the Sunday before the meeting. You can find more information on the FCA Web site, www.fca-fairlington.org, and by logging on to Facebook and joining "Fairlington Appreciation Society."

Preliminary agenda:

7 p.m. Speaker/presentation: Arlington School Board Chair Libby Garvey will discuss issues of current interest as the school year winds down.

8 p.m. Regular business meeting:

- Approval of April minutes
- Treasurer's report
- Old business
- New business
- Officer and committee reports

Sign up for updates

Visit www.fca-fairlington.org to sign up for neighborhood news delivered right to your inbox.

AFB on the Web

The AFB is posted online at www.fca-fairlington.org a week earlier than the hard copy hits your front stoop.

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	800-552-7001
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	Bob Laser (FAA) bob.laser@faa.gov

Fairlington Citizens Association

PO Box 6182 • Arlington, VA 22206-0182
703-243-1735 • president@fca-fairlington.org

Board of Directors

Officers

Reed Franklin, *President*
Rosiland Jordan, *Vice President*
Carol Dabbs, *Secretary*
Ed Hilz, *Treasurer*

Directors

Kent Duffy
Mark Jones
Brenda Kriegel
Guy Land
Bryan Pettigrew

Fairlington-Shirlington Neighborhood Conservation Committee

Chair: Ed Hilz • 703-379-6435 • treasurer@fca-fairlington.org

All Fairlington Bulletin

Published monthly by the FCA
Circulation: 3,449 households

Editor: Gretchen Fallon

Assistant Editor: Christine Chirichella

Advertising Manager: Beth Andrews

Distribution Manager: Noemi Rivera

— DEADLINE —

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

Send material on disk with paper proof to:

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

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 703-243-1735 #1.

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

Publication of advertisements in no way implies an endorsement by the FCA or its board members of the advertisers' products or services. AFB reserves the right to refuse any advertisement based upon either content or artistic expression. The opinions expressed by columnists and letter writers are theirs and should not be taken as reflecting the opinions of the FCA or its board members. AFB reserves the right to edit or refuse contributions. All photographs are © copyright the photographer or source identified.

Fairlington is a National Register and Virginia Landmark Historic District

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

Copyright © 2009, Fairlington Citizens Association

Designed and printed by Global Printing, Inc.

Calendar, cont.

See Neighborhood News on pages 23 – 24 and related articles for details about calendar events.

Contents

Features

Libby Garvey to speak.	1
Mary Hynes on budget news . . .	5
Real estate tax rate unchanged . .	5
Firehouse facts.	7
Farewell, Captain Nuneville . . .	7
Street milling/paving to begin . .	9
Improved sight lines at King. . .	9
Sewer project repair.	9
Light poles fixed at Utah Park . .	9
Homes & gardens on parade. . .	11
Remove invasive plants here . .	11
FINS' summer swim season. . .	13
Bike safety tips	13
BRAC update.	15
County unstressed says AP . . .	15
Crime rate down.	15
Free plant clinics.	15

Departments

Community Center news	17
Patio gardening.	19
Abingdon School news.	21
Neighborhood news	23
Mini-ads	25

Some images in this publication may be digitally enhanced.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Fairlingtonians,

Fairlington lies in Arlington County—but not entirely. As most people know, a curious bit of boundary-drawing lands a few blocks of Fairlington Villages in the City of Alexandria. My house, right on the 30th Street circle, is in Arlington, but my neighbors on the other side of Columbus Street find themselves in Alexandria.

Does this really matter? For internal Fairlington issues, no, it does not matter at all. The condo association and the Fairlington Citizens Association both serve all Fairlington residents equally. However, I have been observing how elected officials in both jurisdictions look out for the issues of concern to Fairlington residents, and I do see a difference.

In March, I applauded the decision of the Virginia Department of Transportation to drop plans to convert the successful HOV lanes (high occupancy vehicle) on I-395 into HOT lanes (high occupancy toll). This ill-conceived plan would have imposed hardship on car poolers and those of us who ride the bus as well as increase cut-through traffic on local streets and endanger pedestrian safety. In that column I praised Arlington's elected leadership for filing a lawsuit that forced state and federal agencies to re-examine the issue more carefully. Alexandria declined to join the lawsuit.

In April I outlined the problems that the BRAC 133 complex will bring because of inadequate transportation planning and a terrible choice of location for the entire project. (*See the update on page 15.*) What I should have added is that Alexandria's elected officials, sadly, did not adopt the same wise approach that their counterparts in Arlington have taken on issues like this.

Arlington took the State to court over HOT lanes rather than lie down and let people in the outer suburbs pave over our area so they could have an autobahn. Alexandria welcomed BRAC on Seminary Road, even though there was an alternate site that provided better access to public transportation and avoided many of the problems we are now facing. Reportedly, the city's goal was to keep the new construction (and its potential revenue stream) inside Alexandria at all costs, and common sense be damned. The city did not stand up for smart growth, development congruent with public transportation, or the reduction of traffic impacts.

We can only hope they act with more wisdom in the future, and that they learn from their counterparts in Arlington.

Reed Franklin
president@fca-fairlington.org

BONNIE B's CURRENT ATTRACTIONS

STUNNING CLARENDON IN PARK LIKE SETTING



REMAX Allegiance

Bonnie B (703) 801-7592
Your Fairlington Specialist!
remaxbon@yahoo.com

More details at
www.fairlington.com

**For a Showing,
Call Bonnie B**

**Contact Me for a
FREE MARKET
ANALYSIS!**



Mary Hynes reports encouraging budget news

Fresh from budget deliberations, Arlington County Board Vice Chair Mary Hynes spoke at the FCA meeting in April. The biggest news, and the happiest for Arlington County homeowners, was that the real estate (RE) tax rate would remain flat—that is, the rate would not be increased over last year's rate for RE taxes paid in calendar year 2011. (*See the box, below.*) Because of the county's overall improved financial outlook, said Hynes, "we will be in a position, in fiscal year 2012, to maintain the safety net and help people in need, in addition to meeting all our other commitments."

Among other budget items of interest, Hynes noted that the board would make a "modest restoration" of operating hours at branch libraries: At the Shirlington and Columbia Pike libraries, three hours one day a week would be restored, and the branches would be open an additional four hours on Sundays. Also, some funding was restored for park maintenance and tree planting.

One new pilot program has exciting potential to help alcohol-abusing kids, Hynes believes. Survey data from middle- and high-school students reported an increase in binge drinking—higher than in surrounding areas and higher than the national incidence. Examining the survey's findings, the board uncovered the fact that there is a general reluctance to "lower the boom" the first time a teen or pre-teen is caught drinking. Primarily, there was no systematic, well-thought-out way to deal appropriately with, say, an inebriated 15-year-old kid. The pilot program offers an aggressive early intervention, which coordinates the efforts of the police, courts, schools, and families, and which includes education, assessment, and parent participation. Perhaps most important, the intervention is activated the very first time a kid gets caught. The county is committed to two years of the pilot program, so that there will be sufficient time to gather data and do a thorough review of the program's effectiveness in advance of budget deliberations for FY2014.

Hynes also spoke about projects in the CIP, or Capital Improvement Plan. One in particular, the Columbia Pike streetcar line, has recently evolved and gained wider interest among neighboring jurisdictions. Northern Virginia Community College, in Alexandria, has proposed that some land it owns be provided for the streetcar's terminus, "bus barn," and maintenance facility. The line

would begin at NOVA, then run westward along Route 7/King Street, connect with Columbia Pike, run east along the Pike to the Pentagon and Pentagon City, extend via a completed 12th Street to Crystal Drive, and then run south to Potomac Yard and into Alexandria. The simple idea, with, of course, complex construction requirements, is to help people get around and connect neighborhoods with dependable transport.



Arlington County Board Vice Chair Mary Hynes with FCA president Reed Franklin. Photograph by Gretchen Fallon.

For more information about the Arlington County budget, go online to www.arlingtonva.us and search budget.

Real estate tax rate does not increase

Arlington's real estate (RE) tax rate for calendar year 2011 will not change from CY 2010's rate of 95.8 cents per \$100 of assessed value, according to final budget guidance issued by the County Board last month. (Last year, the RE tax rate was increased 8.3 cents.) This year, County Manager Barbara Donnellan had proposed that the tax rate hold steady, but the board had considered a rate increase—the slightly higher rate "advertised" in February. In April, the board had the option to approve their advertised rate or a lower rate (but not a higher one). RE tax bills will be mailed this month; first installment payments are due in June. Even without an increase in the RE tax rate, county revenues will be bolstered in fiscal year 2012 by a 6.3 percent rise in property assessments, which reflect "market values" and are set on January 1 every year by the Assessor's Office. FY2012 begins on July 1, 2011.

Can **summer** get any **hotter?**



THE
ENERGY
FITNESS CLUB

ALWAYS WITH YOU!

Yes, and you can too!

Be fit in time for summer! More energy, less stress and a better body are just a few of the differences you will notice with a healthier, more active lifestyle. Everything is better with friends, so we are offering you the opportunity to **commit to get fit this month with a friend!** See for yourself the difference only The Energy Fitness Club can provide.

COMMIT TO GET FIT TOGETHER!

Join for \$0!

HURRY!
OFFER EXPIRES
05.31.2011!

FREE OFFER FOR YOU AND A FRIEND

3 DAY FREE TRIAL MEMBERSHIP

Simply present this ad at the club and GET STARTED TODAY!

Check us out on...



www.theenergyclub.com



Shirlington Village,
2900 S. Quincy Street,
Arlington, VA 22206

703-824-0600

*MUST BE 18 YEARS OR OLDER, LOCAL RESIDENT AND FIRST-TIME GUEST.
ACTIVATE BY 05.31.2011. ID REQUIRED. SOME RESTRICTIONS APPLY.

Firehouse facts

At the March FCA meeting, Arlington County Fire Department Captain Rudy Eversburg described the kinds of calls Fairlington's Fire Station 7 responds to. Last year, there were 1,547 calls, which averages out to about four runs per day: 2 % were for fires; 61% were EMS runs (all ACFD firefighters are EMT-Bs, basic life support); 7% were public service calls (e.g., for slip-and-falls when, say, a person falls and can't get up); 8% were good intent calls; 12 % were false alarms; 7% were miscellaneous.

Captain Eversburg noted that people often apologize when the call turns out to be a false alarm or something less than an emergency. His response: Call 911. Don't hesitate to call. ACFD much prefers that you do call rather than wait and wonder if a situation will develop into an emergency.

It's interesting to know that the Fairlington firehouse is uniquely placed to provide mutual aid to Alexandria. In fact, 65% of the station's call volume and work involves Alexandria; 35% is in Arlington. Of course, the local area is still well covered when Engine 107 responds to an Alexandria call. Captain Eversburg noted that Fire

Station 9, on Walter Reed Drive, is frequently less than 60 seconds behind Fairlington firefighters when both respond to an incident south of here.



ACFD Captain Rudy Eversburg and FCA president Reed Franklin. Photograph by Gretchen Fallon.

House fires today most commonly involve space heaters during the winter months. The reason is that in older homes, the electrical wiring is older, and older wiring cannot support the demands of these appliances. Which points to a basic safety concern for those of us who live in homes built during World War II where we use more and more electrical appliances. Captain Eversburg's recommendations come not only from expertise but also from the experience of doing a home kitchen remodel: Have your wiring checked and "up your amps." Don't overload elec-

trical outlets. Use surge protectors that can be switched on and off. Do not use cheap extension cords, because the quality of wiring is important. An overloaded wire is a hot wire—and it will fail.

For more information, go online to the county Web site, www.arlingtonva.us, click Departments > Fire. Also, you can follow firehouse activities on Facebook at ACFD Fire Station 7.

Farewell to ACPD Captain Nuneville



*Captain Michelle Nuneville.
Photograph by Gretchen Fallon.*

The Fairlington community extends all best wishes to Arlington County Police Department Captain Michelle Nuneville, formerly the Third District commander, as she assumes her new position as commander of the ACPD Criminal Investigations Section. For the last four years, Captain Nuneville has helped demystify the work-

ings of the police for Fairlington residents by providing candid assessments of annual crime statistics and crime prevention tips at FCA meetings—always with good humor and abundant common sense. As the public face of ACPD for Fairlington, Captain Nuneville and her team were responsive to residents' concerns—cars ignoring stop signs, speeding on the bridge, and pedestrian safety, to name a few. She was a welcome presence at the neighborhood's July 4th parade and at Fairlington Day. She was quick to return a phone call or respond to an e-mail inquiry. She will be missed. At the same time, we welcome and look forward to meeting the new Third District commander, Captain Brett Butler, who knew the area years ago as a patrol officer.

LOOK WHAT THE TOM TEAM HAS BEEN SELLING IN FAIRLINGTON!

**BOTH SOLD IN
LESS THAN 5 DAYS
AND ONE WITH
MULTIPLE OFFERS!**



SOLD - \$434,900 - Clarendon



SOLD - \$435,000 - Clarendon



THE TOM TEAM PRESENTS YOUR BILL OF RIGHTS

**Here's what we promise you*

- We save you thousands of dollars:
We saved our last client \$14,000 dollars.
- We get your home ready to sell and sold for our record selling prices (we have Professional Photographers, Professional Stagers, Contractors, Movers and Storage, Cleaners... everything you need to help us get your home ready).
- If you're staying in the area we will help you find your next home! Tom's lived in Northern Virginia for 43 years and knows every square mile of the DC area.
- Advise you on pricing your home with our Competitive Market Analysis. Tom's extensive marketing background ensures you getting top dollar for your home!

UNDER CONTRACT



Barcroft
4803 30th St. S #A1



Clarendon
2828 S. Columbus St.



**4079 Four Mile Run
Dr. S #102
Shirlington**

The Tom Team Taking The Bite out of Real Estate... Saving you Thousands!



Each office is independently owned and operated.



Call Tom for a Free Market Analysis to get your home in the record books and learn how to save Thousands when working with The Tom Team.

www.TheTomTeam.com



Cell: 703.314.7374 • tom@thetomteam.com • www.TheTomTeam.com

Facelift for neighborhood streets

The county's Department of Environmental Services will conduct milling and paving operations on certain Fairlington streets during the summer street repair program.

- South Stafford, from the South 32nd Road intersection (one block from Quaker Lane) to the South 33rd Street intersection
- South 36th Street, from South Wakefield to South 34th
- South Columbus Street, from South 30th to South 31st

Milling and paving is a two-stage process that eliminates existing pot holes and creates a new, smooth road surface. First, temporary "NO PARKING" signs will be posted on your block displaying restrictive times and dates when the top layer of asphalt will be milled, or ground off; utilities will be adjusted and the signs removed. Second, within a two week period, the temporary "NO PARKING" signs will be posted again displaying times and dates when the street will be overlaid with two to three inches of hot-mix asphalt. The signs will be removed after the work is completed. Vehicles parked on the street in work areas *will be towed*.

The street repair work typically begins in April and continues through early October. A parking notice letter will be mailed to affected residents about four to six weeks before the work in our neighborhood begins. For more information, call the Water/Sewer/Streets Bureau, Francis Soulamany, 703-228-7822 or Hung Tran at 703-228-7730, 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. weekdays.



The big dig, postscript: Major work on the sanitary sewer system replacement project around the intersection of S. Utah and 34th Streets was completed this winter. But the no parking signs went back up for three weeks in April when the county returned to do remedial work on a segment of defective pipe that caused a sag in the line on 34th between Utah and the traffic circle. Construction crews excavated, exposed the affected section of pipe, and repaired the defect. *Photograph by Gretchen Fallon.*

Weed trees removed for a clearer view at King



A Fairlington resident expressed concern to the FCA about safety at the intersection of S. Wakefield and King Streets because of the overgrown shrubbery in the public right-of-way on the north side of King. Trees and shrubs obscured the line-of-sight for drivers trying to exit Fairlington and make a right turn onto westbound King—one had to pull far forward

through the crosswalk in order to get a view of King's oncoming traffic. Pedestrians, too, who were trying to cross King, found it necessary to advance into the travel lanes to check for oncoming traffic (even with a signal crossing, it's prudent to check, rather than take it on trust that drivers will stop at the red light). Because the right-of-way along King Street is owned by the City of Alexandria, the FCA contacted the city arborist's office to request that the greenery/shrubbery be cut back. Alexandria pruned bushes and evergreens and removed weed trees in April. *Photograph by Gretchen Fallon.*



New light poles:

During a routine inspection of athletic fields by the county's Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources Department in March, it was found that the lights at the Utah Park ball field needed to be replaced for safety. The work, dependent on no rain and 50-degree weather,

was ongoing in mid-April. PRCR's goal was to have the work completed and the field available in time for the spring sports season. For more information, contact the PRCR facilities scheduling unit at 703-228-1805. *Photograph by Gretchen Fallon.*



House Cleaning Services
703.508.6600 - 703.642.1188
www.VACleaning.com
do it online...

SPRING IS BACK!

Let us get your home ready...

VA *Cleaning*
family of services



LAWN DOCTOR

*For All Your
Lawn Service
Needs*

- Mulching
- Shrub Pruning
- Perimeter Pest Control
- General Yard Clean-Up
- Leaf Removal & Vacuuming
- Aeration and Power Seeding
- Fertilization and Weed Control
- Ornamental Tree & Shrub Care
- Custom Weekly Mowing Service
(Includes Mowing, Edging and String Trimming)
- Group Discounts for Neighboring Properties

Email or Call for a FREE Estimate!

Group4@LawnDoctor.com

703-378-8000



CLOSE YOUR EYES

*Dream of your perfected home.
Then give us a call.*

703.933.8900

We do more than
Fairlington Windows and Doors

FAIRWD.COM



KITCHENS



BASEMENTS



BATHROOMS

Help remove invasive plants from Fairlington's little forest

You can help clear invasive plants from a singular patch of woodland in Fairlington on Saturday, May 21, between 9 a.m. and noon. Join your neighbors at the stand of trees that descends from the northern boundary fence of the community center and runs along S. 32nd Road between S. Stafford and Utah—it's that little wooded hillside you've probably driven past a dozen times (hundreds, maybe, if you live in the Green or the Commons). Despite warming temperatures, wear long sleeves, long pants, and gloves—*poison ivy alert!* If you have them, bring loppers, pruning shears, or secateurs. Look for naturalist and Fairlington Green resident Lenny Bankester, who will point out the noxious invaders and organize volunteers' efforts.

Bankester, who has just completed graduate studies in natural resource management, hatched the idea to reclaim the 32nd Road tree stand during his daily commute. Standing at the bus stop at the corner of 32nd and S. Stafford, he found his attention drawn to the variety of birds flitting about the overgrown, untended plot of urban wilderness in front of him. A year ago, he spotted a red-bellied woodpecker at work hollowing out a nesting cavity at the top of a dead tree (despite the bird's name, red is most prominent on the head). He also

noted that warblers use the woody patch as a migrating way-station. The birds led Bankester to closer scrutiny of the habitat—a mixture of some Virginia natives like pine, locust, and mountain laurel and some not-so-welcome imports, like English ivy.

Ivy is the woodland's primary invader. Still favored as an



At the woodland patch, Lenny Bankester points to a thick poison ivy vine growing up a tree amid English ivy. Photograph by Gretchen Fallon.

evergreen, ornamental ground cover by many gardeners, ivy is decried by parks and landscape managers as an aggressive garden escapee that can take over and damage a natural environment with its aggressive growth. Hugging the ground, dense, low-growing ivy blocks sunlight and smothers native plants—it also harbors mosquitoes and rodents. The tree-climbing, or “arborescent,” variety of ivy can add sufficient weight to weaken and topple trees. Left unmanaged, ivy will simply crowd out other plants.

Bankester began to pull the ivy during the chill, blustery days of March and April because, at that time, it was easy to see before the spring green-up began. The pulling continues this month on Arlington's Neighborhood Day, Saturday, May 21.

For more information, contact Lenny Bankester by e-mail, vsonorthvirginia@yahoo.com.

FHS Home & Garden Tour, Saturday May 14

The Fairlington Historical Society hosts its 5th biennial Home and Garden Tour, on Saturday, May 14, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. In addition to showcasing the community's architecture, grounds, and the unique character of our neighborhoods, this year's tour will feature a wonderful group of homes with renovated kitchens and bathrooms, tasteful interior decoration and beautiful gardens.

You can pick up reserved tickets, or purchase additional tickets, at the Fairlington yard sale at the North Fairlington Community Center, 3005 S. Abingdon Street,



on Saturday, April 30, 8 a.m. to noon. Tickets may also be picked up or purchased at the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford Street, on Friday, May 6, 6 to 8 p.m., and at the NFCC starting at 10 a.m. on the morning of the tour.

If you'd like to help with the tour, we are still seeking a few more home sitters to guide tour participants through featured homes. Shifts last just two and a half hours, so home sitters can tour the other homes. Send an e-mail to FHSHomeTour@gmail.com or call Kevin Silvia or Patsy Hester at 703-578-3824.



For Estimates & Consultations:

703-354-4270

sales@gmsgservices.com

www.gmsgservices.com



Family Owned & Operated
Quality Workmanship
Licensed & Insured
References Always Available
Professional, Dependable, Honest Service

*Home Remodeling Professionals
Serving the Northern Virginia area Since 1985*

"Small enough to care. Big enough to do it right."



*Hundreds of satisfied customers in the
Fairlington Village community*

Bathroom & Kitchen Remodeling
Basement Finishing
Custom Closets & Shelving
Sunrooms & Screened-in Porches
Marble & Ceramic Installation
Decks, Patios, Walkways
Painting & Wall Paper Hanging
Window & Door Replacement
Crown Molding, Chair Rail & Trim
Hardwood Floor Installation & Refinishing
Countertop & Cabinet Installation
Custom Built-ins & Entertainment Units

...Our Limit is YOUR Imagination!



*The summer rush is on.
Call now for the best prices
& most flexible scheduling options*



Save \$50 off any service or project valued at \$500 or more. Or save \$150 off any project valued at \$1,000 or more. Discount will be applied to your final statement. Not valid with any other offers or jobs already in progress. Mention promo code FVC063011. Expires June 30, 2011



Scan this tag with your Mobile phone to download Our contact information Directly to your phone



Get your FINS on—summer swim program for children 5 – 14

Fairlington FINS, “Friends Interested in Neighborhood Swimming,” is an instructional and fun community-based summer swim program for children ages 5 to 14 now celebrating its 13th anniversary.

FINS will be held July 5 – 29, 2011. Practices are held at four south Fairlington pools (a different pool each week). Each week includes four afternoon practices Monday through Thursday; 3:30 – 4 p.m. (ages 5-6), 4 – 4:40 p.m. (ages 7-8), and 4:40 – 5:20 p.m. (ages 9-12). Swim meets are held on Fridays (no afternoon practice) starting at 6 p.m. and running about 1.5 hours.

Daily swim practices focus on the introduction and refinement of children’s swimming skills. With the exception of a child who is very afraid of the water or reluctant to participate, there are no swimming requirements for acceptance into the program. He/she will be in a group of 15 or more, so must be comfortable with that size class. Meets consist of two or three races for each child. Younger children can use a kickboard or noodle. The meets are very informal (we do not race against other teams) and all racers receive a ribbon. Parents will



Photograph by Dana Andy.

be asked to help at the meets, calling the races, ribbon writing, and helping the coaches organize the races.

FINS registration forms, including a more detailed schedule and information sheet, will be available Monday,

May 2, via e-mail or for pick up at the Fairlington Community Center. Only 50 children will be accepted on a first come, first served basis. The cost for the season is \$45 per child for Fairlington residents (\$50 for non-residents).

Please read carefully for new registration policies: Due to the increasing popularity of FINS, we are implementing a new, three-tier registration procedure. FINS

registration for returning FINS participants and their eligible siblings (Fairlington residents) will be May 2 to May 15. Beginning Monday, May 16, new FINS participants (Fairlington residents) can register. Beginning June 6, if there are any remaining slots, non-Fairlington residents may register. For forms or more information, contact Dana Andy at 571-236-1648 or theandyfamily@comcast.net.

—Dana Andy

Bike with safety in mind

May is National Bike Month, and Friday May 20 is Arlington’s bike to work day. You can find out more and pre-register for this free event at BikeArlington.com. And then brush up on the rules of the road, basic biking facts, and safety tips from Arlington County Police Department auxiliary officer Heather Hurlock:

- Cycling rule of thumb—Ride on the right and stop at the light. On the street, bike riders are subject to the same rules of the road as car drivers. You cannot stop or park your bike in a bike lane.
- More than 400 bikes were stolen in Arlington last year. If you do not use a U lock, your bike will be stolen. With simple tools, easily concealed in a backpack, bike thieves can cut through a chain or cable in 20 seconds; they can cut off a padlock in about a minute. Bus stops and Metro stops are favored locations for bike theft.
- Register your bike with the county police. (Go online to www.arlingtonva.us > Online services > Register your bike. Have handy the bike’s serial number.) Registration is free and the ACPD decal you receive acts as a deterrent to theft. If your bike is stolen, and then found, you can reclaim it only if it has been registered.

Watch Rolling Thunder from the bridge, Sunday, May 29



On May 29, the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend, many Fairlingtonians gather on the bridge over I-395 between about 8 a.m. and noon for first-rate viewing of thousands of motorcycle riders roaring northward on the highway—the sound can be deafening. The bikers are heading toward the Pentagon north parking lot, where the annual Rolling Thunder motorcycle rally assembles for its afternoon

ride across Memorial Bridge and ultimately around the National Mall. For more information, go online and search Rolling Thunder.

Happy Spring ! ... Time to REMODEL !



Just Call Bob!

*For a new kitchen this summer,
 NOW is the time to call !*

Phone: 703.815.3151

Email: dhidelong@aol.com



We Specialize In
KITCHENS
BATHROOMS
BASEMENTS

COMING SOON!
Fairlington Home & Garden Tour
Saturday - May 14 --- 11:00-3:00
Brought to you by the
Fairlington Historical Society

4 crews full-time!
(our own employees)

300 Fairlington
projects since 2005!

For photos of these kitchens and more, please visit our website at:
www.DelongHomeImprovement.com

To see our latest whole house remodel, visit: www.DominionForSale.com (sold)

Attention Fairlington! Spring Check-Up Time Is Here



FROSTY'S
HEATING & COOLING, INC.

Air conditioning and heating company, owned by long-time Fairlington resident and neighbor, will service, repair or replace your heat pump, air conditioner, furnace, or water heater at the best prices around! **Ask about our guaranteed lowest pricing.**

Why you should call now:

- Certified, licensed & bonded
- Satisfaction guaranteed
- Emergency service—with quick response
- Prices will beat the competition
- Free estimates for replacements and installations
- Economical maintenance agreements
- Exceptional familiarity & experience with Fairlington equipment
- Thousands of satisfied customers—see our testimonials!

**ASK ABOUT
OUR DUCT CLEANING
SERVICE**

Satisfied customers say:

I couldn't be happier with my decision to go with Frosty's. The price was right and the quality of the materials and craftsmanship was outstanding.

— Edward Getterman,
Fairlington Resident

When it comes to heating and air conditioning, there's only one name anyone in Fairlington should even think about—that's Frosty's.

— Rick Micker, Former Fairlington Condo VP

I am writing to tell you about how satisfied I am by the work your employees did. Your employees were so careful with my new paint and newly refinished floors. I was very pleased by the care taken to clean my air ducts. I would recommend your company to others.

— Denice McCullough, Fairlington Resident

Call NOW at 703-671-9193

Frosty's
Heating &
Cooling

**SPRING
TUNE-UP**

NOW JUST

\$84.95

Frosty's
Heating &
Cooling

**\$50
OFF**

**WHOLE HOUSE
AIR DUCT
CLEANING**

Frosty's Heating & Cooling

GUARANTEE

Frosty's guarantees Fairlington the lowest price on replacement installations and all service and repair calls. Let us know if you find a lower price... we will match or even *beat* it!

Frosty's Heating & Cooling

**TAX PROGRAMS
AVAILABLE NOW!**

**\$500 FED TAX CREDIT
\$300 VA TAX REFUND**

ON HIGH EFFICIENCY HEATING & COOLING PRODUCTS
ASK US FOR DETAILS!

Only one coupon per customer please. Coupons may not be combined.

Looking for the Best Air Conditioning Company? Look for a Trane Comfort Specialist™ Dealer.



Trane ComfortLink™ II, the revolutionary system that communicates 24/7 to ensure greater comfort, efficiency and reliability.



A new Trane high efficiency air conditioning and heating system can help reduce your energy usage. And with up to \$1,000 rebate on qualifying Trane heating and cooling systems, you'll save big right from the start.

Or...Choose Payments As Low As \$125/Month or 36 Months Zero Interest*

Just purchase your qualifying Trane system during the eligible program period. Reliability, energy-efficiency, indoor air quality, and the flexibility of payment options or an instant rebate...they're all yours with Trane.

1,000.00

Trane Rebate!

Get up to a \$1000 Instant Rebate from Trane on any 20 SEER Unit!
Expires 04/30/11

Receive up to \$500 in federal Tax Credits. Ask your dealer for details.**

Energy prices have skyrocketed and so has demand for systems that cut usage. Trane's XLI high efficiency systems are among the most cost-effective options available today. Maximum comfort and lower heating and cooling costs—that's the Trane difference.

Call now for a free home comfort consultation.



(703)671-9193

FROSTY'S Heating and Cooling
3120 S. ABINGDON STREET, ARLINGTON, VA 22206
www.frostysinc.com
Fully Licensed and Insured

We take customer satisfaction to the highest degree.

See your participating independent Trane dealer for complete program eligibility, dates, details and restrictions. Special financing offers offer up to \$1000 instant rebate valid on qualifying systems only. All sales must be to homeowners in the contiguous United States. Void where prohibited. Financing through The Home Projects® Visa® card issued by Wells Fargo Financial National Bank is a dual-line credit card. Special terms apply to qualifying purchases with approved credit to the Home Projects line of credit. For newly opened accounts, the regular APR is 25.99%. The APR may vary. The APR is given as of 1/1/2010. If the cardholder is charged interest in any billing cycle, the minimum interest charge will be \$1.00. If the cardholder uses the card for cash advances, the cash advance fee is 4% of the amount of the cash advance, but not less than \$10.00. 3.9% APR - The special-terms APR will continue to apply until all qualifying purchases are paid in full, unless the cardholder is in default. Regular minimum monthly payments of 1.75% of the promotional purchase amount are required during the special-terms period. The regular APR applies if the cardholder is in default or uses the card for other transactions. 36 months, no interest - The minimum monthly payment will be the amount that will pay the purchase in full in equal payments during the no-interest period. Monthly payment, if shown, based on \$7,100 purchase.

Update: More BRAC

Last month, the *Bulletin* reported on increasing concerns among Alexandria and Arlington neighbors over the coming of BRAC 133—the new Mark Center office complex at I-395 and Seminary Road that is set to open in September and bring an influx of more than 6,000 federal employees to the area. State and local officials have warned of a resulting traffic nightmare—a colossal back-up on the highway and gridlock on nearby surface streets. Representative James Moran (D-VA) has called on the Pentagon to hold off the relocation of defense workers to the Mark Center until traffic, transit, and road improvements are in place. One such improvement—a dedicated car-pool and bus ramp from I-395 HOV lanes to BRAC—was set back last month when the Federal Highway Administration required a more thorough environmental impact study of the ramp and what was to have been its “expedited” construction by 2014. The Virginia Department of Transportation said the \$80 million ramp project would be delayed by 18 months.

Arlington fares well in comparison of economic stress across the country

Arlington emerges as one of the least stressed counties in the U.S., according to the Associated Press’ online Web app that measures how the recession affects localities across the country. AP compiles a county’s stress index by measuring the combined impacts of unemployment, foreclosures, and bankruptcies. Updated monthly, the stress index snapshot from March 2011 shows Arlington County’s overall stress index as 4.79%; unemployment was 4.1%, and foreclosures were 0.36%. That compares quite favorably to the economic distress experienced by residents of, say, Montmorency County, Michigan (stress index of 22.54%, with unemployment at 21%) or Yuma County, Arizona (stress index 25.33%, unemployment 23.2%). The app’s interactive map contains monthly data since the onset of the recession in December 2007 (to roll over the smaller counties of the eastern states, it helps to use the map’s zoom and grab-and-pan features). For more information, go online and enter the search term, AP economic stress index.

Crime rate drops in Arlington

Arlington County’s overall crime rate dropped 7.6 percent in 2010, the Arlington County Police Department announced last month. There were fewer homicides, robberies, burglaries, and aggravated assaults, crime statistics show. Index crimes—homicides, forcible rapes, robberies, aggravated assaults, arsons, burglaries, larcenies and vehicle thefts—are the eight categories generally used by law enforcement as a standardized measure of the incidence of crime. In Arlington arsons are investigated by the Fire Marshal and are not reported by the Police Department. Arlington’s crime rate has stayed historically low the past several years, even during the economic downturn. For more information, go online to the county Web site, www.arlingtonva.us, and search crime rate.

Free gardening advice at plant clinics

Find out how to grow container tomatoes, select the right-sized tree for your patio, or deal with garden pests at Master Gardeners plant clinics, at these venues:



- Arlington County Farmers Market, intersection of N. 14th Street and Courthouse Road, Saturdays, 8 to 11 a.m., April 16 through the last Saturday in September.
- Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy Street, Thursdays, 6:45 to 8:45 p.m., May 8 through October 6.
- Virginia Cooperative Extension office at the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford Street, weekdays year-round, 9 a.m. to noon; or during the same hours, call the Master Gardener Help Desk, 703-228-6414; or go online any time to the Extension Web site at www.ext.vt.edu.

In addition to being cute, lady bugs are beneficial to gardens—they are efficient insect-pest eaters that (unlike chemical controls) won’t harm plants, earthworms, or humans.

Recommended: Bring with you fresh samples of problem plants, weeds, or insects to ensure an accurate identification of any diseases or pests. Enclose the samples in plastic bags or other clear containers.

NOVA INSTALLATIONS

Specializing in Windows & Doors

Licensed, Bonded, and Insured



www.novainstallations.com

novainstallations1@gmail.com



Top Rated by Checkbook
Magazine
&
Angieslist!



Possible
Tax Credit
For 2011!



- 28 Years in Business
- 20 Years Serving Fairlington
- Large Variety of Windows, Doors, and Storm doors
- All Windows and Doors are Energy Star Rated
- Over 10,000 Windows Installed
- EPA Lead Paint Certified
- No High Pressure Tactics
- **FREE ESTIMATES**

For more information,
please call us at

703-378-6596

Doggie-Do (and cats too!) Neighborhood Pet Services

Affordable, affectionate care,
whether you're here or there.

Walking, bark-park visits, daycare, play
dates, boarding, in-home overnights...
What can we do for you?

Andrew & Kerryn Zechiel
703-379-5580 doggie-do@comcast.net



MARTIAL ARTS FOR ALL AGES!

*Build Confidence, Discipline and Fitness
with invaluable Life Skills.*



'Lil Dragons Ages 3 – 5

Junior All Stars for Ages 6 -12

Adult Tae Kwon Do, Kickboxing, Yoga & Self Defense
3-Class Trial Program for \$20 (includes uniform)

Located just **10 minutes** from Fairlington in the Alexandria Commons
Shopping Center (intersection of Quaker Lane and Duke Street).

(703) 370-KICK (5425) - AllStarAlexandria.com

Pet & Plantcare by Gerri, LLC

- ★ Walking
- ★ Sitting
- ★ Playgroups
- ★ Medications

Gerri Horan
703.379.7719

SINCE 1999



BONDED & INSURED

Fairfax Animal Hospital

5914 Seminary Rd., Falls Church, VA 22311
703-820-2557

www.fairfaxanimalhospital.com



Gentle hands warm hearts

Complete medical and surgical care
Boarding and daycare services
Daytime, evening, and Saturday hours
By appointment

FAIRLINGTON

community center news

Monday, May 30

FCC will be closed in observance of Memorial Day.

Neighborhood Day meets Taste of Arlington

Connect with your friends and neighbors at Neighborhood Day on Saturday, May 21. The goal of Neighborhood Day is to help Arlingtonians connect with their neighbors through community building events like yard sales, meet and greets, pot-lucks, ballgames, and other activities. This year, Neighborhood Day is partnering with Taste of Arlington, an annual event that transforms the Ballston area into a lively street festival with entertainment and lots of food from Arlington restaurants. Search Neighborhood Day at www.arlingtonva.us to learn more.

Summer camps and classes

Camps: FCC hosts several summer camps for kids between the ages of 3 and 15. Search “summer camps” at www.arlingtonva.us/prcr. Camps can be searched by location on the “Browse for Summer Camps” page.

Class registration: Tennis, swimming, robotics, nature programs, and arts and crafts—there is something for everyone among Arlington’s summer classes. Look for the summer issue of *Enjoy Arlington* at FCC starting on May 18 or visit www.arlingtonva.us/prcr to find the class that is right for you. Online registration starts at 8 a.m. on June 1.

Art workshops

For questions or registration, go online to www.arlingtonva.us/prcr or call 703-228-4747.

Basic beading. Learn the fundamentals of beaded jewelry design using bead crimps, beading wire, leather cord, coil ends, head and eye pins, jump and split rings, basic loops, wrapped loops, and use of a bead board to make necklaces, a bracelet, and earrings. Supply fee of \$30 - \$40 to be paid to instructor. Additional beads and kits available for sale as well. Good hand-eye coordination is helpful. This is a make-and-take workshop. Adults. 1 session, Saturday, May 14, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., \$42. 340150A.

Silica gel dried flowers. Learn the fundamentals of drying and preserving real flowers. Drying flowers from your garden is a rewarding and satisfying hobby and a great way to make creative gifts like cards, vases, and other unique projects. Supply fee of \$15 to be paid to the instructor includes silica gel, flowers, and small vase. Inst.: Hogan. Adults. 1 session, Saturday, May 21, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., \$41. 340102A.

Texture. Learn the endless possibilities of using modeling paste in paintings to create texture. This class concentrates on abstract acrylic pieces; however, representative and oil painters will find countless ways the same techniques transfer to your work. In the last class, we’ll explore additives, like glass beads, fibers, and sand, that will enhance the texture of your work and send you into a whole new creative direction. All supplies included. Inst.: Jernigan. Ages 16 – adult. 4 sessions, Tuesday, May 24, 7 – 9 pm., \$102. 340138A.

FCC hours and contact info

Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Saturday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Sunday, closed.

Hours are subject to change. For updates and more information, call the FCC at 703-228-6588. The center manager is Patrick Mallon, 703-228-6590, pmallon@arlingtonva.us.

FCC programs

The FCC has six multi-purpose rooms, art studios, a gymnasium, a state-of-the-art fitness room, day-lockers, accessible pre-school and school-aged playgrounds, outdoor basketball courts, a fitness trail, a playing field, a picnic shelter, and accessible public restrooms. There is indoor open play for children 13 and under in the multi-purpose gym on Saturday 3 to 5 p.m.—children must be supervised by an adult (18 and older). In addition, there are a Senior Program, a creative preschool (three to five years old), parent/child Co-op Program for children one and two years old, and summer camp.



VA: 703-780-2202 MD: 301-203-0216



Class A General Contractor

\$100 OFF
Any Job Of \$1000 or more
\$200 OFF
Any Job Of \$2000 or more



Licensed & Insured



nvaconstruction@comcast.net

hectorsaravia@nvaconstructions.net

Specializing in Updating Kitchens & Bathrooms, Custom Homes, Additions, Tile Finished Basements, Hardwood Floor, House rehab, E-co Building & Remodeling

www.nvaconstructions.net

Call Hector Saravia for your free estimate



**CALL NOW TO SCHEDULE
YOUR SPRING INSPECTION
ONLY \$69.**

**ANNUAL MAINTENANCE
AGREEMENT* ONLY \$139.**

* **10% discount on all service repairs with agreement**



Like us on Facebook!
All the details & all the best discounts!



PRESENT THIS COUPON TO RECEIVE

**\$30
OFF**

**Your Next
Repair
Service**

Limit one coupon per repair visit.

PRESENT THIS COUPON TO RECEIVE

**\$250
OFF**

**Heating & AC
System
Purchase & Installation**

Coupon may not be combined with any other discount offers.

PRESENT THIS COUPON TO RECEIVE

**\$50
OFF**

**Toilet
Purchase & Installation**

Coupon may not be combined with any other discount offers.

7
0
3
.
3
7
2
.
2
2
3
4

DOWN TO EARTH patio gardening



Gardening FAQs—answered

Every day, I receive questions from students, customers, and readers of the *Bulletin*. Here's a sampling that may be of interest:

What are low-maintenance plants? Maintenance means work, and if you don't have the time, you need plants that require minimal pruning and watering and don't shed their leaves. Blue rug, blue star or blue Pacific junipers are drought-tolerant and evergreen—or ever-"blue." They grow six to twelve inches tall with equal spread, although Blue rug has "arms" that crawl.

What plants provide fragrance? Many, but here are a few: *Daphne odora* is a flowering evergreen that grows two feet tall with a similar spread. It takes sun or shade. *Gardenia* has vivid white blooms with a strong scent. It is a small shrub (two feet by two feet) and grows in sun or part shade. Sometimes in winter it needs a burlap wrap to ward off ice on the branches. Honeysuckle is a flowering vine that blooms from early summer to December. It has soft stems that ramble onto trellises or fences. Sweet Box is a flowering evergreen that shows white blossoms in February. It only grows 20 inches tall with a 15-inch spread. *Pieris* grows three feet by three feet, is evergreen, and has white, bell-shaped flowers from mid-March to mid-May.

What is a ground cover? It's an accent to shrubs. Typical ground covers are 12 inches tall with a similar



Mulches vary in size and color, but they all help keep down weeds and retain moisture in garden beds.

spread and usually evergreen. They can line the edge of your patio or be planted in clusters of three or more. Examples are *skimmia*, *liriope*, coral bells, lenten rose, crimson pygmy barberry, heather, azalea "Gumpo," and winter creeper *euonymus*.

When does a shrub need pruning? Usually after flowering, but every specimen has a specific schedule. Online searches are helpful for pruning tips, but the list of shrubs is long, so e-mail me if you can't find an answer. Some specimens—*hydrangea*, for example—flower on old wood, so that radical pruning merely nullifies next season's blooms. Therefore you have to live with its stick-like habit in winter.

What mulch is recommended? This is a matter of taste. Some are

large-chip, some are small. Others are needled or shredded. Some are dyed (orange or black). And, you can even buy rubber mulch. My favorite is Virginia Fine-Chip, since it has a cinnamon tinge and keeps its color over time. It also provides a granular-like texture over the ground.

Do I need to fertilize? It depends. I usually add acid fertilizer (one or two times a year) to evergreens like yew, holly, azalea, boxwood, rhododendron, *ligustrum*, and laurel. I never fertilize a specimen that is new for fear of burning fibrous roots. Instead, apply soil conditioner that is loam-like and allows new plant roots to easily maneuver.

— Bill Sullivan,
www.sullivanlandscaping.net

Trusted Dental Care Your Doctor Would Recommend.



Fearful of the dentist no more.

Sedation Dentistry Changed Our Lives!



Michael B. Rogers, DDS • Jim J. Im, DDS
4850 S. 31st Street, Suite A • Arlington, VA 22206

703.671.1001

www.FairlingtonDental.com

- Comprehensive dental care in a comfortable and relaxed atmosphere.
- Sedation Dentistry: You don't have to feel bad about being afraid anymore.
- Complete your smile rejuvenation in fewer appointments.

The beauty of sedation is that you remember little or nothing about your dental visit!

Dr. Michael Rogers –

Trusted by the community and committed to the latest technology and highest standards.

- Featured on NBC4 with Doreen Gensler's Healthline
- Featured Dentist at NBC4 Health & Fitness Expo
- Selected as a Top Dentist in Checkbook Magazine
- Published in Washington Woman, Washington Parent, Ladies Home Journal, Perfect Smile Magazine & TMJ News-n-Views
- On staff at VA Hospital Center



TESTIMONIALS

"As a surgeon, I rely on Dr. Rogers and his team to manage the patients non-surgically to help avoid the need for surgery. I regard him as one of the premier dentists in the non-surgical management of TMJ Disorders." — Dr. Joseph Arzdon

"Very professional environment, excellent level of service, up-to-date dental technology." — Anne, Alexandria, VA

"Pleasant attitude and personal attention – look my concerns seriously." — Mary, Vienna, VA

ADDITIONAL PATIENT SERVICES:

**Dental Implants/Crowns
Cosmetic Crowns**

**Sleep Apnea Alternatives
Non-Surgical TMJ Treatment**

YES, WE DO WINDOWS!

R&R Blinds, Windows & Doors Inc.

Since 1946, R&R Blinds, Windows & Doors has been beautifying homes. Today our family business is still serving the area with fine products, exceptional service, and unbeatable prices.

100% Rating in Washington Consumer Check Book!

-Window Treatments by Hunter Douglas, Graber, and Lafayette

-ProVia Storm Doors & Replacement Doors

-Seaway Vinyl Replacement Windows



blinds windows and doors inc.
-since 1946-

Call us for a no obligation estimate

703-549-8000

2621 Mt. Vernon Ave.

Alexandria VA, 22301

-In Del Ray

www.rrblinds.com

Call Today for a
Free Estimate

Dave Pearce

703.201.6303

The Window Factory

Vinyl Windows

Sales and Custom Installation

- Double Pane Glass
- Clear
- Low-E
- Low-E w/ Argon

*You won't find a
better warranty!*

MasterCard/VISA

30% Discount on Tax Preparation

We can prepare your Federal & State income taxes. Homeowners, prior-year, and all-50-state taxes a specialty. Electronic Filing. Convenient location.



Visit www.cpa-coker.com for more information or call / email me today to schedule an appointment.

Charles Coker, CPA 703.931.3290
charles.coker@cpa-coker.com



Teacher appreciation week at Abingdon

The week of May 2 – 6 marks Teacher Appreciation Week at schools all across the nation, including your friendly neighborhood elementary school, Abingdon. To honor the more than 100 teachers and staff at Abingdon, parents and school supporters chipped in donations of money, volunteer time, and more. Teachers will be treated to a lunch from Chicken Out, to daily surprises in their mailboxes, and to daily raffles of gift cards, money prizes, and gift baskets. If you're a teacher—at Abingdon or elsewhere—thank you for your contribution to our children's future. And, if you see a teacher this week, don't forget to thank them, too.

Fairlington Dental supports Abingdon science program

Once again, Dr. Rogers and Fairlington Dental have helped Abingdon Elementary School by donating the funds for the exciting Raging Reptiles Day organized by science lab teacher Anne Sywilok. Students were thrilled to learn about ball pythons of Africa. Learning about the mimicry adaptation of the bull snake of Texas was amazing. They were able to see a sunbeam snake from Southeast Asia that hides in wet areas and with its black scales looks like a rainbow when a light shines on it. The butterfly agama lizards from Vietnam run quickly as if they were running on water. Seeing the Australian blue-tongue skink's blue tongue stick out was beyond cool. They also learned how



Thanks to your support, the Abingdon Book Fair was a great success! Photograph by Eric Golden.

the Nelson's milk snake got its name. The biggest hit was the Colombian red-tail boa from South America that weighed 50 pounds. It took a lot of kindergarten kids to hold all of that. Students had a truly "hands-on" experience. What a fun and unique way to learn about habitats, adaptations, ecosystems. Most of all, they learned to value and respect nature. —Anne Sywilok

Abingdon Scouts bring rain barrels to our garden

The science garden at Abingdon will soon have two new additions, thanks to the Abingdon Boy Scouts and Brownies. Using funds from a grant through the Girl Scouts Council of the Nation's Capital, they purchased two secondhand rain barrels, which the Scouts will paint and install. It is commonly estimated that a hose wastes about 25 gallons of water every five minutes. The rain barrels will provide an environmentally

friendly alternative for watering the garden. And, speaking of the garden, Abingdon just secured a \$500 Youth Garden Grant from Home Depot, which will be used to purchase plants and supplies.

Library gets a boost from the Book Fair

Abingdon hosted the annual Scholastic Book Fair in March and the numbers are in. We raised nearly \$4,000 for the library, which will be used to complete the popular book series the *Magic Tree House* and *39 Clues* as well as purchase a state-of-the-art Smartboard. Additionally, all teachers and staff were given 10 percent discounts on their own purchases, student vouchers were provided to help students without family financial resources, and 37 teachers received books from their own wish lists.

—By Michelle Marston, Abingdon PTA co-president



**Lynn Gant &
Lois Robinson, GRI**
Long & Foster, Fairlington
703.898.7205 (Lynn)
703.298.4881 (Lois)
www.LoisandLynn.com
lynn@longandfoster.com



LOIS AND LYNN SELL FAIRLINGTON

**Coming SOON -
Open House May 22nd**

Gorgeous Full Size END Clarendon in convenient Glen location. Well appointed home features new HVAC, windows, beautiful kitchen with wider entrance for an open feel, SS appliances, granite counters, recessed lights, designer paint colors throughout, newly updated bathrooms, closet organizers, pretty landscaped patio, reserved parking and more!
Go to www.LoisandLynn.com for a preview



Do you want winning real estate results?
Sign up with the Robinson Team!
Call today to schedule your complimentary home-selling coaching session.

Michele's Maids

Save \$25 off your 1st. cleaning
(one per household)

Keeping Fairlington
Clean for over
13 Years
Fairlington references
available

**Move In/Move Out
Weekly/Bi-weekly
Monthly
One-Time Cleaning
Gift Certificates**

Licensed * Bonded * Insured
Call to Schedule your Spring Cleaning Today

703-820-1808
www.michelesmaids.net



neighborhood news

Fairlington Arbor resident is APS Teacher of the Year

Congratulations to our Fairlington Arbor neighbor, Matthew Tosiello, a third grade teacher at Randolph Elementary School, who has been named Arlington Public Schools Teacher of the Year. This month, Tosiello will be recognized at a reception by the Arlington School Board, and he will be honored by The Washington Post as part of the annual Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Awards sponsored by the paper's educational foundation. The full press release can be viewed online at www.apsva.us/15401082104136983/blank/browse.asp?a=383&BMDRN=2000&BCOB=0&c=67575.

Fair Golds

The Fair Golds, an Arlington County social group in and around the Fairlington area (including Alexandria), will hold a business meeting at noon on Thursday, May 5, at the Fairlington Community Center. On Thursday, May 19, we'll hold our spring luncheon at the Fort Myer Officers Club. Regular meetings at the FCC begin with a brown-bag lunch; dessert and beverages are provided. We always welcome guests and/or new members over 55 years of age. For more information, call Gertrude Frankel at 703-931-3759.

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 Diners

Fairlington Diners is a group of Fairlington and non-Fairlington friends who gather for dinner a couple of times a month. We focus on just having a good meal in great company. If you'd like to be included in our e-mail list, please send your e-mail address to carol_dabbs@yahoo.com.

Monday, May 16, 7:30 p.m., half-price burger night at Ramparts Restaurant, 1700 Fern St., Alexandria, 703-998-6616. This is a local favorite that we visit monthly—usually with a large turnout. Please call Carol to let us know if you plan to attend, so we can choose the right size table when we arrive. Prior to the event (not the day of), call at 703-379-6840. On the day of the event, please call by 6 p.m. at 202-647-2624. Please leave a voicemail if you don't reach Carol directly; include your name and how to contact you the day of the event, in case of a change in plans.

Monday, May 30, 6:30 p.m., Indigo Landing, 1 Marina Drive, Alexandria, VA 22314-1143, 703-548-0001. Last year, we enjoyed the view of the Potomac and the monuments from this restaurant when we had a good crowd there on Labor Day, so let's try it for Memorial Day as well. A "modern contemporary cuisine" is served. We can enjoy the sights as the sun sets on the real beginning of summer. Please call Carol at 703-379-6840 by 6 p.m. on Sunday the 29th if you're planning to attend, so we can make a reservation.

Thirty Somethings

We will not meet in May; we will meet again in June. If you want to be added to the list, please contact Kavita Kalsy at kkalsy@hotmail.com.

Book Group

The Book Group will not meet in May. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, June 28, at 7:30 p.m. in the North Fairlington Community Center, when we will discuss a book selected at the April meeting. The title will be announced by e-mail and in the June Bulletin. For more information, contact Kavita Kalsy at kkalsy@hotmail.com or Terry Gough at tjgough@verizon.net.

MOMS Club of Arlington-Fairlington

Are you a full- or part-time stay-at-home parent and looking to connect with other Fairlington moms and dads? The MOMS Club of Arlington-Fairlington VA© chapter of the International MOMS Club may be for you. Members and their children participate in general monthly meetings, member planned outings/events, Parents' Night Out, and much more. The weekly age-specific playgroups start as young as birth and go up to 3+ years old. Playgroups are

neighborhood news

Continued

great for kids, but they also offer parents a chance to find support and friendship.

In the last year members have also worked on several community service projects benefitting Abingdon Elementary School and the Arlington Food Assistance Center. We will again participate as a group in the March of Dimes March for Babies in May. We have hosted speakers on topics including separation anxiety, nutrition, early childhood literacy, and positive discipline. Our most recent speaker was a local fashion consultant who answered questions about new-mommy style and provided tips for shopping and organizing.

If you would like to learn more about the club and meet other parents, please join us for our next general meeting on Wednesday, May 11, at the Fairlington Community Center. Children are welcome. For more information about the club, the general meeting, or membership, please contact Angela Klaus (Membership VP) at fairlingtonmoms@yahoo.com. Annual dues of \$25 support quarterly group functions and community service projects.

Get your Fairlington T-shirt



- 100% cotton
- Fairlington on front, FCA logo on back
- Sizes S, M, L, and X-L
- White or hunter green
- \$10, cash or check payable to FCA

To order, come to an FCA-sponsored event or monthly meeting; e-mail president@fca-fairlington.org; or call the FCA at 703-243-1735 to leave your name and phone number. Visit www.fca-fairlington.org for additional details or to find the next FCA event.



3640 A King Street
Bradlee Shopping Center
(Behind the florist, next
to Joe's Shoe Repair)

VIRGINIA VACUUMS

Where Excellence
Is Commonplace

Sales • Service • Parts
All Major Brands

703-931-6100

Fax 703-931-6500

Shop On-line and Save: vavacuum.com

FREE HEPA FILTER!!

With Purchase of a Miele Vacuum Cleaner

(Excludes 200 Series)

Expires 5/31/11

\$229

Miele Naturell
Vacuum Cleaner

Cannot Combine With Other Offers
Expires 5/31/11

10-50%

OFF
ALL VACUUM

Allegro LLC

Is your electrical system up-to-date?
Fans, heaters, receptacles
Light fixtures, electric panels.



Allegro LLC
Electrical Service

703.314.1287

info@AllegroLLC.net

www.allegrollc.net

Serving the
Fairlington Community

Visa and Mastercard
Accepted

Mini-ads

For Sale

ARLINGTON MODEL for Sale by Owner. Four bedrooms and three bathrooms. One bedroom and bathroom on the first floor. \$550,000. Check out the website for more details and pictures www.fairlingtonsale.com Open house on weekends. 3454 S. Wakefield Street, Fairlington Mews. Call 571-217-2797.

FURNITURE. Danish modern dining set. Call 703-379-7125 after 5:00.

BICYCLE. Cannondale tandem bike, single gear bike, 36inch toshiba tv, vcr & dvd players, dell pc, linksys router. This is good stuff on 36th street. midmuzk@aol.com. 703-379-8824

Services

I FLAUT! DO YOU? Does your child love playing music? For pleasure or competition? My passion is helping all abilities and ages thrive and learn. Adults welcome. Former GWU flute professor. Call 703-998-7223 for a free lesson. www.lynnhertel.com.

SUMMER MUSIC CAMPS. Day camps for ages 5-13. Rhythm, piano, or composing. Held at Convergence on Quaker. www.libbywiebelmusicstudio.com for details.

INCOME TAXES. We can prepare your Federal and State Income Taxes. New home-owners and all-50-state taxes our specialty. Electronic Filing. Convenient location, evening and weekend hours. 30% discount for Fairlington Residents. Visit www.cpa-coker.com for more information, directions. Call for appointment 703- 931-3290.

MASSAGE. Certified Massage Therapist offering massage in quiet, comfortable home setting in Fairlington. Deep tissue, Swedish, acupressure, reflexology, and more. Best prices in town. Call 703-300-7719 or e-mail emergingplanetaryhealing@yahoo.com

COMPUTER HELP. Fairlington resident will help resolve problems with computers and other electronic equipment. Jim 703-820-8767 - jandgonline.com.

YOGA, REFLEXOLOGY, REIKI, INFANT-CHILDREN'S MASSAGE, MEDITATION, BREATHING TECHNIQUES & MORE. Self-care starts with you. Create a class or purchase a private session. Gift certificates available. Certified Fairlington resident. www.moorethanyoga.com. 703-671-2435.

HUGHES COMMUNICATIONS. Complete installation or repair of telephone, CATV, or data wiring and outlets. All work performed by owner/technician Al Hughes. 40 years experience. Licensed and insured. All services are schedule for a specific appointment time. All work guaranteed, with free estimate, if necessary. Call 703-354-4528 with any questions or to schedule an appointment.

SAVE MONEY. Share a taxi to and from the airport. It's FREE! Mobile website, iPhone, and Android. <http://www.CabMatch.com>

NEED HELP WITH MORTGAGES? Real estate mortgage professional can help you refinance/buy at today's low interest rates. Work with people you trust! I'm a Fairlington resident and specialize in upsidedown value refis, credit repair and no-to-low downpayment plans. Let's grab coffee and talk! Andrew Sterling, WestStar Mortgage, juniorsterling@gmail.com, 703.244.5881, Facebook "Andrew Sterling Real Estate".

COMPUTER PROBLEM? Don't overspend to fix it. Free estimate – evening hours – on-site service. We can handle anything computer related. 571-969-1122. BeltwayPC.com

HEALING TOUCH. Massage therapy services. 1225 Martha Custis Drive Suite 2. Alexandria, Va. 22302. 5-10 minutes from Fairlington. Phone 703-980-5304. For more information check out: www.healingtouchmassagetherapy.biz.

NEED SOMEONE TO TELL YOU WHAT TO DO? Are you beyond frustrated, frazzled and angry when it comes to your closet? Let me help. My 25 years in the apparel industry gives me the knowledge to separate your keepables from your pitchables. And I'll provide you with an easy custom system to keep you organized. I'll take care of possible consignment and EBay opportunities, donations and tax receipts. Joan McNeal 703-606-1559 or e-mail jmcnealbaize@cox.net.

Child Care

NANNY. Our former nanny is looking for full-time infant/child care. Her house or yours. She lives in Fairlington and is GREAT with kids. She has worked for several Fairlington families over the past 10 years. Speaks English and Spanish. Call me to discuss. She is available on or about May 1st. 703-930-5646.

CHILD CARE. Professional child care in my home. FT/PT. CPR and first aid. Excellent references. Worked with children for 23 years. Infants welcome. Call Pat at 703-370-2603.

CHILD CARE. Warm home setting and very nurturing environment. Experienced and licensed. Excellent references. Call 703-824-0385.

Gardening/Landscaping

SULLIVAN'S LANDSCAPING will make over your patio with new plantings, pruning, and fresh mulching. Visit: www.sullivanlandscaping.net to learn more. Contact Bill for a free consultation via email billsullivan41@gmail.com or cell 571-213-9567.

Improvements

HANDYMAN. Windows, glass, clogged drains, storm door repairs, fixtures, garbage disposal installation, etc. Dave Pearce. 703-201-6303.

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

Mini-ads

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

HANDYMAN. Senior Craftsmen, Inc. Biff Henley. Licensed, insured, bonded. 703-403-5354. Seniorcraftsmen@verizon.net

DOOR SOLUTIONS. 1,000's of pleased customers since 1992. An expert in Fairlington doors. Website: www.doorsolutions.biz (information/prices). Email Bill: bill@doorsolutions.biz.

MICHAEL PACHECO CONTRACTING. 40 years experience. No job too small. Interior renovations to include painting, finish carpentry, window and door casings, complete kitchen and bathroom remodeling, and plaster repair. We also remove wallpaper, do tile grouting, kitchen and bathroom floors, and wall to wall carpeting. We install storm doors. We do all types of household repairs. We upgrade electric panels with new code approved panels by a licensed, insured, electrician. We can help you with any of your other electrical needs. We can help you with all your plumbing work. Your home left clean and neat. Old fashioned quality at an affordable price. Call Michael at 703-379-6725.

HOME IMPROVEMENT. Ask to see finished bathrooms and kitchens to compare quality and price. Call Fairlington Maintenance Service. 703-379-7733. fairlingtonmaintenance.com

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. fairlingtonmaintenance.com

PAINTING. Greg the Painter – Sixteen years Fairlington resident, quality interior painting and drywall repair. Large and small jobs. Call 571-242-2702.

KITCHEN CEILING. Serving Fairlington since 1978. We have developed several ceiling designs. Talk to us about your kitchen renovation needs. Call Fairlington Maintenance Service. 703-379-7733. fairlingtonmaintenance.com

RESALE OR RE-RENT PREPARATIONS. We have previously prepared hundreds of units for sale or rent. Lots of references. Call Fairlington Maintenance Service. 703-379-7733.

PAINTING. Professional, neat, clean, reliable, references available. Wallpaper removal/hanging, drywall repairs. Large and small jobs. 25 years experience. Licensed, bonded and insured. Free Estimates. Call Steve Chute at 571-216-9338.

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. References available.

STEPHEN SAMUEL HOME UPGRADES. Nature's Green Stone Tiling, Granite Kitchens & Bathrooms. Remodeling/Renovation-General Painting, Carpeting, Flooring, Carpentry, Plumbing. "You Name It, We Do It." Great work. Great references. GREAT PRICES! We make the difference. It only takes a call. Samosings2008@aol.com. www.myspace.com/caribbeanize. 703-405-9479.

PAINTING & WALLPAPERING. 25 years experience. Excellent references in Fairlington and all areas. Interior and exterior. Faux finish. Call Ricardo for free estimate 703-495-0781. rrhomeimprove.com.

R.R. HOME IMPROVEMENT, INC. Celebrating our 20 year anniversary with very LOW RATES. Painting, drywall, carpentry, plumbing, electrical, floors, and general household repairs. Office 703-495-0781. Call 703-801-9151. rrhomeimprove.com.

CUSTOM FINISH CARPENTER. 15 years experience in all general carpentry, specializing in finish carpentry. Doors, windows, casings, base boards, dado rails, window seats, bookshelves, closets. No job too small! Fairlington resident. Contact me for free estimate at (C) 301-801-1370 or (H) 571-970-5623. jamesfreeman.carpenter@gmail.com

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

House Cleaning

MICHELE'S MAIDS. Reliable, honest & affordable. Specializing in detailed cleaning. Serving Fairlington for over 13 years. LICENSED, BONDED & INSURED. Fairlington references available. No Machines to talk to. 703-820-1808 Visit our website at www.michelesmaids.net

JADA'S CLEANING SERVICE. Reliable, experienced and good references. Weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, occasionally, move in/out, windows and offices. Other services: carpets steams cleaned. Call us for free estimates (703) 569-7799.

B&A CLEANING SERVICES. 22 years experience. Excellent references in Fairlington and all areas. Reasonable prices. We provide our own equipment and supplies. Call for free estimate 703-495-0781.

HOUSE CLEANING. Reliable, experienced, good references, flexible scheduling, reasonable rates. We bring our own equipment. Weekly - bi-weekly - monthly - occasionally. One-time, move-in/out, offices. For free in home estimate call Maryen/Raul at 703-321-5335.

Mini-ads

FAIRLINGTON MAID SERVICE.

Serving Fairlington since 1978. Call for our Spring Cleaning Specials. We are family owned and operated. Our staff is reliable, trustworthy, punctual, and detail oriented. We are great with pets. Our prices are reasonable and our service is very thorough. Call for a free estimate. 703-820-8635.

Pet Services

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.

ALWAYS CARING PET CARE. Dog walking, cat sitting. Reliable, flexible, midday, holiday or vacation care for your pets. Serving Fairlington for over 10 years. Excellent references. 703-765-0990.

DOG WALKER & PET SITTER-

REASONABLE RATES. Special rates for regular walks. Mature, responsible, reliable and dependable woman with excellent Fairlington references. Suzanne Mitchell: Pal4Paws.Suzanne@gmail.com or call 703-868-8894.

For Rent

SHARE HOUSE in S. Fairlington. M/F. Own Bedroom/Bathroom. No S,D,D. Available for summer. May-Oct/negotiable. 703-626-9840.

NOTICE TO ALL ADVERTISERS

Due Date for All Ads: 6 pm on 10th of the preceding month (May 10th for June issue)

Payment: BOTH payment and ad copy must be received by the 10th. Make checks payable to "Fairlington Citizens Association."

NEW E-Mail Address for All Ads: admanager@fca-fairlington.org

Mailing Address for All Ads and Checks: FCA-AFB, PO Box 6182, Arlington, VA 22206-0182

Drop-Off Location for Ads and Checks: Drop-Off Box in Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford Street

MINI-AD FORM

Mini-ad copy can be e-mailed to admanager@fca-fairlington.org and then submit your payment by mail to FCA AFB, PO Box 6182, Arlington, VA 22206-0182 or drop off ads and checks to the drop-off box in the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford Street. E-mailed ad text will not be processed until payment is received.

Write key words from your ad on the check for reference. (Example: "Yard Sale" or "Lost Camera")

Cost is 50 cents per word (e.g., "998-0000" and "stove" are each one word; "interior/exterior" are two words).

Please include the following information with all ads:

Name: _____ Phone (h): _____

Address: _____ Phone (w): _____

City, State, Zip: _____ E-mail: _____

Category (see newsletter for options): _____

Mini-Ad Text (please print clearly): _____

* Long & Foster Arlington/Alexandria Office *
Located in the Heart of Fairlington

We're Celebrating **35+** years in Fairlington

There's only one number you need to know when you want the best service-OURS!

*4800 31st Street South * 703-998-3111* Arlington, Va. 22206 *

A Tradition in Fairlington



Dupont Circle one BR condo \$289,900
Georgetown styled backyard.



ARL.-Alcova Heights! \$669,900
4 Br /2Ba Bungalow-2 Car Garage.



End Unit Clarendon
\$414,900 with private yard.

* Let Our Knowledge & Expertise of Fairlington Save You Thousands!!



*Call us about our new
spring listings !
We have your dream house.
Come pick it out!*

Voted Top Sales Office
Industry Leader
Sales * Rentals
*property management
*investment properties
*relocation services
Agents licensed in VA, DC, MD