

all FAIRLINGTON BULLETIN



MAY 2012

Volume 38, Number 5

www.fca-fairlington.org

See you at Fairlington Day, Saturday, May 12

FCA monthly meeting

There is no FCA meeting in May.

Fair Golds business meeting

Thursday, May 3, noon
FCC

Fairlington Day volunteers meeting

Saturday, May 5, 10 am
FCC

MOMS Club

Wednesday, May 9, 4 pm
FCC

Fairlington Day

Saturday, May 12, 11 am – 2 pm
FCC

Fair Golds program/social meeting

Thursday, May 17, noon
FCC

Book Group

Tuesday, May 22, 7:30 pm
North Fairlington CC

DPR summer classes sign-up

Wednesday, May 23
Arlington

See Neighborhood News on page 23 and related articles for details about calendar events.

For more than a dozen years, Arlington has celebrated diverse communities on Neighborhood Day, usually held on the middle Saturday in May, with neighborhood block parties, tree plantings, and yard sales. Our neighborhood joins the county-wide celebration at Fairlington Day on Saturday, May 12, on the grounds of the Fairlington Community Center, from 11 am to 2 pm. No reservation is required! Just stop by the FCC, where everything is free and open to all. Come enjoy the sun, sample sweet treats from two bake sales, meet and greet visiting county officials, and just mingle with friends and neighbors. Fairlington Day is a great opportunity to get outside at the start of the warm weather season and actually chat with neighbors whom you often just pass on the streets.



Photograph by Gretchen Fallon.

Fairlington Day is held every other year in May (alternating with the Fairlington Historical Society's signature event, the biennial May home and garden tour). Sponsored by our neighborhood's civic association, the Fairlington Citizens Association, and Long & Foster Realtors, the event offers something for everyone. Watch for the always-exciting arrival of ACFD Engine 107 and an ACPD police cruiser! Follow smoke signals to the grill area for that quintessential summertime treat, hot dogs!—as well as cold sodas and water (starting about 11:30 and while supplies last). There will be music from a DJ and an abundance of activities for the kids—a petting zoo, pony rides, moon bounces, face-painting, arts and crafts, and pick-up games on the soccer field.

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The Great American Bake Sale, which creates a sweet shop every year after the 4th of July parade, will hold an all-cookies bake sale at Fairlington Day this year. You can also browse the tables and displays set up by local businesses and organizations providing information on car-free transportation options, health, gardening, and the MOMS Club of Fairlington-Arlington, which also will host a bake sale.

See you at Fairlington Day!

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. 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 on Facebook at "Fairlington Appreciation Society."

Preliminary agenda:

7 pm, special program: There will be no speaker/presentation in May.

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

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All Fairlington Bulletin

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— DEADLINE —

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

Send material on disk with paper proof to:

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E-mail editorial announcements to:

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

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Fairlington is a National Register and Virginia Landmark Historic District

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

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Fairlington Day Volunteers:

Participate in the May 12 event by helping set up and break down tables, organize games, manage lines at the petting zoo and pony ride, and cook/serve food. Volunteers meeting: Saturday, May 5, 10 am, at the FCC. Signup sheets are now posted at the FCC.



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Some images in this publication may be digitally enhanced.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



When the sun shines in Fairlington, let's face it—it's pretty glorious, and sunshine only highlights the neighborhood's charm. The flowers are more colorful, the crisp blue sky sets off the lush green foliage, and people smile a lot more! It truly feels like an oasis—just without the sandstorms!

We're experiencing one of these glorious days as I write this, and I'm hoping that we'll get the same sunny rays and light breezes on Saturday, May 12, Fairlington Day! As part of Arlington County's Neighborhood Day celebration, the FCA will be hosting a free neighborhood festival on the grounds of the FCC. The *Bulletin's* page one story this month is a summary of what to expect, so check it out. If you're not already a member of the Fairlington Appreciation Society on Facebook, sign up now—late-breaking updates will be there and on www.fca-fairlington.org. There's even a pullout flyer in this issue for you to put on your refrigerator, so you, your family, and your friends don't forget to attend! The goal of this year's Fairlington Day is simple: Have fun, meet your neighbors from both sides of the I-395 bridge, and have more fun!

It's not all fun, face-painting, and fizzy soda at the FCA; we're also keeping our finger on the pulse of local development matters. However, we can't be everywhere! Whether you have questions about bus route changes, highway construction, or other issues, be sure to let one of the FCA board members know. We're planning the FCA's summer and fall meetings now, and we want to be sure your interests are covered.

In the meantime, do whatever you can to order fantastic weather for May 12! Be sure to wear sunblock and pack a camera! If you have ideas for promoting Fairlington spirit, drop me a line at president@fca-fairlington.org. The board and I want to hear from you!

Cheers,

Rosiland Jordan, President
Fairlington Citizens Association
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Nearby developments move forward, slowly

Fairlington residents listened with interest to FCA board members' update reports on various local-area real estate construction projects at the April 11 FCA meeting. Board members summarized new facts that had surfaced since the special real estate information meeting held in November last year.

Walmart: Nothing new has been heard about Walmart's rumored desire to build an urban-footprint store in the Shirlington area. Instead, Bryan Pettigrew pointed to published reports indicating that Walmart seems focused on construction projects planned for the District and Maryland.

B/K/Q: Plans from Alexandria's Department of Transportation and Environmental Services call for building additional left-turn lanes at the B/K/Q intersection (Braddock Road, King Street, and Quaker Lane). Jacob Gelbaum reviewed what is currently planned as the timeline for construction: There will be another public meeting in March 2013 when about 50 percent of the design study should be completed; the entire plan should be completed by 2014; construction would begin in January 2015; and construction would take about a year. A stop light controlling the Bradlee entrance and enhanced bus stops along the service road are improvements that might occur before the start of major road construction.

Shirlington: Shirlington is looking forward to the opening of three new restaurants—Pizzaiolo, a Vietnamese restaurant, and a Middle Eastern restaurant—and there are preliminary talks about constructing a CaBi bike-share station there. Carol Dabbs renewed the point that Shirlington's several garages offer more parking than one might at first think—and space is particularly plentiful at night and on weekends. One cautionary note: Limits are strictly enforced by parking patrols that run throughout the night; violating cars will be towed.

King at Beauregard: Alexandria's long-discussed improvements for the bottleneck intersection of King Street at Beauregard involve the widening of the stretch of King between S. 28th Street to the east and Dawes Avenue to the west, which will improve through-traffic flow on King as well as improve pedestrian safety. Ed Hilz reported that the city is currently acquiring necessary rights-of-way, which should be concluded this summer—no land in Arlington is involved. Utilities relocation will follow this fall; construction could start in the summer or fall of 2013; and the project would take about a year to complete.

BRAC-133: Fairlington residents continue to watch for neighborhood impacts on traffic and parking due to the opening of the U.S. Army Headquarters building at the Mark Center on Seminary Road at I-395. Mark Jones noted that about 4,000 of the anticipated 6,400 new employees now are in place, and shuttle buses are running to the HQ building from King, Franconia, and Pentagon Metro stations. The flyover ramp, designed to provide dedicated entry/access to the building's garages, is scheduled to begin construction in 2014.

Safeway: Fairlington resident and Safeway real estate manager Avis Black reported that the project to build a new Safeway on the King Street site is on schedule and on track with all approvals. It may be this fall when the current store is closed and demolition and re-construction begins, with the project to be completed within a year. A nearby, temporary pharmacy facility is still being sought. Closer to the time of the store closing, Safeway representatives will hold a public meeting to provide additional information.

Continued on page 15



Construction on the new Safeway store on King Street (above) should be underway by this fall, which was welcome news to Fairlington residents (right) attending the April FCA meeting.



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Paving work begins soon



County work crews from the Department of Environmental Services' Water, Sewer, Streets Bureau, will be milling and paving some Fairlington streets, and other streets nearby, possibly this month and next. The scheduled preventive maintenance program for streets across Arlington starts in mid-March and concludes in November every year. Fairlington residents will be notified by a flyer mailed to every affected address before work begins on the following streets:

- S. 31st Street from Abingdon to Campbell Avenue (Village at Shirlington)
- S. 33rd Street from Quaker Lane to S. Stafford Street
- S. Stafford Street from S. 33rd Street to S. 34th Street
- S. Taylor Street from King Street to S. 36th Street (across from entrance to Bradlee)
- Quaker Lane (west side) from the Shirlington traffic circle to King Street

The work is done in phases, as follows: 1. concrete curb/gutter and sidewalk repairs; 2. street milling; 3. utility adjustments; 4. hot-mix asphalt paving; 5. pavement marking. (There may be several days between phases.) Be sure to observe the temporary "No Parking" signs that will go up during the milling and paving operations. Once signs go up, any cars remaining on the street will be towed by the police department. For more information or questions, contact the project manager, Francis Soulamany, 703-228-7822, 7 am to 3:30 pm, or by e-mail, fsoulamany@arlingtonva.us.

Keep those "I Voted" stickers handy

Fairlington resident Libby Garvey won the March special election for the County Board seat vacated by Barbara Favola, who resigned from the board after winning a seat in the state Senate in November. Garvey will serve out the remainder of Favola's term and stand for election in November.



Libby Garvey at the FCC, the Fairlington precinct polling place, on March 27. Photo courtesy of the Washington Post.

Special elections routinely attract fewer voters than those for state-wide or federal offices, but local media described the March 27 election as achieving a "record low" turnout. County wide, about 11.65% of active registered voters went to the polls. In Fairlington precinct (the southern half of Fairlington), the participation rate was 20%—continuing Fairlington's well-known habit for turning out a larger than average number of voters and more than in most other county precincts. Speaking of the low turnout, Arlington's elections registrar Linda Lindberg told the *Washington Post*: "There's been some speculation that it's election fatigue," noting that it's been a busy year for voters. There was a primary election held in August, followed by the November general election, then a Democratic county caucus in January, and a Republican presidential primary in March. Still to come: There's a June 12 primary for U.S. Senate and U.S. House seats and a November 6 general election for Congress, the County Board, and the School Board. For more information on absentee voting and other election-related matters, call 703-228-3456 or go online to the county's Web site, www.arlingtonva.us, and search elections.



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Signs of spring at the tree stand

At the end of March, the great, brown expanse of the tree-stand on S. 32nd Street was beginning to show some green. The trees had not yet leafed out, but you could see some volunteer liriopse, clumps of garlic mustard, a few opportunistic dandelions, and, despite last year's pulling efforts, some English ivy.

Concerted effort had cleared ivy from either end of the tree stand last year, leaving only a modest patch at mid-block when the season closed. In March, the cleared areas stayed mostly clear. But, even when you think you've got it all, ivy is tenacious and tends to return, cautioned Lenny Bankester, the Fairlington resident and naturalist who has organized the tree stand's invasive weed-pulling efforts over the last year. "Actually, I'm surprised at how *little* ivy is left. But it's still a little early. Wait until next month, and we'll see." In addition to straggler ivy targets, watchers hope soon to see the more desirable sprouts of wildflowers that were planted: New England aster, tall swamp marigold, butterfly marigold, red columbine, Canada goldenrod, and dwarf lance-leaf coreopsis.



Compost workshop, Wednesday, May 16

They call it black gold for good reason. You can take humble yard waste and turn it into valuable compost. Learn tips and tricks for the process, including how to keep a pest-free compost pile on Wednesday, May 16, 7 to 9 pm at the Fairlington Community Center. To pre-register, contact Virginia Cooperative Extension at 703-228-6414.

English ivy can choke and kill trees

Arlington's parks resource managers and Tree Stewards know that this lovely little green plant can actually strangle trees, accelerate rot, attract mosquitoes, and cause mature trees to fall down during storms because the branches are overburdened by the weight of ivy vines. They advocate protecting your trees and landscaping investments by pulling ground cover ivy and cutting ivy away from your trees:

- Use garden clippers to cut ivy at the bottom around the entire trunk of infested trees.
- Pull all ivy out of the ground around the base of the tree, making a two foot "life saver ring" around the tree.
- Once it's cut, leave ivy on the tree. Do not pull it off because it could strip off bark and harm the tree. Ivy will gradually blend into the tree bark after it dies back.

For more information, go online to www.TreeStewards.org.

Don't let the soil around a young tree's roots turn to cement

Tree Stewards remind us to pay attention to watering young trees. The tree experts note that our area has received only about 65 percent of normal rainfall since the beginning of the year. In addition, there has been no snowmelt to speak of this spring, and warmer weather has caused unseasonably high evaporation rates. Thus what ground moisture exists is fast drying up.

Here's some advice to aid the survival of young trees—they need about one inch of rain a week for the first three years of life. Buy a simple rain gauge. If it hasn't rained one inch in the last week, take out the hose and let it run for several minutes around a young tree. Or buy a gator bag or ooze tub, and remember to fill it weekly. If you take the watering pledge at Casey Trees (a reforestation advocacy group in the Washington area, www.caseytrees.org), you can receive a free rain gauge and sign up for e-mail alerts about watering needs.



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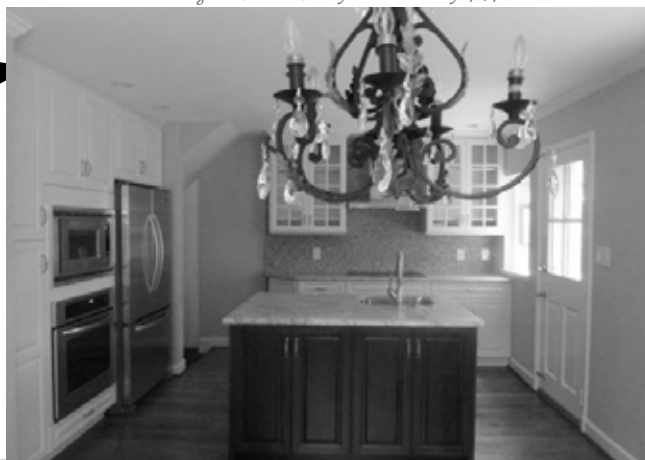
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Fairlington FINS summer swim program 2012



Fairlington FINS (Friends Interested in Neighborhood Swimming), now celebrating its 15th anniversary, is a fun, instructional, community-based summer swim program for children ages 5 to 12.

FINS will be held for three weeks this summer, July 9 – 27. (Note: There will be no FINS practices or meet during the Fourth of July week. This is an important change from previous years.) Practices are held at three south Fairlington pools (a different pool each week). Each week includes four afternoon practices Monday through Thursday: 3:30 – 4 pm for 5 to 6 yrs; 4 – 4:40 pm for 7 to 8 yrs; and 4:40 – 5:20 pm for 9 to 12 yrs. Swim meets are held on Fridays (no afternoon practice) starting at 6 pm and running about one and a half hours.

Daily swim practices focus on the introduction and refinement of children's swimming skills. With the exception of any 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 noo-



Photograph by Dana Andy.

dle. The meets are very informal (we do not race against other teams), and all racers receive a ribbon. Parents will be asked to help at the meets, calling the races, writing ribbons, and helping the coaches organize the races.

FINS registration forms, including a more detailed schedule and information sheet, will be available Tuesday, May 1 via e-mail or available for pick up at the Fairlington Community Center on S. Stafford Street. For more information or registration forms, please contact Dana Andy at 571-236-1648 or theandfamily@comcast.net. **Please read carefully for registration policies:** Due to the increasing popularity of FINS, there is a three-tier registration procedure. FINS registration for returning FINS participants and their eligible siblings (Fairlington residents) will be May 1 – 13. Beginning Monday, May 14, new FINS participants (Fairlington residents) can register. Beginning June 4, if there are any remaining slots, non-Fairlington residents will be allowed to register. Only 50 children will be accepted on

a first come, first-served basis. The cost for the season is \$45 per child for residents and \$50 for non-residents. You won't find more affordable swim instruction—or a more exciting community activity—anywhere!

—Dana Andy

Summer classes sign-up time is now

Sign up begins Wednesday, May 23 for the Department of Parks and Recreation summer classes for children, teens, and adults: County residents may sign up online, via fax, and via mail-in registration. Resident phone and walk-in registration begins May 30. Summer classes begin Monday, June 25.

First-day registration for spring classes set a record this year. On March 14, when the process opened for county residents, more than 4,800 sign-ups were recorded—250 more than the previous record high. Of the 761 classes offered, 223 reached maximum capacity on the first day.

Fairlington Community Center hours and contact info

Monday through Friday, 8 am – 9 pm

Saturday, 8 am – 5 pm

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.



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Constabulary notes from ACPD

- Most parents of Abingdon students will have heard about the incident at the school playground during spring break week last month. From the police report:

BRANDISHING A FIREARM, 04/04/12, 3000 block of S. Abingdon Street. On April 4 at 12:55 pm, a male juvenile subject brandished a BB gun towards children on a playground and made threatening remarks. The subject fled the scene on foot and was apprehended a short time later by police. The subject was arrested and charged with brandishing a firearm on school property.

ACPD Third District Commander Captain Brett Butler is matter-of-fact in stating that the suspect has been charged and awaits court. But he laments the juvenile's "very poor decision-making" if his intent was to have a little fun. It would not have been funny, Butler says, if an officer had seen the suspect, "because BB guns, and Airsoft and paintball guns look very much like the real thing. It could have ended very badly." In addition, he commends the bravery of the minors who came forward and reported the crime.

The charge of "brandishing" refers to pointing, holding, or brandishing a firearm [in a threatening manner]; the Virginia statute refers to brandishing a real firearm, of course, and also to any "air or gas operated weapon or object similar in appearance"—that is, the law includes "toy" guns because fake, imitation, hobby-game, and replica guns look so much like the real thing. (Federal

law mandates that there be an orange/red safety tip or muzzle plug on replica guns in order to distinguish them from real guns. Critics of the measure point out that the orange tip might not be seen by law enforcement, or it might be removed or painted over.) Brandishing is a Class 1 misdemeanor; because the Abingdon incident occurred on school property, the charge is a Class 6 felony.

- Captain Butler offers a "buyer beware" caution about door-to-door solicitors who seem to grow in number with the warmer weather—they may be selling magazines, tree trimming, or some other kind of yard work or repair.

For example, on one evening in April, Arlington police dispatch received numerous calls about aggressive magazine salesmen targeting northside residences. From the report: "Two corporations known as High Standard Inc. and Ultimate Unity Inc. transport young men from states as far away as Florida and Indiana to sell magazines door-to-door. The current group is staying at an Econolodge in Fredericksburg and is transported to Arlington in vans to blanket neighborhoods. Two salesmen smelled of marijuana and admitted smoking while selling in the county. Officers issued a total of eight summonses for soliciting without permits and business licenses." ACPD requests that you report door-to-door solicitors to police (non-emergency number, 703-558-2222) so that officers can track their whereabouts. "We like to keep tabs on them," says Captain Butler.

Ways to increase AFAC's yield

The Arlington Food Assistance Center, the county's food pantry, located at 2708 S. Nelson Street near Four Mile Run, is open Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4:30 pm, and Saturday, 11:30 am to 1 pm. For more information, go online to www.afac.org.

Seeds: You can stop by to select seeds to grow in a Plot Against Hunger. If you've started seedlings, you can deliver young tomato and pepper plants this month for distribution to AFAC clients to grow.

Weekend drivers: Help by picking up produce donated at the close of the Saturday or Sunday farmers markets.

Weekend bagging chief: Help by supervising other volunteers on weekend afternoons as they bag produce—the thousands of pounds of fresh produce donated by local farmers markets. Volunteers unload the produce from the van as it arrives, refresh and clean it, and then bag it for distribution to AFAC's 1,650 client families. Weekend supervisors would be people who are comfortable directing others and who can make a commitment of one to two times a month from May to December; training is provided. Supervisor hours are noon to 2:30 pm on Saturday or 1 to 3:30 pm on Sunday. For more information, contact Laura Jackson at laura.jackson@afac.org.



LIBBY!

FOR COUNTY BOARD

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

We won! Thank you all so much for your support over these many years. As always, Fairlington was crucial to my victory. I received 40% more votes here than in any other Arlington Precinct.

As I settle into my new position I hope you will stay in touch. With your support we can all work to keep Arlington the home we love.

-Libby

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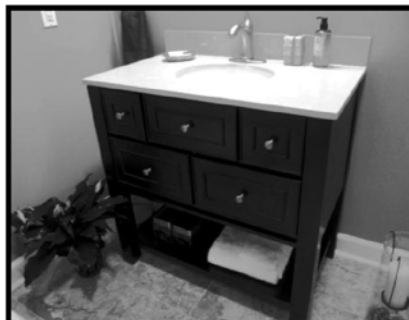
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Verizon FiOS: It is unlikely in the foreseeable future that Verizon will invest in FiOS infrastructure construction in Fairlington. Kent Duffy reported that although Verizon has not publicly stated its waning interest in building FiOS in new communities of potential consumers, several tech blogs describe what is called Verizon's change of business strategy. Based on lesser revenues from FiOS than had been previously expected, commentators think, Verizon has shifted its focus away from expanding through new construction to expanding its subscriber base in areas where construction is completed.

Battery at Fairlington: Corinthian Contractors, owners of the commercial property on S. Abingdon Street near the Fairlington firehouse, continue to work with an architect on plans to redevelop the site, reported Rosiland Jordan. However, overall weakness in the economy slows progress, and no building permits have yet been pulled for the project. An optimistic schedule would see construction begin by the end of 2013. Before then, there would be various phases of plan reviews by county staff, and opportunity for neighbors to pose questions or express concerns.



At the FCA meeting in April, FCA vice president Bryan Pettigrew, at right, talks with Terry Placek (left) and Patty Clark. Photograph by Gretchen Fallon.

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— Edward Getterman,
Fairlington Resident

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— Rick Micker, Former Fairlington Condo VP

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— Denice McCullough, Fairlington Resident

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FAIRLINGTON DAY

Saturday, May 12



We gathered at Utah Park in 2010—this year, see you at the FCC!

Join your neighbors for fun and games on Fairlington Day—*FREE*

11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Fairlington Community Center grounds and play areas

- Free grilled hot dogs, sodas, water, starting at 11:30, while supplies last.
- DJs and music. Pick-up games on the soccer field. Local biz vendors.
- Visits from county officials, ACPD police cruiser, ACFD Engine 107!
- All-cookies Great American Bake Sale. *Sweet!*
- *For the kids:* Pony rides, petting zoo, moon bounces, face-painting, arts & crafts, and more!
- Organization tables and displays providing information for:
 - Car-free transportation options
 - Abingdon PTA
 - MOMS Club, plus a bake sale!
- Fairlington T-shirts on sale for \$15.

Bring your lawn chairs/picnic blankets to sit on! Bring your kids, cameras, and dogs (on leash)! Bring your appetite and good cheer! Bring good weather!
(Activities will continue inside the FCC in case of rain.)

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DOWN TO EARTH patio gardening



Your plain brown fence can host a wealth of blooms

The constant in every Fairlington patio is the fence. It dominates by enclosing a small yard or 9 x 12 foot concrete pad outlined by modest garden beds. If your patio is filled with perennials, ground cover, or annuals, the fence is even more a fixture without the natural veil of taller shrubs or dwarf trees. To soften the fence's presence, try planting a few vines on an iron or wooden trellis; tie the trellis to the fence with a sturdy piece of string. Or buy an iron tripod trellis and stand it in a corner, which will provide a multi-dimensional look.

Late spring is a good time to shop for a vine. When you do, you'll find it at the nursery tied to poles, since the branches are flimsy and have no support. Once you have it in your patio, untie the vines, remove the poles and thread each herbaceous vine through an opening in the trellis. Sometimes, you may find a vine at the nursery that's more mature and already filling out a trellis.

Some vines are deciduous, some evergreen, others annual. Before you purchase, consider what you want to achieve. Do you want an evergreen? Flowers? Fruit? Fragrance? Or an invitation for nesting birds? Here are some choices:

Carolina jessamine: The vine is evergreen and offers bright yellow, bugle-shaped flowers that appear in early April and last through spring. It can take heavy shade as well as some sun. The leaves are lance-shaped and shiny, and become purplish in winter. Translucent red fruit



You often see wisteria climbing a tree, because the weighty vine requires a sturdy trellis. Photograph by Corey Hilz, coreyhilz.com.

forms in autumn.

Clematis: This popular choice offers lavender, white, or purple star-shaped flowers from late spring through summer. It has a subtle evergreen presence. Dieback is clumpy and can be cut back in spring. Don't cut green parts since next season's flowers form here. Be patient since clematis may have some seasons without any blooms. Clematis prefers sun but can take shade.

Honeysuckle: This familiar evergreen vine offers one of the most fragrant and longest-lasting flowers (spring to early December)—yellow flowers with white stamens or a combination of mauve and yellow.

Wisteria: This fast grower bears the thickest branch of any vine. With lavender or white flowers, the pendulous blooms show from mid-March through summer. You will see it growing wild up tall trees. Put this one on an iron trellis since this vine's branches are thick. Needs full sun.

Pyracantha: There is no other fruit show like that of the firethorn, this vine's common name. Bright orange berries (yellow in some cultivars) cover the foliage in autumn. Two-inch-long appendages grow off its branches, which ward off hawks and crows from nesting birds within the foliage. This evergreen has thick branches and needs the support of an iron trellis.

Mandevilla: The four-inch-wide flowers of this Brazilian native come in red, pink, or white, and the flowers have yellow "eyes" like a camellia. Its leaves are glossy, undulating, and shaped like mini footballs. Although an annual in our area, it's worth the expense (\$75-\$100), since it lives from mid-April until Thanksgiving. Imagine seeing this growing wild along the roadside in Rio.

Trumpet vine: Plant this in full sun and watch yellow or orange-red trumpet-shaped flowers form in clumps from summer into fall. A fast grower, it will fill a trellis or façade with its abundant and flimsy toothed foliage. It is deciduous but will attract hummingbirds with long-necked floral tubes.

Climbing hydrangea: Although it's deciduous, its branches are an exfoliating rust color, and it offers white flowers (with small petals) in summer, with leaves that are fat and serrated on the edge. This one loves shade and espaliers well.

— Bill Sullivan,
www.sullivanlandscaping.net

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Animal Talk

Pets left in hot cars now leave owners subject to fines and criminal charges

Each year we try to remind Fairlingtonians about the dangers of heat stress on pets—particularly dogs left in cars—in the warm summer months. Many people like to take their pets with them while they run errands. What they may not realize is that temperatures in the car can double in a very short period of time, putting pets at risk of heat stress or even death. This means that on a mild, 70-degree day, temperatures in the car can rise above 100 degrees in as little as 30 minutes—even if you crack the windows.

This year, the City of Alexandria has done something about the problem, adding a law to the city code that would impose a \$250 fine on people who leave their pets in the car when the temperature is above 70 degrees. Violators would be charged with a Class 3 misdemeanor; a Class 1 misdemeanor would be imposed if the pet suffered from heat stress as diagnosed by a vet. The law would make it easier for officials to remove pets from a hot car and for owners to be charged for any removal expenses.

Many pet owners don't realize that dogs are particularly "heat challenged," and extra care is needed in the summer to keep them safe. Humans sweat to cool off, but dogs can cool themselves only by panting and sweating through their paw pads, so it doesn't take much for them to overheat. Safe ways to enjoy the summer weather outdoors with your dog include exercising early in the morning or later in the evening, sticking to shady routes, bringing water for your dog, keeping your dog's fur trimmed, or even getting a kiddie pool. Whatever you do, never force your dog to exercise if it seems too hot or tired.



On warm days, dogs will be happier and safer at home than they would be in a sweltering car.

Signs of heatstroke include restlessness, excessive thirst, heavy panting, lethargy, lack of appetite, dark tongue, rapid heartbeat, fever, vomiting, or lack of coordination. If your dog displays these signs, get it into the shade immediately and call your vet. Lower your dog's body temperature gradually by giving it water; applying a cold towel or ice pack to the head, neck, and chest; or immersing it in luke-warm (not cold) water.

What can you do if you see a dog locked in a car on a hot day? One option is to take down the car's information and try to locate the owner in a nearby shop. Or call the local animal welfare authorities (Alexandria, 703-838-4774; Arlington, 703-931-9241) or the police to report

your concerns. Play it safe for the rest of the summer and keep your pets safe and cool—at home, while you run errands, or together while you enjoy outside activities on a hot day.

—Christine Chirichella, Assistant Editor

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Faces of Fairlington: Michael and Heather Creadon have been Fairlington residents since August 2001. They are the proud parents of Abingdon students Reese (4th grade) and Devon (Kindergarten). The Creadons are another example of the charismatic, multi-talented and community-oriented families that have positively impacted both Abingdon and Fairlington. As a Staff Sergeant in the U.S. Army, Michael's official MOS is Musician. He plays bugle for the Fife and Drum Corps and proudly takes on the challenge of teaching his sons how to play any brass instrument they wish to learn. His teaching extends beyond the living room when he doubles as a music professor at Northern Virginia Community College. Heather refers to herself as "a stay-at-home mom who keeps accidentally getting work." Since becoming a licensed Zumba

instructor in 2010, she has been teaching Zumbatomic as an after-school program at Abingdon. Furthermore, in June, Heather will begin teaching Zumba class at the Fairlington Community Center. Asked about Abingdon, both parents agreed that it is a unique and special school. They are most impressed with how the teaching staff has made their boys feel special. Heather added, "Every year we have experienced a teacher that is professional, caring, and accessible. We have formed wonderful relationships with all of our children's teachers." But enough about the parents—let's hear from two of Abingdon's great students. Ten year-old Reese says, "My favorite things about Abingdon are math, Mr. Utley, and P.E.!" Younger brother Devon displays his eclectic interests: "My favorite Abingdon things are architecture, recess, and the food!"



Abingdon's beloved architecture teacher, David McDavitt.

Architecture: An Abingdon favorite of students and parents

Abingdon is the only elementary school in the country that offers architecture as a core curriculum subject. Some schools offer an architecture unit, but it's short-term and not integrated with core subject areas. Abingdon's architecture class illustrates the authentic context for mathematics, physics, history, art, writing, and problem-solving in an interdisciplinary and meaningful way.

Architecture teacher, and Fairlington homeowner, David McDavitt,

has been teaching at Abingdon for 20 years. His goal has always been to bring academics to life by including such fascinating tangential topics as cultural identity, tourism, comparative religion, optical illusions, warfare, the evolution of civilization, monuments, public spaces, visual expression, precision, and synthesizing tradition and invention. Why is his architecture class a student and parent favorite? McDavitt endeavors to create captivating curriculum that challenges learners at all levels. "I encourage independent research, student-directed inquiry, teamwork, love of learning, and mastery of skills and

Continued, next page.

concepts." His class is not designed to groom future architects; rather, it's a vehicle to explore culture, math, science, and art in a relevant and engaging way. "Architecture can provide remarkable experiences and background knowledge to our diverse population."

Cardinal car wash is coming!

The Abingdon fifth grade, in conjunction with the PTA, will host their first annual car wash on Saturday, May 5 (to coincide with the North Fairlington Community Center spring yard sale). Drive your car down to the Abingdon school parking lot between the hours of 8:30 am and 12:30 pm. For \$5 your car will receive tender-loving washing care from multiple fifth-grade hands. After your car is washed, cruise through our drive-thru, "The Cardinal Café," for deli-



Abingdon's Fantastic Four, the fifth grade teachers Katharine Hale, Sara McClellan-Saxton, Liz Dehaven, and Sarah Payerchin invite you to their Cardinal car wash.

cious baked goods, fruit, beverages, and Abingdon apparel. All money raised will be used to fund the end of year fifth grade field trip, gradu-

ation ceremony, and yearbook expenses.

—Dan Branch, PTA co-president



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neighborhood news

Wakefield HS flowering plant sale, Saturday, May 5

The Wakefield High School PTA is sponsoring a flowering plants sale at the school (Dinwiddie Street side of the building) on Saturday, May 5, from 11 am to 3 pm. Available are annuals, perennials, herbs, and flowering baskets. For more information, go online to the school Web site, www.apsva.com/Page/8814.

Fair Golds

The Fair Golds, a social group for those 55 and older in and around Fairlington, meets at the Fairlington Community Center at noon on the first and third Thursday of the month (except in August). Regular meetings begin with a brown-bag lunch; dessert and beverages are provided. We welcome guests and/or new members over 55. This month, we will meet on Thursday, May 3, for a business meeting and on Thursday, May 17, for a program/social meeting.

Fairlington Diners

Fairlington Diners will be on hiatus through August. We will consider resuming our dinners, to start again in September. For information or if you have recommendations for future dinners, please contact Carol Dabbs by e-mailing carol_dabbs@yahoo.com.

Book Group

Black and poor, thirty-one-year-old Henrietta Lacks died excruciatingly of cancer at Johns Hopkins in 1951. Cancerous cells taken from her without her consent started an astoundingly survivable and prolific cell line with vast benefits for medical research. Plumbing the ethical issues involved, Rebecca Skloot tells the story of Lacks, her cells, and how the Lacks family learned the truth in *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*. All Fairlingtonians are invited to discuss the book on Tuesday, May 22, at 7:30 pm in the North Fairlington Community Center, 3005 S. Abingdon St. For more information, please contact Terry Gough at tjgough@verizon.net.

MOMS Club of Arlington-Fairlington

Are you a 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 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. Our club also raised donations for and participated in the March of Dimes' March for Babies, which took place last May. We have hosted speakers on topics including separation anxiety, nutrition, early childhood literacy, and positive discipline, and even wardrobe styling for busy moms.

Parents and parents-to-be are welcome to join us for our next general meeting on Wednesday, May 9, at 4 pm at the Fairlington Community Center. Children are always welcome. For more information about the club, the meeting, or membership, contact Lauren Bailey (Membership VP) at laurencbailey@gmail.com. Annual dues of \$25 support quarterly group functions and community service projects.

Fairlington Babysitting Co-op

Fairlington families have been enjoying the benefits of this unique organization for 30 years. Parents who are ready for some time away from the kids, but don't know who to call, should consider joining the Co-op. The Co-op is a network of Fairlington families who exchange free babysitting services. It's perfect for parents who would like to know dependable adults to watch their children and meet other families in the community. Whether a parent is single or married, working or staying at home, the Co-op can accommodate diverse schedules and situations.

The Co-op works on a card system, where each member starts out with 15 one-hour cards and can use them to pay for sittings. Sittings may be requested during the day, evenings or weekends. During the day children are normally brought to the sitter's house, and in the evenings the sitter usually comes to the children's house; however, different arrangements may be made. The Co-op holds quarterly social events where children play together, parents converse, and

neighborhood news

Continued

a few business items are discussed.

For an application or more information, contact the FBC via Google Groups at <http://groups.google.com/group/fairlington-babysitting> or by e-mail at fairlington.babysitting@gmail.com.

Contribute your computer skills to the library

Shirlington Branch Library is looking for someone who likes to teach people how to use a computer. The volunteer would assist the instructor in a variety of classes offered at the library. The classes include but are not limited to "Computer Comfort," MS Word, MS Excel, PowerPoint, and photo sharing. For more information, go online to the library's Web page or call 703-228-7688.

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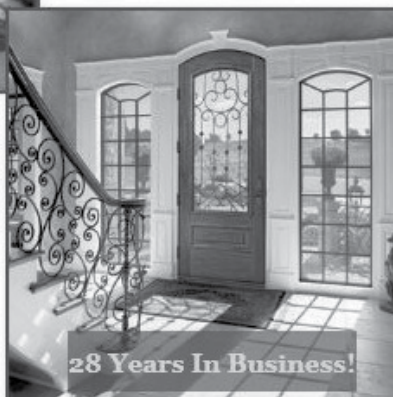


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FOOT MASSAGE - REFLEXOLOGY. Personal pampering, pregnancy & pregnancy labor induction & more. www.moorethanyoga.com, 703-671-2435.

INFANT MASSAGE. Learn to massage your baby. Monthly classes. Certified Fairlington resident. www.moorethanyoga.com, 703-671-2435.

COMPUTER PROBLEM? Don't overspend to fix it. Free Estimate - Evening Hours - On-Site Service. We can handle anything computer related. (267) 250 - 0594. BeltwayPC.com.

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.

FRENCH TUTOR. Ph.D. with 24 years teaching experience offering conversation-based lessons and reinforcement work to adults and children. Ran the Foreign Language Department at The Field School (DC) for three years and my own language school (in Florida) for four years. Testimonials available at www.FrenchinDC.com. Please call 703-869-8826 or email me at Melissa@FrenchinDC.com to set up a free sample lesson.

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

Child Care

CHILD CARE. Professional in-home daycare. FT/PT. CPR and first aid certified. Excellent references. Worked with children for 25 years. Infants welcome. Call Pat at 703-370-2603 or 703-566-7448. www.patkids.com

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

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

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

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

DOOR SOLUTIONS. An expert in Fairlington doors. 1,000's of pleased customers. For contact, scheduling, and useful door information, visit: www.doorsolutions.biz

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

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.

BATHROOM AND KITCHEN. Fairlington Maintenance Service is now on "Angie's List" of contractors. Thanks to all Fairlingtonians who voluntarily recommended us. Company ID 462536. Call 703-379-7733.

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.

WITT CONSTRUCTION. Kitchens, baths, built-in cabinetry and design consultation. Licensed/insured. Fairlington resident. 703-626-6429. garywitt44@gmail.com.

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Mini-ads

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.

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.

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

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

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

PAINTING. Painting and wallpapering. Clean, neat, reliable. 25 years experience. Liscensed, bonded, insured. Free estimates. References available. Call Steve Chute. 571-216-9338.

MT TILE. Expert tile installations. Shower and bathroom, kitchen floors and backsplashes. Porcelain, ceramic, natural stone, glass tile. Licensed and insured. 937-689-9655. mttile@gmail.com

RESTORATIONS & RENOVATIONS. Licensed/insured GC to manage all your home improvements. Complete water damage restoration (insurance company & personal), Bath & Kitchen remodels, mold, asbestos and lead remediation & mitigation. Call David @ SUMMIT RENOVATIONS 703-732-1534 or e-mail david@summitrenovations.net. We are EPA lead certified for all your pre-1978 property projects. Call for a FREE “Renovate Right” EPA information booklet to safeguard your property and your family.

House Cleaning

MICHELE'S MAIDS. Reliable, honest, affordable. BACKGROUND CHECK ON EVERY EMPLOYEE. Window cleaning now available. LICENSED, BONDED INSURED. 13 years in Fairlington. Fairlington references available. No Machines to talk to. 703-820-1808 Visit our website at www.michelesmaids.net

FAIRLINGTON MAID SERVICE. Serving Fairlington since 1978. Family owned and operated. Our staff is reliable, trustworthy, punctual, and detail oriented. Our prices are extremely competitive, our service is thorough, plus we are great with family pets. We have references throughout the neighborhood. Call today for a free estimate. 703-820-8635.

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.

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.

Pet Services

ALWAYS CARING PET CARE. Providing reliable, flexible, and responsible pet care to Fairlington dogs and cats for over 15 years! Daily dog walking, cat sitting, overnite, vacation and holiday visits. Special housebreaking schedule for puppies. Excellent references. 703-765-0990/c 703-405-2775.

HOME ALONE FELINES. Loving, professional, in-home care of your special feline. 703-671-5504; homealonefelines@gmail.com

CATS/KITTENS FOR ADOPTION. See photos www.homealone.petfinder.com

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

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

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

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

Please include the following information with all ads:

Address: _____ Phone (w): _____

Category (see newsletter for options): _____

Mini-Ad Text (please print clearly): _____

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4800 S. 31st Street | Arlington, VA 22206 | 703-998-3111

MARCH

TOP PRODUCER



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FEATURED LISTINGS OF THE MONTH



Cameron Station/Alex

Gorgeous 4 lvl TH. 3BR/3.5BA. Eat-in-kit., 2 car garage, 2 Mstr. Suites, HDWDs, & FREE Metro shuttle. \$605,000 Call Pat Shannon



Hollows/Occoquan—Gorgeous 3BR/2.5BA TH w/\$1000s in upgrades. \$354,900. Call Julie Flory



Fairlington/Arl—Ren. 2BR/2BA TH. New HVAC, windows ++. \$380,000 Call Joanne Ritchick



Logan Circle/DC

Stunning 2BR/2.5BA two-lvl. w/soaring ceilings, large Mstr. BRs. Mins. to Metro. \$612,998. Call

Ryan Williams



Kingsberry/Fairfax—Spacious & renovated 3BR/2.55BA TH w/2700sf of living area, 2 flplc., 2 lvl. deck. \$474,900 Call Pat Rehill



Vista on Courthouse/Arl—Spectacular 4 lvl. TH w/Gourmet kit., fenced patio, 3 gar. prk. sp. \$900,000 Call Pat Shannon

**SERVING FAIRLINGTON
 & ALL NORTHERN VA**

