

all FAIRLINGTON BULLETIN



www.fca-fairlington.org

MAY 2019

Volume 45, Number 5

Fairlington's second outdoor movie to be held May 4

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After being rained out twice last year, the Fairlington Citizens Association (FCA) will host its second free outdoor movie night to encourage Fairlington residents to get out and enjoy the company of their community. Taking advantage of the neighborhood's lovely facilities, a large screen will be set up behind the Fairlington Community Center on Saturday, May 4.

Residents are invited to bring blankets, chairs, and their favorite theatre snacks to set up a picnic on the FCC field and enjoy a viewing of "Moana" under the stars. The movie is set to begin at sundown (around 8 pm), but those attending are encouraged to come early to set up and visit with friends and neighbors. Please note that alcoholic beverages are not permitted on FCC grounds.



Though there are floodlights behind the FCC, the further reaches of the field will be much darker when the movie ends around 9:50 pm. Residents are encouraged to bring flashlights, camping lanterns, or phones equipped with flashlight settings to navigate their way home after the show.

There is plenty of space to set up with friends and family, and additional trash and recycling bins will be provided for your convenience. As those who have attended other outdoor movie showings can attest, bug spray is always a good idea. Subtitles will be provided throughout the film, which is approximately 113 minutes long.

Though we are hoping for a beautiful May evening, there is always a chance that such an event will have to be rescheduled because of inclement weather. In the event of cancellation, an announcement will be made on the FCA website and Facebook page. A make-up date will then be announced in the *All Fairlington Bulletin*.

FCA is looking forward to sponsoring this event, and celebrating the start of summer with our neighbors in Fairlington. We hope to see you there!

—Lindsay Willmann

Amazon briefing: Amazon representatives will brief Fairlington on their HQ2 plans on Monday, April 29, at 7 pm in the FCC.

Coming up ...

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

FCA monthly meeting May 8

There will be no presentation at the May 8 meeting. The Board will hold a work session.

Regular board business:

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

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

Online resources:

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



Find us on Facebook at Fairlington Appreciation Society.

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

Web design by Avatar Systems Ltd., Alexandria, VA, www.avatar-systems.com.

USEFUL CONTACTS

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Fairlington Community Center	703-228-6588
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Miss Utility	811
Pothole Patrol Hotline	703-228-6485
Shirlington Library	703-228-6545
Street Light Hotline	703-228-6511
www.arlingtonva.us/departments/Environmental Services/dot/traffic/streetlights/index.htm	
Helicopter Noise Complaints	Mike Lucier (VA 8th Dist.) 202-225-4376

Fairlington Citizens Association

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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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Email editorial announcements to:

editor@fca-fairlington.org

Email commercial and mini ads to:

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

COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING RATES

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

Ad Size	Height	Width	Rate
1/8 page	2 3/16 in.	3 5/8 in.	\$47
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Full-Page Insert (2 Sides)	11 in.	8.5 in.	\$570

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Calendar

Playground ribbon-cutting

Saturday, May 4, 11 am, FCC

Movie night: Moana

Saturday, May 4, 8 pm (approx.), FCC

Farmers Market Opening Day

Sunday, May 5, 9 am, FCC

FCA monthly meeting

Wednesday, May 8, 7 pm, FCC

Grounds Walk

Saturday, May 11, 9:45 am, FCC

Home and Garden Tour

Saturday, May 11, 11 am

Fairlington Diners

Monday, May 13, 6:30 pm

Ramparts, 1700 Fern St., Alexandria

Fairlington Knits

Monday, May 13, 6:30 pm, FCC

Book Group

Tuesday, May 28, 7:30 pm, FCC

Memorial Day

Monday, May 27, FCC Closed

Fairlington Diners

Wednesday, May 29, 6:30 pm

Rabieng Thai Restaurant

5892 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church

Giddy Up!



Lizzie Lyons and Traci Gravelle work on costumes and props for the upcoming Abingdon musical, "Go West!" Photo by Guy Land.

Contributors this month: Lynne Blasi, Julie Butler, Leslie Cameron, Sara Tuke Carr, Jennifer Davies, Donna Felipe, Guy Land, Carrie Lewis, Andrew Raab, Susan Renehan, Rebecca Sayres, Bill Sullivan, Lindsay Willmann, Anne Wilson, and Sam Wolbert.

Some images in this publication may be digitally enhanced.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

FCA searches for ways to better connect with you, support the neighborhood groups you participate in, and enhance the value of living in Fairlington.

Many of you have told us you would like easier access to FCA meetings, so last month for the first time we live streamed our program on Facebook. We had an average of 30-40 people online throughout the presentations by the Arlington police and the Alexandria stormwater management staff. Our plan is to live stream all of our future special presentations. And we are hoping to also support real-time online questions and then archive the videos on our website.

Almost 200 hundred of you responded to our earlier online survey, and the FCA Board will discuss the survey results at our May meeting. Thank you for your ideas.

One finding that surprised me is the widespread interest in seeing us boost a focus on the arts. Over half of the respondents recommended engaging with the Arlington Arts Center. "Consider looking at what Crystal City is doing with public spaces and art," one response suggested. We'll be thinking about how we can incorporate this interest into our workplan.

The survey responses identified a number of new and continuing activities for FCA to sponsor—home improvement information, gardening and plant seminars, kid-friendly events, activities that bring the community together.

May overflows with these. On May 4 we are collaborating with Arlington County in a ribbon-cutting at the newly renovated Fairlington playground. The playground is winning rave reviews and drawing hundreds of kids. It's become a de facto community gathering place.

Later that day we'll bring back our free Family Movie Night on the field behind the community center. We got rained out twice last year, but turnout in 2017 showed that you like this event.

The Fairlington Farmers Market returns for another season on May 5. FCA helped launch the market and continues to be a financial supporter. The market's customer base has grown every year.

May 11 brings two more community activities: a plant "walking seminar" led by Fairlington Master Gardeners and the popular biennial Home & Garden Tour, presented by the Fairlington Historical Society.

We hope you'll take advantage of these opportunities and continue to share your thoughts about how FCA can add value to life in Fairlington.

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



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Renovated playground ribbon-cutting ceremony set for May 4

Mark your calendars— the FCA and Arlington's Department of Parks and Recreation invite you to celebrate the newly renovated playground on Saturday, May 4, at 11 am. The event is appropriately scheduled on Neighborhood Day. Representatives from the county, including county board members, will be in attendance along with FCA board members.

To support the event, FCA has teamed up with the county to provide face painting, balloon art, and a scavenger hunt. FCA is also looking forward to debuting its new line of Fairlington t-shirts, which will be available for purchase. FCA accepts cash, checks, and most major credit cards.

In addition, FCA will provide light refreshments from the local bakery, Great Harvest. The bakery, located off Quaker Ln. in Centre Plaza, is owned by Fairlington Arbor residents Megan and Brad Hurst. The Hurst family

has lived in Fairlington for several years and both their daughters attend Abingdon. In the past, Great Harvest has generously donated baked goods to Abingdon PTA events.

The much-anticipated playground renovation and exercise station has been delayed due to a very rainy fall. The fences came down on Friday, March 22, and news quickly spread throughout the neighborhood.

"Parents, including myself, had been fielding questions for weeks on when the playground would be ready. It has certainly generated a lot of excitement from our youngest residents," Fairlington Meadows resident Kerry Abbott commented. She noted her daughters, ages nine and six, are very excited about the new play equipment. "The May 4 event is a great opportunity to celebrate Neighborhood Day in Fairlington."

—Jennifer Davies



The newly renovated Fairlington playground opened on a Friday in late March and has been a popular destination every day since then. Photos by Guy Land.



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Police report crime in Fairlington remains low

Despite several high-profile incidents in late March and early April, crime in Fairlington and the surrounding communities continues to be at a historic low, according to several members of the law enforcement community.

Captain Wayne Vincent, along with Officer Michael Keen and Officer Steve Wallace of Arlington Police Department's Community Outreach Team, spoke at the April 10 FCA meeting about the importance of being vigilant while also remembering that overall, crime in the neighborhood is down.

Since January 1 of this year, there have been eight instances of automobile crimes. (Related: see story on page 9.) Six of those vehicles had been unlocked. Officer Keen reminded people to lock their cars, and never leave extra keys in the vehicle. He went on to explain that would-be auto thieves walk through neighborhoods lifting door handles looking for an unlocked car. Often the intent is to steal sunglasses, small electronics, loose change, or even an EZ Pass transponder.

In addition to automobile crimes, there had been several instances of fraud reported, which increases around tax time. The officers reminded everyone never to give



Arlington police Captain Wayne Vincent speaks with several Fairlington residents at the FCA meeting on April 10. Photo by Guy Land.

out payment information to anyone who calls you on the phone.

Members of Arlington PD's Department of Homeland Security as well as an FBI Special Agent were also on hand to talk to residents about the incident involving stickers and posters from a white supremacist group.

Sergeant Kevin Riley, Homeland Security Supervisor of the Arlington PD said, "One time is too much for white supremacist activity." He explained there are limits as to what law enforcement can do to stop the distribution of

the stickers due to 1st Amendment protections. Other jurisdictions were hit as well, including Alexandria and Vienna.

Detective Ian Campbell, of the Arlington County Homeland Security section, explained that the flyers and stickers were distributed by an organization called Patriot Front. Patriot Front is considered a white nationalist organization, with a presence in all 50 states. According to Detective Campbell, Patriot Front wants to "return the United States to a country for white people." Their members are active on social

Continued on page 18

White supremacist group places posters throughout Fairlington

On the night of March 22, a number of stickers and posters appeared at locations throughout Fairlington. These stickers expressed anti-immigration sentiment and promoted a group known as Patriot Front, which has been classified as a hate group by the Southern Poverty Law Center. The stickers were placed on stop signs and bus shelters and included language and imagery typically associated with neo-Nazi organizations, including fascies.

A Fairlington resident was out walking his dog when he noticed the stickers at various locations around the neighborhood. He brought the incident to the attention of many concerned neighbors.

Other communities in northern Virginia have reported seeing the stickers, including other parts of Arlington, Alexandria, and Reston. The stickers that were distributed in Reston resulted in two men being arrested.

The stickers in Fairlington were reported to the Arlington police. Members of both local and federal law enforcement were on hand at the April 10 meeting of the FCA to discuss the incident in detail (see related article above). They encouraged residents to report instances of hate group activity in the neighborhood.

—Susan Renehan



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Car thefts, accidents, disrupt Fairlington

Two separate incidents in late March and early April have brought the issue of crime to the attention of many Fairlingtonians.

The first incident took place late on the night of March 30 and occurred on 28th St. South in Fairlington Villages, not far from the intersection of King St. and 28th St. A group of individuals driving a stolen vehicle lost control of the car and the resulting crash caused the vehicle to flip. They attempted to break in to several other cars in the area, ultimately fleeing the scene in a vehicle they stole from a Fairlington Villages parking lot. The attempted break-ins resulted in damage to a number of vehicles, including a driver's side car window that was smashed by a log.

Fairlington Villages resident Kathleen Branch was awoken by a knock on her door by an Arlington police officer at 2:30 am on March 31. The officer was trying to determine who owned the Jeep that was broken into in front of her home. "The thieves were very brazen," Branch said. "They attempted to steal the car in front of our house around 11:30 pm, 30 feet away, when everyone's lights were on. When I opened my front door late Saturday night, the car's doors were open and interior lights were on at that time, and apparently neighbors had called to report people out front breaking into cars."

As of mid-April, the Arlington Police Department have not yet apprehended the suspects.

In a separate incident, early on the morning of April 6, a car crashed into the Columbus circle at the intersection of Columbus and South 30th St. The resulting collision caused damage to landscaping and to city street signs. Numerous residents reported hearing the crash. The Alexandria Police Department responded to the incident.

Anyone with any information about these incidents or attempted car thefts in the neighborhood should call the police non-emergency line: 703.746.4444 (Alexandria) or 703.558.2222 (Arlington).

—Susan Renehan

Grounds walk scheduled for May 11

On May 11 from 9:45 am to 10:45 am Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia will offer an educational walk to showcase new plantings in the renovated FCC playground area and surrounding neighborhood with emphasis on native trees, plants and shrubs.

No RSVP required. Individuals wishing to participate will meet in front of the FCC at 9:45 am. For more informa-

tion contact Anne Wilson at wilsanne@gmail.com or Leslie Cameron at leslieacameron5@gmail.com.

—Anne Wilson

Yard sale May 4



Fairlington Villages resident Kerry McKinney checks out bargains at last year's yard sale. Photo by Guy Land.

Get excited for the annual Fairlington Villages Spring Yard Sale on Saturday, May 4, from 8 am to noon. Join the fun at the Fairlington Villages Community Center parking lot, 3005 S. Abingdon St.

Enjoy the warming weather, continue that spring cleaning, and see what your Fairlington neighbors have for sale. Sale areas are \$10 per space and are

available on a first-come, first-served basis (no reservations necessary).

Residents should set up between 7 and 8 am, and everything must be cleared out by 1 pm. A member of the Villages' Activities Committee will collect the fee once you are set up.

Volunteers are needed to help with this event. If you can help, please email the Activities Committee at activities@fairlingtonvillages.com. Please note: the rain date for the yard and plant sale will be in October.

E-CARE to be held May 4

The Arlington Environmental Collection and Recycling Event (E-CARE) is a biannual event at which residents can safely dispose of household hazardous materials (HHM), bikes, small metal items and other recyclable items.

Before you come to E-CARE, talk to your neighbors. Combine your items and save a trip to the collection site. Business and commercial wastes will not be accepted.

E-CARE will be held at 1425 N. Quincy St. from 8:30 am to 3 pm (rain or shine). For more information about accepted materials, go to <https://recycling.arlingtonva.us/household-hazmat/e-care>.

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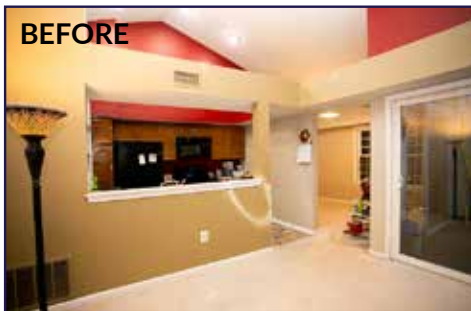
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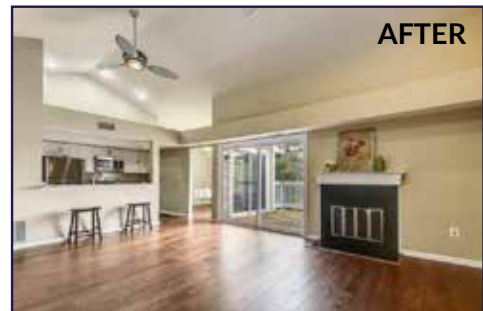
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Silent Auction raises money, awareness

Despite the cold and rainy night, a large crowd of people turned out to support the Fairlington 5K Silent Auction and bid on over one hundred items. The auction, held at the Fairlington Villages Community Center, raised over \$13,000 in donations. The many volunteers included

several Abingdon Elementary teachers. The money raised supports A Cure for Ellie, a non-profit organization that funds research into a rare disease known as LBSL, which affects Abingdon 5th grader Ellie McGinn. *Photos by Mike Leonard.*



APS Transportation meets with Abingdon parents

On April 11, Kristin Haldeman, Director of Multimodal Transportation Planning for Arlington Public Schools, met with Abingdon parents to address APS's bus transportation needs and changes that are in process. APS Transportation is seeking parental feedback through surveys and community meetings as changes are being considered and implemented.

Some of the changes being considered in the future for APS Transportation include the use of public transportation through the ART bus system, "hub"-style bus stops, as well as combining existing bus stops to increase efficiency and on-time arrival to school.

South Fairlington parents shared that there has already been a decrease from two buses to one bus each morning and afternoon with minimal impact on the students.

Coming up on Wednesday, May 8, APS celebrates Bike, Walk and Roll to School Day. Abingdon students are encouraged to ride their bicycles, walk, or scoot to school!

—Sara Tuke Carr

Trades Center study taking place

The Arlington County Department of Environmental Services along with Arlington Public Schools has launched a "Trades Center Optimization study." The Trades Center, located in Shirlington, borders Abingdon Elementary to the north.

The purpose of the study is to assess existing facilities at the Trades Center and to provide recommendations to enhance the site layout.

Phase I, which included a public online feedback form and interviewing key internal stakeholders, has completed. Phase II is scheduled to begin in May 2019 with the goal of providing three concept layouts based upon the Phase I findings.

County Staff from DES and APS will present about the Trades Center during the Shirlington Civic Association meeting on Monday, May 13, at the Shirlington Branch Library from 7 to 8:30 pm. All Fairlington residents are welcome to attend.

—Sam Wolbert



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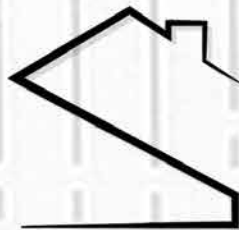


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It's a must-see: take the Home and Garden Tour

The ninth biennial Home and Garden Tour, sponsored by the Fairlington Historical Society (FHS), will be held Saturday, May 11, from 11 am to 3 pm. This year's tour will feature ten homes in North and South Fairlington that showcase a variety of renovated town- and apartment homes.

The tour gives everyone a chance to do what we secretly all want to do—look inside our neighbors' properties to see what kinds of fabulous updates they have made. Many of the tour homes in the past have showcased unique kitchens where owners have removed walls, repositioned appliances, or built islands. Small bathrooms have been transformed into spa-like oases and tiny patios have been landscaped into beautiful outdoor sanctuaries.



Residents always enjoy examining the renovations featured on the tour. Photo by Guy Land.

The tour is a great chance for residents to get a first-hand look at finished renovation projects to gain fresh ideas and often meet the contractors who designed and executed the work. You can view examples of past tours on the FHS website, www.fairlingtonhistoricalsociety.org.

A look at the past

The tour is a fundraiser for the FHS, a hidden treasure within our community that carries out the important work of preserving, protecting, providing awareness for, and promoting Fairlington's history.

Organized in 2000, the FHS succeeded the Fairlington Historical Designation Committee, which had pursued and achieved Historic District status for Fairlington and placement on the Virginia Landmarks Register in December of 1998, and on the National Register of Historic Places in March of 1999.

"Receiving landmark status and historic district designation was an important achievement for Fairlington," notes FHS President Terry Placek, "one largely accomplished by volunteers who painstakingly documented each structure and architectural detail in what was the largest housing complex in the country when it was built between 1942–44."



In 2003, for Fairlington's 60th anniversary, the FHS re-published the definitive history of the community. A classic treasure of narratives and photographs, *Fairlington at 50: May 1943–May 1993*, was written by the late Catherine D. Fellows and originally published by the FCA. The book was re-issued in 2012, following Fellows' death. Order forms are available on the FHS website.

Tickets for this year's tour

You can purchase or pick up your ordered tickets (see the form in the April Bulletin) in South Fairlington at the Fairlington Community Center (3308 S. Stafford St.), Friday, May 3, between 6 and 8 pm, or in North Fairlington at the Spring Yard Sale, Fairlington Villages Community Center (3005 S. Abingdon St.), Saturday, May 4, between 8 and 11 am. You can also purchase or pick up tickets on the day of the tour at the Fairlington Villages Community Center between 10 am and 2 pm. Please note: tour hours end at 3 pm.

—Julie Butler & Rebecca Sayres

Walter Reed construction enters final phase

In mid-April, contractors began the third and final phase of construction on the S. Walter Reed Dr. Improvement project. This last phase focuses primarily on building the refuge island at the intersection of S. Walter Reed Dr. and S. Arlington Mill Dr.

During this phase the sidewalks and trails will be open, while the crosswalks at this intersection will be closed. Bicycle and pedestrian detours will be posted; traffic lanes on S. Arlington Mill Dr. will shift during work hours as necessary.

Work is expected to be complete in approximately six weeks; crosswalks will open earlier if possible.

Just SOLD

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Farmers Market opening day is May 5

Join your friends and neighbors and celebrate the return of the Fairlington Farmers Market Sunday, May 5! The 2019 season kicks off with fun activities and giveaways—check out our Facebook page and weekly e-newsletter for all the details.

The market offers a mix of fresh fruits and vegetables, poultry, meats, eggs, coffee, juices, pastries and baked goods, hot breakfast sandwiches, salads, soups, cheese, flowers, honey, jams, and other prepared foods. All vendors are producers who grow and/or make their products within 125 miles of Arlington. Visit the market each week for special events and fresh, high-quality food right in the neighborhood!

Most of the vendors from last season are returning this year, and we're pleased to welcome back two popular vendors who joined us for part of last season: Ana's Twist and Ozfeka Catering. We're also excited to announce two new vendors: Fairie Springs Farm and Foggy Mountain Pasta! We may have some new vendors on a regular or "pop up" basis too. Here's who you'll find at the market—more information about products and payment methods is available at fairlingtonfarmersmarket.org.

Ana's Twist: Tasty vegetarian and meat empanadas, juices, and soups made in the Ecuadorian tradition

Cafe Los Suenos: A specialty coffee roastery with a variety of blends to enjoy at the market or bring home for the week

Fairie Springs Farm: Cheese made from pasteurized goat and cow's milk, including chevre, feta, mozzarella, and camembert

Foggy Mountain Pasta: Great tasting, hand-made pasta using local ingredients. Pasta is a new offering at our market!

Hog Haven: Heritage pork in a variety of packaged cuts and made-to-order hot breakfast sandwiches

Kiwi Kuisine: Traditional New Zealand-style savory pies, hand-made with all-natural ingredients

Kuhn Orchards: Seasonal fruits and vegetables, jams, honey, and more



The Farmers Market is an opportunity to purchase locally sourced produce, baked goods, and other specialty items. Photos by Guy Land.

Mama's Donut Bites: Mini donuts, hot and fresh in a variety of flavors

Number 1 Sons: Fermented foods that draw from food cultures from all over the world—pickles, kimchi, kraut, and more

Ozfeka Catering: Delicious Turkish favorites, including beef or vegetable borek, kisir, sarma, and baklava

Pleitez Produce: A wide variety of vegetables and herbs, with lots of great produce early and late in the season

Rustiq Bakery & Cafe: Formerly known as Bonaparte Breads, Rustiq offers hand-made croissants, artisan breads, and mouth-watering French pastries

Sandy Bottom Acres: Eggs, chicken, beef, pork, sausage, bacon, flowers, and more

Sexy Veggie: Vegan and vegetarian cuisine, including salads, frozen soups, and veggie burgers

Spring Valley Farm and Orchard: Salad greens, seasonal fruits and vegetables, jams, honey, and more

—Lynne Blasi

What to know about the market

- Open every Sunday from 9 am – 1 pm through November 24, on the back patio of the Fairlington Community Center at 3308 S. Stafford St. Please be a good neighbor and avoid parking directly in front of residences across from the community center. Parking is available on S. Utah St., 32nd Rd., Quaker Ln., and the community center lot.
- Only certified service animals can be brought in the market. Please leave your canine companions snuggled up at home or be prepared to secure your pet at least 20 feet from the market boundaries.
- Help promote the market by sharing updates from Facebook (Fairlington Farmers Market) and Twitter (@FairlingtonMkt).
- Visit fairlingtonfarmersmarket.org to sign up for weekly email updates or to volunteer.

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Alexandria considers improvements to King Street, other areas

The area along King St. between Quaker Ln. and I-395 could be targeted for drainage and landscaping improvements under plans being developed by the City of Alexandria, according to a presentation by city staff at FCA's April 10 meeting. The area under consideration includes the drainage ditch between King St. and the access road next to the Bradlee shopping center.



Staff from the City of Alexandria talk about stormwater mitigation and its benefits. Photo by Guy Land.

The city is developing a list of priority right-of-way (ROW) projects for the next phase of stormwater management work, with a decision on selected locations expected next year.

"We are currently in Phase II of a multi-phase process," Jesse Maines explained. Jesse Maines, Division Chief, Transportation and Environmental Services, Stormwater Management; and Danilo Nunez, PE, Stormwater Utility Engineer gave a presentation to the FCA to help residents understand the plans in place, both today and in the future, to mitigate stormwater and its effects.

The ROW retrofits that are currently being considered include King St. north and south of I-395 but there are others being considered as well: Braddock Rd. north and south of I-395, Edsall Rd., and Yoakum Pkwy. These locations are "on the list" for projects that they would like to implement as they proceed with the prioritization stage. Maines encouraged residents to stay in touch as the process goes on so that the city knows what residents want and whether they want the projects at these locations.

The ROW retrofits will include features such as sidewalk bioretentions to filter impervious runoff. The process is part of a multi-year effort to eliminate standing water and improve the water quality of the Chesapeake Bay. This is achieved through a combination of ecological innovation and urban redesign.

Maines explained that during the first phase they utilized Green Infrastructure Techniques such as regional pond retrofits and urban stream restoration in order to mimic natural hydrology and provide co-benefits to the community, such as recreation and beautification.

As part of the Chesapeake Bay watershed, Alexandria is compelled by the Federal Clean Water Act to clean up stormwater runoff in order to improve the water quality of the Chesapeake Bay. In particular, in 2010 the EPA established something called the Total Maximum Daily Load—a pollution budget that localities must stick to in order to comply with federal law.

Once these projects are completed, natural plants and trees hold soil in place, prevent erosion and provide other ecological benefits such as attracting pollinators. At the same time, these projects are "scrubbing" the stormwater runoff of pollutants that might otherwise end up flowing into the Potomac River and ultimately into the Chesapeake Bay.

For more information, go to www.alexandriava.gov/stormwater.

—Susan Renehan

Voter registration deadline approaches

All localities in Virginia will have a primary in June for offices on the November 6 general election ballot. The deadline to update your address or register to vote for the June 11 primaries is Monday, May 20. Applications to have an absentee ballot mailed to you must be received by 5 pm on Tuesday, June 4, and ballots must be returned and received by 7 pm on Tuesday, June 11. In-person absentee voting runs from Friday, April 26, to 5 pm on Saturday, June 8, at Courthouse Plaza, 2100 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 320, for Arlington voters and the Office of Voter Registration and Elections, 132 North Royal Street, Suite 100, for Alexandria voters.

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Police report, continued from page 7

media and in activities like the “stickering” that took place in Fairlington.

Agent Lindsay Coulter of the FBI said that whether or not you believe that something rises to the level of a hate crime, it should still be reported and that the FBI takes it very seriously. She said the FBI can decide at what level it needs to be investigated and potentially prosecuted.

Fairlington Villages resident Greg Mitchell attended the briefing in order to get more information about the stickers placed by the white supremacist group. “I think the police provided valuable information to the community,” said Mitchell. “We expressed our concern and they took those concerns very seriously.”

All the law enforcement personnel encouraged everyone to promptly report anything they witness taking place in the neighborhood. To report information about a crime that has already taken place, contact the non-emergency numbers for Arlington or Alexandria. To report a crime in progress, call 911.

—Susan Renehan

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Protect yourself and your family from mosquitoes

Joan McIntyre, Extension Master Gardener and President, Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia (MGNV), talked to Fairlington residents about protecting themselves and their families from mosquitoes and ticks. The FCA co-sponsored the April 9 presentation by the Virginia Cooperative Extension, MGNV, and Arlington Regional Master Naturalists. Approximately 30 Fairlington residents attended.



Kirsten Conrad of VA Tech Cooperative Extension and Master Gardeners Joan McIntyre and Leslie Cameron educated Fairlington residents on ways to protect against mosquitoes and ticks. Photo by Guy Land.

McIntyre talked first about the precipitous worldwide decline in insects and the animals that depend on them: North America has more than a billion fewer birds than 40 years ago, with dozens of bird species losing more than 50% of their populations between 1970 and 2014. Using mosquito and tick sprays kill many other insects. There are better strategies.

Beginning in late spring, females bite for a blood meal (only females bite), lay eggs in temporary bodies of water, like bird baths, saucers under potted plants, rain in toys left outside, kiddie pools, clogged rain gutters, corrugated drain pipes at the ends of downspouts, open trash bins and water bowls for pets—anywhere even a capful of water stands for more than 7 days. Eggs hatch in 2–3 days, adults appear 7–10 days later and the cycle starts again. Mosquitoes live up to 3 months.

To control mosquitos, drain standing water at least every 7 days. Using BTi (the active ingredient in Mosquito Dunks and Bits), which is selective and kills mosquito larvae without harming other wildlife, is effective. Wear long sleeves and pants and use repellent (25%–30% DEET, 20% Picaridin, oil of Eucalyptus, or IR-3535[Merck 3535]). A fan can help keep mosquitoes at bay. Mosqui-

tos breed in English ivy and dense groundcovers; these should be removed.

Spraying is less effective: it kills the adults it hits, but not adults out of spray range or hiding under dense groundcovers, and there isn't a residual effect. Ingredients are toxic to other insects and in some cases animals. If you must use a pesticide spraying service, ensure they are VDACS licensed, ask for strategies that include integrated pest management and not just adulticides, and ask about staff training in IPM and mosquito control.

Property managers should ensure gutters, downspouts and drainpipes drain well, that water doesn't accumulate on flat roofs, and ivy and similar groundcovers are eliminated.

What doesn't work: bug zappers, spraying Listerine, wearing dryer sheets, VapoRub or vanilla, wristbands, ultrasonic devices, plants marketed as mosquito repellent, propane driven CO₂ emitters, bats or purple martins (mosquitoes make up just 1%–3% of their diets), or eating garlic.

An audience member asked a question about the effectiveness of Skin So Soft from Avon. The answer was yes, it works, as the active ingredient is Merck 3535, which is mentioned above.

For more information, contact the Virginia Cooperative Extension Office at the FCC. The PowerPoint for this presentation is available at www.mgnv.org.

—Leslie Cameron

Annual Street Paving

As part of its preventive maintenance program, Arlington County's paving season will run through October 2019, weather permitting.

Fairlington streets scheduled for paving in South Fairlington are S. 35th St. and Wakefield Circle. In North Fairlington, scheduled streets include S. 27th Rd., S. 30th Rd., S. 31st Rd., S. Woodrow St., and parts of S. 29th St. and S. Buchanan St. The work will be final paving as initial work was done on these streets last year.

A notice will be distributed to each residential address that will be affected by the project to notify them their street has been selected for paving. In addition, "No Parking" signs will be posted 24 to 48 hours prior to the start of operations. The county will try to reduce the number of disruptions such as traffic detours, no parking on the streets, noise, and dust.

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—Mary Thomasson,
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E-Scooters in Fairlington

Have you noticed all the scooters either being ridden or parked throughout Fairlington and Arlington County?

Arlington County has a nine-month contract, starting this past October, to provide structure and operate Shared Mobility Devices SMDs within the county and to evaluate their impact. SMDs are considered e-scooters, e-bikes, and pedal bikes that do not require a docking station.



A dockless e-scooter parked on S. Buchanan St. in Fairlington. Photo by Guy Land.

The county has seven specific operators (Bird, Scooter, Bolt, Jump, Lime, Lyft, Skip, and Spin) with a total of 350 e-scooter devices initially allowed for county use. If an operator can demonstrate sufficient demand for their device (an average of three plus trips per day) they can petition the county for an additional 50 devices. However, if these devices achieve less than two trips per day, the county will require the operator to reduce its fleet by 50 devices per month.

All e-scooters can be used with a company-specific app and must abide by all motor vehicle laws. The age requirement to use these devices varies by company. These devices are allowed on streets (with a speed limit of no more than 10 mph), but not on sidewalks or trails. The devices also cannot block travel lanes, driveways, fire hydrants, or bus stops.

Jim Larsen, Bureau Chief for Arlington County Commuter Services says, "I am pleased to report that the county's Shared Mobility Devices Pilot Program is going well. So far, county residents have taken over 200,000 trips with our seven approved operators of e-scooters and e-bikes since the program began in October. While there have been some growing pains with sidewalk riding and improper parking, the county is working with other Arlington agencies to educate the public on rules and regulations."

In April, the county board released the final version of

the proposed update of the Master Transportation Plan's Bicycle Element. The board is also considering a proposal to amend the MTP Map section "Arlington County Bike and Trail Network." The pilot program runs through the end of June and any county resident interested in submitting feedback can do so at mobility@arlingtonva.us.

—Andrew Raab

Rolling Thunder to make final ride to Pentagon on May 26



Neighbors enjoy the bird's eye view of the motorcycle procession during last year's Memorial Day weekend. Photo by Guy Land.

On Sunday, May 26, hundreds of motorcycles are expected to travel up I-395 in order to participate in the 32nd and final Rolling Thunder Ride for Freedom. The annual demonstration has taken place every Memorial Day weekend since 1988 and has grown to include over one million riders and spectators combined; organizers have said that due to increased security and other costs 2019 will be the last year the event will take place in Washington, D.C.

Many Fairlington residents have gathered along the Abingdon St. bridge in past years in order to cheer and wave flags as the riders travel north on the I-395 HOV lanes on their way to the Pentagon. The best time to view the most motorcycles is typically between 8:30 and 10 am; the main procession with police escort typically appears shortly after 9 am and lasts approximately 10 minutes. Schedules are subject to change; be sure to arrive early to get a good viewing spot and enjoy the final ride of this iconic area tradition.

—Susan Renehan

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Spring brings whirlwind of activity to Abingdon

Abingdon students and families enjoyed several exciting and educational events in early spring, including a festive International Night, the debut of the younger grades' drama club musical, and a fun-filled STEAM night.

Celebrating Abingdon's diversity

Abingdon's annual International Night drew a large crowd eager to sample cuisines and entertainment from the many cultures represented at the school. Abingdon is home to students from more than 40 countries around the world, who bring their rich culture and traditions to the school.

At this year's event, families were able to taste dozens of delicious dishes from Moroccan couscous to El Salvadoran pupusas and Irish corned beef and cabbage. Students were treated to lively Bolivian dance demonstrations and an interactive Russian folk music performance.

"Bugz, the Musical" a smash hit



First and second graders perform "Bugz, the Musical." Photo courtesy Abingdon twitter feed @AbingdonGIFT.

Abingdon's younger grades' drama club debuted their spring musical "Bugz" to a packed house. First and second graders told the story of bugs on a picnic with ladybugs, fireflies, and army ants singing lively tunes, including crowd favorite, "Be a Lady." The afterschool drama club, run by architecture teacher Kerry Abbott and music teacher Allison Whiteside, drew over 100 young students eager to show off their talents.

Over the past decade, students at Abingdon have choreographed, staged, practiced, and performed over 30 musicals, exploring the world of drama, music, and dance. Students work on important presentation skills such as speaking loudly, clearly, and slowly; using expression in their voice and body; eye contact; using a microphone; and rehearsing ahead of time.

The third, fourth, and fifth grade club performed their musical "Go West!" in late April.

Popular STEAM Night Returns



Aioife the barn owl makes new friends at STEAM Night. Photo by Carrie Lewis.

Abingdon's always popular STEAM Night returned, with math and science games, live animals, robots, and virtual reality experiences. The filled-to-capacity event delighted students and families who made slime, built catapults and marshmallow math shapes, got up close and personal with raptors and snakes, and explored the ocean through virtual reality technology.

Highlights included special visits from Julia the red-tailed hawk and Aioife the barn owl, as well as reptiles from Long Branch Nature Center. Abingdon thanks the Wakefield High School STEM club for helping run this successful event.

—Carrie Lewis

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Gunston News



Fairlington residents and Gunston track team members (L to R) Peter Boerstling, Luke Fisher, and Ryan Beck. Photos by Jennifer Davies.

Gunston's first track meet of the season

On April 9, Gunston Middle School competed against Kenmore Middle School at the season's first inter-scholastic Track and Field meet. Abingdon alumni and Fairlington residents competed in multiple events including sprints and jumping. The season will conclude with a county-wide meet at Gunston on May 2.

—Jennifer Davies

Wakefield Happenings

Performing Arts take center stage at Wakefield

May brings out the Performance Arts Department at Wakefield. This is the perfect time to appreciate the skills of our wonderful young local performers and their teachers.

There are several Abingdon alums and Fairlington residents who participate in the music department. Each of the major music performing groups won Superior ratings (highest level) at their district performances. In addition, the drama department hosts the regional One-Act champions.

If you have any elementary or middle school students who are interested in high school performing arts, this is a great opportunity to see and hear what Arlington Public Schools Arts Department has to offer. Even if you do not have a student in your household, this is a great and inexpensive (music performances are free; there is

a small ticket fee for the spring musical) way to attend great concerts.

In addition to Wakefield's performing arts program, visual arts students won national awards. Recently five students won Gold or Silver Medals from the National Scholastic Arts Awards in the areas of Mixed Media, Drawing, Painting, and Photography. Over 300,000 works of art were submitted for judging this year.

Receiving a National Medal places these Wakefield students in the top 1% of all submissions. Famous artists such as Andy Warhol, Robert Indiana, and Kay WalkingStick; writers Sylvia Plath, Truman Capote, and Joyce Carol Oates; and filmmakers Lena Dunham and Ken Burns have all earned this honor in their youth.

Spring arts at Wakefield (performances are held in the auditorium unless otherwise noted):

Spring Musical (Chicago): 7 pm May 3–4 and May 10–11

Choral Concert: 7 pm May 22

Band Concert: 7 pm May 24

Guitar Concert: 7 pm May 29 (Black Box)

Orchestra Concert: 7 pm June 5

Black Box Theatre Drama Performance: 7 pm June 7–8:

One Act Play: 7 pm June 11

—Donna Felipe

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neighborhood news

Fairlington Diners

The Fairlington Diners gather a couple of times a month for relaxed dinners nearby. We focus on having a good meal and an opportunity to chat with neighbors. In April, we re-visited Tempo in Alexandria for an excellent dinner.

Here's what's planned for May:

Monday, May 13, 6:30 pm, Ramparts, 1700 Fern St., Alexandria, 703-998-6616, www.rampartstavern.com. We'll return to this perennial local favorite on a Monday, when they offer a special price on hamburgers (and turkey burgers, and the occasional fish burger) with the purchase of any beverage. The rest of the menu is also available.

Wednesday, May 29, 6:30 pm, Rabieng Thai Restaurant, 5892 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, 703-671-4222, www.rabieng.com. It's just beyond Bailey's Crossroads—very close to Fairlington. This is a favorite of several of our regulars; the food is always good, served in an informal atmosphere.

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

Book Group

Join the Fairlington Book Group in May to discuss *Where the Crawdads Sing*, a *New York Times* bestseller by Delia Owens.

"Where the Crawdads Sing is at once an exquisite ode to the natural world, a heartbreaking coming-of-age story, and a surprising tale of possible murder." —amazon.com.

The Book Group welcomes first-time visitors and drop-ins. No commitment required! Join us for our discussion, even if you haven't read the book. We are meeting on Tuesday, May 28, at 7:30 pm in the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. We hope you'll join us.

Canasta Group Doubles the Fun

Our local Canasta group has multiplied the cards, the luck and the fun. We are now playing "Hand and Foot," a Canasta-type card game played coast to coast. If playing your hand was fun, there may be wild cards waiting in your foot! Join this local group, which plays Tuesday mornings at a church hall near Fairlington. Having card-sense is helpful, but we're happy to teach you the rules of this game. Call Carol Ann 703-931-8533.

Fairlington Knits



Fairlington Knits had nearly 20 people for their inaugural meeting in March. Photo by Turner Houston.

Join Fairlington Knits! at the Fairlington Community Center on Monday, May 13, from 6:30–8 pm for a knit/crochet meet-up. Bring what you're working on, share what you know, and learn new skills. Meet new friends, some who might be neighbors, and enjoy an evening of making things with like-minded people. All levels of knitters and crocheters are welcome.

The event is posted on the Fairlington Appreciation Society's Facebook page. For more information, contact: Turner at Turnerwork@aol.com.

Fairlington MOMS Club

The MOMS Club of Arlington-Fairlington VA® is a group for moms of young kids to find friends, get support, and have play opportunities for the kids. The Club participates in a number of annual service projects to help our community, four big annual parties, routine playdates and crafts, and moms' nights out. We have a great listserv for sharing advice and connecting to other Fairlington families. We welcome all moms! Please email fairlingtonmomsclub@gmail.com for information on joining and visit us online at www.fairlingtonmomsclub.com. \$30 in annual dues goes to support the club's work and service projects. The MOMS Club of Arlington-Fairlington VA is the local chapter of International MOMS Club®.



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DOWN TO EARTH patio gardening



Spring cleaning for your patio garden

By May 1, with the warm weather here to stay, shoppers at local nurseries could find whatever plant they wanted. Just two weeks ago, plants either hadn't arrived or were in protective coverings (faux greenhouses) to keep available plants shielded from late wintry mixes and wind-chill temperatures in the 20s. Annual flowers – impatiens, marigold, vinca, petunia and geranium—weren't in stock until the third week in April since these plants have fragile root systems and easily will freeze.

As you exhale from a winter that never seemed to wane, here are guidelines as you prepare your outdoors for the season.

Soil Amendments: Standing at the nursery display will leave you confused due to the many choices. Make it simple by purchasing soil conditioner. It's nicknamed "super fine" because of its make-up – very soft with no fertilizing agents. Plant roots are able to grow (meander and stretch out in the soil) when the surrounding mixture is loam, not the hard clumps of topsoil, marine clay or rocks. And there will be no burning of roots since there are no additives. Backfill (existing soil) can be used (to pack a root ball into the hole) if it's malleable. If not, discard it since it only inhibits plant health.

Specimen Pruning: This is complicated since every specimen has a particular pruning time. But for common plants, here are guidelines.

Roses: Prune dead growth. These brown branches can be cut at the



Pruned crape myrtle near Fairlington Villages pool 6. Photo by Guy Land.

crotch. Also cut contorted branching. With thick gloves, pull apart these branches and prune the excess so three or four branches aren't growing around each other. Let each branch be free to grow without competition.

Hydrangea: Begin by gently pulling branches that appear withered and dead. They will detach almost their own. In late April, leaf buds appear on branches so you will see which branches have none. In the latter case, these may be pruned. Flowers (and leaves) form on last year's branches so a random or radical pruning never is advised.

Azalea: Just after their short bloom period (late April), prune branches to have the shape you desire in the

specimen. If you wait until fall to prune, you will be compromising next spring's flowers.

Crape Myrtle: There are two methods and both are effective. "Pollarding" is done in March and is a radical cut. You may have seen some trees "hacked" at eye-level. These cuts produce knobs from which many branches form. With more branches come more leaves and more flowers. However, for a natural look, don't prune the tree at all. This leaves an airy appearance with gaps between the branches.

Ornamental Grass: It's wispy and tall but should be cut to the ground in late November. You probably noticed these brownish "shaving brushes" in the landscape. They are so pruned to keep dieback at a minimum. If left unpruned, dead growth will fill out the habit as new, green growth appears in May – an unsightly mix.

Weed Block: The use of this fabric can be suspect for many reasons. Weed or invasive growth with thick root systems will push up and wrinkle this thin material, creating a bumpy or torn appearance in the garden. During heavy rains, mulch is more likely to erode (or slide) off this material and end up on your patio. Over time, the fabric can break down or tear. But fabric will suppress weeds as long as they have weak roots and don't grow too tall.

—Bill Sullivan
www.sullivanlandscaping.net

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

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

Email: admanager@fca-fairlington.org

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

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

Cost: 50 cents per word.

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

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