FAIRLINGTON BULLETIN

MAY 2023



Volume 49, Number 5



www.fca-fairlington.org

Fairlington Farmers Market opens May 7



Farmers market opening day in 2022. Photo by Guy Land.

The Fairlington Farmers Market is back with fresh produce, grass-fed meats, seafood, eggs, cheese, coffee, pastries and breads, salads, and prepared foods, including vegan and vegetarian options.

Not only do you have access to fresh, high-quality food through our market, but you can also get to know the people who grow and make your food. The market is open every Sunday from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. through November 19, on the back patio of the Fairlington Community Center at 3308 S. Stafford St. Special thanks to returning sponsors Fairlington Citizens Association, Fairlington Dental, Fairlington Presbyterian Church, and Kay Houghton & Associates. Please thank and support our generous sponsors as they have supported us.

Opening day will include a visit from the Arlington Art Truck, always a market favorite. Check out Count Your Joys and relax and reflect in a colorful artist installation designed by Arlington artist Heloisa Escudero.

You can pre-order from many vendors and pick up at their tables or select grab & go items. Sign up for our weekly e-newsletter for details on pre-orders and deadlines at www.fairlingtonfarmersmarket.org.

Shoppers can also use To Go to pre-order from up to eight participating vendors (see website for list) with one payment and pick up at each vendor's tent. Learn more at https://woso.co/fairlington.

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Coming up

The FCA Board invites all Fairlington residents to attend its meetings that 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 have three minutes to address the board on matters affecting the community.

FCA monthly meeting May 10

The FCA board will hold a work session, there will be no special presentation.

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 Citizens
Association.

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

Web design by Avatar Tech LLC, Alexandria, VA, www.avatartech-llc.com.

USEFUL CONTACTS

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alarming or suspicious, call 911.				
Police, Alexandria (non-emergence	y) 703-746-4444			
Police, Arlington (non-emergency)	703-558-2222			
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Dominion (power outages)	888-667-3000			
Fairlington Community Center	703-228-6588			
Metrobus Complaints	703-228-7929			
Miss Utility	811			
Pothole Patrol Hotline	703-228-6485			
Shirlington Library	703-228-6545			
Street Light Hotline	703-228-6511			
www.arlingtonva.us/departments/Environmental				
Services/dot/traffic/streetlights/index.htm				
Helicopter Noise Complaints	Mike Lucier (VA 8th Dist.)			

Fairlington Citizens Association

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All Fairlington Bulletin

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—— DEADLINE ——

6 p.m., **10th of month** preceding publication month for commercial advertising, mini-ads, and editorial copy. Editorial announcements, story suggestions, and letters to the Editor should be sent to: afbeditors@yahoo.com.

Ad payment can be sent to: FCA • PO Box 6182 • Arlington, VA 22206-0182, locally dropped-off at the drop box in the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford Street, Arlington VA 22206 or pay via PayPal to fca.fairlington.ads@gmail.com. Ad file(s) should be included with payment and emailed to the Ad Manager at fca.fairlington.ads@gmail.com.

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

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202-225-4376

Calendar

FCA monthly meeting

Wednesday, May 10, 7 p.m. FCC 3308 S. Stafford St.

Fairlington diners

Thursday, May 11, 6:30 p.m. Beckett's 2800 S Randolph St. Arlington, VA 22206

Diversity, equity, and inclusion group

Wednesday May 17, 7 p.m. FCC 3308 S. Stafford St.

Fairlington book group

Tuesday, May 23, 7:30 p.m. FCC 3308 S. Stafford St.

A Farlington tulip house rivals Holland blooms



A beautiful front-yard tulip garden on Abingdon St. in South Fairlington showers the neighborhood with springtime color. Photo courtesy of Barbara Berti.

Contributors this month: Barbara Berti, Lynne Blasi, Sharon Burd, Sue Davis, Guy Land, and Bill Sullivan.

Some images in this publication may be digitally enhanced.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

May 7 brings the opening of the Fairlington Farmers Market for its ninth season. Each year the market's popularity has grown, as reflected in customers and sales.

It has become a Fairlington institution. Indeed, some people find it hard to imagine that there ever was a summer when we didn't have a market in Fairlington.

FCA led the effort to create the market. FCA Board members, augmented by some terrific community volunteers, checked out other markets, talked with potential vendors, held community meetings to learn resident preferences and concerns, and worked with county staff to understand the requirements for obtaining a permit.

From the beginning, we committed that this would be a neighborhood market—one designed to serve people who live in the greater Fairlington area, not a destination market that would draw people from other parts of the D.C. area.

We believed the market would become a community gathering space, where Fairlingtonians would visit with their neighbors. People routinely agree to meet at the market, and they often invite friends to the market to experience Fairlington.

We felt that FCA itself shouldn't try to operate the market, so we found a local organization to run it. Field to Table, Inc., an Arlington-based nonprofit led by a former Fairlington resident, operates several successful markets in Arlington. We benefit from their experience in working with vendors and understanding the county's permitting rules.

Independently of our work in developing the market, Arlington County slated the community center's playground for a complete overhaul, yielding a popular modern playground. The playground and the market are mutually reinforcing attractions on summer Sundays.

There are three keys to the market's success. The first is the intrepid group of volunteers who oversee both the vision for the market (such as rules and vendors) and the weekly coordination of market activities. They could use your help.

The second is the financial support of a small group of sponsors that enable the market to work financially for Field to Table. FCA makes an annual contribution.

The third is the support that you have shown by your weekly visits, purchases, and conversations with featured guests. You have made the market one of the valued benefits of living in Fairlington. See you at the market!

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



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Crowded primary election season approaches

Arlington Democrats will see more candidates running for more offices than at any point in the recent past when they vote in the June 20 Democratic primary. There's a bumper crop of six candidates running for the two open county board seats created by the retirement at the end of this year of Katie Cristol and Christian Dorsey.

FCA is hoping to host a candidate forum this spring. Alternatively, FCA will try to feature a Q&A with each county board candidate in next month's issue of the *Bulletin*.

Arlington Republicans have not scheduled a primary.

For the first time, Arlington Democrats will use a system of ranked choice voting to select their county board nominees. Ranked choice voting is a voting method in which voters rank candidates in order of preference (1st choice, 2nd choice, 3rd choice). Ranked choice voting allows your vote to count towards another candidate if your 1st choice candidate receives the least amount of votes.

Arlington is the first locality in Virginia to implement ranked choice voting.



Arlington county board member Katie Cristol will retire at the end of this year along with Christian Dorsey. She is pictured here speaking to FCA last May. Photo by Guy Land.

There are also three candidates running for Arlington County Sheriff. Long-time Sheriff Beth Arthur chose not to seek re-election.

Parts of Arlington and Fairlington in particular—were affected by redistricting of the General Assembly, which redrew the state Delegate and Senate districts based on the 2020 census. The Arlington part of Fairlington shifts to district 3 for the House

of Delegates, with Elizabeth Bennett-Parker, who previously represented that area, now in district 5.

Incumber Alfonso Lopez faces no opposition for the district 3 post. He has not previously represented Fairlington. The Alexandria part of Fairlington is in district 4,

Arlington Candidates

County Board: Maureen Coffey, Jonathan Dromgoole, Natalie Roy, Julius D. "JD" Spain, Sr., G. O. "Tony" Weaver, Susan R. Cunningham, Audrey Clement (Independent)

School Board: Miranda Turner, Angelo Cocchiaro

Commonwealth's Attorney: Parisa Dehghani-Tafti, Josh Katcher

Sheriff: James Herring, Jose R. Quiroz, Jr., Wanda R. Younger

State Senate District 40: Barbara Favola, James DeVita



A volunteer for the Democratic party in Arlington hands out information outside of the FCC during the 2021 election. Photo by Guy Land.

represented by Charniele Herring, who is also unopposed in the primary. She has represented that area since 2009.

In the state Senate, the Arlington part of Fairlington is now in district 40, currently served by incumbent Barbara Favola, while the Alexandria part is in district 39, currently served by Sen. Adam Ebbin. For the past several years Ebbin represented all of Fairlington. Favola faces a challenger, while Ebbin has no primary opposition.

Bringing additional attention to the primary is the challenge to incumbent Commonwealth's Attorney Parisa Dehghani-Tafti by Josh Katcher. The Commonwealth's

Continued on page 15



General Assembly fails to override exhaust veto

Members of the Virginia General Assembly in their annual "veto session" in April failed to override Gov. Glenn Youngkin's veto of legislation that mandates a study of muffler noise in the state.

Sponsored by Sen. Adam
Ebbin, who represents Fairlington, the measure would have directed the state police superintendent to convene a work group "to examine the issue of vehicle noise in the Commonwealth." The group would have been required to report

its findings and any recommendations by November 1.

The bill had passed the House and the Senate by large bipartisan majorities, but the Governor said he felt it



Sen. Adam Ebbin, who sponsored the exhaust bill, spoke to FCA last year during a virtual monthly meeting.

was unnecessary. It was one of only three bills that the Governor vetoed.

Last year the General Assembly approved legislation that authorized local jurisdictions to pull over drivers for having excessively loud exhaust systems.

The bill Ebbin originally introduced in January would have prohibited the sale and use of aftermarket mufflers and

would have prohibited exhaust noise in excess of 85 decibels. These provisions were replaced by the requirement of a study during the legislative process.

—Guy Land

Shots fired at Alexandria's Bradlee Center

A suspect opened fire on Monday, April 17, near the bus stop in front of the McDonald's in the Bradlee Shopping Center in Alexandria.

Bradlee is located across the street from Fairlington and is one of the most walkable retail locations for Fairlingtonians.

While no injuries resulted from this shooting, this latest incident is part of a long string of violent altercations at the center, one of which ended in the death of a Alexandria City High School student in 2022.

Fairlington residents took to Facebook to express their frustration and concerns with the lack of security and safety.

"This is getting really old after the stabbing death last year and should be shut down before a student, Fairlington resident or other bystander is shot," said one commenter.

"I was at Starbucks when that [the shots] went off," said a Fairlington resident on the Fairlington Appreciation Society Facebook page. "It was chaotic immediately after with high schoolers running around and away and bystanders calling the police."

Suggestions, including police presence during afternoon after school hours, a policy of no unaccompanied



Shots were fired at the DASH bus stop in front of the Bradlee Center McDonalds. Photo courtsey of Twitter.com.

minors at the shopping center, were offered.

Gun violence in Alexandria City is up 100 percent in 2022 over 2021. This has prompted the Alexandria police to add more officers and to create the plan "Operation Cease Fire" which will alert officers to shots-fired via a camera monitor system.

According to a March city council meeting, as reported by WTOP, Alexandria police are currently operating at a minimal staffing level.

-Regina Bethencourt

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Farmers market from page 1



Read about our new and returning vendors this Farmers Market season:

Please join us in welcoming our newest vendors: Baguette Republic, Pasta Ilgatto, and Qualia Coffee! Look for more details about these vendors in

upcoming issues of the Bulletin. Additional new vendors will be announced soon.



Fairlington Farmers Market volunteers manning the front table at last year's opening day. Photo by Guy Land.



Ana's Twist: Ecuadorian vegetarian and meat empanadas, juices, and soups.



Baguette Republic (NEW):

Artisan breads, pastries, and cookies.



Cold Country Salmon: Wild, sustainably caught Alaskan and local seafood, including from the Chesapeake Bay.



Cooking Live - J'aime Madeleine: Traditional madeleines with natural flavors, jelly rolls, and cookies.



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



Kiwi Kuisine: New Zealand-style, handmade savory pies.



Kuhn Orchards: Seasonal fruits and vegetables, jams, cider, and honey.



Little Austria: A variety of strudel, including apple, cheese, spinach, and potato.



Mama's Donut Bites: Mini donuts in a variety of flavors.



Ozfeka Catering: Turkish borek, kisir, sarma, baklava, and other specialities.



Pasta Ilgatto (NEW): Handcrafted fresh pasta and a variety of sauces.



Pleitez Produce: Seasonal vegetables, fruits, and herbs.



Qualia Coffee (NEW): Small-batch roaster focusing on carefully sourced single-origin estate and micro-lot beans.



Roggenart European Bakery:

Croissants, artisan breads, and French pastries.

SANDY BOTTOM ACRES

Sandy Bottom Acres: Eggs, chicken, beef, pork, and sausage.



Sexy Vegie: Vegan and vegetarian salads, soups, wraps, and patties.

SPRING VALLEY

Spring Valley Farm & Orchard:

Salad greens, seasonal fruits and vegetables, jams, honey.

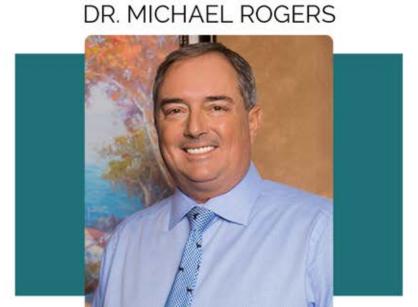


Sweet Pea Farm: A variety of gourmet mushrooms, including golden, shiitake, king oyster, and lion's mane.

Parking is available on S. Utah St., S. 32nd Rd., in the community center lot, or on Quaker Lane. Please be a good neighbor and avoid parking directly in front of residences across from the community center. Dogs are not permitted in the market, except for service dogs.

—Lynne Blasi





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For the love of

NATURE



Spilling the beans about beans

When different cultures meet, food is one of the first things shared. And what a collision it was when Native Americans met others. Not only were foods shared, but seeds were taken and grown all over the globe, improving the nutritional lives of millions.

Along with corn and squash were beans. Before the 1950's, most of our foods were grown locally but after the war, Americans began to grow food

on a commercial scale in an unsustainable way, which continues today. We gained product, but we lost access to delicious varieties. Technological advances have moved us even further away from how our food is grown. Fortunately, we can still step back.

Many of you may have planted your first vegetable gardens during the pandemic. Nothing tastes better than food you have grown for yourself. Native peoples didn't have a choice. Not only did many grow corn, beans, and squash, but they also grew several varieties of each. Every variety was bred for specific geographic locations and seasons, with different flavors and colors. If one crop failed, there would be others.

With careful planning and good weather, any Fairlington resident can produce beans for themselves from June through September. A plot about three feet by five and a bower is all that is needed. No bower? Make one. Fold 2 six- or seven-foot tomato cages flat and stand them on the short ends of the rectangle. Lay poles across the top and secure them with pipe cleaners. Climbing beans can grow on either side, while bush beans grow underneath.



This makeshift bower used to grow Native American bean varieties is easy to make. Photo by Sue Davis.

One of the earliest beans that can be planted here are from the Arikara tribe. These bush beans can be planted as early as mid-April and grow under the arch. They are "hairy" beans with a wonderful nutty flavor that produce early and are done.

In mid-May plant your first climbing bean on one short

side of your bower. Why not try Cherokee cornfield or rattlesnake pole beans? Each of these varieties is delicious and produces well into the summer. At the end of June plant the other side of the archway with pink tipped greasy beans. No, they are not greasy, but shiny and when very ripe, and the tips do turn pink. And what a flavor. Earthy, yummy, they begin bearing fruit in August and into September.

Once the Mandan and Arikara beans are pulled at the end of June, plant scarlet runner beans. This old variety is attributed to the Hopi (southwest). The bright red flowers attract pollinators and hummingbirds.

By growing beans native to the Americas, you've opened your world to a wide variety of new flavors. You've also reconnected native plants to the land where they were developed. Insects will be thrilled to greet the flowers of old friends. Remember to weed and water and best of all, enjoy the gifts of the land.

Please send questions and comments to fortheloveofnature@googlegroups.com and follow Fairlington Gardening Community on Facebook.

—Sue Davis

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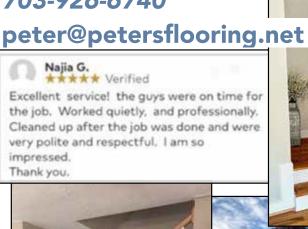
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Crowded primary from page 5

Attorney also serves the City of Falls Church.

Clerk of Court Paul Ferguson faces no opposition.

In May two candidates will be seeking the Democratic endorsement for the open seat on the school board. Incumbent Reid Goldstein chose not to run again after 8 years on the board. Under Virgina law, school board elections are non-partisan.

Voting for the Democratic endorsement will occur at three caucuses during May: Sunday, May 7, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., at Drew Elementary School, 3500 S. 23rd St.; Wednesday, May 10, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., at Campbell Elementary School, 737 S. Carlin Springs Rd.; and Saturday, May 13, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Washington-Liberty High School, 1301 N. Stafford St.

Miranda Turner and Angelo Cocchiaro are seeking the party's endorsement.

The last date to register to vote or update your registration for the June Democratic primary is May 30. The first day of early voting is May 6. The last day to apply for a mail ballot is June 9.

You may register to vote, update your current Virginia voter registration, apply to vote absentee by mail, or view your polling place, election district, absentee ballot status, and voting history online at https://vote.elections.virginia.gov/VoterInformation.

—Guy Land



Is it time for you to speak up?

The All Fairlington Bulletin is always looking for writers who are interested in exploring and writing on topics related to neighborhood news, feature stories, real estate, crime, and local government.

We would love to hear from fresh voices! Writing experience preferred but if it has been a long time, never fear! We will guide you through the process.

Please email Regina Bethencourt at afbeditors@yahoo.com to discuss further.



About me

Raised in Arlington and graduate of Arlington Public Schools

- B.S. from University of Wisconsin -Madison
- Nearly 10 years as a police officer in Arlington and DC
- 8 year veteran of the Virginia Army National Guard as a Platoon Leader and Executive Officer

Rowing Coach at W-L High School

Homeowner in South Arlington with his wife Alyssa and their cat and dog

Get to know me

sheriffjamesherring.com info@sheriffjamesherring.

(f) (iii) @sheriffjamesherring

Priorities

- **Providing holistic inmate care** addressing physical and mental health, employment, education, and housing to create a safety net to reduce the number of re-offenders.
- Addressing the staffing shortage with renewed recruiting and retention efforts.
- Collaborating with Arlington Police and regional partners in VA, DC, and MD to provide the community with better public service.
- Gaining back the public's trust with increased transparency to keep residents informed on all matters positive and negative.

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Until this crisis is over, we will continue to monitor the developments set by the CDC and our local governments and will make any necessary adjustments to our practices to keep you safe.

We support our community and feel that it is everybody's job to limit risk of exposure and spread of COVID-19 and in that light, we encourage you to take advantage of telephone, Facetime, and video consultations for all your home improvement needs.

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LOST AND FOUND:

Baby Kitty's outside adventure—a Pet Profile exclusive

BREAKING NEWS—Late afternoon on a cold, damp Friday in March, Baby Kitty of North Fairlington slipped out the front door of the townhouse she shares with two other cats, just seconds before the door closed shut.

She wandered around the front, side, and back yard as her parents anticipated the best moment to pick her up and bring her back inside. And then, she was gone.

A multi-day search, involving concerned friends and neighbors, Facebook posts, and finally a professional cat catcher, found hungry three days later. Pet Profiles had an exclusive interview with this little feline and found out

exclusive interview with this little feline and found out what really happened during her days away from home.

Why did you decide to go outside?

Even though I am a bit of a shy kitty, I'm also quite adventurous! I love running around my house and playing hide and seek with my sisters, so I guess I thought that the door was just another new room to explore before I realized it was a lot bigger than a closet.

What did you do when you got there?

When I got outside, I immediately was enthralled with a whole new world of smells and sensations! The grass and the trees and flowers smelled so incredible, and I was overwhelmed by the excitement of all the new things around me, so I had to explore it all! Mom and Dad must have been excited by it too because everywhere I went, they were following close behind me.

Were you scared?

I wasn't scared at first, but when I started to hear all the noises of cars zooming by, strange big animals that people call "dogs", and the cold wind hurling by, I started to get a little spooked. I realized I wasn't in my home, and I couldn't tell if the people chasing after me were my



Baby Kitty is reunited with her owners. Photo courtesy of Denise and David Vasquez.

family or not, so I realized I needed to hide somewhere quiet and warm, and fast! I used my best hide-and-go-seek skills and found several backyards to hide in (my favorite one even had a water fountain that I could drink from). I spent a lot of time seeking when I wasn't hiding, I used my loudest meow to call out to my family.

What advice would you give parents when their cat suddenly disappears?

The best piece of advice that I would give to parents that lose their kitty would be to not panic! The first night that I was out, I stayed really close to home and was hoping I could sneak back inside without

causing everyone too much stress or worry. The warm reminder and smells of the home gave me a trail home, and my favorite food was placed on the patio every night by Mom and Dad.

Do you think you'll do this again?

As far as adventures go, I think I've had my fair share of them! On the night that I came home, I can remember eating my favorite tuna that was in a little warm box. The next thing I knew, I heard a giant SLAM, and I couldn't move out of the box. Soon after though, I could hear my mom and dad's voices. Using my loudest meow, I called out for my parents, and they came to the box where I was. We had the most joyous reunion, and I can confidently say that there's no place like home. All in all, when it comes to hide and seek, I've learned that even though the outside world may have better hiding spots, the best games are the games you can play surrounded by family and friends.

After a warm bath and some more tuna, all was right with Baby Kitty's world and Pet Profiles is certain they will all live happily ever after.

Interested in sharing your pet with Pet Profiles? Contact afbeditors@yahoo.com.

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ABING School news



Abingdon's Cardinals love reading

A huge thank you to our Abingdon first grade Cardinal Jack Landis for adding a beautiful outdoor Little Free Library to Abingdon's campus. Jack is extremely thankful to the Shirlington Animal Hospital for sponsoring his project.

Together with his mom Tammie Dzubak, they assembled and painted it, and plan to keep it stocked with books by diverse authors as well as books about different abilities until it hopefully becomes self-sustaining.

We are thankful to first grader Jack for sharing the love of reading with our Cardinal flock. Stop by the Abingdon bus loop to pick out (or leave) a book in our new Little Free Library!



First grader Jack Landis assembled and painted a beautiful outdoor Little Free Library on Abingdon Elementary's campus.Photo by Tammie Dzubak.

In other news, the Abingdon Elementary PTA is delighted to recognize their Abingdon Cardinals for beating their school wide goal for this year's Reada-Thon: reading a combined total of 272,774 minutes.

They are appreciative of the many staff members and families engaged with the PTA's biggest fundraiser (Read-A-Thon has raised over \$21,000

this school year!), which primarily funds the bulk of the PTA programming, events, and activities at Abingdon. Classes that won grade-level competitions are excited for their frozen treats celebration. Great job to all of our Cardinals!

Additionally, a big thank you to the 130 participants (our Abingdon families and community supporters) who have linked their Harris Teeter VIC card to Abingdon Elementary (5748). Harris Teeter's Together in Education (TIE) Program provides the Abingdon PTA a



On the last day of the Thinking Outside the Box afterschool winter enrichment class, Ms. Cohn launches the students' water bottle rockets in front of the school as many kids watch in awe. Photo by Sharon Burd.

portion of money spent at their stores by customers who link their VIC Card to our neighborhood school.

To date, our 130 participants have brought in more than \$1,000 in funds to support Abingdon. The TIE program wraps up on May 31st this school year, and we are thankful to everybody who has contributed to it!

There are many volunteer and sponsorship opportunities to support our neighborhood school. We welcome the community to fulfill our teachers' classroom wishlists: www.abingdonpta.org/wishlists. I hope you will consider staying engaged and connected with us as we continue advocating for our Cardinals: Facebook, Twitter, and www.abingdonpta.org.

-Sharon Burd

APS School Year Calendar:

Wednesday, May 3—Early Release for Elementary/ Middle/High School (School-Based Professional Learning for Staff)

Monday, May 29 - Holiday—Memorial Day



Letters to the Editor

Trash Talk

We have all received The Letter in North Fairlington about "a pilot program temporarily amending the hours governing the placement of trash in the container locations." Instead of the "restrictive" rule requiring trash to be placed in containers only between 6am–9am Monday-Saturday, the hours are "temporarily" 6am–10pm through May 15.

The existing rules for trash don't seem to be enforced. How does extending the hours help? We've seen residents throwing trash in the bins whenever they want and often it is not in any kind of trash bag. With the warmer weather, unbagged raw food will sit for hours creating something of a health hazard. And this also means there's more of a chance the containers will be filled since there's now more time to place trash outside.

The Board has a tough job as we have seen in meetings and read in social media. This "pilot" program is the result of the Board having to deal with residents who don't adhere to the hours that were placed on each trash bin because they operate on their own time frame. It really can't be that difficult to put trash out in a proper trash bag sometime during a three-hour window 6 days a week. Why don't we just enforce the existing rules instead of giving residents the green light to turn our community into what will ultimately become a 24-hour trash dump?

—Barbara Berti

Frustrated with Arlington

After reading this month's FCA newsletter I have concluded that I should leave Arlington at the end of the lease on the townhouse I and a female friend are renting. We agree that Arlington and Alexandria are becoming too crowded and too expensive. My housemate will soon be getting married, so now is a good time for me to leave Arlington, rather than find another housemate and continue living here.

What is disconcerting is FCA's leadership supported the status quo here for many years.

More disconcerting is continual reports of drug use by

middle school and high school students. That's after many years of taxpayers funding Taj Mahal schools and literally hundreds of pre-K to 12 programs and activities.

You should also be aware that Ms. Garvey will not be running again for the county board, according to an acquaintance who is active in the Arlington Democratic Party.

—Allison Harris

Missing Middle Concerns

Dear Mr. Land,

I respectfully disagree with your statement that Fairlington has not been affected by the missing middle housing debate.

- 1. I believe if there weren't an emphasis on moderate income housing, the apartments along 31st St would have been redeveloped into more modern and upscale condos or apartments.
- 2. Across King St in Alexandria (same neighborhood despite the town line running down the middle of the street) the office building adjacent to XSport was redeveloped into apartments to meet the demand for moderate cost housing and more recently, one of the churches adjacent to the Bradlee shopping center built housing marketed as moderate or workforce housing.

None of these developments have enhanced property values for Fairlington owners.

—Anonymous Fairlington Resident

The All Fairlington Bulletin welcomes letters to the editor and will print them as space permits. However, the opinions expressed are those of the writers and do not represent endorsement by this publication or the FCA. In addition, the AFB reserves the right to edit letters for length or clarity, and the AFB may refuse to print letters that are not appropriate for a community newsletter. Letters may be emailed to afbeditors@yahoo.com.



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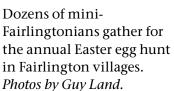


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neighborhood news

Fairlington Diners

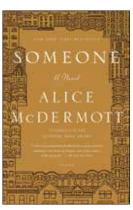
The Fairlington Diners generally gather monthly for informal dinners nearby. We focus on having a good meal and an opportunity to chat with neighbors. In April, 10 of us gathered for a relaxed dinner at Ramparts, our "home base."

For May, here's what's planned:

Thursday, May 11, 6:30 p.m., Beckett's, 2800 S Randolph St, Arlington, VA 22206, https://samuelbecketts.com/, 703-379-0122. This casual restaurant/bar in Shirlington has delicious soups and a spectacular chicken curry. Thursdays have \$5 canned beers and feature card and board games (optional).

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 at yahoo.com.

Book Group



Join the Fairlington Book Group in May to discuss *Someone*, a novel by Alice McDermott. We will meet Tuesday, May 23, at 7:30 p.m. in the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. We hope you'll join us!

"A quiet tour de force of a story. McDermott writes in lyrical yet methodical prose about an ordinary woman living an ordinary life, a

seemingly nonstory with heartache, joy, suffering and beauty all simmering beneath the scattered recollections that make up the novel." —Eliana Smith, The Kansas City Star

The Book Group welcomes first-time visitors and dropins. No commitment required! Join us for our discussion, even if you haven't read the book.

Fairlington Moms' Club

The Fairlington Moms' Club is a group where moms can meet friends, form a support network, and create opportunities for children. The Club organizes several community service projects, routine playdates, craft days, family parties, and moms' nights out. We have a great listserv for sharing advice and connecting with other Fairlington families, as well as our own classifieds listserv. We welcome all Fairlington moms! Please email fairlingtonmomsclub@gmail.com for further information.

Diversity, equity, and inclusion discussion group

The FCA Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion hosts a monthly article discussion group. The group meets on the third Wednesday of the month at the Fairlington Community Center to discuss an article on a DEI topic.

This month we will be discussing Vox article How to Talk Someone Out of Bigotry on Wednesday May 17 at

7 p.m. All are welcome to join, even if you don't read the article! For a link to the article, please scan the QR code.

If you have any questions, please contact Lydia Redway at lydia.redway@gmail.com.



Friends of the Abingdon Community Garden

Abingdon Elementary would love your support to create a successful, sustainable community garden. It is our goal to enrich students' and families' knowledge of environmental sustainability and to be good stewards of

our Earth, while providing first hand experience in learning about our food supply and our pollinators. To sign up, please scan the QR code or check out: https://tinyurl.com/2p82y7rv.





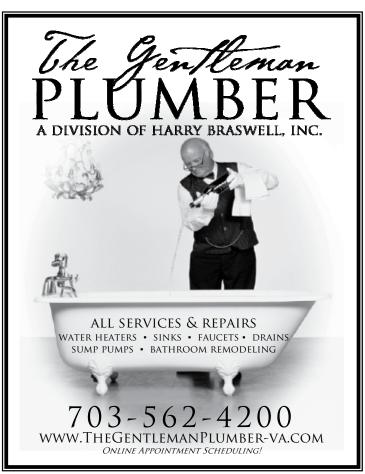


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DOWN TO EARTH patio gardening



Spring plant shopping advice for Fairlington patios

Shoppers are flooding plant nurseries to find specimens for their patios. Thus, I wanted to offer some guidance before you head out. Sometimes, there isn't a clerk available to answer your questions so I'll try to provide answers.

Trees: For your Fairlington patio, make sure you select a dwarf specimen, one that grows no taller than 8, 9 or 10 feet. These fit into the back corners or in the bed at the dining room window. Most trees want to grow large but smallish trees add shade and beauty without dominating a landscape. Have a look at the crape myrtle 'tonto' (pink flower) or 'zuni' (purple flower). You can find them only 5-6 feet tall (for the moment) at the nursery and with a fairly light root ball. Others I like are Japanese snowbell (white fragrant flower), the southern magnolia 'little gem' (another fragrant white flower) or sand cherry which has a pinkish-white flower.

Perennials: These always are on wooden tables and listed as shade or sun types. Perennials are compact and small, usually growing no more than one foot tall. For a shade garden, look at bleeding heart (pink & white flowers), fern, brunerra (blue flower), mazus (blue flower), coral bells (pink flower) or lenten rose (mauve or ivory flower). If your patio receives a lot of sun, try salvia (purple flower), columbine (mixture of colors), yarrow (yellow flower), phlox (pink, purple or white flower), veronica (purple flower), balloon flower (blue flower), sedum



The bleeding heart plant has a unique heart-shaped flower. Photo courtesy of Wikimedia.

(pink flower) and dianthus which has bluish-green foliage and pink flowers.

Shrubs: These are plants which grow at least 2-3-feet tall with a similar spread so they need space. Azalea 'encore' is popular since it flowers on-and-off from May into December. Pieris blooms early (March) in a white fragrant flower. Forsythia is a vertical-grower with vibrant yellow flowers in February, March, and April. Rhododendron has fist-size blooms in May and June and shows in purple, white, and pink. The 'PJM' rhododendron blooms earlier in the same colors. Juniper has bluish-green, bristly foliage that withstands drought. The dwarf versions are 'blue rug' and 'blue star' which are one foot tall.

Annuals: These are ideal do-it-yourself projects since they're small and affordable. They are situated in

plastic flats (12 inches wide by 18 inches long). Their roots are fibrous with very little dirt attached. Plant annuals in pots, using a trowel. Sunlovers are geranium, petunia, marigold, and begonia. Shade-lovers are vinca and 'new guinea' impatiens.

Bulbs: Autumn (when Indian summer has passed) is the time to plant bulbous flowers. I use a bulb planter which cores out a 6-inch-deep by 2-inch-wide hole in the soil. With the soil removed from the hole, place the bulb (pointed end up) and fill the hole with malleable backfill or soil conditioner. Come March, you'll have a colorful display of flowers. Crocus is the first to bloom. Its petals are lavender and its throat is tangerine. Daffodil shows next in yellow, white, or combination of yellow and white. Some have orange eyes. Hyacinth, the most-fragrant of them all, blooms in early April as do tulips. Iris is the last bulb to flower, from late April to early May.

Ground Cover: If you favor miniatures, this is for you. Most times, it can be planted with a trowel. Ajuga has a purplish-olive, crinkled leaf with blue flowers in April. Periwinkle has a periwinkle flower (the size of a nickel in spring and summer). Its leaf is a shiny oval (like a boxwood). Lamium foliage has whitish variegation (like frosting) on its leaf. In early summer, magenta flowers appear. Pachysandra has lime-green foliage (which stands 6-inches tall) and stringy-white flowers in April-May.

—Bill Sullivan



"Dear Fairlington Friends and Neighbors: Please vote in the June 20 Democratic primary (even if you consider yourself an Independent, Libertarian, Republican etc). It is the only primary this year and will most likely determine who fills a number of very important local offices after the November election. This year there are a number of contested local races with real differences in the candidates: 6 people are running for 2 of the 5 County Board seats; 2 people are running to be our Commonwealth's Attorney race; and 3 people are running to be our Sheriff. These positions affect our day to day life security and comfort which makes this year's June 20 primary is extremely important. You can vote by mail starting this month, or in person absentee before our regular polls open on June 20.

For Commonwealth's Attorney, I hope you will vote for Josh Katcher. Josh has the experience, character, skill and commitment we need in a CA. He will be a CA we can be proud of. As crime rates rise, it is crucial that we have a Commonwealth's Attorney who can work well with law enforcement, who knows how to support a justice system that helps those who have just made a mistake to straighten out their lives, but makes sure dangerous criminals are not on our streets. He'll be knocking doors in Fairlington this month and I hope you will say hello if you see him or me."-Libby Garvey

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

MINI-ADS INSTRUCTIONS

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

- Checks payable to "Fairlington Citizens Association."
- Pay via PayPal at fca.fairlington.ads@gmail.com.
- Send mini-ad copy via email, regular mail, or drop off at FCA drop box.

Email: fca.fairlington.ads@gmail.com

Mailing Address: FCA-AFB, PO Box 6182, Arlington, VA 22206-0182. **Drop Box Location:** Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St.

Cost: 50 cents per word.

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



IRS Enrolled Agent can prepare your individual, business, amended and prior year tax returns, and respond to IRS and state tax letters.

Former Fairlington resident with 25 years of experience.

Flexible time and place appointments. Call Christine at (703) 407-7545 or email: christine.atb3@gmail.com www.Alexandria-Tax-Bookkeping.com











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REAL ESTATE



2983 S Columbus St #A2 Arlington, VA 22206 1BR/2BA *Barcroft Model* For Rent! Listing Price \$2,350/month

Listing Agent Julie Flory



4901 29th Rd S Arlington, VA 22206 2BR/2BA *Clarendon Model* Under Contract! Listing Price \$579,900

Listing Agent Omar Sherzai



2560-A Arlington Mill Dr #1 Arlington, VA 22206 2BR/2.5BA

Coming Soon! For Rent

Listing Agent Joanne Ritchick



2822 S Buchanan St Arlington, VA 22206 2BR/2BA *Clarendon Model* RENTED! Rented for \$2,800/month

Listing Agent Joanne Ritchick



3426 Martha Curtis Dr #308 Alexandria, VA 22204 1BR/1BA

For Rent! Listing Price \$1,600/month

Listing Agent Michele Graves



3006 S Columbus St #B1 Arlington, VA 22206 2BR/1BA *Staunton Model* SOLD! Sold for \$392,000

Listing Agent Michele Graves



Patricia Quinlin 703.835.7312



Joanne Ritchick 571.215.3350



Julie Flory 703.599.3111

Reach out to these experienced agents for real estate services in Fairlington and beyond!