

# all FAIRLINGTON BULLETIN



[www.fca-fairlington.org](http://www.fca-fairlington.org)

NOVEMBER 2013

Volume 39, Number 11

## *Voice your opinion on the Fairlington Farmers Market plan*

### **FCA monthly meeting**

Wednesday, November 13, 7 pm  
FCC  
3308 S. Stafford St.

### **Rain garden workshop**

Saturday, November 2, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm  
FCC

### **Daylight Saving Time ends**

Sunday, November 3, 2 am > 1 am

### **Secure paper shredding**

Sunday, November 3, 10 am – 1 pm  
FCC parking lot

### **Election Day**

Tuesday, November 5, 6 am – 7 pm

### **MOMS Club**

Wednesday, November 13, 4 pm  
FCC

### **Fairlington Diners**

Thursday, November 14, 6:30 pm  
Aladdin's Eatery  
Shirlington

### **Winterize the garden program**

Saturday, November 16, 9 am – noon  
FCC

### **Fairlington Diners**

Monday, November 25, 6:30 pm  
Ramparts half-price burger night  
Alexandria

### **Book Group**

Tuesday, November 26, 7:30 pm  
FV community center

*Continued on page 3*



*Photo, Guy Land.*

Fairlington residents are encouraged to share their thoughts about the proposal to create a Fairlington Farmers Market at the FCA meeting on November 13. Thumbs up or thumbs down: Tell us what side you're on and what motivates you to take that position.

You can also express your support for or opposition to the FFM proposal through an online survey accessible at [www.fca-fairlington.org](http://www.fca-fairlington.org) or by sending an e-mail to [marketcomments@fca-fairlington.org](mailto:marketcomments@fca-fairlington.org) before the meeting.

Capping nine months of work, the FFM committee, all volunteers, has crafted an application to Arlington County to permit a farmers market to operate on the grounds of the Fairlington Community Center. The FCA board has set aside time at the beginning of the November 13 meeting for residents to say yes or no, and why, to the proposal. Each resident may speak for up to two minutes. The board will then vote on whether to endorse the FFM proposal.

The FFM committee, led by south Fairlington resident Lane Erwin and north Fairlington resident Melissa Beene, conducted a wide-ranging and well-attended informational meeting for the community on October 3—the story on page 14 of this newsletter summarizes the key elements of the FFM plan and the topics discussed at that meeting. An initial briefing on the farmers market concept was held on May 20.

In making its decision the board will be considering the potential impact of the market on Fairlington, the possible benefits that would flow from the market, and the level of support for the market by Fairlington residents. The board will communicate its view to Arlington County as the county considers the application.

### ***Secure paper shredding, Sunday, November 3***

Rid your home of clutter, get peace of mind, and help thwart identity theft at the secure paper shredding event at the FCC on Sunday, November 3, 10 am to 1 pm. This is a safe, easy, and eco-friendly way for Fairlington residents to dispose of sensitive papers, like old tax returns, for a small fee. *For details, see the paper shredding story, page 7.*

## Coming up ...

The FCA Board invites all Fairlington residents to attend its meetings, which occur on the second Wednesday of the month at the Fairlington Community Center (3308 S. Stafford St.) unless otherwise noted. If you would like to discuss a neighborhood issue at the meeting, please e-mail [president@fca-fairlington.org](mailto:president@fca-fairlington.org) or leave a voice-mail message at 571-403-1943 by the Sunday before the meeting.

### November 13 agenda:

A finalized agenda for the monthly meeting will be posted on the FCA Web site the Sunday before the Wednesday meeting.

**Presentation:** Residents will offer opinions on the plan to hold a Fairlington Farmers Market at the FCC.

#### Regular business meeting:

- Approval of agenda
- Approval of October minutes
- Officer and committee reports
- Unfinished business
- New business

### Online resources:

Find more information on the FCA Web site, [www.fca-fairlington.org](http://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 Web site the week before hard copies hit doorsteps.

Web design by Global Thinking, Alexandria, VA,  
[www.globalthinking.com](http://www.globalthinking.com).

#### USEFUL CONTACTS

Police, Alexandria (non-emergency)	703-838-4444
Police, Arlington (non-emergency)	703-558-2222
Animal Warden	703-931-9241
Dominion (power outages)	888-667-3000
Fairlington Community Center	703-228-6588
Metrobus Complaints	703-228-7929
Miss Utility	811
Pothole Patrol Hotline	703-228-6485
Shirlington Library	703-228-6545
Street Light Hotline	703-228-6511
<a href="http://www.arlingtonva.us/departments/EnvironmentalServices/dot/traffic/streetlights/index.htm">www.arlingtonva.us/departments/EnvironmentalServices/dot/traffic/streetlights/index.htm</a>	
Helicopter Noise Complaints	Bob Laser (FAA) <a href="mailto:bob.laser@faa.gov">bob.laser@faa.gov</a>

#### Fairlington Citizens Association

PO Box 6182 • Arlington, VA 22206-0182  
571-403-1943 • [president@fca-fairlington.org](mailto:president@fca-fairlington.org)

#### Board of Directors

##### Officers

Guy Land, *President*  
Kent Duffy, *Vice President*  
Carol Dabbs, *Secretary*  
Ed Hilz, *Treasurer*

##### Directors

Jacob Gelbaum  
Joe Hartman  
Mark Jones  
Carrie Street  
Michelle Woolley

#### Fairlington-Shirlington Neighborhood Conservation Committee

Chair: Ed Hilz • 703-379-6435 • [treasurer@fca-fairlington.org](mailto:treasurer@fca-fairlington.org)

#### All Fairlington Bulletin

Published monthly by the FCA  
Circulation: 3,449 households

**Editor:** Gretchen Fallon

**Assistant Editor:** Christine Chirichella

**Advertising Manager:** Beth Andrews

**Distribution Manager:** Noemi Rivera

#### — DEADLINE —

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

Send material on disk with paper proof to:

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

E-mail editorial announcements to:  
[editor@fca-fairlington.org](mailto:editor@fca-fairlington.org)

E-mail commercial and mini ads to:  
[admanager@fca-fairlington.org](mailto:admanager@fca-fairlington.org)

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

#### COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING RATES

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

Ad Size	Height	Width	Rate
1/8 page	2 3/16 in.	3 5/8 in.	\$47
1/4 page	4 5/8 in.	3 5/8 in.	\$94
1/2 page	4 5/8 in.	7.5 in.	\$195
Full-Page	9.5 in.	7.5 in.	\$395
Back Cover (Full Page)	9.5 in.	7.5 in.	\$505
Full-Page Insert (1 Side)	11 in.	8.5 in.	\$525
Full-Page Insert (2 Sides)	11 in.	8.5 in.	\$570

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

#### Fairlington is a National Register and Virginia Landmark Historic District

For more information, visit [www.fca-fairlington.org](http://www.fca-fairlington.org)

Copyright © 2013, Fairlington Citizens Association  
Designed and printed by Global Printing, Inc.

## Calendar, cont.

### Thanksgiving

Thursday, November 28

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



**Fall back:** Set clocks back one hour on Sunday, November 3, at 2 am (or do it before you go to bed Saturday night).

## Contents

### Features

Comments on farmers market. . . . .	1
Principal Uyeda reports. . . . .	5
Secure paper shredding. . . . .	7
FCA elections for 2014 . . . . .	7
Vote on November 5. . . . .	7
Squirrel shooting, vandalism incidents . . . . .	9
Real estate update . . . . .	9
Fairlington's flora & fauna . . . . .	10
Fairlington at 70: Tree planting . . . . .	11
Rain garden workshop . . . . .	11
Garden winterizing . . . . .	11
Notable tree nominations. . . . .	11
Fire station open house. . . . .	13
MOMS consignment sale . . . . .	13
Bus stop improvements . . . . .	13
Santa's coming . . . . .	13
Farmers market plan . . . . .	14
Letter to the Editor . . . . .	15
Thanksgiving for pets . . . . .	19

### Departments

Patio gardening. . . . .	21
Neighborhood news . . . . .	23
Mini-ads . . . . .	27

Some images in this publication may be digitally enhanced.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Do you support the proposal to create a Fairlington Farmers Market? That's the question the FCA Board will consider at its November 13 meeting. Nine months of dedicated work by a volunteer group of Fairlington residents has yielded a draft application to Arlington County for a farmers market on the grounds of the Fairlington Community Center.

Fairlingtonians' enthusiasm for having our own farmers market jumped out in an online survey earlier this year when residents were asked to indicate their level of interest in a number of neighborhood activities. Rarely have I encountered so many positive comments as I received when we first raised the market possibility.

FCA set up a task force to check out our options. Led by Lane Erwin and Melissa Beene, with Board liaison Carrie Street, they have looked at alternative sites, scoped out parking arrangements, canvassed nearby residents, studied the regulatory requirements (e.g., the availability of bathroom facilities), and examined the experience of a community market in Westover.

The Fairlington residents who joined Lane and Melissa in lending their talents to the working group are Doug Penn, Cheryl Goodman, Candace McFetridge, Megan Hurst, Lisa Schwenger, Jeff Kost, Julie Zachariadis, Ed Hilz, Allison Range, Amy Nelson, and Teresa Stiner. Longtime Fairlington owner Rob Swennes, a driving force behind the Westover market, shared his practical insights.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you can find more information on the details of the market proposal (*see page 14*). To me, a key thing is that it envisions a community market—a market targeted to Fairlingtonians and our near neighbors.

In addition to the nutritional benefits and convenience of having locally grown produce available, advocates for the market suggest that it would create a greater sense of community, linking north and south Fairlington in a common activity, providing a venue for meeting neighbors, and enhancing communication among Fairlingtonians.

At the same time, some residents have expressed concern about increased commercial activity within our community, a potential increase in traffic, and additional problems with parking. Parking particularly worries residents who live along S. Stafford Street, where parking is often at a premium because of community center activities.

We have launched a short online survey to gauge resident support for the market. Go online to the FCA website, [www.fca-fairlington.org](http://www.fca-fairlington.org), and register your vote. Residents may also make comments at the beginning of the November meeting. We welcome your thoughts.

Guy Land, FCA president  
[president@fca-fairlington.org](mailto:president@fca-fairlington.org)



**CALL ME FOR  
"SPRUCE UP"  
HELP**

**CALL BONNIE  
TO SELL YOURS**



**3350 S. Wakefield St.  
4-Level Clarendon  
SOLD in 7 Days**

**COMING SOON - EXPANDABLE CLARENDON, GLEN**

**Want to Increase the  
Value of Your Home?**



**Call Bonnie B.**  
*Your Fairlington Specialist*

**(703) 801-7592**  
[remaxbon@yahoo.com](mailto:remaxbon@yahoo.com)

*Fairlington Specialist  
RE/MAX Hall of Fame  
[www.fairlington.com](http://www.fairlington.com)*

**RE/MAX Allegiance**  
Each office independently owned and operated.  
5100 Leesburg Pike, #200  
Alexandria, VA 22302



**LOW  
INVENTORY  
ALERT!**  
**Call Bonnie NOW  
to get the  
BEST PRICE!**



# Abingdon Principal explains the school's curriculum and focus

At its meeting in October, the FCA welcomed Abingdon Elementary School Principal Joanne Uyeda, an experienced education leader who has been principal of Abingdon since 2001. In recognition of her success in transforming under-performing institutions, Ms. Uyeda was named Arlington Public Schools' Principal of the Year in 2006, and she was honored with the *Washington Post's* Distinguished Educational Leadership Award.

In opening remarks, FCA president Guy Land noted that as Fairlington's population of families with young children has grown, more and more Fairlington kids are attending Abingdon, and lots of moms pushing strollers today will hear school bells ringing in just four or five years. Many Fairlington residents are already involved

in the Abingdon community, he said, noting the work of Fairlington parents who are PTA members and particularly crediting the dedication of PTA co-presidents Dan Branch and Dana Andy, both Fairlington residents. Mr. Land looked forward to developing closer ties between the civic association and our neighborhood school, offering the FCA's support and assistance to the school if and when needed.



Abingdon Principal Joanne Uyeda. Photo, Gretchen Fallon.

## Grocery shopping can earn rewards for Abingdon

You can make your grocery purchases really count during this holiday season by buying what you need and earning money for Abingdon at the same time. Just link—or re-link—your grocery store bonus cards to the Abingdon ID number. It costs you nothing, it takes only a minute to register, and it earns valuable dollars for school programs. Last year, through grocery rewards programs, Abingdon earned enough money to purchase some fantastic classroom technology items—30 Apple TV devices and adapters for all classrooms!

**Giant: Abingdon's ID# is 02213.** Register your Giant card and Giant will donate a percentage of total sales to Abingdon through their A+ School Rewards Program. Log on to [www.giantfood.com/aplus](http://www.giantfood.com/aplus) and follow directions for registering.

**Safeway: Abingdon's ID# is 6466553.** Safeway has joined a nationwide system that makes donations to schools using your Safeway Club Card. Log on to [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com). Click on the Safeway Club Card icon and follow directions for registering.

**Harris Teeter: Abingdon's ID# is 5748.** Register your VIC card with Harris Teeter's Together in Education (TIE) program and Harris Teeter will donate a percentage of total sales to Abingdon. Log on to [www.harristeeter.com](http://www.harristeeter.com). Click on the Together in Education link at the top of the page and follow directions for registering.

Ms. Uyeda's video and slide show explained the school's signature arts-integration curriculum and demonstrated how the students learn content and cognitive skills while manipulating technology. Project GIFT (Gaining Instruction, Fostering Talents) allows children to apply classroom instructional content in enrichment classes that deepen their understanding of the subject matter. To supplement a lesson in economics, for example, third-grade students might create a claymation video that demonstrates a series of market interactions. At the same time, they practice skills for sequencing, story-telling, writing, and teamwork, and they master the technology involved in creating and editing a video.

In addition, and in cooperation with the Kennedy Center program, CETA (Changing Education through the Arts), students engage with subject matter in creative and arts-focused ways. The Wednesday Wheel class in architecture, for example, allowed fifth-graders to construct an architectural model of a Gothic cathedral. History, art, social studies, and math combined as the children applied what they had learned to the scale

*Continued on page 17*

**Spring 5K run/walk:** The FCA and Abingdon PTA will team up to sponsor a 5K race on Saturday, April 5, 2014. The race will be a fundraiser for Abingdon. Start training now!



FITNESS MADE SIMPLE.

GET STARTED TODAY

**30 DAYS FOR \$30!**

Simply present this ad and discover for yourself why we are The Premier Fitness & Lifestyle Club

Limited Time Offer 11.30.2013

\*See club for more details. Must be 18 years or older, local residents and first-time guest. ID REQUIRED. Some restrictions apply.



Your Premier Fitness & Lifestyle Club

Shirlington Village, 2900 S. Quincy Street,  
Arlington, VA 22206  
[www.theenergyclub.com](http://www.theenergyclub.com)

**Call Today 703-824-0600**



**FOR YOU!**

ENJOY OUR TRAINING SPECIAL!

**6 WEEKS FOR \$60!**

includes assessment and customized training program.

\*See club for more details. Must be 18 years or older, local residents and first-time guests. Offer expires 11.30.2013.

**BRING IN THIS COUPON & GET STARTED TODAY!**

**FOR A FRIEND!**

ENJOY OUR TRAINING SPECIAL!

**6 WEEKS FOR \$60!**

includes assessment and customized training program.

\*See club for more details. Must be 18 years or older, local residents and first-time guests. Offer expires 11.30.2013.

**BRING IN THIS COUPON & GET STARTED TODAY!**

## *Safely shred old papers, November 3*



*Photo, courtesy of ShredStation.*

On Sunday, November 3, the FCA will sponsor a secure paper shredding event in the parking lot of the Fairlington Community Center from 10 am to 1 pm. For a small fee, Fairlington residents can

shred old receipts, account statements, bills, tax returns, legal papers, and other paper documents. You can watch the shredding process via video monitor. All shredded paper is then recycled.

The shredding service truck will be parked in the FCC parking lot. Take your packaged papers (no loose stacks) in bags or boxes to the line forming at the truck. The shredding service vendor recommends packaging your papers in a standard bankers box, copier-paper box, or legal documents box, brown paper grocery bag, or other similarly sized container (like a plastic grocery bag, but not a plastic garbage or yard waste bag). Your container will not be shredded—the vendor will dump your paper contents into a large vendor bin and return your box or bag to you. The only exception is the brown paper grocery bag (about 15 x 12 x 7), which can be shredded along with its paper contents. The maximum weight for any single bag/box of paper is 50 pounds. Not accepted are cardboard boxes, CDs, film, plastic bags or bins, three-ring binders, large springs or clips, or any other large metal or plastic item. Standard size paper clips and staples are acceptable.

The fee is \$5.00 for up to two boxes/bags. So that more people can take advantage of the service, residents are asked to shred no more than two bags or boxes per person at a time. Of course, you can complete your first paper shred and then get back in line for a second go 'round with two more boxes or bags. Shredding will proceed rain or shine. FCA will cancel the shredding only if there is some extreme or hazardous weather event.

**General Election on Tuesday, November 5:** The ballot will include a referendum question: Is there a need for the redevelopment and housing authority to be activated in Arlington County?

## *2014 FCA board election, December 11*



*FCA board members Michelle Woolley and Mark Jones prepare to work on association sign boards, which help inform residents of upcoming FCA events. Photo, Guy Land.*

The election for the 2014 FCA board officers and directors will be held at the association's annual meeting on December 11. Board members serve for a term of one year. The board meets monthly on the second Wednesday of the month (sometimes excepting the month of August, if no meeting is scheduled). Duties are outlined in the FCA bylaws, which are posted on the FCA Web site.

If you are interested in serving on Fairlington's civic association board, contact FCA vice president Kent Duffy, [vp@fca-fairlington.org](mailto:vp@fca-fairlington.org). An initial slate of candidates will be published in the December *Bulletin*, and an updated slate will be posted on the FCA Web site by December 1. Nominations in person at the December 11 meeting are also welcome.

*NB: The FCA board is not the same as your condo association board.* The FCA, Fairlington's civic association, represents Fairlington residents by expressing the larger community's views to external agencies and organizations, such as VDOT, Dominion, WMATA, developers, and local government (primarily the Arlington County Board and staff and, occasionally, the Alexandria City Council and staff). The civic association automatically includes all homeowners and tenants, charges no membership fee, publishes the *All Fairlington Bulletin*, and is distinct from the seven condo associations in Fairlington.

Your condo association is governed by a resident/owner board that contracts with a management company to manage such routine issues as buildings and grounds, facilities maintenance, landscaping, parking lots, recreation amenities, trash/recycling pick-up, snow removal, and pet policies.

Call TOM to find out why You  
*Consistently*  
 See HIS SIGNS EVERYWHERE!

Dominion Model



\$540,000

**SOLD**

3375 S. Stafford Street

Clarendon Model



\$475,000

**SOLD**

3445 S. Wakefield Street

Barcroft Model



\$387,000

**SOLD**

2832 S. Abingdon #A1

*With Interest Rates on the Rise,  
 is THIS the BEST TIME for YOU to SELL?*

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



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

[www.TheTomTeam.com](http://www.TheTomTeam.com)



Each office independently owned and operated. 5100 Leesburg Pike Suite 200, Alexandria, VA 22302.

Cell: 703.314.7374 • [tom@thetomteam.com](mailto:tom@thetomteam.com) • [www.TheTomTeam.com](http://www.TheTomTeam.com)



## Squirrel shooting among rash of criminal incidents in south Fairlington

As reported by residents and by condo association boards, there has been a series of incidents involving theft, vandalism, or criminal mischief in the Glen, the Meadows, the Mews, and the Arbor in the last several weeks, including what appears to be the unrelated shooting of a squirrel in the Meadows.

The first incidents were a break-in at the Meadows maintenance shop by forced entry through the door from the pool deck and a theft from a work site in the Arbor. These were followed by four incidents of rocks and bricks being thrown through residents' windows and several vehicle break-ins in the overnight hours in the Meadows, the Glen, and the Mews, along S. Stafford and S. 36th Streets.



*Photo, Meadows resident.*

More recently, and most alarmingly, a squirrel was shot with what police and animal control officers now believe was a BB gun (originally reported as a 22-gauge rifle) near the Meadows tennis courts, very close to where a woman and small child were walking.

ACPD Third District commander Captain Brett Butler and Sergeant Rick Rodriguez pursued information about the incident in order to document it and file a report. A BB gun, although not classified by law as a "firearm" unless pointed at someone, can still do serious damage, as a photo of the dead animal attests (*above*).

Police said that potential charges could include Animal Cruelty (Felony). If it had been a .22 caliber weapon, there would be an additional charge, Willful Discharge of a Firearm in a Public Place. In addition, Captain Butler offered this reminder: "Shooting even a BB gun in a congested area carries all kinds of unforeseeable risks for the community," and, under certain circumstances, it could even mean arrest for the perpetrator "if the BB gun were brandished or pointed in a threatening manner in furtherance of a crime such as robbery, etc." Police remind Fairlington residents: If you see anyone with anything that looks like a gun or rifle, call 911 immediately, and let police investigate. If you witness any suspicious behavior, anywhere, at any time, call 911. The police non-emergency numbers are 703-558-2222 (Arlington) and 703-838-4444 (Alexandria).

## Local real estate and development news



The plan to redevelop the nearby Park Shirlington apartments on 31st St. S., which generated such interest last year when plans were first announced, continues to move forward, even if

the timetable has slipped somewhat—not at all unusual in real estate development. Earlier this year, Home Properties, the company that owns the rental complex, said they expected to file an application for rezoning with Arlington County this summer. More recently, attorneys for the company said the application filing was expected to occur no earlier than late October.

Shoppers eager for a grocery option on the south side, particularly in the Bradlee shopping center across King Street in Alexandria, may not have long to wait. The old Giant store, which closed in July, has been gutted and is undergoing renovations for its new occupant, The Fresh Market. Recently, a large sign went up at street-side in the shopping center parking lot announcing that the new Fresh Market is scheduled to open early next year. (*Pictured, above and below.*)

The new lifestyle Safeway will occupy the old Safeway's location at the corner of Quaker Lane and Braddock Road. Demolition and site clearing for the old store are ongoing, with a projected opening date for the new store in "fall 2014," according to the last announcement by the company in June.

The Alexandria Planning Commission is considering a staff recommendation to move the city's DCHS (Department of Community and Human Services) to Ford Avenue off N. Hampton Drive, on the south side of King Street across from north Fairlington. Also in Alexandria, and a few blocks further west along King Street, road changes are under consideration at NVCC (Northern Virginia Community College). The campus entrance off Beauregard will stop at the current parking garage; all traffic will enter via Fillmore Ave. from Seminary Rd. or via Dawes Ave. from King.



# Learning about Fairlington's flora and fauna



*Photos, Gretchen Fallon*

Immediately following the 70th anniversary tree planting in October (see the story, following page), a group of about 30 residents and neighbors undertook a guided walking tour of Fairlington's surprisingly diverse flora and fauna. The walk was conducted, with good humor and lots of expert information, by residents (*pictured above*) Anne Wilson, Emily Ferguson, and Susan Berry, who are, variously and sometimes in combination, Master Gardeners, Tree Stewards, and Master Naturalists. Residents of north Fairlington, they serve on the Villages grounds committee.

Several tour-goers explained part of the walk's appeal—they could now put names to things they see every day. And walkers learned so much else besides: the practical benefits of canopy-elevation pruning, which can mimic



*Susan Berry describes rain garden features.*

the natural pruning that occurs in a forest; how to recognize the distinctive leaf shape of the tulip poplar tree, and why foresters love the hardwood for its timber; the benefit of native trees, like oaks, red maples, and sweet gums, which are adapted to the environment, supply habitat for wildlife, and are less likely than exotics to weaken and cause damage in storms; and the usefulness of the pine—a not universally loved tree—for its ability to grow in any soil.

And there was still more to know about: the success of a “three sisters” garden at Abingdon's outdoor classroom, where crops of squash, beans, and corn replicated Native American plantings; that rain gardens encourage water infiltration (into the soil), so that they do not breed mosquitoes—but they do attract beneficial insects like dragonflies; that there's a scarcity of acorns this year, which may lead to a natural thinning of Fairlington's squirrel herd; and the vitality of Fairlington's “wild” spots, like the slope behind the Commons, that provides natural shelter for foxes and other wildlife.

Walking past newer plantings, the group heard about ways the community can leverage such programs as the Tree Canopy Fund, the county's annual free tree giveaway program, and the Neighborhood Conservation Program to enhance Fairlington's landscaping and renew the urban canopy. Today in the landscaping and gardening community

generally, the emphasis is on sustainability practices, which can be observed throughout the neighborhood in ways large and small. Anne Wilson described Fairlington's 90 acres inside a densely populated region as an opportunity to conduct a sort of “learning laboratory” for best practices in resource management. With such things as rain gardens, native specimen plantings, and the removal of invasive species, Fairlington can explore what can be done with sustainability practices in an urban setting—the neighborhood can be a model for what's available and what's possible.



*Anne Wilson at the school vegetable garden.*



## ***Winterize the garden program, November 16***

Virginia Cooperative Extension and Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia will present a program on “Winterizing Your Garden” on Saturday, November 16, from 9 am to noon, at the Fairlington Community Center. The program will cover leaf composting, use of cover crops to enrich the soil and keep down winter weeds, cleaning up planting beds, and identifying which plants to cut back for the winter. The program is free but pre-registration is requested. Call 703-228-6424 or send e-mail to mgarlalex@gmail.com.

## ***Notable Tree nominations due December 1***

Got a tree you love? Nominate it for an Arlington County Notable Tree designation. There's no cost to nominate and no obligation to the tree owner. Your favorite tree will be recognized by the County Board as an important natural resource to the community. A candidate tree can be recognized for its size, age, species, historical interest, or just because it's beloved in the neighborhood. Go online to the county Web site, [arlingtonva.us](http://arlingtonva.us), and search Notable Tree. The deadline for nominations is December 1.

## ***Rain garden workshop, Saturday, November 2***



Rain gardens are landscape features that allow rain water and snow melt to slowly penetrate the ground—a feature that classifies the rain garden as a bio-retention area. A rain garden's layer of mulch and plants intercepts water running off streets and rooftops, slowing its flow and filtering out pollutants before they reach local streams and drinking water supplies.

You can learn how to design and plant a rain garden at your home at the workshop to be held on Saturday, November 2, from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm at the Fairlington Community Center. To register, send e-mail to [awinquist@arlingtonva.us](mailto:awinquist@arlingtonva.us).

## ***70th anniversary commemorative tree planting***

The newly planted red maple on the grounds of Abingdon Elementary School joins six other decade-marking trees, and it commemorates the 70 years that Fairlington has been in existence, from 1943 to 2013. The 70th anniversary tree planting in October was sponsored by FCA and the Fairlington Historical Society, with the support of Arlington's Commemorative Tree Program.



*FCA president Guy Land, FHS member Patty Clark, and FCA treasurer Ed Hilz do shovel duty. Photo, Mark Jones*

Ed Hilz, FCA treasurer and a member of the county's Urban Forestry Commission, reviewed the history of the planting tradition, and recalled the 50th anniversary celebration in 1993. Representing FHS, Patty Clark agreed that the tree was a better memorial than a plaque and said that the new, young tree is a salient reminder

of all the history that Fairlington has yet to make—the tree well expresses Fairlington's confidence in its future.

real estate  
real simple

[www.jimmccowan.com](http://www.jimmccowan.com)



Jim McCowan  
4600 Lee Highway  
Arlington, VA 22207  
703-395-0166

Licensed in DC & VA





**Fire Station Open House:** Rainy, chilly weather in October did not deter the usual crowds of Fairlington families from visiting the firehouse for the annual open house during National Fire Prevention Week. ACFD Station 7 A Shift firefighters welcomed the neighbors with information about how to prevent kitchen fires, while junior firefighters were captivated by the shiny red truck.



Photos, Gretchen Fallon and Guy Land.



Photos, Guy Land.

**MOMS sale:** At the fall MOMS Club consignment sale and vendor expo, happy shoppers found bargains on gently used infants and children's clothing, maternity wear, toys, and baby gear. After bargain hunting, shoppers visited the expo of local small businesses. Another consignment sale is planned for the spring.

## FHS to publish cookbook

As part of its 70th anniversary, the Fairlington Historical Society is developing a cookbook that will feature recipes, pictures, and stories from Fairlington's many fine cooks. Organizers expect the cookbook to be available for purchase in the spring 2014.

If you would like to contribute, please respond at the Web site ([fairlingtonhistoricalsociety.org](http://fairlingtonhistoricalsociety.org)) or send e-mail to Kevin Silvia at [kevin.silvia@comcast.net](mailto:kevin.silvia@comcast.net).

## Bus stop facelifts



Workers complete installation of the new bus stop shelter at S. 31st and Abingdon. Photo, Guy Land.

Several bus stops in Fairlington, and along nearby streets, are in the process of being upgraded—they will get new concrete pads, new shelters, or they will be replaced entirely. The work requires coordination among WMATA (Metro-bus), the county's Transit Bureau, and the county's Water, Sewer, and Streets Bureau in the Department of Environmental Services.

The stop at 31st St. S. and Abingdon (*pictured*) was removed the last week in September and replaced the first week in October. Other affected bus shelters are at S. Stafford and 32nd St. S. and S. Stafford and 35th St. S., along with improvements at stops on 31st St. S. and at Arlington Mill and Walter Reed Drives.



## Santa and his sleigh:

Mark your calendar for Saturday, December 14, for Santa's ride through Fairlington atop fire engine 7. Photo, Steve Andrews.

# FFM committee explains the market plan, gives opportunity for feedback



*Photos, Kathie Miller.*

A large and interested audience listened to details about the planned Fairlington Farmers Market (FFM) at an informational meeting at the FCC in October, in advance of a vote on the plan by the FCA board in November. FCA president Guy Land's opening remarks reviewed the nearly year-long history of the committee's work in researching the market idea and introduced the speakers: Market committee co-chairs Lane Erwin and Melissa Beene, member Doug Penn, and advisor Rob Swennes. Mr. Swennes is a long-time Fairlington homeowner who now lives in Westover, where he helped found and now manages the Westover Farmers Market through the non-profit Field to Table organization.

**Vision:** Mr. Penn described some elements of the market planners' underlying vision, particularly that the enterprise would be not just the franchise outlet of some larger brand, but, rather, a market that was organized and operated by Fairlington residents and volunteers, had a recognizably "Fairlington" look and feel, and delivered a uniquely Fairlington-neighborhood experience. The committee envisions the FFM as a destination for our residents, a focal point for families, and a place for all residents to come, feel comfortable, share information, and exchange ideas. Fairlington neighbors will interact with vendors who are not middlemen, but growers. Thus the vendor will be able to answer questions about how the product was produced and when it was harvested.



together—the "when" and "where" were inextricably linked in the process of examining options. Ultimately, the committee chose what they deemed the optimum

**Time and place:** Committee co-chair Lane Erwin reviewed some of the initial decisions made to move forward with the market plan and explained how some decisions dictated others. Selection of a day of the week and selection of a market site, for example, worked

time and place: Sundays at the Fairlington Community Center (8 am to 1 pm, April to November).

**Other locations were considered:** Inside Fairlington, at the school and at the commercial properties on Abingdon and on 31st. St. S., and outside Fairlington, at a nearby church parking lot, the lots of two banks, and the Trades Center facility near Four Mile Run. The alternatives presented a host of excluding factors or insurmountable inconveniences: One wanted to charge a fee; one offered very restricted access; one presented an industrial setting that was neither welcoming nor attractive; one declined completely to be involved; and none had easy access to restrooms, which is a regulatory requirement for an outdoor market.



**Best Option:** A market on Sunday at the FCC was the option with the most benefits. The community center is closed on Sundays, so that the operation of a market there would not interfere with the facility's normal operations. The brick plaza on the back side of the building is not only attractive and roomy enough in width for vendor stalls and crowds of shoppers, but also its length can easily accommodate 7 to 10 vendors in the beginning and have sufficient space to expand to include more vendors over time. More important—critical, in fact, because it is required—is the availability of restrooms on site; and they are accessible to the public without the need for a county employee with keys to gain access to the building.

**Operation:** The committee opted to associate the Fairlington Farmers Market with Field to Table, the non-profit organization that operates the Westover market. Partnering with FTT brings to FFM not only day-to-day experience in running a market but also expertise in such key back office functions as governing structure, bank accounts, contracting, liability coverage, and com-



pliance with county regulations. "They've done it before," noted Ms. Erwin of FTT, "and that will help us be efficient." Even as the Fairlington market would operate as a program of FTT, the FFM would maintain its own market-specific policies and procedures, and its own market-management committee. That was important, said Ms. Erwin. "The Fairlington market will remain a Fairlington enterprise."



**Concerns:** The committee acknowledged concerns expressed about such things as noise, an influx of

people, and parking. There will be no microphones or amplified music, as there are at some other markets, and the plan is to start small, with 7 to 10 vendors, to assess the impact of truck traffic. In addition, the market would comply with the county's noise ordinance. One person worried about "hundreds of cars and thousands of people" coming to the market—which the committee deemed "overly optimistic." In fact, due to Fairlington's residential concentration, the projection is that

*Continued on page 17*

**Survey says!** The FCA has launched an online survey to gauge Fairlingtonians' support for the planned farmers market. The survey can be accessed from the FCA Web site, [fca-fairlington.org](http://fca-fairlington.org); just log on and follow the survey link. The survey will be available until noon on November 13.

## ***Letters to the Editor: On parking***

As readers of this newsletter know, last month a lengthy article was published about a farmers market in Fairlington. The FFM committee of residents, formed to explore its potential, has recommended hosting the market in south Fairlington at the FCC. If approved by the county, the market would be open Sundays, 8 am – 1 pm, April through November. We and many of our neighbors who live adjacent to the FCC have serious concerns about its impact on our quality of life.

FCC patrons know parking in the area is difficult. It is particularly exasperating for the residents of the 3300 block of S. Stafford who live across the street. Indeed, a petition signed by two-thirds of the residents is pending before the county to extend Zone 11 parking to seven days a week.

In addition, homes across from the FCC are located in Fairlington Meadows Court 2. Court 2 is the only court in south Fairlington without off-street parking. It is the community in closest proximity to the FCC. *Residents have no personal reserved parking spaces; on-street parking is what's available.*

Parking is also a challenge in the evenings and on weekends. Saturday, October 5, was a typical day. There were 13 events scheduled at the FCC, with most of the observed vehicular traffic from outside the immediate area. With more planned street work and rezoning, CaBi use, potential expansion of Zone 11 parking to neighboring streets, and the county considering opening the FCC on Sundays (NB: a closed FCC was one reason the FFM committee cited for the

day/site choice), the situation will be untenable. At its October 3 meeting, FFM committee members offered no specifics to address any of these concerns.

In its permitting request to the county, the committee will have to submit a parking plan "sufficient to not have substantial impact on surrounding neighborhoods." A market will have substantial negative impact.

We understand the idea of a market has been received with enthusiasm by some residents. Our family enjoys them and regularly patronizes the Courthouse and Columbia Pike markets. But the seven existing Arlington markets are in commercial areas accessible either to Metro or adequate parking publicized on the markets' Web sites. We do not understand why the committee wants to locate a market in the center of a residential neighborhood given the adverse effect it will have on their neighbors' quality of life and property. We strongly urge the committee and its supporters to reconsider the location.

Chris and Leonore Meuchner  
Fairlington Meadows

*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.*

**# 1 LISTING AGENTS and YOUR NEIGHBORS in the  
local Long & Foster office  
*WE KNOW FAIRLINGTON!***

If you are considering Buying or Selling a home  
call US, Kristin Usaitis & Pat Shannon



Call for  
information  
on any of  
these great  
homes!

**Kristin: 703.863.0367**

**Kristin.Usaitis@longandfoster.com**

**Pat: 571.237.4767**

**Pat.Shannon@longandfoster.com**



**Ask about our Client Courtesy Van!**



65% of market-goers will walk or bike from within the neighborhood.



**Parking:** It was a challenge the market committee addressed head-on, by surveying the available curbside public parking spaces (not immediately in front of someone's house) surrounding the FCC complex (gathering tallies on Sundays at 8 am, 11 am, and 1 pm) and by canvassing nearby neighbors. "We are very aware," said Ms. Erwin, "that some of our neighbors—those on S. Stafford Street, for example—will be more impacted than others who live on S. Buchanan." (See the Letter, page 15.)

**If it fails:** From his experience at Westover, Mr. Swennes said that it is relatively simple to tell if a market is working or not, because markets are self-correcting. For example, if shoppers reject a product because it is too expensive, growers will adjust the price or try another product. If shoppers ask for different kinds of peppers, growers will respond with greater variety to meet the demand. In the same vein, Mr. Swennes cited these early indicators that reveal a market's failure to thrive or meet goals: When buyer numbers dwindle, gross sales decline, or vendors quit or just stop showing up.

**Next steps:** Ms. Beene explained that currently next steps are tentative because, going forward, the committee will be responding to a timetable set by the county. The FFM application, now in final stages, will be reviewed by county staff and refined based on staff questions and input. Eventually, county staff will determine the time that the application will be submitted to the Arlington County Board for approval, and the board

will set a meeting date for its consideration. The process could extend into January; the FFM committee has no control over the schedule, but they will ensure that Fairlington residents are informed once the County Board's meeting is scheduled.

**Thanks and responses:** During the meeting, many attendees expressed their thanks to the committee for their work and all they had accomplished and said they looked forward to the FFM. There were also dissenting views expressed, particularly from neighbors concerned about the market's impact on parking. After the meeting, the committee welcomed 10 people who came forward to express interest in volunteering with market activities. Volunteers will be the life blood of a Fairlington market—their ongoing involvement will determine the market's sustainability.

In addition, some residents were already thinking about what products they might like to find at the market: One person mentioned flowers, and another wondered about craft items. And one meeting attendee suggested that the market host a compost vendor. The service provider would collect a household's weekly table scraps and other organic materials for off-site recycling into compost (go online to [fatwormcompost.com](http://fatwormcompost.com) to see an example of how such a service operates). No vendors have been selected yet (they commonly sign contracts in January or February for a spring-opening market), but the committee indicated their preference for producer-only vendors within a 125-mile radius.

**For more information:** Contact the FFM committee by e-mail at [fairlingtonfarmersmarket@gmail.com](mailto:fairlingtonfarmersmarket@gmail.com). In addition, to view the slides from the May and October FFM meetings, go online to the FCA Web site, [fca-fairlington.org](http://fca-fairlington.org), where they are posted, together with a summary of the October meeting. To express your opinion about the FFM plan, send e-mail to [marketcomments@fca-fairlington.org](mailto:marketcomments@fca-fairlington.org).

---

*Abington Principal, continued from page 5*

model they built. One student said: "After I made all the parts of the cathedral, I could remember them very well. Drawing and building stuff makes better memories than reading."

The school-day practice at Abingdon is much more complex than this modest description can capture, and it varies by subject matter and grade-level. Not surprisingly, Abingdon is at capacity. Ms. Uyeda reported that school closed that day, October 9, at 589 students—40 students above the projected num-

ber. In anticipation of the increased enrollment, APS added four classroom trailers in a pod to the facility over the summer. As part of the pod installation, some trees had to be removed, but plans are now underway to replace the trees with re-plantings this fall. The replacement trees will be planted along the sidewalk, closer to the building, so that, if and when the trailers are removed, no trees will have to be removed to accommodate the work.

For more information about the school, go online to the APS Web site, [www.apsva.us](http://www.apsva.us), and select Abingdon Elementary School.

Kitchen Remodeling  
 Bathroom Remodeling  
 Finished Basements  
 Decks & Porticos  
 Screened-in Porches  
 Sunrooms  
 Custom Painting  
 Patios & Walkways  
 Ceramic & Marble Tile  
 Cabinets & Countertops  
 Custom Built-ins & Closets  
 Chair Rail & Crown Molding Install  
 Window & Door Replacement  
 Refinish & Install Hardwood floors

**NEW!**

*We Install Generators!*

**We Are One of the  
 Top Rated Contractors  
 In Northern Virginia**

**Check out our reviews!**

**Angie's list**

**CONSUMERS' CHECKBOOK**



**★ ★ ★  
 SAVE!**

Save \$50 off any service or project valued at \$500 or more. Or save \$150 off any project valued at \$1,000 or more. Discount will be applied to your final statement. Not valid with any other offers, or on jobs or Change Orders already in progress.

Mention Promo Code: FVN1113

## Home Remodeling Professionals Serving Fairlington Village Homeowners Since 1985



**Follow us:**

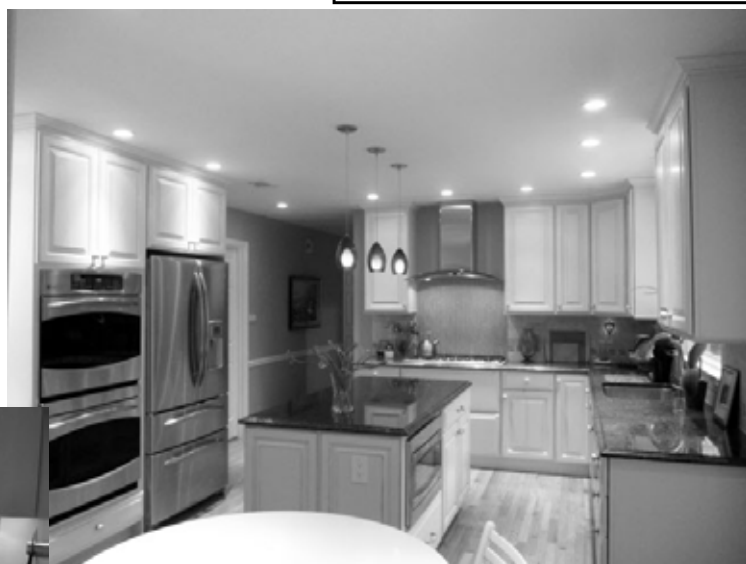


*Request an estimate:*

[www.gmgservices.com](http://www.gmgservices.com)

**703-354-4270**

[sales@gmgservices.com](mailto:sales@gmgservices.com)



### Read what some of your neighbors have to say:

GMG Services remodeled two bathrooms and a bar area in our home in Arlington, VA. GMG was one of three contractors we got quotes from, and we liked their punctuality, prices, and their ideas about how to best use the space available for the two bathrooms we wanted to re-do. Once we signed the contract, the work went exactly as planned. We were sent to wonderful providers for countertops, sinks, toilets, showers and tiles—everyone we worked with was fabulous, and it was clear they all had a great relationship with GMG. We were referred to GMG by a good friend, and we are very pleased with the way the work turned out.

*Beautiful job, on time and within budget.*

"I've been using GMG exclusively for the last 15 years for 4 different projects. Other than my bathroom, they have totally renovated my entire condo including a recent complete renovation of my downstairs bathroom. I have absolutely no reservations using them again and am chomping at the bit to have them renovate my bathroom next year. They do outstanding work, always finishing on budget and just as importantly, on time... I can honestly say, when comparing experiences with my friends on contractors, I've never been able to offer any of the horror stories they always have..."

*Major Credit Cards Accepted*

**Scan to download our contact  
 Information directly to your device.**



"We are writing to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude to you and your crew for the excellent work in remodeling our two bathrooms. It was indeed a pleasure dealing with a company that places a high priority on customer satisfaction. We are very satisfied customers. The bathroom was done with a high degree of craftsmanship and completed within the time frame that you had originally proposed. It's apparent that GMG is a remarkably well-run and well-organized operation. In the 33 years that we have lived in the Washington DC area, we have never been more satisfied with contractors than we are with GMG Services"

*For more client testimonials visit [www.gmgservices.com](http://www.gmgservices.com)*

## Thanksgiving and your pet

Many pets love “people food,” and what better time to indulge them than Thanksgiving, right? Wrong. I recently read a statistic that one in four American pets is overweight. Plus, many seemingly harmless foods can be toxic to both dogs and cats. Below is a partial list of good foods/bad foods, so keep these in mind when Thanksgiving rolls around and you are tempted to over feed your pet. Always check with your vet before changing your pet’s diet, and introduce new foods slowly to avoid digestive upset.

### Okay for pets

- Skinless, boneless lean turkey meat
- Sweet potato, pumpkin (contain a lot of fiber, so use cautiously)
- Veggies (green beans, carrots, spinach, celery, broccoli)
- Fruits (apples, cantaloupes, pears, oranges)

### Bad for pets

- Fatty meats
- Bones
- Onions and garlic
- Veggies (eggplant, pepper, tomatoes)
- Grapes and raisins
- Chocolate

If you suspect that your pet has over indulged, either with the help of you or your guests or by getting into the trash, know the phone number and location of the closest emergency vet. But here’s hoping that with a little extra care, you and your pet will enjoy the start of the holiday season without incident or weight gain.

—Christine M. Chirichella, Assistant editor

## simplicitysofas

**\$100 OFF** Award-Winning Furniture that F.I.T.S.

Perfect fit for Farlington Homes

**Custom-Built Furniture Designed For Small Spaces & Tight Places**



**Our easy assembly furniture will fit through any narrow door or stairway wider than 15" Guaranteed!**

**FREE SHIPPING**

**MADE IN THE USA**

Built one piece at a time by our skilled High Point, North Carolina Craftspeople  
Solid Oak frames and premium Ultracel<sup>®</sup> Foam Cushions are backed by a lifetime warranty  
Options include over 200 in-stock fabrics, fitted slipcovers, luxurious spring down cushions and much more.

Order your **FREE catalog and FREE fabric swatches** [www.simplicitysofas.com](http://www.simplicitysofas.com)

**SIMPLICITY SOFAS**

2726 W. English Road, High Point, NC 27262 | 336.882.2490 | 800.813.2889 |



# Benefits of Prior Approval

Buyers who get Prior Approval (instead of getting pre-qualified) have a big advantage – knowing how much they can afford – and being approved for a home loan before writing a contract. It can definitely make the process more enjoyable while eliminating unnecessary stress and complications.

- Improve your bargaining power with a Commitment Letter\* from one of the area's Top Lenders.
- Improve your odds against multiple offers.
- Gain a clear understanding of the loan programs available today, down payment options & closing costs.
- Avoid any unnecessary delays in settlement.
- Obtain an evaluation of your credit report & credit scores, and how they impact your borrowing power.
- Have confidence knowing the loan amount for which you qualify before you sign a contract.
- Know your usable income for qualifying purposes *(based on IRS Form 4506-T)*.

**There is No Obligation and No Cost for our Prior Approval Process.**

\* Contingent, but not limited to, a ratified sales contract & satisfactory appraisal.



**Christian A. Hartung**  
Senior Vice President  
211 N. Union Street, Suite 250  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
p-202.360.8773  
f-703.653.7460  
chartung@gmmlc.com  
www.gmmlc.com/chartung  
NMLS# 483527

**GEORGE MASON  
MORTGAGE, LLC®**  
*A Subsidiary of Cardinal Bank*



Credit and collateral are subject to approval. Terms and conditions apply. This is not a commitment to lend.  
Programs, rates, terms, and conditions are subject to change without notice.



# DOWN TO EARTH patio gardening



## *Taking the mystery out of bagged aggregates*

It can be confusing for the casual shopper to distinguish among all those bagged aggregates of soil mixtures at the plant nursery: Gardener's Gold, Miracle Grow, Bumper Crop, Holly Tone, and various brand-names of composted manure, peat moss, dried blood, soil conditioner, and topsoil.

First, remember that all of these are "organic"—something lives or once lived herein. "Organic" is nutritious for plants since its decomposed matter (nitrogen, phosphorus, or magnesium) fertilizes plant roots. In plant science, an organism is divided into groups: domain, kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus, and species. The same classification applies to the very plants you choose at the nursery. Take *Hydrangea macrophylla*. *Hydrangea* is the "genus" while *macrophylla* is the "species." The common name is Big Leaf Hydrangea. If you are shopping for a hydrangea, focus on the genus. But if you seek variations of hydrangea, look at the species, since *macrophylla* (big flower) differs from *paniculata* (panicle or cone-shaped flower) and *quercifolia* (oak leaf).

Back to choosing bagged aggregates. Say, for example, you have a gardenia whose leaves are turning yellow. Gardenia is an evergreen, so the leaves shouldn't be "turning" any color. If the entire leaf becomes yellow, the soil is nitrogen-deficient, there is poor drainage in the root zone, or the soil pH is too alkaline. Spreading dried blood (the processed,

powdered garden product) in the root zone provides nitrogen to plant roots, while composted manure adds sulfur to the soil, inducing the pH to become more acidic.

Does Miracle Grow work? Yes. I laid tall fescue sod for a Fairlington customer in late summer and watered it regularly, while the grass roots established. When I returned for a "look-see" 10 days later, the sod had become a deeper green. Turns out, the customer applied Miracle Grow (with nitrogen fertilizer) when watering the sod. The chlorophyll (green pigment) in the grass blades absorbs light from the sun and converts it to energy to feed its roots. The nitrogen fertilizer aids in this photosynthetic process.

Soil conditioner is a bit simpler. It contains no fertilizer but acts as a natural (organic) foil in the root zone. We all know what rock, clay, and debris look like when digging in our Fairlington gardens. Think about fibrous (thin, like a needle) plant roots trying to grow and extend themselves into, around, or through these coagulated chunks. So, to improve the plant roots' chances, after digging a hole for your new plant, shrub, small tree, or ground cover, trash the rocky, clay-clogged debris chunks and partially fill the base of the hole with soil conditioner. Place the root ball in the hole and "backfill" with more soil conditioner. Of course, if the existing backfill happens to be malleable, it can be used to fill the hole. In short,



soil conditioner provides a soft-textured mix to assist plant roots in the all-important establishment phase. It also invites earthworms (natural soil tillers) into the root zone.

Topsoil is similar to soil conditioner but its texture is chunkier and wetter. If you are building a raised planting bed or filling a hole, topsoil is ideal since it is firmer than conditioner and doesn't disperse when spread.

Lastly, Holly Tone is a fertilizer for evergreen shrubs (holly, yew, laurel, azalea, camellia, falsecypress, ligustrum, rhododendron, boxwood), converting the soil pH to a more acidic reading (less than 7 on the pH scale). Apply it in the fall by hand-sprinkling it around the base of the plant. Then softly jab a spade fork into the ground to work it into the root zone.

— Bill Sullivan, [www.sullivanlandscaping.net](http://www.sullivanlandscaping.net)

# Allegro LLC

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



## Allegro LLC Electrical Service

703.314.1287  
info@AllegroLLC.net  
www.allegroLLC.net

Serving the  
Fairlington Community

Visa and Mastercard  
Accepted



## R&R Blinds Windows & Doors inc.

Since 1946, your neighborhood  
source for blinds, shades, shutters,  
windows, doors, storm doors,  
storm windows, and screens.

Free, no obligation, no pressure quotes.

**703-549-8000**



2621 Mt Vernon Ave.  
Alexandria, VA 22301

-www.rrblinds.com-

## PRIMARY COLORS YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD SALON!

REASONABLE RATES  
BY APPOINTMENT OR WALK IN

**703-931-1580**

FAIRLINGTON CENTRE, 1717 CENTRE PLAZA, ALEXANDRIA, VA

**MEN - WOMEN - CHILDREN**



## Nova Installations

Window & Door Experts  
Since 1982



- ✓ Serving the Northern VA area for 30 years!
- ✓ Over 10,000 installations in Fairlington!
- ✓ Top rated in Checkbook Magazine and Angie's List
- ✓ Large variety of windows, doors & storm doors
- ✓ EPA Lead Paint Certified
- ✓ Low pressure sales

**CALL FOR YOUR FREE ESTIMATE TODAY!**

**703-378-6596**

Novainstallations.com



Call Today for a  
Free Estimate

**Dave Pearce**  
703.201.6303

## The Window Factory

*Vinyl Windows*  
Sales and Custom Installation

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

*You won't find a  
better warranty!*

MasterCard/VISA

## 30% Discount on Tax Preparation

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



Visit [www.cpa-coker.com](http://www.cpa-coker.com) for more  
information. Call today to schedule an  
appointment. **FREE** Retirement check-  
up during your appointment!

**Charles Coker, CPA** 703.931.3290  
[charles.coker@cpa-coker.com](mailto:charles.coker@cpa-coker.com)

# neighborhood news

---

## **Book Group**

Are intelligence and ambition the main guarantors of accomplishment? No, Malcolm Gladwell argues in *Outliers: The Story of Success*; successful people are invariably the beneficiaries of hidden advantages, extraordinary opportunities, and cultural legacies that allow them to learn, work hard, and make sense of the world in ways that others cannot. All Fairlingtonians are invited to discuss the book on Tuesday, November 26, at 7:30 pm in the Fairlington Villages Community Center, 3005 S. Abingdon St. For more information, please contact Terry Gough at [tjgough@verizon.net](mailto:tjgough@verizon.net).

## **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 October, we went to Shirlington to try out the new Vietnamese restaurant and enjoyed our visit to Ramparts.

In November, we'll have the following events:

Thursday, November 14, 6:30 pm, Aladdin's Eatery, 4044 Campbell Ave. in Shirlington, 703-894-4401. Serving Middle Eastern cuisine, this restaurant offers many vegetarian options.

Monday, November 25, 6:30 pm, Ramparts Restaurant, 1700 Fern St., Alexandria, VA 22302, 703-998-6616, [www.rampartstavern.com](http://www.rampartstavern.com). This is a local favorite that we usually visit monthly. On Mondays, they offer half-price on burgers with the purchase of a beverage, and the rest of the menu is also available. Come on out for a burger before turkey takes over our tables!

Please call Carol at 703-379-6840 if you plan to attend, and leave a voice-mail 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'd like to be on our e-mail list to receive notice of our events a couple of weeks in advance, please send your e-mail address to [carol\\_dabbs@yahoo.com](mailto:carol_dabbs@yahoo.com).

## **MOMS Club of Arlington-Fairlington**

Members and their children of the MOMS Club of Arlington-Fairlington VA chapter of the International MOMS Club participate in fun activities, service projects, Parent's Night Out, meetings with interesting speakers, and groups such as our walking, dinner, and book clubs. Our weekly age-specific playgroups start as young as birth and go up to 3+ years old. Playgroups are wonderful for kids, but they also offer parents a chance to find support and friendship.

Parents and parents-to-be are welcome to join us for our next general meeting on Wednesday, November 13, at 4:30 pm, in the Fairlington Community Center. Children are always welcome. For more information about the club, the meeting, or membership, contact our Membership VP at [fairlingtonmomsclub@gmail.com](mailto:fairlingtonmomsclub@gmail.com) or visit [www.fairlingtonmomsclub.com](http://www.fairlingtonmomsclub.com). Annual dues of \$25 support our club activities and charitable projects.

## **Fairlington Babysitting Co-op**

If you are looking for a night out without the kids or an afternoon to yourself, look no further than the Fairlington Babysitting Co-op. For more than 30 years, the Babysitting Co-op has been a community of parents helping parents right here in our neighborhood.

The Co-op is a network of Fairlington families who exchange free babysitting services. It's perfect for parents who would like to know dependable adults to watch their children and meet other families in the community.

To request an application or for more information, Fairlington residents can send e-mail to the coordinators, Danielle Bloom and Emily Welly, at [fairlington.babysitting@gmail.com](mailto:fairlington.babysitting@gmail.com).

### **County nature centers celebrate fall and winter**

The county nature centers specialize in hands-on learning that leaves a lasting impression. For more information and for complete listings visit the Nature Center page, [ww.arlingtonva.us/departments/ParksRecreation/scripts/nature/NatureCenters.aspx](http://ww.arlingtonva.us/departments/ParksRecreation/scripts/nature/NatureCenters.aspx).



# Shirlee Lights up the Village

**Tuesday, December 3rd**

**6:30pm-8:30pm**



[VillageAtShirlington.com](http://VillageAtShirlington.com)



A property of Federal Realty Investment Trust NYSE: FRT





wear a smile

**Fairlington Dental** is committed to your family's bright, healthy smiles.

- Painless Anesthesia Wand
- TVs, iPods, Warm Neck Pillows
- Mercury-Free Crowns and Fillings
- Invisalign®
- TMJ/Sleep Apnea Solutions

**Call today for an appointment!**



*Dr. Michael B. Rogers*

Trusted smile maker since 1989.

**DR. Oogle**

Rated #1 Dentist  
in DC Metro area



Voted one of the Best  
Dentists by the readers of  
Arlington Magazine

4850 31st Street South, Suite A  
Arlington, VA 22206  
(703) 671-1001

[FairlingtonDental.com](http://FairlingtonDental.com)





# Arvy Sells Arlington.

Whether you are buying or selling,  
I'd love to help!



*You're a neighbor, not a number!*



**SOLD - \$428,000**  
Clarendon II - 3045 S Abingdon St

## Homes in Fairlington are selling **FAST!**

Call today for a free consultation about the  
value of your home.

**(202) 746-4319**  
**Arvy.Myers@gmail.com**



**H. Arvy Myers, Realtor®**



*Service you deserve from a person you can trust. Serving Fairlington, Northern VA & DC.*

## Custom Glide-Out Storage Solutions

Professionally Designed,  
Built & Installed in **EXISTING**  
Cabinets & Pantries

**ShelfGenie®**  
*Designed to Transform*

**FREE  
GLIDE-OUT**

with purchase of 5 or more Classic Glide-Outs.\*  
Offer expires soon!\*



- Easier Access
- Better Organization
- Built in U.S.A.
- Locally Owned & Operated



\*Free Glide-Out of equal or lesser value with coupon. Limit one per household.  
Offers cannot be combined. Savings on materials only. Labor not included. A \$177 value.

**FREE Design Consultation – Call Now! 1-888-267-1794 • [www.shelfgenie.com](http://www.shelfgenie.com)**



# JUST LISTED!

Catch it if you can!



4138 36<sup>th</sup> Street South

[www.4138s36thSt.com](http://www.4138s36thSt.com)

Clarendon Model ~ 1,500 sq ft  
2 bed/ 2 baths/3 levels  
gourmet kitchen  
hardwood floors  
lots of closet space  
Georgetown-style fenced patio



## Donna recently sold in the Fairlington area:

3327 S. Wakefield St B

SOLD!



2905D Woodstock St

SOLD!



4819 29<sup>th</sup> Street S

SOLD!



**DONNA HAMAKER**, Realtor®

Direct: 703-582-7779

Email: [Donna@KDHteam.com](mailto:Donna@KDHteam.com)

KDH Real Estate, Arlington, VA  
**Arlington Best Business Award Winner**  
(Arlington Chamber of Commerce)







**Lynn Gant &  
Lois Robinson, GRI**  
Long & Foster, Fairlington  
703.898.7205  
[www.LoisandLynn.com](http://www.LoisandLynn.com)  
[lynngant@mac.com](mailto:lynngant@mac.com)



## LYNN AND LOIS SELL FAIRLINGTON

**For Sale**  
\$429,000

Clarendon II  
3 Level, 2 BR, 2 BA, Patio +  
floored attic (1383 sqft)  
Updated and move-in ready!  
4872 S. 28th Street



**Under Contract**

Barcroft in the Arbor  
2 Level, 1 BR, 2 BA + Patio  
(1490 sqft) Call for details



**Thinking of selling?**  
**For personalized service to**  
**meet your needs,**  
**call us today! 703.898.7205**

**Attention!!!**

We have a qualified BUYER who  
would like to purchase an  
Arlington or Dominion model. if  
you are considering selling -  
Please call us today.



## Michele's Maids

Licensed \* Bonded \* Insured



703-820-1808 [www.michelesmaids.com](http://www.michelesmaids.com)

**Proud Partner Of**



**Keeping Fairlington  
Clean for over  
14 Years**  
Fairlington references  
available

**NEW CLIENTS**  
**\$25.00 off**  
your 1st. Regular  
Scheduled Cleaning  
one per household  
new clients only

**GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE**

# Mini-ads

## For Sale

**Bicycle.** 24" boys mountain bike in new condition (ridden once). \$100. 703 - 820-8535

## Services

**INCOME TAXES.** We can prepare your Federal and State Income Taxes. New home-owners and all-50-state taxes our specialty. Electronic Filing. Convenient Baileys Crossroads location, evening and weekend hours. 30% discount for Fairlington Residents. Visit [www.cpa-coker.com](http://www.cpa-coker.com) for more information, directions. Call for appointment. FREE Retirement Check-up during your appointment. (703) 931-3290.

**WELLNESS.** Yoga, meditation, breathing techniques, infant massage, Children's massage, reflexology, reiki & more. Private Sessions or Create a Class. Gift certificates available. [www.moorethanyoga.com](http://www.moorethanyoga.com). 703-671-2435.

**FOOT MASSAGE - REFLEXOLOGY.** Personal pampering, pregnancy & pregnancy labor induction & more. [www.moorethanyoga.com](http://www.moorethanyoga.com), 703-671-2435.

**INFANT MASSAGE.** Learn to massage your baby. Monthly classes. Certified Fairlington resident. [www.moorethanyoga.com](http://www.moorethanyoga.com), 703-671-2435.

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

**TUTOR.** K-5 students, all subjects. Fairlington resident with 13 years experience teaching. Certified Reading Specialist, with Bachelor's and Master's degrees in education. 202-770-9618 [christyhermann@gmail.com](mailto:christyhermann@gmail.com)

**ADULT PIANO LESSONS.** Seeking adult learners for serious yet accessible instruction at the piano. Daytime openings in Fairlington Tuesdays and Fridays. Experienced teacher; FREE intro/interview lesson; all levels/ages welcome. [www.pianowitz.com](http://www.pianowitz.com) 703-229-3109

## Child Care

**CHILD CARE.** Warm home setting and nurturing environment. FT/PT. Experienced and licensed. Spanish speaking. Excellent references. Please call 703-824-0385.

## Gardening/Landscaping

**SULLIVAN'S LANDSCAPING.** Now in its 21st year, Sullivan's Landscaping will tend to your patio in a variety of ways: a new planting design, removal of existing shrubs, weeding, mulching, pruning and hardscapes as well. If you'd like a new flagstone or brick patio over the existing concrete patio, email or call Bill Sullivan at [billsullivan41@gmail.com](mailto:billsullivan41@gmail.com) or (cell) 571-213-9567.

## Improvements

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

**HOME IMPROVEMENTS AND REPAIRS.** Serving Fairlington since 1978. Hundreds of bathrooms and kitchens renovated. Other services include painting, plumbing, window repairs, leak detection and correction, dryer vent replacement, regrouting, recaulking, drywall repairs, etc. Call Vic Sison at Fairlington Maintenance Service 703-379-7733. [fairlingtonmaintenance.com](http://fairlingtonmaintenance.com)

**DOOR SOLUTIONS.** A Fairlington doors expert. 1,000's of pleased customers. For contact, scheduling, and useful door information, please visit: [www.doorsolutions.biz](http://www.doorsolutions.biz)

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

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

**JOEL RIGGS REMODELING AND HOME IMPROVEMENTS: Joel Riggs Home Repair Service.** Your Fairlington specialist. Kitchen and bath renovations, bath ceramic tile repair, painting, drywall, handyman services, trim work, flooring, carpentry, wallpaper removal. Free design services. Free estimates. VA. Class-A lic./ins., fast turn around time. 20 years N. Va. Experience. Joel 703-929-4676.

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

**ELECTRICAL SERVICE.** Master electrician. Lights, fans, panel replacements. Licensed, insured credit cards Allegro LLC 703 314 1287 [info@allegroLLC.net](mailto:info@allegroLLC.net)

**SENIOR CRAFTSMEN, INC.** Biff Henley, bonded and insured. 703-403-5354. [Seniorcraftsmen@verizon.net](mailto:Seniorcraftsmen@verizon.net).

**ALBERTO E. MATIAS CONSTRUCTION:** Serving Arlington and Alexandria since 1989. Services: painting, drywall repairs, bathrooms and kitchens remodeling. Call for free estimate. 703-898-4723 [matias.alberto7@gmail.com](mailto:matias.alberto7@gmail.com).

**BATHROOMS REMODELED.** Licensed/ insured plumbers and electricians. Qualified tile tech and carpenters who specialize in custom work. 25 years of Fairlington experience, community referrals available. 703-864-9911.

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

# Mini-ads

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

**CLIMATROL HEATING & COOLING CORP.** 703-981-6664. www.climatrolhvac.com. Only \$79.95. Serving all Fairlington citizens. Family owned, operated, licensed and insured business. Our staff is reliable, trustworthy, punctual and detail oriented. Our prices are extremely competitive, and our service is thorough. Have us professionally perform residential heating or cooling system inspection. Or if you currently have a problem, we will be happy to diagnose it. We can also inspect the accessory equipment including the electronic air cleaner, programmable thermostat, condensate pump and hot water heater at no extra charge! Read real reviews from satisfied Climatrol customers at Angie's List, Get 10% discount on repairs with this ad. We also perform FREE second opinion and heat exchanger and compressors.

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

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

## House Cleaning

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

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

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

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

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

## Pet Services

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

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

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

**ALL WAYS CARING PET CARE.** Dog walking, cat sitting. Flexible, reliable, reasonable. 703-765-0990; 703-405-2775.

## Gospel Mass by Robert Ray

Chancel, Seraphim & Youth Choirs  
Anthony Walker, piano; Eric Sabo, double bass  
Mark Carson, drumset  
Dr. Louise C. Wilson, conductor

**Sunday, November 3, 2013**  
(9:30am & 11am Worship)

Fairlington United Methodist Church  
3900 King St., Alexandria, VA 22302

Info: 703-671-4057 [www.fairlingtonumc.org](http://www.fairlingtonumc.org)

Now in  
kid sizes!



## Get your Fairlington T-shirt

Pick one up at an FCA-sponsored event or meeting. Or send e-mail to [president@fca-fairlington.org](mailto:president@fca-fairlington.org). Or call the FCA at 571-403-1943 to leave your name and number.

T-shirts are white or hunter green. 100% cotton.

Child's, S, M, L, and X-L. \$15



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

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

Walking, bark-park visits, play dates,  
boarding, daycare, sitting, and more...  
What can we do for you?

Andrew & Kerryn Zechiel  
www.doggie-do.biz



## Pet & Plantcare by Gerri, LLC

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

Gerri Horan  
703.379.7719  
SINCE 1999



BONDED & INSURED

### NOTICE TO ALL ADVERTISERS

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

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

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

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

Drop-Off Location for Ads and Checks: Drop-Off Box in Fairlington Community Center,  
3308 S. Stafford Street. The FCC is closed Sunday.  
Open 8 am – 9 pm M – F, and 8 am – 5 pm Saturday.

### MINI-AD FORM

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

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

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

Please include the following information with all ads:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (h): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (w): \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Category (see newsletter for options): \_\_\_\_\_

Mini-Ad Text (please print clearly): \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

LONG AND FOSTER

• ARLINGTON/ALEXANDRIA •

OFFICE

[ArlingtonAlexandriaSales.Lnfre.com](http://ArlingtonAlexandriaSales.Lnfre.com)

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

## September TOP PRODUCERS



Rob Allen  
Top Producer



Dayna Wagner  
Top Listing Agent

## FEATURED LISTINGS OF THE MONTH



Alex/Pointe @ Park Center— Updated 1BR in gated community. Granite c-tops, SS appliances, & balcony w/ storage. Pet friendly & great loc. \$233,000



Burke/Lake Braddock — 2BR 3 lv TH w/ large master bedroom. \$279,000 Call Office for details



Alex/Quaker Village — 3BR/3.5BA immaculate TH w/2 fireplaces. \$615,000 Call Pat Shannon



Arl/Fairlington— Many kitchen & BA updates in this 2BR w/ huge storage room. Great location. Minutes to shops, theatre, & restaurants. \$319,900 Call Dayna Wagner



Alex/Templeton — Pristine & updated 1BR w/ large BA, garage parking & great view from balcony. \$215,000 Call Barbara Kirkland



Alex/Tiers of Manchester Lake — Spacious & sunny top floor updated 2BR/2BA w/ garage parking. \$293,500 Call Kristin Usaitis

**SERVING FAIRLINGTON**  
& ALL NORTHERN VA

