

# all FAIRLINGTON BULLETIN



www.fca-fairlington.org

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Volume 40, Number 11

## County board approves permit for farmers' market in Fairlington

### Inside this month!

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The Arlington County Board has unanimously approved a special use permit for the operation of an open-air farmers' market in Fairlington, clearing the way for a market to be up and running this coming spring. The board also approved a license for Field to Table, Inc., to manage the market.

The market will operate on the grounds of the Fairlington Community Center (FCC), at the rear of the building. Plans call for the market to be open on Sundays from 9 am to 1 pm, April through November.

Field to Table is a nonprofit organization with experience in operating farmers' markets in Arlington. It runs the popular weekly market in Westover. The group has provided advice to FCA on key ingredients for a successful market.

"We are excited about the prospect of making locally grown, fresh produce available to Fairlington residents in a community market," said Rob Swennes, Executive Director of Field to Table. "With the county board's approval, we are now moving to line up a quality group of vendors to serve Fairlington residents next spring."

A "producer-only" market, the Fairlington Farmers' Market will bring together vendors from within a 125-mile radius to sell their goods to market customers. Swennes projects the market will have 15–20 vendors once it gets fully operational.

All five county board members made statements in support of the market. "This is an excellent little example of what makes Arlington successful," said Board Chair Jay Fisette.

FCA strongly endorsed the proposal for a Fairlington Farmers' Market. "The market could enhance the sense of community in Fairlington by creating in essence an informal gathering place and fostering greater communica-



*Fairlington residents visit with county staff after the county board's vote on the farmers' market. From left, Lane Erwin, Melissa Beene, Jennifer Fioretti (Deputy Director, Arlington County Department of Parks and Recreation), Guy Land, Doug Penn, and Lisa Schwanger.*

Continued on page 19

# 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 12 preliminary agenda

**Special presentation:** Aaron Shura, Zoning Inspector with Arlington County's Zoning Division, will answer your questions about zoning requirements in Arlington County.

**Special discussion:** Members of the Intergenerational Strategies Steering Committee will review with the FCA Board the results of the recent survey and discuss next steps.

### Regular Board business

- Approval of October minutes
- Officer reports
- 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.

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

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<a href="http://www.arlingtonva.us/departments/Environmental">www.arlingtonva.us/departments/Environmental</a>	
<a href="http://Services/dot/traffic/streetlights/index.htm">Services/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

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### 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.

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

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## FCA Calendar

### FCA monthly meeting

Wednesday, November 12, 7 pm  
FCC

### Fairlington Diners

Tuesday, November 11, 6:30 pm  
Bistro 7107, 513 S. 23rd St.,  
Arlington

### MOMS Club

Wednesday, November 12, 4:30 pm  
FCC

### Intergenerational Forum

Saturday, November 15, 10 am  
FCC

### Fairlington Diners

Monday, November 24, 6:30 pm  
Ramparts, 1700 Fern St., Alexandria

### Book Group

Tuesday, November 25, 7:30 pm  
FCC

## Remember to vote, Tuesday, November 4



The 2014 ballot includes offices for U.S. Senate, U.S. House of Representatives, 8th District, and one county board

and two school board members.

In addition voters will be asked to weigh in on one proposed Constitutional amendment and four county bond referendum questions, as well as special elections to fill unexpired terms for Treasurer. Local polling places are located at Abingdon Elementary School and the Fairlington Community Center. Don't forget your picture ID. Polls are open from 6 am to 7 pm. For more information, visit [vote.arlingtonva.us/](http://vote.arlingtonva.us/)

*Some images in this publication may be digitally enhanced.*



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

For long-time Fairlingtonians, one of the most striking changes in our community is the growing number of families with children. A casual walk around the neighborhood quickly reveals lots of children, strollers, and moms-to-be. One rarely saw those in Fairlington's early days as a condo community.

These families with children provide a vibrancy that helps keep Fairlington lively and thriving. The changing demographics require the community to be constantly reinventing itself, adapting its priorities, activities, and services to the needs of its changing population. Fairlington's ability to adapt is simply remarkable.

Look at Abingdon Elementary School. Abingdon has always been a valuable asset for Fairlington, and the community has always supported it. But now, more than ever, Abingdon's students come from Fairlington, and Fairlington residents constitute much of the school's outside leadership.

In recent years the co-presidents of the PTA have been Fairlingtonians. More than a half dozen of Abingdon's teachers live in Fairlington. Roughly half of the advisory committee that is guiding the expansion of Abingdon live here. It has become "our" school in every sense of the word. That was not the case 20 years ago.

The proliferation of parents with young children is also yielding a new generation of leaders for our community—people who are organized, dedicated, and adept at social media. They are coordinating community events or providing volunteers for activities. If you ever want to get the word out about something, put it on a Fairlington parent listserv!

You only needed to check out September's well-attended MOMS Club consignment sale or the Cookies for Kids' Cancer bake sale to get a sense of this group's energy. And a MOMS Club member is coordinating our Santa Ride next month.

At the same time, many Fairlington residents moved here in the early condo days, more than 35 years ago. They are entering their retirement years. They also have changing needs and interests, plus a desire to give back to their community. And there are others in their middle years who have found in Fairlington the perfect home. Part of the work of FCA's Intergenerational Steering Committee is to craft methods of linking all these groups in a way that makes Fairlington even stronger. Join us in that effort.

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

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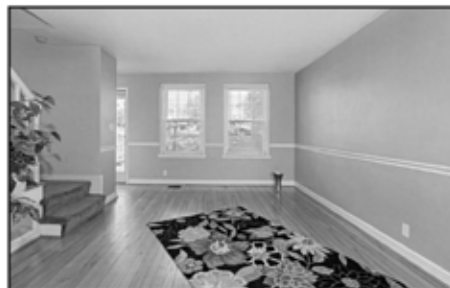


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# County board OK's STEM preschool in Fairlington



*Portia Moore, director of the STEM preschool, points out where the new playground and science garden will be located at the side of the proposed new school. Photo by Janis Johnston.*

A Fairlington STEM preschool is expected to be operating early next year in the former Frosty's Heating & Cooling location on S. Abingdon St. under a special-use permit approved by the Arlington County Board in October.

Under the permit, the preschool can accommodate up to 55 children, and will operate from 7:30 am to 6:30 pm, Monday through Friday. The preschool may also offer one evening program a month, such as an open house.

County staff concluded that there is adequate parking onsite both to accommodate the anticipated staff of 11 people and to allow for off-street parent pickup and drop off.

According to Portia Moore, who will run the preschool, it will be operational in early January and deliver lessons that emphasize a STEM curriculum: science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

Work will be getting underway soon to renovate the interior of the building at 3118–3120 S. Abingdon St. The building has been vacant for over a year. Moore also plans to create a fenced-in play area on the south side of the site.

The FCA board indicated its support for the application. "We believe that a well-run STEM preschool in Fairlington could be an overall benefit to the community," FCA President Guy Land wrote the county board.

At the same time, he noted FCA's concern about potential traffic congestion during peak drop-off and pick-up times and the possibility that activities at the school could create parking issues along S. Abingdon St. or in an adjacent private parking lot. Moore has indicated that she will monitor these issues and will work with the community if problems emerge.

The county board's approval contains a requirement that the preschool designate a neighborhood liaison to address any issues that nearby residents may have related to the child care center.

—Guy Land

## 2015 FCA board elections, December 10

The election of the 2015 FCA board officers and directors will be held at the association's annual meeting on Wednesday, December 10. Board members serve for a one year term and meet monthly on the second Wednesday of the month (unless otherwise noted) at the Fairlington Community Center. FCA board duties are outlined in the bylaws that are posted on the FCA website.

Those interested in serving on the FCA board should contact Kent Duffy, FCA Vice President, at [vp@fca-fairlington.org](mailto:vp@fca-fairlington.org). An initial slate of candidates will be published in the December *All Fairlington Bulletin* and an updated list will be published on the FCA website by December 1. Nominations from the floor at the December 10 FCA meeting will also be welcomed.

The FCA, Fairlington's civic association, represents residents by expressing the larger community's views to external agencies and organizations such as property developers, WMATA, and local government (primarily Arlington County and City of Alexandria board and staff). The civic association includes all Fairlington homeowners and tenants, charges no membership fee, publishes the monthly *All Fairlington Bulletin*, and is distinct from the seven condo associations in Fairlington.

## Zoning questions to be answered at November 12 FCA meeting

Have you ever wondered what exactly requires a zoning permit? Find out about Arlington County's zoning permit administration process as Aaron Shura, Zoning Inspector with Arlington County's Zoning Division, makes a special presentation at the November FCA meeting, Wednesday, November 12, at 7 pm at the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St.

The zoning division has launched a county-wide public education campaign designed to help residents and property associations understand zoning requirements and regulations. Shura will answer your questions about zoning rules and remodeling permits in Fairlington.



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# Planning committee maps Abingdon expansion

“Incorporate historic architectural elements and connect to Fairlington architecture.”

“Provide a safe and modern learning environment.”

“Leave green space.”

“Emphasize sustainability.”

“Offer outdoor learning spaces.”

“Provide larger classrooms.”

“Connect with the community.”

These are some of the suggestions an advisory committee has given Arlington Public Schools (APS) staff and the design team of Hord Coplan Macht (the architectural consultants) in crafting the expansion and renovation of Abingdon Elementary School.

Composed of Abingdon PTA members, teachers, school staff, and civic association representatives, the Building Level Planning Committee (BLPC) has been meeting frequently with the design team to make sure the new Abingdon addresses the community's concerns and values.

“APS and the consultants are welcoming our input to identify the priorities that will drive the design process. It is exciting and challenging to take part in such an important improvement to our community,” says Anne Wasowski, one of FCA's two representatives on the BLPC. Wasowski is also an at-large member of the Fairlington Villages condo board.

In addition to outlining key “greatest hopes” for the Abingdon project, in September the BLPC broke into smaller work groups, using 3-D blocks for a hands-on exercise to try out different school configurations. Roughly 27,000 square feet will have to be added to the school to accommodate 136 more students, the target proposed in the expansion plan.

Creative ideas offered by the work groups included moving the field to where the parking area now is and relocating the bus drop-off, creating underground parking, and adding a second level to the existing building.

“I was impressed with the elegance of some of the solutions proposed, which incorporated the results of the visioning exercise we'd done, including both the positive outcomes desired, like lots of natural light in learning spaces, and the negative outcomes to be avoided, like increased traffic conflicting with the Courtbridge driveway,” says Carol Dabbs, FCA's other representative and secretary. “The committee members took the exercise seriously—my group presented both a majority and a minority report!”



*North Fairlington resident Jen Davies outlines her working group's ideas as BLPC committee members study options for the expansion of Abingdon using blocks and maps of the school grounds. Photo by Guy Land.*

A majority of the members of the BLPC, including two of the teacher representatives and all of the PTA representatives, live in Fairlington. Almost a third live in North Fairlington.

In addition to the BLPC, which reports to the school board, a Public Facilities Review Committee, which makes recommendations to the county board, is also considering aspects of the Abingdon project, focusing particularly on the school's impact on the surrounding community in matters such as traffic, parking, and architecture. FCA president Guy Land and vice president Kent Duffy serve on that committee.

A briefing for the community on the status of the project was scheduled for late October. Once design drawings are developed, a “gallery walk” next spring will encourage Fairlington residents to learn more about the details for the new building.

“Everyone involved is taking seriously the responsibility of creating a great new school for Fairlington. I am pleased at how collaborative the process is, and how diligent APS has been about involving all stakeholders, including our community,” says Wasowski.

Information on the Abingdon project, including reports from the advisory committee work sessions, can be found at [www.apsva.us/Page/27080](http://www.apsva.us/Page/27080).

—Guy Land





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# Residents briefed on upcoming county bond referenda



*Michelle Cowan, left, and Martin Ganderson exchange information after the bond referenda briefing in October. Photo by Janis Johnston.*

On Tuesday, November 4, Arlington County residents will vote on \$219 million of bond measures impacting county schools, transportation, parks, and the county's infrastructure. At the October 8 FCA meeting, Michelle Cowan, Arlington County's Director of Management and Finance, briefed residents on the different categories of the bond referenda, along with information on how the county manages its spending priorities.

The county presents bond measures to Arlington citizens for a general vote every two years. General Obligation bonds levy tax payer dollars to secure loans for capital projects, not operating expenses. According to Cowan, Arlington is one of only 39 counties in the country with a AAA rating, ensuring low interest rates from bond holders. Bonds are typically issued for a 20-year period, but are generally paid off in an average of 11 years. "A strong credit rating helps us," said Cowan.

Arlington County currently holds roughly \$1 billion in debt and retires approximately \$60 million in debt each year. As a general policy, said Cowan, the county spends less than 10 percent of its total expenditures on debt service each year.

In July of this year, the county board approved the 2014 bond referenda with projects in the following categories: metro and transportation, local parks and recreation, community infrastructure, and Arlington Public Schools (APS).

Voters will be asked to approve a total of nearly \$106 million for APS, by far, the largest bond measure on the

ballot. This category includes \$50 million in funding for a new elementary school proposed for the Jefferson Community Center site, approximately \$29 for the renovation and expansion of Abingdon Elementary School, an addition and renovation to McKinley Elementary School amounting to almost \$7.5 million, and \$5 million to increase classroom space at Washington-Lee High School. The budget also includes \$4 million for planning additional secondary seats (middle school- or high school-space) and \$10 million for maintenance capital, which includes replacing roofs, windows, boilers, and HVAC units.

Of the \$60 million metro and transportation bond measure, more than half (\$39 million) would fund Arlington County's share of the WMATA/Metro's capital improvement program. "This is not about adding eight car trains," said Cowan, rather it goes toward Metro's "state of good repair" program of maintaining escalators, elevators, and other safety upgrades in response to Metro's Red Line accident several years ago. A portion of the measure would go towards funding road paving projects, along with programs like WALKArlington, BikeArlington, and Neighborhood Complete Streets.

The bond measure for local parks and recreation facilities upgrades totals just over \$13 million and covers the maintenance of existing park facilities, including court replacements, playground and athletic field replacements and upgrades, and restroom maintenance. Cowan said that the county identified four parks for upgrades and repairs over the next two years, bundling together maintenance projects and upgrades at specific properties instead of doing one-off repairs on parks throughout the county.

Approximately \$40 million would go towards funding community infrastructure projects that include street improvements (sidewalks, gutters and curbs, drainage, and repaving projects) and building infrastructure improvements (roofs, HVAC systems) in county facilities such as the county's nearly 20-year-old detention center. In addition, this bond measure funds improvements at the Shirlington Trades Center, adding a level on the existing parking structure and upgrading the county's fleet maintenance facilities. It also calls for \$1.4 million for planning the replacement of the aging Lubber Run Community Center. The salt facility at N. 26th St. will also benefit from some needed repairs as the county investigates whether to use part of that county land for future use as a fire station.

—Janis Johnston



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# County chair Fisette outlines Arlington's changes, challenges, and vision for the future at FCA meeting

"There's nothing stagnant about Arlington," said Arlington County Board Chair Jay Fisette to residents attending the September 17 FCA meeting. With the redevelopment of new commercial and recreational hubs like Clarendon Commons and Long Bridge Park, much has changed in the county over the last 40 years, all tied to transit, he noted.



*Jay Fisette, left, receives an official Fairlington t-shirt from Guy Land, FCA President, at the September FCA meeting. Photo by Janis Johnston.*

Of 2,000 U.S. cities cited in a Livability.com survey, Arlington County ranked third in the nation as the best place to live in the United States. But, said Fisette, that doesn't come without some challenges, notably school enrollment, affordable housing, and economic competitiveness.

Below are some topics that Fisette covered in his recent Fairlington visit. In addition, he briefed residents on the status of the Columbia Pike streetcar and the county's ConnectArlington broadband program.

**School enrollment.** According to Fisette, 13 percent of Arlington residents have children enrolled in Arlington Public Schools (APS). "People are coming and staying for the schools," he noted. However, many of Arlington's schools are overcrowded, with growth projected to continue. "We are a victim of our own success," he said. "The question is, with a county limited to 26 square miles, how do we meet the needs of the student body?"

In July, the county board approved a 10-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) proposing \$106 million for improvements to APS facilities, including \$29 million toward the renovation and addition to Abingdon Elementary. The CIP also provides \$50 million toward the planning and construction of a new elementary school proposed for the Jefferson Community Center site. While Fisette stated a preference for locating the new school at Jefferson, he assured residents that there will be opportunity to engage the community around how to best use available county land for the new school.

**Affordable housing.** As the county has become a more desirable place to live, property assessments and values have increased. The downside, according to Fisette, is the loss of 50 percent of market rate affordable housing over the past decade as a result. But, he

declared, "no jurisdiction does more to address affordable housing." The county continues to work in partnership with local nonprofits to create and operate affordable housing programs, such as the new facility recently completed at Arlington Mill Residences.

**Economic competitiveness.** With the recent completion of Metro's Silver Line, Arlington faces competition for commercial space in the Tysons Corner corridor with its lower rents. Even though Arlington enjoys

one of the lowest unemployment rates in the area, commercial vacancies are high with increased remote work options and the hit taken by the Base Realignment and Closure plan. Arlington lost about 17,000 jobs, more than anywhere else in the United States, said Fisette. But, he noted, "We turned lemons into lemonade." The county leveraged private/public partnerships and provided incentives for landlords to redevelop properties to attract new business into the county.

In addition, ConnectArlington, the county's broadband system connecting public buildings and schools, plans to make their network available for lease to businesses in Arlington.

In framing the "big picture," Fisette said that the county has set a long-term sustainable plan, which includes the Columbia Pike revitalization and proposed streetcar project. An ardent supporter of the streetcar, Fisette likened the vision of a streetcar down Columbia Pike to the vision of county leaders 40 years ago who fought hard for Metro's Orange Line to be built under the sleepy commercial strip along Wilson Blvd., now dense with thriving business and residential development.

"What we do well in Arlington is connect land use with transportation," Fisette said. The county anticipates that over the next 30 years, most of the county's growth will be along the streetcar route, attracting new jobs, increasing real estate value, and increasing countywide revenues, which will help pay for schools and other investments.

The 7.4-mile streetcar project will run between Potomac Yard along Route 1 in Arlington County, down Columbia

*Continued on page 17*



# Shirlie Lights up the Village

**Tuesday, December 2nd**

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



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

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# MOMS Club mobilizes for some good causes

September was a busy month for members of the MOMS Club of Arlington-Fairlington. On September 21, club members raised \$1,200 selling dozens of cookies for the Cookies for Kids' Cancer organization, a national nonprofit that helps fund the research and development of new and improved treatments for pediatric cancer. The following weekend, crowds gathered at the FCC to take advantage of all the great deals at the MOMS Club fall consignment sale. Twice each year, the MOMS Club

organizes the sale of gently used baby clothes, toys, and equipment, with proceeds going towards a local charity. September's sale raised \$2,200 for Bethany House in Alexandria, a shelter for victims of domestic violence. In addition, members of the MOMS Club showcased their entrepreneurial talents at the vendor expo, featuring bakers, crafters, and other commercial enterprises.

—Janis Johnston



**Fall consignment sale**  
(Left) Customers line up early to take advantage of the great deals at the twice-yearly sale. (Right) MOMS Club members ring up another happy customer.

## Cookie sale

(Left) The cookie sales' organizer, Yulia Lopardina, right, welcomes patrons to the Cookies for Kids' Cancer bake sale. (Right) Ashley Donoso, left, and Jolynn Jaekel came out on a wonderful fall day to sell cookies for a great cause.



## Vendor Expo

The MOMS Club Vendor Expo gave working moms a chance to show and tell their wares, including shoe ties and baked goods.

Photos by Guy Land.

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## County Board OK's invasive plant removal project

In September, the Arlington County Board approved \$376,000 to remove invasive plants and restore native vegetation along Lucky Run and Four Mile Run in Shirlington. The project is part of the updated Fairlington-Shirlington Neighborhood Conservation Plan, which the county board approved in spring 2013.

The project includes the removal of invasive plants along the section of Lucky Run on the west side of Walter Reed Dr., from Wakefield St. to Arlington Mill Dr., and along the Four Mile Run stream from west of Walter Reed Dr. to Shirlington Rd. Landscaping, screening trees and shrubs, and informational signage will be installed once the removal has been completed.

The multi-year project will begin in November and run through the fall of 2019. According to Sarah Archer, Arlington County Landscape Specialist, the initial removal will be the cutting of invasive vines and trees. The county's contractor will follow up with a chemical application to the leaves of the plants next spring. Next fall the county will treat the invasive trees onsite. As the treatments progress, the county will be doing selective replanting of native trees in the project area.

The FCA hosted a presentation on the proposal in April 2014, and the project won a strong endorsement from community leaders. It also received the support of the Arlington Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC).

Funding for the work comes from the voter-approved 2012 neighborhood conservation bond.

—Guy Land

## 4-H Cloverbud Club forming in Fairlington



A new 4-H Cloverbud Club is forming in Fairlington! Cloverbuds is a program created by the 4-H that helps children ages 5 to 8 learn life skills to become competent, caring, and contributing citizens. Their slogan is "learn by doing." Our first session will be Saturday, November 15, at 10

am at the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. Space is limited. For more information or to sign up, contact Emily Reiersgaard in the Virginia Cooperative Extension office at [emilyr@exchange.vt.edu](mailto:emilyr@exchange.vt.edu) or call 703-228-6404.

## Fairlington Diners: Meet new people and try new restaurants



*Members of the Fairlington Diners group enjoy a night out at McCormick and Schmick's at National Harbor in Maryland. Photo by Candace Williams.*

Washington's burgeoning restaurant scene has had a big influence on Northern Virginia eateries, with new burger joints opening almost every month and no end to the variety of ethnic restaurants. All the more for Fairlington Diners to explore.

The group plans visits to one burger restaurant and one ethnic restaurant each month. Started as a singles group in the 1990s, Fairlington Diners gradually evolved into a dining-out group that meets twice a month at local area restaurants to enjoy a good local burger or try new ethnic cuisine. "Our definition of ethnic is broad," notes Carol Dabbs, longtime group member. "It includes an almost annual expedition to L'Auberge Chez Francois, as well as a recent visit to Ray's the Steaks."

"Almost every Fairlington Diners event includes at least one person who hasn't attended before," says Dabbs. The group includes original Fairlington owners as well as folks new to the area. "It's proved to be a great way to meet folks from across Fairlington, and many fast friendships have been formed from the group," she notes. Dinner events attract anywhere from three to 15 participants each month.

To find out more about Fairlington Diner events, check the listing each month on the Neighborhood News page of the *All Fairlington Bulletin* or the calendar at [www.fca-fairlington.org](http://www.fca-fairlington.org).

—Janis Johnston

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— Denice McCullough, Fairlington Resident

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## Community forum on neighbor-to-neighbor services November 15

The results are in from the recent survey of residents about expanding neighbor-to-neighbor volunteer services in Fairlington. More than 300 households responded, about nine percent of the total community. These responses presented views from every condo association and age group, and they strongly reflected the willingness of Fairlingtonians to offer assistance to those in need.

The FCA Steering Committee on Intergenerational Services will provide a detailed analysis of results at the November 12 FCA Board meeting and at a community forum on Saturday, November 15, from 10 am to noon, at the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St.

The November 15 forum will also include a presentation about how neighborhood “villages” locally and across the country are organizing to provide services for neighbors in need.

Information will also be available about the array of services for senior or disabled citizens already provided by Arlington and Alexandria governments and local groups. The Steering Committee invites all Fairlington residents to attend and share their views.

—Carol Rosen

*Fisette, continued from page 11*

Pike, and ending at Skyline in Fairfax County. The projected cost of the new rail system is \$333 million, with funds being leveraged from federal, state, and regional sources. Twenty percent of the funding will come from Fairfax County for the portion of the streetcar that runs through that jurisdiction. Fisette emphasized that no general obligation bond money will be used in funding this venture. On September 23, the Arlington County Board voted 3 to 2 to award a preliminary \$26 million engineering contract for the project.

Streetcar opponents present at the meeting questioned Fisette on the viability of a streetcar vs. the current bus system in place along Columbia Pike or other less expensive options and voiced skepticism about the final price tag of completing this undertaking. Fisette said that the key to the county’s economic development lies in connecting businesses with transportation, and has the belief that more people will choose to take rail transportation than a bus.

In addition, the question was raised regarding the opportunity for Arlington citizens to have a “yes or no” vote on whether to proceed with the streetcar project. Fisette clarified that citizens can only vote yes or no on general obligation bond measures and the county made a commitment not to use bond money in the creation of the streetcar project.

—Janis Johnston

## Fall yard sales in Fairlington attract neighbors in search of hidden treasures



(Left) In spite of the early drizzle, neighbors came out for the fall North Fairlington yard sale in October. (Above) Beautiful fall weather brings out the bargain hunters at this impromptu yard sale in South Fairlington in September. Photos by Guy Land.

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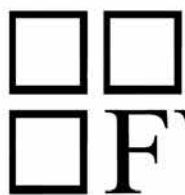
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tion among neighbors," FCA President Guy Land wrote in a letter to the county board. "The hours and general approach outlined in the Field to Table proposal will work well in Fairlington."

Land also noted that the market would be a neighborhood market, targeted to residents in Fairlington and the surrounding neighborhoods. "It is not intended to draw large numbers of customers from outside the immediate Fairlington area."

In approving the permit and license, the county board imposed several conditions to ensure that community concerns about noise, trash, and parking are addressed. According to Jennifer Fioretti, Deputy Director of the Arlington County Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), these conditions respond to comments the county staff heard from Fairlington residents during consideration of the market proposal.

Key conditions include the following:

- All vendor stands and any trash must be completely removed by 2 pm on market days, with the grounds returned to the condition they were in before the market opened.
- No amplified music or announcements of any kind are permitted before 10 am, and no amplified sound is permitted to be heard beyond the perimeter of the market site at any time.
- No alcoholic beverages can be sold at the market.

County staff explicitly considered the potential traffic and parking impacts. Staff noted that many customers will likely walk to the market, while others will take advantage of the existing bike lanes.

Field to Table submitted a parking plan that shows customers and vendors using the FCC parking lot, which contains 53 parking spaces, with up to 11 parking spaces used by vendor vehicles. County staff believe that the available on-street parking and community center parking will be sufficient to accommodate market vendors and patrons.

One of the conditions of the permit states that the market will promote the use of public transportation and encourage customer parking in the public parking areas near the FCC. The market will use signs, maps, or advertising to help direct customers to parking areas that will not adversely affect neighborhood streets or condo parking lots.

County staff will review the permit in a year in order to evaluate any potential impact the market may have on

street parking and traffic generation within the community center area.

County board member Libby Garvey in particular focused on the potential parking issues and suggested that county staff consider interim changes if problems develop. "I will kick up a fuss" if parking for residents becomes a problem, Garvey said.

Lane Erwin, co-chair of the FCA working group that developed the market concept, noted that the group did an extensive review of available parking last year. The working group will work with Field to Table, FCA, and nearby residents in addressing any parking problems that may develop.

Field to Table will have an onsite manager for the market and has committed to working closely with FCA and the condo associations to address any issues.

Information on the use permit and license may be found on the county's website.

—Guy Land

## Tree replacement scheduled along Quaker Lane



*Trees planted last year along Quaker Lane display dead, brown leaves, the result of a harsh winter. Photo by Janis Johnston.*

Last year, many Fairlington residents may have noticed a big change to the scenery along Quaker Lane after the Fairlington Green condo association took on a major landscape renovation that added a new fence and replaced old, dying trees with a variety of plants and trees designed to provide privacy and add an appealing entry to the community. How-

ever, many of our residents may have also noted that some of the new plants haven't been doing so well. But the Green's leadership says "not to worry!" Last year's unusually harsh winter took its toll on many of the new plants, and many did not survive. According to Jeanne Clarke, Fairlington Green's Landscape Committee Chair, the trees that did not survive the harsh winter, and a few that still remain to be removed, will all be replaced within the next couple of weeks, as they were under warranty.

—Mark Jones



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In five short months, John has made a real difference working with me on the County Board. The conversation at the board table has changed and we are having debates about some important issues that have needed discussion for some time.

John joins me in vigorous and outspoken opposition to the wasteful streetcar projects. His 57%-41% victory in April showed how much opposition there is to these projects, but our colleagues took no notice. John needs to win again.

Be sure to visit [www.VoteforVihstadt.com](http://www.VoteforVihstadt.com) to learn more about John, his campaign and his vision for a better Arlington for everyone. Or contact me. I'm always happy to talk about John and the County Board with my Fairlington neighbors.

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# DOWN TO EARTH patio gardening



## *Getting rid of garden bugs and weeds: A shopper's guide*

Last week, I wandered to the back of a local plant shop. On a wall-length shelf were 30 brands of spray bottles containing chemicals to rid moss, ants, mosquitoes, weeds, fungus, insects, beetles, and bugs. I was lost. There were too many cute names, colors, pictures, and words I didn't understand. So, I condensed this shopping list to common pesticides and fungicides available for purchase for the patio garden:

**Moss Max:** Kills moss—the clumped, green, mushy fungus that invades shade lawns and grows between bricks and stones in a patio. The plant is herbaceous (no woody parts) and absorbs water. Its clumped nature impedes water flow beneath the soil that nurtures grass or plant roots. Allowing more sunlight onto a lawn (by pruning overhead tree branches) will deprive moss of its shade habitat. Moss Max (available in granules) supposedly makes grass blades greener although it is not a fertilizer. The main ingredient is iron sulfate.

**Insecticidal Soap:** Contains potassium, which eliminates “soft-bodied” insects such as aphids, mealy bugs, spider mites, thrips, and whiteflies (as opposed to larger insect-like caterpillars and leafhoppers). Itching, yet? Water can be added to reduce concentration and toxicity to a plant stem or leaf.

**Horticultural Oil:** Vegetable- (canola, cottonseed, or soybean), as well as refined petroleum-based and used in both landscape plants and crops. The thick oil coats a surface



*Photo by Janis Johnston.*

and smothers the pest. The oil is such that water can be added to dilute the solution. Initially, this oil was used on fruit trees to kill harmful insects (aphids, mites, scale) but not beneficial (or pollinating) insects necessary for flower and fruit production. Try to apply when the sun is not shining, as plant tissue may burn.

**Glyphosate:** This is the main chemical in Roundup, a commercial herbicide that kills invasive growth. Since it's absorbed into a weed's foliage, glyphosate should only be applied to actual growing weeds, not on a barren area for “preventive” measures. Once weeds are sprayed, they become brittle, but the roots may persist underground.

**Mosquito Sticks:** Bamboo shoots coated with the oils from Rosemary, Citronella, or Lemon Grass that are inserted into the ground. One stick burns up to four hours. The oil from the smoke repels nearby mosquitoes.

**Citronella Plant:** I attended a cook-out a few summers ago and the area

was adjacent to a thick, wooded area. The resident had Citronella plants stationed around her patio, and in two hours there, I felt no mosquito bites. The Citronella plant grows about two- to four-feet tall, needs full sun, and bears lavender flowers. Its foliage is evergreen and aromatic.

**Fungicide:** Contains chemicals that kill fungi spores. Most fungicides contain sulfur as well as oils and treat fungi in three ways: a) localizes fungi where sprayed; b) moves from the top to the underside of a leaf; or c) enters a plant's xylem vessels (kind of like the blood vessels in humans). I suggest telling a store clerk what type of plant you want to be treated before making a purchase (think back to those 30-some different spray bottles on the shelf).

Plant-borne fungus (powdery mildew, leaf spot, and anthracnose) can be mitigated by situating plants in sunlight, allowing air circulation beneath a plant (by removing weeds and pruning ground-dragging branches), and irrigating only the plant's roots (not its branches, leaves, and stems). Lack of irrigation weakens a plant and makes it susceptible to fungus. Poor drainage also breeds fungus. Make sure the planting hole is deeper and wider than the size of the root ball. Adding soil conditioner to the hole (before placing in the root ball) affords a malleable medium for roots to grow so they may absorb oxygen, water, and nutrients.

—Bill Sullivan  
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# neighborhood news

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## ***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. For October, we visited a favorite re-opened Indian restaurant in Del Ray, and enjoyed hamburger night in Shirlington at Samuel Beckett's.

Here's what's planned for November:

Tuesday, November 11, 6:30 pm, Bistro 7107, 513 S. 23rd St., Arlington, 571-312-4155, [www.bistro7107.us](http://www.bistro7107.us). Reviewed in *Washingtonian* magazine this September, Bistro 7107 displays a wide array of Filipino comfort food, not too alien to the western taste, but also introduces new flavor combinations and techniques associated to the islands' indigenous cuisines. Join us after your observance of Veteran's Day as we try something new.

Monday, November 24, 6:30 pm, Ramparts, 1700 Fern St., Alexandria, 703-998-6616, [www.rampartstavern.com](http://www.rampartstavern.com). After sampling other burger/sandwich options, we'll return to this perennial local favorite, which offers half price on burgers with the purchase of a beverage on Mondays, and the rest of the menu is also available.

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

## ***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 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.

For more information or to request an application, email the coordinators, Rebecca Carpenter and Michelle Gregory, at [fairlington.babysitting@gmail.com](mailto:fairlington.babysitting@gmail.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, Parents' Night Out, meetings with interesting speakers, and group activities 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.

Parents and parents-to-be are welcome to join us for our next general meeting on Wednesday, November 12, at 4:30 pm at 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.

## ***Card players welcome***

Join your Fairlington neighbors for a friendly game of Canasta. No previous experience is necessary to enjoy this card game. We are happy to teach you. The group meets Tuesday mornings at a local church hall near Fairlington. Call Carol Ann at 703-931-8533.

## ***Book Group***

Join the Fairlington Book Group in November to discuss *The Light Between Oceans*, the *New York Times* bestselling novel by M. L. Stedman.

Stedman tells the story of a young lighthouse keeper on a remote island off Western Australia. The keeper and his wife live a quiet, isolated life until the morning that a boat washes ashore carrying a dead man and a crying infant. Their decision to raise the child as their own brings devastating consequences as the baby's real story unfolds.

The Book Group will meet on Tuesday, November 25, at 7:30 pm in the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. We hope you'll join us.

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*Students find new ways of working with iPads in the classroom. Photo courtesy Abingdon staff.*

## ***iPads arrive at Abingdon!***

After a few technical hiccups, 195 Abingdon students received their very own iPads. Dubbed the 1:1 initiative, Arlington Public Schools hopes to expand personal tablets or laptops to all students by 2017. Michelle Jaenkel, Abingdon's technology teacher, and Kerry Abbott, the Instructional Technology Coordinator, briefed parents at the October PTA meeting about what to expect in terms of safety, academic learning, and student responsibility.

Abingdon is piloting the use of a personalized iPad for classroom use in its 2nd- and 5th-grade classrooms. The school has been using technology to support student learning for years, and many of Abingdon's teachers have already introduced or implemented new

instructional strategies using digital devices. Based on the iPad pilots in Arlington County last year, Abingdon discovered that the iPad provided new and powerful learning opportunities for students. For instance, flipped video lessons created by the teacher allow students to re-watch a lesson and practice a strategy before coming to class.

There are also a multitude of new and authentic ways for students to respond to their reading, such as digital corkboards and blogs. In preparation for the iPad deployment, Abingdon's 2nd- and 5th-grade teachers have been and will continue to receive professional development to help strengthen their ability to use these personalized devices to support students and enhance instruction in the classroom.

—Kerry Abbott

## ***Project GIFT Showcase in November***

On Thursday, November 13, Abingdon Elementary will host its Project GIFT Showcase Night: Amazing Abingdon. GIFT stands for Guiding Instruction through Fine Arts and Technology. This showcase is the first in a series of four this year, and welcomes families in for a glimpse of the extraordinary instructional strategies and projects taking place in each classroom during the first quarter of the school year. There will be at least one teacher at each grade level demonstrating a typical lesson, which might feature math, reading, writing, science, social studies, or an integrated activity. Please join us at 6:30 pm so you can be dazzled by the great things going on in our neighborhood school. Pizza and drinks will be for sale.

## ***Mark your calendars for these important dates:***

Tuesday, November 4 – Election Day (no school)

Tuesday, November 11 – Veteran's Day (no school)

Thursday, November 13 – Project GIFT showcase, 6:30 pm

Wednesday, November 19 – PTA Meeting, 6:30 pm

Wednesday–Friday, November 26–28 – Thanksgiving Break (no school)



**VOTE**

*Real Leadership. Real Solutions.*

# ALAN HOWZE

DEMOCRAT FOR COUNTY BOARD



## ✓ PROVEN LEADER

Local service as President of Civic Association, Housing Board, Fiscal Affairs Commission, Bond Campaign, Leadership Arlington, PTA, and more. Senior advisor to then-Governor (now Senator) Mark Warner; Legislative Director on Capitol Hill.

## ✓ COMMITMENT TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Alan strongly supports the Abingdon School renovation. He would be the **ONLY** member of the county board with children in Arlington schools. He will address school overcrowding and expand pre-K to all families.

## ✓ VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Alan is committed to critical investments in Metro, the streetcar, and affordable housing, and he will use his business experience to ensure that local tax dollars are spent wisely.

Paid for by the Committee  
to Elect Alan Howze.



## There's nothing independent about **REPUBLICAN** John Vihstadt

**X JOHN VIHSTADT** voted AGAINST funding for the renovation of Abingdon Elementary School.

**X JOHN VIHSTADT** has given thousands of dollars to anti-choice and anti-marriage equality Republicans like George W. Bush and Tea Party Congressman Lee Terry.<sup>2</sup>

**X JOHN VIHSTADT** is actively supported by the Arlington County Republican Party, who also oppose Mark Warner and Don Beyer.<sup>3</sup>

### CHECK THE FACTS:

1. *Washington Business Journal*, July 21, 2014
2. <http://www.fec.gov/finance/disclosure/norindsea.shtml>
3. <http://www.arlingtongop.org/calendar>

**VOTE NOVEMBER 4TH, FOR REAL LEADERSHIP AND REAL SOLUTIONS**

HWZ14018

# Animal Talk

## *Pets and humans: mutual health benefits*

Many Fairlingtonians have probably heard that there are important health benefits associated with owning a pet. Research has shown that interactions with pets can raise serotonin and other hormone levels, lower stress and cholesterol levels, lower blood pressure, combat depression, reduce risk of heart attack, help recover from heart surgery, and even calm Alzheimer's patients. Pets have even been trained to be therapy animals to visit the sick due to their positive effects on our health.



that teach and offer certifications in massage or holistic medicine, hands-on therapies designed to improve a pet's health. Many professionals now specialize in physical therapy, hydrotherapy, acupuncture, or other alternatives to traditional veterinary medicine. For owners who wish to understand the benefits of massage or learn informally how to help their pet, there are many online resources that

teach the basics and demonstrate some easy techniques that everyone can use at home.

But did you know that pets receive similar health benefits from interactions with humans? Just think about the times a dog may have leaned into you while being pet, or a cat has purred with satisfaction. The human touch can help reduce stress, calm nerves, lower heart rate and blood pressure, aid in digestion, and even alleviate joint pain and stiffness.

So it should be no surprise that pet massage has become a popular new concept, and there are accredited schools

To further support the idea of touch being important to pets, there's been some online attention recently paid to the value of petting in dog training. Many traditional positive training methods focus on praise or treats alone, but it has been shown that praise combined with petting (or treats if the dog is very food motivated) yielded much better training results.

So the next time you or your pet are feeling under the weather or blue, or working on behavioral training, reach out to your pet. Both of you will enjoy the rewards and health benefits.

—Christine M. Chirichella

### ***Free concerts by the National Chamber Players at Episcopal High School***

The National Chamber Players (NCP) offer a series of free concerts to the community throughout the year at Episcopal High School in Alexandria. The NCP is composed of members of the National Symphony Orchestra and their invited prominent guest artists. Concerts combine solo and chamber ensemble pieces by an array of composers.

The next concert will be held on Tuesday, December 9, at 7:30 pm in Pendleton Hall. Enter the Episcopal High School campus by using the gate at 3900 W. Braddock Rd., Alexandria, opposite Minnie Howard School. For information about the programs for December 9; March 24, 2015, and May 12, 2015, visit [www.episcopalhighschool.org](http://www.episcopalhighschool.org) and click on "The Arts" tab.

### ***Hope for retrieving your stolen bike***

Many stolen bicycles in Arlington are recovered by the police. Your chances are better if the bike is a less expensive one that may have been swiped for a single ride and later abandoned. For help with locating a stolen bike, contact Lt. Heather Hurlock with the Arlington County Police, 703-228-4057 or email [hhurlock@arlingtonva.us](mailto:hhurlock@arlingtonva.us).

If your bike has been stolen, contact Lt. Hurlock first. She may have your bicycle, and will also come to pick up abandoned bikes. After 60 days, unclaimed bikes are donated to Bikes for the World, a nonprofit that sends used bicycles to community development programs in third world countries.



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## Services

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**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.

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**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.

## Gardening/ Landscaping

**SULLIVAN'S LANDSCAPING.** Autumn is the ideal time to plant new shrubs. Call or e-mail Bill Sullivan @ Sullivan's Landscaping, Inc. for a free estimate. Remember, we paint the home interiors of our landscape customers during winter, only. I ask for a 3-room minimum. 571-213-9567 or [billsullivan41@gmail.com](mailto:billsullivan41@gmail.com)

**LEAVES FALLING, GARDEN'S CALLING.** Plant now for Spring beauty. Winterization: cleanup, mulching, pruning, bulbs, constructions, more... Wendell of Environs. 703-623-9625. [MisterFixAlot@gmail.com](mailto:MisterFixAlot@gmail.com).

## Improvements

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

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**BATHROOMS AND KITCHENS.** NEW WEBSITE. [www.fairlingtonbathroomsandkitchens.com](http://www.fairlingtonbathroomsandkitchens.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)

**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.

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**MARIO'S HOME IMPROVEMENT.** 20 years experience. Painting, plastering, plumbing, electrical, carpentry, trim, moldings. Kitchens, bath remodeling, floor wood, and tile. Free estimates. References available. Call Mario Zambrana. 703-501-7506. [mzambrana60@yahoo.com](mailto:mzambrana60@yahoo.com).

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**GRACE & ALBERTO.** Alberto Matias Construction. Serving Arlington and Alexandria since 1989. New Stone or Bricks Patios, Japanese Garden, new plants in the ground, prune, remove leaves and spread fresh mulch. My e-mail is [gracedelcarmenmatias@gmail.com](mailto:gracedelcarmenmatias@gmail.com), and my cell 703-795-4506

**WITT CONSTRUCTION.** Popcorn ceiling removal, painting, crown molding, built-in cabinets. Fairlington resident. References available upon request. [garywitt44@gmail.com](mailto:garywitt44@gmail.com) 703-626-6429.

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## Miscellaneous

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**RENTAL WANTED.** Need to rent furnished bedroom one week per month while commuting for work. \$400 per month. 703-201-8811 or [lorraine.koss@gmail.com](mailto:lorraine.koss@gmail.com).

**HELP WANTED.** Anyone interested in typing/finalizing documents and who is familiar with Office Word and the Cloud? Call 703-271-4292 and leave number and good time to reach you. I can also be reached at [jhurley959@gmail.com](mailto:jhurley959@gmail.com).

**WANT TO SELL YOUR FAIRLINGTON HOME?** If your home has never been remodeled, CALL US FIRST FOR CASH SALE! We're looking to BUY one of the following models: Arlington, Dominion, Clarendon 1 or 2, Monticello, Hermitage DELONG HOME IMPROVEMENT. [dhidelong@aol.com](mailto:dhidelong@aol.com) 703-815-3151

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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

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Open 8 am – 9 pm M – F, and 8 am – 5 pm Saturday.

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

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Alex/Ridge View—Remodeled & spacious 4BR/2BA in great location. \$465,000 Call Dayna Wagner



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Woodbridge—Spacious 4BR/3BA w/large fenced back yard, beautiful deck, & 4 car driveway. \$275,000 Call Afroza Hossain

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