

all FAIRLINGTON BULLETIN



www.fca-fairlington.org

NOVEMBER 2016

Volume 42, Number 11

VDOT plans major overhaul of King Street bridge

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The King Street bridge over Shirley Highway will undergo major rehabilitation under plans being developed by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT). During some of the construction, which is slated for 2018, weekend traffic on the bridge will be significantly restricted.

VDOT officials will brief the community on the renovation plans at FCA's November 9 meeting at 7 pm in the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St.



Deteriorating concrete on the underside of the King Street bridge above I-395 will be one of many concerns addressed when the bridge undergoes repairs in 2018. Photo courtesy VDOT.

Built in 1970, the bridge has been classified as "structurally deficient," with some of the substructure in poor condition—suffering from major corrosion—and the superstructure rated only fair. "Structurally deficient" does not mean that a structure is in danger of imminent failure, but that its condition has deteriorated to a point where it requires significant repairs to continue to safely carry today's traffic loads.

The rehabilitation project will include repairing the bridge deck, replacing the railings, cleaning and painting the steel beams, repairing deteriorated concrete in pier caps, and treating the pier columns and abutments with a protective material.

Brian Morrison, the NOVA District Project Manager for VDOT, notes the project is also designed to improve pedestrian and bicycle access to the bridge, including making it accessible to persons with disabilities. The plans include enhanced lighting as well. Morrison will lead the presentation at the FCA meeting.

According to Morrison, during repairs, traffic on the bridge will be limited to one-way on six weekends—for three weekends, only eastbound traffic will be permitted, and for another three weekends, only westbound traffic will have

Continued on page 27

Coming up ...

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


FCA monthly meeting November 9

Special presentation: VDOT officials will brief the community on the King Street bridge renovation plans.

Regular board business:

- Approval of October minutes
- Office reports
- Committee reports
- Unfinished business
- New business

Online resources:

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

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

Web design by Global Thinking, Alexandria, VA,
www.globalthinking.com.

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Metrobus Complaints	703-228-7929
Miss Utility	811
Pothole Patrol Hotline	703-228-6485
Shirlington Library	703-228-6545
Street Light Hotline	703-228-6511
www.arlingtonva.us/departments/Environmental Services/dot/traffic/streetlights/index.htm	
Helicopter Noise Complaints	Mike Lucier (VA 8th Dist.) 202-225-4376

Fairlington Citizens Association

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All Fairlington Bulletin

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— DEADLINE —

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

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E-mail editorial announcements to:
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E-mail commercial and mini ads to:
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Drop off location: Drop box in the Fairlington
Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford Street

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

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

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Calendar

Election Day

Tuesday, November 8

FCA monthly meeting

Wednesday, November 9, 7 pm
FCC, 3308 S. Stafford St.

Fairlington Diners

Wednesday, November 9, 6:30 pm
Clyde's
1700 N. Beauregard St.
Alexandria

Veterans Day holiday

Friday, November 11

Thanksgiving Day

Thursday, November 24

Book Club

Tuesday, November 29, 7:30 pm
FCC, 3308 S. Stafford St.

Scaredy cat



This Fairlington resident is always in costume for Halloween, and had the purrfect vantage point for trick-or-treaters. Photo by Bob Bradley.

Contributors this month: Lynne Blasi, Bob Bradley, Jeni Hornback, Guy Land, Bill Sullivan, Michelle Woolley.

Some images in this publication may be digitally enhanced.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

September's FCA presentation by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) showed that the I-395 HOT Lanes project is on track, with a final agreement with the private partner likely early next year, construction beginning next summer, and completion in summer 2019.

VDOT spent the summer conducting environmental assessments and refining the project design, particularly where the HOT lanes will end at S. Eads St., next to the Pentagon.

Unlike the version proposed several years ago, no major changes are planned for the Shirlington Circle. The additional express lane will be constructed within the existing footprint of the highway, primarily by reducing one shoulder of the express lanes and narrowing the express lanes themselves from 12 feet to 11 feet.

The aspect of the project that will likely have the most immediate impact on Fairlington would be the installation of sound barriers along I-395. VDOT's study concluded that sound walls along the corridor would be "feasible and reasonable," and it found that 2,857 households along the corridor would be impacted by noise from the traffic.

But whether to install sound walls would be up to the people who live along the route, who will get to vote on whether they want the barriers or not. When residents along I-395 near Seminary Rd. voted on installing sound barriers during the construction of the new Mark Center exit, one group voted against sound barriers. If you drive along that part of the highway, you will see one section that doesn't have sound barriers.

VDOT expects to conduct a formal survey of the affected households next year. It's important to note that only affected homes, as determined by VDOT's engineering study, will be eligible to vote. Neither the condo associations nor FCA will have standing to vote.

When sound walls were discussed several years ago, Fairlington residents seemed divided on the question. Some embraced the proposal because the barriers could reduce the noise from the highway, while others worried that the walls could have an adverse visual impact on the historic community and perhaps form a psychological division between North and South Fairlington.

FCA expects to hold a special VDOT briefing on the sound walls next spring, once the various design options have been selected. We will keep you informed on this key aspect of the HOT lanes project.

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

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Residents hear update, provide input for proposed bus route changes

Proposed changes to bus service in the Fairlington neighborhood was the topic of discussion at the October meeting of the Fairlington Citizens Association.

Arlington County Transit Operations Manager Steve Yaffe and staffer William Jones provided information and accepted community input regarding the county's Transit Development Plan, which for Fairlington calls for the elimination of the 22A and 22C Metrobus, to be replaced by the ART 87 and ART 88.

The plan is not expected to be implemented for at least a couple of years, but in the meantime Yaffe, Jones, and the county staff are seeking guidance from the community to provide the most efficient level of service to Arlington County residents.

"It's not going to happen in fiscal 2018," Yaffe said. "We



Arlington County Transit Operations Manager Steve Yaffe addresses the October 13 meeting of the Fairlington Citizens Association. Photo by Bob Bradley.

haven't developed a new schedule for that. And nothing is set in cement."

The county is taking suggestions and recommendations which Yaffe and Jones said would be reflected in updates to the plan which are due in December.

The ART 87 bus is to be consolidated into one route, and peak service will be provided along the route every 10 minutes to Shirlington Station, and a deviation into the Fairlington community will occur during off-peak periods with a frequency of every 30 minutes to cover reassignment of the 22A and 22C routes.

The Fairlington community, in a letter from the Fairlington Citizens Association, expressed concern regarding reduction in bus service to the Pentagon and the need for

Continued on page 7

Survey seeks I-395 commuter preferences

Fairlington residents who are frequent commuters along I-395 are encouraged to participate in a state-sponsored online survey to obtain ideas and feedback on the most important ways to improve travel in the I-95/I-395 corridor.

Results from the survey will help inform a Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Plan that the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transit (DRPT) is developing in conjunction with the I-395 HOT Lanes project. The purpose of the I-95/I-395 Transit/TDM Study is to develop a comprehensive list of transit and TDM projects that would be eligible for funding from revenues generated by the I-395 Express Lanes.

According to DRPT, the goal is to describe a set of strategies that increase transportation system efficiency by encouraging a shift away from single-occupancy vehicles during peak periods. These include rideshare programs, commuter bus, regular bus and other transit programs, pedestrian and bicycle improvements, telework or flex-

ible work schedules, parking management, and financial incentives.

DRPT says these improvements will support mobility, economic development, and sustainability goals for communities along the corridor.

The 2015 Framework Agreement between the Commonwealth of Virginia and Transurban (the private contractor) committed Virginia to providing a minimum of \$15 million per year to fund transit and TDM projects along the I-95/I-395 corridor from revenues generated by the new HOT lanes tolls.

To take the survey, go to <http://sgiz.mobi/s3/I-95-I-395-Travel-Improvement-Survey>. DRPT representatives visited the Fairlington Farmers Market back in the summer to get residents' ideas and hosted an information session in Alexandria in September. DRPT expects to complete the study in December.

—Guy Land



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General election set for Tuesday, November 8

For registered Arlington voters, the ballot for the General Election on Tuesday, November 8, will contain candidates for President and Vice President of the United States, House of Representatives (8th District), County Board, and School Board (two seats).

The ballot will also include a special election for two proposed Virginia Constitutional amendments and four county bond questions.

The ballot for Fairlington's Alexandria voters will have the presidential and congressional contests but no local items.

All polling places are open from 6 am to 7 pm. Take valid photo ID. If you're unsure where to go to vote, go online to <https://vote.elections.virginia.gov/VoterInformation/PollingPlaceLookup>.

Precinct 22 voting location is North Fairlington Community Center

Residents in three Arlington voting precincts, including North Fairlington, received incorrect voter cards from the county in October.

With Election Day looming, voters in precinct 22 in North Fairlington—as well as precincts in Crystal City, and the Rosslyn area—received cards that incorrectly listed their voting location, Arlington County Registrar Linda Lindberg said.

Voters in North Fairlington will cast their votes at the North Fairlington Community Center, 3005 S. Abingdon St., on November 8. The location was changed because of construction at Abingdon Elementary, the usual voting place for North Fairlington residents.

"Our mailroom sent cards to the correct voters but pulled incorrect precinct data," said Lindberg. She added that new cards were being sent which included a letter of apology.

"The County mailroom has taken full responsibility for the error and are working to get the correct information out to voters as soon as possible," Lindberg added.

—Bob Bradley

FCA to elect board members next month

Looking for a way to get involved in your community? Have some ideas for ways to make Fairlington even better? Wanting a good outlet for your volunteer energy? Then consider serving on the FCA Board.

Board members are volunteers who serve one-year terms. All nine positions are up for election at this year's annual meeting, December 14.

The board meets monthly, coordinates a variety of community events, and serves as Fairlington's voice in dealing with local jurisdictions. Individual board members are on point for specific activities or initiatives, while the group as a whole examines larger issues that affect the community or enhance the quality of life in Fairlington.

If you would be willing to volunteer a few hours a month, consider this important leadership position. Anyone interested in serving should email FCA Vice President Jonathan Ansley, vp@fca-fairlington.org. For more information, contact any current FCA board member.

—Guy Land



Bus route, continued from page 5

riders to transfer at Shirlington. County staff met with community residents in June to address those concerns.

The remedy from staff was the addition of the ART 88, which proposes to provide weekday rush-hour, peak-direction service connection from the South Fairlington neighborhood to Shirlington, and via the HOV lane to the Pentagon.

Given community feedback on the proposed route of the ART 88, staff acknowledged that further evaluation would be needed during the coming year to consider alternative routes and/or frequencies for peak service.

The county board adopted the TDP in July, with the goal of providing a comprehensive vision for transit service for a 10-year period through 2026.

—Bob Bradley

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County to consider rules for short-term rentals

Arlington County is considering zoning regulations governing short-term residential rentals through online platforms such as Airbnb and craigslist. Earlier this fall, over a dozen short-term rentals in Fairlington were listed on Airbnb.

County zoning currently doesn't formally authorize these rentals, whose popularity has skyrocketed in recent years. According to county officials, residents in some Arlington neighborhoods have complained about the proliferation of short-term rentals and expressed concern that the growth in these rentals could change the character of their community.

At the same time, owners who want to do short-term rentals of a room or condo have no county guidance on what their responsibilities and obligations are. Finally, because there are no zoning rules in place, there are no specific health and safety regulations to protect the short-term renters.

"We have several goals for regulating short-term residential rentals," said county board chair Libby Garvey in a statement. "We want to protect the character of Arlington's neighborhoods, ensure public safety for our community, reduce barriers for those who already are or may want to use their homes as short-term rentals in a legal and responsible manner, and provide a mechanism for enforcement."

The county board considered a draft of the proposed zoning ordinance at its October 15 meeting and scheduled a formal hearing and final vote on the plan for



its December 10 meeting. In the meantime, the county is seeking input from a variety of interested stakeholders. The county planning commission will review the draft ordinance in late November.

The Virginia General Assembly considered legislation this spring that would have precluded the ability of local governments to enforce local zoning rules restricting the establishment of short-term rentals. Governor McAuliffe referred it to the Virginia Housing Commission to study and craft draft legislation for consideration next spring.

According to County Manager Mark Schwartz, by enacting new zoning provisions before the end of December, the county can help inform the state's ultimate decision.

Schwartz noted that back in the summer there were roughly 1,600 short-term rentals listed in Arlington.

—Guy Land

Red decal must be displayed on car by November 15

Per the county treasurer's office, the red 2016–17 car decal must be displayed by November 15 on the front windshield of every car domiciled in Arlington, to indicate payment of personal property tax—and to avoid a ticket.

Police will ticket vehicles garaged, stored, or parked in the county that do not display a valid decal.

You must pay all personal property taxes and any outstanding debt, including parking violations, to receive your vehicle decal from the treasurer's office. For any decal-related questions, call 703-228-4000 or go online to the county website and search car decal.

Top reasons to compost

- It's easy. It doesn't take much more effort to throw materials into a compost bin rather than into the trash bin.
- It's cheap. It requires only the initial investment in a bin. Vendor services can be more expensive, but there are options to reduce those costs over time as well.
- It reduces the amount of waste materials in landfills. Landfills across the country are running out of space. According to the EPA, food waste is the second largest source of waste for landfills—which are expensive to operate and produce higher levels of greenhouse gases than other types of waste management (such as composting or waste water treatment).
- It doesn't smell! Backyard composting, done correctly, does not smell or attract vermin...and vendor composting removes the compost and any associated smells from the community entirely.
- It builds humus! And humus is the lifeblood of good soil—it contains carbon (reducing carbon emissions in the atmosphere), it improves the structure of soil allowing plants to better access minerals and nutrients, and it helps soil to retain water.

Successful second season drawing to a close on November 20

The last day of the Fairlington Farmers Market is November 20, just in time for Thanksgiving shopping. As the market wraps up, here are some thoughts on season two:

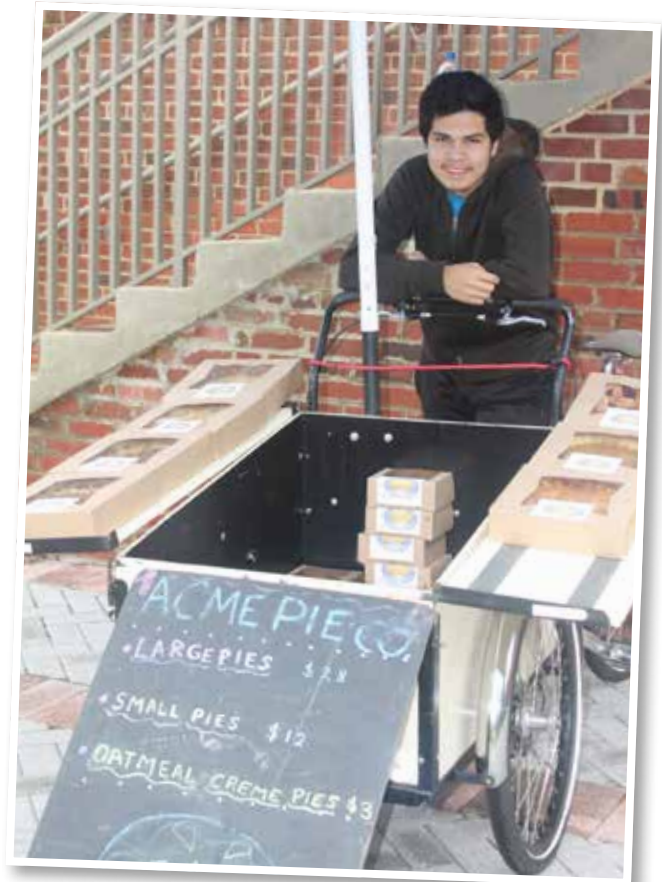
- Three vendors came on board after joining at the end of last season: ACME Pie, Café Los Sueños, and Spriggs Delight. We also welcomed Bonaparte Breads as a new vendor.
- We increased the amount of prepared foods in response to requests from shoppers, who have enjoyed Bonaparte's pastries; hot and iced coffee from Café Los Sueños; pies, scones, and muffins from Kiwi Kuisine and Atwater's Bakery; fresh fruit from Kuhn Orchards, Spring Valley Farm and Orchard, and Pleitez Produce; and of course donuts from Mama's Donut Bites!
- The market had a food truck for a few weeks; however, a lunch-oriented menu was a challenge. We'll continue exploring other options for 2017.
- Vendors continued to donate food to the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC).
- The majority of shoppers are walking/biking to the market. Sunday events at the community center mean the parking lot is filling up earlier. Thank you to the drivers parking along S. Utah St.!



Planning for 2017 is under way, including identifying additional vendors, increasing marketing efforts to nearby neighborhoods, and adding more community events and educational activities to complement the sense of community the market brings. If you have ideas, let us know at info@fairlingtonfarmersmarket.org.

"One of the many delights about the market is the high and sustained attention to detail by those overseeing the market," said Rob Swennes, Executive Director of Field to Table, the nonprofit organization that serves as the market's fiduciary agent and assists with some oversight responsibilities. "In the years to come, they will tweak its operation from time to time to make the market experience even better for the vendors and the many customers who shop there." The market committee includes co-chairs Melissa Beene and Lane Erwin, Eliot DeLaCruz Kriviski, Cheryl Goodman, Jeff Kost, and Lynne Blasi.

The market couldn't exist without volunteers! Each week volunteers handle set up and break down, greet



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We appreciate the generous support of our sponsors and their active presence at the market this year.

customers, and answer questions. Special thanks to Leslie Frank, Arnie Malin, Tracey McGovern, and Molly Buchanan for volunteering many times this year. Thanks also to Alana Ceesay, Christen Snow, Christine McCoy, Debbie Grant, Erica Brown, Gary Hughes, Jennifer Purcell, Jin Tian Acton, JoAnna Greene, Judy Barr, Julia Pilson, Kathy Brion, Martha Hulley, Matt Willmann, Monika Schiller, Nan Kyle Ficca, Sameer Shantaram, Sarah Ault, Tina Collier, Warene Garmeson Sheridan, and Joy Bickelhaupt.

—Lynne Blasi



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Abingdon construction update set for November 14



Construction at the Abingdon Elementary School continues. Photo by Bob Bradley.

FCA and the Fairlington Villages condo association will host a resident briefing and listening session on Abingdon School construction on Monday, November 14, at 7 pm, in the Fairlington Villages Community Center, 3005 S. Abingdon St.

Construction began in early July. While significant progress has already been made, major aspects of the project remain to be undertaken. The November session will

STEM Preschool gets permit renewal

In October, the Arlington County Board approved renewal of the permit for the STEM Preschool at 3120 S. Abingdon St. (next to the fire station). FCA had supported the initial permit request and had no objection to the renewal. The permit renewal runs for three years.

Last year's permit included an increase in the number of students by expanding the preschool to the lower level of the building. The school currently has 57 students enrolled, and there is a waiting list.

FCA has not received reports of major traffic or parking issues associated with the school. The school serves a number of Fairlington families and has won praise from Fairlington parents.

—Guy Land

enable interested residents, particularly those who live relatively close to the school, to receive an update on the construction work from Arlington Public Schools officials. It will also give residents the chance to express any concerns about the way the construction work is being implemented.

During the construction period, a number of Abingdon classes are using the “relocatables” (classroom trailers) that are located on the former site of the playing field.

To help alleviate the construction impacts on the community, the county has created a dedicated construction access to the property through the Trades Center property that borders the school on the north side. Construction workers are using the parking lot at the Fairlington Presbyterian Church, in keeping with the county's requirement that construction workers not use on-street parking in the neighborhood.

Under an agreement with the Fairlington Villages condo association, a number of parking spots in the lot next to the North Fairlington Community Center are reserved for school parking during school hours. These slots are clearly marked. Please do not park in these reserved spaces.

—Guy Land

County to move recycling center

Arlington county is proposing to move the recycling center that is located at Four Mile Run Drive and Columbia Pike to the Trades Center at Arlington Mill Drive and S. Taylor St. in Shirlington.

The Four Mile Run Drive location is one of two county-operated community recycling drop-off centers. It allows drop-off of single stream recyclable materials, such as mixed paper, cardboard, metal cans, plastic bottles, food containers and glass.

A memo from county staff explained that the move is in part a response to community concerns about aesthetics and illegal dumping occurring at the Four Mile Run Drive center.

According to the county, once the containers are relocated to the Trades Center, the users of the drop-off center will be permitted to deposit more recyclable materials

Continued on page 29

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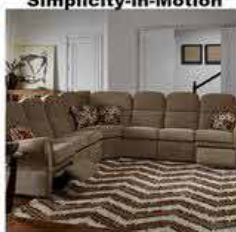


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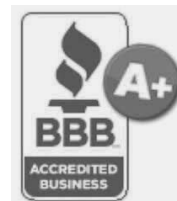


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MOMS Club consignment sale earns \$10,000

The Fairlington MOMS Club® held its fall consignment sale October 8 at the Fairlington Community Center. This popular semi-annual event was once again the place for great bargains on all manner of necessities for young children, from apparel to books to gear to toys. Hot items this year included snow gear like boots, snowsuits, and coats; high quality toys, like a Hape play kitchen; strollers and potties; and books.

This year saw 50 consignors, with over 5,000 items valued at over \$18,000 for sale. Total sales were \$10,000. Lines were longest around the time the sale opened and for the first hour, and then for the last half hour, when certain items were offered at half price.

Due to the holiday weekend, the number of shoppers was lighter than previous sales. The sale used to require cash, but after allowing credit card purchases several years ago, the majority of sales are now paid for with plastic. About two thirds of the items sold, and consignors could choose to donate unsold items to My Grandmother's House, a charity that takes items to children in

need in southwest Virginia.

The Moms Club chooses a charity to receive 20 percent of sales (less credit card fees) for each sale. The Arlington Food Assistance Center's (AFAC) Backpack Buddies Program, which provides weekend and holiday meals to food-insecure school children in Arlington County, will receive almost \$2,000 as a result of this sale. New this year, the Moms Club also collected food donations for AFAC. Shoppers were encouraged to bring low-sugar cereals, which are too expensive for AFAC to purchase and are in high demand. The Club collected 38 pounds of cereal for AFAC.

As you might guess, an event of this magnitude requires a lot of effort. This year, 40 club members volunteered to set up the sale the day before, run the sale the day of, and clean up after it was done, plus planning ahead of time and publicity.

—Michelle Woolley



Photos by Guy Land.

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Fairlington fall comes alive....

There was no shortage of Fairlington community activities in October. The annual plant and tree walk took place on October 9, and the Fairlington Commons Arts & Crafts Sale and the Fire Station 7 open house drew family and friends on October 15. *Photos by Guy Land.*



Thank you Fairlington!

To say thank you to our wonderful community, we will be holding a neighborhood food drive to collect food donations and support families in need. All donations will be distributed by AFAC, the primary food bank and pantry in Arlington, serving over 2,200 local families every week.



When: Saturday, November 12 from 11 am - 2 pm

Where: 2745 S Buchanan Street

Our most needed items are:

- Canned soup
- Canned tuna
- Canned beans
- Canned tomatoes (diced, whole-peeled, sauce, etc.)
- Low sugar cereal
- **Low sodium preferred**
- **No glass please**

Recent listings from Kay:



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Walk, bike to school day encourages benefits of exercise

On October 5th, Abingdon Elementary School hosted a Walk and Bike to School Day to encourage students to walk or bike to school and to teach them about the health and environmental benefits of walking and biking. The day is also an important event for the community, as it raises awareness about the importance of pedestrian and bike safety in the Fairlington neighborhood. Abingdon will host another Walk and Bike to School Day in the spring.

Community volunteers needed

Do you enjoy reading and would like to help a child find their love of books? Cathy Campbell, the Abingdon Book Buddies coordinator, is looking for reading tutors to participate in this wonderful program. Volunteers will tutor first-grade students in Abingdon's reading program by meeting Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:30 to 3:15 pm. Teaching experience is not needed and there is no prep work required! Volunteers just follow the lesson plan provided by the coordinator, which will include reading books and playing literacy games. If you are interested or have a question, please contact Cathy Campbell at cathy.campbell@apsva.us as soon as possible!

The Abingdon Let's Go Club also is looking for volunteers to join the student club on walks throughout the Fairlington community this fall! If you like brisk walks around our beautiful neighborhood in the



Students and staff at Abingdon will be decorating tiles, which will be the centerpiece of an accent wall in the new cafeteria. Photo by Lauren Muscarella.

afternoons, then this is the volunteer opportunity for you. For more information, contact Caty Branco, Abingdon's Community Liaison, at caty.branco@apsva.us.

Renovated cafeteria to feature student tile wall

Over the next few months, as the new cafeteria renovation moves towards completion, a special art installation highlighting creativity will be incorporated into the new space. Students and staff at Abingdon will be decorating tiles, which will be the centerpiece of an accent wall in the new cafeteria.

Each tile will show what the artist loves most about Abingdon. Students spent several sessions brainstorming, planning, and painting their tiles. Installation is scheduled for mid-November. We look forward to sharing pictures of the completed

project in the spring!

Abingdon PTA to host Read-A-Thon

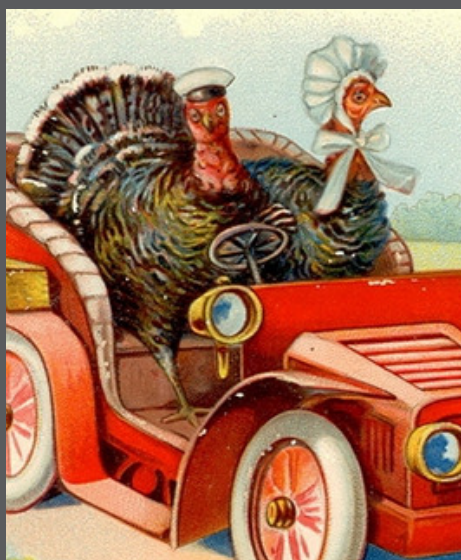
From October 24th through November 4th, the Abingdon PTA will host a Read-A-Thon to celebrate literacy and raise funds for a variety of projects and events throughout the year. Students will have special reading sessions during the school day and will also set reading goals for the two-week event. The school goal will be 192,000 minutes during the Read-A-Thon. Family members, neighbors, and members of the community are asked to make pledges to support the event. To make a donation to this exciting fundraiser, please visit https://www.read-a-thon.com/school/Abingdon-Elementary-PTA_12124.

—Jeni Hornback

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neighborhood news

Fairlington Diners

The Fairlington Diners gather a couple of times a month for relaxed dinners nearby. We focus on having a good meal and an opportunity to chat with neighbors. In October, we tried a new restaurant for the group, Athena Pallas on S. 22nd St., where we enjoyed Greek dishes served in a family atmosphere.

For November, we'll have just one event, to allow space on our calendars for Thanksgiving.

Wednesday, November 9, 6:30 pm, Clyde's, 1700 N. Beauregard St., Alexandria, 703-820-8300 (www.clydes.com/mark-center). This is a local favorite, nearby with easy parking. The crab cakes are popular with a number of the regular diners. Because we do need a reservation, please call Carol at 703-379-6840 if you plan to attend, no later than 6 pm on Tuesday, November 8. Do leave a voicemail if you don't reach her—include your name and how to contact you the day of the event, in case plans change.

If you want to receive a copy of these notices early in the previous month, send your email address to carol_dabbs@yahoo.com.

Book Group

Join the Fairlington Book Group in November as we complete our discussion of *Alexander Hamilton*, a biography by Ron Chernow. Chernow's bestseller was the inspiration for the hit Broadway musical, *Hamilton*.

According to *The Washington Post*, "None of the American Founders had a more dramatic life or death than Hamilton—and none did more to lay the foundations of America's future wealth and power."

Because of the length of this book, we discussed chapters 1 through 18 at our October meeting. We'll cover the remaining chapters in November.

The Book Group welcomes first-time visitors and drop-ins. No commitment required! We are meeting on Tuesday, November 29, at 7:30 pm in the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. We hope you'll join us.

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.

Fairlington Babysitting Co-op

If you are looking for a night out without the kids, or an afternoon to yourself, join the Fairlington Babysitting Co-op. For more than 30 years, Fairlington families have been exchanging free babysitting services using a card system. It's perfect for parents who would like to know dependable adults to watch their children and meet other families in the community.

Email the coordinators Elizabeth Shea, and Monica and Jeremy Wedemann, at fairlington.babysitting@gmail.com to request more information and an application.

Arlington Babe Ruth offering November baseball minicamps

Arlington Babe Ruth baseball will offer minicamps for young players during school holidays in November.

The camps are scheduled for Tuesday, November 8 (Election Day), and/or Friday, November 11 (Veterans' Day), from 9:30 to 11:00 am at Gunston Park Bubble, 1401 S. 28th St., Arlington.

Participants will receive a t-shirt and prizes. Children ages four to six are welcome, and the fee is \$25 per player/session. Register for one or both. Space is limited, and scholarships are available. Learn more at www.ArlingtonBabeRuth.com.



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DOWN TO EARTH patio gardening



November is the perfect time for garden maintenance



Maintenance is ongoing in any trade, including landscaping. Colorful flowers and fragrant smells provide the drama in a garden while maintenance makes it neat, attractive, and even healthy.

November is an ideal time to focus on non-planting since so few flowers bloom during winter. Visit a nursery in winter and you'll find leftover gourds, haystacks, and a multitude of evergreens.

So here's what needs to be done outside before you sit down to that Thanksgiving meal.

Leaves have started to fall and continue to do so (pines and magnolias drop needles and leaves all year long). Other specimens (oak trees) hold leaves into late January. Leaves provide an organic compost for the soil but they're also messy. Too many piled leaves invite mold and mildew since they hold water and moisture. Dead leaves stuck in specimen foliage provide no benefit other than offering less of a knee-bend in gathering them. Too many leaves blanketing the top of a specimen

reduces available sunlight and air flow through the branch structure.

Annual flowers provide color from late April until the first frost (late November). In their last month, they become leggy and show more herbaceous (soft stem) green than color. They're not as dense or shapely as when you purchase them in spring. So, uproot and trash these flowers. They come out of the soil easily since they have fibrous (non-woody) root systems.

Specimen pruning can be done strategically. With most evergreens, the "schedule" isn't as precise as with flowering ornamentals. Unsightly sprouts, those that drag the soil, others that impede a path toward the kitchen door/patio gate, or ones that are tangled with others may be pruned at any time. Avoid pruning specimens that will flower in spring and summer as you will compromise/negate the bloom for next year. Use caution with hydrangea as this plant always produces foliage and flowers on the previous year's branches. You may easily pull/remove old, brittle hydrangea branches that cluster at the base.

Mulching can be done at any time. I prefer a fine-chip mulch (Virginia Fines) as opposed to alternatives. Shredded hardwood mulch hardens in clumps during cold weather. It also turns grayish on the tips. It looks beautiful when applied but its staying power is minimized. Large-chip mulch looks too "busy" in a small

garden. It's bulky and takes the eye off your specimens. It also curls and turns gray at the edges. If stacked too high, it can provide a nesting ground for animals—I once discovered a snake nest beneath large-chip mulch. Ebony mulch is black and mimics the farming soil of the Midwest, which is rich and black. It's costly but preferred by some gardeners.

Fertilizing should be done. Aside from evergreens (yew, laurel, rhododendron, azalea, boxwood, camellia), I don't fertilize in my business. Instead, I apply soil conditioner (soft, loam soil) every time I dig a hole and plant a specimen. Fertilizer has nutrients that sometimes burn virgin plant roots. What can be done is this: Google a plant to determine if it needs an acidic or alkaline soil pH. If it's acidic, add Holly Tone around the root zone. If alkaline, use agricultural lime. Apply sparingly and work it in with a trowel.

Watering can be done during winter, especially for new plants that have been installed in autumn. A good watering twice a month (December through March) is smart as long as the temperature is above 40 degrees. If a winter provides an excess of rain or snow, decrease watering. If the reverse happens, increase watering. When watering, do so modestly, working the hose (with a strong stream of water) in slow circles around the base of the plant (say 10 seconds only per plant).

—Bill Sullivan
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- Rita Tassa

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access. He notes, though, that full capacity for both pedestrians and vehicles will be maintained during peak hours.

Final design is currently underway and could be completed later this fall. VDOT expects to advertise the project for bid in January 2018, though that date could come earlier if construction funding becomes available sooner. Total construction time ranges from 20 to 24 months. Total cost is projected at \$9.5 million.

VDOT will need to coordinate work on the bridge with the I-395 HOT Lanes construction, which will be adding an additional express lane down the center of Shirley Highway. Morrison explains that much of the bridge work is on the underside of the bridge, and that work cannot occur while the major express lane construction is going on.

The existing bridge has an average traffic count of 24,000 vehicles per day. For more information on the project,



Photo courtesy VDOT.

see http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/northernvirginia/king_st_over_i-395.asp.

—Guy Land

Letter to the Editor

To the editor,

The Wakefield High School Music Department extends a heartfelt “Thank You” to the Fairlington community for its support of the Wakefield Music Program.

Band, orchestra, and chorus students collected nearly \$2,000 from generous Fairlington residents during



Members of the Wakefield High School Music Department have reason to smile after collecting nearly \$2,000 for the program from generous Fairlington residents. Photo courtesy of Wakefield High School Music Department.

our recent fundraising event, “Tag Day,” in September. Fairlington’s support is valued in every capacity; it keeps our students encouraged and aiming for higher mastery of their musical skills.

Please join us at Wakefield for our many seasonal concerts listed here:

December 6, 6:15 pm, Winter Guitar Concert in the Wakefield Townhall; December 6, 7 pm, Winter Band Concert in the Auditorium; December 7, 7 pm, Winter Orchestral Concert in the Auditorium; December 13, 7 pm, Winter Choral Concert in the Auditorium.

Thank you again for your financial and community support!

Sincerely,
Meade J. Hanna, Helen Sobola, and Dana Andy

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.

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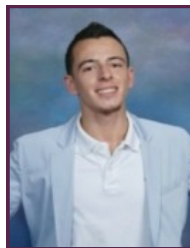
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Meeting held on National Airport noise

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) held three community workshops in September in Arlington, the Georgetown neighborhood of Washington, D.C. and Bethesda, Md., to talk to local residents about proposed new departure routes from Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA).

The northbound routes are designed to increase flight time over the Potomac River to address noise complaints and to increase the distance between aircraft and the prohibited airspace over the National Mall.

The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) formed a broad-based community group called the Reagan National Community Noise Working Group in October 2015 to identify practical aircraft noise solutions and make recommendations to the FAA.

In November 2015, the FAA briefed the group on three alternative north flow departure designs. The following month, the FAA briefed the group on the tentative noise analysis. The noise analysis results indicated no significant or reportable changes in noise exposure with the implementation of the proposed procedures. The Working Group voted to select alternative "B" and recommended that the FAA move forward with the project.

—Bob Bradley

Recycling, continued from page 15

to additional locations within the Trades Center.

Public drop-off hours would coincide with the Trades Center hours: Monday through Friday from 5 am to 9 pm and Saturdays from 6:30 am to 6:30 pm. Visitors to the Trades Center would be permitted to enter from its main entrance.

FCA indicated to the county that it had no opposition to moving the recycling location but it asked that the county consider making the facility accessible to the public on Sundays. The county board is scheduled to consider the relocation proposal at its November meeting.

—Guy Land

Frightful Halloween

Fairlington's reputation for friendliness came into question when residents outfitted their units with all manner of scary Halloween decorations. For the winners of FCA's first-ever Halloween decoration contest, see the FCA website or the Fairlington Appreciation Society Facebook page. *Photos by Bob Bradley.*



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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.

ELECTRICAL SERVICE. Master electrician. Lights, fans, panel replacements. Licensed, insured credit cards Allegro LLC 703 314 1287 info@allegroLLC.net

MARIO'S HOME IMPROVEMENTS. 18 years experience, kitchen and bath granite counter top remodeling, tile, plumbing, electrical, carpentry, panel replacements, painting, wallpaper removal, drywall. Call Mario 703-501-7506. mzambrana60@yahoo.com

GRACE & ALBERTO. Alberto Matias Construction. Serving Arlington and Alexandria since 1989. New patios. Sidewalks: stone, natural brick, or pavers. gracedelcarmenmatias@gmail.com 703-795-4506.

GIT-R-DONE SERVICES. Interior, kitchens, baths, ceramic tile, hardwood flooring. Exterior: brick work and fencing. Free estimates. Call John @ 703-395-2121.

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

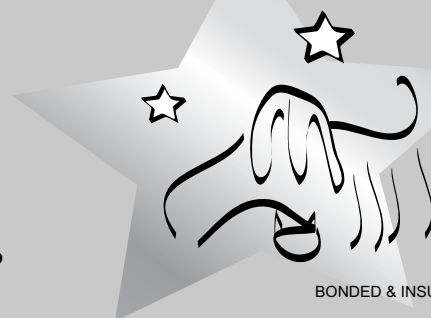


Pet & Plantcare by Gerri, LLC

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

Gerri Horan
703.379.7719

SINCE 1999



BONDED & INSURED

Mini-ads

HANDYMAN/MASTER CRAFTSMAN.

Built-ins, cabinets, closets, carpentry, drywall, interior doors, crown molding, chair rail, tile, sinks, faucets, disposals, toilets, ceiling fans, lighting, painting, bathrooms, kitchens, plumbing, electrical. Damon Blackburn 703-966-7225. www.firstatehandyman.com. Damon.blackburn@yahoo.com

INTERIOR PAINTING. Chelsea Paint and Paper, Inc. Painting, wallpapering, and plastering. 25 years experience. Professional, clean, neat, reliable. Licensed, bonded, insured. References available. Free estimates. Steve Chute. 571-216-9338/703-912-1450. Chute285@aol.com.

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

House Cleaning

MICHELE'S MAIDS. Reliable, honest, affordable. BACKGROUND CHECK ON EVERY EMPLOYEE. Window cleaning now available. LICENSED, BONDED INSURED. 15 years in Fairlington. Fairlington references available. No Machines to talk to. 703-820-1808 Visit our website at www.michelesmaids.net

FAIRLINGTON MAID SERVICE. 703-820-8635. We are family owned and operated serving Fairlington since 1978. Your neighbor is our best reference. Call for a no obligation free estimate and detailed explanation of our service.

HOUSE CLEANING. Reliable and experienced. Good references. Flexible scheduling. Reasonable rates. We are licensed, insured, and employees covered through Worker's Comp. We bring our own equipment. Weekly, biweekly, monthly, occasionally, one-time, move in/out, offices. For free in-home estimate, call Maryen/Raul at 703-321-5335.

Pet Services

HOME ALONE FELINES. Professional in-home cat sitting and adoption services homealonefelines@gmail.com; 703-671-5504 www.homealone.petfinder.com

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.



Join the Fairlington conversation on Facebook at the Fairlington Appreciation Society.



Enhance your community by volunteering for FCA activities.

MINI-ADS INSTRUCTIONS

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

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

E-mail: admanager@fca-fairlington.org

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

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

Cost: 50 cents per word. Examples: "998-0000" and "stove" = one word; "interior/exterior" = two words.

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

30% Discount on Tax Preparation

We can prepare your Federal & State income taxes. Fairlington homeowners our specialty for 25 years. Convenient Mark Center / N. Beauregard St. office.



Visit www.cpa-coker.com for more information. Call today to schedule an appointment and get a **FREE** Retirement check-up!

Charles Coker, CPA 703.931.3290
charles.coker@cpa-coker.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



Our office has been located in the Fairlington Community since the 1970's! We ARE your neighborhood experts!

4800 S. 31st Street, Arlington, VA 22206

office # 703.998.3111

FOR SALE:

2911 Dinwiddie St., S #A-1
Hermitage Model
1BR/2BA—1528 sq ft (approximately)
Listed for \$399,900
by **Barbara Kirkland**
703.405.5920

Looking for a move up property?

1209 Cedar Dale Lane
Alexandria, VA 22308
Listed for **\$1,199,999**
6BR/ 4FBA/ 1HBA
by **Doug Luzik**
703.304.7969

5627 Harrington Falls Lane #T
Alexandria, VA 22312
Listed for **\$457,000**
3BR/ 2FBA/ 1HBA
by **Pat Shannon**
703.304.7969



Do you have a Barcroft, Dominion or an Arlington model and thinking of selling? Several agents in our office have qualified buyers specifically looking to purchase one of those models. Please call Mary Bowen at 703.998.3111 or email her at mary.bowen@LNF.com



Did you know?



We have an on-site notary.

*Monday-Friday 9-5pm
Appointments are preferred, but not necessary.*



Thanksgiving Food Drive

Our office is collecting food to donate this Thanksgiving season.

Please drop off food items to our office

*Monday—Friday 9-5pm
Saturday & Sunday 10-5pm
before November 21st.*

Suggested Shopping List

Boxed Stuffing Mix (like Stovetop), Instant Mashed Potatoes in boxes or packets, Boxed Macaroni and Cheese, Cream of Mushroom Soup, Canned Green Beans, French Fried Onions, Jars of Turkey Gravy or Dried Gravy Mix Packets, Canned Yams, Cranberry Sauce, Canned Veggies (green beans, corn, peas), Cornbread Mix, Canned Pumpkin or Fruit Pie Filling, Pie Crust Mix, Salt and Pepper.



FOR RENT:

4884 28th St., S #B
Clarendon II Model
2BR/2BA—1383 sq ft (approximately)
Listed for \$2,400 a month
by **Sammie Huang**
202.436.0187

3443 Wakefield St., S
End Unit Clarendon Model
2BR/2BA—1500 sq ft (approximately)
Listed for \$2,150 a month
by **Julie Flory**
703.599.3111

2987 Columbus St., S
Clarendon II Model
2BR/2BA—1383 sq ft (approximately)
Listed for \$2,150 a month
by **Dayna Wagner**
703.447.7268

2951 Columbus St., S
End unit Claredon Model
2BR/2BA—1500 sq ft (approximately)
Listed for \$2,050 a month
by **Nancy Kozlowski**
703.887.4099

3000 Columbus St., S #A-2
Barcroft model
1BR/2BA—1490 sq ft (approximately)
Listed for \$1,850 a month
by **Nancy Kozlowski**
703.887.4099