

all FAIRLINGTON BULLETIN



NOVEMBER 2018

Volume 44, Number 11

www.fca-fairlington.org

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County Manager and VDOT/ Transurban to speak at November 14 FCA meeting

Arlington County Manager Mark Schwartz will address residents during the Fairlington Citizens Association (FCA) monthly meeting on Wednesday, November 14, at 7 pm. Additionally, representatives of VDOT and Transurban, the private contractor managing the I-395 express lanes project, will brief the community on the I-395 sound walls, which are slated to begin construction in November. For an update on the sound walls, see page 13.

The meeting will be held at the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St.

Schwartz will address the community about the projected county budget shortfalls and possible strategies to overcome them, as well as other county priorities.

He is the principal administrative officer for the county, responsible for fostering economic and fiscal sustainability, as well as the day-to-day operations and management of a broad range of services. He and his office provide professional recommendations to the county board and in turn implement the board's vision and policies.

The office has outlined three priorities to focus on: economic development to attract new, vibrant businesses; service delivery/open data to make it easier to do business with Arlington County government using technology; and long-range strategic planning.

In a press release dated September 25, Schwartz warned of "another tough budget year," with the county facing an estimated budget gap of \$20-\$35 million for its 2020 fiscal year, which could require cuts to county services, increased taxes and fees, or a combination of the two.



County Manager Mark Schwartz.
Photo courtesy Arlington County.

Continued on page 11

Photos from **Fairlington's 75th anniversary celebration** on Saturday, October 20, will be featured in next month's *Bulletin*.

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 14

Special presentations: Arlington County Manager Mark Schwartz will address residents on the budget. Transurban and VDOT will provide a briefing on the I-395 sound barriers.

Regular board business:

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

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

Online resources:

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



Find us on Facebook at Fairlington Appreciation Society.

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

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

USEFUL CONTACTS

If you see something immediately alarming or suspicious, call 911.

Police, Alexandria (non-emergency)	703-746-4444
Police, Arlington (non-emergency)	703-558-2222
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Dominion (power outages)	888-667-3000
Fairlington Community Center	703-228-6588
Metrobus Complaints	703-228-7929
Miss Utility	811
Pothole Patrol Hotline	703-228-6485
Shirlington Library	703-228-6545
Street Light Hotline	703-228-6511

www.arlingtonva.us/departments/EnvironmentalServices/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

Published monthly by the FCA
Circulation: 3,449 households

Editor: Christine Chirichella

Advertising Manager: Beth Andrews

Distribution Manager: Noemi Riveira

— DEADLINE —

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

Send material on disk with paper proof to:

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Email editorial announcements to:

editor@fca-fairlington.org

Email commercial and mini ads to:

admanager@fca-fairlington.org

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

COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING RATES

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

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

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Calendar

Fairlington Diners

Monday, November 5, 6:30 pm
Damn Good Burger Company
4251 Campbell Ave. (Shirlington)

Election Day

Tuesday, November 6
Polls open 6 am to 7 pm

Veteran's Day observed

Monday, November 12
FCC Closed

FCA monthly meeting

Wednesday, November 14, 7 pm
FCC, 3308 S. Stafford St.

Thanksgiving

Thursday, November 22
FCC closed

Book Group

Tuesday, November 27, 7:30 pm
FCC

Fairlington Diners

Wednesday, November 28, 6:30 pm
Clyde's Mark Center
1700 N. Beauregard St., Alexandria

Shirlie Lights Up the Village

Thursday, November 29, 6 pm
Shirlington

Oompah!



Fairlington Villages held its annual Oktoberfest with traditional German music, garb, and food. Photo by Guy Land.

Contributors this month: Lynne Blasi, Christine Chirichella, Jennifer Davies, Cindy Kunz, Guy Land, Carrie Lewis, Thora Stanwood, Bill Sullivan, and Lindsay Willmann.

Some images in this publication may be digitally enhanced.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This has been another successful year for the Fairlington Farmers Market, which closes November 18.

It has done exactly what we hoped it would when FCA first started talking about it six years ago. It has become a neighborhood market in every sense of the word—a market just for Fairlingtonians and their nearby neighbors and not a destination market for outsiders.

It has become an excellent community gathering place, bringing together residents from North and South Fairlington. Walk through the market and you'll see neighbors chatting in line, enjoying coffee on the brick wall, or watching kids play on the field.

I've been struck by how much a family place the market is. Every Sunday it overflows with small children. I was worried early in the season because the playground has been closed for renovation, but my fears were misplaced.

This year has brought more diversity to the market experience through live music (often featuring Fairlington musicians) and local organizations with resources for our residents.

While the market has fulfilled the vision we had for it, it has done so without producing the problems that some residents had understandably worried about, such as major traffic and parking issues. I think most people walk to the market, even North Fairlington residents. A steady stream of people traipse across the S. Abingdon St. bridge each Sunday.

Part of the reason the market has done so well is the care with which Field to Table (FFT) has operated it. Led by former Fairlington resident Rob Swennes, FFT brings to the task experience and sound judgment. Market manager Aisha Salazar, who during the week works for Arlington Food Assistance Center, helps keep vendors and customers happy.

The market could not exist without the support of a small group of financial sponsors. FCA itself contributes to the market's operation. The other sponsors are Fairlington Dental, Fairlington Presbyterian Church, and Jennifir Birtwhistle, Realtor with Weichert, Realtors. Consider giving your business to the sponsors, so that they can continue to support the market.

Much of what makes the market special is the engagement of a dedicated group of volunteers, who lead market policy-making, engage vendors, and welcome and guide customers each Sunday. See page 9 for a list of these key people.

We thank all of them. They—and you, the customers—have made the market a Fairlington institution.

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



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– Patty, Fairfax, VA



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– Erik, Arlington, VA



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Delegate Mark Levine visits Fairlington

At the Fairlington Citizens Association's (FCA) monthly meeting on October 10, the FCA Board welcomed Delegate Mark Levine, representing Virginia's 45th District in the General Assembly, which covers parts of South Arlington, Fairfax, and a large section of Alexandria. This was Del. Levine's first time attending an FCA meeting and he applauded the neighborhood for its active civic engagement.



Del. Levine shakes hands with Fairlington constituents, emphasizing his commitment to accessibility. Photos by Guy Land.

Del. Levine wanted to convey two important messages and priorities to attendees that evening and to all Fairlington residents.

- **Accessibility: "You are my bosses and I have to listen to you."** Del. Levine encouraged residents in his district to drop by Mark's Monthly Meetup, which takes place at Los Tios Grill in Del Ray and is typically held the last Sunday of the month. This meetup is his way of having office hours; it is informal, and people can come late and leave early. He also assured everyone that every email sent to him is read before he votes. He cautioned that response times will vary, particularly during session.
- **Transparency: "People have a right to know what we do."** In a bipartisan effort, Del. Levine created the Transparency Caucus within the Assembly. Now, committee meetings are recorded by video and archived. This year was the first time that people could see how delegates voted on committees and subcommittees, where previously that information had not been disclosed.

Del. Levine discussed legislative accomplishments in 2018, from securing dedicated Metro funding to Medicaid expansion. He said this was due in large part to

the Democratic party's success in the 2017 election, in which 15 new members joined the House. One issue that is of particular importance for Del. Levine is helping victims of sexual assault and domestic abuse.

To that end, he was proud of his work to secure funding from a federal grant that provides 24/7 trained sexual assault nurse examiners at INOVA Fairfax Hospital. Now, victims of assault do not have to wait hours or even days to be treated. Moreover, key forensic evidence can be collected in a timely manner to help prevent future assaults.

Del. Levine did highlight that many of his bills failed, especially those involving LGBTQ rights, increasing the minimum wage, and promoting the use of police body cameras. He stressed that any type of gun regulation would be unlikely to pass as long as there are Republican majorities in both chambers of the legislature. "All of our bills died," he said, noting that all 69 bills introduced by Democrats related to gun control did not pass.

Del. Levine fielded questions from residents, including how to "un" gerrymander voting districts and the push for a constitutional amendment to create a separate entity to oversee redistricting. "The problem is that districts do not reflect the population," he noted.

He also answered concerns about the condition of the King St. overpass and another scheduled work delay. "Part of my job is getting answers from places like VDOT or the DMV for constituents," he said, and promised to follow up.

Del. Levine looks forward to continued engagement with Fairlington residents and finished by stressing how important it was to him that people feel free to reach out.

He encouraged people to sign up for his newsletters at www.MarkforDelegate.com (you can also check his meetup schedule) and contact his office at DelMLevine@house.virginia.gov with concerns and priorities.

—Jennifer Davies



Del. Mark Levine gave residents an update on the 2018 session of the Virginia General Assembly.

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Fairlington's 75th Lookback: Life—costs and values

When people who lived or grew up in Fairlington in the 1940s and 1950s visit the neighborhood today, they often comment on several things that surprise them.

First, despite the pressures of urban density and infill, the community is still here with building exteriors essentially unchanged. Second, the landscape, which was once bare, is now lush with trees, shrubs, and plants. And third, the prices of Fairlington homes are so high.



34th and 36th S. Sts., 1943. Courtesy National Archives.

Their surprise is understandable. In 1943, one-bedroom apartments in Fairlington rented for \$58.50 to \$69.50 per month; two bedrooms were \$68.50 to \$79.50; and three bedrooms were \$79.50 to \$89.50.

Some 30 years later in 1972, the first converted condominium homes sold for between \$19,000 and \$44,500, depending on size, with five percent down and 25- to 30-year mortgages at 7.5 to 8.75 percent.*

Of course, the cost of living was substantially different at both points. The Federal minimum wage was

Pardon our error: Electric cars are 10x more economical than reported

Last month we reported on the electric charging stations located in the North Fairlington Community Center parking lot, 3005 S. Abingdon St.

According to Fairlington Villages (FV) Ward 5 Director Philip Brown, last quarter (July 1 through September 30) the stations provided 128 charging sessions, consuming a total of 2198 kWh, for which those residents paid \$361.61 in total. Which means:

- The average charging session costs less than \$3...
- Providing 17.2 kWh, which permits about 65 miles of driving in a car such as a Chevy Volt...
- At a cost to the resident of just over \$0.04/mile

Best of all, the charging stations are available to all residents of North and South Fairlington.

(Sources: Reports from the FV charging station system and information from <https://dothemath.ucsd.edu/2011/08/mpg-for-electric-cars>)

\$.30 per hour in 1943; in 1972, it was \$2.00; today it is \$7.25.** One hundred dollars in 1943 (adjusted for inflation) was worth \$241.62 in 1972 and is worth \$1,448.50 today.***

Food prices, which had risen steeply following the attack on Pearl Harbor and the United States' entry into World War II, were stabilized with economic and price controls and rationing, but continued to rise with the demands of the Armed Services.



Residents paid the rent at the Administration Building, 4800 S. 31st St., c. 1945. Courtesy Arlington County Public Library.

Fairlington's first residents found themselves paying some 20 percent more in 1943 than in 1942 for commodities like flour, corn meal, rice, and soda crackers. Compared to pre-war years, meats cost 34 percent more in 1943, dairy products nearly 21 percent more, and fresh fruit and vegetables some 27 percent more.****

Surrounded by development and change, with costs of housing and living rising, one thing has remained constant. Fairlingtonians continue to value their homes and their lives in our unique and historic community.

—Cindy Kunz

*Catherine B. Fellows, Fairlington at 50, Fairlington Historical Society, 2003

**U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Federal Minimum Wage Rates Under the Fair Labor Standards Act

***American Institute for Economic Research, Cost of Living Calculator (aier.org)

****U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Bulletin 799, Retail Prices of Food 1942 and 1943

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Farmers market ends fourth season on November 18



The Fairlington Farmers Market is open each week until the Sunday before Thanksgiving, so now is a good time to start planning your holiday meals and stock up. The market is also a great place to pick up items for parties or potlucks, such as cheeses, breads, pies, and other desserts.

You can also get a jump on holiday shopping. Honey and jams from Kuhn Orchards and Spring Valley Farm, or coffee from Café Los Sueños make great gifts, as do treats from Chase Your Tail Bakery. It's easy and fun to put together creative and unique gift bags or baskets.

Two special events will take place at the market this month:

- November 4: Market sponsor Dr. Michael Rogers of Fairlington Dental will offer free screenings for temporomandibular joint disorders (TMJ) and sleep apnea, and will answer your dental questions.
- November 18: The market will hold a food drive for the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC). Purchase fresh food from our vendors to donate, or bring canned goods (tuna, soup, fruit), peanut butter, cooking oil, and low sugar cereal to the market information tent. Thank you in advance for your support, and for helping neighbors in need.



Fall floral arrangements, fresh fruits and vegetables, and great gift items will be available at the market through November 18. Photos by Guy Land.

2018 market highlights

- We added two new vendors: Chase Your Tail Bakery and Number One Sons.
- Ana's Twist, specializing in Ecuadorian foods and

juices, joined us as a pop-up vendor in September and will stay through the end of the season.

- Our vendors continue to generously donate unsold produce to AFAC. In August, Pleitez Produce Farm donated 524 pounds of food, and in September vendors contributed 598 pounds, with 461 pounds coming from Pleitez.



- Vendors and volunteers all noticed an increase in the number of new people at the market this year, which has been great to see!
- The market became a food scraps collection site. From May through early September, Fairlington residents contributed 3,117 pounds!

Thanks for shopping at the market and see you next year!

—Lynne Blasi

Thank you to sponsors and volunteers

The market wouldn't exist without the support of our dedicated volunteers and sponsors. Volunteers help set up, greet shoppers and answer questions, and close the market. Sponsors provide generous financial support. We thank them for their strong commitment to our market and community.

Volunteers: Gail Crider, Leslie Frank, Payton Hanson, Martha Hulley, Terry Karraker, Arnie Malin, John Miley, Rosalyn Moore, Laura Nixon, Anna P., Belle Perkins, Jennifer Purcell, Katy Rogers, Enrique Salazar, and Warene Garmeson Sheridan

Sponsors: Fairlington Citizens Association, Fairlington Dental, Fairlington Presbyterian Church, and Jennifir Birtwhistle, Realtor with Weichert, Realtors

Market committee: Melissa Beene (co-chair), Lane Erwin (co-chair), Lynne Blasi, Eliot DeLaCruz Kriviski, Cheryl Goodman, Jeff Kost, and Tracey McGovern

Market manager: Aisha Salazar

If you would like to join the market committee or have ideas for our 2019 season, please contact info@fairlingtonfarmersmarket.org.



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Vote in the November 6 general election

On Tuesday, November 6, Virginia voters will elect a U.S. Senator from Corey A. Stewart (R), incumbent Timothy M. Kaine (D), or Matt J. Waters (L). In the House of Representatives (8th district), voters will elect Thomas S. Oh (R) or incumbent Donald S. Beyer, Jr. (D). They will also vote on two proposed amendments to the Virginia Constitution.



Alexandria voters will elect a Mayor, with Justin Wilson (D) running unopposed. Voters will also elect members for the Alexandria City Council, and Alexandria School Board.

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

For details, visit the Virginia Department of Elections at www.elections.virginia.gov, Arlington County at <https://vote.arlingtonva.us/elections>, the City of Alexandria at ww.alexandriava.gov/elections.

—Christine Chirichella

Local elections

Arlington County voters will elect a Board Member from Matthew D. de Ferranti (D) and incumbent John E. Vihstadt (I), and School Board Member from incumbent Barbara J. Kanninen (I) and Audrey R. Clement (I). The ballot will also include four proposed county bond questions.

Voting location updates

North Fairlington: Voters in precinct 22 will vote at Abingdon Elementary School, 3035 S. Abingdon St.

South Fairlington: The polling place will be the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St.

Alexandria residents who live in Fairlington: Vote at the NOVA Arts Center, 4915 E. Campus Dr.

In-person absentee voting runs through November 3. Locations:

Arlington: Arlington County Courthouse, 2100 Clarendon Blvd. (Courthouse Metro)

Alexandria: Voter Registration Office (132 N. Royal St.) and the Charles E. Beatley, Jr., Central Library (5005 Duke St.).

County Manager, continued from page 1

"I think we're going to be facing several years of difficult decisions," Schwartz said. "It's going to take us more than one or two budget cycles to fully implement the kinds of efficiencies and other cost-saving measures needed to put us on a more sustainable path."

Schwartz has been conducting a series of town hall meetings, most recently a virtual town hall via Facebook in October, to provide more information to the public and gather input about budget priorities. Additionally, he will also draw on budget feedback provided in the county's latest Community Satisfaction Survey, sent to a randomly selected sample of Arlington households in August, to gauge satisfaction with various aspects of county programs and services.

The Arlington County Board selected Schwartz for its County Manager in January 2016, after he had served as Acting County Manager since July 2015. An Arlington resident since 1985, Schwartz joined the county govern-

ment in 2005 and also has served as Deputy Chief Financial Officer, Director of Department of Management and Finance, and Deputy County Manager.

Before that, Schwartz served 12 years in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Executive Office of the President, served as counsel on the Senate Judiciary Committee, and worked as an attorney with a law firm and with the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The majority of county revenue comes from taxes on commercial and residential real estate, which grow when property values rise, or when the county board approves an increase in the tax rate. The current rate of \$0.993 per \$100 of assessed value (not including stormwater rates) is one of the lowest in Northern Virginia.

Schwartz will present his proposed budget to the county board in February 2019. The board will then hold a series of work sessions and two public hearings before adopting a final budget in April 2019.

—Christine Chirichella

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Alexandria to consider church's affordable housing proposal

In November, the of City Alexandria will consider the proposal by Fairlington Presbyterian Church and Wesley Housing Development Corporation (Wesley) to build 81 units of affordable housing on the back of the church's parking lot at 3846 King St.

The proposal comes before the Alexandria Planning Commission on November 1, with consideration by the City Council slated for November 17.

All of the units would be reserved for low-income households, with the maximum household tenant income not to exceed roughly \$66,000 for a family of four.

At a September community briefing, Judith Cabelli, Project Manager at Wesley, identified the following key considerations to the design work: maximizing the use of green space and preserving the trees in front of the church; mitigating traffic concerns; providing sufficient

parking for both the church and the residential building; relocating the playground; and better integrating access to the main entrance of the church into the site.

A representative of Wells and Associates, the traffic consultants for the project, stated that a traffic study of the development showed that it would result in less than one second of a delay at the signalized intersections at Menokin, Van Dorn, and King Sts.

There would be 15 one-bedroom units, 55 two-bedroom units, and 11 three-bedroom units, along with community space and on-site management by Wesley. The building would have 83 parking spaces, mostly underground.

Tentative plans call for construction to begin in June 2020 and be complete by December 2021.

Fairlington Presbyterian is a sponsor of the Fairlington Farmers Market and a number of Fairlington families are members of the church. FCA has voted to support the church's goals for the use of its property.

—Guy Land

Community to get sound wall update

At the FCA's November 14 meeting, representatives of VDOT and Transurban, the private contractor managing the I-395 express lanes project, will brief Fairlington on the sound barriers that are planned for a portion of the northbound side of I-395. The meeting will be at 7 pm at the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St.

Eligible voters along northbound I-395 from King St. to the Shirlington Circle approved the construction of sound walls earlier this year. The walls would border the Commons and the Green condo associations. Voters in the Mews and Fairlington Villages rejected the walls.

Parkfairfax voters along part of Quaker Ln. and Martha Custis Dr. also voted for sound walls.

The design for the walls has been determined and will be described by Transurban as well.

Construction is scheduled to begin in November, with the removal of some trees and opening of construction access. Transurban will provide a more detailed timeline at the meeting.

Order your ornament online with PayPal before the holidays!



The FCA is accepting online PayPal orders to make it easier to purchase this must-have Fairlington ornament. Place your order at www.fca-fairlington.org, using PayPal or a major credit card. Then, pick up your order at the Fairlington Villages Management Office, 3001 S. Abingdon St., during operating hours. The FCA and Fairlington Historical Society (FHS) are selling Fairlington brass-plated ornaments to commemorate Fairlington's 75th anniversary. The price for each ornament is \$10. Ornaments will also be available for purchase at the next FCA meeting on Wednesday, November 14. If you have questions, please contact FCA Board Director Rebecca Sayres at rebecca@fca-fairlington.org.

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Yellow county decal must be displayed by November 15

Per the county treasurer's office, the yellow 2018–19 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.

Please note that starting this year, the decal should be displayed in the bottom left corner (driver's side), to the right of the state inspection sticker.

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 <https://taxes.arlingtonva.us>.

Next year, changes will be coming to the decal process. In September, the county board voted to eliminate the sticker requirement, effective July 1, 2019. The county is moving to license plate scanner technology for enforcement. But vehicle owners will have to have a current sticker until the new system goes into effect in the summer.

The county's motor vehicle license fee, which generates \$5 million annually, will not be eliminated.

FCA looking for candidates for upcoming board election

The Fairlington Citizens Association (FCA) is looking for volunteers to join the 2019 Executive Board. Representing all Fairlington residents, FCA is a great place to support our community.

The board sponsors neighborhood activities including movie night, the Fourth of July parade, Santa Ride, and Home Renovation Expo. It also publishes this newsletter.

FCA holds monthly meetings from 7 to 9 pm on the second Wednesday of each month. At the meeting, the board hosts speakers that cover issues affecting Fairlington, as well as the wider Arlington and Alexandria communities. Board members give input on board policies and actions, and serve one-year terms.

Outside of meetings, the time commitment can be as great or as small as you prefer. If you, your spouse, or a neighbor is looking to get more involved in the community, email FCA Vice President Chris Weathers (vp@fca-fairlington.org) for details.

The list of candidates will be published on the FCA website at least 10 days before the annual meeting on December 12.

—Lindsay Willmann

Fire Station 7 hosts open house



At the annual open house in October, scores of little kids got to sit in the fire truck, visit with the fire crew, wear Arlington County Fire Department fire chief hats, and learn about fire safety. Photos by Guy Land.

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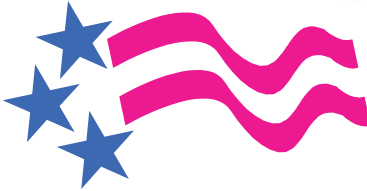
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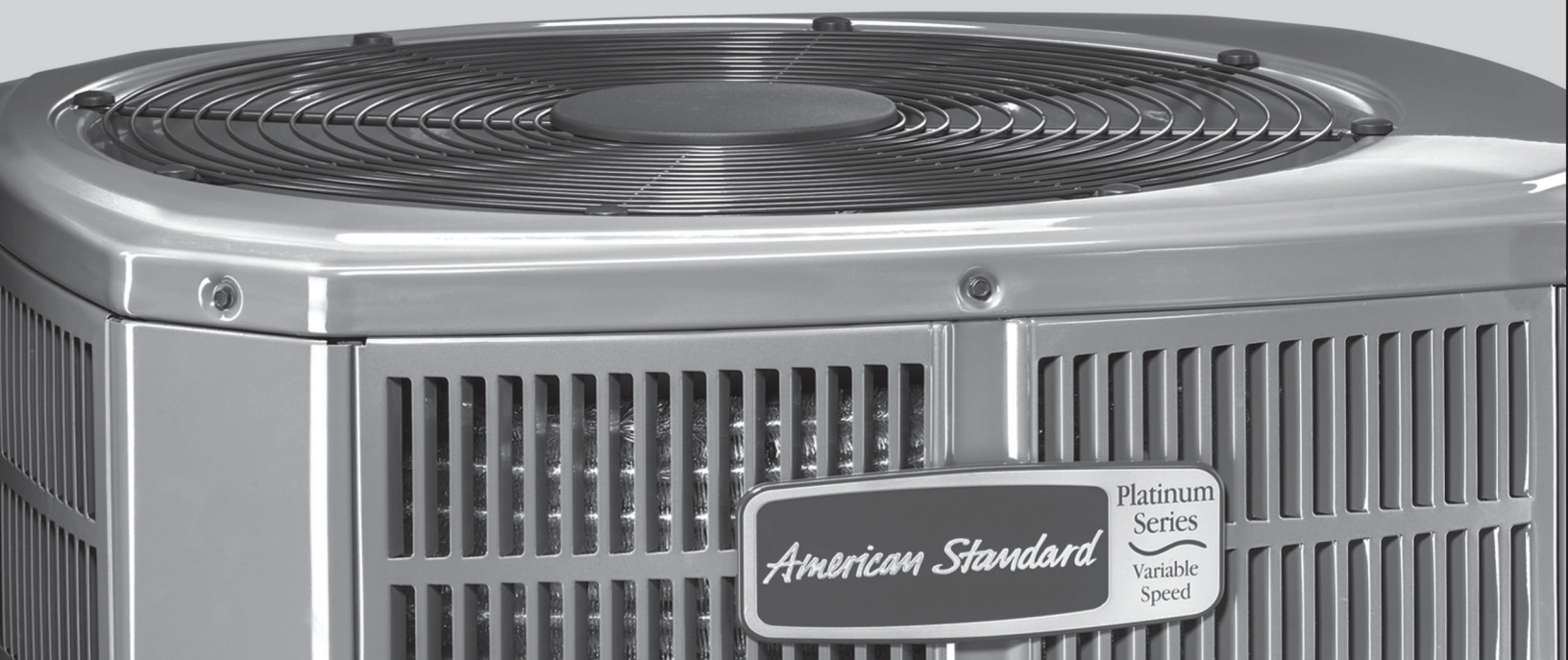
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Fairlington's Cub Scouts to collect food for AFAC in November

Cub Scout Pack 350 will collect food in Fairlington for the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC) through Scouting for Food, a convenient and highly successful annual food drive, starting Saturday, November 3, with food pickup Saturday, November 10. Scouting for Food brings together Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Venture Crews in neighborhoods across Northern Virginia.



Cub Scout Pack 350 collected 60,600 pounds of food for AFAC last year through Scouting for Food. Photo by Guy Land.

Cub Scout Pack 350, a charter of Fairlington United Methodist Church, will be responsible for both North and South Fairlington. "Our Cub Scouts love seeing how much food Fairlingtonians give to this worthy cause," says Pack 350 Committee Chair Jean Byrd. "And Fairlingtonians love how much energy these kids put to helping their neighbors in need."

On Saturday, November 3, the Cub Scouts (with help from parents) will distribute bags and a post-it note to Fairlington homes. Interested residents should place their donations in the bags and set them outside their front doors by 9 am on Saturday, November 10.

The Scouts will be uniformed, in teams, and accompanied by parents in automobiles. They will only pick up donations placed outside front doors; they will not knock on doors. If a donation is not picked up by noon on November 10, residents should contact Sean Steele, Pack 350's Scouting for Food Chair, at spsteele@gmail.com.

AFAC provides supplemental groceries to more than 2,000 Arlington families per week. Last year, Scouts delivered 60,600 pounds of food to AFAC.

Learn more at <http://pack350.mypack.us>.

—Sean Steele

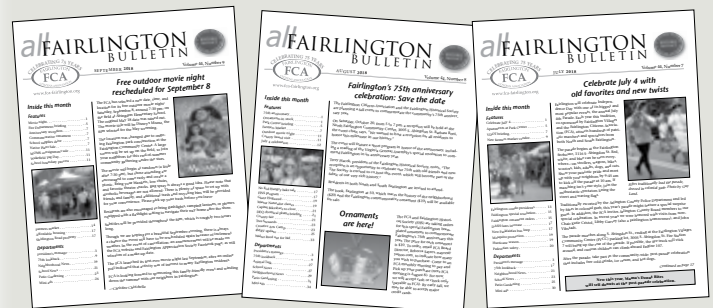
Construction begins at S. Walter Reed Drive

Construction on the S. Walter Reed Drive Improvement Project began in September. The first step will be the installation of tree protection and sediment and erosion control measures. Once approved and construction begins, there will be planned sidewalk closures and detours.

The W&OD Trail and Four Mile Run Trail will remain open throughout construction; however, detours will be required at times. When necessary, detour routes will be marked to direct trail and sidewalk users safely around the work zone. Construction is expected to be complete in summer 2019. For more information, visit www.arlingtonva.us and search 'Walter Reed Drive.'



FCA seeks Bulletin Editor in 2019



The FCA is seeking an experienced writer/editor to take charge of the *All Fairlington Bulletin*, in the position of Editor, beginning with the February 2019 issue. This is a paid position. Much background information is available to interested applicants about the *Bulletin's* need for managed deadlines, enterprise reporting, event coverage, copyediting/fact checking, and supervision of the production process. Please indicate your interest by sending an email, subject line Editor, to FCA President Guy Land, at president@fca-fairlington.org.

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- Closets
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Fairlington presidents convene in September

The Fairlington condo and homeowner association presidents held their quarterly meeting on September 17 at the Fairlington Community Center. All seven condo associations and Fairlington Court (homeowners association) were represented. As with the group's first meeting in May, there were a number of lively discussions regarding our common issues and interests.

As Fairlington ages, strategic planning for its future is vital. This was an important topic of discussion. What are our vision, mission, and goals for this "little oasis in South Arlington"?

The group also delved into issues such as: Do the condo board members sign a confidentiality agreement to ensure that personal information (such as payment of condo fees) is discreetly handled? Is there introductory training for new board members?

Several of the condo associations are losing their long-time webmaster, Ron Patterson, and are seeking a replacement. Options discussed included each condo association's management company, another Fairlington resident, or outside web companies taking on the projects.

With all the rain this summer resulting in many flooded basements, the search for experienced water intrusion contractors has become a top priority. Also discussed were roof replacement, snow removal, and painting contractors.

Fairlington Villages' President Terry Placek explained the extensive changes made in its trash and recycling procedures. (Editor's note, look for an article about the changes in an upcoming *Bulletin*.)

—Thora Stanwood

Energize Arlington: A community engagement series

On Thursday, October 4, representatives from Arlington county neighborhoods and civic associations gathered to discuss strategies to build better engagement in neighborhood events and activities. The forum, titled "Energizing Neighbors to be Active Participants in their Community," was the first in a series of four workshops throughout the month to build community leadership skills.

FCA Board Member Lindsay Willmann represented Fairlington.

The evening opened with a panel discussion, during which representatives from Cherrydale, High View Park, Buckingham, and Fairlington shared strategies that have proven successful in attracting residents to meetings and events in their neighborhoods.

Creative communications, fostering connections among neighbors, building partnerships with local businesses and organizations, and planning activities in line with the trends and interests in the community were among the suggestions shared.

Conversely, panelists discussed some of the struggles they face when trying to bolster participation in their respective associations. Tension between long-time residents and newcomers, intergenerational differences, leadership turnover, meeting formats, and lack of under-



standing about the organization's role in the community were common themes. These challenges were also reflected in the questions raised by the audience during Q & A time.

At the forum's conclusion, panelists and attendees alike expressed excitement about the ideas and issues raised in the discussion.

Subsequent workshops touched on improving communications in multi-family buildings and essentials for community leadership, with a networking happy hour held on the final Thursday as a celebratory end to the community-based conversations.

—Lindsay Willmann

Honor your favorite Arlington Tree

Since 1987, Arlington has identified and registered its most notable trees, as well as the residents who care for them. Nominate a tree you think is notable due to its size, age, history, uniqueness, or neighborhood significance by Wednesday, November 15, at:

<https://environment.arlingtonva.us/trees/support-trees/make-notable-tree-nomination-today>



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County approves parks plan for Four Mile Run Valley

At its September meeting, the Arlington County Board unanimously approved a parks master plan and design guidelines for Four Mile Run Valley (4MRV), the area along Four Mile Run that is generally adjacent to Shirlington.

The dog park will keep its existing size, configuration, and character, with improvements recommended over time. Minor physical improvements will address erosion and water quality, and more will be done to protect trees in the park.

Proposals that circulated two years ago would have significantly scaled back the size of the dog park or relocated it. Those sparked a major outcry from frequent



Map courtesy Arlington County.

users of the park, and the county board last year directed planners to avoid wholesale changes to the dog park, one of the most frequently visited in Arlington.

The plan calls for major changes to Jennie Dean Park. It will replace all existing park elements and reconfigure them. Several new parcels will be incorporated to create a strong frontage along S. Four Mile Run Dr.

Most of the park elements will be moved out of the Resource Protection Area along Four Mile Run, and new casual use space will be created throughout (providing for areas of unprogrammed use, additional tree canopy, and landscaping).

Improvements will be made in two phases. The first phase is funded in the FY2019–2028 Capital Improvement Plan.

Two lighted diamond fields will be located on the west side of the park along S. Nelson St. and a playground will be located just south of S. Four Mile Run Dr. In the center of the park, there will be a new lighted basketball court and lighted tennis court, restrooms, and two picnic shelters.

Other phase one improvements include parking, frontage improvements, casual use space along S. Four Mile Run Dr., and several new entrance gateways.

The second phase, to begin after more parcels on the northeast portion of the site can be acquired, will relocate the lighted basketball court south of the playground and install a second tennis court within the lighted basketball court's first-phase location. Casual use space will be expanded, and a new entrance gateway will be built along S. Four Mile Run Dr.

The parks master plan and guidelines are part of a larger 4MRV planning process that launched in 2016 and included 65 citizen meetings.

—Guy Land

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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 visited Il Porto in Alexandria to enjoy Italian cuisine.

Here's what's planned for November:

Monday, November 5, 6:30 pm, Damn Good Burger Co., 4251 Campbell Ave., Arlington, 703-933-2867, www.damngoodburgerco.com. It's about time we tried out this spin-off of Big Buns Damn Good Burgers in Ballston. This fine-casual restaurant specializes in made-to-order burgers, burger bowls, shakes, tap cocktails, and craft beer. There is a \$2-off special on several drinks until 7 pm.

Wednesday, November 28, 6:30 pm, Clyde's Mark Center, 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 a favorite with a number of the regular diners. Because we need a reservation, please RSVP to Carol no later than 6 pm on Tuesday, November 27.

To RSVP, 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 month preceding the event, email carol_dabbs@yahoo.com.

You may want to plan ahead for our annual holiday luncheon: Friday, December 14, 12:30 pm, L'Auberge Chez François in Great Falls. Reservations will be required.

Book Group

Join the Fairlington Book Group in November to discuss the first half of *The World Remade: America in World War I*, by G. J. Meyer. Because of the length of the book, we will finish our discussion in January.

"The World Remade is an engrossing chronicle of America's pivotal, still controversial intervention into World War I, encompassing the tumultuous politics and tower-

ing historical figures that defined the era and forged the future. When it declared war, the United States was the youngest of the major powers and militarily the weakest by far. On November 11, 1918, when the fighting stopped, it was not only the richest country on earth but the mightiest." —Amazon.com

The Book Group welcomes first-time visitors and drop-ins. No commitment required! Join us for our discussion, even if you haven't read the book. We are meeting on Tuesday, November 27, at 7:30 pm in the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St.

Card players welcome

Join your Fairlington neighbors for a friendly game of Canasta. Some card playing experience is helpful, but we are happy to teach you the rules of Canasta. 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 fairlingtonbabysitting@gmail.com to join.

Fairlington MOMS Club

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

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— MATT DE FERRANTI

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Teachers become art students at Abingdon



Abingdon teachers participate in their first monthly art class. Photos from Abingdon Twitter Feed, @AbingdonGIFT.

Abingdon teachers are participating in monthly art sessions this year, led by Abingdon art teacher Lauren Muscarella. Classes take place once a month after school, with each month highlighting a different art medium.

In September, 19 teachers participated in a collaborative abstract artwork. First, teachers completed a blind contour drawing as they looked at something in the room. Blind contour drawing is done using only lines (no shading), and the artist is not allowed to look at her drawing, only at the object being drawn.



Teachers then painted the negative space (the area around the drawing) with a wash, and added one or two shapes with paint. When completed, they switched pieces a number of times to work on someone else's artwork, painting in some more shapes and inspirational words.

The results are on display in the Abingdon office.

Ms. Muscarella explains that the goal of the monthly sessions is "to give teachers some more art media in their repertoires and allow them to experiment with materials they may have never used. This will offer them more options when planning lessons."

—Carrie Lewis

APS releases proposed elementary boundary map

When the Arlington Public Schools (APS) administration released its proposed revised elementary boundary map, the initial draft showed both North and South Fairlington remaining in the Abingdon boundary. However, at an October 10 school board work session, a proposal was made to re-zone South Fairlington to Drew Elementary.

The Fairlington community responded with petitions, flyers, and tables outside the Fairlington Farmer's Market. The FCA sent a resolution to the school board in support of keeping all of Fairlington within the Abingdon zone.

APS released a preferred boundary map on October 17 that moved South Fairlington students to Drew. The public has until October 29 to provide comments. The revised boundary map will be presented as an information item to the School Board on Thursday, November 8, at 7 pm. The School Board will then hold a public hearing at its Tuesday, November 27, meeting.



Fairlington United, formed to respond to the possibility of a redrawn boundary map, set up tables outside the Fairlington Farmers Market in October. Photo by Jennifer Davies.

The board plans to adopt a new Elementary School Boundary Map at its Thursday, December 6, meeting. For more information, visit the APS website at www.apsva.us/engage.

—Jennifer Davies



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DOWN TO EARTH patio gardening



Vertical gardening

In football, “going vertical” refers to a passing offense going deep into the secondary to gain yardage.

That concept (in name only) applies to patio gardens in Fairlington. How? It applies to the space or lack thereof. The average “pad” or concrete slab (poured from 1971–73 during the condominium conversions) is about nine feet by 10 feet. When the fences were installed, little space was left for gardening. The side beds are only 18-inches wide on average, whereas the beds at the back fence (with gate) are four- to five-feet wide.

So, there’s little room for squat shrubs that want to spread horizontally (think Hydrangea, Rosebush, Euonymus, Barberry, Rhododendron, or Hibiscus). And when trees are planted, living space is further compromised.

Given that, it’s wise to plant shrubs that are “vertical” in nature, growing skyward with little width. Such plantings accent the patio fence (which can be stark and dull), while not growing out over the concrete pad. So many of my customers move into Fairlington and want behemoth shrubs removed since they can’t step onto their patio without being bumped or scratched by meandering branches.

Vertical planting gives an espalier effect—which poses a habit like that of your open palm—something that grows straight up and is often funneled with tight crotches among interior branching.

Let’s talk specific plantings.

Camellia: This specimen has stiff branching and every one of them grows straight up. It looks pretty against a façade—wood or brick—since it masks the façade. Its flowers come in red, pink, or white and each has a yellow center. There is no fragrance but the leaves are evergreen and shiny, with width and terminal point.



Pyracantha. Photos courtesy Pixabay.

Pyracantha: This is the ideal espalier plant and its woody branching is strong. White flowers appear in May and orange berries show in October. It does have one- to two-inch-long appendages (thorns), so it’s not ideal if you have children or pets. It has glossy green oval leaves that are evergreen.



Clematis.

Clematis: These star-shaped flowers show in violet, lavender, or white in summer. The stems are flimsy, so they need support—either on a trellis or with ties around a post. It likes sun but will take some shade. The fall-blooming Clematis has floriferous white flowers that show like a blanket from October to November. Clematis is controllable, unlike other vines that have woody branches and grow wild.

Scotch Broom: With Gardenia and Daphne Odora, this is one of the most fragrant specimens available at local nurseries. Flowers form in the shape of mouse ears in orange, red, yellow, or white in March and April. The stems grow in vertical sprays and feel like plastic. In colonial times, people cut them at the ground and used the stems for brooms, thus, its name.

—Bill Sullivan
www.sullivanlandscaping.net

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

- Checks payable to "Fairlington Citizens Association."
- Send mini-ad copy via email, regular mail, or drop off at FCA drop box.
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Email: admanager@fca-fairlington.org

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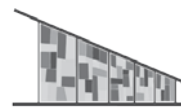
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