

all FAIRLINGTON BULLETIN



www.fca-fairlington.org

NOVEMBER 2022

Volume 48, Number 11

Paul Ferguson briefs FCA on court clerk's responsibilities

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At the FCA October meeting, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Arlington County, Paul Ferguson, drew on fond memories living in both North and South Fairlington, of buying his first unit on the bottom of S. Buchanan St., meeting his future wife (also a resident at the time), and raising a family. While no longer a resident, he still owns a property in the neighborhood and "hopes to return to Fairlington" at some point.



Paul Ferguson (center) meets Fairlington residents Les Bergen and Julie Hasler at the monthly FCA meeting in the Fairlington Community Center. Photo by Guy Land.

Ferguson, who has served as County Clerk since 2008, provided a broad overview of the services and duties his office provides for Arlington

County and City of Falls Church residents. The Clerk of the Circuit Court is an elected constitutional office in each county and large city in Virginia and performs more varied functions than any other office in the Commonwealth. This includes the issuance of marriage certificates and the filing of wills and probate services, divorce records, and all property titles dating back to Arlington's establishment as a County.

Ferguson, an advocate for smarter gun control, commented that his views had modified regarding concealed weapons since taking office. He noted that those who take the time to apply for concealed handgun permits tended to be more responsible with firearms.

The County Clerk's office also oversees jury duty. Every year, Arlington County and Falls Church residents are randomly selected to serve on a jury pool. If residents do ultimately serve on a jury, they will not be placed in subsequent jury pools for three years.

Continued on page 21

Did you know you could file your will with the court clerk's office? It's only \$5 and the will is locked away and protected. For more information, contact the clerk's office, circuitcourt@arlingtonva.us.

Coming up

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

FCA monthly meeting November 9

The FCA Board will hold a virtual work session, <https://www.facebook.com/FCAcivic>. Check the FCA Website for updates on any special presentation.


Regular board business:

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

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

Online resources:

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

 Find us on Facebook at Fairlington Citizens Association.

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

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

USEFUL CONTACTS

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

Police, Alexandria (non-emergency)	703-746-4444
Police, Arlington (non-emergency)	703-558-2222
Animal Warden	703-931-9241
Dominion (power outages)	888-667-3000
Fairlington Community Center	703-228-6588
Metrobus Complaints	703-228-7929
Miss Utility	811
Pothole Patrol Hotline	703-228-6485
Shirlington Library	703-228-6545
Street Light Hotline	703-228-6511

www.arlingtonva.us/departments/EnvironmentalServices/dot/traffic/streetlights/index.htm

Helicopter Noise Complaints Mike Lucier (VA 8th Dist.)
202-225-4376

Fairlington Citizens Association

PO Box 6182 • Arlington, VA 22206-0182
571-403-1943 • president@fca-fairlington.org

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Fairlington Neighborhood Conservation Committee

Chair: Ed Hilz • 703-379-6435 • treasurer@fca-fairlington.org

All Fairlington Bulletin

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— DEADLINE —

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

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

COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING RATES

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

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

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Fairlington is a National Register and Virginia Landmark Historic District

For more information, visit www.fca-fairlington.org

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Designed and printed by More Vang.

Calendar

FCA monthly meeting

Wednesday, November 9, 7 p.m.
<https://www.facebook.com/FCAcivic>

Fairlington diners

Monday, November 14, 6:30 p.m.
Copperwood Tavern
4021 Campbell Avenue
Arlington, VA 22206

Conversation on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Wednesday, November 16, 7 p.m.
FCC
3308 S. Stafford St.

Thanksgiving

Thursday, November 24
FCC Closed

Book group

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

Bargains on a Sunday afternoon



A shopper browses for fall finds at the semi-annual free clothing swap in North Fairlington. Photo by Guy Land.

Contributors this month: Barbara Berti, Regina Bethencourt, Lynne Blasi, Sharon Burd, Tina Byrd, Sue Davis, Guy Land, Terry Placek, Christine Philip, Sara Rasmussen, Lydia Redway, and Bill Sullivan.

Some images in this publication may be digitally enhanced.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fairlington has escaped the housing policy debate that is roiling the normally calm political waters of Arlington—the heated discussion of “missing middle” housing. It’s one of the most passionate and acrimonious debates the county has seen in years.

The debate has splintered usual alliances. It triggers questions about managing growth, about preserving the character of neighborhoods, about increasing the stock of housing, and about enabling Arlington’s low-wage workers to live in the county. It pits some commonly accepted values against each other.

“Missing middle” generally refers to the range of housing types that come between single-family detached homes and mid-to-high-rise apartment buildings. Examples include duplexes, triplexes, and townhomes. In this context housing types do not correlate with a specific income bracket.

The proposals under debate usually envision the addition of housing, such as duplexes, in neighborhoods that are characterized by single-family homes. Advocates see this “up-zoning” as an effective way of increasing the stock of housing and accommodating Arlington’s growth. Opponents see in it the destruction of traditional neighborhoods for minimal benefit.

Fairlington itself is an example of missing middle housing. That’s the reason we’ve avoided being drawn into the larger county debate. We already offer the townhouse and low-rise environment that housing advocates would like to see more of.

Fairlington is located in the sweet spot of housing in Arlington. It provides sought-after missing middle housing, and it’s also near apartments that are committed as affordable housing to serve lower-income families.

At its October meeting the Arlington County Board approved the final piece of the financing package to facilitate the acquisition and renovation of the Park Shirlington apartments on 31st St.

As part of this agreement, the owner has committed to maintain the property (294 apartments) as affordable housing for 75 years. That means that the units must be affordable to households earning up to 60 percent of the area median income.

In late September Wesley Housing cut the ribbon on a new affordable housing development, Waypoint at Fairlington, next to Fairlington Presbyterian Church. That adds another 81 units to the neighborhood inventory of housing that can be affordable for low-wage workers.

FCA supported both of these developments, as we think having a good mix of housing choices nearby enriches our community.

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

Attention Fairlington Residents:

With The Fastest Mortgage Rate Increases In Our Nations History, Arlington and DMV Real Estate Markets Have Already Seen a Dramatic Decline In Sale Prices with The Largest Volume of Properties Listed FOR SALE in Years,

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General election slated for November 8

After seven weeks of early absentee voting, Tuesday, November 8 brings the general election day for in-person voting.

South Fairlington residents vote at the Fairlington Community Center, 3008 S. Stafford St. North Fairlington residents who live in Arlington vote at Abingdon Elementary School, while those who live in Alexandria vote at the NOVA Arts Center, 4915 East Campus Dr. Polls are open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Residents may still vote absentee, either by mail or in-person. Mail ballots must be received by 7 p.m. on November 8. The deadline for requesting a ballot by mail was October 28. The deadline to vote in-person absentee is 5 p.m. on Saturday, November 5.

Arlington and Alexandria residents will both cast ballots for the 8th district congressional office.

Voters will choose among Democratic incumbent Don Beyer, Republican Karina Lipsman, and Independent Teddy Fikre. Arlington residents will also be selecting a member of the county board, electing a new school board member, and casting votes on six bond issues.

In the county board race, incumbent Democrat Matt di Ferranti faces a challenge from Independents Audrey Clement and Adam Theo.

The contest for school board features Bethany Sutton and James "Vell" Rives. Incumbent Barbara Kanninen chose not to seek re-election.

The largest of the bond issues is \$177 million for significant improvements to the county's wastewater treatment, water, and sewer infrastructure, including major renovation at the county's water pollution control plant. Arlington public schools would receive \$165 million under another bond issue, largely to fund the Career



A Democratic party volunteer stands outside the Fairlington Community Center on Election Day 2021. Photo by Guy Land.

Center campus and security improvements at various schools.

Other bond issues include \$52.63 million for Metro and transportation improvements, \$22.46 million for parks and recreation improvements, \$53.3 million for general county and neighborhood infrastructure projects, and \$39.76 million for various capital projects for the county's stormwater program.

—Guy Land

Seeking candidates for paid position with The Bulletin

The *All Fairlington Bulletin's* ad manager, Katarina Lesandric, will be leaving at the end of October. Lesandric has held the position for three years, and her contributions to the mission of *Bulletin* will be greatly missed. The FCA Board thanks her for her dedicated service.



The AFB is looking for a motivated professional to take on this role. This is a paid position with compensation on a commission basis. Responsibilities include coordinating with existing advertisers, identifying new sources of advertising revenue, and working with the editorial team to ensure advertisements are placed correctly. If interested, please contact Guy Land at president@fca-fairlington.org

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- Storage Solutions
- Whole-House Remodels
- Windows & Doors

Work to begin on Abingdon St. sidewalk



The county adjusted water mains and sewer lines last fall to accommodate the new sidewalk on Abingdon St. Photo by Guy Land.

Construction was set to begin in late October on improvements to S. Abingdon St. between S. 31 st Rd. and S. 31 st St. The project will install a sidewalk, curb, and gutter along the north side of Abingdon St., diagonally across the street from the old Fire Station 7 and STEM Preschool.

As a result of the sidewalk addition, the two existing parking spaces on that side of Abingdon St. will be eliminated. There will be additional temporary parking restrictions during the construction period.

County staff briefed representatives of Fairlington Villages and Fairlington Court, the two adjacent landowners, in early October.

To prepare the site for the sidewalk, crews from the county's Water, Sewer, and Streets Department completed utility relocation work last fall.

The county board approved the project in 2021. FCA endorsed the sidewalk addition as part of the county's Neighborhood Conservation program, which is funded out of county bond issues.

County staff expect construction to be complete in January 2023.

—Guy Land

County board seeks comments on ranked choice voting



The Arlington County Board invites the public to provide comments on a proposed Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) method pilot for the 2023 county board June primary election. An online public comment form is available through November 4 on the County's website.

However, if there is no majority winner after counting the first choices, the race is decided by an instant runoff. The candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated, and voters who ranked that candidate as their first choice will have their votes count for their next choice. This process continues until a candidate emerges with more than half of the vote and is declared the winner.

—Guy Land

Based on the feedback, the board is considering holding a hearing at its November 2022 meeting for a resolution to make RCV the method of election for the Arlington County Board primary election candidates.

Ranked Choice Voting is an election method that allows voters the option to rank candidates in order of preference (first, second and third choice), though they are not required to do so.

RCV differs from plurality voting, Arlington's current method, in which voters may only select one candidate. If a candidate receives more than half of the first choices, that candidate wins, just like in any other election.

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I Am Your Fairlington Expert!

Fairlington has been at the heart of my story ever since I moved to Northern Virginia in 2004.

In what can feel like an overwhelmingly large and anonymous area, Fairlington felt like an oasis to my family. This community hasn't changed much since it was built in 1942, and most of us prefer it that way. I found community and support through the Fairlington Moms' Club after having my first baby in 2011, and later brought my second baby home to our townhouse on 32nd Road South.

Now, years later, my entire business revolves around helping clients find happiness, no matter which stage of their Fairlington journey they are in! I'm grateful for everything I have learned along the way, and for all of the wonderful people I have met.

If you're interested in discussing your own Fairlington journey, I'm here to help!

Lauren Kolazas



As a former resident of Fairlington Green, I know that leaving Fairlington can be hard.

There's the charm, the green space, the sense of community, and the amazing location. So, where do Fairlingtonians go when they are in need of *more space*? I've helped dozens of families find their *Life After Fairlington* and would love to help you, too! Visit LifeAfterFairlington.com to learn more. Sign up to get my FREE curated list of homes you'll love!



LAUREN KOLAZAS
REALTOR

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Lauren@LaurenKolazas.com
www.LifeAfterFairlington.com

"We can't say enough about how happy we are that we chose Lauren to help us move from Fairlington. Her familiarity with the neighborhood was essential, and she knew exactly what we were looking for in our next community. She helped us find an off-market home that fit our needs and budget, while keeping as much of the Fairlington charm as possible. Thank you to Lauren and her team!"
~ The Kennedys

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Fairlington Historical Society sells holiday ornaments, seeks new board members

The Fairlington Historical Society (FHS) is seeking volunteers to serve on its Board of Trustees. FHS is a 501(3)(c) non-profit organization created in 2000 after historic district status was granted by the Virginia Landmarks Register in 1998 and by the National Register of Historic Places in 1999.

FHS maintains a web site and sells the book, *Fairlington at 50: May 1943-May 1993*, a reproduction of the architect's map of the community and, with the Fairlington ornament.

It has sponsored and co-sponsored educational, cultural, and community history events, such as home and garden tours, walking tours, and exhibits in both the Fairlington Community Center (FCC) and in the Fairlington Villages' Community Center.

If you are interested in serving on the FHS Board of Trustees, or would like more information, contact us at



FHS and FCA sell Fairlington-themed ornaments, historical books, and an architect's map of the community every holiday season. Photo courtesy fca-fairlington.org.

www.fairlingtonhistoricalsociety.org. If no one can be found to serve FHS will have to be dissolved.

Fairlington ornaments and books are available for order this holiday season on the website www.fca-fairlington.org. Ornaments cost \$10 and books cost \$50. Merchandise will be available for pickup at the FCC.

—Terry Placek

Fairlington blood drive supports children's hospital

A huge thank you to our community members who donated blood during the Fairlington fall blood drive for Children's National Hospital (CNH). One unit of blood can help up to five sick children. A blood transfusion can make the difference between life and death.

"I try to give blood whenever I can," said one participant. "I know how crucial blood can be, and it's nice to go home knowing that I helped somebody out today."

One of the CNH employees noted, blood donations are still falling short post-COVID, "The need is still so great."

Watch for announcements in *The Bulletin* about our next blood drive.

—Sara Rasmussen



Fairlington resident, Chris, donating with style. Photo by Sara Rasmussen.

Interested in serving your community? Join the FCA board!



FCA is seeking interested residents to serve as officers and directors on the 2023 FCA Board. Board members set the policies for the association and serve one year terms.

Anyone interested in serving on the board should email FCA Vice President Jennifer Davies at vp@fca-fairlington.org. All nine seats on the board will be up for election at the December 14 annual meeting.

Directors receive no compensation for their service, other than the satisfaction of helping make Fairlington an even greater place to live. For information about what serving on the board entails, contact any board member.

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For the love of NATURE



Leave it to the oak trees

During a brisk December walk through any Fairlington community, one may encounter a tree still holding on to its leaves. They are brown and dead looking, so why would they still be on the tree? Could this be a new species? One not yet named? Wishful thinking. More than likely, the tree in question is probably a white oak.

In the Mews, there are pin, red, scarlet, swamp, and willow oaks. Some are in the red oak group, while the others are in the white oak group. Generally speaking, trees in the red oak group have pointier leaves, while those in the white oak group are rounded. Usually it is the white oaks that hold their leaves throughout the winter.



This swamp oak in Fairlington Mews is holding onto its leaves into winter. Photo by Sue Davis.

This question has bothered scientists for years. This characteristic is called marcescence, that is, when withered and dry leaves are attached to the stem well into winter. After years of observation and thought there are several theories. One is that it keeps browsers (deer, elk, others) from chewing off the new buds. Instead they are treated to a mouthful of dead dry yucky leaves.

Another theory is that the dead leaves retain snow that later melts directly below the tree furnishing extra water. Lastly, the leaves, which are tough, break down further when they stay on the tree all winter. When finally shed, they provide nutrition for the tree.

We are lucky to have as many oaks as we do in Fairlington. Not only are oaks long lived, but they also provide habitats and food for countless insects, birds, and mammals. They tend to live a long time, sometimes 900

years, and can sequester a load of carbon.

Of course, the biggest show is in the autumn when the acorns drop like rain. Some years are more abundant than others, producing large quantities of acorns known as mast harvests, or just masting. Not only does one tree produce acorns, but in some cases all the oaks of either white or red do.

Making seeds takes a great deal of energy, so it's not done every year. In 2019, however, red oaks up and down the east coast produced a mast crop of acorns. How? Through communication. Oaks and other plants are able to synchronize their efforts through a system of fungi that surround their roots.

But wait, you ask, don't red oaks take 18 months for their acorns to mature? That's correct. White

oak acorns mature in a season. That means that the red oaks began synchronizing when to flower and to release pollen with each other in the spring of 2018.

This is one way that oaks secure the future of oaks. There are many acorn eaters from squirrels, to birds (blue jays), and deer. Producing so many acorns at one time means that some will become trees.

Is your community pondering new trees for the spring? Plant an oak.

Feel free to send us questions or comments at fortheloveofnature@googlegroups.com and follow Fairlington Gardening Community on Facebook!

—Sue Davis

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These are uncertain and challenging times, but we are OPEN and available to help with your home remodeling and repair needs. Our longstanding and unyielding commitment to providing you with the best and SAFEST customer experience, while we are working in your home, is something we have always taken great pride in. And that dedication is stronger than ever. *Just one reason we have been the "go-to" home remodeling contractor in the Fairlington community for over 35 years!*

Because your safety, health, and peace of mind is our top priority, you can rest assured we are taking every precaution to ensure your safety and well-being. We have asked all members of our team to wash their hands repeatedly throughout the day and requested they do not come in to work if they feel sick or if they have a fever. They have also been instructed to be extra vigilant to wipe down all surfaces before, during, and after their shifts, to wear protective gloves and masks, and to support the social distancing guidelines with homeowners and co-workers.

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

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

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Farmers market wraps up the season November 20



There's still time to visit the Fairlington Farmers Market and do some holiday shopping before this season closes the Sunday before Thanksgiving. Pick up fresh produce, bread, desserts, and more for your holiday meal, and get a jump on gift buying with jars of honey, jam, and sauce, and, of course, coffee!

The market was very well attended this year, with many new shoppers from Fairlington and surrounding neighborhoods. Our vendors greatly appreciate your continued strong support! This year we welcomed four new vendors: Bradshaw Sauce Company, Cold Country Salmon, District Biscuit Company, and Little Austria. After two years without activities and community tables due to the pandemic, the market hosted several special events and local organizations, along with live music.

"The Fairlington Farmers Market has had a heartening season," said Rob Swennes, executive director of Field to Table, Inc., the company that manages our market and

Thank you!

Our dedicated volunteers and sponsors are instrumental to the success of our market, and we extend our heartfelt thanks.

Volunteers: Ashalond Daniel, Barbara Dill, Cheryl Goodman, Elizabeth Lawrence, Moemen Mohamed, Warene Garmeson Sheridan

Sponsors: Kay Houghton & Associates, Fairlington Dental, Fairlington Citizens Association, Fairlington Presbyterian Church

Market committee: Melissa Beene, Lynne Blasi, Robin Habberley, Jeff Kost, Tracey McGovern

Market manager: Aisha Salazar

Market assistant managers: Esmeralda Mathews and Elizabeth Mortimer

The market committee is in need of new members for the 2023 season to ensure our vibrant market continues to thrive and provide our community with local, fresh, and nutritious food and other products. To learn more, please contact fairlingtonfm@gmail.com. We'd also love to hear your ideas for additional vendors and special events.



others in Arlington. "It's been wonderful to see Fairlington residents readjust this year to a more normal community environment. We are so grateful to the many steadfast vendors who have sold in the market every week since its launch in 2015."

Mark your calendar for this month's events:

November 6:

- Arlington Art Truck, *Flight* by Greg Stewart. Learn about birds and trees of Arlington County and the importance of native plants and species.
- Face painting with Creatives by Cristina, LLC.

November 13:

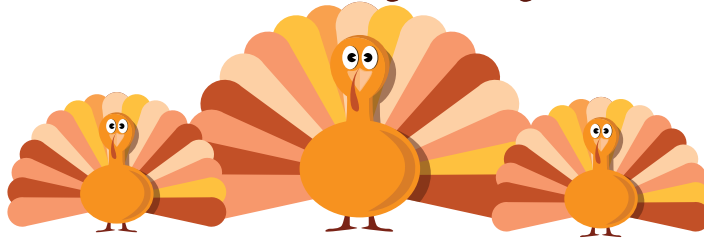
- The Energy Club

—Lynne Blasi



Photos by Guy Land.

HAPPY
Thanksgiving



ALEXANDRIA

PASTRY SHOP AND CATERING

CLASSIC THANKSGIVING FEAST

Fresh Shenandoah Raised Turkey

Baked and served with harvest Dressing of Cornbread, Walnuts, and fresh Herbs, Homemade Gravy, and Cranberry Orange Relish.
Accompanied with Homestyle Mashed Potatoes.

12-14 lb. Turkey – 14-person Min.

16-18 lb. Turkey – 18-person Min.

20-22 lb. Turkey – 22-person Min.

\$17.99 Per person

**LAST DAY FOR
TURKEY ORDERS
NOVEMBER 20, 2022**

FABULOUS TRIMMINGS

(Recommended serving – 3 people / Lb.)

GF – Gluten free

- GF Apple and Butternut Squash Soup
- Cornbread and Walnut Dressing
- GF Candied Sweet Potatoes
- Homestyle Mashed Potatoes
- GF Brussel Sprouts with Roasted Garlic
- Potato Au Gratin
- Mushroom Gravy (vegetarian)
- GF Cranberry Orange Relish
- Homestyle Turkey Gravy
- GF Spinach Casserole
- GF Fresh Herb Glazed Turkey Breast
- GF Mixed Roasted Vegetables
- GF Roasted Beets with Hazelnut Oil
- Green Beans with Cranberries, and Butternut Squash

DESSERTS

- Apple Tart with Walnuts & Cranberries
- Apple Pie
- Pecan Pie
- Pumpkin Pie
- Mincemeat Pie
- Lemon Meringue
- 9" Cranberry Cheesecake
- 9" Pumpkin Cheesecake



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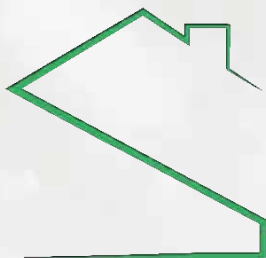


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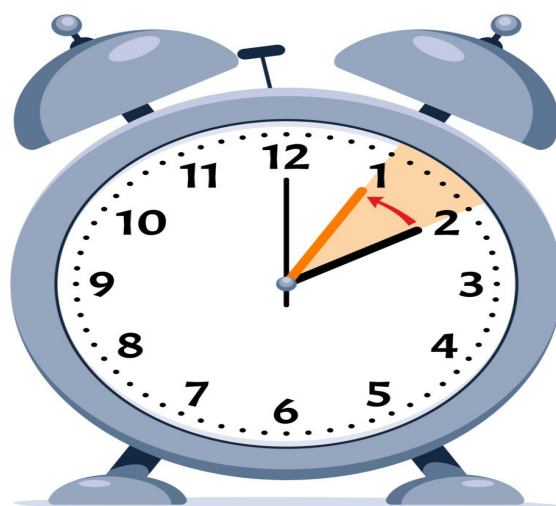
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Waypoint at Fairlington opens

Alexandria Mayor Justin Wilson and Fairlington Presbyterian Pastor Juli Wilson-Black joined officials from Wesley Housing September 28 at a ribbon-cutting to celebrate the grand opening of The Waypoint at Fairlington. Located on Menokin Dr. next to Fairlington Presbyterian, the project adds more than 80 units of affordable housing to Alexandria's inventory.

Prior to redevelopment, the land on which the new apartment community is sited was an underutilized parking lot owned by the church. Following a collaborative visioning process with the church and the Alexandria community, including Fairlington, Wesley Housing and other key partners transformed the land into a housing resource that will serve generations to come.

FCA supported the general concept of the housing development during the permitting process by the City of Alexandria. Representatives of Wesley Housing and Fairlington Presbyterian made a presentation to FCA several years ago.

"Our congregation is thrilled to be realizing our dream of turning spaces for cars into spaces for people," said



City officials participate in a ribbon-cutting ceremony for a new affordable housing community located on Menokin Dr. Photo by Jon Sunray.

Pastor Wilson-Black. "We are grateful to have had the support of many neighbors and community members who realize the value of affordable housing for Alexandria."

According to Wesley Housing, residents will enjoy community amenities such as free Wifi, a community room, business center, access to a playground/park space, and a shared courtyard plaza with the Fairlington Presbyterian Church.

Apartments feature open floor plans, with 11 percent of the units being fully accessible based on requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The community is built to Energy Star® green building standards and is achieving a National Green Building Standard (NGBS) Silver Certification.

With a total development cost of \$37.2 million, The Waypoint benefited from significant financial support from the City, Virginia Housing, Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development, as well as from Capital One, Freddie Mac, and Hudson Housing.

—Guy Land

FCA diversity group to hold open conversation on bias in Nov.

The FCA Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion is hosting a series of community conversations to learn about and address the ways in which Arlington can be a more equitable and inclusive place. We encourage all residents to join us for the next conversation on Wednesday, November 16 at 7 p.m.

Arlington County has partnered with Challenging Racism, a local non-profit dedicated to empowering people to disrupt racism wherever they find it, to develop the Dialogues on Racism and Equity (DRE) program.

DRE includes a series of toolkits used to spark conversations between community members as part of the County's broader commitment to racial equity.

The conversations include short videos and discussion

questions to challenge assumptions, interrupt bias, and understand equity vs. equality.

We will be hosting a conversation on Bias on Wednesday, November 16 at 7p.m. You can join us in-person at the Fairlington Community Center or via Zoom.

If you are interested in participating or have any questions, please contact Lydia Redway at lydia.redway@gmail.com.

For additional information on Arlington County's Dialogues on Race and Equity, please visit <https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Topics/Equity/DRE>.

—Lydia Redway

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FAIRLINGTON *pet profiles*

What goes around comes a rounder

What is a Rounder? It is a baseball term but as a colloquial expression, it means someone who is into hijinks or maybe even a 'ne'er-do-well'. It is also the name of Karen Olson Weaver's (a North Fairlington at-large board director) labradoodle. Rounder is a very self-confident, friendly, and extremely calm dog who presents himself as a pillar of the neighborhood. He is friend to both canines and humans and is often the first contact and first impression in either encounter.



Rounder poses for a fall photo shoot. Photo courtesy of Karen Olson Weaver.

Rounder has an incredible zen-like quality that exudes a sense of calm and order. Pet Profiles was impressed with his outgoing yet gentle personality as he watched the autumn leaves fall and the final monarch butterflies of the season enjoy their last drops of Fairlington milkweed. No hijinks here.

You are a very calm dog. Where does your zen-like demeanor come from?

I guess I am pretty chill. Maybe that's because I know who I am, where I'm supposed to be, and how I'm supposed to act. You might say, I feel comfortable in my own skin....most of the time, that is! How did I get this way? Well, it started when I was just a pup, just after I came down from the mountains where I was born. My Person Mom worked from home, so we hung out together a lot, right from the start. She tied my leash to her waist, so wherever she went, I followed along. At her desk, I was right at her feet, she went to the kitchen for a cup of coffee, I toddled right behind.

You understand commands by sign language. How does that work?

We dogs are constantly communicating...kinetically...I guess you could say. We read body language, our owners' and that of other dogs. I only know one sign and that is the command for "sit" which means "get your tail on the ground and pay attention!" I know "sit" means good

stuff may follow, like a treat. Or maybe cross the street to the playground. But none of that happens unless I sit down first. If you want to teach your dog to sit to pay attention: The sign is to stand up perfectly straight and put your fist to your chest. Oh, yes, and that's accompanied by a little tug on the leash.

You've been described as a "Wingman". What does that mean to you?

Well, the first time I heard that expression, I thought they were talking about chicken wings, and I politely said, "No, please. I'll take the whole bird!" I am a retriever, after all! But now I get it. I can approach just about anybody, and then "hand them off" to my Mom, who

sometimes holds back. That's my job. We had barely just moved here and didn't know that many folks, so we had to put our survival skills into action.

How do you maintain your Labradoodle locks? Do they require a lot of maintenance?

Well, I am half French! Not my tail though, which is 95 percent Golden Retriever plume! But it's not easy! My curly poodle hair makes a great Teddy Bear look, which I know is adorable. The one thing I hate is a haircut.

November means Thanksgiving. What are you most thankful for?

Quality time with family, neighbors who are kind and thoughtful and plenty of dog and people-friends to hang out with and greet while out walking. I like watching the action at the school crossing and the tennis courts or watching the squirrels build their nests. I'm thankful for children everywhere, who are always eager to play and laugh and pay attention to little-old-me.

Interested in sharing your pet with Pet Profiles?
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In addition, upstanding residents may be considered to serve on the Circuit Courts Grand Jury pool of jurors. Those serving in that pool meet approximately once a month to assess the merits of a case and whether it should be brought to trial.

Ferguson encouraged residents who would be interested in serving to contact him.

Ferguson also fielded questions from Fairlington residents and FCA board members. He assured residents that their personal information on all county records was secure, noting that wills themselves are physically kept locked up. On inquiries about property titles, Ferguson noted that all social security numbers had been removed from documents.

The discussion then opened up to larger questions facing the county. He felt that the Missing Middle proposal is more contentious than the Columbia Pike streetcar proposal from the early 2000s. He noted that eliminating all zoning on Single Family Homes (SFH) could have an adverse impact throughout the county.

A Fairlington resident asked whether Arlington should be incorporated, i.e., become a city. While acknowledging that the county is likely one of the most densely populated in the country, Ferguson responded that there were benefits to being designated a county, from fewer tax implications to having more leverage at the state level.

A board member asked about his thoughts on ranked choice voting. Ferguson answered that he has “come around” to supporting this voting structure, even though he admitted that he might not have been able to garner a full 50 percent of the vote at the onset. However, he did say that the system would allow for residents to better express their voting preferences and foster a greater diversity of candidates.

The evening concluded with the County Clerk encouraging residents to contact his office with any concerns or questions they may have. He can be reached at Pferguson@arlingtonva.us

—Jennifer Davies



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Advocating for Abingdon's flock

Abingdon Elementary School depends on the generous support and commitment from our neighbors and community members in order for our students and staff to grow and flourish.

There are many ways those in the community can help us bring out the maximum potential of our neighborhood school.

On November 2, we will be hosting a community celebration: Spirit Night at Chipotle on Columbia Pike. These fundraising activities support our free community-building events (e.g., International Night) and educational programs such as the Cardinal Kids Mentoring Program and our school play.



We are impressed with our snack pantry volunteers' generosity and commitment to the Abingdon community. Photo by Sharon Burd.

Another way to help is to collectively influence policymakers to best support our students. For example, you may have noticed that Abingdon's oldest tree in the back playground was removed prior to the start of the school year due to heart rot. We have asked our school district to consider providing commercial sail shade

coverage for our playground to make recess more enjoyable during the extremely hot days.

In other news, we are also kindly reminding our school community and neighbors to keep their dogs off school grounds and to be mindful of our student pedestrians; safety is our highest priority.

A student was recently attacked by a dog on the playground at school drop off; we are hopeful that the student has a quick recovery.

We have also asked our county's Transportation Engineering and Operations Bureau Chief to have an engineer evaluate our limited school signage, and how we can best promote additional signage to remind drivers to slow down in our school zone. We thank the community for slowing down and watching for pedestrians at all schools today and everyday.

As we continue building community at Abingdon, we are always looking for volunteers with various skills such as baking and translating (Mongolian, Amharic, and Arabic).

Visit www.abingdonpta.org/volunteer to fill out the PTA's volunteer form to lend an hour to support our neighborhood school.

Ways to support our neighborhood school:

Refrigerator—We are looking for an extra fridge or two to be delivered to Abingdon to use for our new snack pantry for all students. We are planning to store fresh produce

in it to complement the shelf stable snacks that are provided to all students. If you are able to donate a refrigerator, please contact abingdonptapresident@gmail.com.

Coat Drive—Abingdon is having a coat drive to share the warmth for Abingdon students K-5. We are collecting new and preloved coats, mittens, hats, gloves, and scarves for students in the school's front office. For additional information contact meganmiller44@gmail.com.

Grocery Rebates—Link your Harris Teeter VIC card to Abingdon Elementary (5748). Friends, families, and neighbors are also invited to link their VIC card to Abingdon as well. Sign up <https://tinyurl.com/2yrpp3ur>.

Abingdon Snack Pantry—Volunteers are needed for Abingdon's new snack pantry every Thursday from 2:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m. Sign up <https://tinyurl.com/32ymrww3>.

—Sharon Burd

APS School Year Calendar:

Monday, November 7: End of 1st Quarter

Tuesday, November 8: No School for Students (Grade Preparation Day)

Friday, November 11: Holiday—Veterans Day

Wednesday-Friday, November 23–25: Holiday—Thanksgiving Break



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neighborhood news

Fairlington Diners

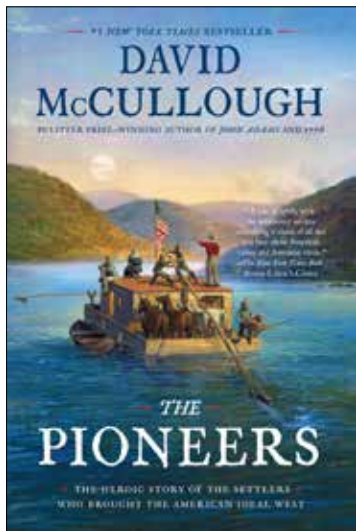
The Fairlington Diners generally gather monthly for relaxed dinners nearby. We focus on having a good meal and an opportunity to chat with neighbors. In October, we supped at Ramparts, a very local favorite. Here's what's planned for November:

Monday, November 14, 6:30 p.m., Copperwood Tavern, 4021 Campbell Avenue, Arlington, VA 22206, (703) 552-8010, www.copperwoodtavern.com.

This farm-to-table restaurant features locally-sourced proteins.

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

Book Group



plowed miles of land, suffered incalculable hardships and braved a lonely frontier to forge a new American ideal. They were indeed the pioneers.”—*The Providence Journal*

The Book Group welcomes first-time visitors and drop-ins. No commitment required! Join us for our discus-

Join the Fairlington Book Group in November to discuss *The Pioneers: The Heroic Story of the Settlers Who Brought the American Ideal West*. The book will be introduced this month by Julie.

Pulitzer Prize-winning author David McCullough “details the experience of a brave and broad-minded band of people who crossed raging rivers, chopped down forests,

sion, even if you haven't read the book. Please note we are meeting the Tuesday after Thanksgiving, November 29, at 7:30 p.m. in the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. We hope you'll join us.

Fairlington Moms' Club

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



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DOWN TO EARTH *patio gardening*



Flowers that linger through the cold months

A lingering guest we'll gladly tolerate is a flowering plant that shows in late fall and into winter. As I walked around in mid-October, I noticed the usual evergreens as well as a few flowering specimens. Plants that historically bloomed in summer now show in October into December. So, think about having the following specimens in your patio next year to ensure 12-month interest in the form of color. As I've mentioned before, you can enjoy a cup of coffee or an adult beverage in your patio during winter while admiring the garden:

Rosa "Knockout" (Knockout Rose): Atypical from the rose bushes our grandmothers had, this densely foliated cultivar blooms most of the year. It is happy in full sun and tolerates humidity. It rewards us with dynamic red and pink blooms even in winter.

Buddleia (Butterfly Bush): This plant needs full sun and room to spread. It will grow six feet tall but has a spread up to eight feet. At the ends of the branches holding sage-colored leaves are elongated blooms in lavender, purple, or white. Buddleia situates well in a perennial or wildflower garden since it looks wild.

Liriope (Lilyturf): This ideal accent plant likes to be on the edge. It looks just right on a garden perimeter or along driveways or walkways. It's 12 inches tall with a similar width. The foliage (green or variegated in white) shows all year and



Camellias bloom late into the fall months. Photo by Guy Land.

forms like a small fountain. From late July into November, purple or white flowers form on vertical stems out of the center of the plant. After the flowers fade, you'll notice bead-like black, shiny fruit on the stem ends.

Canna Lily: This sun-lover reaches six feet tall. Like any lily, it has no width to its shape. The leaves look tropical—almost two feet long and wide like a boat paddle. At the very top of the plant are blooms exploding in orange, red, white, and yellow. It helps mask a facade like your wooden patio fence.

Camellia: The fall-bloomer, sasanqua shows its flowers in fall while the winter-bloomer, japonica shows in winter (December into early April). Yes, April. You can have both

species in your garden to ensure color from September into spring. The flowers are a flat rosette in red, pink, or white. Each eye (or center) is yellow. Camellia is an evergreen with its shiny dark green foliage. It is a vertical grower (six to eight feet tall) with little width. Camellia needs two things: shade and no morning sunlight.

Abelia: This evergreen shrub is dense with a tiny, pointed leaf. Foliage forms on thin, salmon-colored stems. Around its perimeter are white or pink, bugle-shaped flowers offering a faint fragrance. As the plant grows, some branches reach far above its globose perimeter. Abelia gets robust in size so plant one in the back corners of your garden or in the bed at the dining room window. You'll notice a few together on an island where S. Stafford St. meets S. 32nd St. overlooking the Utah St. softball field diamond.

Azalea "Encore": Two decades ago, botanists allayed gardeners' complaints that "My azalea blooms for just two weeks. The rest of the year, it's just green." The encore blooms in late-April and intermittently shows its red, pink, or white flowers the rest of the year (into mid-December). The blooms of the encore hide among its lime-like green foliage but still are noticeable and fat (up to three inches). It needs sun and doesn't perform well in deep shade.

—Bill Sullivan
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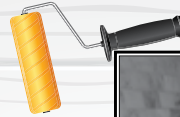


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