BULLETIN

OCTOBER 2016



Volume 42, Number 10



www.fca-fairlington.org

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County staff to discuss transit proposal at October FCA meeting

At the October meeting of the Fairlington Citizens Association, residents will get the chance to hear the latest information on the county's Transit Development Plan and planned future changes to bus service through the neighborhood.

Steve Yaffe, Arlington County Transit Services Manager, will be on hand to discuss the changes at the Thursday, October 13 meeting, which begins at 7 pm at the Fairlington Community Center.

The main aspect of the plan affecting Fairlington is the eventual elimination of the Metrobus 22A and 22C buses, which mainly serve



In 2018, the 22A and 22C Metro bus through Fairlington will be eliminated as part of Arlington County's Transit Development Plan. The 22F route will remain unchanged. Photo by Bob Bradley.

South Fairlington. They would be replaced during rush hour with a new ART88 route connecting Fairlington to Shirlington and, via the HOV lane, direct to the Pentagon. During off-peak hours the 22A/C routes would be replaced with the ART87, which would do a loop through South Fairlington and back to the Shirlington Transit Station before continuing on its regular route along Army-Navy Drive to the Pentagon.

The 22F bus, which serves Northern Virginia Community College, would remain the same.

The frequency of the 7Y buses through North Fairlington would increase, in some instances almost doubling.

The changes are contained in the county's multi-year Transit Development Plan, which the Arlington County Board adopted in July.

The new ART88 route responds to concerns expressed by the Fairlington Citizens Association about an earlier version of the transit plan that would have had the effect of significantly increasing the commuting time for South Fairlington residents who are traveling to the Pentagon. Under that plan, South Fairlington riders would likely have needed to change to the 7A or 7Y

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 October 13

Special presentation: Arlington County Transit Services Manager Steve Yaffe will provide information and answer questions about the county's Transit Development Plan and bus route changes in Fairlington.

Regular board business:

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

Online resources:

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

Find us on Facebook at Fairlington Appreciation Society.

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

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

USEFUL CONTACTS

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Police, Alexandria (non-emerger	(cy) 703-746-4444			
Police, Arlington (non-emergence				
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/Environmental				
Services/dot/traffic/streetlights/index.htm				
Helicopter Noise Complaints	Mike Lucier (VA 8th Dist.)			
	202-225-4376			

Fairlington Citizens Association

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All Fairlington Bulletin

Published monthly by the FCA Circulation: 3,449 households

Editor: Bob Bradley Assistant 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: FCA • PO Box 6182 • Arlington, VA 22206-0182 E-mail editorial announcements to: editor@fca-fairlington.org E-mail commercial and mini ads to: admanager@fca-fairlington.org Drop off location: Drop box in the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford Street

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

Ad Size	Height	Width	Rate
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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 Villages Fall Yard Sale Saturday, October 1 8 am—noon, Fairlington Villages Community Center

Fall Plant Walk Sunday, October 9, 10 am Fairlington Farmers Market

Columbus Day holiday Monday, October 10

FCA monthly meeting Thursday, October 13, 7 pm FCC, 3308 S. Stafford St.

Fire Station Open House Saturday, October 15 8:30 am—3 pm 3116 S. Abingdon St.

Fairlington Arts & Crafts Fair Saturday, October 15, 10 am Wakefield Circle Fairlington Commons

Fairlington Diners Tuesday, October 18, 6:30 pm Athena Pallas Greek Restaurant 556 22nd St., South Arlington

Fairlington History Walk Saturday, October 22, 10 am Fairlington Villages Community Center

Book Club Tuesday, October 25, 7:30 pm FCC, 3308 S. Stafford St.

Halloween Monday, October 31 Decoration Contest

Park and ride



Taking advantage of the walking track at Fairlington Park. Photo by Guy Land.

Contributors this month: Dana Andy, Lynne Blasi, Bob Bradley, Christine Chirichella, Guy Land, Carol Rosen, Bill Sullivan. *Some images in this publication may be digitally enhanced.*



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fairlington truly comes alive in October. The Fairlington field pulses with soccer games, shoppers descend on the farmers market for late season produce, the

community center playground teems with kids, and the festive Abingdon School Halloween parade courses through the neighborhood.

FCA and the condo associations complement this with a rich menu of activities that will get you out in the community enjoying the crisp temps and visiting with neighbors.

The month begins with the North Fairlington **fall yard sale**, which is open to both North and South Fairlington. So plan on scooping up a bargain or two at the sale in the parking lot next to the Fairlington Villages community center.

October 9 brings FCA's annual **nature walk**, led by several of our Master Gardeners. We'll meet at the farmers market at 10 am and then stroll around the grounds to take a look at the flora there and chat about the Fairlington Park renovation that will address plants and trees as well as wise stormwater management.

Our friends at fire station 7 will host an **open house** on October 15. Bring the kids to climb into the fire truck cab and learn about fire safety.

Responding to resident calls for a community **arts and crafts sale**, Fairlington Commons will present its inaugural Fall Arts & Crafts Show on October 15 in the green space on Wakefield Circle. Vendors are limited to Fairlington area residents who sell homemade goods. Come admire your neighbors' handiwork.

Last year's first-ever Fairlington **history walk** drew an enthusiastic crowd, demonstrating a healthy appetite for learning more about our community's history. The Fairlington Historical Society, in collaboration with FCA, will again host a history walk through North and South Fairlington. Join us at 10 am October 22 at the North Fairlington Community Center, 3005 S. Abingdon Street.

I'm persuaded that Halloween is Fairlington's favorite holiday. It sometimes appears that residents spend more time and money on Halloween decorations than they do on Christmas decorations. This year FCA is trying something new: an **online Halloween decoration contest**. Post a photo of your favorite decorations (yours or your neighbors') and then see how they stack up in online voting. Top vote-getters will receive special recognition.

There's something for everyone in Fairlington in October. Get out and enjoy your neighborhood.

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



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FCA hears update on 395 HOT Lanes

Representatives of the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) held an audience at the September meeting of the Fairlington Citizens Association to give an update on the I-395 HOT Lanes project.

The project, which was announced late last year, would add another lane to the current dual HOV lanes for an approximately eight-mile stretch from Alexandria to the Pentagon, using the existing footprint. It would be what VDOT termed a managed corridor that would require a toll, part of which is to be used for long-term transit investment through an annual payment, the agency said,



although that is not expected to be a significant amount.

The primary purpose of the toll is the way private partner Transurban recovers its cost of building the system.

Amanda Baxter, left, and Susan Shaw of the Virginia Department of Transportation, gave the latest information on the proposed I-395 HOT Lanes project at the September meeting of the FCA. Photo by Bob Bradley.

The purported purpose of the project, according to VDOT,

is to reduce congestion, provide additional travel choices and improve travel predictability and safety, using analysis of current and future trends.

Representing VDOT at the meeting was Susan Shaw, megaprojects director for the agency, and Amanda Baxter, VDOT's special projects manager. The pair said the backand-forth between Transurban and VDOT is ongoing.

"We are not at a final agreement, yet," Shaw said.

Public hearings on the draft environmental assessment and the project design have been scheduled, the first of which will be held Monday, October 24 at Wakefield High School in Arlington beginning at 6:30 pm. A second one is scheduled for Wednesday, October 26 at the Francis C. Hammond Middle School in Alexandria, also starting on 6:30 pm.

A third public hearing, focusing on I-395 South widening from Duke St. to Edsall Road, will be held Thursday, October 27 at Bren Mar Park Elementary School in Alexandria, also at 6:30 pm. Upcoming milestones for the project include those public hearings. Also, a regional long-range plan decision is expected by November, and a final environmental assessment is expected in December. A final financial agreement is expected in January 2017, and construction, slated to last two years, is expected to begin next summer.

Much of the meeting, which lasted about 75 minutes, was focused on a draft environmental assessment as to the project's possible impacts. The results of the assessment, conducted by VDOT, are available online at Virginiadot.org/395express. Another element that took up much of the discussion concerned proposed sound walls that would be erected on several portions of the side of the roadway in Arlington and Alexandria.

The total of eight miles of sound walls and their accompanying aesthetics may be one of the subjects that get the most scrutiny. VDOT identified 2,857 units that would be affected by possible increase in noise. Those "noise-sensitive receptors" identified in the study will be given a chance to vote on whether they want sound walls.

The environmental assessment included noise impacts and the study found that sound walls were "feasible and reasonable." That means that VDOT is prepared to include walls, if residents want them.

"What could be most impactful is the likelihood of tree removal if soundwalls are something that homeowners would like on the corridor," Shaw said.

Baxter stated that the current proposal for sound barriers is four of them totaling 3.4 miles in Alexandria, and nine barriers totaling 4.7 miles in Arlington.

The draft environmental assessment looked at several factors, including property impacts, land use, wetlands and streams, floodplains, wildlife habitat, and hazardous materials.

Another element VDOT touched on was the reconfiguring of the Eads Street interchange for commuters going to the Pentagon or Pentagon City. The hope is that the inclusion of dedicated lanes and signalization will reduce congestion, for both the morning and evening commute.

-Bob Bradley



Residents, county staff discuss Fairlington Park project conceptual design

The final conceptual design for the Fairlington Park project was the topic of discussion at a September 15 meeting at the Fairlington Community Center, the third such meeting county staff has held on the proposed \$1.5 million playground and workout areas of the park.

Arlington County Landscape Architect Aaron Wohler, along with staff member Wilfredo Calderon, furnished conceptual renderings of the design and addressed concerns for a little over an hour before a dozen interested Fairlington residents.

- Provide as large a sand play area as possible, to include a water spigot and provisions for shade
- Provide monkey bars
- Maximize shade throughout the playground areas
- Provide lower platform play elements for the younger kids
- Provide an overview of the different types of proposed equipment online



Interested residents look over drawings of the final conceptual design for the Fairlington Park project. Photo by Bob Bradley.

At the conclusion of the meeting, most expressed approval of the designs to Wohler, but still asked about the number of swings proposed, whether more could be added, and if it was possible to do the work in phases so that the playground would not have to be closed for up to a year during construction. The timeline calls for construction to begin in the spring or summer next year.

The conceptual design is the fruit of an online survey and meetings with the community in June and August addressed the following issues:

- Provide swings for 2–5 and 5–12 age groups
- Provide slides for the 2–5 age group

In the playground area, the design calls for two sets of swings, one set of the bucket type for much younger children and another set of traditional swings for older children. There was much discussion about the possibility of adding another set of swings, with some noting that often lines form for a turn. Wohler said that with the addition of other apparatus, that problem could be mitigated to a certain extent.

"There's so much variety, that kids could be busy doing something else," he said.

Wohler said he would go back and look at the feasability of adding another swing set, but that space on the site and budget constraints needed to be taken into consideration.

As for the time the playground would need to be closed, one resident asked

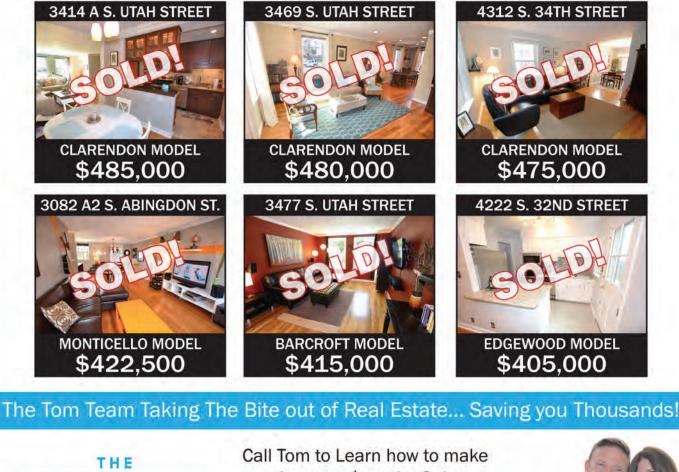
if construction could be done in phases so it wouldn't need to be closed for the one year construction is expected to take. Again, Wohler cited a very tight budget, but that a timeframe is built into the bidding process, which is expected to be the next phase, after permitting. The financial approval will come from the county board, likely to happen in February or March.

The conceptual rendering can be found at projects. arlingtonva.us/projects/fairlington-park-project/.

-Bob Bradley

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Calling all FFM cooks: New recipe section on market website

Every week at the Fairlington Farmers Market, shoppers visit the information booth to talk about recipes they've made using ingredients purchased at the market.

From soups, marinades, and salads to omelets, quick and easy dinners, and special holiday dishes, Fairlington residents are cooking up some amazing meals!



To submit a recipe for consideration, send it to info@fairlingonfarmersmarket.org or bring a copy to the information booth—be sure to include your contact information. To kick off the new section, we're having a contest —everyone who shares a recipe will be entered in a drawing to win a farmers market tote bag. We want to hear from you and look forward to seeing your creative and

delicious recipes!

The market is open through November 20. Visit each week to see what our vendors are bringing from the fall harvest, including squash, root vegetables, and a variety of apples and pears—perfect to keep on hand for healthy snacks during the week. If you like to plan ahead, remember that you can get many items you'll need for Thanksgiving dinner at the market, like carrots, onions, shallots, garlic, tomatoes, potatoes, green beans, leeks, squash, peppers, breads, cheese, and, of course, pies!

You can help promote the market by making sure your neighbors and friends know about it, posting your market photos on the Fairlington Farmers Market page on Facebook, and tagging us in your market photos on Twitter @FairlingtonMkt.

The market is located at the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St., and is open Sundays from 9 am to 1 pm.

—Lynne Blasi



ALL FAIRLINGTON BULLETIN • OCTOBER 2016



Rosemary Almaraz, right, of the Arlington Department of Environmental Services explains the county's car-free diet options to Fairlington residents visiting the farmers market on a recent Sunday morning. Photo by Guy Land.

Many of you have asked about having a place to share favorite recipes, so we're creating a new recipe section on the market website, fairlingtonfarmersmarket.org.

9

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Verizon FiOS slowly but surely making its way into Fairington

Verizon FiOS continues to make its way into Fairlington.

The main feeder line to reach Fairlington from the Verizon Central Office has been completed in the neighborhood.

Designs for Fairlington Mews and Fairlington Arbor have been approved and released to construction.

Fairlington Commons, Fairlington Glen, Fairlington Green, Fairlington Meadows, and Fairlington Villages are are still reviewing the designs, according to Louise Anderson, the Verizon Virginia representative who also lives in Fairlington Green.

Fairlington Court has yet to sign the PAL as of this publication. The PAL authorizes Verizon to do an engineering survey of the property. As for now, the Mews and Arbor will begin seeing installation into the buildings of each court. Anderson said that normally installation takes around 90 days, but the density of underground utilities in the neighborhood could cause delays.

"We're approaching every inch with great care," Ms. Anderson said.

The other associations that have design approvals pending can make suggested changes that go back to Verizon, then back to the associations until an agreement on the design is reached.

-Bob Bradley

Convenient option: In-person absentee voting

Do you find it difficult to get to the polls on Election Day?

Arlington County is there to help you. On Friday, September 23, the county began to provide eligible residents with the ability to vote early—and in person—six days a week at one or more designated polling places created just for in-person "absentee" voters.

Contrary to what you might think, absentee voting is not just for military service members and students. In fact, there's a good chance you are eligible and don't even know it. All you need to do is affirm that you have one of 15 common reasons to vote absentee.

For example: Do you—like many local residents—work outside Arlington County? You qualify!

Or: Do you anticipate working and commuting 11 of the 13 hours polls are open? You qualify!

Moreover—as with the more well-known mail-in absentee voting option—eligibility for in-person absentee voting does not require you to be absolutely sure that you will not be able to make it to your local polling place Nov. 8. You only have to know that it is uncertain whether you will be able make it there due to one of the 15 reasons. Other acceptable reasons include the possibility of being absent for business or vacation, or being on duty as a first responder or active-duty military service member. You also can claim eligibility due to a disability or pregnancy, or if you care for a confined family member.

Any of these conditions, and a number of others, will qualify you to cast a mailed-in or in-person absentee ballot in advance of the November 8 election.

The first in-person absentee voter polling station opened at Courthouse Plaza at 8 am, September 23, and operates six days a week through November 5. For added convenience, you can complete your absentee ballot application right onsite before you vote.

Several weeks before the election, the county also will open two more polling places—one at Walter Reed Community Center, and another at Madison Community Center. You can find exact dates and scheduled hours of operation for all three polling places—as well as rules and information on early in-person absentee voting—at https://vote.arlingtonva.us/absentee/.

So remember, if you work outside Arlington County—or you have a long commute or work hours—you are eligible to cast an early, in-person absentee ballot.



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Master Gardeners provide wealth of sustainable landscape information

Have a question about what to plant in the shady part of your patio? Want to know more about how to install a rain garden near your unit? Curious about what's nibbling on your favorite houseplant?

For 35 years, the volunteers of the Virginia Cooperative Extension-Master Gardeners program have been providing information to Fairlington residents on sustainable landscape management. The help desk the Master Gardeners staff at the Virginia Cooperative Extension (VCE) office in the Fairlington Community Center serves Arlington and Alexandria residents with useful tips on urban agriculture and gardening in small spaces.

According to Kirsten Buhl, the VCE agent, questions range from "what's eating my plants?" to "what's eating on me?" She notes that the program shares best pracNorth Fairlington Master Gardener Anne Wilson notes that Master Gardeners participate on the grounds committees of the various Fairlington condo associations, providing suggestions for landscaping practices that emphasize the use of native plants while ameliorating landscape costs.

Wilson points particularly to two examples of Fairlington Villages activities that Master Gardeners helped drive that also had financial benefits for the condo association: the installation of six rain gardens to address erosion and storm water runoff, leveraging \$9,000 in grant funds from Arlington County's storm water management program, and Fairlington Villages' tree canopy partnership with Arlington County that has resulted in the installation or replacement of 67 trees at an average retail cost (planted) of \$450—a \$30,150 value to the



Master Gardener Carol Rosen, left, leads an FCA-sponsored nature walk through Fairlington. Photo by Guy Land.

tices in landscape management that are research-based and come out of Virginia's state universities, so they are tailored to the climate and soils of Northern Virginia.

While the Master Gardener program serves both Arlington and Alexandria, the heart of the operation is in Fairlington. In addition to the office being located here, through the years dozens of Fairlington residents have become Master Gardeners—a program which includes 60 hours of formal coursework, an internship, and an annual requirement of volunteer time helping the community. community.

Master Gardeners spearheaded Fairlington Villages' official designation as a certified Audubon Wildlife Habitat, the first condominium association in the area to achieve the Audubon at Home designation. They have also crafted and led the plant and grounds tours that FCA has sponsored over the past three years.

To mark the contributions the VCE-Master Gardeners have made to this part of Northern Virginia, the group will be installing a tribute bench and plaque on the grounds of the Fairlington Community Center. FCA sent a letter in support of the proposal in early September, and county staff are moving forward with final review and

approval of the proposed design. The tribute bench celebrates the VCE-Master Gardeners, past and present, for "educating the community for a healthier and sustainable environment since 1981."

Residents who are interested in participating in the Master Gardener program may contact VCE Agent Kirsten Buhls, 703-228-6423, kbuhls@vt.edu.

—Guy Land



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Plenty to fall for this October

Fairlington Villages fall yard sale, October 1, 8 am – noon

Whether you're looking to find gently used children's clothing or a good book or DVD to curl up with this winter, the always popular Fairlington Villages (FV) fall yard sale is sure to offer some great finds! It will be held on Saturday, October 1, from 8 am to noon in the FV community center parking lot, 3005 S. Abingdon St. Both north and south Fairlington residents are invited to come by to purchase the many wares for sale. There's even a white elephant table featuring truly unique items.

Bring your dogs and/or kids and take advantage of this fun chance to meet your neighbors. Enjoy coffee, pastries, beverages, and hot dogs, which will be available for sale. And of course, don't miss this chance to get some great bargains! For more information, email activities@ fairlingtonvillages.com.

-Christine Chirichella

Tree/Plant walk brings out inner arborist on October 9

Grab a cup of coffee or pastry at the Fairlington Farmers Market on Sunday, October 9, and then join local naturalists Emily Ferguson, Carol Rosen, and Anne Wilson



Emily Ferguson donned a witch's cap at last Fairlington tree/plant walk, which was held on Halloween Day. This year's tree/plant walk is scheduled for Sunday, October 9. Photo by Guy Land.

our local landscape. The walk will also highlight plans now being finalized to improve the grounds, playground, and exercise equipment.

for a community nature walk around Fairlington Park. The easy walk will begin from the information tent at 10 am and will last about an hour.

Participants will have a chance to see the first signs of autumn in North and South Fairlington, yet still a prime opportunity to learn much about the the fora, fauna, and canopy above and around us.

Bring your walking shoes, and be prepared with questions and a camera for this colorful Sunday morning stroll, and expand your knowledge of Fairlington's trees, plants and park.

-Carol Rosen

Fire station open house set for October 15

The Arlington County Fire Department hosts its annual

Fire Station Open House on Saturday, October 15, from 8:30 am to 3 pm.

The popular event is a great opportunity for residents to meet the crew at Station 7 (3116 S. Abingdon St.).

The open house offers a chance for youngsters to climb aboard Engine 107 and try on real firefighting turnout gear. Look for face-painting,



A Fairlington youngster takes his place on the fromt of Engine 107 at last year's Arlington County Fire Station 7 open house. Photo by Guy Land.

treats, and decal takeaways, as well as great picture-taking opportunities.

Young and not-so-young alike can learn more about fire safety from those trained to protect us and to pass the lessons on to junior firefighters.

It's a county-wide event held in conjunction with Fire Prevention Week.

Also on hand will be a police dog from the Arlington County Police Department, and a staff member from the Arlington Public Library will be there for a story time.

It's a scaled down version of last year's walk through

Continued on page 25

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> - Edward Getterman, **Fairlington Resident**

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- Rick Micker, Former Fairlington Condo VP

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- Denice McCullough, Fairlington Resident

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2016 Home Owner(s) Experience						
	Close Date	Price	Bed/Bath	Floorplan/Area	1	
<u>Listed</u>						
12176 Springwoods Dr	AVAILABLE	\$223,700	2bd/1.5bath	Woodbridge VA	4	
4715 31st St S, B2	AVAILABLE	\$324,700	2bd/1bath	Stauton Model		
1225 Martha Custis, 503	18-Apr-16	\$127,000	0bd/1bath	Alexandria VA		
2500 Van Dorn, #1207	5-Apr-16	\$160,000	2bd/2bath	Alexandria VA		
22467 Verder Gate Terr	2-May-16	\$417,000	3bd/2.5bath	Ashburn VA		
4711 30th St S, A2	31-May-16	\$408,700	2bd/2bath	Mt. Vernon Mc	odel	
11231 Leatherwood Dr	29-Apr-16	\$500,000	3bd/2bath	Reston VA		
<u>Buyers</u>						
1651 Kenwood	30-Aug-16	\$330,000	2bd/2bath	Alexandria VA		
4827 B, 28th St S	28-Apr-16	\$429,700	2bd/2bath	Clarendon Mod	del	
2656 Fanieul Hall Ct	29-Apr-16	\$435,000	4bd/2bath	Herndon VA		
8946 Kenilworth Ave	17-Mar-16	\$670,000	4bd/2.5bath	Burke VA		
417 Upton Ct N	9-May-16	\$945,000	3bd/3.5bath	Arlington VA		
Italics – Available at time	of nublication					

Italics = Available at time of publication



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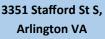


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Rentals Listed	Status	Rent	Bed/Bath	Floorplan/Area
1629 L St NE, #101	AVAILABLE	\$1,850	2bd/1bath	Washington D.C.
3008 Columbus St S	AVAILABLE	\$1,600	2bd/1bath	Stauton Model
4814 30th St S, #C1	23-Aug-16	\$1,997	2bd/2bath	Sherwood Model
4605 31ST RD S #C2	27-May-16	\$2,050	2bd/1bath	Sherwood Model
1100 Quaker Hill CT	31-May-16	\$1,950	2bd/2bath	Alexandria VA
3351 Stafford St S	29-Feb-16	\$2,050	1bd/2bath	Edgewood Model
Renters Assisted				
1021 Arlington Blvd	5-Aug-16	\$1,795	1bd/1bath	Arlington VA
4862 Eisenhower #164	9-Jun-16	\$1,800	2bd/2bath	Alexandria VA
4271 35th St S, A2	16-Apr-16	\$2,100	1bd/2bath	Barcroft Model
6003 Larkspur Dr	30-Jun-16	\$2,575	4bd/2bath	Alexandria VA
7416 Sportsman Dr	5-Aug-16	\$2 <i>,</i> 800	3bd/3bath	Falls Church VA

Bold = Assisted with Renter and Listing Side through Disclosed Dual Agency

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Animal Talk

Make your holiday pet care plans now

It may seem too early to worry about what to do with Fido or Fluffy for the holidays, but the word from neighborhood pet sitters is that things are booking up early this year. So if you're planning to travel, here are some ideas for you to consider:



Sundae packs herself in a suitcase. Photo by Christine Chirichella.

- 1. Board your pet at a local facility. There are plenty of vendors who advertise here in the bulletin that you can call as a starting point. You can also ask neighbors or use social media (Fairlington's Facebook pages or Yahoo groups) for personal recommendations, or research online rating sites like Yelp.
- 2. Hire a pet sitter to visit multiple times a day or stay overnight, depending on whether your pet is okay being home by itself. Again, there are many sources for finding a good sitter, but be sure to get good references.
- 3. Bring your pet with you. Even if you're not staying with family, with the explosion of pet-friendly lodging in recent years, you will likely be able to find a place that will accept pets.
- 4. Board your pet at a local vet, preferably one that is familiar with your pet. Many vets in the area offer this service.

Reminder: County taxes due October 5

The second installment of Arlington County real estate property tax and personal property tax are due to the county treasurer on Monday, October 5. For complete information, go online to the county website, www. arlingtonva.us, and search taxes. Create a checklist of items to bring (food, toys, leashes, etc.) or give your caregiver before you leave, including vaccination/medical records and prescriptions. Most important, when you are traveling, be sure your pet is wearing an ID collar in case it accidentally goes missing. Prepare now so both you and your pet can have a great holiday!

Where is Echo?

Echo, pictured here, has been missing since June of this year. There have been numerous sightings, but unfortunately she is still at large. If



Echo the dog has been missing since June. Photo by Sheela Krishnan.

you have any information, or if you see her, follow but do not approach or chase, as she will run. Instead, snap a picture and call Sheela with your location: 703-825-0620.

—*Christine Chirichella*

Scout and about



Cub Scout Pack 350 was ready for hungry customers at the entrance to Fairlington Park in late summer. The group, whose members are largely Fairlington residents, is sponsored by Fairlington United Methodist Church. Photo by 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 September, we went to Ramparts on a Thursday for ribs, rather than a Monday for burgers, for a change of pace.

Here's what's planned for October:

Tuesday, October 18, 6:30 pm, Athena Pallas Restaurant, athenapallasrestaurant.net, which serves classic Greek cuisine, and describes itself as "An authentic Greek experience, from the heart of Athens to the plates of Arlington." It is located at 556 22nd St. S., 703-521-3870. There is parking in front of the building and if all spots are taken, there is an additional lot just down 22nd St. on the right hand side. There is also some street parking on 22nd St.

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 at yahoo.com.

Book Group

Join the Fairlington Book Group in October to discuss the first half of *Alexander Hamilton*, a biography by Ron Chernow. Chernow's bestseller was the inspiration for the hit Broadway musical, Hamilton.

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

Because of the length of this book, we will discuss chapters 1–18 at our October meeting. We'll discuss the remaining chapters in November.

The Book Group welcomes first-time visitors and dropins. No commitment required! We are meeting on Tuesday, October 25, at 7:30 pm in the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. We hope you'll join us.

Card players welcome

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

Fairlington Babysitting Co-op

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

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

FCA to compile list of board candidates

FCA is seeking interested residents to serve as officers and directors on the 2017 FCA board. Board members set the policies for the association and serve one-year terms.

Anyone interested in serving on the board may express that interest by emailing FCA Vice President Jonathan Ansley at vp@fca-fairlington.org. There is currently one vacancy on the board, but all of the nine positions are up for election.

The list of candidates will be published on the FCA website at least 10 days before the December 14 annual meeting.

For information about what serving on the board entails, contact any board member.



www.fca-fairlington.org

ABING Densol news

Abingdon welcomes back students

The Abingdon PTA celebrated the new school year by welcoming new and returning families to their annual Back To School Picnic on September 5. This year's picnic featured a very popular face painting station staffed by Abingdon alumni and Fairlington residents, Hannah Lewis and Jin Tian Acton.

Families also enjoyed the opportunity to get to know many of Abingdon's teachers and staff, who were at the school diligently preparing for opening day on September 6th.

Teachers move into the new relocatables

In late August, many teachers moved into their new classrooms in the recently installed relocatable trailers at Abingdon. Currently, grades one through three are in the new relocatables, which feature large classrooms,

drinking fountains, and bathrooms, as well as numerous windows to allow for natural light.

One of the

who has set

up her room

teachers



Abingdon teacher Kathryn Frazier is right at relocatable teaching home. Photos by Jeni Hornback

in the new relocatables is Fairlington's own Kathryn Frazier. Mrs. Frazier has been teaching at Abingdon for the past three years. Prior to that, she taught at Carlin Springs Elementary for nine years and Long Branch Elementary for three years. Her favorite parts of teaching at Abingdon are the diverse student population and the strong focus on reading that is fostered by the school.

Mrs. Frazier and her family have lived in the Fairlington Glen for three years. She said they chose to move back to Fairlington to take advantage of the "best kept secret"



in Arlington County— Abingdon Elementary. Mrs. Frazier has two children that attend Abingdon, a kindergartner

and third-

A comfortable place to read.

grader. She cited the school's progressive readers workshop curriculum and the partnership with Columbia University's Teachers College as two of the reasons she wanted her kids to attend Abingdon. She also cited the strong leadership from Abingdon's administration led by Principal Joanne Uyeda.

Mrs. Frazier, who is an Arlington native, shared that her favorite parts of living in Fairlington include the family-friendly atmosphere, the pools and tennis courts, as well as having someone else shovel all the snow!

Abingdon alumnus designs Arlington decal

As you affix your new 2016–2017 Arlington County decal on your vehicle this fall, you can take pride



knowing that the decal design winner was a 2011 Abingdon graduate. Ryan Kovich, now a junior at Wakefield High School, won the design contest in January. Entitled, "Arlington is for Enjoyment," Kovich photographed the Arlington Cinema and Drafthouse on Columbia Pike.

"This building has been entertaining Arlington residents since the 1930s," he wrote in his decal competition application. "This picture represents Arlington because the arts are very important to the residents. [It] also



Ryan Kovich, a 2011 Abingdon graduate and now a junior at Wakefield High School, won a contest for his design of the 2016–17 Arlington County decal.

represents friendship and time spent together. Every time I see the aged building and the nostalgic sign, it reminds me of the moments I have spent there with family and friends."

Kovich initially photographed the sign for his first assignment in his Photography I class. It was a 'your choice' assignment, but once he completed it, his teacher encouraged him to submit it in the county's decal contest. Kovich's entry was one of 85 submissions that a citizen's panel narrowed down to just four finalists.

—Dana Andy

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DOWN TO EARTH patio gardening



Vocabulary lesson in landscaping

It's "Back to School" as I write this.

Backpacks as big as the kids carrying them advertise Batman, Ninja Turtles, and The Little Mermaid, while sleepy-eyed moms and dads cradle their coffee mugs. So I'll tutor by explaining some landscape terminology.

Habit—The physical appearance of a specimen as it grows and matures. There are geyser-like, wide, pendulous, meandering, contained, narrow, dense and airy habits or forms. Consider a plant's mature habit when planting. This keeps plants from growing into one another, which compromises a plant's health. Why? Crowded plants compete for ground water, minerals in the soil, and sunlight.

Variegated—A leaf's markings different in color from the foliage. A green leaf can have a white or yellow "margin." Maybe the veins are prominent and colored. You may see yellow splotches on a leaf. Variegation in the garden brightens a landscape. Usually, variegated specimens need sun.

Bare Ankles—When a specimen has no foliage near the ground. Most trees and the standard rosebush are "all bark" down low which can be naked—like feet without shoes. A crape myrtle's woodwork is so sinewy and smooth, it is attractive. To negate wood "overload," plant small specimens in an arc around the tree (but not up against the trunk). Or situate a reflecting globe or figurine there.

Basal Foliage—It is the opposite of "bare ankles." This is when a specimen foliates to the ground. Examples are Spirea, Abelia, Euonymus, Azalea, Boxwood and Hydrangea. Specimens bearing basal foliage are fuller, denser, and take up more garden space.

Suckers—Unsightly growths at the base of a specimen. They also appear as colonizing roots, which can grow into mature specimens. Nandina and Quince are examples. Most times, they need to be dug out with a shovel. If not, you'll have a family of the same specimen, which clutters the landscape.

Root Zone—A specimen's life-support network. Roots grow laterally, sometimes on or just below the soil line. With small shrubs, the network is contained. With trees, roots run longer (and sometimes throughout a lawn). When watering, know where the roots are. Roots, not branches and leaves, drink water. That's why overhead watering isn't as efficient as aiming a hose at the root zone.

Hardy—When a plant survives winter. In a sense, a plant also can be "summer hardy" in that it tolerates our blistering heat indexes from May through September. An annual plant (Impatiens, Begonia, and Petunia, for example) is not winterhardy and dies at the first frost (early December). **Perennial**—A plant that "returns" to life, year after year. After a few years, some perennials may decline. A typical perennial is Hosta. It sprouts out of the ground in early May and stretches its wide leaves for six months. Come late November, the leaves wither, becoming brittle, brown and lifeless. That's when they can be cut to the ground for the plant's six-month winter nap.

Culture—What a plant needs to survive—sun or shade. Is the plant drought-tolerant? What is its plant hardiness zone? Birch trees are native to New England and prefer colder climates. Crape myrtles need just the opposite—heat and sunlight. Plant a specimen out of its hardiness zone and it struggles to survive. In Northern Virginia, the plant hardiness zone is 6B to 7. Hardiness zones range from 1A (Maine) to 13B (Florida).

—Bill Sullivan www.sullivanslandscaping.net



A perennial returns to life year after year.

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Transit proposal, continued from page 1

at Shirlington. In some circumstances that could have added up to 30 minutes to the commuting time for South Fairlington residents going to the Pentagon.

After a meeting with FCA leaders in late June, arranged by FCA Director Kent Duffy, county staff crafted the new ART88 route, which was incorporated into the overall transit plan. FCA has not formally weighed in on the proposed ART88 route; the October 13th meeting is an opportunity for Fairlington residents to provide additional input to county staff on bus service in advance of the annual December update to the TDP. Yaffe notes that between the new ART88 and the 22F, commuters in South Fairlington will have transit access to the Pentagon Metro every 10 minutes.

The TDP also would create a new ART44 route to replace the Metrobus 22A/B/C route from Shirlington to Ballston, and it would continue on to Marymount University.

The changes in the bus routes would not be implemented until 2018.

-Bob Bradley

Plenty to Fall, continued from page 15

Fairlington Commons Arts & Crafts Show

Call for vendors—Inaugural Fairlington Commons Fall Arts & Crafts Show!

Fairlington Commons will be hosting an Arts & Crafts show on October 15 at 10 am in the green space on Wakefield Circle. Vendors are limited to Fairlington area residents who sell homemade goods.

More details on other activities to come later. Email rmfaircommons@gmail.com to sign up as a vendor.

Walk through Fairlington history on October 22

The jointly sponsored FCA/FHS walking history tour is Saturday, October 22, beginning at 10 am at Fairlington Villages Community Center.

Where in Fairlington is the stone from the 1790s that marked the boundary of the proposed District of Columbia?

What was the name of the colonial plantation that once occupied Fairlington? What fort was located right next to Fairlington, and what was its purpose? What do the models of Fairlington look like that were used to sell units when the property was converted to condominiums in the 1970s?

Come learn—and see!—the answers to these and other questions about our community's rich history in the second Fairlington History Tour, October 22. Jointly sponsored by FCA and the Fairlington Historical Society, the walking tour will feature historical markers and sites,

vignettes from Fairlington's history, and a close-up look at Fairlington architecture.

The tour will visit 10 significant sites in North and South Fairlington. If you prefer not to walk, let us know so that we can arrange for a vehicle and driver: RSVP to Patty Clark (pattyclark2@comcast.net or 703-820-7328).

Or just join us at 10 am at the Fairlington Villages Community Center, 3005 S. Abingdon St., where the tour will begin and end. Light refreshments will be served inside. The tour will last roughly 90 minutes.

The tour will touch on Fairlington's history in the colonial period, the area's role in the defense of Washington during the Civil War (such as Battery Garesche), and the construction of Fairlington during World War II.

This Halloween, enter Fairlington's most fabulous fright contest

Since decorating houses for Halloween has become a huge annual event in Fairlington, the FCA is sponsoring a home decorating contest to go along with the welcoming of the Great Pumpkin.

Details will be posted on the FCA website and Facebook page during the first week of October.

There will be a small monetary prize, but more importantly some serious neighborhood bragging rights.

So start designing your Halloween display right away. And even if you don't want to invest in major decorations, make sure you vote online for your favorites.



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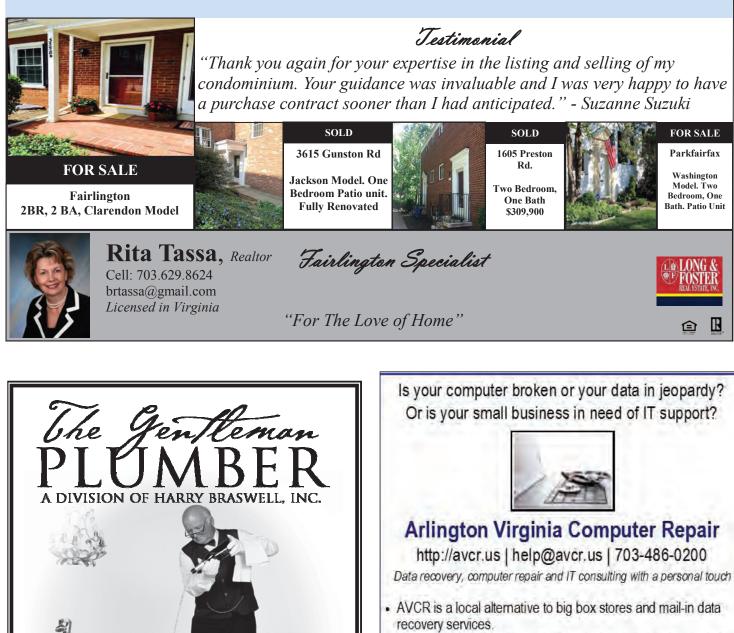


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FAIRLINGTON MAID SERVICE.

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



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

B&A CLEANING SERVICES. 25 years experience and owner operated. References available in all areas. Reasonable rates. We bring our own equipment. Office cleaning available. For free estimate and appointment call 703-501-9007 or e-mail bc42happy@gmail.com.

Pet Services

PET & PLANTCARE BY GERRI,

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

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

In the Market for a tote bag



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



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



Enhance your community by volunteering for FCA activities.

For sale: Fairlington T-shirts

Show your neighborhood pride with a Fairlington T-shirt. T-shirts are \$15 and available in white or hunter green in 100% cotton. Sizes S, M, L, and X-L. Child sizes are also available.

To place your order: email president@fca-fairlington.org or contact any FCA board member.

MINI-ADS INSTRUCTIONS

Due date for ads and payment: 6 pm on the 10th of Mailing Address: FCA-AFB, PO Box 6182, Arlington, the preceding month (Oct 10 for Nov issue).

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

E-mail: admanager@fca-fairlington.org

VA 22206-0182.

Drop Box Location: Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. (Hours: 8 am - 9 pm, M-F, 8 am – 5 pm, Saturday; closed Sunday.) Cost: 50 cents per word. Examples: "998-0000" and "stove" = one word; "interior/exterior" = two words. Include with ad copy: Name, address, phone #, email address, and ad category (see Mini-ads for options).

30% Discount on Tax Preparation

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



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

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



