

all FAIRLINGTON BULLETIN



www.fca-fairlington.org

SEPTEMBER 2010

Volume 36, Number 9

Chris Zimmerman to describe Arlington's economic outlook

Calendar

FCA Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, September 8, 7 p.m.

Fair Golds

Thursday, September 2, noon
FCC

Fairlington Diners

Sunday, September 5, 6:30 p.m.
Indigo Landing
Alexandria

Back-to-school picnic

Monday, September 6, 5 – 7 p.m.
Abingdon School

First day of school, APS

Tuesday, September 7

MOMS Club meeting

Wednesday, September 8, 3:30 p.m.
FCC

Thirty Somethings

Thursday, September 9
TBA by e-mail

Fair Golds program

Thursday, September 16, noon
FCC

"We're doing a bit better than everyone else"—that's the welcome news from Arlington County Board vice chairman Chris Zimmerman, an economist by training and a member of the board since 1996. Arlington's long tradition of "cautious and careful fiscal management" has allowed us to weather the current recession with fewer ill effects than have been painfully felt in other jurisdictions, he says. "What we've done in the past has put us in a stronger position to face the economic down-

turn. Vacancy rates soar in Herndon, but stay low here. And that's because Arlington creates more value. It's the result of smart growth combined with smart fiscal policies." You'll have the chance to hear Zimmerman's economic assessment fleshed out in greater detail at the FCA meeting on September 8.

Zimmerman's overall optimism is reflected in Arlington's continuing, and enviable, triple-A bond rating. The county's long-established practice of slow, steady growth means that Arlington is traditionally more stable than other cities and counties. And we invest in infrastructure, Zimmerman adds. So, in every category from schools, to transportation, to support for the arts—things that may seem intangible but that impact economic development—Arlington continues to be an attractive choice for families and businesses. True, the county's elected officials and professional managers have had to make some "tough choices" during recent budget deliberations, but "we hope to avoid the more stringent measures seen elsewhere, and we even hope to restore some curtailed services in the future," he says.

Closely associated with local transportation issues, Zimmerman can update the Fairlington community on the status of the HOT Lanes project ("not the way to solve our transportation problems but, at the least, [if it goes forward] we can stop it from being done stupidly") and Metro funding. And, if the timing is right, he may be able to announce an anticipated new bike initiative. In addition, Mr. Zimmerman looks forward to answering your questions.



Arlington County Board vice chairman Chris Zimmerman, pictured (at left) with fellow board member Walter Tejada, biked to the Fairlington Day event in Utah Park on May 15. Photograph by Gretchen Fallon.

Continued on page 3

Coming up ...

The FCA Board invites all Fairlington residents to attend its meetings, which occur on the second Wednesday of the month unless otherwise noted. If you would like to discuss a neighborhood issue at the meeting, please e-mail president@fca-fairlington.org or leave a voice-mail message at 703-243-1735 by the Sunday before the meeting. You can find more information on the FCA Web site, www.fca-fairlington.org, and by logging on to Facebook and joining "Fairlington Appreciation Society."

Preliminary agenda:

7 p.m. Special program: Arlington County Board vice chairman Chris Zimmerman will discuss the county's economic outlook and answer questions.

8 p.m. Regular business meeting

- Approval of July/August minutes
- Treasurer's report
- Old business
- New business
- Officer and committee reports

Sign up for updates

Visit www.fca-fairlington.org to sign up for neighborhood news delivered right to your inbox.

AFB on the Web

The AFB is posted online at www.fca-fairlington.org a week earlier than the hard copy hits your front stoop.

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USEFUL CONTACTS

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Fairlington Community Center	703-228-6588
Metrobus Complaints	703-228-7929
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www.arlingtonva.us/departments/Environmental	
Services/dot/traffic/streetlights/index.htm	
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Fairlington Citizens Association

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— DEADLINE —

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

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E-mail editorial announcements to:

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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 703-243-1735 #1.

Ad Size	Height	Width	Rate
1/8 page	2 3/16 in.	3 5/8 in.	\$47
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Calendar, cont.

Fairlington Diners

Monday, September 20, 7:30 p.m.
Ramparts Restaurant
Alexandria

Parkfairfax native plant sale

Saturday, September 25,
9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
3601 Valley Drive, Alexandria
(tennis court parking lot)

Book Group

Tuesday, September 28, 7:30 p.m.
North Fairlington CC

See Neighborhood News on pages
17 – 18 and related articles for
details about calendar events.

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Some images in this publication may be
digitally enhanced.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This summer was eventful.

The good news: Our annual Independence Day parade brought out many residents and friends from all corners of the community. The welcome aromas of summer wafted on occasional breezes, as many residents gathered on their patios to grill out and enjoy the warm weather. The condominium associations hosted pool parties, wine and cheese soirees, and other fun social activities. The county School Board chair and vice chair spoke at our June monthly meeting (see the July *All Fairlington Bulletin* for more information). The FCA hosted four START meetings (Smart Transportation Alternatives for Riders Tomorrow), and took action on the latest news regarding the BRAC-133 project on Seminary Road as well as the potential for HOT lanes along I-395. The Fairlington Community Center completed its outdoor renovation—the parking lot and playground opened, and new plantings surrounding the field, which are both ecologically sound and pleasing to look at, took root. And *kudos* to county crews who quickly disposed of most of the damaged branches blocking our roads, homes, and sidewalks following the devastating storm of August 5.

The not so good news: Summer storms led to three power outages in the neighborhood. The storm of August 5 was particularly violent—heaps of downed branches brought back childhood memories of hurricanes along the Carolina coast. And, then, there was the humidity....enough said!

The fall promises to be eventful, too. To kick off the run-up to the General Election on November 2, the Fairlington Citizens Association is pleased to host Arlington County Board vice chairman Chris Zimmerman at our monthly meeting on September 8. One of our goals is to provide a forum wherein residents have the opportunity to interact with their government representatives and ask questions. Mindful that hurricane season runs until November 1, and that there may be snow storms after that, it is my hope to invite representatives from Dominion Virginia Power later this fall to discuss the power outages in our community. And the FCA is working with the Fairlington Historical Society on plans to dedicate the restored models of our community, which will be on permanent display in the Fairlington Community Center on South Stafford Street.

I encourage you to stay informed of our progress in this newsletter and on the FCA Web site, www.fca-fairlington.org. Come to our monthly meetings, listen to our guest speakers, and join the other volunteers on the FCA board as we tackle the issues that affect this community.

I remain,
Faithfully,

Sam Anthony

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Arlington's real estate tax delinquency rate is a low, low 1.8 percent

—Excerpted from the Sun Gazette Newspapers, August 6, 2010

In a sign that perhaps the worst of the economic slow-down is over locally, the delinquency rate on Arlington's June real estate tax installment was the lowest in four years. Just under \$5 million of the \$271.1 million due on June 15 had not been paid by June 27, when the Arlington County Treasurer's Office began targeted collection efforts. That initial 1.8 percent delinquency rate—already low by regional and national standards—had been cut nearly in half by early August, due to collection efforts.

The \$5 million in delinquent taxes this year was slightly below the total in 2007, when the area was heading into recession. It was about \$725,000 below the total in 2009, and a whopping \$3.75 million below the total recorded in June 2008, at the beginning of the economic meltdown. Back then, not only could some homeowners not afford to pay their taxes, but at least one major bank was not paying them for homeowners, due to its own economic problems.

County Treasurer Frank O'Leary said the lower delinquency rate in 2010 came as a "great relief" and it compares to rates of 10 percent or more in some communities. Arlington real estate taxes are due in two installments, June 15 and October 5. The percentage of delinquency in the fall tends to follow that of the previous spring.

Native plant sale in Parkfairfax

On Saturday, September 25, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., you can buy native perennials, shrubs, and trees for sun or shade at the tennis court parking lot at 3601 Valley Drive in Parkfairfax. It's the largest sale of its kind in the D.C. metro area, with over a dozen vendors from four states (VA, MD, PA, and WV). For more information, visit the sale Web site, www.home.earthlink.net/~sknudsen/.

County's census participation rate is down slightly from 10 years ago

Arlington's overall participation in the 2010 census (initial, mail-back phase) was down very slightly compared to the census of 2000—75 percent then, 74 percent now. That compares to a national mail-back response rate of 72 percent, which showed no change from 2000. The state-wide response rate for Virginia rose by three points, to 76 percent. The highest statewide response rates were posted in Minnesota and Wisconsin, with 80 and 81 percent participation.

Fairlington's participation rate is a little harder to assemble, due to the way the census tract maps are drawn. South Fairlington, occupying a self-contained census tract, posted a response rate of 84 percent. The rate for the census tract that includes north Fairlington was 76 percent—but Fairlington Villages falls in a census tract that also includes Shirlington and other residences along S. 31st Street and bordering streets. The rates displayed on the interactive map at the census Web site are the rates achieved by Tuesday, April 27, prior to the cut-off for door-to-door follow-up operations. Final rates will be available and will be posted in the fall and will include late mail returns.

You can track locality participation rates by going online to www.2010.census.gov or www.Take10Map.com. For Fairlington results: At the participation map page, enter ZIP code 22206; on the national map that appears, click the left tab "Local View;" and then mouse over the neighborhood.

All things Arlington, online

Check out the latest all-Arlington, all-the-time Web site and blog. Launched in January, ARLnow.com is the self-described "place for the latest news, views, and things to do around Arlington, Virginia. Started by a Columbia Pike resident who has spent the past several years working in local TV news, ARLnow.com seeks to distinguish itself with original, enterprising, up-to-the-minute local coverage. This is an experimental site that tries to get away from the formulaic, aggregation-centric approach to hyperlocal news that's currently being pushed by several large media companies. We welcome all feedback and story suggestions." Go online to www.ARLnow.com.



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After the storm

It was striking to view so much yellow-white tree “flesh” exposed against rain-darkened bark—a common sight in Fairlington in the aftermath of the fast-moving, violent thunderstorm of August 5. The “crack” and “thud” of dozens and dozens of huge, old trees being broken in half, sheared of massive limbs, or simply uprooted and blown over was heard from the Villages to the Commons. In some places, power lines

went down, fences were knocked over, and dormers or roof sections were ripped off buildings. A few cars were crumpled, but there were no reports of injuries. That good news was augmented by the speedy response of county crews, who arrived in force to deploy front loaders, backhoes, and grapple trucks to remove trees blocking streets and intersections. Photographs by Gretchen Fallon.



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Virginia schools performance falls short

As reported in the *Washington Post* and other local news outlets in August, “the vast majority” of public schools across the state “failed to meet new performance benchmarks for graduation rates and for students with disabilities,” according to the Department of Education. Declines in rated performance were attributed largely to changes in how success or failure is calculated. In particular, how to accurately test students with disabilities remains a key question for policymakers in Virginia and nationwide. Among northern Virginia schools, Fairfax County was the only division (one of 12 statewide, out of 132) that met all benchmarks. Average scores on Standards of Learning tests in Arlington were static in English and up in math, but fell short of the state goals for many groups. Arlington Public Schools chief Patrick Murphy noted that 16 Arlington schools met all performance targets required by the federal government for Adequate Yearly Progress: Abingdon, Arlington Science Focus, Arlington Traditional, Ashlawn, Barcroft, Campbell, Carlin Springs, Claremont, Glebe, Jamestown, Long Branch, McKinley, Nottingham, Taylor, and Tuckahoe elementary schools, and Yorktown high school. The remaining 14 schools (one more than in 2009) plus the division did not meet AYP. Murphy emphasized that the data contain some “promising trends,” and that the results released in August are preliminary. For more information, go online to the APS Web site, www.apsva.us/aps.

Arlington alerts: You can sign up for electronic emergency alerts and updates (via e-mail, cell, text, or pager) at www.arlingtonalert.com. It’s a free county service, but your service provider may charge you a fee to receive messages on wireless devices.

Arlington police report a robbery in Fairlington

At 12:45 a.m. on August 10, in the 4600 block of S. 36th Street, a woman was approached from behind by three African American males in their twenties. One of the suspects stole the victim’s purse from her shoulder. The first suspect was 5’5”, thin, and wore a bandana, black T-shirt, and baggy jeans. The second suspect was 6’2” and thin with dark hair. The third suspect was 5’8” with shoulder length dreadlocks, a white tank top, baggy jeans, and a hat.

September harvest benefits AFAC

The Arlington Food Assistance Center is looking for gleaners each Saturday morning in September. What’s gleaning? Basically, it is picking crops left in a farm field—the bounty of your time and hands will be donated to the AFAC fresh-food larder. In July, for example, one family picked 300 pounds of kale for AFAC clients, and in August the U.S. Department of Agriculture opened two acres of corn in Beltsville, MD, for AFAC gleaners. You’ll beat the heat by leaving Arlington around 7 a.m. to glean from 8 a.m. to noon. AFAC has relationships with two farm and orchard operations where volunteers go gleaning. To sign up, contact Susan Callegari, AFAC’s gleaning coordinator, at masoncal@mac.com. For more information, go online to www.afac.org.

Craft-y volunteers needed at Shirlington Library for Oktoberfest

Shirlington Branch Library needs volunteers to help with the library’s part of the Oktoberfest celebration in Shirlington Village on Saturday, October 2. The library is looking for people who enjoy doing crafts and working with kids and the young-at-heart—they would need to come to the library the week before the event to help prepare the crafts and then attend the event itself to help people make their crafts. The hours are flexible; Oktoberfest features events all day, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. If you are interested, please visit the library’s Web site for more information and to fill out the volunteer application, or call Barbara Dean at 703-228-7688.

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DOWN TO EARTH patio gardening



Mother Nature showed us who's boss

Ravaging winds, sheets of rain, and cracking thunderclouds rocked Alexandria and Arlington neighborhoods in the late afternoon of August 5, leaving streets in Fairlington, Del Ray, and Beverly Hills strewn with tree trunks, limbs, and branches.

A willow oak tree on South Stafford Street was simply pushed over and left a-tilt—the root ball was yanked out of the ground along with a 20-foot section of 4-inch-thick sidewalk slab. This peculiar and highly unusual sight drew a visit from a local television station. The taller oaks on South Stafford date to Fairlington's earliest days of construction in the 1940s, when the land was developed by Defense Homes to accommodate military personnel and federal employees working at the brand-new Pentagon.

Trees with sheared limbs or unearthed root balls included linden, pin oak, willow oak, scarlet oak, sycamore, American and Chinese elms, Norway and Amur maples, locust, white pine, red cedar, and sweet gum. Detouring around the fallen trees as I drove around the neighborhood, I noticed one truck with Pennsylvania license plates and "Bunyan Tree Service" painted on the side. Another tree service from Georgia was spotted, cleaning up debris.

Of August's storm, Alexandria Mayor Bill Euille said, "This was the worst I've seen in my life, worse than Hurricane Isabel."

WTOP Radio reported 73-mile-per-hour wind gusts at T.C. Williams High School on King Street. Over



The uprooted tree and up-heaved sidewalk on South Stafford Street. Photograph by Gretchen Fallon.

210,000 homes lost electricity in the Dominion Virginia Power service area of northern Virginia, leaving frustrated residents with cold showers, no Internet, and no air-conditioning. As reported in the *Washington Post*, the National Weather Service said the storm was a major "downburst," not a tornado. And, for perspective, WeatherQuestions.com said an average thunderstorm "releases the energy equivalent of a 20 kiloton nuclear weapon or a small nuclear power plant."

Fallout from the storm included Burke & Herbert Bank closing for two days, the Bradlee Shopping Center shutting down for one day, and blown-out windows of cars in the Shirlington bus station parking lot off Shirley Highway.

We've had record temperature and heat indices this summer, which ushered in the thunderstorms that began to seem almost commonplace every evening—but no other storm matched the speed and severity of the one on August 5. It was a reminder of what may be the only negative aspect of living in a lovely, shaded, tree-lined neighborhood—stately old trees are susceptible to damage in high winds. Trees with tight branch crotches—the Bradford pear, for example—are top heavy and lack the balance of an oak, maple, or pine, which bear horizontal-growing limbs. But not even well-balanced trees can always stand up to near hurricane-force winds.

—By Bill Sullivan,
www.sullivanlandscaping.net



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Animal Talk

Pet perks—the benefits of having pets

I have been doing a bit of wish-ful reading on a House bill that was proposed a year ago (HR 3501, the Humanity and Pets Partnered through the Years or HAPPY Act) that would allow pet owners to deduct up to \$3,500 per year for qualified pet care expenses. I would love for this bill to pass—just this past weekend I had to run to the emergency vet after one of my dogs got into something and wouldn't stop throwing up. In times like that I have to remind myself that there are, along with the bills, many benefits—physical and emotional—to being a pet owner. Here are just a few, for those of you who are considering getting a pet, or find yourself occasionally frustrated (and financially challenged) by the ones that you have.

According to the Centers for Disease Control's National Center for Infectious Diseases, having a pet can lower blood pressure, cholesterol and triglyceride levels, and feelings of



JJ, the rescued dog, now enjoys daily walks and a new life in Fairlington. Photograph by Jason Walther.

loneliness. It follows that having a pet can also help lower stress levels. Pets provide unconditional love and affection, and there is nothing better than coming home to be greeted by a pet that is thrilled to see you and has no reservations about showing it.

The CDC also notes that having a pet can help people increase their exer-

cise and socialization. I have gotten to know many of my neighbors (both pet owners and non-pet owners) by being out and about. I truly feel connected to the community. Being out walking is also a great way to keep a neighborhood watch and report any troublesome activity.

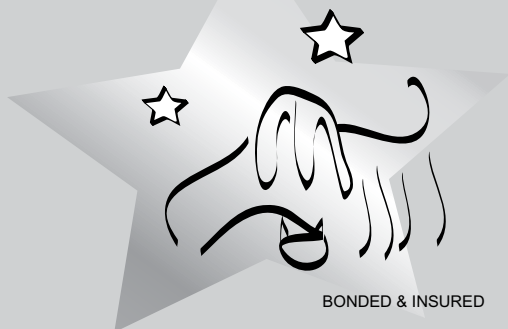
My favorite pet benefit story comes from a Fairlington friend whose doctor wanted to put her on medication due to health and weight concerns. Instead, she adopted an older dog from a local shelter that also had health problems and set out to improve the quality of life for both of them. She started walking the dog four times a day, met lots of neighbors she'd never known in her many years in Fairlington, lost 85 pounds in 15 months, and avoided medication. You can't beat that for a natural remedy.

—By Christine Chirichella, AFB Assistant Editor

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Sunday, closed.

Get a complete description of fall classes online or go to the FCC to pick up a copy of the fall issue of *Enjoy Arlington*. For questions or registration, go online to www.arlingtonva.us or call 703-228-4747.

For updates and more information, call the FCC at 703-228-6588.



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Time to re-register your retail rebate cards

You can help Abingdon earn money when you shop—and it will cost you absolutely nothing! Our school receives thousands of dollars each year from Safeway, Giant, and Harris Teeter because parents, teachers, and interested folks like you link your grocery cards to Abingdon Elementary School.

It takes only a minute to register, but, if you have registered your grocery cards in the past, please remember that you must do it annually. Please take a moment to re-designate Abingdon for the 2010 – 11 school year by going online to the following sites.

For Giant: Abingdon's School ID#02213
www.giantfood.com/our_stores/bonus_bucks/designate_school.htm?execution=e1s1

For Safeway: Abingdon's School ID#6466553
www.escrip.com/

For Harris Teeter: Abingdon's School ID#5748
www.harristeeter.com/community/together_in_education/link_to_your_school.aspx

You can also print out a retail rebate form at our Web site (<http://sites.google.com/site/abingdonpta/earn-money-for-abingdon-at-the-grocery-store>), fill in your card numbers, and send the form to the PTA at 3035 S. Abingdon Street, Arlington, VA 22206. We'll take care of



Last year's back to school picnic was also the unveiling of our brand new playground. Photograph by Michelle Marston.

registering and re-registering you annually for as long as you'll let us!

Calling all Abingdon teachers, parents, and students

The first day of school is almost upon us again. And we'll be getting ready with the Abingdon PTA's annual back to school picnic on Monday, September 6, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the school's back playground. All Abingdon families are encouraged to attend.

The PTA will provide chicken and barbecue from Rocklands BBQ, as well as all necessary paper goods. The rest is potluck: Families with last names starting with the letters A – J, please bring a side dish. Families with last names starting with the letters K – S, please bring water or other drinks. And families with last names starting with the letters T – Z, please bring dessert.

Please RSVP to Michelle Marston by Saturday, September 4, so we

know how much food to get: MichelleCMarston@gmail.com. Last year, more than 100 people came out to join us. We hope to see you there!

School supplies

Parents are reminded that if they purchased a SchoolKidz school supply kit for their children in June, those supplies will be shipped directly to Abingdon and will be waiting for your child on the first day of school. There were a few items on the supply list that were not included in the

SchoolKidz kits, such as field trip or assignment notebook money. Please check out www.AbingdonPTA.org to review the lists, in English or Spanish.

The Abingdon PTA collected funds last year to purchase school supplies for students who might otherwise not be able to afford them. If you would like to make any additional contributions of school supplies or financial support, we'll be pleased to accept. Contact Michelle Marston at MichelleCMarston@gmail.com if you'd like to support this project.

The items most needed tend to be glue sticks and Mead 5-Star notebooks. A lot of Abingdon work is done in interactive notebooks, so the kids go through glue sticks pretty quickly. And the Mead 5-Star notebooks are bigger than most and, therefore, don't require cutting pages to put in the interactive notebooks, but they're also much more expensive than other brands.

—By Michelle Marston, Abingdon PTA co-president

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neighborhood news

Fair Golds

The Fair Golds, an Arlington County social group in and around the Fairlington area (including Alexandria), meets at the Fairlington Community Center at noon on the first and third Thursdays of each month, with the exception of the months of July and August when there is only one meeting on the third Thursdays of those months. The meetings begin with a brown-bag lunch. Dessert and beverages are provided.

In September the Fair Golds will have a business meeting on Thursday, September 2, and on Thursday, September 16, Fair Golds will have retired member of the National Symphony Orchestra, Ed Skidmore, speak on "How Does One Become a Base Fiddle Player?" Please feel free to join us at one or more of our meetings and see if Fair Golds is a group you would be interested in joining. The only requirement is that you be over 55 years of age. We try to arrange a special program or engage a speaker for the second Thursday meeting of the month. If you would like more information about Fair Golds, feel free to call Gertrude Frankel at 703-931-3759 or Vernetta Kukulich at 703-548-8571.

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

At the summer quarterly meeting, Fairlington Babysitting Co-op members and their children gathered at the Fairlington Community Center. Members caught up with each other, met new families, and conducted a bit of business while the children played and everyone enjoyed refreshments.

Fairlington families have been enjoying the benefits of this unique organization for 30 years. Parents who are ready for some time away from the kids, but don't know who to call, should consider joining the Babysitting Co-op. The Co-op is a network of Fairlington families who exchange free babysitting services. It's perfect for

parents who would like to know dependable adults to watch their children and meet other families in the community. Whether a parent is single or married, working or staying at home, the Babysitting Co-op can accommodate diverse schedules and situations.

The Co-op works on a card system, where each member starts out with 15 one-hour cards and can use them to pay for sittings. Sittings may be requested during the day, evenings or weekends. During the day children are normally brought to the sitter's house, and in the evenings the sitter usually comes to the children's house; however, different arrangements may be made.

For an application or more information, contact the FBC coordinators at Fairlington.babysitting@gmail.com. The Babysitting Co-op looks forward to hearing from you.

MOMS Club of Arlington-Fairlington

Are you a stay-at-home parent, pregnant, or on maternity leave, and looking to connect with other Fairlington moms and dads? The MOMS Club of Arlington-Fairlington, VA chapter of the International MOMS Club may be for you. Members and their children participate in general monthly meetings, member planned outings/events, family meal support, Parents' Night Out, and much more. The weekly age-specific playgroups start as young as birth to 6 months and go all the way up to 3+ years old. Playgroups are great for kids, but they also offer parents a chance to find support and friendship.

In the last year members have also worked on several community service projects benefitting Abingdon Elementary School, the Arlington Food Assistance Center, and the March of Dimes.

If you would like to learn more about the club and meet other parents, please join us for our general meeting on Wednesday, September 8 at the Fairlington Community Center. Children are welcome. For more information about the club, the general meeting, or membership, please contact Angela Klaus (Membership VP) at fairlingtonmoms@yahoo.com. Annual dues of \$25 support quarterly group functions and community service projects.

neighborhood news

Continued

Fairlington Diners

We're an easy-going group of Fairlington and non-Fairlington friends who gather for dinner a couple of times a month. We had a grand time at the Fish Market in Alexandria in August, with a bigger crowd than usual—several diners attended for the first time in many months. This month, breaking with our tradition of weekday evening events, we'll meet for Sunday supper on Labor Day weekend.

Sunday, September 5, 6:30 p.m., Indigo Landing, 1 Marina Drive, Alexandria 22314, 703-548-0001. The views of the Potomac and the monuments make this restaurant a wonderful setting. We can enjoy the sights as the sun sets on this last Sunday of the summer season. Monday, September 20, 7:30 p.m., half-price burger night at Ramparts Restaurant, 1700 Fern Street, Alexandria 22302, 703-998-6616. The new burger menu has proved very tasty; you may find a new favorite.

Please call Carol (not e-mail) to let us know you plan to attend, so we can choose the right size table when

we arrive. Prior to the day of the event, please call at 703-379-6840. On the day of the event, call by 6 p.m. at 202-647-2624. (NOTE CHANGED NUMBER.) Leave a voicemail if you don't reach Carol directly at either number—include your name and how to contact you the day of the event, in case of a change in plans. If you'd like to be included in our e-mail list, send your e-mail address to carol_dabbs@yahoo.com.

Book Group

Ever wonder about the thought processes that lead your doctor to a diagnosis? Join us on Tuesday, September 28, at 7:30 p.m. in the North Fairlington Community Center, to discuss *How Doctors Think*, by Jerome Groopman, M.D. For further information, please contact Kavita Kalsy at kkalsy@hotmail.com.

Thirty Somethings

The Fairlington 30-Somethings will gather on Thursday, September 9 for a happy hour or an outdoor activity such as volleyball. Plans will be announced by e-mail. If you want to be added to the list, please contact Jeff Hewitt at j.b.hewitt@verizon.net or Kavita Kalsy at kkalsy@hotmail.com.



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DOG WALKER & PET SITTER-REASONABLE RATES. Special rates for regular walks. Mature, responsible, reliable and dependable woman with excellent Fairlington references. Suzanne Mitchell: Pal4Paws.Suzanne@gmail.com or call 703-868-8894.

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NOTICE TO ALL ADVERTISERS

Due Date for All Ads: 6 pm on 10th of the preceding month (Sept 10th for October issue)

Payment: BOTH payment and ad copy must be received by the 10th.
Make checks payable to "Fairlington Citizens Association."

NEW E-Mail Address for All Ads: admanager@fca-fairlington.org

Mailing Address for All Ads and Checks: FCA-AFB, PO Box 6182, Arlington, VA 22206-0182

Drop-Off Location for Ads and Checks: Drop-Off Box in Fairlington Community Center,
3308 S. Stafford Street

MINI-AD FORM

Mini-ad copy can be e-mailed to admanager@fca-fairlington.org and then submit your payment by mail to FCA AFB, PO Box 6182, Arlington, VA 22206-0182 or drop off ads and checks to the drop-off box in the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford Street. E-mailed ad text will not be processed until payment is received.

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

Cost is 50 cents per word (e.g., "998-0000" and "stove" are each one word; "interior/exterior" are two words).

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← Here is a sneak peak of the ☐Island☐Kitchen ☐
complete with a breakfast bar and full size pantry

*** The Fairlington Home & Garden Tour is sponsored by the Fairlington Historical Society. It is held in the Spring in odd-numbered years, and is a favorite Fairlington event, where homeowners can get lots of ideas! It is a huge undertaking and the FHS Committee does a tremendous job. DeLong Home Improvement is proud that a total Clarendon remodel we completed was included in the 2009 Home Tour.**

Lots of photos on our website: www.dhibob.com

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**For more details or pics, visit our office or our website
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Arlington, VA
Braddock**

**1 BR/1 BA
Sq ft: 711**

**Price: \$245,000
MLS# AR7384185**

**Fairlington
Arlington, VA
End Clarendon**

**2 BRs/2 BAs
Sq ft: 1,500**

**Price: \$439,000
MLS# AR7399224**



**Island Creek
Alexandria, VA**

**4 BRs/3 BAs
Sq ft: 2,440**

**Price: \$450,000
MLS# FX7393434**

**Kingstowne
Alexandria, VA**

**3 BRs/3.5 BAs
Sq ft: 2,040**

**Price: \$415,000
MLS# FX7382422**



**Little River Square
Annandale, VA**

**2 BRs/1 BA
Sq ft: 600**

**Price: \$129,000
MLS# FX7401673**

**Bella Vista
Arlington, VA**

**2 BRs/2 BAs
Sq ft: 1,521**

**Price: \$609,000
MLS# AR7398030**



**Ballston
Arlington, VA**

**1 BR/1BA
Sq ft: 840**

**Price: \$399,000
MLS# AR7377608**

**Acadia
Vienna, VA**

**2 BRs/2 BAs
Sq ft: 1,210**

**Price: \$399,000
MLS#: FX7400375**



**4800 South 31st Street
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ArlingtonSouth.va@longandfoster.com**

703-998-3111

Arlington will vote on \$161 million in bonds in November

In July, the Arlington County Board approved four local bond referenda (for schools, metro and transportation, parks and recreation, and infrastructure) totaling \$161.028 million, to be considered by voters on the Tuesday, November 2 ballot. "Because county government has been fiscally prudent, Arlington is able to afford investment in infrastructure that will help keep this community both financially sound and a great place to live," said board chairman Jay Fiset. If approved by voters, proceeds from the bonds will be used to pay for projects that include:

- Building a new Wakefield High School
- Support for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority's Capital Improvement Program
- Herndon and 13th St. Park (completing the implementation of the Parks Master Plan)
- Rocky Run Park (complete renovation)
- Land acquisition and open space
- Parks maintenance capital (replacement or major renovation of different types of outdoor park and recreation facility assets including athletic fields and courts, lighting, playgrounds, picnic shelters, and restrooms)
- Neighborhood conservation (funding public improvements requested by neighborhoods and approved by the board)
- Facilities maintenance capital (replacement and rehabilitation of roofs, HVAC, windows, and other facility components at county facilities).

Parkfairfax Native Plant Sale

Saturday, September 25, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the tennis courts parking lot at 3601 Valley Drive in Parkfairfax.

Over a dozen vendors from 4 states (VA, MD, PA, & WV) will be hosted! This event is the largest native plant sale in the D.C. metro region! If you've enjoyed this sale in the past, please come again--the number of vendors in future sales will stay only as high as supported by local demand!

Come find native perennials, shrubs, and trees for sun or shade! Several vendors specialize in some aspect of native plants, such as native azaleas, fruiting shrubs, or wetland plants. A few do not come here for any other plant sale. The list of vendors can be downloaded from the sale website at <http://www.home.earthlink.net/~sknudsen/>

The sale is entirely organized and run by volunteers. No one makes money on it except the vendors. Its purpose is to promote native plant gardening in our area to benefit our watershed and wildlife (especially birds) and to beautify our neighborhoods. Bringing together a variety of growers makes it easier for local gardeners to find quality plants and encourages greater demand for natives in the nursery industry.

For anyone interested in volunteering to help at the sale, please contact Scott Knudsen at 703-671-8416 or sknudsen@earthlink.net. For everyone else, please just come!

Thirty Somethings cont.