

all FAIRLINGTON BULLETIN



www.fca-fairlington.org

SEPTEMBER 2019

Volume 45, Number 9

County considers permanently closing Fairlington fire station

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Fire Station 7 has been closed since late October, 2018. Photo by Guy Land.

Arlington County is considering permanently closing Fire Station 7, the Fairlington fire station at 3118 S. Columbus St., but fire department officials stress that emergency services would still be provided to Fairlington residents within the countywide travel time target of four minutes or less.

The station closed temporarily in late October after fire department personnel expressed concern about the ability of the concrete slab to

support the current fire engine, which is considerably heavier than the slab was designed to support when the station was rebuilt in 1983.

Earlier this year the county's Department of Environmental Services, which oversees county property, contracted for two outside studies to determine what repairs or renovations would be needed—an engineering study to address structural issues and an assessment of the station's compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (which applies to all major renovations of county facilities).

The two studies concluded that major structural changes and improvements, including the installation of an elevator, would be needed to make the station safe and code compliant. Informal estimates suggest that the cost of these modifications would be in the range of \$3 million to \$5 million.

After examining the two studies, and looking at reports of the calls to which Station 7 responds, a substantial portion of which are in nearby Alexandria or Fairfax County, Fire Chief David Povlitz recommended that the station be permanently closed and that Fairlington be served primarily by Station 9 on S. Walter Reed Dr.

"We will continue to make sure that the community is protected," Chief Povlitz says. He notes that Fairlington is also served by Stations 203 and 206 in Alexandria under a reciprocal agreement between the two jurisdictions.

According to Povlitz, the modeled travel time for calls from South Fairlington is two minutes or less, while the travel time in North Fairlington ranges

Continued on page 19

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 September 11

Special Presentation: Representatives from the county's Transportation, Engineering, and Operations Bureau, as well as Arlington Public Schools Design and Construction, will be on hand to discuss transportation issues in the neighborhood. In addition, representatives of Transurban will discuss the plans for opening the new I-395 Express Lanes.

Regular board business:

- Approval of August 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 Appreciation Society.

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

USEFUL CONTACTS

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Fairlington Community Center	703-228-6588
Metrobus Complaints	703-228-7929
Miss Utility	811
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Shirlington Library	703-228-6545
Street Light Hotline	703-228-6511
www.arlingtonva.us/departments/Environmental Services/dot/traffic/streetlights/index.htm	
Helicopter Noise Complaints	Mike Lucier (VA 8th Dist.) 202-225-4376

Fairlington Citizens Association

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All Fairlington Bulletin

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— DEADLINE —

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

Send material on disk with paper proof to:

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Email editorial announcements to:

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Email commercial and mini ads to:

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

COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING RATES

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

Ad Size	Height	Width	Rate
1/8 page	2 3/16 in.	3 5/8 in.	\$47
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Full-Page Insert (1 Side)	11 in.	8.5 in.	\$525
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Calendar

Movie Night

Friday, September 6, 7:45pm (approx.)
FCC, 3308 S. Stafford St.

Fairlington Knits

Monday, September 9, 6:30 pm
FCC, 3308 S. Stafford St.

Fairlington Diners

Tuesday, September 10, 6:30 pm
Dudley's Sport and Ale
2766 S. Arlington Mill Dr.

FCA monthly meeting

Wednesday, September 11, 7 pm
FCC, 3308 S. Stafford St.

MOMS Club Consignment Sale

Saturday, September 14, 9 am
FCC, 3308 S. Stafford St.

Fairlington Diners

Monday, September 23, 6:30 pm
Ramparts
1700 Fern St., Alexandria

Fairlington Knits

Monday, September 23, 6:30 pm
FCC, 3308 S. Stafford St.

Book Group

Tuesday, September 24, 7:30 pm
FCC, 3308 S. Stafford St.

A little birdie told me...



Fairlington residents Barbara, Emmett, and Connor Thompson enjoy a game of badminton on a late-summer morning. Photo by Guy Land.

Contributors this month: Lucy Beadnell, Lynne Blasi, Sara Tuke Carr, Jennifer Davies, Donna Felipe, Guy Land, Rachel Mallory, Susan Renehan, Rebecca Sayres, Thora Stanwood, Bill Sullivan, and Lindsay Willmann.

Some images in this publication may be digitally enhanced.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Although at press time a decision had not been made, it appears likely that the Fairlington fire station (Station 7) will be permanently closed.

Station 7 has been an important part of the neighborhood for decades. Of course, its primary function has been to provide prompt response to emergency situations, including being among the first responders to the Pentagon on 9/11. But the station and its crew have been much more than that. They have been full members of the community.

From providing the truck for the Fourth of July parade, to helping educate young Fairlingtonians on fire safety, to hosting Santa on the fire truck, to chatting with residents as they walk by, the Station 7 crew have been almost as much a part of Fairlington as those of us who live here.

But a variety of factors are leading the county to close its doors. The cost of making it structurally sound and ADA-compliant will likely be in the millions of dollars—and that for a station that doesn't meet the county's current requirements in size and service area. A substantial portion of the station's responses lately have been to Alexandria and Fairfax County, not Arlington. From a fiscal management perspective, these are serious drawbacks.

In FCA's view, the critical thing is to ensure the county provides adequate response to emergency calls from Fairlington. Station 7 has been closed since last fall and travel times for calls from Fairlington have been within the county's target of traveling to all emergency calls within four minutes.

If the station is permanently closed, county staff have said they want to work closely with FCA in two key areas. The first is helping shape what new use(s) may be made of the station. It's rare that the county closes a facility, so there isn't a lot precedent here. FCA will seize this opportunity to help shape the conversation and ensure that the building's new use will be an asset to the community.

The second opportunity for engagement will be in connecting Station 9 on Walter Reed to Fairlington. Chief Povlitz and I have talked about ways FCA can facilitate this. It won't be the same as having firemen sitting out front as residents walk by. But with careful thought, we can make Station 9 an important part of the community's resources, maybe even continuing some of the community activities that Station 7 joined. This is another good role for FCA.

We invite you to join us in these discussions.

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



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Fairlington being considered for new sidewalk project

Arlington County's Neighborhood Conservation Program is considering a new project for the Fairlington community. The project would entail the installation of a missing sidewalk section along the north side of S. Abingdon St. between S. 31st St. and S. 31st Rd. (diagonally across the street from Fire Station 7 and the STEM Preschool).

The project is in its initial planning phase and design drawings have not been drafted yet; however, the project may result in a parking reduction in the immediate vicinity. The number of parking spaces that may have to be removed has not been determined. The county would do its best to protect area plantings during the construction phase and has committed to providing replacements in the event of damages.

Ed Hilz, Fairlington's Neighborhood Conservation Representative, recently sent out a General Interest Survey



There is a proposal to add a new section of sidewalk along S. Abingdon St. Photo by Guy Land.

to gauge community support for the project. The project will require support from at least 60% of the property owners of the linear frontage along the block on both sides along with an endorsement from the Fairlington Citizens Association (FCA).

The FCA will take a vote on its position at its September monthly meeting. If the community approves the project, Neighborhood Conservation staff would initiate a feasibility study to develop a design concept and cost estimate. The project would then be submitted to the June 2020 funding round to seek recommendation for funding from the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC), providing the project is within a \$500k budget. If it is recommended, the funding request would then go to the county board for final approval.

—Rebecca Sayres

Fairlington's second outdoor movie to be held September 6

After being rained out twice last year, and again this spring, the FCA will host its second free outdoor movie night to encourage Fairlington residents to get out and enjoy the company of their community. Taking advantage of the neighborhood's lovely facilities, a large screen will be set up behind the Fairlington Community Center on Friday, September 6.



Residents are invited to bring blankets, chairs, and their favorite theatre snacks to set up a picnic on the FCC field and enjoy a viewing of "Moana" under the stars. The movie is set to begin just after sundown (around 7:45 pm), but those attending are encouraged to come early to set up and visit with friends and neighbors. Please note that alcoholic beverages are not permitted on FCC grounds.

Though there are floodlights behind the FCC, the further reaches of the field will be much darker when the movie ends around 9:45 pm. Residents are encour-

aged to bring flashlights, camping lanterns, or phones equipped with flashlight settings to navigate their way home after the show.

There is plenty of space to set up with friends and family, and additional trash and recycling bins will be provided for your convenience. As those who have attended other outdoor movie showings can attest, bug spray is always a good idea. Subtitles will be provided throughout the film, which is approximately 113 minutes long.

Though we are hoping for a beautiful September evening, there is always a chance that such an event will have to be rescheduled because of inclement weather. In the event of cancellation, an announcement will be made on the FCA website and Facebook page. A make-up date will then be announced in the *All Fairlington Bulletin*.

FCA is looking forward to sponsoring this event, and celebrating the end of summer with our neighbors in Fairlington. We hope to see you there!

—Lindsay Willmann

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Back to school in Fairlington means safety improvements

Key intersections in Fairlington are going to be assessed to determine what pedestrian safety improvements are needed. The intersections, at S. Abingdon St./S. 34th St./S. 36th St., and S. 33rd St./S. Stafford St., will undergo a multi-stage process that includes observation, data analysis, and assessment by county engineers.

The assessments will be completed by Nick DiTaranto, the lead Transportation Design Engineer with the county's Transportation, Engineering & Operations Bureau. DiTaranto will be presenting on his initial findings at the September meeting of the Fairlington Citizens Association (FCA) on September 11 at 7 pm at the Fairlington Community Center.



The intersection of Abingdon St., 34th St., and 36th St. is one of two Fairlington intersections currently being assessed for possible improvements. Photo by Susan Renehan.

Once his assessments are complete, DiTaranto will be working on a concept design for the pedestrian improvements of these two key intersections, along with the mid-block crosswalk in front of the Fairlington Community Center (FCC).

The assessments and concept designs are the first step in a process that includes peer review and cost estimates by the bureau. The projects themselves will be subject to construction feasibility and budget considerations.

The observation phase at the intersection of S. Abingdon St., S. 34th St., and S. 36th St. has already taken place. DiTaranto has already begun the concept design for the potential improvements to that intersection.

Initial observation at the intersection of S. 33rd St. and S. Stafford St. showed problems with sight lines for traffic exiting S. 33rd St. New signs restricting parking on S. Stafford St. north of the intersection were put in place in July.

While some observations have already taken place, the county will continue the observation phase after the Labor Day weekend holiday and once school starts again on September 3. Once traffic has returned to levels normally seen during the school year, the county will resume the observation at the intersection of S. 33rd St. and S. Stafford St.

The observation, data collection, and analysis phase can take up to four weeks to complete.

The county has also invested in a study to determine whether pick up and drop off procedures are adequate for the drop-off lane space and volume of students at Abingdon Elementary. Arlington Public Schools (APS) released the results over the summer; the study showed that the current procedures are working well and that over two-thirds of students use means other than car transportation to get to school

(related: see the August *All Fairlington Bulletin*).

—Susan Renehan

395 Express Lanes to open

After almost two years of construction, the new I-395 Express Lanes are on track to open later this year. Officials from Transurban, the private contractor that will operate the lanes, will update the community on the status of the lanes at the September 11 FCA meeting.

The project, which runs eight miles from near Edsall Rd. to Eads St. in Arlington, is adding a third express lane, along with the installation of sound barriers along portions of the route.

Vehicles with three or more people can use the express lanes for free, while vehicles with fewer than three people would have to pay a variable toll. Often called "congestion pricing," the amount of the toll would be determined by the extent of congestion in the express lanes.

All users of the lanes must have a transponder. High occupancy vehicles (HOV) with three or more people may use the lanes for free but they will need a special transponder that allows them to switch between "HOV On" and "HOV Off." These special transponders, called E-ZPass Flex, are available at locations throughout the area.

More information can be found at www.expresslanes.com/projects/395.



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Farmers market to seek permanent license

Building on five years of successful operations, the Fairlington Farmers Market will be seeking a permanent operating license from the county this fall. Market volunteer committee members Jeff Kost and Tracey McGovern reviewed the history of the market and outlined the major aspects of the license application at FCA's August 14 meeting.

"This is our community market. We're Fairlington residents," Kost said in explaining the philosophy that guides the market. He said they have no plans to change that focus.

There are currently 15 regular vendors, nine of which are original vendors from the market's first year. "We don't foresee getting any bigger," McGovern said, but she noted that they would continue to host special "pop up" vendors every few weeks, as they have done for the past couple of years. The market can accommodate up to 21 vendors.

According to McGovern, 7000 people walk through the market every month, evidence of the market's popularity.

The market has adopted several activities to enhance its value, including providing a composting option, encouraging community outreach by providing an information table each week for local non-profits, and offering special activities for young children.

Many market vendors also donate unsold produce to the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC). Over the past five years, 14,000 pounds have been donated to AFAC.

Although the market committee, along with applicant Field to Table, Inc., is still refining the application, Kost outlined key aspects of the potential request. He noted they would not propose changes in several areas. The



Tracey McGovern and Jeff Kost are volunteers with the Fairlington Farmers Market Committee and presented at the August FCA meeting. Photo by Guy Land.

footprint would remain the same, though the configuration for individual vendors might change to accommodate a few more vendors.

Similarly, they would not propose any changes for sound. Only non-amplified sound would be permitted.

Third, the market would continue to be pet-free to facilitate food safety and reduce any liability.

The committee does intend to seek some changes in the permit, though they might choose not to implement them. It costs several hundred dollars to seek a change in the permit and because the license would be permanent,

the committee wants to preserve maximum flexibility in market operations for future years.

One option they are likely to propose in the license is expanding the hours by permitting the market to open at 8 am. There are currently no plans for the earlier opening; it's just an option the committee wants to preserve for the future. Another option is for the market to be a year-round activity, rather than the existing seasonal framework (the market currently opens the first Sunday in May and closes the Sunday before Thanksgiving).

Kost and McGovern stressed the importance of volunteers in operating the market. They say that 55 volunteer hours are needed to operate the market each month. Volunteers help open and close the market, visit with vendors and customers on market day, check out potential vendors, and advise on market policies and procedures. Residents who would be willing to devote a few hours each month to the market should contact fairlingtonfarmersmarket@gmail.com.

—Guy Land





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Fairlington residents show interest in the arts

Arlington has a rich local arts community, and a recent FCA community engagement survey revealed Fairlington residents have a special interest in taking an active part in arts-related activities.

When asked which groups or organizations they'd like FCA to engage in 2019, 55% of residents selected the Arlington Arts Center as one of their choices. Many also named arts-related activities (like craft gatherings and artist networking groups) in open-ended responses.

For those residents who'd like to get involved in the arts locally, both Arlington County and the Arlington Arts Center have much to offer.

Arlington Arts (part of Arlington Cultural Affairs) oversees public art displays in Arlington, like Gravity and Grace by Cliff Garten, the large and colorful LED artwork that lights up the parking structure above Rosslyn's Central Place Plaza. They also support numerous programs throughout the county, like the ceramic and printmaking studios for artists at Lee Arts Center, the free summer concert series at Lubber Run Amphitheater, and the Arlington Art Truck.

The Arlington Art Truck brings local artists and craft projects directly to neighborhoods and communities. It has already made one appearance at the Fairlington Farmers Market in 2019, and will make a second one this fall.

The Art Truck's theme for this fall will be "Ties That Bind" and residents are encouraged to bring buttons to sew onto the Fairlington Citizens Association segment of the artwork. The segment will then be sewn into a larger work with those of other Arlington civic associations.

Arlington County Parks and Recreation also sponsors local arts-related activities, like the pottery studio at Thomas Jefferson Community Center. In Fairlington, Parks and Rec offers numerous Enjoy Arlington! art classes and workshops at the Fairlington Community Center (FCC) throughout the year.

This fall, drawing, painting, and sewing classes for children and adults will be available at the FCC. Sign-up information can be found online in the Enjoy Arlington! catalogue on the Parks and Recreation website: parks.



The Arlington Art Truck has made appearances at the Fairlington Farmers Market and will be debuting a new project this fall. Photo by Ellman Studio LLC.

arlingtonva.us/classes.

The Arlington Arts Center is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting the work of artists in the Mid-Atlantic states. They host classes, workshops, and exhibits and offer subsidized studio space through their Resident Artist Program. As noted on their website, their goal is to "serve as a bridge between artists and the public."

Classes and workshops at the Arts Center are a fun and engaging way to learn a new artistic skill, while free exhibits give Arlington residents and visitors a chance to

see local, modern art in a beautiful and historic space. Community days offer Arlingtonians a chance to see new exhibits, mingle with other art enthusiasts, and sometimes (as with the recent Community Sewing Day) participate in the creation of local art.

For parents looking for fun, enriching educational activities during school holidays and summer break, Arlington Arts Center offers classes, workshops, and creative summer camps for children and teens ages five to eighteen. Summer camps offer complimentary extended day care, and give children a chance to explore a variety of topics and mediums. Covering topics like Comic Book Composition, Magnificent Murals, and Brushes and Palettes, these classes, workshops, and camps cater to a variety of interests and learning styles.

In response to the high level of interest identified through the Community Engagement Survey, FCA has begun exploring new ways to engage the local arts community. Keep an eye out for the Arlington Art Truck at the Fairlington Farmers Market on October 27, and stay tuned for more information regarding an FCA-sponsored arts event.

—Lindsay Willmann

Artists wanted

FCA invites Fairlington artists interested in the possibility of sharing their work to email FCA Vice President Lindsay Willmann at lindsay.willmann@gmail.com. Please include your name, neighborhood (i.e. Mews, Villages, etc.), and the medium/type of art in your reply.

Coming Soon Clarendon in the Arbor

Nicely updated Clarendon for Rent coming soon in the Arbor in November. Tasteful light grey paint and pretty hardwood floors. White Kitchen with Stainless Steel appliances. Energy Efficient windows and newer HVAC. Updated baths. Assigned parking and convenient Arbor location. Private setting with green space out front. Don't miss it!



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Shirlington Special General Land Use Plan study underway

The county's General Land Use Plan (GLUP) for the Village at Shirlington is currently under review. An application to amend the GLUP from "Low" Office-Apartment-Hotel to "Medium" Office-Apartment-Hotel has been filed by Federal Realty Investment Trust (FRIT), the majority landowner in Shirlington, and WETA.

The areas that are the subject of the application comprise several FRIT-owned sites, including the office building at Campbell Ave. and Quincy St., the surface parking area along Arlington Mill Dr. and Randolph St., the Hilton Garden Inn, the AMC Theatre, and the WETA building and parking garage. FRIT has expressed a preliminary interest in redeveloping the surface parking lot and WETA may be interested in adding density to its site.

The Special GLUP Study will thoroughly analyze the land use, density, height, form, transportation, and other implications of the requested amendments for not only the subject sites but also for the entire Village at Shirlington.

The General Land Use Plan currently designates virtually all of the Village at Shirlington as "Low" Office-Apartment-Hotel. This GLUP designation allows for up to 72 units per acre for residential development, office space at a 1.5 floor area ratio (FAR), and up to 110 units per acre for hotels. Under the current zoning designation of C-O-1.5, maximum building heights are eight stories for offices and 10 stories for residential or hotel development.

Should it be approved, the requested amendment would change the land use designation to "Medium" Office-Apartment-Hotel, which allows up to 115 units per acre, office space at a 2.5 floor area ratio and 180 hotel units per acre. The associated zoning designation of C-O-2.5 permits building heights up to 12 stories for office and 16 stories for residential or hotel development.

The Special GLUP Study began in June and is being carried out by staff under the auspices of the Arlington County Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) of the Planning Commission.

The LRPC, along with representatives from the Transportation Commission, the Arts Commission, the Historical Affairs and Landmark Review Board, and the Park & Recreation Commission, are reviewing the proposal along with the Fairlington Citizens Association, the Shirlington Civic Association, and the Green Valley Civic Association.

On July 23, a walking tour of Shirlington was conducted to tour the areas under consideration, and concluded in a discussion with staff about the opportunities, constraints, and assumptions of a potential land use change. County staff will be presenting modeling scenarios at subsequent meetings to address concerns and interests raised in the meeting.



Margaret Tulloch Rhodes, Principal Planner with the Department of Community Planning, Housing and Development, and FCA Director Sara Tuke Carr during a walking tour of Shirlington in late July. Photo by Guy Land.

Study area considerations to inform model scenarios include looking at building heights and design, circulation and connectivity, open space opportunities, historic preservation, and public art opportunities. Concerns raised at the meeting include maintaining the urban village character, preserving historic buildings, maintaining mature trees, and respecting the general 'feel' of the main street, as well as opportunities to create better gateways to Shirlington.

This study is anticipated to run through the end of the year and public participation is encouraged. No actual changes are occurring at this time and all changes are subject to public review at the Planning Commission and County Board levels.

For more information, please visit: projects.arlingtonva.us/plans-studies/general-land-use-plan/special-study-shirlington-village. To see the map of the areas under consideration, visit the FCA website, fca-fairlington.org.

—Sara Tuke Carr



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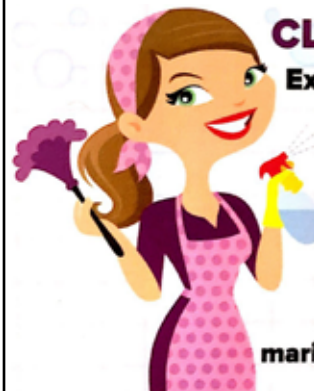
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Fairlington Presidents' quarterly update



The Council of Fairlington Presidents: (back row, L to R) Evan Wisser, Commons; Bill Jenkins, Arbor; Charlie Robbins, Glen; Joe Spytek, Meadows; (front row, L to R) Terry Placek, Fairlington Villages; Deborah Staren-Doby, Fairlington Court (Secretary); Jeanne Clarke, Green; Thora Stanwood (Coordinator). Photo by Mark Johnson.

The sharing of concerns, ideas, best practices, and upcoming events dominated the meeting held on July 29.

The intersection of 36th St. South and Quaker Ln. continues to be an issue for all Fairlington residents who try to cross the intersection, whether by car or on foot. Several ideas to alleviate the problem were discussed that could be presented to the traffic division of the City of Alexandria.

Terry Placek mentioned that Fairlington Villages will

launch a working group to come up with an emergency preparedness plan.

All are concerned that Fairlington's fire station may never reopen. It was closed due to structural issues that have yet to be addressed. The fire station has been a mainstay for many years and a comfort to all who live here. The presidents, through Fairlington Citizens Association, agreed that a letter of support to the county might be warranted.

There are numerous insurance policies that co-owners and renters must consider when living in Fairlington. First, each condo association's master policy must be studied prior to purchasing individual insurance coverage. It was suggested that each association might hold an open meeting to update co-owners and renters on the types of insurance they should consider purchasing.

Reserve contributions are an important part of each association's yearly budget. As our infrastructure ages, it becomes more costly to maintain and/or replace. Most are building both contingency and replacement reserves to reach a goal for major repairs or replacements that will not bankrupt the association when needed.

Other topics that were discussed include the Fairlington Appreciation Society Facebook page, continuing Comcast and Verizon FiOS issues, Arlington County affordable housing plans, and condo association management companies.

—Thora Stanwood

MOMS Club Consignment Sale taking place September 14

The MOMS Club of Arlington-Fairlington VA® is holding its semiannual consignment sale on Saturday, September 14, from 9 am to 1 pm at the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. The sale will feature new and gently used children's clothing, shoes, books, games, toys, and maternity items. There are two huge rooms for all the clothes, baby gear, books, toys, and maternity items you can imagine. The sale routinely has 15,000+ items, so there is loads of selection. The average price per item is always \$3-\$4, so come ready to stock up!

The MOMS Club will donate a portion of the proceeds from the sale to a local charity, and many unsold items will go to charities that directly give their goods to fami-

lies in need. Savvy shoppers normally get there shortly after 8 am to stand in line. At 12:30 pm, most items will be reduced to 50 percent off until the close of the sale. Credit cards will be accepted.

Information will be updated routinely at [facebook.com/FairlingtonMomsClubConsignmentSale](https://www.facebook.com/FairlingtonMomsClubConsignmentSale). The Facebook page is also where passes to shop early will be given away and sold, item previews will be posted, and shoppers can learn details about the sale in advance.

Hope to see you there!

—Lucy Beadnell

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Meet a new market vendor and join us for fall fun

With September comes Labor Day parties, back to school, football season, and your favorite seasonal foods at the Fairlington Farmers Market. There's plenty of time to visit the market this fall—we'll be open every Sunday from 9 am to 1 pm until November 24.



Ozfeka Catering is a new vendor at the market this year, offering Mediterranean and Turkish cuisine. Photos by Guy Land.

If you haven't visited Ozfeka Catering, one of our new vendors in season 5, you're in for a special treat. Owner and Chef Feride Ozkan greets shoppers with a friendly smile and welcomes them to her booth with tasty samples of her amazing Mediterranean and Turkish cuisine. Feride launched her business two years ago. "Cooking was a passion for me from my childhood, and I wanted to share my mom's and grandmom's recipes with everyone," she says. "I learned everything from my mother, and she learned from her mother, so it is kind of a fam-

ily tradition. Always using healthy and good quality products, and adding some love, is our secret!"

Born and raised in the Anatolian Peninsula, Feride is committed to providing exquisite food and gracious service. Each week she offers beef or vegetarian borek, kisir, sarma, baklava, and other specialties.

As a new vendor, Feride is very happy being part of the Fairlington Farmers Market. "This is an amazing and loyal neighborhood. People always show up, rain or shine, and I very much appreciate that." She adds that being at the market is very important to her, as she already has a deep connection with shoppers. "They are not only customers for us, we feel like they are our family. I want to thank Fairlington residents for accepting us as family, too." Feride's company also provides catering services throughout the year. For more information, visit ozfekacatering.com.



Market vendors donate to help Arlington neighbors



Rick Morris, a volunteer with AFAC, collects unsold produce each week. Photo by Guy Land.

A big thank you to our market vendors for donating 1,104 pounds of food to the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC) from May to July. AFAC provides supplemental groceries to Arlington residents who cannot afford to purchase enough food to meet their basic needs.

What's happening in the market in September?

Join us for fun events for all ages:

September 8: Back to School! A raffle for school supplies for teachers, and live music with Shelley and the Fairlington Raccoons.

September 15: Meet Market Sponsor Kay Houghton and her team. Kay has generously provided free bottled water all season. Library card sign ups by Alexandria Library.

September 29: Live music with Fairlington residents Ed and Phil.

—Lynne Blasi

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—Mary Thomasson,
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Young Fairlingtonians play ball in Cooperstown

August is often referred to as the “dog days of summer” for baseball fans and for four Fairlington middle schoolers, it meant competing in the nationally prestigious Cooperstown Dreams Park Tournament.

Ryan Beck, Peter Boerstling, Beau Branch, and Riley Sagana formed part of two 12U squads on the Arlington Ironmen Club. They were coached by Fairlington resident Adam Balutis, President of Arlington Little League.



Peter Boerstling, Ryan Beck, Adam Balutis, Riley Sagana, and Beau Branch get ready for Cooperstown. Photo by Jennifer Davies.

Balutis also coaches for the Washington-Liberty varsity baseball team. Leading up to the tournament, the boys trained daily for three weeks. Riley Sagana commented, “The all-day practices were hard, but fun, hanging out playing baseball with friends. It was fun to play against new teams we hadn’t seen before.”

Each week, approximately 1500 players from across the country descend on the famous baseball town of Cooperstown to play ball and make lasting friendships. Beau Branch noted prior to going to Cooperstown, “On the Arlington District 4 All-Star Team I played against teams from different counties of Virginia, but now I get to play against teams from all over the United States. And the

coolest part is that it will be at a legendary place like Cooperstown.”

At the tournament, the boys were all inducted into the Youth Baseball League Hall of Fame, complete with a ring. Grandparents traveled from as far as Pittsburgh and Ottawa, Canada, to watch their grandsons compete.

All four boys attended Abingdon Elementary and now attend Gunston Middle School. Many got their start in the sport playing sandlot baseball with their friends after school on Abingdon’s field.

This fall, Riley Sagana, Beau Branch, and Ryan Beck will play for the 13U Arlington Arsenal travel baseball team and Peter Boerstling will play for the Arlington Senators travel team. Congrats to our young athletes and to coach Adam Balutis for an amazing experience.

—Jennifer Davies

Fire station from page 1

from two to four minutes. Both are within the target the county has set of traveling to all emergency calls within four minutes.

County Manager Mark Schwartz is currently reviewing Chief Povlitz’s recommendation and discussing it with county board members. A decision is likely within the next few weeks.

If the county does decide to close the station, Deputy County Manager Michelle Cowan says that they want to work closely with the community in determining what alternative uses to make of the station. She notes that the county has made no decisions on future uses of the property. “We don’t have a process laid out yet and would very much welcome the civic association’s thoughts on the best way to approach that.”

Cowan adds that there would be substantial community engagement and it would likely take several months.

FCA is planning on hosting a session for the community in October on the future of the station, the nature of emergency response services for Fairlington, and any plans for the reuse of the property. Representatives from the county manager’s office and the fire department will lead that conversation. Additional information will be provided in the next issue of the Bulletin and on the FCA website and Facebook page.

—Guy Land

Northern Alexandria Native Plant Sale on September 28

The Northern Alexandria Native Plant Sale will take place on Saturday, September 28, from 9 am to 2 pm in the parking lot of The Church of St. Clement at 1701 N. Quaker Ln.

Come find native perennials, shrubs, and trees for sun or shade. Thirteen vendors from Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania will be hosted at this event, the largest native plant sale in the D.C. metro region.

Vendors are listed on the sale website at www.NorthernAlexandriaNativePlantSale.org. The sale is entirely organized and run by volunteers. Questions? Contact Scott Knudsen at 571-232-0375 or sknudsen@earthlink.net.

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Interview with David Horak, Abingdon's New Principal



Principal David Horak standing by a mural in Abingdon's hallways. Photo by Rachel Mallory.

Abingdon is excited to welcome Mr. Horak as the school's new principal! Mr. Horak graciously gave an interview so that the community can get to know him better:

Goals for Abingdon this year

Mr. Horak's goals for his first year at Abingdon are to get to know the community and to continue to build relationships with teachers, staff, students, and parents. He wants to maintain Abingdon's strong academic record and will refine his definition of success as he learns more about the school.

What are you most looking forward to at Abingdon?

Mr. Horak is very excited about Abingdon's partnership with the Kennedy Center through the CETA (Changing Education Through the Arts) program and wants to see the fine arts focus in action. He is looking forward to seeing how teachers integrate song, dance, and poetry

into their curriculum and wants to ensure that students of all ages are passionate about the arts.

What do you typically eat for lunch while working at school?

Mr. Horak and his wife cook a lot at home, so he usually brings in leftovers from their family meals. When he's reheating his lunch at school, it makes him happy when teachers or staff tell him that it smells good! While he typically packs his lunch, he also occasionally enjoys food from the cafeteria.

What was your favorite subject in school?

History was Mr. Horak's favorite subject in school. He greatly enjoyed his

years teaching Social Studies before moving into school leadership.

What was your favorite part of PE (Physical Education) when you were in school?

The rope climb was one of Mr. Horak's most memorable activities in PE.

Did you go on vacation this summer?

Mr. Horak visited Hilton Head Island with his wife, who also works in education, and his two children. He and his family live in Springfield and their children attend Fairfax County Public Schools.

—Rachel Mallory

Wakefield Happenings

Wakefield music program seeking donations

Students from the Wakefield High School Music Department may be knocking on your Fairlington door during their annual door-to-door "Tag Day" campaign on Saturday, September 14.

Wakefield band, orchestra, and chorus students will travel throughout South Arlington to collect much-needed funds for the school's music program. In the past, South Arlington residents donated nearly \$20,000 to the program during Tag Day. Generous Fairlington residents donated nearly \$2,000 of that amount!

All proceeds go toward the purchase and repair of instruments and uniforms and help pay travel expenses for music festivals and competitions.

When students visit homes, they will leave behind a brochure.

Monetary donations are welcome online at www.SupportWakefieldMusic.org or via postal mail at Wakefield High School, Attn: Music Department, 1325 S. Dinwiddie St., Arlington, VA 22206. Donations of musical instruments are also welcome and appreciated; a receipt for your tax-deductible donation will be provided after appraisal.

—Donna Felipe

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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 August, we enjoyed Italian favorites at Il Porto in Old Town Alexandria.

Tuesday, September 10, 6:30 pm, Dudley's Sport and Ale, 2766 S. Arlington Mill Dr., dudleyssportandale.com. A sport-lovers paradise, this venue is advertised as bringing the ultimate sports-viewing experience to Shirlington. Dudley's opened in March and features the Village's first rooftop patio, more than 40 flat screen TVs, and a huge selection of brews and upscale bar bites. If the weather is nice, we'll plan to eat on the rooftop.

Monday, September 23, 6:30 pm, Ramparts, 1700 Fern St., Alexandria, rampartstavern.com. We'll return to this perennial local favorite on a Monday, when they offer a special price on hamburgers (and turkey burgers, and the occasional fish burger) with the purchase of any beverage. The rest of the menu is also available.

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

Join the Fairlington Book Group in September to discuss *A Gentleman in Moscow*, by Amor Towles.

This best-selling novel "is laced with sparkling threads (they will tie up) and tokens (they will matter): special keys, secret compartments, gold coins, vials of coveted liquid, old-fashioned pistols, duels and scars, hidden assignments (discreet and smoky), stolen passports, a ruby necklace, mysterious letters on elegant hotel stationery...a luscious stage set, backdrop for a downright Casablanca-like drama." —*The San Francisco Chronicle*

The Book Group welcomes first-time visitors and drop-ins. No commitment required! Join us for our discussion, even if you haven't read the book. We are

meeting on Tuesday, September 24, at 7:30 pm in the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. We hope you'll join us.

Canasta Group Doubles the Fun

Our local Canasta group has multiplied the cards, the luck and the fun. We are now playing "Hand and Foot," a Canasta-type card game played coast to coast. If playing your hand was fun, there may be wild cards waiting in your foot! Join this local group, which plays Tuesday mornings at a church hall near Fairlington. Having card-sense is helpful, but we're happy to teach you the rules of this game. Call Carol Ann 703-931-8533.

Fairlington Knits

Come Craft with Fairlington Knits! Join Fairlington Knits! on Monday, September 9, and Monday, September 23 at the Fairlington Community Center from 6:30-8 pm for a knit/crochet meet-up. Bring what you're working on, share what you know, and learn new skills. Meet new friends, some who might be neighbors, and enjoy an evening of making things with like-minded people. All levels of knitters and crocheters are welcome. The event is posted on the Fairlington Appreciation Society's Facebook page. For more information, contact: Turner at Turnerwork@aol.com.

Fairlington MOMS Club

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



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DOWN TO EARTH patio gardening



Patio Gardening Glossary

In any trade, there is nomenclature—official and colloquial. While most plants in our area collectively exhale after a fifth-straight month of heat, humidity, and high heat indexes, let's look at plant definitions. Some of the descriptions may surprise you.

Bare ankles: pertains to a shrub or small tree which has no foliage at its base. What is left is bark or woody branches that can appear barren or stark.

Exfoliating: like our skin, it happens to tree bark (crape myrtle, sycamore, river birch) and vines (climbing hydrangea). The peeling becomes attractive in terms of texture and color.

Deciduous: yes, it means a loss of leaves but consider the conifers (pine, spruce, cryptomeria, and hemlock) which not only lose leaves but quickly replenish their foliage. Just look beneath the canopies of these specimens—the ground is covered with fallen leaves.

Wet feet: few plants tolerate soaking wet root zones but one tree that survives it is the bald cypress, mostly in the southeast United States. These trees actually are rooted in water.

Fibrous vs. woody roots: look at the roots of annual flowers (impatiens, begonia, marigold, or petunia). They have the make-up of human hair. Then look at the roots of a boxwood, azalea, spirea, or rhododendron—which are woody, firm, and thick.

Leaf margin: the outer edge of a leaf. Entire means an uninterrupted

or smooth edge (sedum). Serrated resembles a knife (elm and river birch trees). Deep sinuses mean pronounced dips between each leaf point (white oak tree). Undulating means curved (English ivy). Pointed means just that (maple and sweet gum trees).

Ephemeral: when a flower blooms for a finite time and then recedes. Examples are spiderwort, day lily, and morning glory. The last two get specific as to their bloom times.



River birch in North Fairlington. Photo by Guy Land.

Ground cover: a plant that grows horizontally (along the soil) or is “clumped” with no verticality to its habit. Ground cover essentially provides more “greenery” in a mulched bed. Examples are: periwinkle, ajuga, lamium, creeping jenny, winter-creeper euonymus, pachysandra, vinca vine, ivy, and mondo grass.

Invasive: any plant that outgrows its space. Specimens planted too closely together become invasive. Even pretty specimens (that run amok) can be invasive: English ivy, creeping jenny, wisteria, morning glory, euonymus, periwinkle, liriope, Carolina jessamine, or trumpet vine. Invasive

doesn't necessarily mean non-native plants, although non-native plants that displace native ones would be considered invasive as well.

Trifoliate: when leaves are whorled in threes at the end of a stem or branch. Examples: hickory tree, poison ivy, and peony.

Herbaceous: when a plant has no woody parts. Think “perennial” or “annual” or even some vines. The stems and branches are soft and green and can be pinched flat between your fingers.

Adaptable: refers to a plant's needs for sun and/or shade. Daily, I notice plants in full sun that typically preferred shade. And the converse is true. Hydrangea, abelia, and weigela are examples of once “sun-loving” specimens that are vigorous in deep shade.

Bark texture: look around and you'll notice different patterns. The lacebark pine tree has three to four-inch squares resembling a quilt. The dogwood and persimmon trees have minute, one-inch squares resembling a cork board or the hide of an alligator. The cherry tree has circular lentils (pores) that ring the tree. The ash and locust trees have longitudinal (vertical) ridges. The sycamore tree has large, amoeba-shaped splotches in olive, tan, and brown. The magnolia tree has a smooth, gray finish. The crab apple tree has knobby outgrowths. The crape myrtle tree has a smooth, woody finish, almost like the legs on your coffee table.

—Bill Sullivan
www.sullivanlandscaping.net

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



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Due date for ads and payment: 6 pm on the 10th of the preceding month (September 10 for October 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.

Email: admanager@fca-fairlington.org

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

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

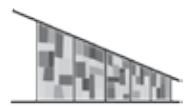
Cost: 50 cents per word.

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



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2BR/ 2BA

Pat Shannon 571-237-4767



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1BR / 2BA

Marian Stifle 703-861-7253



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Sandra Graves 703-577-5633



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2BR/2 BA—Mount Vernon

Sandra Graves 703-577-5633



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