



All Fairlington Newsletter
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President's Message

September 2026

Among the many fall activities and back-to-school commitments, September is also Hunger Action Month. On August 31, Arlington County's Food Security Coalition launched a new 2026–2030 strategic plan. While celebrating progress made these past five years, the new plan also recognizes there is still much work to be done.

Food insecurity is a hidden struggle. People who face it often have jobs, homes, and look fine on the outside. They budget carefully, hide their stress, and skip meals themselves so their kids can eat. It exists here in our community.

Abingdon Elementary School and Wakefield High School serve Fairlington students. They are both designated as Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) schools by the USDA. CEP is a non-pricing meal service program for schools and school districts in low-income areas. That means all

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programs, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).

FCA also partners with the Capital Area Food Bank (CAFB) to provide monthly food distributions at Park Shirlington. Items include fresh produce, protein (often frozen chicken), and pantry staples such as cooking oil and masa. Between 150 and 160 families, representing around 500 individuals, come to this monthly market.

As we look forward to fun and educational events here in Fairlington this month, please consider ways to support local organizations that strive to address food insecurity in our corner of the county, including CAFB and Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC).



—Jenn Davies, president@fca-fairlington.org

FCA Welcomes Officials from Arlington's Office of Voter Registration & Elections September 9

At FCA's monthly meeting, Electoral Board Secretary Dominick Schirripa and Director of Elections Gretchen Reinemeyer will present on election security, as well as preparations in place for the November elections. Fairlingtonians are invited to attend and learn about security considerations, as well as ask questions about Ranked Choice Voting for the one open seat on the Arlington County Board.

The FCA monthly meeting will take place at the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St., Room 134, at 7 p.m.

—Jenn Davies

At the August monthly meeting, Fairlington resident and founder of Creative Impact Partners Stephen Gregory Smith and his partner, Amy McWilliams, presented their plans for a Fairlington Fall Pet Festival in mid-October.

Inspired by other South Arlington pet events such as Paws on the Pike and Wags & Whiskers, the Fairlington Festival would provide a fun and free event for pets and their owners, including pet portraits and a blessing of the animals. Several local rescues and shelters, including AWLA, King Street Cats, Wolf Trap Animal Rescue, and Homeward Trails, are also expected to table. “When we thought about which Arlington community would be a great place to have the event, Fairlington was the obvious choice,” commented Gregory Smith.

The event is currently going through the County’s permitting process. It is expected to take place in the same space where the Fairlington Farmers Market operates, just behind the Fairlington Community Center. More details will be available in October.

—Jenn Davies

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September Events Calendar

Interested in having your event included? Email afbeditors@yahoo.com

FCA Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, September 9, 7:00 p.m.

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Director of Elections Gretchen Reinemeyer for a discussion on preparations for the November midterm elections, including Ranked Choice Voting and election safety.

Fairlington Diners

Saturday, September 12, noon

[Busboys & Poets](#), 4521 S. Campbell Ave., Arlington, (703) 820-9757

This is a mainstay of the Shirlington restaurant scene. The Randolph St. garage is recommended. Please email carol_dabbs at yahoo dot com no later than 24 hours in advance if you plan to attend. 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 the above email address.

Outdoor Movie Night

Saturday, September 12, dusk

Fairlington Community Center field

[Wakefield Tag Day](#)

Saturday, September 19

Throughout Arlington

Fairlington Book Group

Tuesday, September 22, 7:30 p.m.

Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St., Room 103

The group will discuss *Eugene Onegin* by Alexander Pushkin. All are welcome, even if you have not read the book.

Stumbling Stones Dedication and Tour

Sunday, September 27, noon

Fairlington Community Center Field at the corner of S. 34th Street and S. Utah Street

Fairlington Grandmas Group

Calling all grandmothers—whether or not you have grandchildren currently living in the neighborhood. The group meets monthly, and sometimes more often, for happy hours, coffees, theater outings, and other social activities. For more information, contact Peggy Jondahl at pjondahl@gmail.com.

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Are you a Fairlington Mom looking for more support, play opportunities for kids, or a group of friends in the same period of life for some fun? The Fairlington Moms' Club is the place for you. We offer:

- Playgroups for different age groups, accommodating all moms & schedules
- Family holiday-themed events
- Moms' nights out
- Meal trains and support for when you need it most
- Our very own classifieds listserv and WhatsApp group

All moms welcome! Please email fairlingtonmomsclub@gmail.com for further information.

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A movie night poster for the Fairlington Citizens Association. The background is teal with a film strip border at the top and bottom. The text 'Fairlington Citizens Association presents' is at the top in a yellow banner. Below it, 'Fall Family' is in a cursive font, and 'MOVIE NIGHT' is in large, bold, yellow block letters. A large white star is to the right of the title. Below the title, a clapperboard icon is next to the date 'SEPTEMBER 12*' and the time 'DUSK / 7PM'. A line of text below that says '*Weather permitting. Check our Facebook page for updates'. The location 'FAIRLINGTON COMMUNITY CENTER GRASS FIELD' is in a yellow banner. Below that, 'BRING YOUR OWN CAMP CHAIRS, BLANKETS AND SNACKS!' is in white text with two white stars on either side. At the bottom, a yellow banner says 'Generously sponsored by Kay Houghton & Associates' next to the 'KH&A' logo. Below the banner are the website 'www.fca-fairlington.org' and the Facebook page 'www.facebook.com/FCAcivic' with a Facebook icon.

Fall Family Movie Night Returns September 12

Join your Fairlington neighbors for Fall Family Movie Night on Saturday, September 12, at 7 p.m./dusk on the Fairlington Community Center grass field. Bring your own camp chairs, blankets, and snacks and enjoy a movie under the stars. Will it be Cars (2006), Zootopia 2, Sing, or Annie? Check the FCA [website](https://www.fca-fairlington.org) or [Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/FCAcivic) for updates. The event is weather permitting.

Fairlington Movie Night is proudly sponsored by [Kay Houghton & Associates](https://www.kayhoughton.com).

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STUMBLING STONES DEDICATION

A PROJECT OF THE
ARLINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY &
THE BLACK HERITAGE MUSEUM OF ARLINGTON

PLEASE JOIN US TO
COMMEMORATE AND RECOGNIZE
INDIVIDUALS ONCE ENSLAVED
IN PRESENT DAY FAIRLINGTON

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH, 2026 AT 12:00 PM
CORNER OF S 34TH ST & S UTAH ST
FIELD ENTRANCE TO
FAIRLINGTON COMMUNITY CENTER FIELD

A SHORT WALKING TOUR WILL IMMEDIATELY
FOLLOW THE DEDICATION

ALL ARE WELCOME!



Stumbling Stones Dedication and Walking Tour on September 27

FCA, the [Fairlington Historical Society](#) (FHS), and the [Arlington Historical Society](#) will host a second dedication ceremony for those formerly enslaved on land that is now Fairlington. The ceremony is part of the [Memorializing the](#)

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FHS has identified 58 individuals who were enslaved on the Carlyle Plantation. The ceremony will take place on Sunday, September 27, at noon at the corner of S. 34th St. and S. Utah St., by the entrance to the Fairlington Community Center field.

A walking tour will immediately follow the dedication ceremony, with FHS leading the walk to share more about what life was like in the late 18th century.

A dedication ceremony was also held in Fairlington Villages [last spring](#).



FCA at the Fairlington Farmers Market September 6

FCA will have a table at the Fairlington Farmers Market on Sunday, September 6. Stop by and learn more about how FCA serves the community. You can also pick up the new \$20 Fairlington ornament, featuring the old Fire Station 7.



Photo courtesy of Charlotte Terry.

Farmers Market

Open Every Sunday Through November 22

Visit the Fairlington Farmers Market in September to get all your fall favorites! Fall is an incredible time to visit the farmers market, so stock up on ingredients for all of your favorite recipes. Also, many of our vendors offer healthy, ready-made meals for quick and easy breakfasts, lunches, and dinners. If you or your

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the market on Instagram [@fairlingtonmarket on Instagram](#), [Fairlington Farmers Market on Facebook](#), and subscribe to the weekly newsletter at www.field2table.org for updates.

September 6: Back-to-school celebration and school supply drive for Abingdon Elementary; live music by Pete Erikson; FCA; Yoga and Fitness with Just Move with Joy; Alexandria Schoolhouse

September 13: Live music by John Kamman; Family Dance Party with Go Bananas Dancing

September 20: Live music by Bill Lloyd; Henna by Houda

September 27: Live music by Nick Adde; Arlington Library

The market is open every Sunday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the back patio of the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. Learn more at [Fairlington Farmers Market – Field to Table](#).

Special thanks to returning sponsors [Active & Connected](#), [FCA](#), [Fairlington Dental](#), [Fairlington United Methodist Church](#), and [Kay Houghton & Associates](#).

Parking is available on S. Utah St., S. 32nd Rd., in the community center parking lot, or on Quaker Ln. Please avoid parking directly in front of residences across from the community center. Dogs are not permitted, except for service animals.

Stop by the Market Tent to say hi to our staff. We look forward to seeing you this September!

—Charlotte Terry

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Saving rainwater in buckets. Photo by Sue Davis.

For the Love of Nature

Watering Plants in a Drought

I am not the best housekeeper, with my downfall—well, one of my downfalls—being dishes. I had a large pot in the sink that needed washing, but I had other things that needed to be done first: cleaning some veggies and fruits, waiting for the tap to heat. After completing these tasks, the pot was full. I decided to

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Where else was I wasting water? I remembered I used to keep a watering tin under the air conditioner conduit. It would fill up overnight so I could water the plants in the morning. Brilliant.

Rain. Why hadn't I thought of that? I put those huge Home Depot orange buckets out on the patio and collected water during recent storms. I covered the buckets so the water wouldn't evaporate before I was ready to use it (and to thwart mosquitoes).

What else can you recommend?

—*Sue Davis*



School Updates

Support Wakefield High School Music Programs on Tag Day

Wakefield High School's award-winning music program will hit the streets of Arlington on Saturday, September 19, for its annual Tag Day fundraiser. Students from the marching band, orchestra, chorus, and guitar programs will visit neighborhoods to raise support for Wakefield's music programs.

Tag Day donations help cover the costs of sheet music, uniforms, instrument repair and replacement, travel to competitions, and professional music clinics and workshops. Donations are divided evenly among Wakefield's band, choir, and orchestra programs.

Fairlington residents can support students who stop by the neighborhood or donate online through PayPal, Venmo, or credit card. Donations are welcome

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Learn more about [Wakefield Tag Day](#) and support Wakefield's student musicians.



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