

# Fairlington INCLUS Historic Fairlington Villages

November 2021

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HTTPS://APP.TOWNSQ.IO/LOGIN

# Recycle Glass at the Arlington County Trades Center

Due to a significant drop in the market value of glass recyclables, Arlington County and the City of Alexandria require that glass be recycled at glass-only bins at County and City recycling drop-off locations. We are fortunate to have a drop-off center within two miles of Fairlington, at the Arlington County Trades Center at 2700 South Taylor St. Look for a sign for the recycling center on the right-hand side of S. Taylor Street, shortly after entering the Trades Center facility.

The purple glass-only recycling containers are intended for glass jars and bottles; make sure all containers are rinsed clean. Items such as windows and mirrors are not eligible for drop-off at these locations. Glass recycled at this and other drop-off locations is taken to Fairfax County, where it will be crushed and turned into sand and gravel for use in paving, construction, and landscaping.

The Trades Center is open Monday through Friday from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturdays from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. See details online: <a href="https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Programs/Recycling-and-Trash/Locations/Trades-Center-Recycling-Drop-Off-Center">https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Programs/Recycling-and-Trash/Locations/Trades-Center-Recycling-Drop-Off-Center</a>.

# GLASS IS NOT ALLOWED IN FAIRLINGTON VILLAGES RECYCLING

Please do not place glass in Fairlington's recycling containers because it contaminates the bin's contents, turning all of a bin's recyclable material into trash.

- Melanie Alvord, Vice President, Ward VI Director

#### **IMPORTANT DATES**

Leaf and Yard Waste Collection
Thursdays at Noon on Nov. 4, Nov. 11, and Nov. 18

#### Office Closed

The Management Office will be closed Thanksgiving weekend: Nov. 25 through Nov. 28

#### No Trash Pick Up

Trash will not be picked up Thurs., Nov. 25



PHOTO BY MELANIE ALVORD

You can easily recycle glass jars and bottles six days a week at the Arlington County Trades Center.

## Curb the Costs of Invasive Plants

What does 'invasive plant' mean and why does it matter?

The U.S. government defines an invasive plant as, "An alien species whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health." Alien species means non-native, but not all non-native plants are invasive. Plants that become invasive grow fast, disperse seeds and/or spread via their roots prolifically, out-compete native species, and are difficult and costly to control.

There are native plants that spread aggressively, but this is different than being invasive. Invasive plants are an ecological threat to the natural environment (parks, woodlands, and backyards). Invasive continued on page 2



#### **Three November Dates for Leaf and Yard Waste Collection**

Thursdays at Noon on November 4, November 11, and November 18

Fairlington Villages has participated

in the Arlington County yard waste recycling program for many years. You may dispose of leaves and other yard waste from your patio or yard by moving them into the common area, provided the

contractor has not yet cleaned the common area.

If you missed the contractor, please bag your yard waste for pickup:

- Get the free, brown paper bags from the Management Office;
- Fill the bags with leaves, dead plants, or small sticks; and
- Put the bags curb side by 12 p.m. on any of these three Thursdays: Nov. 4, Nov. 11, and Nov. 18

We partner with our trash hauler, Capitol Services, to transport the yard waste bags to the Arlington County Trades Center where they are composted into black soil.

#### **INVASIVE PLANTS**

continued from page 1

plants spread from our patios/ yards — even pots/containers — into natural areas, eliminate native species, alter natural plant communities, and degrade the environment. Invasive plants such as English ivy, vinca, and stilt grass grow rapidly, overtaking and killing shrubs, trees and other plants. Ivy in particular is a breeding area for mosquitoes, provides cover for rodents, and often grows on fences and the side of buildings, compromising the integrity of brick and mortar.

# Do we have invasive plants in Fairlington?

Yes, most plants in Fairlington Villages are non-native, but a number are invasive. When many of these were planted starting at the condo conversion in the 1970s and until recently, we did not understand that non-native plants could present a problem. Invasive plants were and are readily available in plant nurseries, inexpensive, and survived easily with little care — primary because their typical pests do not live here. Additionally, many are evergreen, and North America does not have many evergreen plants, so they were considered desirable.

Some examples of invasive plants found in Fairlington Villages:

- English Ivy (Hedera helix)
- Periwinkle (Vinca minor and

Vinca major)

- Japanese Pachysandra (*Pachysandra terminalis*)
- Creeping Liriope (*Liriope spicata*)
- Stiltgrass (Microstegium vimineum)
- Privets (*Ligustrum japonicum* and *Ligustrum sinense*)
- Nandina (Nandina domestica).

# What is Fairlington Villages doing about invasive plants?

Fairlington Villages is engaged in a multi-year effort to remove invasive plants as resources allow. There is a financial cost to remove these plants. For example, the Ward III cost to remove only one invasive plant, English Ivy, in most but not all areas, was \$20,000 and does not include the cost of replacement plants.

# What can I do about invasive plants?

You can help your community prevent the spread of invasive plants by not planting these in your patio or balcony — they will spread to the common areas, to your neighbors' yards, and to the county's and city's natural areas. Unfortunately, invasive plants are readily available in plant nurseries, and although some states are starting to ban the sale of some of these plants, that is not yet the case in Virginia.

Before you plant in common area front and side beds and your patio backyards, please contact the Management Office to ensure you are not planting invasive plants. See the approved "Fairlington Villages Landscaping Policy/Guidance for Residents."

#### Learn more about invasive plants

- The Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia website, www.mgnv.org, provides a list of invasive plants and links to additional resources published by Virginia, the federal agencies, and others; fact sheets on common invasive plants and better alternatives; and a dedicated section "Learn more about invasive plants" at <a href="https://mgnv.org/reading-room/invasive-plants/learn-more-about-invasive-plants/">https://mgnv.org/reading-room/invasive-plants/</a>.
- A garden at the Fairlington Community Center focuses on native plants and is maintained by master gardeners that live in Fairlington.
- The Grounds Committee members are happy to visit your patio to make alternative native suggestions; email <u>grounds@fairlington</u> <u>villages.com</u>.
  - Angela McNamara,
     Grounds Committee

## The 2020 Amanda Taylor Award



PHOTO BY MARK JOHNSON

Left to right: Barbara Keyser, Sean Keyser, and Board Vice President Melanie Alvord. The Amanda Taylor Award is given annually by the Board to recognize one or more people for exemplary volunteer work on behalf of Fairlington Villages' residents. Barbara and Sean are co-chairs of the Architectural Control Committee and have focused on creating a more streamlined method for processing variance requests.



### **Avoid Payment Delays**

The easiest way to avoid postal service delays is to pay your condominium assessment fees electronically. Please remember that monthly assessment payments are due by the 1st of each month. There is a grace period through the 15th of each month, after which date a late fee of \$25 will post to your account.

Assessment payments increased by 1.5% for FY22 from Oct. 1, 2021, through Sept. 1, 2022. There are four payment methods available:

- 1. Legum & Norman/Associa ACH direct debit
- 2. On-line bank bill payer accounts
- 3. Credit card or e-check offered through Associa/
- 4. Coupon payments by check.

To review assessment fees and learn more about payment options, please see the September 2021 newsletter online: https://fairlingtonvillages.com/ newsletters/.

# **Collect Your 2022 Parking Decal Early**

The shape of the 2022 parking decal is a pentagon! The 2022 decals are available at the Management Office. All Fairlington Villages 2021 parking decals in the shape of a circle will expire on Fri., Dec. 31, 2021. As of Jan. 1, 2022, vehicles without a visible valid 2022 decal in the shape of a pentagon in Fairlington Villages' parking lots are subject to immediate towing at the owner's risk and expense, with no regard to whether expired permits are displayed.

#### **BEAT THE HOLIDAY CRUSH**

Beat the end-of-the-year rush by visiting the Management Office early. Please be sure to wear your mask when you visit. Every visit to the Management Office is subject to social distancing. For the safety of all, only one visitor or family will be admitted to the Office at

any given time. To avoid the possibility of waiting outside the office while other residents are being served, you can schedule an appointment. The Management Office is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Yes, the Office is open on Veterans Day, Thurs., Nov. 11. Please note,



we will be closed Thurs., Nov. 25 through Sun., Nov. 28. Please call us at 703-379-1440 or e-mail office@fairlingtonvillages.com to arrange a convenient time for you to pick up your parking decal.

#### **DECAL REQUIREMENTS**

To be issued a 2022 parking decal:

- Condominium assessments for the unit must be paid and current.
- A current lease must be on file for rental units.
- A current automobile registration must be presented for each vehicle for which a permit is being requested.

No decal may be issued unless each of these requirements is met — there are NO exceptions. Read the **Parking Enforcement Policy** online. Do not delay, get your new decal today.

# **Activities Around the Village**

Please Mask Yourself, If Advised If you will be attending any activities, please review and adhere to state and CDC-guidance on COVID-19 precautions. Verify the state's current face mask status online: <a href="https://www.virginia.gov/coronavirus/forwardvirginia/faq/">https://www.virginia.gov/coronavirus/forwardvirginia/faq/</a>.

**Be Presidential on November 22** Please join us on the confirmed date of Mon., Nov. 22 at 6:30 p.m., our book discussion will be on *You Never Forget Your First: A Biography of George Washington* by Alexis Coe. The Smithsonian Shop

summarized the book as a combination of "rigorous research and lively storytelling that will have readers — including those who thought presidential biographies were just for dads — inhaling every page." In the event of inclement weather, we will meet inside the Community Center and comply with current state and CDC guidelines.

Celebrate the season with the Book Club on Fri., Dec. 10 at 6:30 p.m.! Please see the Facebook event page below to contribute food or drink to this event and do not forget to bring a wrapped book for the White Elephant Gift Exchange.

Please visit our "Fairlington Area Book Readers Group" Facebook page for the latest details at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/185662778799790/">https://www.facebook.com/groups/185662778799790/</a>. If you have questions, please email <a href="bookclub@fairlingtonvillages.com">bookclub@fairlingtonvillages.com</a>.

# Holiday Exception for Canasta Club on Wednesday

Canasta is a card game where players or partnerships try to meld groups of three or more cards of the same rank. Players of all skill levels are invited to join the weekly Fairlington Canasta Club on Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Community Center. It will be canceled for Nov. 24, with a possible reschedule date. Please email Mary Ryan at <a href="maxryan1024@gmail.com">mxryan1024@gmail.com</a> for details.

## **Giving Thanks and a Helping Hand**



Celebrate Thanksgiving by helping those in need. Drop off nonperishable food to the box outside of the Management Office during office hours. The Association has collected food for the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC) since March 2020. For details on AFAC, please see their website: afac.org.



## **Manager's Corner** Gregory Roby, General Manager, CMCA®, PCAM®



Four is my New Lucky Number! It is often said, "three is a charm," and it was — last year. But as I mark my anniversary with Fairlington Villages, I think I will run with Four for a while! I really cannot thank the Fairlington community enough for entrusting me with the tremendous responsibility of leading its management team. My sincerest wishes to

each of you for the best of the coming Holiday season!

#### Step Gingerly this Autumn

Three leaf removals are performed throughout the season on Thursdays: Nov. 4, Nov. 11, and Nov. 18. While every effort is made to keep the community free of leaves, it is simply not possible to achieve a wholly leaf-free environment. Fallen leaves can be slippery so please use caution while driving or walking in the community.

#### The Management Office Is Closed Thanksgiving Weekend

Please remember the Management Office will be closed Thanksgiving weekend, beginning on Thurs., Nov. 25, and open again at 8:30 a.m. on Mon., Nov. 29. We wish everyone a happy and healthy Thanksgiving.

#### 'Tis the Season to Turn Off Outside Water Faucets

With the approaching freezing temperatures, please be sure to turn off the supply valve for your outside water faucet, also referred to as a hose bibb or spigot. This reminder applies to all townhouse residents and those multiunit building residents with unit space in the basement: A-level apartments or B-level units with basement storage.

If you have an outdoor faucet shutoff valve within your control, it is your responsibility to shut off the water at that location for the winter. If the pipes freeze and cause damage, the repair costs could be significant and charged to you. If you are unsure whether you are responsible for a water faucet shutoff valve, please call the Management Office.

#### Identify Your Unit's Water Main Shutoff Valve

As the conversion of the greater Fairlington community from a single apartment complex to seven distinct condominiums progressed in the mid-70s, the finer aspects of the architecture and structure of several of the building models changed to reflect improvements as development moved from South Fairlington to North.

## **Management Office**

#### Location

Fairlington Villages A Condominium Association 3001 South Abingdon Street Arlington, Virginia 22206

#### **Hours by Appointment**

8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Saturday Closed Sundays and federal holidays

#### Communications

Telephone: 703-379-1440

General Info Email: office@fairlingtonvillages.com

TownSq: https://app.townsq.io/login Website: www.fairlingtonvillages.com

#### Staff

Gregory Roby General Manager Miguel Galvez Facilities Manager Mark Johnson Operations Manager Erin Moran Office Manager Victoria Gomillion Office Administrator Marcus Reed Office Administrator

#### **Emergency**

After Hours Emergency: 703-600-6000

#### Patrol Service

#### To contact security duty officer, call 571-215-3876.

If the patrol service does not answer, the officer will receive a page. If you have not received a return call within 10 minutes, please call again. Security hours: 8 p.m. – 4 a.m. nightly.

As a result of engineering "field adjustments," the physical placement of the water main shutoff valves in the multiunit buildings is not consistent. The Association does not know and cannot confirm which of the four to six water main shutoff valves in the multiunit buildings serves which of the units. Any tags that might be found on valves inside the cabinet were placed there by the developer at the time of conversion; a master listing was never provided to the Association and the labels have not been maintained.

The unit owner is responsible for the valve and related maintenance. If you reside in a multiunit building and need to have your water main replaced, please have your plumber confirm which valve is yours before any work is started. You do not want to go through the expense of a valve replacement only to discover the valve you replaced serves your neighbor's unit!



Get or Send Notices and Pay Fees

The News is published by Fairlington Villages, A Condominium Association

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

President, At Large Director Terry Placek 703-671-7550 placekterry11@gmail.com

Vice President, Ward VI Director Melanie Alvord mellie.ward6@comcast.net

Secretary, At-Large Director Anne Wasowski aw4fair@gmail.com

Treasurer, Ward III Director Harold Reem 703-845-8659 hnreem@comcast.net

Ward I Director Jessica Auston fvwardi@gmail.com

Ward II Director Ed Stollof estollof1@gmail.com

Ward IV Director

Larry Straub, 703-379-1739 larrystraub93@gmail.com

Ward V Director
Philip J. Brown 703-637-9152
PBrownBoard@pjb3.com

At Large Director
Joe Torres 703-705-8311
Fairlington123@yahoo.com

#### **COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Activities: Mireille Pioppo and Joe Torres activities@fairlingtonvillages.com Architectural Control: Barbara Keyser and Sean Keyser variance@fairlingtonvillages.com Communications/Technology:

Vacant comm@fairlingtonvillages.com Grounds: Angela McNamara and

Jim Ostroff grounds@fairlingtonvillages.com

Pools: Marya Hynes pools@fairlingtonvillages.com

Tennis: Daniel Meshel tennis@fairlingtonvillages.com

#### **GET SOCIAL WITH US**

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Comments, articles, and letters are welcome. The deadline for submissions is the 10th of each month. Please deliver or email materials to the Management Office. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions.

# Board Meeting Agenda Wednesday, November 3, 2021

The following is the preliminary agenda for the Nov. 3, 2021, Board of Directors meeting at 7 p.m. Unit owners and residents of Fairlington Villages are welcome and encouraged to attend the meeting of the Board of Directors. The meeting is hosted from the Community Center with Board members and residents participating by telephone. Due to meeting size limits and social distancing guidelines, residents are discouraged from attending the meeting location personally.

Call-In Number: 703-552-8058; Conference Code: 230349

- I. Residents' Comments (5 minute limit/household)
- II. Call to Order
- III. Establishment of Quorum
- IV. Approval of Minutes Oct. 6, 2021
- V. Old Business
- VI. New Business
  - A. Variance Request
  - B. Request for Towing Reimbursement
  - C. Ratification of Unanimous Written Consent in Lieu of a Meeting Rotten Wood Replacement Ward II
  - D. Masonry Repair Project Phase 7 (FY21) Additional Funds
  - E. Staff Holiday Bonuses

#### VII. Reports

- 1. Officers (President, Secretary, & Treasurer's Reports)
- 2. Committees
- 3. Management's Financial Report
- 4. Management's Project & Status Report
- 5. Office Administrative Report
- 6. Facilities Report
- 7. Operations Report
- VIII. Establishment of Next Board Meeting Dec. 1, 2021
- IX. Adjournment of Meeting

Prior to each regular Board meeting, the Agenda and the Management Report are available for review electronically via email copy or by appointment at the Association's Management Office at 3001 S. Abingdon St. beginning the Thursday prior to the regular Board meeting.



# Tribute to Lorraine Droset

Original owner, Lorraine Drolet, passed away Sept. 2, 2021. In the late 1980s she served as the chair of the Fairlington Historical Designation Committee along with co-chair Judith Greig. Lorraine's love of Fairlington, vision, dedication and hard work were instrumental in Fairlington's recognition as a historic district on the National Register of Historic Places and the Virginia Register. She will be missed by her fellow historians and Fairlington friends.

# **Board Meeting Highlights**

The Board held its regular meeting on Oct. 6, 2021. The following are highlights.

**New Business** 

A. Rules Violation – 2856 S. Buchanan St., C-2: Mr. Torres moved the Board find there is a violation of the Association's By-Laws, and hereby assesses the owner of 2856 S. Buchanan St., C-2, \$50 for the Rules violation. Mr. Reem made a motion to table this agenda item until the regular meeting of the Board in November 2021 to allow Management time to investigate timelines and videos associated with the alleged violation. Motion passed 5-0.

B. Variance Request – Install Wildlife Barrier and Fake Ivy on the Fence – 2827 S. Abingdon St.: Mr. Torres moved the Board approve the Sept. 8, 2021, variance request from the homeowner at 2827 S. Abingdon St., to install wildlife barrier and fake ivy on the fence in the rear of the unit, in accordance with the specifications outlined in the variance request. Failed 0-5.

C. Employer's Voluntary Contribution to a Simplified Employee Pension (SEP) Plan: Ms. Alvord moved the Board authorize a Voluntary Employer Contribution equal to 4% of gross compensation for all eligible employees, for the period of Sept. 30, 2020, through Oct. 2, 2021 (last date of last pay period in FY21). Passed 5-0.

D. Transfer of FY21 Excess **Assessments to FY22:** Mr. Reem moved the Board authorize that any excess of membership assessments over membership expenses for the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 2021, shall be applied against member assessments for fiscal year 2022, commencing Oct. 1, 2021, as provided by Revenue Ruling 70-604. Passed 5-0.

E. Slate Roofs Preventive Maintenance Program - Wards III and IV: Mr. Reem moved the Board authorize Management to contract with Northern Virginia Roofing, to provide preventive maintenance

repair services on the slate roofs located in Wards III and IV at a cost not to exceed \$30,000. Passed 5-0.

F. Foundation Repairs at 4911 S. 31st St.: Ms. Alvord moved the Board authorize Management to contract with Basement Masters Waterproofing to repair the front foundation wall at 4911 S. 31st St., in accordance with the proposal, at a total cost of \$10,234. Passed 5-0.

G. Flat Roofs Inspection and **Preventive Maintenance FY22:** Mr. Reem moved the Board authorize Management to contract with Northern Virginia Roofing to inspect and provide preventive maintenance repair services to 50 flat roofs at a cost not to exceed \$14,200. Passed 5-0.

H. Fall Plant Replacements: Mr. Reem moved the Board approve the proposal from Lancaster Landscapes for Fall Plant Replacements at a total cost of \$9,316. Passed 5-0.

I. Ward I Renovation Planting: Mr. Reem moved the Board approve the proposal from Lancaster Landscapes for the Ward I Renovation Planting at a total cost of \$17,464.50. Passed 5-0.

J. Pool Contract: Ms. Alvord made a motion to table New Business Agenda Item J (Pool Contract) until the Board's December 2021 meeting to provide sufficient time for the Board to interview the four



Sending a little wish for bargain hunting at the Yard Sale.

companies that have submitted bids for the contract, and for Management to provide the Board with a more detailed and standardized formatted comparison of the submitted bids. Passed 5-0.

K. Fall Landscape Chemicals: Mr. Reem moved the Board approve the proposal from Lancaster Landscapes for fall landscape chemicals at a total cost of \$3,940. Passed 5-0.

L. Fall Focal Bed Plantings: Mr. Reem moved the Board approve the proposal from Lancaster Landscapes for fall focal bed plantings at a total cost of \$4,250.20. Passed

M. Rules Violation – 3056 S. Abingdon St. - Dog Off Leash: Mr. Torres moved the Board find that there is a violation of the Association's By-Laws and hereby assesses the owner of 3056 S. Abingdon St., \$50 for the Rules violation noted in the letters dated July 18, 2021, July 26, 2021, and Aug. 19, 2021.

Ms. Alvord made a motion to table this item, to allow Management time to receive a picture of the pet in question and acknowledging that the owner will no longer allow the pet off-leash. Motion passed 5-0.



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#### North Fairlington News Fairlington Villages, A Condominium Association 3001 South Abingdon Street Arlington, VA 22206

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#### North Fairlington News November 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 November	2	3 Board Meeting 7 p.m. Virtual Canasta Club 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Community Center	4 Yard Waste Recycling: Please place leaves curb side by 12 p.m.	5	6
<b>7</b> Daylight Saving Time Ends	8 Grounds Committee 7 p.m. Virtual	9	Canasta Club 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Community Center	11 Yard Waste Recycling: Please place leaves curb side by 12 p.m.	12	13
14	15	16	Canasta Club 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Community Center	<b>18</b> Yard Waste 12 p.m. curb side Architectural Control Committee 7 p.m. Virtual	19	20
21	22 Book Club You Never Forget Your First 6:30 p.m. Patio	23	24 Canasta Club canceled	25 Thanksgiving OFFICE CLOSED TRASH WILL NOT BE PICKED UP	26 OFFICE CLOSED TRASH PICKUP	OFFICE CLOSED TRASH PICKUP
28	29	30	1 December Board Meeting 7 p.m. Virtual Canasta Club 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.	2	3	4
5	Grounds Committee 7 p.m. Virtual	7	8 Canasta Club 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Community Center	9	10 Book Club "Celebrate the Season" 6:30 p.m. Patio	11

Meetings conducted via telephone conference unless otherwise indicated. Please call the Office to confirm.