

Calendar

Fairlington Diners

Saturday, December 8, 12:30 pm
L'Auberge Chez François
332 Springvale Rd., Great Falls

FCA monthly meeting

Wednesday, December 12, 7 pm
FCC, 3308 S. Stafford St.

Firetruck Santa

Saturday, December 15, 3–5 pm

Fairlington Diners

Tuesday, December 18, 6:30 pm
Ramparts Tavern & Grill
1700 Fern St., Alexandria

Christmas Day

Tuesday, December 25
FCC closed

New Year's Day

Tuesday, January 1
FCC closed

Halloween: A family affair



Halloween is a much-celebrated holiday in Fairlington, with neighborhood decorating contests, the annual Abingdon parade, and entire families dressing up to trick or treat together. Photo by Guy Land.

Contributors this month: Christine Chirichella, Sheila Faulkner, Donna Felipe, Cindy Kunz, Guy Land, Carrie Lewis, Julie Marshall, Andrew Raab, Rebecca Sayres, Bill Sullivan, Lindsay Willmann, and Chris Weathers.

Some images in this publication may be digitally enhanced.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope you were able to drop by Fairlington's 75th anniversary reception earlier this fall. It was a remarkable evening.

A show of hands revealed a crowd with an almost equal mix of folks who have lived here for 20 years or more and people who've called Fairlington home for less than five years. One of the impressive things about Fairlington is how it has remained vibrant despite major demographic and economic changes.

The mix of people at the reception and the warm conversations with neighbors underscored that. Walking among the crowd, I heard people comparing stories about their experiences in Fairlington. This was capped off with personal vignettes from our featured speaker, Arlington County Clerk of the Circuit Court Paul Ferguson, who grew up in Fairlington and still owns a unit here.

One of the evening's delightful surprises was the presence of Sheila Faulkner, who lived in Fairlington in 1943 as a girl—she is truly an "original Fairlingtonian." We've shared a bit of her story on page 19. And linking the stages of Fairlington's life, we were also joined by Mary Maglia, the first owner—and still a resident—in North Fairlington after the conversion of the property to condos in the 1970s.

Thanks to the Fairlington Historical Society, which cosponsored the reception with FCA; a volunteer planning committee, led by Barbara Berti; the sponsors who underwrote the costs of the event; the local elected officials who joined us; and the Fairlington Villages condo association, which provided the venue.

Dynamic and enduring communities have an appreciation for their history. Each month this year we've featured "Fairlington's 75th Lookback," with old photos and descriptions from Fairlington's past, coordinated by FHS trustee Cindy Kunz.

The reception and articles have spotlighted several key things about Fairlington—its architecture, its green spaces, its history, its organizations. But ultimately the reason we cherish Fairlington is its people. That's each of you. At a time when the social fabric sometimes seems to be fraying nationally, that fabric remains very strongly woven here. And that's what's enabled Fairlington to thrive through seven and a half decades. We celebrate 75 years of residents just like you, who moved into a great community and worked to make it even better.

Happy 75th, Fairlington. Here's to another 75 years of showing the world what a vibrant community looks like, even inside the beltway.

Guy Land, FCA President,
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