

all FAIRLINGTON BULLETIN

Fairlington Citizens Association

www.fca-fairlington.org

NOVEMBER 2006

Volume 32, Number 11

Calendar

FCA Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, November 14, at
7:30 PM

North Fairlington Community
Center

3005 S. Abingdon Street



Fairlington Singles Dines Out

Monday, November 6, at 7:30 PM
Ramparts in Fairlington Centre

Election Day

Tuesday, November 7, 7 AM to 7 PM

30-Somethings Happy Hour

Wednesday, November 15 at 7 PM
Guapo's in Shirlington

Fair Golds Dinner Theater Outing

Sunday, November 12
Lazy Susan Dinner Theater

Fair Golds Business Meeting

Thursday, November 16, at 12 PM
North Fairlington CC

Fairlington Singles Dines Out

Thursday, November 16, at 7:30 PM
Costa Verde in Alexandria

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Abingdon Principal to Discuss Accreditation, Special Programs

Abingdon's Motto: A Peaceful World Starts Here

Abingdon Elementary School Principal **Joanne Uyeda** will explain the school's motto: "A peaceful world starts here" and update the Fairlington community on accreditation and the GIFT program she instituted at FCA's monthly meeting on November 14, at 7:30 PM at the North Fairlington Community Center. Parents of children who are soon to be school age should find this presentation especially interesting.

Uyeda and her staff developed Project GIFT (Gaining Instruction Fostering Talents)—increasing class time by two hours per week and implementing the Multiple Intelligences approach to learning, advocated by **Howard Gardner** at Harvard University. Under Project GIFT, students receive additional instruction in journalism, science lab, and architecture. In addition, every student at Abingdon learns to play a musical instrument, and every fourth grader learns to play the violin. The model appears to be working, as Abingdon is now fully accredited and has met Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) under the No Child Left Behind law for two consecutive years.

According to Abingdon PTA co-president **Tina Masciangioli**, Uyeda truly exemplifies the Abingdon school motto. Uyeda is in her twenty-second year in the Arlington Public Schools and her sixth year as Principal at Abingdon

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Abingdon Elementary School. Photograph courtesy of Tina Masciangioli.

FCA Board Approves 2007 Slate for December Elections

The Fairlington Citizens Association will elect officers and directors to the board at the annual meeting on Tuesday, December 12. If you live in any of the Fairlington condominiums or the HOA, you are eligible to run for any of these offices and to vote in the December election.

The nominees reported by the Nominating Committee, co-chaired by FCA secretary **Nancy Hunt** and board member **Sheryl Scull**, are as follows:

President-Francis Driscoll

Vice President-vacant

Treasurer-Ed Hilz

Secretary-vacant

Directors (five to be elected)-Sam Anthony, Hugh Baumgardner, Nancy Hunt, Virginia McGee, one vacancy

As provided for in the FCA by-laws, nominations will also be accepted from the floor at the annual meeting. A majority vote of the Fairlington residents present and voting will determine the 2007 officers and directors of our civic association. To read the FCA by-laws, go to www.fca-fairlington.org or leave a voice mail request at 703-243-1735.

FCA is the civic association for our Fairlington community. Both Arlington County and the City of Alexandria recognize FCA as Fairlington's representative on issues involving government services and other civic matters. FCA by-laws state that our purpose "shall be to unite the influence and endeavors of the Fairlington community by promoting, through purposeful and constructive co-operation, activities to make Arlington, and specifically Fairlington, a better community in which to live."

The FCA executive board meets on the second Tuesday of the month, except for August, at the North Fairlington Community Center, and publishes the monthly *All Fairlington Bulletin*.

All Fairlington Bulletin Seeks Contributors

The new FCA editors are looking for volunteers to contribute as a part-time researcher, reporter, writer or editor. Opportunities are available regardless of prior experience, and the time commitment is very flexible. Please e-mail them at editor@fca-fairlington.org if you are interested.

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Elementary. When Uyeda took over the leadership role at Abingdon in 2001, the school was in transition from a Spanish immersion school to a neighborhood school and needed a new focus.

Additional information about Fairlington's neighborhood school is available at the school Web site <www.arlington.k12.va.us/schools/abingdon/index.html>, at the Friends of Abingdon Neighborhood School (FANS) Web site <www.friendsofabingdon.org> or through Masciangioli (703-931-7086 or tina.masc@verizon.net).

Contributed by Tina Masciangioli.

FCC Closed, Renovation Begins

As of October 1, 2006, the Fairlington Community Center building was officially closed to all residents and staff as work on its long anticipated renovation got underway. During the first week in October, crews entered the building and began selective demolition and asbestos abatement inside the building—the first steps of a 15- to 18-month renovation plan. Although the building and the Utah Street service drive will be closed for construction purposes, the existing playground, Stafford Street parking lot and community field will remain open and available for public use.

Community center programs and staff, including Virginia Coopera-

tive Extension, Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment, the Preschool Program, the Art Studio, and the Cooperative Playgroup, have all been temporarily relocated during the construction process.

The main Fairlington Community Center number (703-228-6588) and all staff phone numbers will remain the same. If you have questions or concerns about the Fairlington renovation process or the relocation of the center's programs, please contact Carol Ann Perovshek, Arlington County Parks, Recreation, and Community Resources, at 703-228-0787.

Harvard Multiple Intelligences Researcher To Speak

Julie Viens, author and senior researcher at Project Zero at Harvard University, will be working with the Abingdon staff on Thursday and Friday, November 2 and 3, on increasing multiple intelligence strategies at Abingdon. The Abingdon staff is currently reading her book, *Multiple Intelligences in the Elementary Classroom*, in preparation for their work and discussions with Viens.

Viens will be presenting an informative parent seminar on multiple intelligence theory on Thursday, November 2, at 7:00 PM in Abingdon's media center. If you are interesting

in learning more about multiple intelligences, please reserve the date and join us for this exciting event.

FANS Launches New Web Site

Friends of Abingdon Neighborhood School have created a Web site, <www.friendsofabingdon.org>. The site, with its school-yellow background, features the new FANS logo, information about Abingdon Elementary, and ways to get involved at the school. On the Press page, visitors can download copies of past articles about FANS that have appeared in the *All Fairlington Bulletin* and in the *Claremont Citizens' Association Newsletter*. Visitors here can also sign up for the monthly FANS e-newsletter or download past issues. In the Resources and Articles sections, visitors

will find useful links and articles about other parent organizations in the DC metro area, diverse schools and walkable schools, just to name a few. The Testimonials page is full of quotes from parents with children currently at Abingdon, like the following by Kate Maxwell:



"From the first moment we stepped in Abingdon, we felt it was the ideal environment for an elementary school. It looked and felt like a 'children's place'. The education, administration and teachers are exceptional. They

nurture, love and guide the children not only in academics, but in social and individual development resulting in happy children who love to learn. We couldn't be happier with our choice to send our daughter to Abingdon."

To find out more about FANS and Abingdon Elementary, please visit our new Web site at <www.friendsofabingdon.org>.

Contributed by Tina Masciangioli and Amy Suardi.

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