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# Fairlington Commons Newsletter

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3367 S. Wakefield Street, Arlington, VA 22206

June 2009

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## The Great American Bake Sale

This will be the seventh consecutive year that The Commons has hosted “**The Great American Bake Sale**” in conjunction with the All Fairlington Fourth of July Celebration and Parade. Over the past six years our volunteers’ efforts have raised more than \$4,000 for “Share Our Strength,” a non-profit organization dedicated toward ending childhood hunger in America.

Long-time Commons resident Cathy Malin is the contact point for the Great American Bake Sale, and can be reached at 703-931-9260. Cathy needs the assistance of your baking services. You do not need to be an expert to participate, and every cookie, muffin and brownie can make a difference. Please assist by preparing home baked treats including cookies, brownies, muffins, loaf cakes, pies, or other baked goods – but please, no frostings or fillings. Volunteers are also needed in the sales booth on July 4<sup>th</sup> – that one small hour of your time spent helping to sell baked goods can make a difference!

The sale takes place in the North Fairlington Community Center Parking Lot on Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:30 a.m. Baked goods can be delivered beginning at 9:00 a.m. So, come on out, meet your neighbors, and support this very worthy cause. And, if you can, please volunteer to help with baking, set up, and selling by calling Cathy!

## The Pool is Open!

On Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Fairlington Commons Swimming Pool opened for the 2009 swimming season.

This year’s successful opening was largely due to the efforts of Co-Owner and Board Member Bernie Weaver and the dedicated efforts of a team of Commons volunteers including Jim Sharpe, Andrew Brodhead, and Kingsley Chan who assisted with pump room repairs and facility cleanup and Kathy Spitz, who once again assisted with production of recreation passes.

Supporting our team of volunteers in their efforts were Contractors Patrick McCloskey, who installed the new roof on the Pool House; Billy Anderson, who got the water flowing again after a long, cold winter; and Ed Murphy of Metro Motor and Pump, who reconditioned our pump motors.

Even with the efforts of everyone mentioned, our pool would not have opened without the extraordinary support of High Sierra Pools, whose team of dedicated professionals worked Mother’s Day Sunday to help ready our pool for operation and ensured our compliance with the Virginia Graeme Baker Act, the new federal law intended to ensure swimming pool drain safety. Another first this year was Arlington County’s mandatory pre-opening inspection, a hurdle that we passed with a perfect score – and to Sierra’s knowledge, the only pool to pass with no discrepancies!

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Getting the gate open that first day was a big accomplishment and one that everyone who participated should be proud of, but there is another accomplishment that is shared by our entire community. Five years ago, Marina Panaiotova and Andrey Kostov were our lifeguards. They returned home to Bulgaria, married, and shared stories of their wonderful experiences in our community with friends.

One of those friends was Nadya Ivanova, who decided that she too would travel to the U.S. and, if possible, work at Marina and Andrey's pool and meet all of the people she had heard so much about. So, the next time you are at our pool, say hello to this year's lifeguard, Nadya Ivanova!

## Eglin Establishes HOT Lanes Website

Expressing concern over the rapid pace of the I-95/395 HOT Lanes Project, Delegate David Eglin has established a web site for citizens to obtain information and express concerns. Delegate Eglin is concerned that residents are not sufficiently informed about the details of the project to be able to ask the right questions of project staff and that the project, as currently envisioned, will have an adverse impact on traffic, pollution and the quality of life in our community. The website address is:

[http://www.DavidEnglin.org/HOT\\_Lanes](http://www.DavidEnglin.org/HOT_Lanes)

The site also contains links to information about the project, including a chart depicting proposed changes to the Shirlington Circle and a link to the Arlington County Board's January 27<sup>th</sup> resolution regarding the project. The time to speak up is now.

## Fairlington Commons Newsletter Litterbugs and Squirrels

Most residents respect our community and help keep it clean and attractive, but a collection of empty beer cans was recently observed adjacent the bench and bushes along the path near the 4600 block of S. 34<sup>th</sup> Street. Somerset Landscaping removed the trash, but there was more in its place a few days later.

Littering our community is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. There is some evidence that the latest incidents involved underage drinking, making it more serious. Residents are asked to be observant, and if you note this or any other suspicious behavior, to call the Arlington County Police. The only way to stop the litterbugs is to hold them accountable. And the assistance of residents in picking up litter is always welcome.

Many of you may have noticed that our squirrels are becoming fatter, most likely because they have been gorging themselves on garbage that is being placed curbside for pickup well in advance of designated times. Residents are reminded that trash is not to be placed out for pickup prior to dark the previous evening and that it must be curbside by 7:00 a.m. the morning of pickup to ensure that it is picked up.

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