# Parkfairfax FORUM

The Official Newsletter of the Parkfairfax Unit Owners Association www.Parkfairfax.org

January 2025 Volume 47, Issue 1

# Building Community: How to Be a Good Neighbor in a Disconnected World

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It's easy to feel isolated, even when we live surrounded by people. With technology often replacing face-to-face interactions, many of us long for a sense of connection within our own neighborhoods. Building community can help bridge that gap, offering support, friendship, and a stronger sense of belonging, especially across generations. Whether you're a young mom juggling family life or a retiree who's seen the neighborhood evolve over the years, being a good neighbor can make a world of difference. Below are 15 ways to be a good neighbor and build meaningful connections with those around you, no matter their age or stage of life.

## 15 Ways to Be a Good Neighbor—No Matter Your Age or Stage of Life

## 1. Introduce Yourself and Your Family

Taking the first step to introduce yourself can be a powerful way to set a positive tone in your neighborhood. Whether you've just moved in or you're trying to connect with long-standing neighbors, a friendly introduction goes a long way. If you have kids, let them join in by drawing a picture or helping you bake some cookies to hand out as a thoughtful gesture. Older neighbors might especially appreciate this effort, as it not only gives them a sense of who you are but shows that you're open to building connections. You can also consider organizing a small, informal meet-and-greet—like a weekend coffee morning or a playdate at your home—where both kids and adults can socialize and get to know each other.

## Trash Pick-up and Holiday Closings

The Parkfairfax office has received many complaints about trash and recycling being placed out for pickup outside of the pickup times. Please see the community rules on trash and recycling pick up: https://parkfairfax.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Trash-and-Recycling-Guidelines-2021-rev.-.pdf

The Parkfairfax office will be **closed Wednesday, January 1**, in observance of New Year.

Trash and recycling pick-up will occur January 2.

Holiday tree pick-up dates are January 7, 9, 14, and 16.

If in-person introductions feel a bit too forward, start with a handwritten note left at their door, sharing a little about your family and welcoming future conversations. This small act can create a welcoming environment and encourage future interactions. For neighbors who have been in the area for a while, even a simple greeting when you pass by can make a difference. Over time, these initial introductions can lead to deeper, more meaningful



relationships, which build trust and camaraderie in your neighborhood.

## 2. Be Respectful of Shared Spaces

When you share common spaces like driveways, hallways, or front lawns, it's important to be mindful of how your family's activities

See **Good Neighbor** continued on page 6.

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# Parkfairfax Condominium Unit Owners Association

3360 Gunston Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22302 Phone: 703-998-6315 Fax: 703-998-8764 Website: www.Parkfairfax.org

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Scott Mulrooney, President At-Large Representative smulrooneyatlarge@ parkfairfax.org Architecture & Planning Board Term Expires: April 2027

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Dave Bush, Treasurer At-Large Representative akhetequus@earthlink.net Finance Committee Term Expires: April 2026

Elaine Lawler Ward 2 Representative elawlerward2@parkfairfax.org Term Expires: April 2025

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Jim Wicker At-Large Representative jwickeratlarge@parkfairfax.org Recreation Committee Term Expires: April 2027

If you need to contact all Board members at once, you can email them at **boarddirectors@ parkfairfax.org**. To reach all board members and our management team at once, email us at **boarddirectors-mgmt@ parkfairfax.org**.

## COMMITTEE CHAIR CONTACTS

Activities Committee Joyce Frank jafrankdesign@hotmail.com

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Building and Utilities Committee -Vacant-

Communications Committee Mark Lamont marklamont17@gmail.com

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Finance Committee Greg Drone Gdrone@comcast.net

Landscape Committee Scott Knudsen cscottknudsen@qmail.com

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Lisa Harger pfx.lisa.harger@gmail.com

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Meetings begin at 7 p.m. at the Association Office and is also available via Zoom. The meeting agenda is posted on the bulletin board outside of the main office. Board package material is available for residents to review at the Association Office and website, www.parkfairfax.org.

The Newsletter deadline is the 10th of each month preceding publication month. Email editorial announcements, commercial and classified ads to Lora Reynaud, covenantsdirector@parkfairfax.org.

Publication of advertisements in no way implies an endorsement of the products or services by Parkfairfax Condominium Unit Owners Association or its Board. The opinions of columnists and letter writers are their own and in no way reflect the opinions of Parkfairfax Condominium Unit Owners Association or its Board. It is up to the advertiser to keep track of when the ad expires. You will not receive notice from Parkfairfax that the ad has expired.

Letters to the Editor of 150 words or less are welcomed from owners, mortgagees or residents of Parkfairfax. It must be signed and include your unit address and phone number (address and phone number will not be published) and submitted by the 10th of each month preceding publication.

## MAIN OFFICE:

Do not hesitate to contact any management team member for comments, concerns, questions, and complaints.

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Hours: Monday - Friday: 8 am - 5 pm 2nd Saturday: 9 am - 12 pm

## MAINTENANCE OFFICE:

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Jennifer Jett-Bowling jjett-bowling@parkfairfax.org

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HOURS: Monday - Friday: 7 am - 3:30 pm After Hours Emergency Number: 1-866-370-2977

Police Officer Sergeant Derek Santos Derek.Santos@alexandriava.gov

Barkan Management Co.

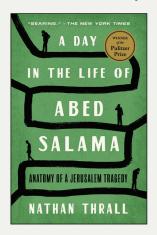
8229 Boone Blvd Suite 885 Tysons, VA 22182 (703) 388-1005

## **BOOK CLUB**

A Day in the Life of Abed Salama

by Nathan Thrall

Tuesday, January 21, 7 pm **Parkfairfax Community Room** (next to the office)



WINNER OF THE 2024 PULITZER PRIZE FOR GENERAL NON-FICTION

Immersive and gripping, an intimate story of a deadly accident outside Jerusalem that unravels a tangle of lives, loves, enmities, and histories over the course of one revealing, heartbreaking day.

Five-year-old Milad Salama is excited for a school trip to a

theme park on the outskirts of Jerusalem. On the way, his bus collides with a semitrailer. His father, Abed, gets word of the crash and rushes to the site. The scene is chaos—the children have been taken to different hospitals in Jerusalem and the West Bank; some are missing, others cannot be identified. Abed sets off on an odyssey to learn Milad's fate. It is every parent's worst nightmare, but for Abed it is compounded by the maze of physical, emotional, and bureaucratic obstacles he must navigate because he is Palestinian. He is on the wrong side of the separation wall, holds the wrong ID to pass the military checkpoints, and has the wrong papers to enter the city of Jerusalem.

We meet the third Tuesday of every month; everyone is welcome. Light snacks will be available. Please contact Catherine Kitchell at catherinekitchell@gmail.com to be added to the mailing list or for any additional information.

## Good To Know

#### By Penny Spinney

We Parkfairfax residents are a neighborhood, but we are also a very unique community.

Our trees, vegetation, and our forestry are located only eight miles from our nation's historic U.S. Capital building. Think about that—it's phenomenal.

Wildlife is everywhere in our own backyards. Deer, Fox, Owls, Rabbits, Coyote, and many of the most familiar birds. Cardinals, Bluejays, Chickadees, Finches, Turtledoves, and Sparrows. Walk our enriched community and take notice of them. It will enrich your life.

Our natural forest habitats are teeming with tons of creepy crawling nature. Look closely and appreciate our habitat and the community we all call home.

Adopt a particular tree that you find fascinating. Water and tend to it. Pick up dead material—sticks, dead branches, and limbs from around it. Report any issues you might see that seem to affect your chosen tree. Practice being a good steward to your tree. It will make a difference to your tree's life and it can change your perspective on what a very unique community Parkfairfax really is.

Be proud to live here—it is a privilege. It is "good to know."

## **Budget Workshop**

Saturday, January 25th, 9 am

Join Zoom Meeting https://zoom.us/j/95236782815 Dial-In: +1(877) 853-5247 Meeting ID: 952 3678 2815 Passcode: 389608



## Please Keep Lights On at Night!

It is that time of year when the days get shorter and daylight savings time ends. It can get very dark in the neighborhood, especially if you are walking to units not bordering a street light.

Be a good neighbor and help keep our community safer by turning on your unit outside lights every night to keep our surroundings well lighted. Lighting can reduce potential stumbling in the dark for residents and visitors. Keeping your lights on can also help deter crime if shrubbery or other cover near buildings is exposed, reducing places to hide. Consider using long-lasting energy-saving bulbs if your fixture can accept them.

Another option: maintenance staff can replace your outside light with a solid brass fixture with a photocell—so you can leave the switch turned on and your outside light will automatically come on when it gets dark and turn off during daylight hours.

## MANAGER'S CORNER

Francisco Foschi, CMCA<sup>®</sup>, AMS<sup>®</sup>, PCAM<sup>®</sup> General Manager

## Happy New Year!

Please remember that many interior and exterior projects require approvals. Let's start 2025 off with a quick overview of a few basic applicable covenant guidelines:

- Applications are required for both routine (the General Manager approves) and non-routine (goes to Covenants Committee for approval) changes. All contractors must have valid licenses and insurance.
- Routine applications not requiring permits: storm door (front or rear) installation, replacement of HVAC through wall units, and changing front door paint color (to an approved color).
- Routine applications requiring city permits are washer and dryer with vent installs (plumbing, mechanical and electrical), bathroom or kitchen vents (electrical), electrical panel upgrades, and patio light and/or receptacle (electrical). \*Please make sure that a code-compliant dryer vent is being properly installed.

- Routine applications for partial wall removals require plans approved by the city building department, a building permit, a stamped engineer's letter stating the wall(s) are not load-bearing, and valid licenses and insurance from all contractors associated with the project.
- Non-Routine applications requiring Covenants Committee approvals: new rear patios/decks and walkways, plantings (front or rear), and new split or ductless HVAC systems (require building, electrical and mechanical permits as well as a pre-application meeting, valid licenses and insurance from the contractors associated with the project, and payment for snowbirds where applicable).
- Partial kitchen upgrades: no application is needed to replace cabinets and countertops. However, after removing the old cabinets and countertops your contractor needs to seal any openings through the wall(s) and floor(s) to keep rodents out before installing the new cabinets and countertops.
- Full Kitchen upgrades: If you are proposing a full remodel, including any plumbing, gas, or electrical work, a Routine application must be submitted with all pertinent permits, valid licenses and insurance from contractors associated with the project, a diagram reflecting the changes, and manufacturers specifications for the new appliances.

See Manager's Corner continued on page 9.

## Notice to All Residents About Natural Gas

By Alonzo Alexander, PCFM, FMP, A+, IAQ Director of Operations, Parkfairfax Condominium

The natural gas supplied to your units is provided by a distribution system owned and maintained by Parkfairfax UOA. The system is continually maintained as required by law to ensure continued safety.

However, it is possible, through misuse or an accident, for natural gas leaks to occur. Gas could leak from a pipe inside the building, or an underground leak may cause gas to enter through building opening such as the foundation wall.

## Recognizing and Responding to Natural Gas Pipeline Emergencies:

## IF YOU SMELL GAS:

- NO FLAMES OR SPARKS! Immediately put out all smoking materials and pre-existing open flames. DO NOT operate lights, appliances, telephones, or cell phones. Flames or sparks from these sources can trigger an explosion or a fire.
- LEAVE THE AREA IMMEDIATELY! Get everyone out of the building or area where you suspect gas is leaking.

- **REPORT THE LEAK.** From a neighbor's home or other nearby building away from the gas leak, *call 911 or your local fire department.*
- DO NOT RETURN TO THE BUILDING OR AREA. Until the local fire department advises that it is safe to do so.
- **GET YOUR SYSTEM CHECKED.** Before you attempt to use any of your natural gas appliances, your natural gas supplier or a qualified service technician must check your entire system to ensure that it is leak free.

# Call the following numbers to report any suspected leaks or problems:

#### On Site Personnel:

Normal Business Hours: 7 am–5 pm • 703–998–6315 After Hours: 866–370–2977

#### Emergency Number: 911

Gas Supply Company: Washington Gas - 703-750-1400

You will be asked several questions and you may be instructed to leave the building. For your own safety, if you are told to leave the building you must comply.

You can determine if gas is causing an unsafe condition by:

See Natural Gas continued on page 5.

# Parkfairfax Ctivities Committee Presented by the Parkfairfax Activities Committee

## **2025 Parkfairfax Upcoming Activities**

## Mark your calendars now for these exciting events!

Call for Entries for the 2025 Parkfairfax Home and Patio Tour! Saturday, June 7th, 2025 (Rain date: Sunday, June 8th)

To help owners get ideas for improvements to their units, the Activities Committee is planning a home tour of unit improvements / renovations. Please find a list of suggested improvements:

- Kitchen renovations
- Bathroom renovations
- Storage solutions
- Small space improvements
- Patio/garden space

## More information on how to submit your property available in January!

The above events are hosted by the Parkfairfax Activities Committee. If you would like to join the Activities Committee, please attend the Activities Committee meeting held the first Wednesday of every month, starting at 6:30PM at the Parkfairfax Community Room (Mgmt Office), 3360 Gunston Road.

## Natural Gas continued from page 4.

**SMELL.** A distinctive odor has been added to the natural gas in the distribution system so that gas can be smelled long before it reaches a hazardous level. You will probably smell this odor every time you light a stove burner because a small amount of gas escapes before ignition. If you smell this odor at any other time, there is a gas leak somewhere.

**HEARING.** Sometimes a gas leak will make a hissing noise. Please do not mistake the noise normally made by the heating system for leaking gas.

## The safety tips below will help prevent natural gas from becoming a hazard:

- 1. **TEACH CHILDREN** that they are not to turn on or light appliances.
- 2. **KEEP COMBUSTABLES** (curtains, paper, cleaners, etc.) away from open flames.

- 3. **KEEP BURNING SURFACE CLEAN.** Do not allow dirt, matches, or grease to build up on the burning surface.
- 4. **IF YOUR PILOT GOES OUT** contact (Name of Complex or Management Company) Maintenance.
- 5. **REPAIR AND INSTALLATION** is a job for experts only.
- 6. USE THE RIGHT EQUIPMENT FOR THE JOB. Don't try to use an oven to heat a room.

## DAMAGE PREVENTION: Call before you Dig, it's the Law.

As a resident of a Master Meter Operator property, it is the law that before any excavation activity, you contact MISS UTILITY by dialing 811. You will have to provide the location of where excavation is planned for at that time. Additional information may be asked by MISS UTILITY personnel. DO NOT PERFORM ANY EXCA-VATION UNTIL YOU HAVE RECEIVED ATHORIZATION TO DO SUCH.

#### Good Neighbors continued from page 1.

may affect your neighbors. If your kids enjoy playing outside, consider how noise levels might impact those around you, especially during early mornings or late evenings. Explain to your children why it's important to respect these spaces and the people who share them. This not only helps build community responsibility but also teaches your kids the importance of consideration and empathy.

Keeping shared areas clean is equally important. If you live in a building with a shared entryway or communal garden, take a few extra moments to tidy up after yourself or your children. For example, if you host a backyard gathering, make sure to clean up promptly so that your space remains inviting for everyone. You can also take initiative by offering to help with neighborhood maintenance tasks like shoveling snow off shared walkways or watering plants in communal areas. These acts of care and thoughtfulness build trust and goodwill between neighbors of all ages.

## 3. Practice Active Listening and Empathy

Building relationships with neighbors isn't just about talking; it's about listening, too. Sometimes, the best way to connect is by showing genuine interest in their lives. Older neighbors might have fascinating stories to share, whether it's about the history of the area or their own experiences, while younger families may appreciate hearing about your parenting tips. Ask questions, show interest, and let conversations flow naturally. By practicing active listening, you can learn from one another and create a stronger bond based on understanding and shared experiences.

Being empathetic means being aware of how your neighbors may be feeling. If an older neighbor seems lonely, stopping by for a chat or offering to walk their dog can brighten their day. Likewise, sharing your own experiences—whether it's the ups and downs of raising a family or the challenges of balancing work and home life—can help foster empathy and understanding. The goal is to create a space where everyone feels valued and supported, which leads to deeper, more meaningful connections across generations.

## 4. Offer Help When You Can

Offering help is one of the most effective ways to build strong, trusting relationships with your neighbors. You don't have to wait for a formal request—if you see an older neighbor struggling with groceries or yard work, offer a helping hand. These small gestures show that you care about the well-being of those around you and are willing to contribute to the community. At the same time, don't hesitate to ask for help in return when needed—many older neighbors appreciate feeling needed and may be happy to help babysit or share advice.

The key is to offer help without expecting anything in return. Whether it's running errands for a neighbor who can't get out easily or coordinating a neighborhood clean-up, these acts of kindness ripple through the community. In return, you might find



that older neighbors share their wisdom, offer you parenting tips, or simply keep an eye on your home when you're away. This exchange of help and support fosters mutual respect and strengthens your ties with those around you.

## 5. Respect Privacy and Boundaries

As much as building connections with your neighbors is important, it's equally crucial to respect personal boundaries. Every family has different comfort levels when it comes to interaction, and some people, especially older generations, may value their privacy more than others. Be mindful of their preferences—if a neighbor doesn't seem eager for long chats or frequent visits, it's important to respect that space. This applies to both adults and children; for instance, teaching your kids not to enter a neighbor's yard uninvited can help maintain mutual respect.

At the same time, maintaining a friendly connection doesn't mean you have to be overbearing. Check in occasionally—perhaps a wave and a quick hello when passing by is enough to keep the connection without crossing personal boundaries. Striking a balance between being approachable and respecting privacy ensures that everyone feels comfortable in the neighborhood. It's all about gauging the level of interaction that works best for you and your neighbors and adjusting accordingly.

## 6. Celebrate Milestones Together

Celebrating milestones—whether it's a neighbor's birthday, a new baby, or a retirement—helps bring a neighborhood closer

#### Good Neighbors continued from page 6.

together. When you hear about a special occasion, acknowledge it with a simple gesture like a card, baked goods, or even a small gift. If your neighbor has a milestone coming up, consider organizing a low-key gathering where everyone can get together to celebrate. This is an excellent opportunity for people of all ages to bond, share stories, and create lasting memories.

You can also invite neighbors to join your family's celebrations. Perhaps an older neighbor has a cherished recipe they'd love to share at a holiday dinner or a tip for organizing a party. These shared experiences help create a sense of belonging and show that your neighborhood is more than just a group of people living next to each other—it's a community. Including everyone, regardless of age or family structure, fosters inclusivity and strengthens neighborhood bonds.

#### 7. Be Inclusive and Welcoming

Inclusivity is essential for building a welcoming and supportive community. When hosting events like a block party, holiday celebration, or casual potluck, invite neighbors of all ages. This helps ensure that everyone feels like a valued part of the community, regardless of their background or stage of life. If new families move into the neighborhood, take the lead by introducing yourself and making them feel welcome. A small welcome package with local tips or a friendly note can make a big difference.

Encourage your children to be part of the process by befriending neighbors' kids or inviting them to playdates. If your neighbors don't have kids, it's still important to involve them in neighborhood activities. Including older generations in your gatherings creates an opportunity for your children to learn from them, fostering cross-generational relationships. By making inclusivity a priority, you contribute to a more connected and harmonious neighborhood.

## 8. Get Involved in Community Events

Participating in or organizing community events is a fantastic way to bring people together and build stronger neighborhood bonds. Many neighborhoods host events like block parties, street clean-ups, or seasonal gatherings, which can be great opportunities for neighbors to interact. If such events don't exist in your area, consider organizing one! A neighborhood potluck, park clean-up, or even a group walk through a local nature trail can encourage people to come together.

Make it a family affair by involving your children in the planning and participation of these events. This not only teaches them the value of community involvement but also gives them a chance to connect with people of all ages. Including older neighbors, who may have limited mobility, in event planning or participation whether it's through providing a cozy spot to sit and chat or involving them in simpler tasks—ensures everyone has a role in building the community.

## 9. Share Resources and Knowledge

One of the easiest ways to build a sense of community is by sharing resources and knowledge. Whether it's lending tools, offering advice on home improvement projects, or sharing local service recommendations, these small acts of sharing foster trust. Start by offering to lend something you know a neighbor might need—whether it's a gardening tool, babysitting services, or knowledge about local schools. This exchange creates a spirit of generosity and helps neighbors feel more connected.

Older generations often have valuable advice or skills to share. They might know where to find the best local services or have expertise in areas like home repairs or gardening. Likewise, you might have knowledge or technology tips that older neighbors find helpful. This cross-generational exchange not only strengthens relationships but also builds a support system that benefits everyone.

#### 10. Support Local Businesses Together

Supporting local businesses is not only good for the neighborhood economy but also a great way to bond with your neighbors. Organize group outings to local farmers' markets, restaurants, or small shops, inviting neighbors of all ages to join. These outings create opportunities to share experiences, discover new local gems, and support the businesses that make your community unique.

If some neighbors aren't able to join outings due to mobility issues, consider bringing back something for them—whether it's fresh produce or a baked treat. Share recommendations for local services or shops in a neighborhood group or in casual conversations. This kind of mutual support helps strengthen both community ties and the local economy, benefiting everyone involved.

## 11. Create a Neighborhood Communication Group

In today's digital age, a neighborhood communication group can help keep everyone connected. Set up a group chat or social media page to share important updates, safety concerns, or just casual neighborhood news. This is particularly helpful for younger generations who are used to digital communication, but it can also bridge the gap for older neighbors. For those less tech-savvy, offer to check in with them regularly and share the updates in person.

A communication group can also be a place for neighbors to offer help or share resources, like lending tools or offering babysitting recommendations. Make sure to keep the tone friendly and inclusive, ensuring that everyone feels welcome to contribute. It's a simple but effective way to foster communication and unity in the neighborhood.

## 12. Communicate Kindly During Conflicts

Conflicts with neighbors are inevitable, whether it's about noise, parking, or property boundaries. But the key is to handle these situations with kindness and respect. When an issue arises, Good Neighbors continued from page 7.



approach your neighbor calmly and with the intention to find a solution that works for both parties. For older neighbors, a face-to-face conversation might feel more personal and effective than a text or note.

It's important to listen to their concerns and express your own in a respectful, non-confrontational way. Offer compromises when possible and be willing to adjust your behavior for the sake of harmony. Showing kindness during conflicts not only resolves issues more smoothly but also helps maintain positive relationships with your neighbors moving forward.

## 13. Support Neighbors in Times of Crisis

When neighbors go through difficult times, whether it's illness, loss, or another crisis, offering support can make a world of difference. Something as simple as delivering a meal, running errands, or offering to babysit can provide much-needed relief. Reach out and ask what they need—you'd be surprised at how even the smallest acts of kindness can help.

It's also important to accept help when you're the one going through a tough time. Many older neighbors appreciate being able to lend a hand, so don't hesitate to let them support you as well. This mutual aid during times of crisis strengthens trust and builds a more compassionate, close-knit community.

#### 14. Be a Role Model for Your Kids and Neighbors

As a parent, one of the best ways to build a community-focused neighborhood is by modeling good behavior for your kids. Whether it's helping a neighbor carry groceries, waving hello, or organizing a neighborhood event, your children are watching and learning from your actions. These small acts of kindness not only teach them the value of being a good neighbor but also inspire others around you to do the same.

Your positive actions can ripple through the community, encouraging others—both young and old—to participate in creating a friendly and welcoming environment. Lead by example, and you'll find that your efforts to build community will inspire your neighbors to do the same.

#### 15. Create a Safe and Welcoming Environment

Safety and a sense of security are crucial for any community, especially for families with young children and older residents. Work together with your neighbors to create a safe environment, whether through participating in a neighborhood watch program, ensuring proper street lighting, or simply keeping an eye out for each other's homes. Encourage open communication about any safety concerns and make sure everyone feels comfortable voicing their needs.

Creating a welcoming environment goes beyond physical safety it's about fostering a sense of trust and care. By looking out for one another and making everyone feel valued, you create a neighborhood where people feel safe, supported, and connected. This is the foundation of a strong, thriving community.

# Final Thoughts on Connecting with Neighbors in 2025

In a world that sometimes feels disconnected, building a strong, supportive community can make a huge difference in everyday life—especially across generations. By taking small, meaningful actions, you can strengthen your neighborhood, create lasting friendships, and teach your kids the importance of being kind, responsible neighbors. So whether you're offering a helping hand, sharing a story, or organizing a block party, remember: we're all in this together, and being a good neighbor has no age limit!

## Christmas Tree Disposal

Please bring your old Christmas trees down to the maintenance yard so our Maintenance staff can turn them into mulch for our community! You can leave them next to the wood chipper by the dumpsters, or you can leave them by the curb in front of your building. For maintenance staff to pick up the trees left out by the curb, they must be left out Monday through Friday, and must be out before 1 pm.



## A Reminder on Snow Removal

It's that time of year—the seasons first reminder about snow. Staff is responsible for clearing all common element walks (walks that serve more that one unit). Each resident is responsible for clearing that portion of the walkways that serve only their unit.

Residents who are unable to clear their own entry walks due to physical impairment may complete the "Request For Snow Removal Assistance" form and return it to the main office. Please note that last years "Assistance lists" will not be used. If you require this type of assistance again this year, you must submit a new form. We cannot make any exceptions.

- Please do not use the sand barrels as trash receptacles or "dog walk" containers (these will be placed near each Laundry Room in early November).
- Please do not park in the intersections or crosswalks during a storm. This stops our motorized equipment.
- Please do not "reserve" parking spaces with lawn furniture, cones, etc. All parking lanes will be plowed once the cars move.
- Please do not ask staff to dig out or jump-start your car. This is not the maintenance staff 's job and detracts from their scheduled work assignments.
- While digging out your car, please do not make huge piles on the streets or sidewalks. It does take extra time to put the shoveled snow onto the lawn areas. However, roads and walkways can become impassable, even to snow removal equipment, due to compacted piles of snow.
- Please be patient and travel with care. Remember, melting snow helps more than anything else to maintain ground water which helps to stabilize these buildings.
- Do not use household salt or rock salt on concrete or flagstone walks and steps. Never use any ice melting chemicals that contain ammonium nitrate or ammonium sulphate. Do not use any type of ice melting chemicals on newer walks—sand is fine. The Association will have small baggies of ice melting chemicals available at the Main Office once we get into the winter weather. These are the same pink crystals that staff uses. This ice melt is sodium chloride based, but has been specially treated to protect concrete.

Please be patient during winter weather. Take your time and enjoy the season!

## Manager's Corner continued from page 4.

- **Bath remodel:** Same as above, any plumbing or electrical changes will require a routine application and all pertinent permits and contractor information (valid licenses and insurance).
- Please remember that this is a shared community with abutting units. We follow the city noise guidelines for doing any demolition and remodeling. Please respect your neighbors when undertaking a project.

## 2024/2025 Request for Snow Removal Assistance

Name(s)

Building Number

Address

Phone Number (Home)

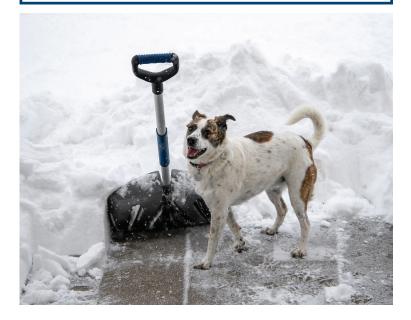
Phone Number (Work)

Signature

Date

## This request must be renewed each year! All prior years requests have been destroyed!

Please return this completed form to: Parkfairfax Condominium at 3360 Gunston Road, Alexandria, VA 22302; or FAX to 703-998-8764.

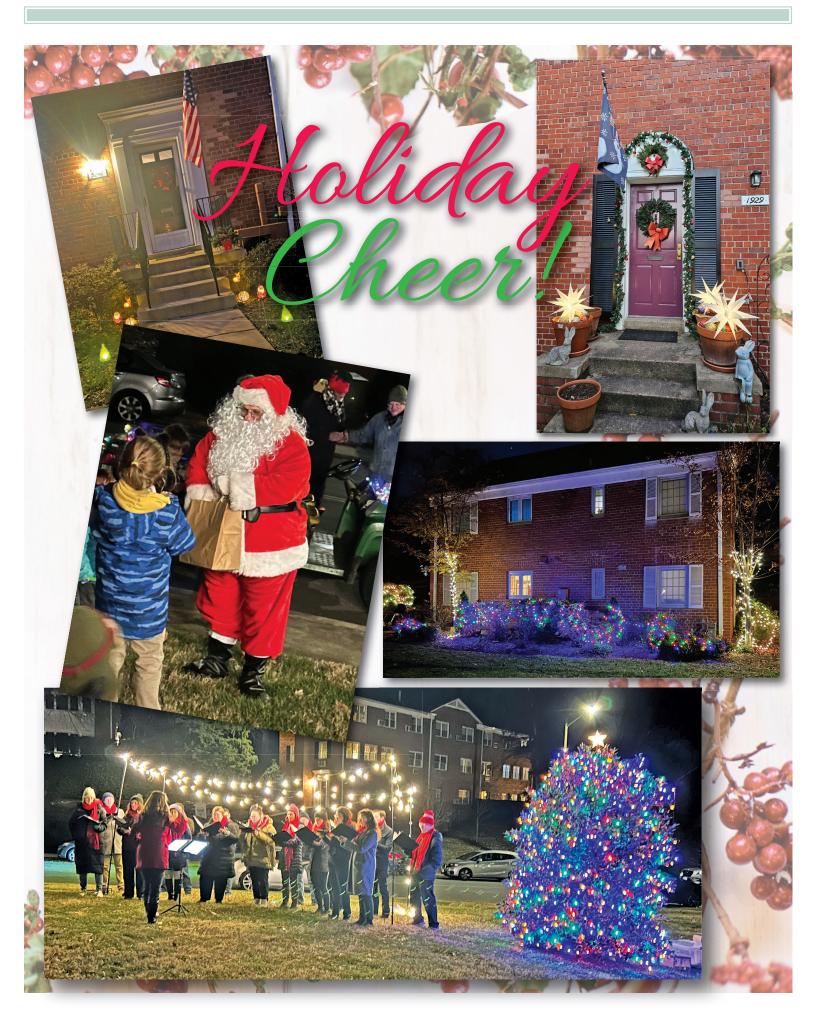


This list reflects the most commonly submitted applications. The Routine Change Form, the Non-Routine Change Form, and Covenants Specifications can be found on our website. You must be registered to view this section. https://parkfairfax.org/ resources/covenant-specifications-applications/

Please do not hesitate to reach out to us with any questions or concerns that you may have.







# CLASSIFIEDS

## HOME IMPROVEMENT

Electrical Services, Allegro LLC: Virginia Class A electrical contractor. Electric panels, fans, baseboard heaters, recessed lights. Licensed and insured. ALLEGRO LLC 703-314-1287. info@allegrollc.net.

#### Mario's Home Improvement:

Licensed Class A. Interior painting. Drywall and plaster repairs. Wallpaper removal, carpentry, electrical panel. Ceramic tile, complete kitchen and bath remodeling, granite countertops. Free estimates. References available. Over 20 years of experience. Mario Zambrana 703-501- 7506 or MZambrana60@yahoo.com.

#### Home Remodeling and Repairs:

From floor to ceiling, we update and remodel kitchens, bathrooms, or any room. Also provide handyman services to include plaster, paint, plumbing, tile and more. More than 20 years of Parkfairfax experience. Great rates! Morning-Star Plumbing Plus, plumbinghopeplus2@gmail.com, 703-869-7552. Licensed and insured. 10% discount for Veterans and Elderly.

Home Improvement: Kitchen and Bath remodel. Joel Riggs Home Repair LLC. Class A Lic. And Insured. All types of interior repairs. Paint, drywall, tile, and more. Call Joel 703-929-4676.

**B & A Housecleaning:** Cleaning homes in Fairlington and all areas for 40 years. Excellent references and prices, we provide our own equipment and supplies. For special jobs hourly rates are available. Window cleaning services are provided with an appointment. Call us for a free estimate (703) 501-9007 or email us using bc42happy@gmail.com.

## PET & PLANT SERVICES:

THE GARDEN CONTESSA: Three individual 45-minute sessions offered January-March for only \$150-just in time for spring! Learn how to prepare, plant, grow, and care for your garden. References available from our current 2024 students. To book your sessions, call or text Contessa at 703-548-1882.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

Meditation–Virtual Group and Individual Sessions: Experienced meditation teacher with 16 years of Tibetan training. Teaching meditation for 11 years at George Washington University, Milken Institute, School of Public Health. For more information, email Mimi at mmmalfitano@comcast.net or call or text 703 201 3923.

#### Private English Tutoring Services:

College Essay, AP Prep, Reading Comprehension, Writing, Grammar. In-Person or Virtual. Retired FCPS English/Journalism Teacher (TJHSST, Falls Church HS). Former journalist, published in The Washington Post, LA Times, Salon, Billboard, among others. Parkfairfax Resident. Rochelle L Levy, 703-945-7735. rllevytutoring@ gmail.com.

## Join the Meetings Virtually

## Architectural & Planning Board Meeting

 Web access: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87615605296

 Phone Dial-In: 301-715-8592

 Meeting ID: 876 1560 5296

 Passcode: 586277

## **Buildings & Utilities Committee Meeting**

Web access: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82057874372 Phone Dial-in: 888-788-0099 US Toll-free Meeting ID: 820 5787 4372

## **Board of Directors Meeting**

 Web access: https://zoom.us/j/95236782815

 Phone Dial-In: 877-853-5247

 Meeting ID: 952 3678 2815

 Passcode: 389608

## **Communications Committee Meeting**

Web access: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88203254521 Phone Dial-in: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 882 0325 4521 Passcode: 215818

## **Covenants Committee Meeting**

Web access: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89947324303 Phone Dial-In: 833-548-0276 Meeting ID: 899 4732 4303 Passcode: 336001

## **Election Committee Meeting**

 Web access: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81331967290

 Phone Dial-in: 301-715-8592

 Meeting ID: 813 3196 7290

 Passcode: 293130

## Finance Committee Meeting

Web access: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/96204170334Phone Dial-in: 888-788-0099 US Toll-freeMeeting ID: 962 0417 0334Passcode: 586277

## Landscape Committee Meeting

Web access: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86074068749 Phone Dial-In: 888-788-0099 Meeting ID: 860 7406 8749 Passcode: 484695 Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kesSVslfLD

## **Recreation Committee Meeting**

Web access: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81198276690 Phone Dial-in: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 811 9827 6690 Passcode: 336001

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## January 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Happy New Year! Office Closed	2 Finance Committee Meeting, <b>7 pm</b>	3	4
5	6 TLUC Committee Meeting, <b>7 pm</b>	7 Landscape Committee Meeting, 7 pm	8 Activities Committee Meeting, 6:30pm Building and Utility Committee Meeting 7 pm A&PB Committee Meeting, 7 pm	9 Elections Committee Meeting, <b>7 pm</b> Large Item Pick-Up	10 Newsletter Submission Deadline	11 Office open, Walk-Ins Only 9 am – Noon
12	13	14 Covenants Committee Meeting, 7 pm	15 Board Meeting 7 pm	16	17	18
19	20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day Office Closed	21 Book Club 7 pm	22	23 Communications Committee Meeting 7 pm Large Item Pick-Up	24	25 Budget Workshop 9 am
26	27	28	29	30	31	1

Please see "Join the Meeting" section inside for Zoom and call-in details. Please call office if you have any questions, (703) 998-6315.