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Dranesville Dispatch

John W. Foust

Dranesville District Supervisor

January 2012 : Issue 17

Dear Dranesville Resident,

Happy New Year! Best wishes to you and your family in the coming year. I hope all of you are enjoying this relatively mild winter.

2011 was an eventful year here in Dranesville. In 2011, the Board of Supervisors passed legislation to resolve the overcharge issues with Falls Church Water and bring equitable water rates to thousands of County residents. The County also reached agreement with the Washington Metropolitan Airports Authority and several other funding partners on a plan to finance Phase II of the Dulles Rail project, reducing the cost of the project by several hundred million dollars and, possibly, by as much as almost a billion dollars. And, for the fourth consecutive year, the Board adopted a budget that held the line on taxes while funding public safety, schools, human services and other priorities identified by the community.

I anticipate 2012 being equally eventful. I continue to make bicycle and pedestrian projects a priority and will work with County staff to ensure that the numerous projects planned throughout my district get built. This year we will move forward with plans for the new Herndon Fire Station, to implement the utilities undergrounding project in McLean and encourage additional re-development efforts there.

By the end of the year the I-495 Express Lanes (formerly called HOTLanes) will be completed. In addition to relief from the inconvenience caused by construction, completion of this project will provide significant congestion relief, especially getting into and out of Tysons Corner.

The Tysons Metro stations are scheduled for completion by the end of 2013. The Dulles Rail project brings the opportunity for substantial transit oriented development in Tysons Corner and throughout the Dulles Corridor. Many issues involving the infrastructure needed to serve that development and plans for financing that infrastructure will be debated and decided during 2012. I will be continuing efforts to provide pedestrian, bike and transit access to these stations. I will also advocate for additional funding for widening Route 7 from Tysons Corner to Reston Avenue.

This year I expect to see the completion of the Salona Park master plan and the transfer of Langley Fork Park from the National Park Service to the Fairfax County Park Authority. I also will be working with community groups to expand playing field capacity.

Developing the budget will again be a challenge as the economy continues its slow improvement and the State continues to reduce its support for public education and other essential services provided by the County. We are beginning the budget process and I look forward to your help in setting our funding priorities.

If you have any comments or suggestions on issues affecting you or your community please feel free to contact my office. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve you and for all the support and assistance you continue to give my staff and me.

Best Wishes,

John W. Foust
 Dranesville District Supervisor

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Do you know someone who would like to receive the *Dranesville Dispatch*?

Email your contact information to dranesville@fairfaxcounty.gov

or

visit us online at

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dranesville.

Attention Homeowner Associations:

If you are interested in having Supervisor Foust attend your Homeowner Association or Civic Organization meeting, please contact the Supervisor's Executive Assistant, Dianne Peikin, at 703-356-0551.

Please provide us with the latest contact information for your Association Officers so that we may keep you better informed of events in Dranesville that may impact you and your neighborhood.

Call (703) 356-0551 or email Julie Ide at Julie.Ide@fairfaxcounty.gov with your latest information.

Jane Edmondson	Chief of Staff, McLean and Great Falls Issues
Jennifer Boysko	Herndon Office, Schools, Human Services, Housing
Julie Ide	Transportation, Trails, Communications
Donna Keefe	VDOT Issues, Zoning Enforcement, Traffic Calming
Cheryl Patten	Environment, Parks, HOT Lanes, Stormwater
Dianne Peikin	Office Manager, Supervisor's Schedule, Public Safety
Ben Wiles	Land Use Issues, Tysons Corner Development

Who's Who at Dranesville District Offices

For a more detailed list of staff assignments, visit our website at http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dranesville/staff_assignments_by_subject_new.htm.

Herndon Office

Our office in the Town of Herndon is dedicated to serving constituents in the western-most part of Dranesville. Staff Aide, **Jennifer Boysko**, is available specifically to assist Herndon area constituents.

Office Hours: M-W-Th-F: 9 am to 12 pm
Tuesday: 12 pm to 3 pm
Or by appointment

Email: Jennifer.Boysko@fairfaxcounty.gov

Phone: 703-471-5076

Address: Old Town Hall
730 Elden St.
Herndon, VA 20170

Fax: 703-437-3210

HOT Lanes Now Called I-495 Express Lanes

The HOT Lanes project is now in its final year of construction, scheduled to open at the end of this year. A new name and new website have been created as part of the transition from a construction project to a new transportation option for area drivers. Signs along the I-495 Beltway will identify the new travel lanes as “Express Lanes”.

Drivers are recommended to visit the new project website at 495ExpressLanes.com. Project developers, Transurban-Fluor, are now turning their attention to educating drivers about the future Express Lanes. This new website is designed to help familiarize drivers with the advantages of the new Express Lanes, and provide traffic alerts, safety tips and customized directions.

Old I-495 Lewinsville Bridge Demolished

There is much “Express Lane” activity in the area of the Lewinsville bridge over the Capital Beltway. After opening the new bridge to traffic on August 19, Express Lane contractors are now in the process of demolishing the original bridge. The delay in removing the old bridge resulted from a longer than expected transfer of cables and other data transmission lines by Verizon between the two bridges.

The most disruptive part of the night time bridge demolition, the removal of the deck concrete from the structural steel, is now complete. Crews can now move forward with the next stages of demolition. The removal of the steel across the Beltway and demolishing the piers and abutments could be complete as early as January 28, depending on the weather.

Near the west side of Timberly Lane, work will begin on the construction of a retaining wall with crews working around the existing Dominion Power lines and other utilities. It may be necessary for a few weeks to temporarily shut off power to three overhead street lights in the area in order to allow crews to work safely on the wall. Work on the wall will continue through the winter. On the outer loop side, posts are in the ground for a new sound wall and panels are being placed from Lewinsville to the Dulles Toll Road. The wall is expected to be completed by the end of January.

The jersey barriers near Timberly Lane will remain in place until the final roadway alignment and paving of Lewinsville Road is done this spring. Express Lanes construction managers looked into the possibility of moving the barriers to widen the road but were prevented from doing so by the existing drainage line and the work on the retaining wall. Supervisor Foust has requested that warning signs and other methods to alert drivers be maintained in this area. The final alignment will smooth out the jogs currently on Lewinsville Road and provide a more natural flow for drivers approaching the bridge from either direction. Right turn lanes into Timberly and Snow Meadow will also be restored as part of the final alignment work. Sidewalk construction on the two blocks immediately abutting the bridge on both sides of the Beltway will move forward this winter as temperatures allow. Crews are currently addressing some flaws on portions of the new walkway.

In addition to the walkways installed as part of the Express Lanes project, Fairfax County is building two sidewalk segments extending the sidewalks further, creating a nearly continuous stretch of sidewalk on Lewinsville Road between Route 123 and Route 7. A sidewalk segment between Scotts Run Road and Windy Hill Road is scheduled for completion in November of 2012 and a segment between Snow Meadow Lane and Elsinore Avenue is scheduled for completion in April of 2013.

UPDATE: Agreement Reached on Funding for Dulles Metro Rail Phase II

Last spring, while construction work continued on the first phase of Dulles Metro, concerns arose about increases in the estimated cost of Phase II of the project and the effect of that increase on Fairfax County and Dulles Toll Road users. Disagreements arose about the best way to address those cost concerns, in particular whether the proposed station at the airport should be constructed underground, as originally proposed and favored by Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority (MWAA), or constructed above ground at a considerable cost saving, as favored by Fairfax and Loudoun Counties.

A Memorandum of Agreement was reached to the satisfaction of all parties and approved by the Board of Supervisors in December 2011. This Memorandum of Agreement includes the following:

- The planned station at Dulles will be above ground.
- Fairfax County will use its best efforts to find third party funding for 2 parking garages in Fairfax County and the Route 28 station.
- The Commonwealth agrees to seek \$150 million from the General Assembly to be used to reduce the burden on Toll Road users.
- The Federal Government will make loans available to Fairfax County, Loudoun County and MWAA.

Supervisor Foust supports this agreement but would like to see less reliance on Dulles Toll Road users and is investigating the possibility of imposing tolls on users of the airport access portion of the road.

Public Meeting to Present Proposed Herndon Fire Station Design

The Fairfax County Department of Public Works and Environmental Services is holding a community meeting to present the proposed design for the new Herndon Fire Station located at 680 Spring Street in Herndon:

Thursday, January 26 from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Herndon Senior Center
Ball Rooms 1 and 2
873 Grace St # 1
Herndon

As proposed, the Herndon Fire Station project will include construction of a new two-story facility of approximately 14,500 square feet plus an underground parking garage. It is proposed that the new fire station be constructed on the same site as the existing fire station which will, therefore, necessitate a temporary facility during construction. The proposed site for the temporary fire station is located at 791 Elden Street in Herndon. Construction is planned to start in late spring of 2013 and be completed in summer 2015.

For more information contact Jennifer Boysko in the office of Supervisor Foust at (703) 471-5076.



Board of Supervisors Adopts Ordinance to Regulate Water Rates December 6, 2011

The water rates charged by the City of Falls Church are a source of ongoing concern for the approximately 100,000 customers who reside or have businesses in Fairfax County. These rates are also of concern to the Board of Supervisors.

On December 6, 2011, the Board held a public hearing on a proposed amendment to the County code that would equalize water rates for County residents who get their water from other jurisdictions' water utilities. Following the public hearing, the Board voted 10-0 to implement the amendment.

Basically, the ordinance requires that effective July 1, 2012, the City of Falls Church, the City of Fairfax and the Towns of Vienna and Herndon must charge Fairfax County residents the same rates that Fairfax Water charges unless they can demonstrate that a higher rate is fair and reasonable based on their costs.

The ordinance also makes Fairfax Water the exclusive provider for new service in the County effective December 7, 2011, unless Fairfax Water makes a determination that it cannot make water service available due to a utility-based reason.

Site plans submitted prior to December 7, 2011 and certain areas of Tysons Corner were exempted from the exclusive service area changes.

Tysons Corner Mall Developer Moves Forward with Mixed Use Project

Construction of a mixed-use development project by Macerich Co., the owners of Tysons Corner Center, approved in 2007, is now underway within walking distance of the future Tysons Central 123 Metro Station. The project is located on the former Circuit City site along Chain Bridge Road.

The project is part of a multi-year development at Tysons Corner Center that is expected to be built over 10-15 years. The first phase consists of the construction of a 300-room high-end hotel. The second phase will include a 20-story office building, a 400-unit residential building and two retail buildings. That phase will create a new connection to the Metro station.

In late September, the Board of Supervisors approved the first two Tysons rezoning applications, under the new Tysons Comprehensive Plan approved in 2010, for approximately 7 acres near the future Tysons West Metro Station, located at Route 7 and Spring Hill Road. An additional 17 rezoning applications are currently being reviewed by County staff. The new Plan aims to have housing for 100,000 residents, as opposed to the approximately 18,000 currently living in Tysons now. "Right now we have folks coming from all over the region driving into Tysons," said Supervisor Foust. "The goal is to have the people who work in Tysons, live in Tysons so they can drive less or not at all."

While the Macerich project was approved under the previous version of the Tysons Comprehensive Plan, it is largely in line with the new Plan. The amount of residential and hotel uses "is just the kind of development we need if we are to address the region's jobs-housing balance and traffic in the area," said Foust.

The project includes commitments to capping and managing traffic trips, providing on-site recreational facilities, and nearly a \$1 million contribution to Fairfax County Public Schools. Road improvements will be phased with the development and include: installing or adjusting traffic signals, construction of a bus plaza/stop area, constructing additional turn lanes, and providing various bus shelters and bicycle racks throughout the development.

Four Dranesville Parks Prepare for Master Plan Process

This year Fairfax County Park Authority staff will be working with the community to develop and update the Master Plans for four different parks within the Dranesville District.

A public meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, February 21 at 7 p.m. in the Great Falls Grange** to discuss the Master Plan for Great Falls' **Riverbend Park**. This meeting will solicit community input for the revision to the existing Master Plan.

Elsewhere, environmental and archaeological studies are underway in the **Langley Fork Park** as part of the National Park Service land transfer to Fairfax County. The park has many athletic fields and is currently used and managed by the Fairfax County Park Authority under a lease agreement with the National Park Service. The acquisition of Langley Fork Park into the Fairfax County Park system is a priority for Supervisor Foust and negotiations are nearing completion. Once the land transfer is finalized, planning for the new Master Plan for Langley Fork Park will begin.

In May 2011, Supervisor Foust and Dranesville District Park Authority Board Appointee, Kevin Fay, designated the Salona Task Force to review community suggestions for Master Plan options for **Salona Park**. Task Force members have been busy gathering information and assessing use options for the park. They are planning to hold a public meeting in the near future.

Finally, this summer work will begin on a revision to the existing Master Plan for **McLean Central Park**, located in the heart of the McLean Central Business District. After preliminary planning, a public meeting will be held later in the year.

Details on all four parks can be found on the Fairfax County Park Authority website at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks>. For more information contact Cheryl Patten in the office of Supervisor Foust at Cheryl.Patten@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Pedestrian Improvements Completed at Balls Hill Road and Georgetown Pike

Area walkers are appreciating the recent installation of pedestrian enhancements at the intersection of Balls Hill Road and Georgetown Pike. The project completed in November added crosswalks, pedestrian signals and curb ramps on the north and east legs of the intersection.



Herndon Parks and Recreation Department Awarded National Re-Accreditation

The Town of Herndon's Parks and Recreation Department was awarded re-accreditation from the Commission for Accreditation of Parks and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA), an independent body sanctioned by the National Park and Recreation Association (NPR) and the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration. This qualifies Herndon as one of 97 nationally-accredited agencies and one of only six in Virginia. There are more than 10,000 recreation agencies in the United States. This elite honor was announced at the NPR Annual Congress in Atlanta in November 2011.

CAPRA recognizes park and recreation agencies for excellence in operation and service. Accreditation lasts for five years, and Herndon Parks and Recreation first achieved this honor in 2006. The accreditation process is extensive and includes a self assessment, an on-site peer review, and final review by CAPRA. An accredited agency must demonstrate compliance with 144 standards ranging in subject matter from fiscal accountability, security and personnel management to conservation preservation, land use management and program standards.

The Town of Herndon Parks and Recreation Department is a four-time National Gold Medal Award winner for excellence in park and recreation management presented by the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration. The Town of Herndon is the third largest town in the Commonwealth and is home to more than 23,000 citizens.

Fairfax County Parkland Tops 23,000 Acre Mark

The Fairfax County Park Authority concluded a successful year in which land acquisition was a key factor. The Park Authority is the largest landholder in Northern Virginia, managing 23,168 acres of parkland, woodlands and open space. Land acquisition is accomplished through park bonds, donations, land transfers and proffers.

The Park Authority worked closely with the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to complete the transfer of numerous properties throughout Fairfax County in 2011. Included in this significant transfer of land were properties at existing parks as well as land that increased the size of several existing parks and stream valleys.

Parcels added in the Dranesville area include a 3.4 acre addition to Greenway Heights, a 24.4 acre addition to Spring Hill Park, and over half an acre added to Scotts Run Stream Valley.

Great Falls Fire Station Update

The new Great Falls Fire Station is now in its last phase of construction. This phase includes construction of the remaining north portion of the parking lot and the septic system.

The project is scheduled to be fully completed at the end of February. Although the new building has been open for operation since November 17, 2011, an official grand opening ceremony has been scheduled for March 10, 2012.



Construction Underway for Pedestrian Safety Medians on Westmoreland Street

Construction efforts are nearly completed on pedestrian improvements at several key intersections on Westmoreland Street in McLean. Pedestrians will soon find relief while crossing this wide road.

At the request of many citizen groups, including representatives of McLean High School and its PTO, Supervisor Foust has been working with representatives of VDOT, the County's Department of Transportation and the Police Department to find ways to improve pedestrian safety along Westmoreland Street.

At Supervisor Foust's request, the County Department of Transportation conducted a review of every intersection along Westmoreland and proposed the addition of pedestrian crossing medians at several of the key crosswalks. This recommendation, along with other intersection improvements, was shared at a public meeting in November 2010. Soon after, Supervisor Foust obtained funding for the project. Construction began earlier this month.

The intersections and their modifications are:

- **Westmoreland Street and Bonheim Court:** Install raised pedestrian refuge median on Westmoreland in the middle of the existing crosswalk. Revamp crosswalk with new signs and striping. Install two ADA curb cuts. Restrict some on-street parking.
- **Westmoreland Street and Lemon Road:** Move crosswalk to improve site distance. Install curb ramps, new striping and new signage.
- **Westmoreland Street and Southridge Drive:** Install raised pedestrian refuge median on Westmoreland in the middle of the existing crosswalk. Revamp crosswalk with new signs and striping. Install two ADA curb cuts.
- **Westmoreland Street entrance to McLean High School:** Brighter crosswalk markings spanning entrance.



Construction is still underway for a new pedestrian median, curb ramps and crosswalk at Bonheim Court and Westmoreland Street.

Other projects underway to improve safety along Westmoreland Street include:

- **Westmoreland Street and Old Chesterbrook Road:** Realign intersection to slow turns by making north east corner a right angle, revamp crosswalks.
- **Westmoreland Street and Dillon Street:**
 - Install two pedestrian activated Rapid Flash Beacons on either side of the Westmoreland crosswalk to McLean High School.
 - Fairfax County Public Schools will install two "wink-o-matics" on Westmoreland Street, approximately 600 feet on either side of the Westmoreland entrance to McLean High School, lowering speed limits during school arrival and departure times.
 - Extend box culvert north of McLean HS at location of roadside ditch, install new sidewalk along east side of Westmoreland halfway to Dillon Street. Revamp crosswalks. Revamp existing crosswalks to have bold striping and ADA curb cuts across Westmoreland to the McLean High School entrance.
- **Westmoreland Street and Haycock Road:** Add right turn lane and pedestrian improvements to south bound Westmoreland Street

For more information contact Julie Ide in the office of Supervisor Foust at (703) 256-0551 or by email at Julie.Ide@FairfaxCounty.gov.

Spring Hill Extension Trail Completed

Chadsworth Homes agreed to construct a 6-foot asphalt trail extending an existing trail on Lewinsville Road to the intersection of Summerwood Drive and Spring Hill Road in McLean as an alternative to building a 4-foot “sidewalk to nowhere”, originally required as part of a subdivision plan for a residential development located off Old Dominion Drive. The alternative location was championed by Supervisor Foust and supported by The Lewinsville Coalition, a group of homeowners associations along the Lewinsville Road corridor.

The trail was completed in early January and offers joggers, walkers and bicyclists a safe way to go from Summerwood Drive to Lewinsville Road, and west to Stony Point Court.



Enjoying the new trail are Supervisor Foust; Pat Byrne, President of Chadsworth Homes; and McLean residents Kelly Cowles and son Matthew.

2012 Snow Removal: Updates and Information

VDOT has announced changes to its snow removal operations for this winter. Here is a summary of those changes as well as some helpful hints to get you through the next snow storm.



Early Deployment to Subdivisions

Trucks will be pre-positioned in subdivisions whenever the forecast calls for two or more inches of snow. Each subdivision will have at least one dedicated truck, with the intent of assigning the same driver to that subdivision throughout the winter. In difficult subdivisions there will be more than one truck.

Additional Equipment

Nearly 3,400 pieces of equipment (mostly contractor) are available for snow and ice removal in northern Virginia this winter. Last winter Northern Virginia VDOT had 2,800 pieces of equipment available.

Automatic Vehicle Locator (AVL) Pilot Program

Contractors are offered a \$900 bonus to equip their trucks with AVL which VDOT uses to track their vehicles. As of November 2011, more than 1,183 trucks out of 3,400 were equipped with AVL units. This is a pilot program that will be evaluated at the end of snow season.

Pilot Website Showing Snow Clearing Progress for Neighborhoods

VDOT has created a new website for residents to monitor the progress of snow removal in their neighborhood. Color-coded maps indicate if a neighborhood is complete, in-progress or started. Viewers can also follow the progress of trucks equipped with an AVL through their neighborhoods. (Remember that many plow vehicles are not yet carrying AVL devices.) In addition, the website picks up feeds from cameras positioned on major highways and interstates to show live road conditions.

Road Pre-Treatment

VDOT crews pre-treat 300 lane miles of trouble spots on Interstates, including bridges and ramps prone to freezing, with liquid magnesium chloride. Another 300 lane miles on major roads are pre-treated with salt brine. Chemicals are not typically used in subdivisions, but crews will sand hills, curves and intersections as needed to provide traction.

(Continued on page 10)

Road Clearing Priorities

Typically, crews begin plowing in subdivisions when two inches has fallen. The main thoroughfares in subdivisions are repeatedly plowed during a storm. Once the storm has stopped and those roads are clear, crews work to make residential streets and cul-de-sacs “passable.”

Definition of a “Passable” Road

A neighborhood street is considered passable when a path is drivable (with caution) for an average passenger vehicle. The road will not be cleared curb-to-curb or to bare pavement, and may remain snow-packed, uneven and rutted (especially following any refreeze). For most storms, one snowplow pass, about eight to ten feet wide, is made.

Depending upon the snow fall, removal could take up to 48 hours. During major events, heavy equipment is called in and the process slows down drastically. This equipment does not move snow and ice as fast. Please be patient!

Snow Removal on Sidewalks or Trails

While VDOT does not remove snow from sidewalks or trails, crews are asked to be mindful of pushing large amounts of snow onto sidewalks, driveways, etc. With major storms, blocking sidewalks or trails is often an unintended consequence of making roads passable.

Neither the State nor the County clear snow and ice from public walkways (sidewalks and trails). While not legally obligated, residents and businesses are asked to help keep sidewalks safe. They should, as soon as feasible, clear snow off the sidewalks in front of their property so that all pedestrians, especially school children, those with disabilities and the elderly, may walk securely. Homeowner associations may require members of their communities to clear walkways abutting their property. Please contact your association or property manager for further information.

Neighborhood Parking Recommendations

Remove your vehicles from the street if possible before a snow storm. If you are unable to remove your vehicle, **VDOT recommends that residents park on the odd-numbered side of their street** to allow plows room to pass. Community or homeowners associations can help spread the word about odd-side parking to their communities to allow more effective plowing.

Clearing Your Driveway

It is unavoidable for plows clearing after a big storm to not block the end of your driveway with a certain amount of snow. VDOT is very aware of this problem and directs its contractors to try to minimize it. You can help minimize the amount of snow plowed in front of your driveway by **leaving the last few feet of the driveway unshoveled until the street is plowed, and by shoveling the snow from your driveway onto the street to the right of your driveway (if facing the street)**. The plows always push snow along the right side of the road. If you shovel to the left, the plows will push that snow back in front of your driveway as it passes. If your driveway snow is piled to the right of your driveway, your driveway snow will be pushed beyond your driveway.

Snow Removal Complaints

Ideally, VDOT would like to hear from a central point of contact for your neighborhood, rather than receiving a call from each household on a street. It would save time and effort if you have a Homeowners Association and are able to use it as a collection point for your complaints.

Individuals may contact the VDOT help line at 1-800-FOR-ROAD (1-800-367-7623, TTY 711) with concerns or **contact Supervisor Foust’s office at 703-356-0551 (TTY 711)** to relay your concerns to VDOT.

Board of Supervisors Holds First Meeting in 2012

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors held its first meeting of the year on January 10. Sharon Bulova entered her fourth year as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors and Board members selected Mason District Supervisor Penelope A. Gross, as vice chairman for the fourth consecutive year. All ten members of the Board were reelected on November 8 and sworn in for a new term on December 13.

Board meetings are held on selected Tuesdays and open to the public at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Residents can also view the proceedings on Cable Channel 16 (also viewable through the County website at http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cable/channel16/asx/live_stream.asx) The complete Board of Supervisors schedule can be found online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/board/meetings/>.

Board members and the districts they serve are:

Sharon Bulova, chairman, at-large
Penelope A. Gross, vice chairman, Mason District
John C. Cook, Braddock District
John W. Foust, Dranesville District
Catherine M. Hudgins, Hunter Mill District
Jeffrey C. McKay, Lee District
Gerald W. Hyland, Mount Vernon District
Linda Q. Smyth, Providence District
Pat Herrity, Springfield District
Michael R. Frey, Sully District

Also at the January 10 meeting, board members were appointed to various regional agencies, committees and subcommittees. Supervisor Foust's appointments include:

- **Board member of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments and Chairman of its Emergency Preparedness Council**
- **Member of the Phase I and Phase II Dulles Rail Transportation Improvement District Commission**
- **Chairman of the Board's Audit Committee**
- **Vice-Chairman of the Board's Budget Policy Committee**
- **Chairman of the Fairfax County Economic Advisory Commission**

More information is available on the Board of Supervisors web page at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/board/>.



3400 Girls Join Forces to Help End Hunger in Northern Virginia

Girls on the Run of Northern Virginia held its Fall 5K run on November 20. The run included a food drive benefiting the Action in Community Service (ACTS) Food Pantry in Dumfries, VA. Supplies at the ACTS Food Pantry were recently depleted by unprecedented demand following the Fall 2011 floods that hit the region.



Supervisor Foust with 5K participants.

Girls on the Run of Northern Virginia is an after-school program for girls in grades 3 through 8 that uses the power of running to help prepare girls for a lifetime of self-respect and healthy living. Teams meet during a 10-week season, as coaches weave training for a 5K with lessons that reinforce a strong sense of self, strong friendships and giving back to the community.

For more information about Girls on the Run of Northern Virginia visit their website at www.gotrnova.org. More information about the ACTS Food Pantry can be found at www.actspwc.org.



(Left to right) Leigh Allen-Hughes; Rochelle Proctor, Assistant Principal; Jennifer Boysko; Jaden Snead; Ian Guevara; Supervisor Foust; Luke Watling, SCA President; Judy Baldwin, Principal; Cesar Del Aguilera, Council for the Arts of Herndon; Ross Baker, Assistant Principal.

Council for the Arts of Herndon and Supervisor Foust Team for Shoe Drive

For the third consecutive holiday season, the Council for the Arts of Herndon and Dranesville District Supervisor John Foust partnered to collect shoes for children in need at Hutchison Elementary School. The drive collected new closed toed sneakers and gift cards.

Donors delivered the tennis shoes and gift cards to collection points at the Herndon Council for the Arts offices and to the Herndon and McLean offices of Supervisor Foust.

The shoes and gift cards were delivered to Hutchison Elementary School on December 19. Thanks to everyone for their generous contributions!

Dranesville Photo Gallery

Langley High School Golf Team Honored by Board of Supervisors



Coaches and members of the Langley High School Golf Team are recognized by Supervisor Foust and the Board of Supervisors at their November 1 meeting. The Langley team won the 2011 Virginia AAA State Championship.

2011 WinterFest Parade

Residents lined the streets of downtown McLean to celebrate the beginning of the holiday season on Sunday, December 4.



Karen and Dan DuVal, Grand Marshalls at 2011 WinterFest Parade on Chain Bridge Road.

Quality of Life Plus (QL+) Veterans Day Picnic

QL+ (Quality of Life Plus) is a non-profit organization that fosters and generates innovations to aid and improve the quality of life of those injured in the line of duty.



Supervisor Foust s addresses the assembled crowd.



Scott Monet, QL+ Executive Director and President, Don Webber and Supervisor Foust

Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening of Elysee 360 Concierge Med Spa



McLean Community members and Business Leaders turned out for the grand opening of Elysee 360 Concierge Med Spa. The new business located at 6858 Old Dominion Drive in McLean, provides spa services in an innovative manner.

From left to right: Sam Roberts- GMCC Board Member, Gary Dopsloff- GMCC Board Member, Jyotsna Gupta, MD owner, Amrish Gupta MD owner, Marcia Twomey -President GMCC, Supervisor John Foust, Ghassan Abukurah-GMCC Board Member, John Brough - GMCC Board Member, Brian Callery- GMCC Board Member and Lynn Gulick- GMCC Board Member

Recognitions

Herndon High School Field Hockey Coach, Phyllis Pearce, Recognized by Board of Supervisors

On January 10, Phyllis Pearce, Herndon High School Field Hockey Coach for 21 years, was recognized by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors for her outstanding efforts. Ms. Pearce has announced that she is retiring from her coaching duties.

Fortunately for the students, Ms. Pearce will continue to teach Special Education and English. Ms. Pearce has been a teacher in Virginia for 37 years. 26 of those years have been with Fairfax County.



Supervisor Foust and the Board of Supervisors present a certificate of recognition to Phyllis Pearce for 21 years of service as the Herndon High School girls field hockey coach.

Dolley Madison Library Wins Best of NAIOP Northern Virginia Award

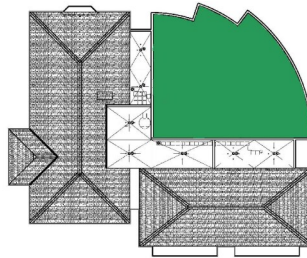
The newly renovated Dolley Madison Library was recently named recipient of a Best of NAIOP Northern Virginia Award. "Focus on Excellence" was the theme of this year's awards, sponsored by the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties. To recognize significant new contributions to Northern Virginia by the commercial, industrial and mixed-use real estate community, NAIOP presented twenty-two awards in the following

categories: Transactions, Interiors, Marketing, Buildings and Membership.

Dolley Madison Library received an Award of Excellence for the **Best Building, Institutional Facility Under \$20 Million**. The award was presented to the Fairfax County Department of Public Works & Environmental Services. Team members included Fairfax County, Bowie Gridley Architects and Harvey-Cleary Builders.

In addition, the award-winning library is featured on the cover of the December issue of Library Journal.

The back of the renovated Dolley Madison Library and drawing and photo of Dolley Madison Library's Green Roof



Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce Presents 2011 Business and Community Leader Awards

The Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce awarded seventeen business and community leaders with its annual Business and Community Awards on October 5 at a ceremony at the Pavilions at Claude Moore Memorial Farm.

Award Recipients:

Restaurant of the Year:	Hearth Restaurant, Hilton McLean
Outstanding Community Partner:	Peggy Fox
New Business of the Year:	1910 Restaurant
Fulfilling American Dream:	Trang X (Janet) Nguyen
Civic Pride Award:	Fairfax County Auxiliary Police Officers
Community Leadership Award:	Ghassan Abukurah
Outstanding Fundraiser of the Year:	Rebecca "Becca" Wilcox
Police Officer of the Year:	Officer First Class Todd Owens
Fireman of the Year:	Andreas Maple
Community Volunteers of the Year:	Claude Moore Colonial Farm Volunteers
Youth Recognition Award:	Liam O'Neill
Green Innovation Award:	Beth Chung
BusinessWoman of the Year:	Sally Proto
Non-Profit of the Year:	McLean Project for the Arts
McLean Community Service Award:	Chip Frederick
2011 Media Partner:	Johnny Hanna, Viva Tysons Magazine
Chairman's Award:	Rick Makely, Giant Food Store, McLean

McLean Community Center Receives ECNV Community Partner Award

The McLean Community Center (MCC) has received a Community Partner Award from the ENDeependence Center of Northern Virginia, Inc. (ECNV). Every year, ECVN presents an award to a community partner that goes “above and beyond” to make the community more accessible to people with disabilities. The award was presented at the organization’s Annual Meeting on December 16. MCC is located at 1234 Ingleside Avenue in McLean.

The award recognized the MCC for its support for the community integration of citizens with disabilities, demonstrated by the establishment of a Specially Adapted Resource Club (SPARC) program for youth with autism at the Old Firehouse Teen Center (OFTC).

SPARC provides dynamic and enduring learning opportunities for adults with life-long disabilities in a community setting. SPARC, in partnership with Fairfax County Neighborhood and Community Services’ Therapeutic Recreation Division, gives club participants the opportunity to make self-directed choices. The new club at OFTC meets from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

For more information, contact the MCC at (703) 790-0123, TTY: 711.

Herndon Resident Debora Dodge Receives Kudos for Caregivers Award

The award was presented to Ms. Dodge by the LifeCircle Alliances at the 2nd Annual Kudos for Community Caregivers Awards Breakfast on September 26.



*Pictured (l-r) Kate Hanley, Mistress of Ceremonies and Member of Board of LifeCircle, Kudos Award winner Debora Dodge of Herndon and Dr. Gloria Addo-Ayensu, MD, MPH, Director of the Fairfax County Department of Health.
(Photo courtesy of David Casterline)*

Announcements

McLean: Creating a Supportive Community for All Ages

Forum Follow-Up: Moving Forward

On October 15 over 100 local residents and volunteers began a dialogue with McLean area residents on the issues of aging and accessibility in their community. The forum, entitled “McLean: Creating a Supportive Community for All Ages” and hosted by Supervisor Foust, was held for the purpose of making McLean more accessible for aging seniors and people living with disabilities. Whether aging in McLean or living with a disability, many residents and their caregivers are finding that staying in their home is a challenge due to accessibility and logistical issues. The McLean “Creating a Supportive Community” effort is drawing on innovative practices used by other communities to address these issues.

Meeting organizers have now scheduled a follow-up meeting to discuss how to move forward with the objectives identified at the October meeting. Anyone interested in participating in this important movement is free to attend.

Monday, January 30 at 7:00 p.m.
McLean Community Center
Stedman Room
1234 Ingleside Avenue
McLean

To RSVP or for additional information, please contact Jennifer Boysko in the office of Supervisor Foust at

Tax Relief Available for Qualified Residents

Supervisor Foust to Host Real Estate Tax Relief Workshops

Older adults and people with disabilities may qualify for Fairfax County real estate and car tax relief. Residents must file an application for relief between January 1 and April 1, 2012 if they have filed before. New applicants have until December 31, 2012 to file.

To receive tax relief, applicants must:

- Be 65 + or have acquired a permanent and total disability
- Have a gross income of no more than \$72,000. This includes the income of all relatives living in the home.
- The following income limitations and percentage of relief apply:
\$52,000 or less: 100 percent, \$52,001- \$62,000: 50 percent, \$62,001- \$72,000: 25 percent

Dranesville District residents who believe they may qualify for Real Estate Tax relief are invited to attend two workshops sponsored by Supervisor John Foust:

Friday, March 2 – 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Tuesday, March 7 – 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
McLean Governmental Center
1437 Balls Hill Road
McLean

Personnel from the County's Department of Tax Administration will be present to help eligible residents apply for tax relief. Home visits by County staff are also available by appointment. Older adults and disabled residents looking for more information about real estate tax relief can call the Department of Tax Administration at (703) 222-8234, TTY (703) 222-7594, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays. Additional information is available online at http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dta/taxrelief_home.htm.

For more information or to schedule time for a personal consultation, contact the Dianne Peikin in the Dranesville District Supervisor's Office at (703) 356-0551, TTY 711.



Supervisor Foust Announces Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training

Supervisor Foust will host a CERT LEVEL BASIC TRAINING COURSE in McLean for interested residents in the Dranesville District. Dranesville is currently underrepresented in the number of CERT volunteers. This important program empowers residents during a large-scale disaster situation.

The course requires a minimum of 12 participants. The program includes 12 hours of training for a FEMA certification and will consist of one class a week, in the evening, over a 5-6 week period. The course is free and will provide necessary gear. Participants must be at least 18 years old and Fairfax County residents.

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area. CERT trains county residents in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. For more information about CERT, visit the website: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/oem/citizencorps/cert.htm> or visit the CERT Blog at <http://fairfaxcountycert.blogspot.com/>.

If you are interested in taking this class, please call the office of Supervisor Foust at (703) 356-0551 or email Dranesville@fairfaxcounty.gov. Participants will be contacted with scheduling details once the minimum enrollment level is reached.

Park Authority Seeks Comment on Proposed Fees

The Fairfax County Park Authority is holding its annual public comment meeting on the agency's proposed fee adjustments. This is an opportunity for members of the public to comment on this year's proposed changes.

**Wednesday, February 1 at 7:00 p.m.
Herrity Building, Room 106
12055 Government Center Parkway
Fairfax**

Information outlining all proposed fee changes is now available for public review. Information can be found online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/feemeeting.htm>. Additionally, a desk copy of the fee proposal is available for review at Park Authority offices in the Herrity Building and at staffed park facilities, including all RECenters, golf courses, nature centers and historic sites.

A 30-day comment period is now underway. Mail and e-mail comments must be received no later than February 14, 2012. Additionally, public input on these proposals is invited. Citizens may wish to attend the public comment meeting to speak or simply wish to forward comments.

Feedback will be accepted online at Parkmail@fairfaxcounty.gov or you may send your written comments to:

**Attention: Public Information Office/Fee Comments
Fairfax County Park Authority
12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 927
Fairfax, VA 22035-1118**

This meeting will feature a brief overview of the fee process and provide an opportunity for public comment. Citizens wishing to speak at the meeting may pre-register by calling the Public Information Office at (703) 324-8662. You need not register in advance to speak at the meeting.

State Officials Launch Advance Health Care Directive Registry *New registry helps fulfill health care and end-of-life wishes for Virginians*

The Commonwealth of Virginia has launched a statewide Advance Health Care Directive Registry (AHCDR). An AHCDR lets other people know the types of health care you do and do not want in the event you are unable to express your wishes on your own. The secure registry, available to all legal Virginia residents, stores documents that detail and protect health care wishes, such as medical power of attorney and do-not-resuscitate orders.

Using the registry is easy and registration is simple. Residents enter basic information, create an account and select a personal identification number (PIN) and password. Each Virginian who signs up for the registry receives an identification card containing his/her personal registry information so health care providers can access their information if necessary. They may also share their PIN with friends, family and health care providers, allowing them access to their information.

To sign up for the AHCDR, visit <https://www.virginiaregistry.org>. Legal Virginia residents without computer access can still be part of the registry by calling (800) 224-0791 for help and more information.

2012 Stuff the Bus - Food For Fairfax Drive

Local food pantries need our help restocking their shelves

Fairfax County [Neighborhood and Community Services](#) and the [Office of Public Private Partnerships](#) are once again partnering with MV Transportation, Inc. and local grocery stores to collect donations of food to assist the most vulnerable in our community. All donations will go directly to local nonprofit organizations that help feed needy families and individuals in the Fairfax-Falls Church Community. Bring donations of food to the locations below between 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.:

January 28
Fox Mill Giant
2551 John Milton Drive
Herndon
Benefiting Helping Hungry Kids

February 4
McLean Giant
1454 Chain Bridge Road
McLean
Benefiting Share, Inc.

For more information on Stuff the Bus-Food for Fairfax or for inclement weather arrangements, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ncs or call (703) 222-9764, TTY 711.

January 31 is the Deadline For Dog License Renewals

January 31 is the licensing deadline for all dogs, four months of age or older in Fairfax County. The licensing fee is \$10 and is good for one year. Rabies vaccination date must be current to purchase a dog license. Tags are issued free of charge to the owners of dogs trained and serving as a guide dog for a blind person, a hearing dog for a deaf person, or a service dog for a mobility-impaired person.

License tags may be purchased by mail, on-line or in person, as follows:

By Mail:

Send a completed copy of the [Dog License Application](#), a check payable to the County of Fairfax, and a current certificate of rabies vaccination to the County of Fairfax, Department of Tax Administration, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 223, Fairfax, VA 22035.

On-Line (Renewals Only):

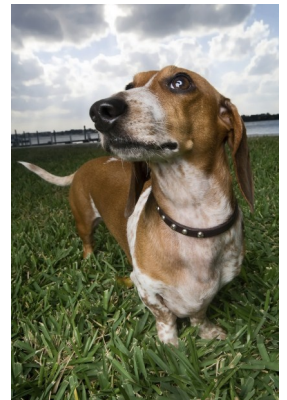
(An additional processing fee may apply for on-line renewals). Visit the animal control website at <https://www.velocitypayment.com/vbills/lookup/fairfax/doglicense>.

In Person:

Bring a completed copy of the [Dog License Application](#), a check payable to the County of Fairfax, and a current certificate of rabies vaccination, to one of the following locations:

- The [Department of Tax Administration](#) at 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 223, Fairfax between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays (8:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Thursdays) or
- The [Animal Shelter](#) at 4500 West Ox Road, Fairfax between noon and 7:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday or Saturday between 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Those who have bought tags in prior years will automatically receive application forms in the mail in October. For questions regarding license fees, call (703) 222-8234, TTY: (703)-222-7594.



Community Spirit Scholarship Program

Celebrate Fairfax is currently offering scholarships through its Community Spirit Scholarship Program. This program recognizes and provides scholarships to ten graduating high school seniors currently enrolled in a Fairfax County Public School.

Recipients are recognized for their community involvement, academic accomplishment, extracurricular activities and demonstrated leadership. The application deadline is March 23.

For applications and details about award eligibility and judging criteria, visit the Celebrate Fairfax Community Spirit Scholarship website at <https://2012cfxscholarshipprogram.theregistrationsystem.com/en/1199>.

Lift Up A Child's Life - Become a CASA Volunteer

A new case of child abuse or neglect enters the Fairfax County Domestic and Juvenile Relations Court system once every 38 hours. These children need caring advocates to help ensure that they grow up in safe and permanent homes. Fairfax CASA trains volunteers to advocate for a child's best interests in Court.

If you seek a volunteer role with real purpose that can create real change, please attend Fairfax CASA's upcoming information session at the John Marshall Library on Saturday, January 28, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

For reservations or information, contact Elisa Kosarin, Associate Director – Recruitment and Training, at (703) 273-3526, ext. 22, ekosarin@casafairfax.org, or visit www.casafairfax.org.

2012 Native Seedling Sale

Incredible Edibles for Humans and Wildlife

The County's annual seedling sale makes low-cost native shrub and tree seedlings available to Northern Virginia residents. Seedling packages go on sale each year in January and are available for pick-up in mid-April. Trees and shrubs help cleanse water, prevent soil erosion, provide habitat, cool our climate and clean our air. Consider adding native trees and shrubs to your community today!

Many of our native shrubs and trees have been in use for centuries by humans, and have provided habitat benefits for wildlife. This year's seedling sale features native species that have fruits, berries, nuts, leaves or roots you can eat or use yourself and that birds and other wildlife will find delicious.

To view the available seedling packages for 2012 or to purchase seedlings, visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/seedlingsale2012.pdf>.



Get Help to Avoid Home Foreclosures



If you're facing foreclosure or are having trouble staying current on your mortgage, there are resources available to help you. The Capital Area Foreclosure Network (CAFN), a partnership between the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments and the Nonprofit Roundtable of Greater Washington, can help.

Call the regional foreclosure hotline at (888) 794-8830 to get connected to a free housing counselor in your area and receive advice and tips on avoiding foreclosure. Services are available in both English and Spanish. Find more information visit www.cafn.org.

Fannie Mae also provides resources to help those struggling with foreclosure. In partnership with NBC4-TV, Fannie Mae is hosting "Know Your Options", a free Foreclosure Prevention Phone-a-Thon being held on January 31 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. You can also visit www.knowyouroptions.com to get help. And, watch NBC4 starting January 23 to see how other homeowners have avoided foreclosure.

Homework Helpers Needed for Disadvantaged Youth

Vecinos Unidos (VU) needs volunteers to help children succeed in school. VU has been making a difference in the lives of elementary school students through homework assistance and summer enrichment programs since 1997. With caring volunteers to guide them, students experience improved academic success and greater confidence in their ability to learn and achieve. The VU mission is to help children succeed in school and grow into successful adults.

Unfortunately, children are now on a waiting list because VU does not have enough volunteers to support all the students who wish to participate. For only 1.5 hours per week you can make a difference by helping students with their homework, encouraging a love of reading and learning, and by being an adult role model for community involvement.

To inquire about volunteering, send an email to info@vecinosunidos.org or call Barbara Sorenson at (703) 201-2809. For more information visit <http://www.vecinosunidos.org>

Volunteer Advocates for Seniors Needed

Help residents of nursing and assisted living facilities in the Fairfax area advocate for their rights, resolve conflicts and improve their quality of life. The Northern Virginia Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program needs volunteers to commit four hours a week for one year. Volunteers set their own schedules and receive training and support. Visits usually occur between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. on weekdays. Apply now for the spring 2012 training. Call (703) 324-5861 or (703) 324-5422; TTY (703) 449-1186 or e-mail lisa.callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Meals on Wheels Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to ensure that older and/or disabled residents living in the Dranesville District who cannot prepare meals for themselves, receive a nutritious meal and a friendly "hello". Meals are delivered Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Volunteers must be able to deliver meals once a week, once a month, or on a substitute basis.

If you can help, please contact Volunteer Solutions at (703) 324-5406, TTY 711, send an email to VolunteerSolutions@fairfaxcounty.gov, or visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/volunteer-solutions.htm>.

ArtSpace Herndon and the Council for the Arts of Herndon present

The Second Annual “At Home in Herndon” Town Calendar Photography Competition

The Town of Herndon is looking for local photographers with photographs of local sights for its next “At Home in Herndon” Calendar. Professional and amateur photographers aged 16 and older are invited to submit entries to the competition. Subjects for all entries must be located within the corporate limits of the Town of Herndon, with special consideration given to entries that depict people participating in seasonal or community events.

A set of finalists will be chosen by a select panel of jurors and invited to exhibit their photos in ArtSpace Herndon’s Post Gallery. From these finalist photographs, the Town of Herndon will select photographs to be published in the 2013 “At Home in Herndon” Town Calendar. Each year in December, more than 10,000 calendars are printed and distributed to all citizens and businesses throughout the town. In addition to the exhibit and publication in the calendar, finalist photographs will also be eligible to receive the “At Home in Herndon People’s Choice Award,” given to the photograph that best captures Herndon.



“Autumn Glow” by Linda Pesce, winner of the 2011 People's Choice Award

The Entry Deadline is June 15, 2012.

For more information visit the competition website at <http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07e4cpq7u5507832fc&llr=uhp6pcab>.



Celebrate Your Child’s Birthday on the Wild Side

If your looking for a great way to celebrate your child’s birthday, Riverbend Nature Center hosts birthday parties for children ages 3 to 11. Your child can have a special birthday experience while discovering the exciting world of nature.

Choose to explore the world of reptiles and amphibians, uncover clues about forest animals, dig into dinosaurs or take an archaeology adventure. Each party is active and will keep your group on the move. For a fee of \$175 the two

hour nature center reservation includes a one hour naturalist program. Themed goodie bags are also available for \$6 per bag.

Riverbend Nature Center is located at 8700 Potomac Hills Street in Great Falls. For more information and available dates call the Center at (703) 758-9018.