



# The BRADDOCK BEACON

703-425-9300 [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/braddock/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/braddock/) [Braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov)

## 2013: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

2013 was a great year for Braddock District and Fairfax County. Here are some of the most notable things that happened last year:

### Neighborhood Speeding Initiative

Neighborhood speeding and unsafe driving is a chronic issue in Braddock District neighborhoods and throughout the County. Last year, police officers gave out 25,526 tickets or nearly 70 per day in Fairfax County. Of course, that's only the people who were caught! This year, police are on pace to hand out even more speeding tickets.

In September Supervisor Cook urged the Board to do more to keep our neighborhoods safe. The Board agreed and invested in additional neighborhood traffic calming measures and a public relations campaign to urge motorists to slow down. Supervisor Cook is committed to continuing his work in slowing down neighborhood speeders.

### Domestic Violence Awareness Event

Supervisor Cook serves as the Board's Liaison to the Domestic Violence Prevention, Policy Coordinating Council, a group focused on helping end domestic violence in Fairfax County. As a member of the group, Supervisor Cook was inspired to help raise awareness about domestic violence in Fairfax County. In October, Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Supervisor Cook held an awareness and fundraising event for Fairfax Court Appointed Special Advocates and Shelter House. CASA helps children affected by domestic violence, while Shelter House provides housing for families with nowhere else to go. The event raised nearly \$500 with help of Kilroy's, which hosted the event and donated 10 percent of food proceeds from the event to the charities. Supervisor Cook

will continue helping spread the word about the consequences of domestic violence in the years ahead.

### Infrastructure and Finance Committee

Supervisor Cook was appointed Co-Chair of the Infrastructure Financing Committee, a joint task force with the Fairfax County School Board, dedicated to finding innovative and fiscally responsible ways to finance future capital investments, such as building new schools or renovating existing County buildings. The committee has reviewed a detailed assessment of the County and School's infrastructure needs and is discussing a host of innovative and fiscally responsible funding proposals.

### Technology Town Hall

The digital and information revolutions have changed nearly every aspect of our lives. With the increasing popularity of smartphones, tablet computers, and laptops, many Americans are connected to the Internet almost constantly. This rapidly increasing ubiquity of the Internet has helped people connect across geographic and cultural barriers.

To help, Supervisor Cook hosted a technology focused town-hall meeting on June 1. Community Leaders were there to explain how they use the Internet to keep communities more civically engaged, and speakers from the County let people know about all the services available online. Find interesting information you might have missed here: [http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/braddock/pdfs/town\\_hall\\_links.pdf](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/braddock/pdfs/town_hall_links.pdf)



Supervisor John C. Cook

### ATTENTION HOMEOWNER AND CIVIC ASSOCIATIONS:

Please continue to let us know about your successful Community Engagement efforts. Keep up the good work!

Please call (703) 425-9300 or email Ann Sharp at [ann.sharp@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:ann.sharp@fairfaxcounty.gov) with your latest information.

### EMAIL SUBSCRIPTION TO THE BRADDOCK BEACON

If you would like the Braddock Beacon and the Cook Advisory electronically, instead of through mail, please contact us at [braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov) and write "BEACON" in the subject line.

### BRADDOCK DISTRICT NOW ON FACEBOOK & TWITTER

Be sure to stay up to date on the Braddock District. See: <http://www.facebook.com/supervisorcook> and on <http://www.twitter.com/braddockoffice>

## IMPORTANT BRADDOCK DISTRICT COUNCIL MEETING!

The Braddock District Council will be hosting its annual Information Forum on Wednesday, February 12 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. This year's program is titled Fairfax 'Neighbor Helping Neighbor' Villages: Staying Engaged in Your Community as You Age. The goal is to inform residents how Fairfax communities assist their neighbors to live longer in their current homes. Three established and one emerging village will present different approaches with Fairfax County support. The program will provide the attendees with examples of Aging in Place efforts in action in Fairfax with a focus on how these efforts got started and what inspired them. Each is now addressing their own unique needs and we hope that presenting the information about the early beginning inspi-

ration and initial work will show that other communities in Braddock District can do this and give them the inspiration to start something. Any effort to join with neighbors and work together is beneficial.

The evening will begin with a light dinner at 6:30 p.m., with the program beginning at about 7:00 p.m.

Date: Wednesday, February 12th from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Location: Kings Park Library Meeting Room, 9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke, Va.

Questions: Email Bruce Wallachy at [bwallbdc@gmail.com](mailto:bwallbdc@gmail.com) or Cliff Keenan at [cliffkeenan@gmail.com](mailto:cliffkeenan@gmail.com).

## I-66 CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT PUBLIC MEETING

Find out about the 25-mile Tier 1 environmental impact statement (EIS) study of Interstate 66 from U.S. Route 15 to I-495, approved by the Federal Highway Administration in November. The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and the Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) identified 10 concepts to increase capacity within the corridor, as well as options to increase travel mode choices, improve individual interchanges, address spot safety needs, and enhance travel efficiency. In addition, private sector ideas, innovative approaches, and suggestions resulting from the recent Request for Information will be shared. Also learn about the next steps to identify potential improvements in the

Corridor.

Stop by between 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. to view displays and learn more about the study.

Review project information at [www.virginiadot.org](http://www.virginiadot.org), at the information meeting, or during business hours at VDOT's Northern Virginia District Office at 4975 Alliance Drive in Fairfax. Please call ahead at 703-259-2381, 800-367-7623 or TTY/TDD 711 to ensure appropriate personnel are available to answer your questions.

Give your comments at the meeting in written form on comment cards. You may also e-mail comments to [meeting\\_comments@vdot.virginia.gov](mailto:meeting_comments@vdot.virginia.gov) or submit them by Feb. 17, 2014 to Ms. Susan Shaw, P.E. at the VDOT District

Office address above. Please reference "I-66 Corridor Improvements" in the subject line.

**When: Thursday, January 30, 2014, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.**

**Where: Oakton High School  
2900 Sutton Road, Vienna, VA  
22181**

## RECYCLE TELEVISIONS, COMPUTERS AND OTHER DEVICES



Fairfax County residents can recycle televisions, computers and peripheral devices – including keyboards, speakers, printers, external drives and other such materials – and unbroken fluorescent light bulbs and tubes on Electric Sundays. There is No Charge for Fairfax County residents to partici-

pate in Electric Sunday; however, you may be required to show proof of residency.

Upcoming Event Schedule

All electronics recycling events are held from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

- Jan. 12: I-66 Transfer Station, 4618 West Ox Road, Fairfax 22030

- Feb. 23: I-66 Transfer Station,

4618 West Ox Road, Fairfax 22030

- March 23: I-95 Complex, 9850 Furnace Road, Lorton 22079

## SUPERVISOR COOK IN THE COMMUNITY



**On December 4th,** Supervisor Cook attended a Legislative Breakfast hosted by Fairfax Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), which was held at the Country Club of Fairfax. Later that evening, he hosted the annual Taste of Braddock Open House at the office. This year the event was a huge success with an attendance of over 400 citizens and participation by 25 local restaurants.

**On December 11th,** Supervisor Cook hosted a community meeting at Braddock Hall for citizens around Americana Drive in Annandale. The meeting focused on parking issues.

**On December 14th,** Supervisor Cook attended the annual Silas Burke House Christmas Party at the historical site on Burke Lake Road.

**On December 15th,** Supervisor Cook took on the role of Santa Claus and rode along with a Fairfax County fire engine for the annual Bonnie Brae neighborhood Santa Ride.

**On December 18th,** Supervisor Cook took part in a meeting of the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee on

which he serves. At this meeting, Cook was named one of the Vice Chairs for the upcoming year.



## RESOURCES FOR PARENTS DURING SCHOOL SNOW DAYS

The Office for Children Can Help Families Plan for Child Care on Snow Days

Fairfax County has already experienced some snow days this winter, and it's likely that more are on the way before the season is over. When schools are closed due to inclement weather, parents may need backup care.

Parents can find child care programs near their home or workplace on the Office for Children's website at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ofc](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ofc). The Office for Children maintains a database of child care programs in Fairfax County and

many of the county's child care businesses offer the option of occasional or back-up care. This includes hundreds



of county permitted family child care providers.

To make inclement weather days easier, plan ahead and arrange for care now. You can search the list of snow day providers at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ofc/snowdaysproviders.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ofc/snowdaysproviders.htm). Visit a few programs ahead of time to see which child care situation will work best on snow days. Then when bad weather hits, you'll have a number of child care programs to choose from.

For additional help, call the Office for Children at 703-449-8484.

## HUMAN SERVICES CORNER

### Welcome 2014!!!!

Lose weight. Exercise more. Watch less television. Do New Year's resolutions have to be so arduous? Why not resolve to dance your way into 2014? You can accomplish the grim work of becoming a better you while moving to the music, lifting your spirits, and having a ball.

Fortunately, Fairfax County offers abundant dance classes beginning in mid-January. The Park Authority's RECenters offer Ballroom, Ballet, Country and Western, Salsa, Tango, Swing, and much more. They last 8-10 weeks and cost around \$100. New dancers may want to check out the Basic Survival Social Dance offered by some centers. (<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktates/>)

The County's senior centers also offer a wide variety of dance as part of their regular programming as well as special dance events for the entire community. Most classes are free to center members.

Of special note are Hollin Hall Senior Center's Third Friday Dances beginning at 7:30 p.m. and the Herndon Senior Center's evening dances for the entire community.

The McLean Community Center is offering Adult Jazz and Zumba for about \$220 and the Reston Community Center is offering Belly Dancing classes beginning early January for \$55-\$111. (<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ncs/srctrs.htm>)

Finally, the Lorton Workhouse Art Center offers a diversified Art of Movement program that includes Jazzercise, Zumba, and Ballroom. Classes begin in early January and costs range from about \$25 to \$100. (<http://workhousearts.org/>)

### Senior Services

*Avoid Financial Scams Targeting Seniors: Fairfax County Police Tell You How*

The Fairfax County Police Department is offering a two-hour session on how to avoid becoming a victim of financial crime on Wednesday, January 15, 10 a.m. to noon at the Mason District Government Center, 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale. Call 703-533-5701 for more information and to register.

*Stay in the Home You Love for as Long as You Like!*

Fairfax County is offering a new session of its very successful Independent Living Project in January. This free eight-week program is led by professional social workers and includes gentle exercise to improve strength and balance, presentations on county services, a healthy cooking demonstration, advice on how to manage your health care and prescriptions, and much more. The program meets on Thursdays from January 16 to March 6, 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., at the Kingstowne Center for Active Adults, 6488 Landsdowne Center, Alexandria. To register, call 703-324-7210, TTY 711.

Find more information on this and other services at [www.fairfax-](http://www.fairfax-)

[county.gov/olderadults](http://county.gov/olderadults).

*Volunteer Advocates Needed for Long-Term Care Residents*

The Northern Virginia Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program needs volunteer advocates for residents in assisted living and nursing facilities throughout the area. Volunteers advocate for resident rights and quality of life and can be assigned to facilities close to where they live. Training for new advocates will be provided in March 2014. Call 703-324-5861, TTY 711 or email [Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Lisa.Callahan@fairfaxcounty.gov).

### Family Services

*Emergency Heat and Repair Funds*

The Crisis Assistance program helps households in emergency situations by providing primary heat security deposits and funding the repair or replacement of heating equipment. The application period began Friday, November 1, 2013 and closes on Monday, March 17, 2014. For more information, click here: <http://www.dss.virginia.gov/benefit/ea/index.cgi>

*New Book Discussion Groups at Your Local Library Begin January*

The Fairfax County Public Library's book discussion groups begin anew this January. You'll find a group discussing poetry at Sherwood Library, mysteries at Chantilly Library, and even a group that reads only short books – 250 pages or less - at the Thomas Jefferson Library. Authors under discussion include Stephen King at Pohick, Joseph Ellis at City of Fairfax, Spike Lee at Sherwood, Thomas Mann at Thomas Jefferson, and Anne Tyler at Richard Byrd.

### Upcoming Events

*Pooh Bear's Friends' Tea Party*

Sunday, January 12, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Hidden Oaks Nature Center

Families enjoy honey, tea, and cookies in a Pooh-style tea while learning about Virginia's brown bears and if heffalumps and wuzzles are native to Fairfax County. Children must be accompanied by a registered adult. The cost is \$15 per person. Register online. For information, call 703-941-1065.

For More information on family events like this please visit: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/park-events-calendar.htm>

*Basics on the Affordable Care Act*

January 15, 2014, starting at 9:30 a.m. (free)

Ernst Cultural Center, NOVA Community College, Annandale Campus, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale

Come for a presentation by Dr. Kalahn Taylor-Clark, Deputy Director of the Center for Health Policy at George Mason University. Call 703-503-0600 for more information.

## BRADDOCK DISTRICT LAND USE UPDATES

**Ox Road Estates.** (RZ/FDP-BR-020) The Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing on this proposed rezoning for approximately 5 acres of land at the intersection of Ox Road and Adare Drive on January 14, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. On November 21, the Planning Commission unanimously recommended that the Board approve this application, subject to plans and proffers of the same date. To register to speak before the Board of Supervisors on this application, call the Clerk to the Board at 703-324-3151 or go to the following website: [https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bosclerk/speaker\\_bos.htm](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bosclerk/speaker_bos.htm) Individuals have three minutes to speak and representatives of homeowner associations have five minutes. As noted in December, links to the Planning Commission decision can be found at [http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/braddock/pdfs/nell\\_hurley\\_remarks.pdf](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/braddock/pdfs/nell_hurley_remarks.pdf). If you are unable to attend the hearing, letters for the record can be sent to [Braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov)

**Fairfax Center Land Bays T, U and V.** On January 7, Supervisor Cook hosted a Community Information Meeting with staff from the county's Planning Division. The subject was future long range planning for an area of Fairfax Center on the south side of Lee Highway between the Fairfax City line and the Fairfax County Parkway in Braddock District. This area is known as a "transitional area" for Fairfax Center. The purpose of the meeting was to hear from the community on what ideas it has for some of the existing undeveloped land in this planning sector. Breakout groups also identified a need for better pedestrian connectivity and refuges for crossing Lee Highway; improved streetscape, and a possible need for more schools, a rec center and improvements to stream valley parks. The presentation included updates on the widening of Lee Highway in this area. A "working group" to develop proposals for further

review will be established, and interested volunteers were asked to contact Supervisor Cook at [Braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov).

**Residential Studio Ordinance Updates.** On January 8, Supervisor Cook co-hosted a meeting with the Braddock District Council to discuss modifications to the draft RSU Ordinance currently being considered by the Planning Commission. The meeting was held at OakView Elementary School and was attended by more than 100 residents. Zoning Administrator Leslie Johnson provided information to the community and answered questions. At this time the Planning Commission is planning to limit RSU's to zoning districts R-12 and above and to commercial and industrial districts. The Board of Supervisors last month passed a resolution directing that RSUs not be permitted in low-density residential neighborhoods, such as single-family detached and townhome communities.

**Kings Park Shopping Center Site Plan Review nears Completion.** In August, 2013 the county received an application from the Regency Centers, developer of the Kings Park Shopping Center, to redevelop its 11.2-acre shopping Center, currently a mix of office and retail uses zoned C-2 and C-6. The primary modification will be an expansion of the existing Giant Food store by approximately 22,000 square feet. To accomplish that expansion at the northwest corner of the site, the Center has acquired the veterinary hospital at 5241 Rolling Road which will be demolished and used for additional parking. The review of that site plan should be concluded shortly, and includes expanded pedestrian linkages on Rolling Road and on Burke Lake Road.

## BRADDOCK ROAD PROJECT COULD BRING CONGESTION RELIEF

Significant congestion relief could soon be coming to Braddock Road. Fairfax County will soon begin seriously looking at long-standing plans to widen Braddock Road from Guinea Road to the Beltway, including HOV-Bus lanes from Burke Lake Road to the 495 Express Lanes. This effort is moving forward due to last year's landmark transportation funding bill.

To begin the process, **Supervisor Cook will hold an informational meeting on February 19 at 7:30 p.m. in the Lake Braddock Secondary School's Lecture Hall.** The meeting will allow the County to outline the project, collect public feedback, and introduce a citizen's committee that will have a key role in planning. The County proposal combines three projects, two of them expected to be funded, that have been part of the Comprehen-

sive Plan for many years. One project could add one more lane in each direction from Guinea Road to Burke Lake Road. The second would add one HOV-Bus lane in each direction from Burke Lake Road to the Beltway. Both projects are expected to receive approval and funding when the Board of Supervisors approves its next six-year transportation plan next year. A third related project is not funded but will be considered during the planning effort – a transit center (parking garage and bus stops) along Braddock Road in back of the Kings Park Shopping Center. That center could be a key location for express bus service to Tysons, using the new 495 Express Lanes.

Funding for the projects could come from several sources but is made possible by the significant state funding contained in last

year's transportation bill. The projects scored high on a recent County cost-benefit analysis. This part of Braddock Road currently handles approximately 70,000 automobile trips a day, and is one of the more congested corridors in the County. Last year the County launched new bus service from the Burke Centre VRE station to Tysons with stops on Braddock Road near the Burke Lake Road intersection. The creation of HOV-Express Bus lanes is a key component to making that new bus route successful.

Supervisor Cook urges residents to attend the February 19 meeting and play an active role in moving this project forward in a way most friendly to the adjoining communities.

## ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE

### Become a Fairfax Tree Steward

Fairfax Tree Stewards are dedicated community members who protect and expand our urban forest canopy by educating the public about the value of trees, learning about the needs of the urban forest, assisting with the care of trees on public lands, and partnering with local government and community groups in improving the forested canopy. The spring training for new Stewards - which covers tree ID, biology, physiology, planting, maintenance, pruning, and selection - will be held on Tuesday evenings from February to April, with occasional Saturday field trips. Exact dates will be announced soon. The cost is \$120 which covers the cost of the course, manuals, books and all other materials. No one will be turned away for inability to pay. For more information, contact Jim McGlone of the Virginia Department of Forestry - Jim.McGlone@dof.virginia.gov - or visit the Tree Stewards website: <http://ffxtreestewards.org>

### Conservation District's Spring Seedling Sale. Create A Bee-Friendly Landscape

Loss of habitat and an illness called colony collapse disorder taken its toll on native bees, but bees and other wild insect pollinators still contribute over \$50 billion in ecological services in the United States, according to the Xerces Society. The trees and shrubs in this year's NVSWCD seedling sale will help provide habitat for bees and add beauty to your landscape. Details and the 2014 order form can be found here: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/seedlingsale.htm>

The 2014 Shrub and Small Tree Package features 10 seedlings for \$15.95. The Tree Package includes 6 seedlings sold for \$10.95. A full, nonrefundable payment must accompany your order by Monday, April 28, 2013, or until supplies run out. You will receive a confirmation receipt and a map to the pickup site (in central Fairfax County). Orders will be available in early May.

### Fairfax County's Public Hearing on the Environment

Monday, January 13

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Location: Board Auditorium, County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Pkwy, Fairfax

### Attending EQAC Meetings

The Fairfax County Environmental Quality Advisory Council (EQAC) is appointed by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to advise on environmental matters. The public is encouraged to attend EQAC's public hearing to share views on the state of the environment and to identify environmental issues applicable to Fairfax County. Environmental issues considered by EQAC include water quality, air quality, noise, hazard-

ous materials, solid waste, stream valley protection, wildlife management, light pollution, visual pollution, energy, climate change response and adaptation, land use, transportation and the use and preservation of ecological resources. Written or verbal testimony is welcomed. A two way visual and audio hookup will allow communication from the South County Center to the meeting location at the Government Center. To be placed on the speaker's list, please call or email the Department of Planning and Zoning: [EQAC@Fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:EQAC@Fairfaxcounty.gov), 703-324-1380.

### Fairfax Master Naturalists Spring Class Registration Deadline

Wednesday, January 15

January 15th is the last day to sign up for an open slot in the Fairfax Master Naturalists' Spring Basic Training Course. Basic training is the first step towards becoming a certified Master Naturalist. The course consists of weekly classes and field trips led by local experts in topics such as wetlands, forestry, wildlife, geology, hydrology, and many others. Registration forms are available online. What are you waiting for?

### Make Your Yard Sustainable Workshop Series Kick-Off

Saturday, January 25

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Location: Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St, Arlington

The 25th is the start of this series of six Saturday workshops. Each workshop will cover a different topic of garden sustainability - building soils, picking the right plants, conserving water and energy, etc. With that knowledge and with the guidance of local experts, each participant will leave with a customized landscaping plan for his or her property. The cost for all six workshops is \$75, and class size is limited to 20 households. Please RSVP online.

### Basic Gardening: Design Your Garden

Friday, January 31

Time: 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Location: Green Spring Gardens, Alexandria

If you're planning a do-it-yourself garden, this seminar is for you. See how trees and shrubs provide structure and year-round interest and how colorful annuals and perennials add seasonal splashes that make your house pop. The cost is \$10 per person; please register online.