



National Night Out 2015, Another Great Success

Supervisor Cook, West Springfield District Captain Chris Edmunds and Braddock School Board Representative Megan McLaughlin, visited neighborhoods participating in this year's National Night Out. It was another great opportunity to meet with the many active and engaged communities throughout the Braddock District.



National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, better places to live.

The block parties, cookouts and other various community events, done together with safety demonstrations and visits from public safety personnel, enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while helping further

establish a true sense of community.



Supervisor Cook has served on Fairfax County Board of Supervisors since 2009 and lives in Kings Park with his wife and children.

If your community didn't get involved this year, but you would like to in the future, don't worry, you have plenty of time to get geared up for next year!

What is National Night Out?

- Annual neighborhood-based crime and drug prevention event
- Opportunity to show neighborhood spirit and strengthen partnerships with local police
- Demonstrates neighborhood commitment to fight crime
- Observed in thousands of communities in all 50 states.



Supervisor Cook Works with Chairman Bulova to Initiate a Diversion First System of Care

A group of about 50 community and Fairfax County government leaders has launched an effort, called Diversion First, with the goal of reducing the number of people with mental illness in local jails by diverting non-violent offenders experiencing mental health crises to treatment instead of incarceration. “The Chairman’s initiative, which I cosponsored with her before the Board, is critical to finding reasonable and effective care for people suffering with mental illness, intellectual and developmental disabilities” said Supervisor John C. Cook. The group has committed to set up a basic jail diversion program by January 1, 2016, with the following initial components in place, to be expanded and further developed over the next 3 to 5 years:

- An ongoing program of Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training for local law enforcement personnel, led by the Fairfax County Police Department in collaboration with the county Sheriff's Office and the CSB.
- A therapeutic Crisis Assessment Site at the CSB's new Merrifield Center, where police will be able to transfer custody of offenders who may need mental health services to a CIT-trained officer on-site, rather than taking the individual directly to jail.
- A second CSB Mobile Crisis Unit (MCU) to increase the county's capacity to provide emergency mental health personnel in the field when requested.
- A Mental Health Docket in the Fairfax County Court system. A Mental Health Docket is a specialized court docket which employs a problem-solving approach better suited than more traditional court procedures to addressing defendants with mental illnesses.

Once incarcerated, people with severe mental illness (SMI) tend to stay longer and have a higher rate of recidivism. Securing long-term treatment and increasing the likelihood of a successful return to the community is the ultimate goal of the endeavor.

Braddock Neighborhood News

Supervisor Cook hosts a monthly television show, Braddock Neighborhood News, on Fairfax County Channel 16 which is available on most cable networks. Each month, Supervisor Cook invites guests to share pertinent and informative items with the viewers.



One of Supervisor Cook’s priorities is ensuring that County Code is enforced. Whether in the form of overgrown grass, overcrowding, hoarding or noise complaints, these issues negatively affect our neighborhoods and must be addressed. Luckily, Fairfax County has a phenomenal division called the Department of Code Compliance that our office works with very closely to help get problems identified and solved. The guests on August’s show are Jeff

Blackford, the Director of Code Compliance, and Gabe Zakkak, one of his Code Compliance Investigators.

The shows air throughout the month and can be seen Sundays at 5pm, Wednesdays at 7pm and Fridays at 5pm.

Supervisor Cook in the Community

4th of July Celebrations: On July 4th, Supervisor Cook celebrated Independence Day by participating in two local parades and events. First he rode in the City of Fairfax Parade and then walked in the Little Run Citizens Association July 4th Parade. That evening, Supervisor Cook took his family to Fairfax High School to listen to the concert and watch the fireworks show.

World Police and Fire Games: On July 5th, Supervisor Cook participated in the Closing Ceremony for the highly successful 2015 World Police and Fire Games which was held at the Filene Center at Wolf Trap.

Best of Braddock Awards: On July 8th, Supervisor Cook hosted the Braddock District Council Best of Braddock Dinner and Awards here at the Kings Park Library and Braddock Hall.

Braddock Nights '15 Begins: On July 10th, Supervisor Cook kicked off the first concerts of the Braddock Nights Concert Series at Lake Accotink and Royal Lake Parks.

Summer Party in Ravensworth: On July 18th, Supervisor Cook stopped by the Ravensworth Farm Civic Association Summer Party which was held at Lake Accotink Park.

Time with Teenagers: On July 23rd, Supervisor Cook was asked to stop by the Pinn Center and talk to a group of teenagers who were attending a summer camp. He discussed with them a wide range of topics about what the job of Supervisor is like and answered questions.



Olde Forge/Surrey Square Playground Opens:

On July 25th, Supervisor Cook was honored to take part in a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new playground in the Olde Forge/Surrey Square neighborhood. This project was a true joint effort by the Supervisors Office, the Park Authority, and especially the residents of the neighborhood who worked so hard to raise funds to help pay for the new equipment.



Congratulations to the 2015 Elly Doyle Park Service Award Recipient

Joshua Buontempo, a Braddock District resident, is the recipient of the Elly Doyle Park Service Award. As the 2015 award recipient, Joshua is being recognized for his hard work and dedication as youth volunteer at the Hidden Pond Nature Center. He has completed 350 hours of service and has undertaken duties such as animal care, front desk support, stream cleanups, and trail work. Congratulations and thank you for taking such a hands-on role in our community and for the contributions you have made to Braddock District!

Land Use Update

Chick-fil-A in Burke Centre. (PCA 83-S-02902; PRC-C-546-03; DPA-C-546-24) The Planning Commission unanimously recommended that the Board of Supervisors approve this proposal after a public hearing on July 15. A public hearing before the Board is now scheduled for September 22 at 3:30 p.m. To speak before the Board of Supervisors, [register on-line here](#) or call 703-324-3151.

Townes at Burke Lake Crossing. Christopher Land, LLC is proposing to rezone 1.88 acres on the east side of Burke Lake Road, at 9537 Burke Lake Road in the Springfield District. The Applicant is currently proposing to construct *twelve* townhomes. Interested residents can review the submission at http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/springfield/pdf_files/rz-2015-sp-003.pdf. A community meeting was hosted by Supervisor Herrity on **Monday, July 13, 2015**. Please contact Marlae Schnare (Marlae.Schnare@fairfaxcounty.gov). The staff coordinator for the Department of Planning and Zoning is Nick Rogers (Nicholas.Rogers@fairfaxcounty.gov). A public hearing before the Planning Commission is tentatively scheduled for September 23.

5210 Dunleigh Drive. PG Associates, Inc. and Jaye S. Bawa filed an application to rezone a 74,000 square foot lot in the Dunleigh subdivision. The proposal is to add two additional homes in front of an existing residence. Staff expects to issue a full Staff Report on September 1, and a public hearing before the Planning Commission has now been set for September 16, 2015; followed by a hearing before the Board of Supervisors on October 6. To testify before the Planning Commission [register here](#) or call 703-324-2865 before 3:00 pm on the date of the hearing.

Silas Burke House 9617 Burke Lake Road (RZ-2014-SP-015 and SE-2014-SP-060). Sunrise Development, Inc. sought County approval for a Rezoning and Special Exception application to construct an assisted living facility at this location, the site on which the historic Silas Burke home is located. This project was unanimously approved by the Board of Supervisors after a public hearing on July 28 and will now proceed to site plan review.

Congregate Living Facility. An application for a Special Exception has been filed by Suoliang “Leon” Xie for a congregate living facility at 4008 Taylor Drive, a one block street off Little River Turnpike, in a community zoned R-1. The facility would serve as a residence for up to 8 foreign exchange students who come to Fairfax County for an American education. They would be provided with housekeeping and cooking assistance by a full time, live-in support staff. The students are in middle and high school and are transported by van to their schools and to after school programs and tutoring. No changes to the house are proposed.

A presentation before the Braddock District Land Use and Environment Committee is now scheduled for September 14 in Braddock Hall. A public hearing before the Planning Commission is tentatively scheduled for October 10 although this date may slip. No hearing before the Board has been established.

Fairfax Center “Core” Study. The Fairfax Center Area Study (PA 2013-III-FC1 (B) of the Suburban Center is now being reviewed by a citizen working group which met on July 7 and July 29. The current nominations can be found here: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/fairfaxcenter>. Braddock District will be represented by Vince Picciano (Vice-Chair of the group), Sherry Fisher and Roni Robbins. For more information contact Kim Rybold, the study coordinator, at Kimberly.Rybold@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Become a Member of Braddock District's Land Use & Environment Committee

Would you like to get involved with others in your community to review and comment on land use, transportation and environmental matters, including stormwater and tree preservation? If so, consider joining the Braddock District Land Use and Environment Committee!

Any resident of the Braddock District may apply for membership on the Committee. Terms are one year, from July 1st to June 30th and may be renewed annually. Members are asked to make a commitment to at least one year of service and to serve on at least one subcommittee. No previous land use experience is required.

Those interested are encouraged to attend a meeting, learn about the Committee's work, and talk with current members. [An application may be downloaded here](#) or may be requested from Supervisor Cook's office at 703-425-9300. The Membership Subcommittee reviews applications in May and June as well as any time during the year, as needed, and makes recommendations to the full Committee.

[For more information about the Committee and how to join please click here.](#)

Sign up for Fairfax Alerts!

When the storms came whooshing through our area on the night of June 23rd and we woke up on June 24th to downed trees, closed roads, and no power, those who had signed up for Fairfax Alerts had already received multiple messages letting them know about the areas with immediate problems.

Fairfax Alerts is a system that allows you to pick the types of weather alerts you wish to receive, along with traffic and public safety alerts. You can choose up to ten delivery methods like home phone, cell phone, email, text messaging and more. You can even receive tax deadline reminders and updates.

This is a valuable service offered by Fairfax County and we strongly encourage all residents to sign up. The website is www.fairfaxcounty.gov/alerts/ and the process to sign up for these alerts is very straightforward. Help yourself and your friends by signing up today!

Citizen's Police Academy Announces Dates for Spring and Fall 2016 Sessions

Interested in learning more about local law enforcement? The Citizen's Police Academy is designed to give participants a glimpse behind the badge and to provide information about training, policies, and the many units and divisions within the Fairfax County Police Department.

The Citizen's Police Academy is now accepting applications for the Spring 2016 session that will meet from March 10 to May 14, 2016. Applications are also being accepted for the Fall 2016 session that will meet from September 15 to November 19, 2016.

Classes are held on ten consecutive Thursday nights, from 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Graduation is held on a Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Classes rotate to various police department facilities around Fairfax County. Due to the popularity of the program, all participants are required to attend at eight out of ten classes in order to successfully graduate. For more information or to find an application please visit: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/services/citizens-police-academy.htm>.

Human Services Corner

Meals on Wheels Volunteers Needed

Fairfax County's Volunteer Solutions program needs substitute Meals on Wheels drivers and co-coordinators throughout the county, and the Franconia Meals on Wheels is looking for a Group Coordinator. Furthermore, the Vietnamese Meals on Wheels needs drivers in Falls Church and Annandale. Meals on Wheels volunteers may choose to drive weekly, biweekly, monthly, or act as a substitute. Meals are delivered weekdays between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Adult Summer Reading Programs at the Library

Why should kids have all the fun? Many of the county's libraries are sponsoring adult summer reading programs with a twist – when you complete the book list, your name is entered into a contest to win a prize. Prizes include gift certificates for books from Amazon and Barnes & Noble. At the Richard Byrd Library in Springfield, your name will be entered into a contest to win a Wi-Fi Kindle Paperwhite *and* one-on-one training on how to check out free library eBooks on your new Kindle. Find participating libraries on the library's [Calendar of Events](#) page. In the search engine, type in *Summer Reading*, check *Adult*, and then check *All Events*.

Add Two Feet to Your Home: Calling Future Foster Parents!

The Foster Care programs of Northern Virginia Family Service (NVFS) are seeking foster parents, especially those who are interested in caring for siblings and teens. Northern Virginia Family Service provides strong and caring support to its foster families. The program is designed to help families get the most out of their foster and respite care experience. To help meet everyone's needs, NVFS staff provide:

- Intensive training, certification and continuing education opportunities
- Careful child/parent matching
- Ongoing support and 24-hour help from professional social workers
- Help locating support services for the children and youth in our program
- Family activities and support groups
- Parents only section of the website providing training and resources

The next training session's dates are September 12th, 19th and 26th (all three sessions mandatory) in Oakton, Virginia. For more information, please contact Ginny Snaider, Program Supervisor, at gsnaider@nvfs.org or 571-748-2557.

Northern Virginia Senior Olympics Registration Still Open

Join the nearly 800 area adults competing in more than 50 events ranging from track and field to scrabble and dominoes. The 2015 Northern Virginia Senior Olympics competition takes place September 12th until the 25th at twenty-three venues. Events include track and field, rowing, swimming, diving, tennis, table tennis, pickleball, racquetball, handball, bocce, golf, miniature golf, ten pin bowling, Wii bowling, pool, horseshoes, men's basketball, frisbee throw, football throw, bunco, badminton, volleyball, cycling, scrabble, cribbage, duplicate bridge, softball hit and throw, and Mexican Train dominoes. Register and find more information at www.nvso.us.

Cooling Assistance

The Fairfax County Cooling Assistance Program can provide assistance to residents who need help keeping their homes cool this summer through two programs locally administered by the county's Department of Family Services: the Cooling Assistance Program and the Fan Care Program. Applications for the Cooling Assistance Program are due by August 17th. You can learn more about the programs and how to apply [here](#).

New 2015 "Quick Guide" of Human Services in Northern Virginia Available

The Northern Virginia Regional Commission's Quick Guide Online provides information on the names, websites, and phone numbers of 1,000+ agencies that provide frequently-requested human services in Northern Virginia. The online guide is searchable by topic area or keyword search. The Quick Guide is also now available in hard copy – up to 45 copies can be ordered from NVRC free of charge. Instructions for ordering are available on their [website](#).

Community Events throughout August

Summer Campfire Saturdays: Stop by for an evening campfire at Royal Lake from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. and explore the woodlands and lakefront with a naturalist. Bring whatever you like to roast! S'mores are provided. The cost is \$8 per person. Call 703-324-8702 or Register with [Parktakes](#) online.

Master Gardener Plant Clinic, August 8: Masters Gardeners from the Fairfax County Cooperative Extension will host plant clinics each Saturday morning through the summer to answer your gardening questions. The next session will

take place at Kings Park Library on August 8th from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.

Creative Writers Group, August 8: Do you enjoy writing fiction, poetry, non-fiction and/or memoirs? Join us for sharing, discussion and feedback of works in progress. This event will begin at 2:00 p.m. at Burke Centre and is for those ages 13-18.

Braddock District Aging in Place, August 19: Aging in Place will be held in Braddock Hall at 1:00 p.m. and will feature an inspirational speaker.

Environmental Update

Let's face it, we love our lawns. Our lawns provide us a place to play ball with our kids, frolic with our pets, and host our weekend barbecues. Unfortunately, many of the synthetic chemicals we add to keep our lawns lush are not good for our families, or the environment. Many chemical weed and feeds contain herbicides that have been linked to increased rates of cancer in people and pets. The use of chemical fertilizers and herbicides by residential homeowners, including many of us in Fairfax County, is one cause of deteriorating water quality in the Chesapeake Bay.

What we can do to keep our lawns, our families and the Bay healthy? The answer may be to use corn gluten! In the 1980's Iowa State University turf grass researcher, Dr. Nick Christians, discovered the natural weed and feed capability of corn gluten meal, a protein-rich by-product of corn processing. Commonly sold as feed material for livestock and pets, corn gluten meal contains 10 percent slow-release nitrogen by weight, making it a natural fertilizer. In turf grass experiments with corn gluten, however, Christians observed a startling pattern. Turf plots where corn gluten had been applied seemed also to have fewer

weeds! Corn gluten, Christians determined, contains amino acids that actually prevent seed germination, making it a natural pre-emergent herbicide.

Corn gluten meal offers pre-emergent control of such weeds as dandelions, crabgrass, pigweed, plantain, lambs quarters and curly dock. Although it does not control perennial weeds like red clover or bentgrass that have already invaded your lawn, corn gluten's nutrients do make your grass healthier and stronger. Over time, researchers have observed that these tough perennial weeds also become less prevalent as they are crowded out by a happy, healthy lawn. One distributor touts as much as 91 percent weed control after three years of twice yearly applications of corn gluten. To read more [click here](#).

Build Your Own Tumbling Composter Workshop

The next composter workshop is August 15th from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. Participants will start this workshop with a pile of recycled lumber, a recycled pickle barrel, and assorted screws and bolts, but will leave with a fully functioning tumbler style composter! The finished composter will hold 55 gallons of organic material. All lumber will be pre-cut and all tools and materials will be provided. The cost of the workshop is \$75 and registration is limited to 15 people, although you may bring helpers to assist with the construction. For further information or to register, please contact Dan Schwartz at 703-324-1422, TTY 711.

Lawn Care Operators Work for Clean Water

The [Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation \(DCR\)](#) works with lawn care companies to encourage watershed-friendly lawn maintenance in the Commonwealth. Lawn care companies voluntarily enter into a water quality agreement with the agency. They agree to train their employees to use lawn care products responsibly, follow appropriate lawn fertilization practices, and provide environmentally sound advice to customers. In return, DCR maintains a list of [watershed-friendly lawn care operators](#) that is available to the public. This spring, consider choosing a watershed-friendly lawn care company or, if you take care of your own lawn care, consult the DCR publication [Green & Clean](#) to try home lawn care - the watershed-friendly way.

Temporary Change in Library Hours Starting in September

Pohick Library will be under renovation beginning in September. The hours at Burke Centre and Kings Park libraries will be extended to serve additional customers. **The change in hours at these two locations will begin Sunday, September 13th.** In addition to their regular hours, they will be open on Wednesday evenings, Thursday mornings, and Sundays from 1:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. The staff from Pohick will be moved to the surrounding libraries to cover the additional hours. Pohick should reopen in the winter of 2017 and, at that time, Burke Centre and Kings Park will go back to their normal operating hours.