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May 4, 2015

Braddock Road Community Meeting - June 9th

Fairfax County is working with the community to evaluate potential improvements for the Braddock Road corridor, between Guinea Road and I-495. Potential improvements may include additional travel lanes; HOV lanes; dedicated bus lanes; pedestrian and bicycle improvements; and intersection improvements.

You may recall that in November 2014, Fairfax County selected RK&K consulting to conduct a study of the proposed project area to recommend a plan for increasing the capacity of the Braddock Road corridor. In particular, the study will be addressing the following potential projects: the construction of one HOV/bus lane in each direction from Burke Lake Road to I-495, the construction of one general purpose lane in each direction from Guinea Road to Burke Lake Road, and the construction of a transit center along Braddock Road near the Kings Park Shopping Center. RK&K will also study a “no-build” option for comparison with each design option.



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

Community involvement is so important and your feedback will help us tremendously as we move forward in studying improvements. To submit any general comments regarding the Braddock Road Project, please use the form [here](#). We will be updating the Braddock Road Task Force website with any new developments. You can access the website [here](#). Also, be sure to take a look at the [Braddock Road Commuter Fact Sheet](#), where you can find the latest updates concerning the project.

As a reminder, please mark your calendars for the Braddock Road Community Meeting that will take place on June 9th at 7:30 p.m. at Lake Braddock Secondary School. At this meeting county staff will explain how the proposed project fits with other county transportation plans and representatives from RK&K will discuss the options and issues under review by the committee.

Joanne Elder Named 2015 Braddock Community Champion

On April 24th, Joanne Elder was honored by Supervisor Cook at the Volunteer Fairfax Volunteer Service Awards Breakfast as Braddock District's 2015 Community Champion.

Joanne moved into the Olde Forge/Surrey Square neighborhood in 2011. Being a mother with a small child, she was disappointed with the quality of the playground equipment at the community's park. The neighborhood had three existing parks that were all in disrepair. After learning that all three weren't scheduled to be fixed for a number of years, she took it upon herself to form a group of parents who worked directly with the Park Authority and the Braddock District Office to see what could be done. Joanne spent many hours drumming up support for a new playground, planning fundraisers, talking with designers, and meeting with neighbors.



After countless hours of hard work, Joanne and her team achieved their goal of getting a new playground for their community! The Park Authority staff were very impressed with the dedication and hard work that Joanne dedicated to this project. Joanne's pleasant nature and her commitment to this project is a testament to a good citizen who takes pride in working for her neighborhood.

Joanne is an excellent example of a community volunteer. She saw a problem, discussed how it could be addressed and then took it on herself to get it fixed. Her drive and determination led to many neighbors also volunteering and it truly became a community project. The pride that the neighborhood will feel when the project is complete will live on in the children who use this park in the future.

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 topical guests on to share pertinent information with the viewers.

This month, joining Supervisor Cook in the show are Erin Stocksclaeder, Invasive Management Area Coordinator for the Fairfax County Park Authority, and Adria Bordas, Unit Coordinator for the Virginia Cooperative Extension. Each year, as winter turns to spring, our yards, parks, stream valleys, and surrounding areas come to life with new growth. Unfortunately, not all of this growth is welcome. There are a large number of invasive species that threaten to take over healthy land, both public and private. Fortunately, there are organizations who are able to help us to nip this problem in the bud. The shows air throughout the month and can be seen Sundays at 5:00 p.m., Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. and Fridays at 5:00 p.m.

Supervisor Cook in the Community

Langley Residential Support

Services: On April 2nd, Supervisor Cook visited a group home in Braddock managed by Langley Residential Support Services. The group home is a residential and drop-in support provider for adults with intellectual disabilities in Fairfax County. Supervisor Cook enjoyed sharing a meal and conversation with the residents and staff.



Budget Public Hearings: On April 7th through April 9th, the Board of Supervisors held public hearings about the FY2016 Budget. This is an annual process that allows the citizens of Fairfax County to give feedback and share their

opinions regarding the County budget.

Shelter House Breakfast: On April 9th, Supervisor Cook spoke to the attendees of the annual Shelter House Breakfast held at the Westwood Country Club. Shelter House provides housing for victims of domestic violence.

Fairfax Little League

Opening Day: On April 11th, Supervisor Cook took part in the annual Fairfax Little League Opening Day Parade and Ceremony.

Friends of Long Branch Stream Valley

Cleanup: On April 11th, Supervisor Cook attended the Friends of Long Branch Stream Valley cleanup at Canterbury Woods Swim Club.

Trail Life USA: On April 13th, Supervisor Cook addressed a group of young men from Immanuel Bible Church who are part of a group called Trail

Life USA. There were over 50 boys in attendance ranging from kindergarten to twelfth grade.

Neighborhood College: On April 14th, Supervisor Cook kicked off his latest class of Neighborhood College which is being held on Tuesday nights at the Pinn Center. This class will run until May 19th.

Sexual Assault Awareness

Walk: On April 15th, Supervisor Cook participated in a walk at the Government Center in support of Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Appreciation Luncheon at Fairfax Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court

On April 15th, Supervisor Cook attended an Appreciation Luncheon for the Volunteers and Interns at the Fairfax Juvenile & Domestic Relations District Court.

Domestic Violence

Awareness: On April 16th, Supervisor Cook started out the day at the quarterly meeting of the Domestic Violence Prevention, Policy Coordinating Council on which he is the representative from the Board of Supervisors.



Burke Commons Sidewalk:

On April 16th, Supervisor Cook celebrated the opening of a new sidewalk in the Burke Commons area of Burke Centre, which will make quite an impact on the citizens who live there. You can read about the ceremony here:

[Completed Sidewalk Connects Burke Commons Road to Roberts Parkway.](#)

Villa Road Repaving: On April 16th, Supervisor Cook hosted a “Pardon our Dust” meeting to inform neighbors about a VDOT maintenance project upcoming in the Fairfax Villa area.

Native Meadow Restoration Planting at Americana Park:

On April 18th, Supervisor Cook attended the Native Meadow Restoration planting at Americana Park. This was a unique opportunity to participate in a native restoration project, working to create native habitats and

restore a wetland area in the Accotink Creek floodplain.

Campus Drive Ribbon Cutting:

On April 18th, Supervisor Cook attended a ribbon cutting ceremony for the newly completed Campus Drive project at George Mason University.

Holocaust Observation Commemoration:

On April 19th, Supervisor Cook took part in a Holocaust Observation Commemoration which was held at the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia.

Greater Washington Innovation Awards:

On April 20th, Supervisor Cook attended the Greater Washington Innovation Awards which was hosted by the Fairfax Chamber of Commerce and held at the Hyatt Regency Reston.

Burke School Anniversary:

On April 23rd, Supervisor Cook attended the 75th Anniversary Celebration for the Burke School.

Leadership Fairfax:

On April 23rd, Supervisor Cook attended a program held by Leadership Fairfax where new enrollees presented the projects they have been working on. Supervisor Cook and Supervisor Gross were asked to speak to the class about programs that are being initiated to help seniors age in place.

Volunteer Fairfax Volunteer Service Awards:

On April 24th, Supervisor Cook attended the Volunteer Fairfax Volunteer Service Awards Ceremony at the Waterford Springfield. This year’s Braddock Awardee was Joanne Elder who was instrumental in getting a new playground installed in her Olde Forge/Surrey Square neighborhood.

Kings Park/Kings Glen Volleyball Game:

On April 24th, Supervisor Cook gave opening remarks at the beginning of the annual Kings Park/Kings Glen Elementary School Volleyball game which was held at Lake Braddock Secondary School.

Human Trafficking Awareness Panel:

On April 27th, Supervisor Cook sat on a panel with Congresswoman

Barbara Comstock and Delegate Tim Hugo at a Human Trafficking Forum at George Mason University.

St. Matthews United

Methodist Church: On April 27th, Supervisor Cook spoke to members of the congregation of St. Matthews United Methodist Church about issues in and around their community.

Truro Homeowners

Association Meeting: On April 29th, along with Delegate Vivian Watts and School Board member Megan McLaughlin, Supervisor Cook spoke to the members of the Truro Homeowners Association at their annual general meeting.

FACETS Breakfast to Raise Awareness for Homeless

Community: On April 30th,

Supervisor Cook attended the annual FACETS Breakfast which helps to raise awareness about the homeless community in Fairfax County.

Village Pond Stormwater Basin Retrofit

Project: On April 30th, Supervisor Cook stopped by a completed stormwater project near Village Park. This project was designed to improve water quality and maintenance access to an old existing stormwater pond located on Guinea Road at its intersection with Zion Drive.

Board of Supervisors & City of Fairfax City Council

Meeting: On April 30th,

Supervisor Cook attended a joint meeting of the Fairfax Board of Supervisors and the City of Fairfax City Council.



County Club View Civic

Association Meeting: On April 30th, Supervisor Cook attended the annual general meeting of the Country Club View Civic Association and shared pertinent info with the neighbors.

Kings Park & Signal Hill Repaving

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) began conducting milling and paving operations on Monday, April 27th in the Kings Park and Signal Hill neighborhoods. The work will be conducted during the day between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. and is expected to take five months to complete.

On Thursday, May 7th at 7:00 p.m., VDOT and Supervisor Cook will host a Pardon Our Dust Meeting at Kings Park Elementary School (5400 Harrow Way, Springfield, VA 22151).



This is a major project and it will be disruptive, but the result will be brand new streets for our communities. This meeting will allow members of the community to learn about the paving process and schedule, to ask questions, and state any concerns regarding the project. During the meeting, details of the

construction operation and parking restrictions will also be discussed. Supervisor Cook hopes to see you there!

Other paving projects: parts of Fairfax Villa are currently undergoing repaving and Wakefield Chapel Road will be repaved in June.

Best of Braddock Award Nominations Open

Nominations are now being accepted for the Best of Braddock Awards. The BoB's are given annually by the Braddock District Council and Supervisor Cook in recognition of those who contribute to the betterment of life and services in the Braddock District. **Awards are given in the following categories:** Braddock District Citizen of the Year, Braddock District Young Person of the Year, Neighborhood Enhancement or Beautification in the Braddock District (Individual Homeowner or Community Association), Commercial Beautification or Improvement (Landscaping, Building Appearance, Clean-Up, Other), Most "Can-Do" Public Employee Working on Issues in Braddock (Federal State or Local), Most Outstanding Business Person, and Club or Organization Making a Difference in the Braddock District.

You can find the [nomination form here](#) and submit your nominations by June 1st. You can find more information at the Braddock District Council of Community Associations [website](#) or you may contact Ann Sharp at ann.sharp@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-425-9300. Awards will be presented at the Braddock District Picnic on July 8.

Express Lanes Community Grant Program Accepting Applications

Transurban, the operator of the 495 and 95 Express Lanes, is accepting applications for the Community Grant Program. The purpose of the program is to support non-profit organizations that protect and enrich the communities of Northern Virginia. Grant applications will be accepted for the following three categories: environment, community, and safety. A \$1,500 award will be granted to three organizations every quarter, totaling 12 awards per year. Application deadlines are as follows: June 30, September 30, and December 31. For more information please [click here](#). Also, if you have any questions, you can contact [Christian Deschauer](#) by email or by calling 571-419-6103.

Land Use Update

Mrs. Rati's Family Home Day Care (SE 2014-BR-039) The applicant has requested a Special Exception to allow a home child care facility with a maximum of 12 children and two full-time assistants, and to permit an existing 5' 9" fence to remain in place. The subject property is located at 10639 John Ayres Drive at its intersection with Limpkin Court in the Fairfax Club Estates subdivision which is made up of single family homes. Hours of operation will be restricted to 7:00 am to 6:00 pm, with staggered drop off and pick up times and parking in the driveway. Child

care is provided in a walk-out lower level, which includes play and sleeping areas. The 3,800 square foot fenced backyard will be used as an outdoor play area.

A public hearing before the Planning Commission is scheduled for May 6, 2015 at 8:15 p.m. County staff is recommending approval and the full staff report can be found [here](#). A public hearing before the Board of Supervisors is currently scheduled for June 2, 2015 at 3:30 p.m.

Chik-fil-A in Burke Centre. (PCA 83-S-02902; PRC-C-546-03; DPA-C-546-24) Chick-fil-A, Inc. has resubmitted its application to open a new fast food restaurant with a drive-thru at 5815 Burke Centre Parkway on the pad site of a vacant bank in the eastern portion of the Burke Centre Shopping Center adjacent to Kohls. This land is currently zoned PRC-C (Planned Residential Community-Commercial). The specific request is to allow an increase in the total maximum building envelope of 3,000 square feet (from 129,000 to 132,000 square feet) and to reduce the width of the existing landscape berm along Burke Centre Parkway by a variable width of 1-7 feet. The purpose of this modification is to accommodate dual drive-thru lanes for 22 cars to reduce traffic on the internal access road off Burke Centre Parkway. The berm will be replanted with additional vegetation to enhance screening for nearby residences. The applicant also seeks to eliminate an old outdated proffer that prohibits restaurants which sell carryout food in paper wrappings.

The structure will be a 4,779 square foot one story all-brick building with 109 seats and an indoor playground of about 250-300 square feet. The building height is 19 feet, although there is a square tower feature that reaches 25 feet. There will be about 20 additional seats outside and approximately 44 parking spaces. The applicant will add a sidewalk along the access road to facilitate pedestrian access. The Burke Conservancy ARB previously approved the project and both county staff and the Braddock District Land Use and Environment Committee are currently reviewing the revised submittal. The project is scheduled for public hearing before the Planning Commission on July 15. The staff coordinator is [Joe Gorney](#). A staff report will be published on July 1st and a public hearing before the Planning Commission is scheduled for July 15 at 8:15 p.m.

U-Haul It. (RZ 2015-BR-001, and SE 2015-BR-001). This Special Exception application

proposes to adapt the interior of an existing vacant warehouse at 5271 and 5285 Port Royal Road in the Ravensworth Industrial area at a Floor Area Ratio of .90. In addition, the applicant seeks to rezone this property from I-4 to I-5 to allow truck rental use. The applicant has agreed to turn off all outside signs at 10:00 p.m. instead of 11:00 p.m., and to baffle security lights that impact residents of North Springfield. A public hearing before the Planning Commission is currently scheduled for May 21st and a hearing before the Board of Supervisors is scheduled for June 23rd. The Staff Coordinator for the Department of Planning and Zoning is [Sharon Williams](#) (703-324-2385). A staff report will be published on May 5th.

5210 Dunleigh Drive. (SE 2015-BR-011) PG Associates, Inc. and Jaye S. Bawa have filed an application to rezone a 74,000 square foot lot in the Dunleigh subdivision that was not included when the original community was developed in the late 1970s. The proposal is to add two additional homes in front of an existing residence that was built in the early 1960s. A preliminary presentation before the Braddock District Land Use Committee took place on April 21st and a meeting will be held with the Dunleigh community on May 7th at the site. No hearing dates are yet established.

Silas Burke House, 9617 Burke Lake Road (RZ-2014-SP-015 and SE-2014-SP-060). Sunrise Development, Inc. is seeking County approval for a Rezoning and Special Exception application to construct an assisted living facility at this location, the site on which the Silas Burke home is located. Their proposal includes retaining and preserving the existing historical home, its accessory structures and the immediate setting around the home. The Springfield District Supervisor and Planning Commissioner hosted a meeting on this proposal in February. It is now scheduled for a public hearing before the Planning Commission on April 30 at 8:15 pm. The staff report can be [located here](#). You can

register to speak before the Planning Commission on any of these applications by [clicking here](#). You can also call 703-324-2865 before 3:00 pm on the day of the hearing. To speak before the Board of Supervisors call 703-324-3151 or sign up [here](#).

Townhouse Project on Burke Lake Road Accepted (RZ-2015-SP-003). Christopher Land, LLC has filed an application to rezone a 1.88 acre parcel of land at 9537 Burke Lake Road. The

proposal is to rezone the property from R-1 to R-8 for townhouse development. This parcel of land sits almost directly across Burke Lake Road from Burke View Avenue and is located in the Springfield Magisterial District. [Nick Rogers](#) is the staff coordinator. Public hearings before the Planning Commission are tentatively set for the end of September.

Former Fairfax City Water Customers to See Rate Reduction in July – Public Hearing May 21st

The Fairfax Water Board of Directors has recently announced that it will hold a public hearing on May 21, 2015 at 3:30 pm on accelerating the timetable for former customers of Fairfax City Water to be on the same rate schedule as existing Fairfax Water customers. This change would result in a commodity rate of \$2.55 per 1,000 gallons, and be effective with meter readings taken on or after July 1, 2015. If approved, this means that Fairfax County residents who currently receive their water from Fairfax City will pay the same rates enjoyed by county customers and will see a lessening of their quarterly water bills: a 44 percent commodity rate reduction. Fairfax Water will be directly mailing all of its affected customers about this change. The original date was to have been January 2017 and the acceleration of this timetable was possible after Fairfax Water completed a thorough analysis of the operation and maintenance costs for the Fairfax City and Falls Church water systems during 2014. The hearing will be at Fairfax Water's Fred Morin Building, 8570 Executive Park Avenue, Fairfax. The proposed rate change is scheduled to be adopted on the same date or soon thereafter. Supervisor Cook considers this decision to be a significant improvement for Braddock residents whose rates will now be the same as those of their neighbors. This rate reduction was possible by the settlement of litigation between Fairfax City, Fairfax County, and the Fairfax Water Authority. Supervisor Cook played an active role in bringing about the settlement of this litigation in order to bring down water rates for over 6,000 Braddock residents. For more information call 703-698-5600 or email PR@fairfaxwater.org.

Submit a Proposed Change to the Fairfax Center Area Study

Phase II of the Fairfax Center Area Study has begun and public participation is needed to better understand the community's priorities. Phase II focuses on Comprehensive Plan recommendations for the Suburban Center portion of the area, and will also include an examination of the Area-wide Recommendations for the Fairfax Center Area.

The submission period is open until May 22nd. The proposed changes that are submitted will be used to inform the study of the Suburban Center and Area-wide Recommendations. The formal review of proposed changes is expected to begin in June 2015.

Prior to submitting a proposal, you are encouraged to contact Supervisor Cook by calling 703-425-9300, as well as Planning Division Staff. You can [email Planning Division staff](#) or call 703-324-1380. [Submission forms can be found here](#).

Human Services Corner

May is National Foster Care Month, a time to raise awareness of the children and youth in the foster care system. Nationally, there are approximately 400,000 children and youth in foster care because their own families are unable to provide for their essential well-being. In addition, an estimated 24,000 young people age out of the foster care system each year with limited support.

National Foster Care Month highlights the needs of children and youth who need to be in foster care until they can either safely reunite with their parents or establish other lifelong family relationships. Today, over 300 Fairfax County children are in foster care. The Foster Care and Adoption Program offers placements for these children and services to help their families. When a child cannot return home safely, we seek adoption or other permanent placement.

Please visit the Children's Bureau [website](#) to find out how you can make a lasting difference in the lives of America's children involved in the foster care system.

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.

The next training session's dates are June 6, 13 and 20 (all three sessions are mandatory) in Oakton, Virginia. For more information, please contact Ginny Snaider, Program Supervisor, at gснаider@nvfs.org or 571.748.2557.

Creative Aging Festival

Come out, have fun, learn something new, and find your inner artist! Fairfax County, the Arts Council of Fairfax County, and AARP Virginia, with several community organizations and businesses, invite you to celebrate Older Americans Month at the *Creative Aging Festival* which will take place during May 2015. This month-long festival features over 100 events including art exhibits, dance, musical performances, poetry readings, lectures, classes in watercolor, woodworking, knitting, clogging, tap, piano, photography, and more! Programs will take place throughout Fairfax County as well as in the City of Fairfax, Arlington County, and the City of Alexandria. Most festival programs are free. Because of the variability in venue space, participants should call respective venues to register and inquire about program information, fees and parking. [For more information click here.](#)

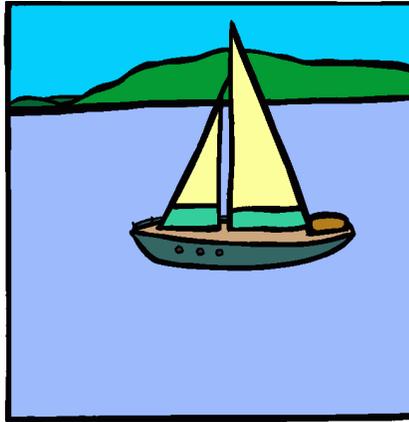
Community Events throughout May

Safety for Seniors Seminars, Spring Series:

The Fairfax Caregiver Seminar Consortium will hold seminars this spring for caregivers of older adults and adults with disabilities on how to manage the day-to-day issues of caregiving. To register or to request reasonable ADA accommodations, click [here](#) or call 703-324-5205.

Mother's Day Cruise on Lake Accotink, May 10:

Spend the day with Mom and Mother Nature! You can't beat a beautiful May afternoon cruising among the wildflowers and bald eagles of Lake Accotink Park. Fees are \$3 for Moms, \$6 for other adults, and \$4 for children ages 3 and up. To reserve your seat, call 703-569-0285, TTY 711.



AARP Smart Driver Class, May 13 & 14:

These classes begin at 9:00 a.m. and run until 1:00 p.m. They will be held at the Fountains at Washington House (5100 Fillmore Avenue, Alexandria). Breakfast snacks will be provided. Remember to bring your AARP card! To register call 703-845-5100.

"Celebrate Communication 2015" for the deaf and hard of hearing community, May 16:

On Saturday, May 16, the [Northern Virginia Resource Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons](#) will host "Celebrate Communication 2015" from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the [NVCC Annandale Campus](#), in the Ernst Center Gymnasium. The event will include exhibits, technology demonstrations, children's activities, free hearing and vision screenings, crafts, raffles and more! Visit [NVRC's website](#) for more information on this free event.

Braddock District Aging in Place: Independent Living Program, May 20:

Aging in Place will be held from 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. at Supervisor Cook's office.

Lake Accotink Canine Cruise, May 24:

Treat your canine companion to a special cruise aboard Lake Accotink Park's pooch-friendly pontoon boat. Catch the last rays of the sun as it dips toward the distant lake shore while your dog scans for ducks, geese, and other lake dwellers. The cost is \$6 per person and there is no charge for dogs. Limit one dog per person. Call 703-569-0285, TTY 711 to reserve your spot!

The 50+ Employment Expo, May 26:

Attend seminars on changing careers, online job searching, starting your own business, job training, and job interviewing. The expo begins at 10:00 a.m. and will run until 2:00 p.m. It will be held at the Sheraton Premiere at Tysons Corner (8661 Leesburg Pike, Vienna).

Lake Accotink Cardboard Boat Regatta, May 31:

Find out who will sink and who will float in their handmade cardboard boat at the 26th annual Lake Accotink Cardboard Boat Regatta! Judging categories will include: Most Likely to Float, Titanic, Best Costume, and Pride of the Regatta. Entry forms are [available online](#). Entrance fees are \$20 per boat until May 29th, and \$30 thereafter. For spectators, there will be a \$4 per car fee to enter the park.

Help Shape the Future of Employment for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

The CSB invites you to join a community-wide discussion to help shape the future of employment and day support services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Share your views with us before May 31st by using this [online survey](#). Your ideas, along with input from a series of [focus groups](#) taking place during April and May, is important to help determine future directions for employment and day support services. [Read more about this effort](#) and the [challenges and opportunities](#) that you can help us address.

Bike to Work Day 2015

Friday, May 15th is Bike to Work Day! Join over 10,000 Washington D.C. metro area commuters by biking to work! On your morning commute, be sure to stop at one of the 79 locations throughout D.C., Maryland, and Virginia for some food, drinks, fun and prizes! Pre-register to participate by May 8th for a chance to receive a free t-shirt and bike raffles! Click [here](#) for more information.

Environmental Update

On Saturday April 11th, dedicated volunteers from over 30 communities in the Braddock District assembled in local parks and stream valleys to help clean up the Accotink and Pohick Watersheds: once again making the Braddock District a better and more attractive place to live. Working in concert with the Alice Ferguson Foundation and Clean Fairfax, there were significant clean-up efforts completed. Park Authority staff also directed volunteers at Lake Accotink Park, along with organized friends groups, civic, community and homeowner association volunteers,



scouting groups, and even students from George Mason University. Special thanks to the Friends of Audrey Moore RECenter (FAMRC), the Friends of Long Branch Stream Valley (FLBSV), the Friends of Lake Accotink Park (FLAP), the Friends of Royal Lake Park (FORL), the Friends of Rabbit Branch Stream Valley and the Friends of Woodglen Lake (FOWL).

Braddock District Tree Forum

On Wednesday, April 22nd, the Braddock District held its first ever Tree Forum! It was a tremendous success with a fantastic group of expert panelists including Jim McGlone of the Urban Forest Conversation, Samantha Wangsgard of Urban Forest Management Division, Adria Bordas, from the Virginia Cooperative Extension, and Michael Fayhey from Merrifield Garden Center. All the presenters are certified arborists, and they discussed topics including planting, soil preparation and ongoing care for the life cycle of a beautiful healthy tree. Thanks to everyone for such great participation. It was a fantastic event. Supervisor Cook and the Braddock Office would like to give a special thanks to Jean Cadet for her keen insight and dedication to this event!

Field Frenzy Wildlife Walk

On May 16th from 10:00 a.m. until noon, the Hidden Pond Nature Center is hosting a Field Frenzy Wildlife Walk providing children the opportunity to go into a field with an experienced naturalist to find, handle, and create habitats for some of the wild animals found at Hidden Pond Park. The animals caught may be placed on display in the Nature Center for you to come back and see any time. The cost is \$8 per child for county residents and \$10 per child for non-residents. It is open to children aged 7 through 13. [Online registration](#) is now open. For more information, call 703-451-9588.

Fairfax County Environmental Excellence Awards

The Environmental Excellence Awards have been established to recognize county residents, organizations, businesses and county employees who unselfishly dedicate time, energy and expertise for the betterment of the environment in support of countywide environmental goals and initiatives. Award recipients are selected by the Environmental Quality Advisory Council, and the awards are presented each fall during a meeting of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. Nominations are currently being accepted [online](#) through June 1st.

75th Green Breakfast: Using Radical Daikon Radishes to Improve Urban Soil

Students from George Mason High School in Falls Church and George Marshall High School in Tysons have been working with the Conservation District to rehabilitate the urban soils on their schools' campuses using daikon radishes. On Saturday, May 9th, the Mason High School students will present results from their study to see if these radishes can be used to alleviate compaction in urban soils. Breakfast includes an all-you-can-eat hot buffet with fresh fruit and coffee, tea, orange juice or water. The cost is \$10, payable at the door, cash preferred. If you would only like a beverage, please contact the [Conservation District](#). The event starts at 8:30 a.m. and will be held at Brion's Grille (10621 Braddock Road in Fairfax).

Friends of Long Branch Stream Valley Trail Maintenance Day – May 16

On May 16th, the Friends of Long Branch Stream Valley is hosting a trail maintenance day featuring educational activities for both children and adults! The group will meet at Woodland Way, Yellow Section Phase II at 9:00 a.m. In the case of rain, this event will be rescheduled for Saturday, May 30th.