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# The BRADDOCK BEACON

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

## TRANSFORMATION OF KINGS WEST SWIM CLUB NOW UNDERWAY



Nearly a year ago, Supervisor John Cook announced a “win-win-win” situation in which Fairfax County acquired the defunct Kings West Swim Club for storm-water management and park use. During a community groundbreaking ceremony held on January 30 he announced that work on this project is now underway.

“This is a great honor and privilege,” said Supervisor Cook. “I am proud to have been able to play a role in taking an abandoned pool that created serious health and safety concerns for the community and transform it into an environmental resource that will provide much needed water quality enhancements in the Rabbit Branch of the Pohick Stream Valley and protect a sensitive Resource Protection Area.”

Upon completion, the new green space will replace the club house and parking lot, but will adaptively reuse the existing swimming pool in order to remove several hundred pounds of nitrogen, phosphorous and sediment that would otherwise pollute Rabbit Branch annually. The newly created pervious surface will also reduce stormwater runoff by 44,000 cubic feet per year, or roughly 10 percent of the annual rainfall that would otherwise flow through the site, further improving sediment control and reducing the effects of erosion.

Because of these significant environmental benefits, stormwater funds of \$430,000 were provided to undertake this work.

“When community and government come together and work cooperatively, successes like this happen,” continued Supervisor Cook. “The community has been very proactive throughout this whole process, maintaining its commitment to the swim club while also searching tirelessly for a way to reuse the property in a beneficial manner. The County’s Department of Public Works (DPWES), and the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) are to be especially commended for their vision and dedication to this project, and I’d also like to personally thank Tony Vellucci, our Braddock District Representative to the Park Authority, for his work in shepherding this through.”

This is a significant achievement for the Braddock District. The community gains additional green space. The removal of the pool and its amenities removes a potential health hazard, eyesore and crime magnet. It also avoids potential financial liability for pool board members, who have served in the best interests of the community and were subject to potential legal obligation as a result of the closed pool.



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 Subscribe” 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/pages/Burke-VA/Office-of-Braddock-Supervisor-John-C-Cook/113003565389251?ref=sgm> and on Twitter at [@SupervisorCook](https://twitter.com/SupervisorCook)

## SAVE THE DATE: SUPERVISOR COOK'S NEXT TRANSPORTATION TOWN HALL SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 6 AT KINGS PARK LIBRARY

This town hall will focus on pedestrian connectivity in the Braddock District. Speakers from the County, as well as Braddock District Appointees, will present information on trails, sidewalks and bike paths in the district. More information will be forthcoming.

## REAFFIRMING ITS STRONG CREDIT RATING, THE COUNTY RECEIVES A 2.23 PERCENT INTEREST RATE ON BOND SALE, SAVING TAXPAYERS

Fairfax County received a 2.23 percent interest rate, one of the lowest interest rates recorded in recent County history, for its General Obligation Bond Sale for Series 2013A and Series 2013B held Wednesday, January 9. The total sale was for \$334.34 million to JP Morgan Securities. There were four bidders, indicating strong support of Fairfax County's bond offerings.

In addition, three ratings agencies, Standard and Poor's Corporation, Moody's Investors Service and Fitch Ratings, affirmed the County's triple-A rating. Moody's noted these ratings "reflect the county's satisfactory financial position supported by strong management practices, large tax base with socioeconomic indices that are well above average and reasonable debt burden with manageable future borrowing plans." Moody's did, however, retain its "negative outlook"

due to Fairfax County's economic relationship with the federal government.

The Series 2013A bonds were approved by the voters between 2004 and 2011. These bonds totaled \$249.23 million to fund the following capital improvements:

- Schools - \$169 million (\$155 million for school improvement projects and \$14 million for the Newington bus garage).
- Transportation improvements and facilities - \$61.23 million.
- Parks and parks facilities - \$19 million.

The Series 2013B bonds were a refunding of \$128 million, generating net value savings of \$12.21 million or 9.49 percent of the refunded bonds. As a result of its excellent triple-A bond rating, Fairfax County has saved an estimated \$580.63 million from its bond and refunding sales.

## COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE ANNOUNCES COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Are you currently or will you be enrolled in a Virginia college or university? Are you pursuing a degree in the field of criminal justice? If you answered "yes" to both of these questions, then you are eligible to apply for a college scholarship from the Virginia Sheriff's Institute (VSI) Scholarship Program. Scholarships are available to both full- and part-time students.

As part of the application process, Fairfax County Sheriff Stan Barry must submit a letter of recommendation on behalf of the applicant. To obtain a letter of recommendation, please contact Lieutenant Steve Elbert at [shf-pio@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:shf-pio@fairfaxcounty.gov) or call 703-246-3251.

For more information on the VSI Scholarship Program or to download the application, go to <http://vasheriffsinstitute.org/scholarship/>

Founded in 1981, the Virginia Sheriff's Institute is a non-profit professional and educational organization. In May 2012, the VSI Scholarship Committee awarded 63 scholarships for a total of more than \$30,000. There are \$500 scholarships available for full-time students and \$250 scholarships available for part-time students. The number and amount of scholarships awarded each year vary depending on the number of eligible students and the amount of money that is raised.

## PHASE 1 OF THE DULLES METRO PROJECT NOW 87 PERCENT COMPLETE

Construction of Phase 1 of the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project from East Falls Church to Wiehle Avenue in Reston is currently on schedule. Pedestrian bridges are being put into place at all five stations and work has shifted from heavy construction to systems testing. Track work for the 11.6-mile alignment, including the track over the aerial guideway (bridges) in Tysons Corner and at the I-66/Dulles Connector Road, is essentially done. When work is completed, the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) will turn the project over to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), which will determine the exact start of revenue service.

Below are some construction milestones that were recently achieved:

- All five stations - McLean (Tysons East), Tysons Corner (Tysons Central 123), Greensboro (Tysons Central 7), Spring Hill (Tysons West) and Wiehle-Reston East (Wiehle Avenue) are well along in final construction. Completion of mechanical and electrical equipment are the current focus.



- Construction of pedestrian bridges which provide access to the stations across some of the County's busiest roads - Route 123, Route 7 and the Dulles Access Road/Dulles Toll Road - will be completed in February with installations at the Spring Hill Station on Route 7 and at the Tysons Corner Station on Route 123 at Tysons Boulevard.

- Testing of the Line started in late 2012 with the running of a clearance car, a specifically outfitted vehicle with feelers extending all around it, mimicking the space that a Metrorail car would be expected to use during normal operations. The car is preceded by a Hi-Rail vehicle, a truck equipped to travel on rail, to ensure that the track is clear. The two vehicles are the first obvious testing of the new line, and will be seen for much of 2013

## SUPERVISOR COOK IN THE COMMUNITY

On January 5th, Supervisor Cook acted as the emcee for a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Campus Drive project at George Mason University. This is a significant undertaking that will ease traffic in and around the campus.

The intent of the bypass, which begins on Braddock Road just west of Route 123, is to keep eastbound traffic headed toward campus and westbound traffic leaving campus from entering the intersection of Braddock and Route 123. As a result, a 10 to 30 percent reduction in congestion is expected.



On January 9th, Supervisor Cook met with members of Boy Scout Troop 1131. The Troop is sponsored by St. Stephens Methodist Church and they came in to discuss local government issues and policy. Afterwards, Supervisor Cook joined the Scouts at the Braddock District Council Meeting.



On January 10th, Supervisor Cook, along with Community Services Board (CSB) Appointee Jessica Burmester, visited one of the group homes that are part of the CSB's Good Neighbor Program which helps to provide community housing options for people with disabilities.

On January 12th, Supervisor Cook spoke at the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the new Fairfax Connector Express Bus line that will run from the Burke VRE station to Tysons.

On January 14th, Supervisor Cook attended an afternoon event at the PRS Recovery Academy 50th Anniversary Celebration. PRS (Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services) exists so that individuals with mental illness, emotional and/or behavioral disorders achieve personal wellness, recovery and community integration.

On January 16th, Supervisor Cook stopped by to enjoy some holiday cheer at Chairman Bulova's Holiday Reception at the Fairfax County Government Center.

On January 17th, Supervisor Cook attended, as a member, the first meeting of the newly revised Fairfax County Domestic Violence Prevention, Policy, and Coordinating Council (DVPPCC). Later that day, Dawson Taylor came in to the office to receive his plaque that honors him as a 2012 Best of Braddock award winner in the Young Person of the Year category.



On January 23rd, Supervisor Cook met with the members of the Dunleigh HOA at their annual meeting and talked about some of the ongoing issues of concern to the residents.

On January 26th, Supervisor Cook spoke at Luther Jackson Middle School for the 2013 Chinese New Year Festival Ceremony. This year the Chinese celebrate the Year of the Snake.

On January 30th, Supervisor Cook was present for the kickoff of the demolition of the Kings West Swim Club which is being turned over to the Park Authority and will in the future be a natural park. Much more information on this can be found on the front page of the Beacon. Later that night, he attended the Croftwood HOA annual meeting at Braddock Hall and then went down the hall to Kings Park Library for the University/Community Forum which focuses on issues of importance to those communities that surround George Mason University.

## FEBRUARY EDITION OF BRADDOCK NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS TAKES A LOOK AT OUR SCHOOLS

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 and informative items with the viewers.

This month's show features Megan McLaughlin, the Braddock Representative serving on the Fairfax County School Board, and Judy Dioquino, the Lake Braddock Secondary School PTSA President. The education that our children get is second to none and wouldn't be possible if it weren't for our dedicated teachers, PTSA volunteers and School Board members.

The show airs 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.

## FREE REAL ESTATE TAX RELIEF WORKSHOPS TO BE HELD IN MARCH

Fairfax County is hosting a series of free tax relief workshops in March at several locations. Staff from the Department of Tax Administration (DTA) will be on-site to assist residents with filling out the application form, as well as answering questions.

Real estate tax relief is available for older adults and people with disabilities who meet certain qualifications; qualified residents also may be eligible for car tax and rent relief.

For more information on tax relief, go to [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dta](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dta), or call 703-222-8234, TTY 703-222-7594.

**Braddock District's Workshop: March 12 and 20, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. No appointment necessary.**

**Location:**

**Kings Park Library  
9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke  
703-425-9300**

## DATES FOR SECURE DOCUMENT SHREDDING HAVE BEEN RELEASED

The Fairfax County Solid Waste Management Program will be sponsoring one secure document shredding event in each Supervisory District per calendar year. These events are open to Fairfax County residents

ited items go to the following site: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/recycling/shredding.htm>

All shredding events are held from 8:00 a.m. to Noon. Upcoming Events:



along with residents of the Towns of Vienna, Herndon and Clifton and the Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church.

Accepted: Residential material of a sensitive nature such as tax documents, financial records, etc. (Please recycle junk mail and magazines through your normal collection service.) Up to 5 medium-sized packing boxes per vehicle.

Not Accepted: Business documents, even if they are brought in by a County resident; items that can damage shredding equipment. For a full schedule and list of prohib-

- March 23: South County Government Center, 8350 Richmond Highway, Alexandria
- April 27: I-95 Complex, 9850 Furnace Road, Lorton
- May 11: Langley High School, 6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean
- May 18: Mason Governmental Center, 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale
- **June 22: Braddock Supervisor's Office (at the Kings Park Library), 9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke**

## NEXT THREE ELECTRIC SUNDAY EVENTS HAVE BEEN SCHEDULED



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 participate in Electric Sunday; however, they may be required to show proof of residency. Events for the next three months are shown below. For a full listing go to the following website: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/recycling/electric-sunday.htm>

All electronics recycling events are held from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Feb. 24: I-66 Transfer Station, 4618 West Ox Road, Fairfax

March 24: I-95 Complex, 9850 Furnace Road, Lorton

April 28: I-66 Transfer Station, 4618 West Ox Road, Fairfax

## NEXT NVCC WAKEFIELD CHAPEL ROAD FORUM MEETING HAS BEEN SCHEDULED

The next quarterly meeting of the NVCC Wakefield Chapel Road Forum will take place on February 25 at 7:30 PM. We will be meeting at the Wakefield Forest ES library. Current topics of interest including parking issues and events taking place at NVCC will be discussed. All interested residents are most welcome to attend. If you have any questions, please contact Ann Sharp at 703-425-9300 or [ann.sharp@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:ann.sharp@fairfaxcounty.gov).

## COUNTY SERVICES FOR OLDER ADULTS, JUST A PHONE CALL AWAY

Fairfax County's Aging, Disability and Caregiver Resource Line at 703-324-7948, TTY 703-449-1186, is staffed by experienced social workers, Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. They can answer quick questions, such the location of the nearest senior centers, and provide advice on more complicated issues such as finding the right services for a frail, older adult.

To see services the County offers older adults, go to [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices). You'll note in the 'Services' column at the far left, a wide range of services, including Adult Day Health Care, Adult Protective Services, Care Management, Caregiver Support, Meals on Wheels and Medicare Counseling.

The 'Recreation' column lists links to the county's varied recreational and prevention programs including senior centers, a chronic disease management program, Adult and Community Education and the library's event page. There is even a link to an online chair yoga video.

The third column provides a listing of community engagement opportunities including boards, authorities, commissions and other policy-making and community development activities. It also lists Volunteer Solutions, a volunteer program that provides services to older adults such as Meals on Wheels.

In the final column to the far right, there is an appeal to Follow-us! Here you'll find links to the events calendar for caregiver and Medicare seminars, a speaker request page, and links to subscription pages for the monthly Fairfax 50+ E-News and the Golden Gazette print newspaper. You'll also see a link to three online resource guides. Worthy of special note is SeniorNavigator, a state-wide search engine where you'll find public and private services as well as excellent articles on staying healthy and caregiving.

## LOOKING FOR A FUN, SAFE OUTDOOR PLACE FOR YOUR DOG TO PLAY IN FAIRFAX?

Braddock Dogs Association, a volunteer group dedicated to the development and maintenance of off-leash dog areas (OLDA) in the Braddock District, is working towards the development of our first OLDA at Monticello Park on Guinea Road, between Burke Road and Bronte Drive. The dog area is part of the Monticello Park Master Plan, which also includes a walking trail around the park, a playground, and a skate spot for older children and teenagers. The approved Master Plan is available at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/plandev/monticello.htm>.

Braddock Dogs needs to raise \$15,000 to construct the OLDA at Monticello Park. Every \$10 donated by March 31st, will automatically get an additional ticket in the

raffle for a doggie gift basket, to be drawn at the April meeting. Donations over \$500 will be recognized on signage at the park. More details about Braddock Dogs can be found on its website at <http://braddock-dogs.blogspot.com>. You can also Like them on Facebook, or contact them at [BraddockDogs@gmail.com](mailto:BraddockDogs@gmail.com) to receive updates. Tell your neighbors!

The Fairfax County Park Foundation (a 501c3 nonprofit, tax exempt organization) is managing the collection of funds. Charitable gifts donated to the Fairfax County Park Foundation are tax deductible.

How to Help:

- Donate online – visit the Fairfax County Park Foundation at <http://www.fairfax-parkfoundation.org> and click on "Donate

## RETIRED? CONSIDER JOINING THE LIFE-LONG LEARNING INSTITUTE

Affiliated with Northern Virginia Community College, the Life-time Learning Institute of Northern Virginia (LLI) is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing continuing educational opportunities to older adults. LLI offers courses and special interest groups throughout the year, day and overnight trips, an overseas study/travel program, and local social events. Classes are scheduled throughout the year and are held on weekdays between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. on the NVCC Annandale campus and off-campus in churches, community centers, and public libraries. Courses offered vary each session. Examples include literature, history, health, science, religion, computer skills, art appreciation, genealogy, philosophy, yoga, and poetry. An open house and speaker forum is held once a month at the NVCC Annandale campus. For more information call the LLI office at 703-503-0600 or view the web site at <http://lli.nova.org>. Annual membership is \$110 per year.

## HELP IMPROVE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES FOR OLDER ADULTS AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Your answers to a brief survey will help the County improve transportation services for older adults and people with disabilities. The questionnaire consists of 27 mostly multiple-choice questions, taking five to ten minutes to complete. Take the survey online at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/mobilityoptions>

The survey is sponsored by the Fairfax Area Mobility and Transportation Committee, which reports jointly to the Fairfax Area Disability Services Board and the Fairfax Area Long Term Care Coordinating Council. If you require an alternate format of the survey, contact Jill Clark at 703-324-5874, TTY 703-449-1186.

Now!" in the top right. Choose your pledge amount and select "Fairfax County Park Foundation" in the drop down menus. IMPORTANT: you must specify Braddock Dogs in the Special Notes field (PayPal) or Additional Comments field (credit card) for your gift to go to Braddock Dogs.

- Donate by phone – call 703-324-8581 to make a tax deductible credit card donation over the phone. Be sure to specify Braddock Dogs as the recipient.

- Mail a check – checks should be made payable to: Fairfax County Park Foundation and sent to 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 404 Fairfax, VA 22035. IMPORTANT: you must specify Braddock Dogs in the Memo field on the check for your gift to go to Braddock Dogs.

## BRADDOCK DISTRICT LAND USE UPDATES

### **Ox Road Estates. (RZ/FDP 2012-BR-020):**

A community information meeting on this proposed rezoning has now been scheduled by Supervisor Cook for February 20. It will be held in the Bonnie Brae Elementary School Cafeteria at 7:30 pm. At this meeting, the applicant will make a presentation on its current plans to put 13 or 14 homes on this 5.15 tract of land located on Ox Road near Adare Drive. The submitted proposal is for a PDH-3 district, although staff has also requested that the applicant also prepare a cluster design for review. A link to the application can be found here: <http://ldsnet.fairfax-county.gov/ldsnet/ldsdfw/4403328.PDF>

### **Tariq Khan Rezoning (FDP-2012-BR-003):**

An application to rezone a property at 4335 Shirley Gate Road from the R-1

District to a PDH-2 Residential District was the subject of a second Public Hearing before the Planning Commission on January 24. The applicant had revised its application to reflect two homes instead of three. Several residents remained concerned about the footprint of the houses, and Planning Commissioner Hurley deferred decision to look more closely at setbacks. Staff has recommended approval. A link to the staff addendum dated January 10 can be found here: <http://ldsnet.fairfax-county.gov/ldsnet/ldsdfw/4406201.PDF>

### **Eleven Oaks School Site (FDP-2012-BR-014):**

The Board of Supervisors unanimously supported Supervisor Cook's recommendation to approve this project to construct 49 single family attached and detached homes on this parcel which will now go into detailed site plan review.

### **Penn Property. (RZ-2013-BR-003):**

A proposal to rezone 4.26 acres of land adjacent to Banting Court was filed by the Evergreene Companies, Inc. The applicant proposes to construct 10 single family homes at a density of 2.35 homes per acre. The proposal will be filed as a PDH-3 residential development with 27 percent open space. This application is now been accepted by Fairfax County for public review and comment.

### **The Braddock District Land Use**

**Committee** will have its regular monthly meeting on February 19 at 7:30 p.m. in Braddock Hall. Meetings are open to interested residents. This month the committee will hear from the office of the Zoning Administrator on the annual workplan for Zoning Ordinance Amendments.

## RESOURCES AND ASSISTANCE FOR FEDERAL, STATE AND COUNTY TAX FORMS

One stop on the Fairfax County website connects to many resources to help file this year's taxes. Links include federal and state forms, deadlines and resources and helpful tips. Fairfax County resources include real estate and personal property (car) tax relief for seniors and people with disabilities and a list of free workshops, in addition to information on tax relief for disabled veterans. Tips for choosing a tax preparer, sites for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program and a calendar of tax preparation events at library branches, plus customer service phone numbers are also available at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news/2013/tax-resources-2013.htm>

## BOARD WILL HOLD PUBLIC HEARING ON SIGNS IN THE RIGHT-OF-WAY

At its most recent meeting, the Board of Supervisors authorized a public hearing on a proposed agreement with the Virginia Department of Transportation that would allow the County to remove signs located in VDOT public rights-of-way.

The current proposal would include political signs, but exempt special event signs being held over the weekend. The Sheriff's Community Labor Force would remove illegal signs between Tuesday and Friday at an annual cost of approximately \$150,000. A full link to the Board agenda item can be found at: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/board/bdagenda/2013/board-package-jan29.pdf>

A public hearing is required before such a program could be implemented. The date is set for Tuesday, February 26 at 4:00 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035. If you would like to register to speak go to: [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bosclerk/speaker\\_bos.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bosclerk/speaker_bos.htm), or call 703-324-3151. If you are speaking on your own behalf you will have three minutes; if you are speaking for an organization you will have five minutes. If you would like to submit testimony for the record, please email us at [Braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov). Supervisor Cook has not made a decision on this proposal and welcomes your input.

## 2013 NATIVE SEEDLING PLANT SALE HAS BEGUN

The Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District's annual seedling sale makes low-cost native shrub and tree seedlings available to area residents. Seedling packages are now on sale for pick-up in mid-April. Trees and shrubs help cleanse water, prevent soil erosion, provide habitat, cool our climate and clean our air. Many residents have lost trees or shrubs in windstorms, heavy rains or drought conditions. This year's seedling sale offers a mix of sturdy trees that can withstand heavy storms, plants that provide screening and tolerate a range of conditions and some of our region's most beautiful native trees and shrubs.

The 2013 Shrub and 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 22, or until supplies run out. You will receive a confirmation receipt and a map to the pickup site (in Fairfax County). Orders may be picked up on Friday, April 26, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., or Saturday, April 27, 9:00 a.m. until noon.

A link to the list of plants and the application form can be downloaded at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/seedlingsale.htm>.

## BRADDOCK ENVIRONMENTAL ROUND-UP FOR FEBRUARY

**Grants for Communities Affected by Construction of the 495 Express Lanes Construction** on the huge Beltway Express Lanes project has finally ended, but the popular grant program aimed at communities affected by the newly widened highway will continue through 2013. Funded by the Express Lanes' private partners - Fluor and TransUrban - the Community Grant Program awards up to \$5,000 to grassroots and non-profit organizations that are attempting to improve aspects of the environment and community of the near-beltway neighborhoods. For a grant application go to the following site: <https://www.495expresslanes.com/grant-program>. Winners are announced quarterly, with the first quarter's application deadline being March 31st.

**Stream Monitoring Workshop: Accotink Creek-Fairfax will be held on Saturday, February 16th** from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Eakin Park in Fairfax. Come out and help monitor one of the largest streams in the county as it flows placidly by the popular Cross County Hiking Trail. To RSVP and get directions, please contact [Rita.Peralta@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Rita.Peralta@fairfaxcounty.gov).

**Maple Syrup Boil-Down on Sunday, February 24th**, from noon until 2:00 p.m. at Colvin Run Mill, 10017 Colvin Run Rd, Great Falls. The sap is rising and the trees are tapped. Now it's sugaring time! Watch and learn as sap is boiled down into sweet syrup over an open fire. Then savor the delicious combination of syrup over fresh made cornbread. Cost is \$3; no reservation required.

## COUNTY LICENSE PLATES APPROVED BY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS; 350 COMMITMENTS NEEDED

Want to drive around in style and show some civic pride for Fairfax County? Soon you can with a special Fairfax County license plate. The Board of Supervisors recently approved the design for a County license plate that features the County seal, County map and the website addresses of the government and Visit Fairfax.

The plate will cost \$25 a year. By state law, \$10 is retained by the state while the other \$15 goes back to the license plate sponsor after 1,000 plates are ordered. The Board of Supervisors voted

to direct the initial proceeds toward the 2015 World Police and Fire Games that will be held in the County. Before the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles can proceed with plate production, it needs 350 commitments from the community. Visit Fairfax will soon allow you to sign up for one of the first license plates at [www.fxva.com](http://www.fxva.com).



## THE BDC AGING IN PLACE COMMITTEE TO HOST INFORMATIONAL MEETING ON FEBRUARY 20

The Braddock District Council's Aging in Place Committee will host a meeting at Lake Braddock Secondary School (9200 Burke Lake Road) on Wednesday, February 20, beginning at 7:30 p.m. This meeting will provide answers and actionable items for older adults concerned about potential scams. Discussion topics will include, how to protect yourself and what documents (legal and financial) you need to keep and for how long.

## FAIRFAX CONNECTOR BURKE-TYSONS EXPRESS BUS SERVICE NOW IN FULL SWING

New Fairfax Connector Express Lanes bus service gives passengers quick and convenient access to Tysons from the Burke Centre VRE station by providing limited stop, express service between the VRE station and Tysons. Commuters can choose from four bus lines to get just where they need to go in Tysons (the 495F, 495M, 495J or 495G). Currently there are three neighborhood stops, at Braddock and Kings Park, at Braddock and Wakefield Chapel and at Guinea and Olley, before the bus enters the Express Lanes. The entire trip from Burke to the last stop in Tysons takes an hour or less.

**Fare:** The one-way fare for Express Connector service is \$3.65 if paying with a SmarTrip® card, or \$4 if paying with cash.

**Hours of Operation:** Eight trips will depart from Burke for Tysons each weekday morning, starting at 6:30 a.m. and ending at 9:00 a.m., each serving select Fairfax Connector bus stops before entering the Express Lanes.

Nine buses will depart from Tysons to Burke weekday evenings, beginning at 4:15 p.m. and ending at 7:00 p.m. In addition, two midday buses will leave Tysons for Burke, one at 11:30 a.m. and the second at 1:30 p.m. These buses will serve all Express Lanes stops throughout Tysons.

For more information, or to submit comments on the schedule or routing, please visit [www.fairfaxconnector.com/Express](http://www.fairfaxconnector.com/Express) or email [fairfaxconnector@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:fairfaxconnector@fairfaxcounty.gov).

## BDC HOSTING AN INFORMATION FORUM ON COMMUNITY SECURITY ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Representatives of the Fairfax County Police Department will be part of Braddock District Council's annual Information Forum, held in the Kings Park Library meeting room, to discuss topics that involve community safety. Speeding through Neighborhoods, Security Support for Senior Citizens, Illegal Parking of Trucks and Trailers, Vandalism & Tagging, Solicitors (door-to-door) and other issues are all of concern to Braddock District residents. Captain Joe Hill, commander of the West Springfield Police District, and other officers will be available to address these and other timely topics.

Social time will begin at 7:00 p.m. with sandwiches and drinks. The presentation will begin at 7:30 p.m. and adjourn at 9:00 p.m. All residents of the Braddock District are welcome to attend.