



# the BRADDOCK BEACON

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## SUPERVISOR COOK LAUNCHES COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE

It has been said that you don't need to move in order to live in a better neighborhood. This statement reflects the power that individuals possess to effect positive change in their communities. As our lives have become busier and more complex and our society more diverse, we have lost some of our connections to one another, leaving us more isolated as individuals and our communities less connected than they once were. However, the Kings Park Neighborhood Initiative, which I launched as civic association president to increase civic engagement and pursue innovative approaches to property maintenance issues, proved that a desire for strong communities is very much alive. It just requires a bit of encouragement and direction.

To build upon that work and to expand its successes across the Braddock District, I am launching a Community Engagement Initiative. This Initiative is the result of a collaborative effort among my office, the Braddock District Council, Fairfax County's Departments of Systems Management for Human Services, Community and Recreational Services, and Volunteer Fairfax. Our aim is nothing less than to generate a renewed sense of community and a new wave of service. We want to give community organizations the training and resources they need to marshal the great ethic of volunteerism that we know resides within the people of this county. We will train a new generation of community leaders, and build dozens of 'engaged communities' - places where people have made a specific commitment to strengthen their communities.

Building stronger communities begins

with building stronger connections between people. It is incumbent upon us to get to know one another. Each month, I encourage each and every one of us to meet one new person on our street or in our neighborhood. We should hold block parties and say hello as we pass neighbors when walking down the street. And as our communities become more diverse in age, ethnicity, and socio-economic status, we must make a greater effort to get to know people with backgrounds different from our own. To make all feel welcome and invited to participate, our community organizations must make a special effort to reach out and include all people.

We use the term 'community organizations' in the broad sense. It includes home owners associations and civic associations, PTA's, community pools, recreational clubs, scouts, and business and religious organizations. It also includes non-profit service organizations, which need not be geographically constrained. In all of this, government will act as a facilitator - bringing people together, providing expertise, sharing best practices and lessons learned.

We must realize that people make our neighborhoods, not government. For this endeavor to be real and lasting, we must inspire our residents and communities into action. To foster the development of leaders that strong communities and organizations require, we will hold a day-long Leadership Institute, tentatively scheduled for Saturday, January 23, 2010. This Institute will train current and prospective community

INITIATIVE CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



Supervisor John C. Cook

## YOUR COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU

Are you a community leader?  
Do you want to become one?

Are you a 'worker bee' looking  
for guidance? Or are you just  
looking to make your commu-  
nity a better place to live?

If so, please attend my:

**Community Engagement  
Initiative  
Town Hall Kickoff  
Wed Oct 21, 2009 7:30 P.M.  
Lake Braddock  
Secondary School Cafeteria**

## SUPERVISOR COOK IN THE COMMUNITY

On September 12th, Supervisor Cook greeted citizens at the opening of the Burke Centre Festival on the grounds of The Burke Conservancy at 6060 Burke Centre Parkway. The Festival kicked off at 10:00 am and continued through Sunday, September 13th.

On September 12th, Supervisor Cook attended the Kings Park Civic Association meeting to discuss with members their concerns and the progress of ongoing projects.

On September 15th, Supervisor Cook held a reception for the new and existing Appointees to the various boards and commissions for the Braddock District. They all had a chance to meet and talk with John and his staff and to enjoy some light refreshments donated by Mark O'Meara of Saxby's Coffee.

On September 18th, Supervisor Cook participated and spoke at the ribbon cutting ceremony for the newly renovated Giant Food store at 6011 Burke Centre Parkway in Burke. This renovation is part of a major three year program that Giant has to remodel or replace approximately 100 stores in Virginia, Maryland, Washington DC and Delaware.

On September 17th, Supervisor Cook addressed the Signal Hill HOA meeting.

On September 18th, at 12:30 pm, Supervisor Cook was an honored guest at the 1st Anniversary of Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton, Virginia.

On September 22nd, Supervisor Cook addressed the Country Club View Civic Association meeting at Oak View Elementary School.

On September 23rd, Supervisor Cook took a tour of Little River Glen Senior Center to meet with residents before heading off to the Braddock Glen Adult Health Care Center to tour their facility. At Braddock Glen, Supervisor Cook was dressed in elderly simulation gear and participated in activities with the seniors to better understand their conditions.



He then re-presented the proclamation which was delivered by the Board of Supervisors on July 13th celebrating Direct Support Professionals Appreciation Month.

On September 24th, Supervisor Cook addressed the Stonehaven HOA meeting.

On September 25th, Supervisor Cook, along with other local dignitaries, participated in the Grand Opening &

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the newly renovated Shuler Science Building on the Annandale Campus of NVCC which promises to provide "Science for the 21st Century".

On September 26th, Supervisor Cook participated in "Adopt a Soldier" Packing Day on the grounds of the Little River Glen Senior Center. Beginning at 10:00 A.M., residents as well as citizens from the area, came together to pack boxes and care packages for those brave men and women who are deployed overseas defending our freedom back home.

On September 30th, Supervisor Cook was a guest speaker at the whistle stop ceremony at the Burke Centre VRE station on the inaugural run of the new Northeast Regional train service.

Throughout the month of September, Supervisor Cook attended several of the Back To School Night events at the schools in the Braddock District.

### Coming up in October:

On October 7th, Supervisor Cook will host a Town Hall style forum in Braddock Hall from 7:30 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. which will revolve around issues relating to George Mason University and the Braddock District. Concerns already raised include transportation and parking.

## Appointments to Boards, Authorities and Commissions

### Recently Appointed:

**Frank Devita - Environmental Quality Advisory Council**

**Robert Devery - Airports Advisory Committee**

**Wendy Breseman - Human Services Council**

If you live in the Braddock District and are interested in serving, I encourage you to submit your resume addressed to me. If you have questions or are looking for additional information about a particular group, please feel free to contact my office.

## BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES BEGINS WITH YOU

INITIATIVE CONTINUED FROM  
FRONT PAGE

leaders in topics such as the legal, financial and fiduciary duties that Board members owe their organizations, how to recruit volunteers, how to reach out to people of different backgrounds, how to run a meeting and how to establish an effective organization. We will also hold two "Neighborhood Colleges" in the February to April, 2010, timeframe. The Neighborhood College is a County program that produces engaged citizens by teaching participants about county government, concepts of community building, cultural competency and effective team building.

Graduates from the Leadership Institute and Neighborhood Colleges will be encouraged to recruit their neighbors and usher in a new era of community activity. Working with the Braddock District Council, the newly-inspired will strive to launch com-

munity building efforts, focusing on goals such as increased membership, providing more social opportunities, outreach to our diverse population, collaboration with other organizations, and the development of a long-term vision for the community or organization that focuses on positive growth. Throughout the year I look forward to traveling the district, encouraging our citizens to connect with their communities in new and powerful ways. Please contact my office if you wish to schedule a visit with your organization.

On Wednesday, October 21st, I will host a Town Hall meeting where I will formally launch this Community Engagement Initiative. The event will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the Lake Braddock Secondary School cafeteria. Everyone is encouraged to attend, and can RSVP with my office at [braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov), or by calling (703) 425-9300. During the event, the process and

goals of the Initiative will be explained in greater detail, and we will also provide an introduction to the Leadership Institute and Neighborhood Colleges. Attendees will be able to register for these learning opportunities and registration is free. Additionally, several organizations, such as the Braddock District Council, Neighborhood Watch, the Area Agency on Aging, and Emergency Response, will sponsor information booths on opportunities to become involved with your neighborhood.

I hope you will join me for our kick-off event and commit yourself to helping to build stronger communities. Working together, we will usher in a new era of community engagement that will provide lasting benefits to all our communities.



## NEW SCHOOL YEAR BRINGS CHANGES AND CHALLENGES

September is ending, and our school year is off to a good start.

We are all finally adjusting to the addition of more than a quarter of a million people to the transportation system as both students and employees throughout Northern Virginia return to school.

As part of the cost reductions we have taken for this year, bus stops have been consolidated and bell schedules (starting and ending times) have changed. We have eliminated 97 buses, which saved over \$4.6 million. As you drive throughout the county – please be aware of our children as bus stops have also changed.

This fall will see an exciting event for Braddock District schools – the completion of the Woodson renovation. After three years, the work is almost done – and the school looks fantastic – renovated science labs, a refurbished auditorium, new classrooms and much, much more. The public is invited to a rededication ceremony at Woodson on Saturday, November 7th. Please visit the Woodson High School web site for more information.

Additionally, both the county and schools are continuing with plans to combat the effects of the H1N1 flu. The County Health Department and Fairfax County Public Schools are working on plans for immunization clinics as soon as the vaccine is available. Information will be available on both County and the school system web-sites. The school site also allows you to sign up



for updates.

Finally, I would urge parents to do TWO VERY IMPORTANT things. First, make sure that your contact information is cur-

rent at the school. That includes work, home and cell phone numbers, and, if you have one, a current e-mail address. This information will allow the school to contact you immediately if your child becomes sick and will allow you to receive information about both the H1N1 virus and other important school information.

And secondly, please think about making day care arrangements for your child if he or she should become sick at school. If your child becomes symptomatic at school, the student will be isolated and you will need to pick up your child immediately. For the safety and well-being of both other students and our staff, there will be no exceptions to this policy.

Please let me know if you would like any more information on this topic – or any other school issue.

Tessie Wilson  
Vice Chairman, Braddock Representative  
Fairfax County School Board

## OCTOBER 24<sup>TH</sup> MARKS THE 15<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL VOLUNTEERFEST: SIGN UP NOW TO VOLUNTEER!

Volunteer Fairfax is now accepting volunteer registrations for its 15<sup>th</sup> annual VolunteerFest®, to be held on Saturday, October 24, 2009. Hundreds of volunteers are needed at area nonprofits, schools and parks to complete 35 projects on this county-wide day of service. Individuals, families, corporations and civic groups are encouraged to participate.

Throughout the Braddock District, more than 95 volunteers are needed at five different sites/agencies, which are listed on the chart below, along with a description of the work being performed. **To sign up for a project or for more information, please contact Christine Coffey**

**at [ccoffey@volunteerfairfax.org](mailto:ccoffey@volunteerfairfax.org) or 703-246-3703 by Thursday, October 22.** For a listing of volunteer projects in other areas of Fairfax County, visit [www.volunteerfairfax.org](http://www.volunteerfairfax.org) and click on "VolunteerFest® 2009" in the dark blue bar on the left hand side of the homepage.

Over the past 14 years, 16,754 volunteers have donated 54,708 volunteer hours through 829 different VolunteerFest® projects. When calculated at the value of today's volunteer hour, that is the equivalent of a \$1,107,837.20 donation to area nonprofits. Volunteers return year after year because of the impact they make on the community.

"This year, our local nonprofits have seen

a spike of nearly 40 percent in requests for support," says Jeanne Sanders, executive director of Volunteer Fairfax. "You might be surprised to learn your neighbor has reached out for this type of help. Volunteer Fairfax produces VolunteerFest® to help nonprofits accomplish tasks they might not have the resources for during a regular business day."

Volunteer Fairfax is building a better community through service. As a respected leader of community volunteerism for more than 34 years, Volunteer Fairfax connects individuals, youth, seniors, families and corporations to volunteer opportunities in the Fairfax County area.

AGENCY	LOCATION	VOLUNTEERS	TIME	DESCRIPTION
Brentwood Park	Fairfax	20	9:00 A.M. to Noon	Volunteers needed! Tasks will include tree preservation and habitat restoration through the removal of non-native invasive species. Volunteers will be pulling and cutting vines that are smothering native species. Minimum age with adult supervision: 10; without: 13.
Burke Centre Library	Burke	15	1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.	Volunteers are needed to help with the dedication of the Burke Centre Library's "The Book Burrow," an area outside the building where youth service programs may be held. Volunteers will read books to young children, play some musical instruments etc. Minimum age with adult supervision: 12; without: 18
Community Residences	Springfield	20	9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.	Volunteers will be landscaping, mulching, and cleaning-up the exterior and interior of this home, as well as doing some minor painting. The goal of the project is to beautify the home for its residents, all of whom struggle with various intellectual disabilities. Minimum age with adult supervision: 13; without: 17.
Pohick Stream Valley	Burke	20	10:00 A.M. to Noon	Show your skills at the Pohick Stream Valley Park by participating in a tree preservation and habitat restoration project through the removal of non-native invasive species. Volunteers will pull and cut vines that are smothering native species. Minimum age with adult supervision: 10; without: 13.
Woodglen Lake Park	Fairfax	20	9:30 A.M. to 11:30 P.M.	Hard-working team needed to assist in tree preservation and habitat restoration through the removal of non-native invasive species. Volunteers will be pulling and cutting vines that are smothering native species. Minimum age with adult supervision: 10; without: 13.

## LOOKING TO GET INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY? THESE VOLUNTEERS OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE YEAR ROUND

Supervisor Cook's Community Engagement Initiative, in addition to offering information and training for those who would like to take a more active lead in their community, is a broad invitation to everyone – young and old – to consider volunteering and getting more involved in a variety of areas.

Parents readily become volunteers when it's time to be a room parent or coach a child's team or lead a Scout group. And once they get involved, they quite naturally end up doing more. But what about those of you who don't have children as your reason to volunteer?

There are dozens of opportunities to get involved! Community clean-up days, placing Chesapeake Bay Watershed stickers on storm drains, shelving books at the library, tutoring, checking in on the elderly, and stocking shelves at a food pantry are all options. Museums, animal shelters, the parks and Neighborhood Watch groups are always looking for help. If you have a particular cause that is important to you, do something to help that group.

If you're retired and have a special skill or knowledge from your years of employment, you might want to share that with others. If you can't commit to something on a regular basis, try doing a seasonal activity such as those organized by Volunteer Fairfax; or even one that occurs once every ten years, like helping to promote the Census in Fairfax County.

### Want to Protect Your Community with Neighborhood Watch? Here's How:

It only takes a small amount of your time to observe and report suspicious activities in your neighborhood, but by doing so you can be one of thousands of citizens who are contributing to the prevention of crime.

Citizens are trained to be alert to any suspicious or unusual activity that is occurring close to home. To designate your active participation in the Neighborhood Watch program, the police will provide you with decals to be placed on windows in your home to deter would-be criminals. For more information or to get started contact the West Springfield District Station at 703-644-7377.



### Serve Your Neighborhood and Keep Up With the Latest Books:

The libraries throughout the Braddock District are always looking for more volunteers and by sharing your time and talent you can make a big difference in the quality of library service in your community. Library volunteers range from ages 12 to 94 and work side by side with staff in every Library activity. You can help check books in and out, sort and shelve, assist with special projects, shelf-reading (Adopt-a-Shelf!), gardening, and much more. To get involved visit: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/volunteer/> where you will find more information and a volunteer form, you can also call 703-324-8332.

### Love Animals? Volunteering at the Shelter May be for You:

As a new volunteer with the shelter, you can share your time and talents in either the dog kennels or cat room, where you will assist in the socialization of the animals available for adoption. Once accepted into the volunteer program you can help in many more areas, including: as an administrative assistant, a foster care provider or a small mammal assistant among other tasks. To get involved visit: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/animal/volunteers.htm> where you will find more information and a volunteer form, you can also call 703-324-0207.

### Build Community Spirit By Holding a Parade:

Having a parade as part of a larger Halloween or Fourth of July Celebration is a great way to get to know your neighbor and build a stronger community. Here's what you need to know before you get started. This is a two-step authorization process: VDOT authorizes first, then Fairfax County Police. More information and a permit application form can be found by calling 703-383-2888 or here: [http://www.virginiadot.org/business/resources/NOVA\\_FairfaxPermits/FairfaxPermitsRoadUsePermitGuidelines.pdf](http://www.virginiadot.org/business/resources/NOVA_FairfaxPermits/FairfaxPermitsRoadUsePermitGuidelines.pdf)

## Fairfax County Restoration Project

On October 13, 2009 from 9:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M., this Public Private Partnership concerned with environmental issues in Fairfax County will be holding a seminar at the Government Center on reforestation and restoring watersheds. The event is open to anyone, but seating is limited and the cost is \$25 per person. To register, or for more information, please go to [www.fcrpp3.org](http://www.fcrpp3.org).

In addition to five speakers there will be two workshops and one demonstration that will include trees and plants from Earth Sangha. There will also be Q&A time with Charles Smith, Fairfax County Parks Authority & Daniel Schwartz, Northern Virginia Soil & Water Conservation District.

## SAFETY IS PARAMOUNT IN HOT LANES CONSTRUCTION ZONES

When the Capital Beltway HOT Lanes open in late 2012, they will provide commuters with options for a faster, more reliable trip. In the short-term, however, the 14-mile HOT Lanes corridor is an active work zone and leaves little room for driver error. Approximately 210,000 individuals drive on the Capital Beltway each day – and more than half do so while distracted by cell phones. According to a recent survey conducted by Transurban-Fluor and AAA Mid-Atlantic, 56 percent, or 117,600 Beltway drivers, use their cell phone to make calls or read/write text messages. In fact,

“Orange Cones. No Phones” Campaign to Promote Safe Driving. More information on the campaign can be found at: <http://www.virginiahotlanes.com/beltway-distracted-driving-campaign.asp>

“Virginia has taken great strides in improving highway safety and reducing the number of traffic fatalities year-after-year, but distracted driving is reaching a critical level,” said Pierce R. Homer, Virginia Secretary of Transportation. “Driving while distracted is a recipe for disaster – especially in construction zones.”

The Transurban-Fluor and AAA report



one-third of all Beltway drivers admit to using their cell phones while driving “most times.”

Everyone knows what an accident on the Beltway will do to the rush hour. More important, however, we all need to be proactive about assuring the safety of our fellow motorists. To combat this problem, Transurban-Fluor and AAA have launched an

is based upon a survey of 1,047 drivers who travel the Virginia side of the Capital Beltway. That survey data reveals that the chance of an incident or near miss doubles when the driver is using a cell phone compared to the chance of an incident or near miss for a non-cell phone user (24 percent vs. 11 percent).

## MAJOR CHANGES COMING TO ROUTE 7/ ROUTE 123 INTERCHANGE IN TYSONS

Drivers in Tysons Corner will soon face significant changes near the Route 7 (Leesburg Pike) and Route 123 (Chain Bridge Road) intersections on or about Thursday, Oct. 15. Lanes will shift, and the access ramp from westbound Route 7 to southbound Route 123 will be relocated. Drivers using westbound Route 7 will see the right lane now being used to access the ramp to southbound Route 123 disappear. The ramp entrance is being moved approximately 120 feet west of its current location, and the new configuration will require drivers to make a much sharper right turn from a traffic lane to enter the southbound ramp.

Signs will be in place along Route 7 to

alert drivers of the loss of the turn lane and the location of the new turn.

In preparation for these changes, drivers can expect lane shifts in both directions of Route 7 between Route 123 and Marshall’s Drive. Paving and shifts of the eastbound lanes are expected to be complete by Thursday, Oct. 8. No work will be done between noon Friday, Oct. 9, and noon Tuesday, Oct. 13, because of the Columbus Day holiday. These shifts support the construction of the future Tysons Central 7 station in the median of Route 7 and accompanying tunnel work. A visual link to this shift can be found at: [www.dullesmetro.com](http://www.dullesmetro.com)

## UPDATE ON HOT LANES CONSTRUCTION

**Braddock Road** – Over the next two months the project should complete its bridge substructure, and by mid November workers anticipate placing steel beams for the westbound lanes of the new Braddock Road Bridge configuration. Ongoing work after the steel goes up will entail multiple lane closures during the night, stretching through to mid to late December. Construction activities will most likely include placing concrete on the new bridge due to lower temperatures inherent with the winter months. Traffic will not be switched over until spring, 2010, so traffic patterns will remain the same for the foreseeable future.

Fluor will also begin preliminary construction on the new HOT Lanes bridge which will accommodate traffic to and from the HOT Lanes to Braddock Road. This bridge will not impact travel this year. A new waterline is currently being installed on the south side of Braddock Road, which will require a few ramp closures at night to allow installation of the line across these lanes

**Little River Turnpike** – Structural steel placement will soon be complete at Little River Turnpike and work on the deck will follow right behind. There will be multiple lane closures during the night for about another 30-45 days. Fluor is planning to pour the deck for the new bridge right at the tail end of this time period which could allow a switch in traffic during the month of January. The traffic currently on the eastbound lanes will be shifted onto the new bridge and the traffic currently on the Westbound lanes will be shifted onto the existing Eastbound bridge.

Fluor is also beginning construction of the new off-ramp from I-495 southbound to Little River Turnpike westbound. They do not anticipate placing structural steel on this new bridge for several months. The concrete pour for the bridge deck will not occur this year and traffic will be switched onto this bridge in spring of 2010.

## IMPORTANT CONSUMER RESOURCES FOR OLDER VIRGINIANS

The Virginia Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation (DPOR) oversees jobs which pose a potential for public harm. The mission of DPOR is to protect the health, safety and welfare of Virginia consumers, but focuses its efforts especially on fraud and discrimination against older Virginians, because seniors are always potential targets for unscrupulous business practices.

DPOR licenses or certifies more than 240,000 individuals and businesses ranging from contractors to real estate agents and opticians to hearing aid specialists and any consumer can determine whether there are complaints registered against a business

they propose to hire. In addition, the agency provides background information on: Construction and Home Improvement Scams; What Seniors Should Know before Hiring a Contractor; Fair Housing; Buying a Hearing Aid; Cemeteries and Pre-Need Burial Contracts; and Buying Eyeglasses and Choosing an Optician

DPOR maintains a website: [http://www.dpor.virginia.gov/dporweb/elder\\_main.cfm](http://www.dpor.virginia.gov/dporweb/elder_main.cfm) and a Hotline for Seniors at (804) 367-2178

Another wonderful resource for Virginia Seniors is SeniorNavigator, a 501c3 non-profit organization that provides free information about the health and aging resources

available to Virginians. This comprehensive site also provides information on financial concerns, signing up for Medicare Parts C and D, advance medical directives, legal questions, health facilities, assisted living and housing, exercise programs, support groups and more. Support for SeniorNavigator comes from contributions made by individuals, corporations, and foundations. All contributions are tax-deductible. To become a member (membership is free) go to the following link: <http://www.seniornavigator.com> All Fairfax County libraries can link to SeniorNavigator.

## BRADDOCK LAND USE ROUND UP: CELL TOWER AND APR REVIEW

### Commonwealth Swim Club

An application by T-Mobile to place a telecommunications facility on the grounds of the Commonwealth Swim Club at 9800 Commonwealth Avenue has now been accepted by the County for processing. The project, to place a 120 foot tower disguised as a pine tree, was the subject of a balloon test and community meeting over the summer. The application will require both a 2232 and a Special Exception Application. The public hearing before the Planning Commission, previously scheduled for December 10, 2009 has now been deferred until February, 2010. A Special Permit Amendment application for this case will also be heard by the BZA in February. This is a recent change to the hearing schedule.

Copies of the application are in my office, and you may always contact Rosemary Ryan with questions or comments.

### APR Review Cycle

Only one amendment to the Comprehensive Plan for the Braddock District has been received for the 2009 APR Review Cycle. That application relates to an assemblage of land along Olley Lane across the street from Little Run Elementary School. Supervisor Cook will be convening a group of citizens who offered to serve on a review Task Force in January after staff has completed its technical analysis. Any citizen who wishes to become part of this Task Force should contact my office.

## BRADDOCK DISTRICT STAFF

Ryan Kelly, Chief of Staff

Issues: Parks, Environment, Human Services, Communications

Rosemary Ryan, Senior Staff Assistant for Legislative Services

Issues: Land Use, Zoning, Stormwater, Transportation, Public Works

Ann Sharp, Senior Staff Assistant for Constituent Services

Issues: Zoning Enforcement, Home Owner/Civic Associations, Traffic Calming, Human Services, VDOT Issues, Relations with GMU and NVCC

Lindsey Smith, Senior Staff Assistant for Administration

Issues: Scheduling, Arts, Technology, Braddock Hall

Kiel Stone, Legislative Assistant

Issues: Communications, Budget, Housing, Revitalization, Board Matters

Ben Bush, Administrative Assistant

Issues: Correspondence, Braddock Neighborhood News, Health

## OLLEY LANE PAVING SCHEDULED

**VDOT has announced that repaving of Olley Lane will begin on October 12 and continue through November 13 weather permitting. As part of this work the road will be milled down 1 ½ inches before new asphalt is placed. Deteriorated roadbeds at the bridge over Long Branch will be stabilized as part of the project according to a VDOT Maintenance spokesman.**

## BRADDOCK NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS: VOLUNTEER FAIRFAX

Last month, Braddock Neighborhood News aired an interview with Braddock District's elected member of the School Board, Tessie Wilson, about the challenges and opportunities facing our public school system.

Viewers learned about FCPS's vision for addressing increasing enrollment, growing diversity, the H1N1 flu virus, and the persistent goal of academic excellence along with FCPS programs for students with disabilities, students in advanced academic

studies, and programs for the broader community.

On this month's edition, in conjunction with the launch of the Community Engagement Initiative, Supervisor Cook interviews one of our collaborating partners on the project, Executive Director Jeanne Sanders of Volunteer Fairfax.

Viewers will learn about the benefits of volunteering, available volunteer opportunities in our community and upcoming volunteer events.

Supervisor Cook is excited to have the support of Volunteer Fairfax for the Community Engagement Initiative here in Braddock District and hopes you can tune in to learn about the opportunities and resources they offer.

Braddock Neighborhood News airs on Fridays and Sundays at 5 p.m. and Wednesdays at 7 p.m. on Channel 16.

### FAIRFAX COUNTY CLINICS HELP FIGHT THE FLU

The Fairfax County Health Department is offering seasonal influenza and pneumonia vaccines at its five district offices: Fairfax, Reston, Falls Church, Springfield and Mount Vernon. The closest location for Braddock residents is the Joseph Willard Health Center at 3750 Old Lee Highway in Fairfax City (703-246-7100).

The charge for a seasonal flu shot is \$30. Pneumonia vaccine is also available for \$65. Quantities of the seasonal flu vaccine for adults 18 years and older will be temporarily limited during October. It is suggested that residents call before coming in for a flu shot to check on availability.

In cooperation with Inova Health Systems, the Fairfax County Public Library also is hosting flu clinics at a number of branches. This includes the Kings Park Library:

Date: Thursday, October 15, 2009

Start Time: 11:30 AM

Shots \$25 or Medicare Part B; must be 18 or older. Call Inova for details; 877-895-5284.

## WORK CONTINUES AT BOTH LAKE ROYAL AND ACCOTINK

### Royal Lake Reforestation Plan

As part of the ongoing dam rehabilitation efforts in Braddock District, the Royal Lake Dam emergency spillway was recently completed. In support of the County's Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance, and to mitigate tree loss that was required to complete this work, a reforestation project is planned in the vicinity of Lakeside Park, as well as other areas along Rabbit Branch.

These plans have been developed with the support of the Park Authority and the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District. The cost of the project, 60 percent of which will be paid by the Federal Government, is anticipated to be \$100,000. The county plans to undertake this work in early November. A meeting has been scheduled to present the proposed reforestation plan to the community:

PLACE: Laurel Ridge Elementary School Cafeteria

ADDRESS: 10110 Commonwealth Boulevard, Fairfax, VA 22032

DATE: Monday, October 26, 2009; TIME: 7:00 P.M.

Immediately adjacent neighbors will be notified by mail. However, anyone with an interest in this effort is encouraged to participate.

### Lake Accotink Dam

Repairs to the Lake Accotink Dam/Spill-

way are now well underway. The Dam, which was built in 1943, was in need of a major facelift and approximately 40% of the spillway face will be replaced. Also included in the contract is the replacement of the Wooden Flash Boards that are attached to the crest of the dam; replacement of the existing Riprap within the stilling basin, and installation of a gravel 'Toe Drain' on the lower side of the earthen embankment.

Finally, a system of remote monitors will be installed to detect the movement of water through the embankment and detect flooding. If the weather holds, the contractor hopes to complete this work by the end of this year.

However, the rains last week caused the dam to overflow and have temporarily shut down the project. Closure of the trail in front of the dam remains in effect Mondays through Thursdays, although it will be open on Federal Holidays.

