

From the Office of Sharon Bulova
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Bulova Byline

The Monthly Newsletter from Chairman Bulova

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Did you know?

In 2011, crime in Fairfax County reached an all-time low, marking three straight years of crime reduction.

Extended Library Hours

Check out your local library's new Fall hours.

September 2012

Greetings,

When I was a little kid, I hated school. The transition from top-dog, oldest child in the family to one-of-many at an overcrowded Catholic elementary school in the suburbs of Baltimore wasn't easy for me. I worried about everything. Did I have the right kind of notebooks? Book bag? Lunchbox? What if I got lost on the way to my classroom? Would the teacher ask me something I didn't know? It is not easy being a little kid.

During the last few weeks of August, I participated in a number of Back-to-School events hosted by the Fairfax County Public Safety family. To help disadvantaged and homeless children, our Fire & Rescue personnel and our Sheriff's Department organized haircuts, backpack drives and shopping opportunities at Target so that all of our Fairfax County students can start the school year with what they need to succeed.



Shopping with Deputy PFC Nick Andariese, Dylan (middle), and Justin (left).

[Locations and Hours](#)

On August 7th, I rode with Police Chief Dave Rohrer to National Night Out events throughout Fairfax County where neighbors gathered to demonstrate the importance of strong, vigilant and caring communities - neighbors looking out for each other in partnership with public safety.

Two years ago I received a handwritten letter that I've kept in my office to remind me of the value of these programs. As September begins, with children returning to school now that summer vacation is over, I'd like to share the letter with my Byline readers:

To the Sheriff's Department of Fairfax,

I have two children, a seven year old and a two year old. My husband and I lost our jobs the beginning of 2010. Due to our health we couldn't pay our rent any longer. We decided to go to a shelter to keep our family together.

We didn't know what we were going to do or how to do it. School was going to start soon and we didn't know how we were going to get school supplies, school clothes, snacks, lunches or backpacks.

Friday morning came. Staff knocked on my door and I got the shock of my life. I got Angelica, my seven year old, dressed so fast it was unbelievable. We went downstairs and there was a school bus. A sheriff was driving it. The staff said parents aren't going, but some of the staff was going and there would be more sheriffs, both women and men. They were taking twelve boys and girls to shop for school clothes and other things.

When Angelica came back she was so, so happy!! We couldn't believe how many bags she had. When we opened the bags I was so happy I cried. She had clothes for school, shoes, socks, underwear, and something to play with.

I just want to thank the Sheriffs that took part in that whole day and made time for families like us. I am still amazed every time I think about or talk about it. It was like Christmas time for us.

My family can't thank you enough and will never forget what you guys did.

Fall is shaping up to be a busy and challenging time. While we have made significant progress during the past few years, we are still struggling with a sluggish recovery from the Great Recession. Fairfax is exercising caution as we prepare for the impact Federal budget reductions might have on our economy and the services we provide. We continue to fight for our fair share of State revenue for education, human services and transportation.

But it's important to reflect on the many things that contribute positively to the quality of life we enjoy. I truly believe Fairfax County is the greatest place to live, work, play and raise a family. Thanks to an active, engaged community, our professional and caring Fairfax County workforce and our generous corporate neighbors. I look forward to working with you during the months ahead!

Sincerely,



Sharon Bulova - Chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors





At the next meeting of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors on September 11, the Board will approve **new Connector bus routes** that will take advantage of the new 495 Express Lanes. Not only will buses be able to reach higher speeds and **cut down on the time it takes public transit to travel between Tysons Corner and VRE stations**, but it will also attract new bus riders, who have previously not used public transit on a regular basis. Buses would operate every 15 minutes during rush hour, circulate through Tysons Corner, and stop at major employment sites.

The 495 Express Lanes are a public-private partnership between VDOT and Fluor-Transurban with the goal of providing relief from traffic congestion on I-495. The project will enable three new express bus routes, connecting the Burke Centre Virginia Railway Express (VRE) Station, the Saratoga Park-and-Ride Lot, and the Lorton VRE Station to Tysons Corner.

The Fairfax County Department of Transportation intends to implement the Tysons Corner Express Bus Service Plan in January 2013. The first route to be implemented will be the Burke Centre Virginia Railway Express station (VRE) to Tysons Corner Express Lanes route effective January 2013. The Saratoga/Springfield and Lorton VRE to Tysons Corner Express Lanes routes will be implemented in March 2013.

These new bus routes are a great step in the effort to reduce congestion on our roads, and I hope to continue finding viable transportation solutions in the future.

More Information:

[Proposed route information.](#)

[Express Lanes Bus Service alerts.](#)

Join me for the Fairfax County 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony



Carryover Budget Includes Funding for Critical Human Services Needs

At our Board meeting on September 11, the Board of Supervisors will hold a public hearing and vote on the FY2012 Carryover Budget Adjustments. I am discussing Carryover adjustments this week with my colleagues. One of the most critical items to be addressed is the shortfall in funding for the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board (CSB).

The CSB is the regional organization that provides services to individuals with mental health and substance abuse needs and intellectual and developmental disabilities. When we adopted the FY2013 Budget in May, the Board of Supervisors established a reserve of over \$4.2 million to offset critical state and federal reductions to the CSB and other Human Services

programs. This reserve and funding included in the FY2012 Carryover will restore some proposed CSB cuts by:

- Fully funding existing contracted employment and day services for adults with intellectual disabilities as well as funding for new ID graduates in Fiscal Year 2013
- Not delaying the start of Early Intervention services for the Infant-Toddler Connection program

Closing the shortfall will also involve a number of reductions, consolidations and redesigns of services. I want to thank members of the Human Services Council, advocacy groups and the many individuals who testified and participated in reaching a strategy for addressing the shortfall in this critical area.

More long term funding solutions to help offset continuing pressure on CSB revenue as well as declining state and federal support for human services will be considered as part of the FY2014 budget process.

Improve your Neighborhood with the Neighborhood Enhancement Partnership Program!

Grants of up to \$5,000 are now available to improve the quality of life in your neighborhood. If you have an idea or project to improve the quality of life in your neighborhood, Fairfax County is now offering up to \$5,000 in matching grants to make your community a better place to live.

The grants are available to neighborhood or civic groups, homeowner's associations or nonprofits through the Neighborhood Enhancement Partnership Program (NEPP). Applications are due by Wednesday, September 26 at 10 a.m., and additional information about groups or projects eligible for funding can be found online.

In the past, communities have received money to repair or expand children's playgrounds, put up community signs, plant community gardens, and build paths, bridges and outdoor pavilions to help connect neighbors and neighborhoods.

Because the NEPP is a matching grant program, organizations must contribute a matching amount of cash; in-kind donations; discounts on goods or services; and/or sweat equity. Eligible projects also must include at least 25 percent volunteer labor as part of their match. County staff will hold two information sessions to explain how to apply.

For more information about the program, information sessions, or application process, contact Rachel Robinson, Fairfax County Department of Administration for Human

Services, at 703-324-5639, TTY 711.

Fairfax County Wineries

Did you know that Fairfax County now has two wineries?

Paradise Springs Winery is located just outside the Town of Clifton. The winery lies on 36 acres that were part of the land grant from Lord Fairfax in 1716. The Winery at Bull Run sits on a rolling hillside adjacent to Bull Run. The historic property features Civil War relics on display and sweeping countryside views. Come enjoy a wonderful wine tour and raise a glass to award-winning wines!

Paradise Springs Winery
13219 Yates Ford Road
Clifton, VA 20124
(703) 830-9463
<http://www.paradisep Springswinery.com>

The Winery at Bull Run
15950 Lee Highway
Centreville, Virginia 20120
703-815-2233
<http://www.wineryatbullrun.com>



Winery at Bull Run in Centreville, VA

Opportunities at the Workhouse

The [Workhouse Arts Center](#), a former DC prison and historic site located at 9601 Ox Road in Lorton, is a diverse, multi-function center that offers an array of visual and performing arts, art education, and entertainment.

This fall, the Workhouse will present over 150 classes and workshops in artistic disciplines from pastels to fiber, theatre to Pilates, glassblowing to creative writing, for all ages and artistic abilities. Check out the [digital on-line catalog](#) with all the Workhouse offerings!



Interested in a class, but not sure which one is right for you? Don't miss the [Workhouse Education Open House](#) on Saturday, September 8, 2012 from 12-5pm. This annual event is full of demonstrations, meet-the-instructor opportunities and discounts on class registrations! [Click here](#) for the Open House demonstration schedule.

This is a great opportunity to meet the instructors face-to-face, have all your questions answered and try out classes first hand. The Workhouse instructors are award-winning, highly educated and successful artists with years of experience in their fields.



As a **special bonus**, if you decide to register for a fall or winter class that day, regardless of *Friends of the Workhouse* status, you will receive a *Friends* discount on classes! Please note this special discount will only be given to students who register on-site during the Open House on September 8

between 12-5pm.

Join me for Oak Hill Open House

The Oak Hill Open House is right around the corner! Please join me on **September 29th at Historic Oak Hill at 4716 Wakefield Chapel road in Annandale from 12-4** for this annual event, which celebrates one of Fairfax County's most interesting historic properties. The theme this year is Celebrating Fairfax County History and its historians. Local Historians will have fascinating exhibits and will be selling their books. There will also be farm exhibits and animals from Frying Pan Park, free refreshments, and self-guided tours of the grounds.



Oak Hill is a privately owned 18th-century Georgian-style home that was preserved in October 2004 when the Board of Supervisors, Park Authority Board and Northern Virginia Conservation Trust negotiated the purchase of an historic easement from Seville Homes. The home and adjacent property are part of the original Fitzhugh land grant, the Ravensworth Tract - totaling more than 22,000 acres - dating from the 1680s. In Fairfax County, Oak Hill is the sole surviving plantation home built by the Fitzhugh family. Today, the original home remains intact along with much of the historic landscape, including the 200-year-old boxwood.

I hope to see you at this exciting event!

For more information please visit: [Oak Hill Open House](#)