

**From the Office of Sharon Bulova**  
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# Bulova Byline

## The Monthly Newsletter from Chairman Sharon Bulova

### September 2013

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### [Tell me what you think!](#)

Do you have questions, concerns, or ideas for the County? Contact my office now!

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Greetings,

When I was a kid, summers seemed to last forever. No more! It seems like it was just days between our last Board of Supervisors meeting in July and this past Tuesday when meetings resumed. A lot has happened, however, during the dog days of August that you can read about in this edition of the Byline.

In early August Supervisor Mike Frey and I had the opportunity to represent Fairfax County at the 2013 **World Police & Fire Games** in Belfast, Northern Ireland. The trip was paid for by Visit Fairfax, which is funded by Hotel/Motel Taxes. Visit Fairfax was created to promote tourism in our county.

This event is the second largest international athletic competition after the Olympics. 7,000 public safety athletes from over thirty countries participated in the Belfast games - a major economic boon to the city. Fairfax County will be next in 2015.



*Fairfax 2015 WPFPG Pins*

At the closing ceremony the official WP&FG flag was presented to Deputy County Executive Dave Rohrer and me. It was a tremendous honor to represent Fairfax County at this event. Our Fairfax 2015 team was present and paying close attention to the Belfast operations. By all accounts Belfast did a phenomenal job in staging the games this year.



It's a service provided by Fairfax County to keep you up-to-date on county news that affects you, your family and your community.

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### [Car Tax Deadline](#)

Your Personal Property (car) tax payment is due on October 7. [Click here](#) for information on payment methods and tax relief.

Check out the new [Metro Silverline website!](#)

They set a high bar for us and we are extremely excited about hosting this event two years from now. Fairfax 2015 will require a large number of volunteers, corporate sponsors and help with housing and promotion. I will be sure to keep you informed about how you can participate as our plans continue to come together. In the meantime, you can visit our Fairfax 2015's website at <http://fairfax2015.com/> to learn more about the Games.

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As is required by law, Fairfax County ended our previous Fiscal Year 2013 in the black and not the red. Fairfax County is required to have a balanced budget. When you hear about budget "deficits" or "shortfalls" these are projections and projected shortfalls must be resolved prior to adoption of our annual budget. The "**Carryover Package**" this year contained a relatively small available positive ending balance of \$93.5 million (\$56 million after paying for outstanding County obligations from FY 2013). Revenue projections used in the adoption of last year's budget were pretty much on the nose - 0.87% below actual receipts. Additionally part of the balance was due to savings returned to the General Fund thanks to employees' "close management" initiatives, e.g. a freeze on filling positions and reorganizational efficiencies.

Recognizing the one-time, non-recurring nature of this balance, much of the Carryover Reserve was put aside to address a \$25 million projected shortfall for Fiscal Year 2015. Some of the funds were also approved for one-time capital projects, e.g. ADA requirements, maintenance of county-owned trails and sidewalks. \$10.2 million of the balance was used as a one-time across the board compensation adjustment (approximately \$500 after withholding taxes) for County employees. Compensation for County employees has remained pretty flat throughout the past five years as Fairfax County has struggled with the sluggish recovery from the Great Recession. See inside this Byline for more details about action taken to adopt the Fiscal Year 2013 Carryover Review.

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Some of the reorganizational efficiencies mentioned above involve changes to our **Fairfax County Library System**. A pilot project to test some proposed changes has taken place during the summer at the Burke Centre Library. Expansion of the reorganization was halted, however, when Board Members and senior Library staff

began hearing concerns from library patrons and employees.

I'm a longtime supporter of libraries and was "roommate" to the Kings Park Library where I had my Braddock District Supervisor office. While Braddock Supervisor I championed the establishment of the Burke Centre Library. I was happy to break ground for the library in 2006 and then cut the ribbon to open it in 2008. I established a task force of library patrons and Friends groups to plan for a Time Capsule that we installed in the Burke Centre Library cornerstone to be opened in the year 2058.

Changes to our system are being considered in order to make sure our Fairfax County library system will be best able to serve our community during the years ahead. Technology and communication advances have resulted in changes in the ways people conduct



*Burke Centre Library*

research and read for pleasure or education. Libraries have evolved into community centers as well as places where books and information can be found. It is important that staffing, layout and operations are optimized in order to meet the modern needs of our community and library patrons.

There has been a great deal of confusion and miscommunication surrounding this re-organization. At our Board Meeting on Tuesday, our Board asked the Library Board and Staff to delay implementation of the reorganization to make sure sufficient community (and workforce) engagement is included in the consideration of changes. Our libraries provide a major quality of life service that Fairfax County provides for our constituents. It is important that we ensure their continued value and functionality into the decades to come - even after 2058.



Sharon Bulova

Chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors



## Carryover

This week, the Board of Supervisors funded a variety of key one-time community investments. **The Board voted unanimously to approve the FY 2013 Budget Carryover package.** Carryover is the process by which certain year-end unspent funds are reappropriated in the next fiscal year.

This year Fairfax County's FY 2013 positive ending balance is \$93.56 million, a comparatively small amount when you consider the total General Fund budget of \$3.6 billion.

The balance is the result primarily of:

- 1) An **increase of \$30.2 million** in what was originally projected for revenue, primarily from Real Estate and Personal Property taxes (County staff projected revenue almost "on the nose" - within 0.87% of their budget estimate)
- 2) **Expenditure savings totaling \$63.36 million** much of which is a result of "close management" in agency spending - savings realized by our Workforce.

After funding previously committed FY 2013 obligations, the remaining balance is \$56 million. The County Executive suggested using \$28.7 million of these funds on one-time expenditures and infrastructure investments. **After this action, the Carryover Balance that the Board addressed totaled \$27.21 million.**

# FY 2013 Carryover

Fairfax County is required to produce a balanced budget, so the County takes a conservative approach to budgeting always aiming for a slight positive balance.

Out of last year's **\$3.6 billion General Fund Budget**, the year-end positive balance is **\$93.5 million**. So where is the \$93.5 million going?



For more detailed information, please visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/>.

## 2013 Election- Poll Workers Wanted!

The November 5, 2013 Election is right around the corner! Be sure you have all the necessary information you need to cast your vote and participate in our great democracy. Visit

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections> for information on registration, polling places, absentee voting, and more!



### Important Dates 2013:

- **Oct. 15:** [Voter Registration Deadline](#)
- **Oct. 29:** [Absentee Ballot Application Deadline](#)
- **Nov. 2:** [Final Day, In-Person Absentee Voting](#)
- **Nov. 5:** [Absentee Ballot Return Deadline](#)
- **Nov. 5:** [General Election](#)

**In the meantime, consider working at the Polls on Election Day.** Fairfax County needs dedicated individuals who take pride in their work, are patient, and enjoy working with people. Duties of an Election Officer include but are not limited to: setting up voting equipment and preparing the polling place for voting, checking in and assisting voters, tallying and certifying results, and closing the polling place. Election Officers must be a registered Virginia voter, fluent in English, fulfill Federal I-9 employment requirements, attend a training class and have basic computer skills.

Election Officers are paid \$175 for their service (full day) but can choose to serve as an unpaid volunteer. I hope you will consider serving the community as an Election Officer!

For more information, please call 703-324-4735 or visit the Office of Elections website <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/working.htm>.

## Community Workshops on Residential Studios

On July 30th, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors authorized a public hearing on a proposed zoning ordinance amendment regarding Residential Studios (RSUs) -small and affordable efficiency style rental apartments primarily designed for seniors, students, persons who are low income, or those who simply decide they don't need much extra living space. The amendment would permit RSU use in various residential, commercial, and industrial districts by special exception or in all planned development districts.

The proposed amendment has been referred to the Fairfax County Planning Commission who will host several community workshops and public hearings to solicit feedback and suggestions regarding the ordinance. Following the outreach process, the Planning Commission will make a

recommendation to the Board of Supervisors who will hold a public meeting on a later date. County staff will be on hand at these workshops to answer any questions or concerns that residents may have. Public meetings will take place in the Board Auditorium at the Government Center (12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035) and be held on:

**Wednesday, September 25, 2013 at 8:15pm - First Public Workshop Session**-County staff will provide detailed information about the proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment. During the next meeting citizens will have the opportunity to submit questions for research and response at the next workshop session.

**Wednesday, October 2, 2013 at 8:15pm - Second Public Workshop Session**-The meeting will include presentations by County staff and responses to questions submitted by citizens during the September 25th public workshop. In addition, there will be an opportunity for questions and comments from citizens, but is not a public hearing.

**Wednesday, November 20, 2013 at 8:15pm- Planning Commission Public Hearing for the Proposed Residential Studios Zoning Ordinance Amendment**-Those who wish to speak and want to insure their place on the pre-registered speaker's list can sign up online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning/speaker.htm> or call 703-324-2865.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the Planning Commission at [plancom@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:plancom@fairfaxcounty.gov) or 703-324-2865.

## Oak Hill Open House



*Oak Hill Mansion in Annandale*

Preserving the fascinating history of Fairfax County has always been a priority for me. In 2004, while serving as Braddock District Supervisor, I worked with the Park Authority, the Northern Virginia Conservation District, Oak Hill HOA President Jan Hedetniemi, Mary Lipsey, and members of the *A Look Back at Braddock History Project*, to facilitate the first-time

purchase of an historic easement in Fairfax County.

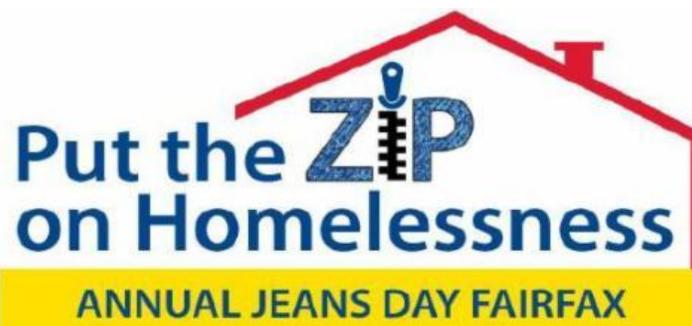
With this tool, we were able to save this remarkable Oak Hill manor house in Annandale from development. The easement ensures that the house, built in 1790 by Richard Fitzhugh, will not only remain standing and cared for, but will be accessible to county residents.

Please join Supervisor John Cook and I for an **Open House on Saturday, September 28,**

2013 at the Oak Hill mansion. The privately owned home is located at 4716 Wakefield Chapel Road in Annandale, VA. The Open House is an annual event that celebrates our local history. From 12:00pm-4:00pm, residents will have the opportunity to see exhibits, tour the first floor of the home and experience dramatic reenactments of historical figures including members of the Fitzhugh family, Sarah Tracy, Upton Herbert, Strother Gibson, and Silas Burke.

There will be exhibits and free refreshments provided by the Annandale High School Culinary Arts program. Satellite and shuttle parking is provided from the Nancy Sprague Technology Center on 4414 Holborn Avenue in Annandale. Please contact my aide, Christina Fullmer at [Christina.Fullmer@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Christina.Fullmer@fairfaxcounty.gov) or call 703.324.2321 if you have additional questions.

## Jeans Day 2013



# SAVE THE DATE

Fairfax Chamber, Connection Newspapers, Apple Federal Credit Union & Fairfax-Falls Church Community Partnership to End Homelessness Partner to Present  
The 3rd Annual "Jeans Day" October 18, 2013



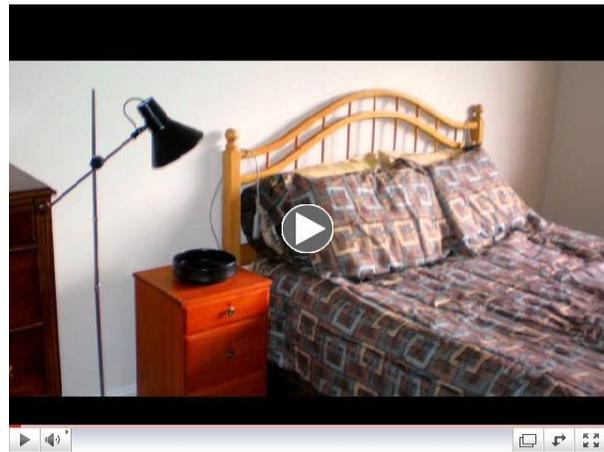
**Jeans Day Fairfax is an awareness campaign and fundraiser for ending homelessness in our community sponsored by the [Fairfax Chamber of Commerce](#), [Connection Newspapers](#), [Apple Federal Credit Union](#), and the [Fairfax-Falls Church Community Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness](#) in partnership with Fairfax-Falls Church businesses, nonprofit and civic organizations, Fairfax County employees, Fairfax County Public School employees, the faith community and individuals. Since 2011, Jeans Day has involved over 200 organizations representing more than 10,000 employees.**

Since 2011, Jeans Day has involved over 200 organizations representing more than 10,000 employees. **Jeans Day Fairfax is October 18** this year, but you can get involved and [donate](#) to help the nearly 3,000 children, women and men who are affected by homelessness in our community.

Participating in Jeans Day is as easy as [registering](#), donating \$5 to the cause, and wearing your jeans to show your support on October 18! It's that easy!

## Community Spotlight: FACETS 25th Anniversary

FACETS is a well-established nonprofit organization that helps parents, their children and individuals who suffer from the effects of poverty. This year marks FACETS' 25th Anniversary-in fact, July 19, 1988 is FACETS' original date of incorporation. And in the midst of celebrating their past accomplishments, FACETS is recommitting itself to even better meet the needs of people living in poverty in Fairfax County and City.



*FACETS Opens Doors*

FACETS' vision is to secure a day *when everyone in Fairfax County has access to adequate and affordable housing and nobody is homeless*. With that in mind, they developed a three-year strategic plan to move us closer to truly preventing and ending homelessness in our community. While strengthening their current programs is a major focus, FACETS plans to implement three initiatives vital to helping their clients secure a brighter future. These areas include Job Placement and Career Development, Training and Life Skills and a Client Assistance Fund. By increasing employment opportunities, implementing a targeted life skills program and establishing a fund to prevent evictions and assist clients with moving into permanent housing, breaking the cycle of poverty will be within reach.

Working with their strong base of community supporters FACETS is looking forward to implementing these new initiatives and will announce their progress at their Annual Taste of Fall with FACETS event taking place on Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at the Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA. To RSVP for this event or to receive additional information on **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES** please visit [www.FacetsCares.org](http://www.FacetsCares.org) or contact Alisha Matlock at [AMatlock@FacetsCares.org](mailto:AMatlock@FacetsCares.org) or 703-352-6342.

## Workhouse Arts Center



The [Workhouse Arts Center](#) (9601 Ox Road, Lorton, VA 22079), a program of the Lorton Arts Foundation, provides visual and performing arts studio and exhibition space as well as arts education programs.

While September means back-to-school all over the County, at the Workhouse Arts Center it's back to **ARTS** school. This fall discover your inner artist by taking that class you have always been meaning to take! The Workhouse proudly presents over 150 classes and workshops ranging from pastels to fiber, theater to pilates, glassblowing to creative writing, for all ages and artistic abilities. With state of the art facilities and instructors, the Workhouse is the perfect creative environment for learning. Check out the Workhouse's new interactive [online catalog](#) with all listed Workhouse offerings!