



Dranesville Happenings

April 2015

Announcements and Upcoming Activities in and Around the Dranesville District



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Welcome to the Dranesville Happenings, providing you with information about upcoming events and activities around the County and in the Dranesville District.

EVENTS

April 4: Spring-Themed Egg Hunts in Herndon and McLean

On April 4, Dranesville children are invited to participate in two spring-themed egg hunts in Herndon and in McLean.

Herndon

The Herndon Parks and Recreation Department is hosting its traditional Easter Egg Hunt on April 4. Children are invited to bring their parents, cameras, baskets and egg-hunting shoes for a fun-filled morning in the park with games, arts & crafts, music and a photo opportunity with the Easter Bunny.

Event details:

Saturday, April 4

Beginning at 9:30 a.m.

777 Lynn Street

(behind the Herndon Municipal Building)

Herndon

Registration is \$9 and is available online, or on-site the day of the event (cash or check only). Parking is available at various parking areas in downtown Herndon. The event will be held rain or shine.

For more information visit https://www.herndon-va.gov/Content/Parks_rec/SpecialEvents/Easter_Egg_Hunt/default.aspx.

McLean

McLean Community Center will hold [Spring Fest](#), a spring-themed event for young children. This special event will include self-guided arts and crafts projects, an egg hunt, entertainment and the opportunity for children to get a professional photo with a Bunny. In addition, [The Amazing Kevin](#) will perform his magic show.

Event details:

Saturday, April 4
10:00 a.m. to noon
McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Avenue
McLean

Admission is \$5 per person; infants to 36 month olds will be admitted free of charge. Advance registration is required; walk-ins will not be admitted.

To register, visit the Center's Website, www.mcleancenter.org, and use Activity No. 4501.315. For more information, call the Center at 703-790-0123, TTY-711.

April 6: Herndon HS PTSA Discussion: Keeping Kids Safe - Vulnerabilities Through Technology and Social Media

On April 6, Herndon High School PTSA will present a discussion for parents on the topic, "Keeping Your Kids Safe - Vulnerabilities Through Technology and Social Media". This will be an informative, interactive, community discussion on how your kids are using technology, and how technology can be used against your kids.

Event details:

Monday, April 6
6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Herndon High School Auditorium
600 Bennett Street
Herndon

Topics Include:

- Bullying
- "Sexting"
- Social media
- Online credibility
- Blackmail
- Crimes against children
- Child abduction
- New and emerging technologies
- How to monitor and what to watch for
- How to talk to your kids about safe online behavior
- Resources available to you for support

April 7: Great Falls Senior Center Program on Financial Crimes

The speaker at Great Falls Senior Center's April 2015 meeting will be Tom Polhemus, Investigator with the Financial Crimes Section of the Fairfax County Police Department. Mr. Polhemus will speak on financial crimes, internet fraud, and how not to become a victim.

Event details:

Tuesday, April 7
11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Colvin Run Schoolhouse
10201 Colvin Run Road
Great Falls

The program is being sponsored by Brightview Assisted Living in Great Falls. To register, email Polly Fitzgerald at pollyfitz1@verizon.net or call 703-759-4345.

April 8: Herndon Village Network Launches Rides Program

The Herndon Village Network (HVN) will host its launch event on the evening of Wednesday, April 8, at the Herndon Senior Center. The purpose of HVN is to provide rides to members who are 55 or older to medical appointments, shopping, or social events.

Event details:

Wednesday, April 8
(time to be determined)
Herndon Senior Center
873 Grace Street #1
Herndon

HVN is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit group made up of volunteers in the Herndon community.

For more information or to become a volunteer driver, contact Jenny Phipps in Supervisor Foust's Herndon office at jenny.phipps@fairfaxcounty.gov, or call 571-232-6058.

April 11 and 12: Tysons-Pimmit Library Book Sale *Donations Welcome*

Friends of the Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library is holding a book sale to benefit the Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library on April 11 and 12. Choose from a large selection of books, magazines, DVDs and other media for all ages.

Event details:

Saturday, April 11, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library

7584 Leesburg Pike

Falls Church

(Bag Sale/Clearance will be on Sunday, April 12, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.)

The library is also accepting donated media.

For more information please email TysonsLibraryFriends@gmail.com or call 703-790-4031.

April 14: McLean Historical Society Discusses History of Equestrian Pursuits in Greater McLean Area *Historian Karen Washburn is Speaker*

This month's meeting of the McLean Historical Society will feature Great Falls historian Karen Washburn as speaker. Ms. Washburn will discuss the history of equestrian pursuits in the greater McLean area. The meeting is free and open to the community.

Meeting details:

Tuesday, April 14

7:30 p.m.

McLean Community Center

1234 Ingleside Avenue

McLean

Ms. Washburn, a realtor and longtime Great Falls resident, has been published in *Élan Magazine*, the Yearbook of the Historical Society of Fairfax County, and elsewhere. Her

activism with the Great Falls Citizens Association over many years has helped secure the historic and bucolic atmosphere of that community. Additionally, Ms. Washburn is a former Dranesville representative to, and, later, chair of, the Fairfax County History Commission.

For more information, contact Paul Kohlenberger at 703-980-0885 or paulkohl@msn.com.

April 15, May 12: Public Meeting to Share Renovation/Expansion Plans for McLean Community Center

The McLean Community Center's Governing Board will hold two public meetings to provide a project update and share the latest design plans for the renovation and expansion of the McLean Community Center. The project architect and staff will make the presentation.

Plans for the project include a new conference room, addition of a 1,500 square foot fitness room, and expanding the theater lobby and administrative area.

Meeting details:

Wednesday, April 15 and Tuesday, May 12

7:30 p.m.

McLean Community Center

1234 Ingleside Avenue

McLean

The project architect and staff will make the presentation.

For more information, please contact Jane Edmondson in the office of Supervisor Foust at Jane.Edmondson@FairfaxCounty.gov or Susan Bourgeois at susanvbourgeois@gmail.com.

April 17: Deadline - Call for Art for the Permanent Art Collection of a Major Corporation

No Commission Fee

ArtSpace Herndon has issued a special Call For Art on behalf of a corporation seeking to purchase a wide range of original artwork in various media for their corporate office in Washington D. C. Eligible artists must be eighteen years or older and live, work, or have a studio in the Metropolitan D.C. region OR be a current student, alumni, or faculty member of Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts (VCUarts).

The entry deadline is April 17 at 12:59 p.m. Notification by email of artwork accepted for purchase consideration will be sent by May 1. Further key dates and information will be supplied to artists with notification of artwork accepted for purchase consideration.

For complete details on this call, [click here](#).

Email any questions to AMZNart@artspaceherndon.com.

April 17: Free Event at Colvin Run Mill After Renovations

Friends of Colvin Run Mill have announced that the recent restoration work on the historic Colvin Run Mill is now complete. The public is invited to see this mechanical wonder in action at a free event on Sunday, April 19.

Event details:

Sunday, April 19

11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

(Grain grinding demonstration will take place between noon and 3:00 p.m.)

The Colvin Run Mill

17 Colvin Run Road

Great Falls

People of all ages will be amazed by cutting-edge 19th century technology and craftsmanship on all four floors of the mill. Everyone will enjoy tasty treats made from mill products and kids will have fun with activities just for them.

April 19 - May 17:

Roadmap for Navigating the 2nd Half of Life for You and Your Parents

A growing proportion of us are facing issues related to aging for ourselves and our parents. Open to the public, this course addresses key issues that we all face as we age.

Course details:

Every Sunday, April 19 through May 17

9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

Lewinsville Presbyterian Church Chapel

1724 Chain Bridge Road

McLean

- **Sunday, April 19 and Sunday, April 26: "How do we discuss what nobody wants to talk about?"**

We will view and discuss "Consider the Conversation", a powerful and inspiring film on the American struggle with communication about and preparation for the end-of-life. The film's goal is to jump-start the conversation between husband and wife, doctor

and patient, minister and parishioner, parent and child. This is not a story about death, it's a film about living life to its fullest up to the very end.

This film will be viewed in two parts and discussion will be led by a three member panel of Stephany Crosby, clergy; Debbie Leavens, physician; and Wendy Maiwurm, social worker.

- **Sunday, May 3: "How can I remain in my home and where can I go when I can't?**
Steve Gurney, founder and publisher of the Guide to Retirement Living SourceBook, will describe the many housing and care options available, including options for "Aging in Place.
- **"Sunday, May 10: "Where is help when I need it?**
Learn about the multiple resources available to older adults and caregivers in our community from Sharon Lynn, Director, Fairfax Area Agency on Aging & Betty Yurkewitch, founding member of McLean Senior Source.
- **Sunday, May 17: "How do I keep from becoming a victim?**
Detective Tom Polhemus, Criminal Investigations Branch, Fairfax County Police Department, will explain how we can avoid falling prey to fraud and other crimes against the elderly.

For more information, please contact Mary Frase at maryjfrase@gmail.com or call 703-356-7200.

April 22: Deadline for Ordering Seedlings for Native Shrubs and Trees Through Soil and Water Conservation District

The Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District's annual seedling sale makes low-cost native shrub and tree seedlings available to Northern Virginia residents. Seedling packages go on sale each year from January through April 22, and are available for pickup in early May. Trees and shrubs help cleanse water, prevent soil erosion, provide habitat, cool our climate and clean our air. Consider adding native trees and shrubs to your community today!

This year's seedling sale features shrubs and trees from the Plant NOVA Natives guide and campaign, a regional effort to promote native plants. For more information and to download a copy of the guide, see www.plantnovanatives.org. These trees and shrubs help provide valuable habitat and add beauty to your landscape.

The 2015 [Shrub and Small Tree Package](#) features 10 seedlings for \$16.95. The [Tree Package](#) includes 6 seedlings sold for \$11.95. A full, nonrefundable payment must accompany your order by **Wednesday, April 22**, or until supplies run out. You will receive a confirmation receipt and a map to the pickup site in central Fairfax County. Orders may be picked up on **Friday, May 1, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., or Saturday, May 2, from 9:00 a.m. to noon.**

New in 2015! Help streamline operations by paying online with a credit card, debit card or e-check.

Place Your 2015 Seedling Sale order online at <http://nvswcd-velocitypayment-com.3dcartstores.com/>.

For more information, please call 703-324-1460, TTY 711.

April 25: SpringFest Fairfax at the Workhouse Arts Center

Whether you live in McLean, Centreville, Fairfax, or Alexandria, the place to be on April 25 is SpringFest Fairfax. SpringFest, now in its third year, is a county-wide, family-friendly celebration to mark Earth Day and Arbor Day.

Event details:

Saturday, April 25

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Workhouse Arts Center

9518 Workhouse Way

Lorton

Admission and parking are free.

Some activities require an all-access wristband, available on-site for \$5 (cash only).

Here are the Top Five Reasons to Attend SpringFest Fairfax:

1. People: Meet the folks keeping Fairfax County clean, green, and sustainable.
2. Food: Food trucks will offer cuisine from around the world.
3. Animals: Pony rides will create lifelong memories.
4. Shopping: Shop for native tree saplings, flowers, and vegetables at the plant sale.
5. Music: Sing Along with Billy B. and other children's performers.

Last year over 5,000 residents attended SpringFest Fairfax, and this year promises to be an even better event with performances by Billy B., Reptiles Alive, and Under the Sea. The festival features live animals, pony rides, a climbing wall, bounce-house obstacle course, and a wide range of hands-on activities and games to highlight some of the most interesting aspects of our local environment. Attendees may purchase native tree saplings, flowers, and vegetables at the plant sale, and diverse menus will be offered by food trucks parked at the event.

SpringFest Fairfax is presented by Clean Fairfax in partnership with Fairfax County's Department of Public Works and Environmental Services, Fairfax County Park Authority, Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, and Workhouse Arts Center. Clean Fairfax is a registered non-profit organization.

For complete details, volunteer opportunities, and schedule of events, visit www.springfestfairfax.org.

April 26: Historic Pleasant Grove to Host Free Gospel Concert for the Community

Historic Pleasant Grove is holding its annual gospel concert on Sunday, April 26 at 3:00 p.m. This free community event will feature traditional gospel music and uplifting spirituals in a quaint 1895 church setting that is now an historic site.

Event details:

Sunday, April 26

3:00 p.m.

Historic Pleasant Grove

8641 Lewinsville Road

McLean

For information, see the Web site at www.historicpleasantgrove.org.

May 2: Pirate Fest at Lake Fairfax Park

Fairfax County is holding the 2nd Annual Pirate Fest at Lake Fairfax Park on May 2. This festival celebrates Virginia's seafaring and port trading past. Join in singing sea chanteys, tavern tunes and pirate ditties. Learn nautical skills and experience the life of a sailor as you make your way around the festival's port town. Wear your most dashing pirate clothes and enter the costume contest. Shop at an exotic market and take some treasure home for yourself. Bring your young pirates to the special children's cove.

Event details:

Saturday, May 2

10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Lake Fairfax Park

1400 Lake Fairfax Drive

Reston

Admission is \$10 per person. A pirate-themed tour boat ride is available for an additional \$2.

For information about the event, including boat reservations, visit

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lakefairfax/pirate-fest.htm>

May 2: Friends of Riverbend Park's Annual Native Plant Sale

The Friends of Riverbend Park are holding their annual native plant sale on May 2 at the Great Falls Grange. The sale offers a variety of Virginia indigenous wildflowers, bluebells, and ferns

which help protect the watershed, woodlands, birds, butterflies, and other wildlife. Native plants are as beautiful as invasive ornamentals, and exhibit a better rate of survival. Proceeds help support educational and other programs at Riverbend Park on the Potomac.

Event details:

Saturday, May 2
8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Great Falls Grange Park
9818 Georgetown Pike
Great Falls

For more information, email forbpark@gmail.com.

**May 15: Bike to Work Day
Pit Stops in McLean and Herndon**

On Friday May 15, Commuter Connections and the Washington Area Bicyclist Association invite you to join over 10,000 area commuters for a celebration of bicycling as a clean, fun, and healthy way to get to work. Attend one of 79 pit stops throughout D.C., Maryland, and Virginia to receive refreshments, and be entered into a raffle for bicycles being given away. The first 14,000 registrants will receive a free event T-shirt.

Bike to Work Day, launched in 2001 with just a few hundred registrants, has grown to nearly 17,000.

[Register for free here.](#) For more information visit the [Bike to Work Day 2015 website.](#)

McLean pit stop details:

Friday, May 15
6:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
Greenberry's Coffee Shop
6839 Redmond Drive
(Corner of Beverly Rd. & Redmond Dr.)
McLean

McLean is hosting a local pit stop for area cyclists for its second year. This year the event is co-organized locally by The Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce, Bike McLean, [Fairfax Advocates for Better Bicycling \(FABB\)](#) and The JBG Companies. Refreshments and giveaways

Herndon pit stop details:

Friday, May 15
5:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and
4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Town Hall Green
Lynn and Elden Streets
(just off the W&OD trail)
Herndon

Herndon's Pit Stop is sponsored by [A-1 Cycling](#). Refreshments will be provided. Other activities will take place throughout the morning and afternoon.

Visit pit stop page at

will be available while supplies last.

Last year, over 40 riders registered for the McLean Pit Stop. With the opening of the new Silver Line in McLean, organizers are hoping for 75 riders this year.

Visit pit stop page at

<http://www.biketoworkmetrodc.org/mclean/>.

<http://www.biketoworkmetrodc.org/herndon-pit-stop/>.

May 26: Retool, Recharge and Reinvent - 50+ Employment Expo

Over 50 and looking for a new job? The Jewish Council for the Aging is presenting the "50+ Employment Expo" for job seekers over 50. Learn about résumé writing, interviewing skills, surfing the net for jobs, changing careers and online application.

The Expo will feature keynote speaker, Bob Levey - a prize-winning journalist who has covered the Washington area scene since the Johnson Administration. For 23 years, he wrote a daily column, "Bob Levey's Washington," for *The Washington Post*.

Event details:

Tuesday, May 26

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Sheraton Premiere at Tyson's Corner

8661 Leesburg Pike

Vienna

Free admission and free parking is available.

All jobseekers must register on the website at www.AccessJCA.org.

Job seekers:

Talk to recruiters from dozens of employers, including non-profits, government, healthcare, retail, technology and more!

Seminars:

Online Applications
Changing Careers

Continuing Education:

Job Training Information

Résumé help:

Employers:

Looking for experienced, responsible employees?

Fairfax County is home to one of the most educated and experienced workforces in the country. Filling your vacancies with these mature workers can raise your productivity and reduce expenses.

The Expo features:

- Free recruiter registration and table

Resume Assistance and Critiques

Internet searches:

How to Surf the Net for a Job
Website Lists

Plus many community resources.

- Free employer name listed in Beacon Newspaper
- Free employer name listed in program
- Potential employees with resumes in hand
- Great employer exposure for your organization

This program is made possible, in part, by funding from the Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation. For more information or accommodations, email mgordon@accessjca.org or call 301-255-4209.

June 26 - July 5: SAVE THE DATE

World Police and Fire Games Coming to Fairfax County

The 2015 World Police and Fire games is coming to Fairfax County June 26 through July 5. The Games are the second largest multi-sport event in the world, surpassed only by the Summer Olympic Games. The event draws more than 12,000 athletes from police, fire and other public safety agencies, travel from 70 different countries to compete in 1,600 medal events across 40 sports. Held every other year, the Games will be held in our area this year, in Montreal in 2017 and in China in 2019.

Opening Ceremonies will be held at RFK Stadium in Washington, D.C. and Closing Ceremonies will be held at Wolf Trap here in Fairfax County. Of the sporting venues located across the National Capital Region, most are in Fairfax County.

For information including schedules and volunteer opportunities, visit <http://fairfax2015.com/>.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Fairfax County Alerts Available:

It's simple.

If we can't reach you, we can't alert you.

REGISTER

LOGIN

NEW OPTIONS

- **Tax deadline reminders and updates:**

Business Tax, Real Estate Tax, Car (Personal Property) Tax. Dog License Renewals, Tax Relief for seniors and people with disabilities

YOU CHOOSE

- Pick the types of weather alerts you wish to receive, along with traffic and public safety alerts.
- Create a "do not disturb" timeframe when you don't want to receive weather alerts.
- Learn about county government non-emergency notices such as taxes and elections.

FOR MANY DEVICES

- Choose up to 10 delivery methods like home phone, cell phone, email, text messaging and more.
- Manage your Fairfax Alerts profile from your phone by downloading the iPhone or Android app.
- Mobile app allows for two-way conversations with emergency managers and does not use text messaging service.

FOR YOUR LOCATIONS

- Customize your Fairfax Alerts with up to five addresses, i.e., school, work and home.
- Get geo-targeted weather alerts based on the addresses you define.
- Weather advisories for you, your family, home, business, school, child care and more.

FOR EVERYONE

- Signing up keeps you informed!
- Families: Are your family members signed up?
- Businesses: Are your employees signed up?
- Faith Communities: Are your congregants signed up?
- Nonprofits: Are your volunteers signed up?

For more information visit: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/alerts/>

Fairfax County Leash and Dog-Curbing Laws Always in Effect

Now that the weather is nice, we remind dog owners that in all weather -- sunshine, rain or snow -- Fairfax County requires that dogs be leashed in public areas. Exceptions are noted in County Code [Section 41.1-2-4](#).

County Code also mandates that owners are always required to clean up after their dogs as part of the County's "Pooper-Scooper" law (Code [Section 41.1-2-6](#)).

For more information, visit the County's website at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/consumer/codes.htm>.

Fairfax County Police Department's Citizen Advisory Committees

Do you want to be more involved with the Fairfax County Police Department? Do you want to provide a valuable service to your community, and be more informed about county issues and laws at the same time? Consider joining your local Fairfax County Police Department Citizen Advisory Committees (CAC).

CACs enhance communication between residents and the FCPD, and offer residents a chance to dialogue with members of their local police districts. Members are kept informed about significant safety matters in their neighborhoods, and are encouraged to bring any issues or questions to the attention of local police commanders.

Meeting details:

McLean Police District (Falls Church, McLean and Vienna areas)

3rd Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

1437 Balls Hill Road

McLean

(For more information, contact Patrick Smaldore at patricksmaldore@live.com.)

Reston Police District (Herndon and Great Falls areas)

3rd Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m.

12000 Bowman Towne Drive

Reston

(For more information, contact Jim Diehl at ajamesdiehl@aol.com.)

Tax Resources for Residents: Federal, State and County

Below are useful links and information to assist residents as they prepare their County, State and Federal Income Tax forms.

Federal and State Income Tax

- **Forms:** [Federal and State Income Tax Forms and Resources](#)
- **State:** [Deadlines and Resources](#)
- [Virginia Income Tax Treatment of Same-Sex Marriage](#) Please contact the Virginia State Income Tax customer service line below, if you have any questions.
- **Federal:** [Helpful Tips](#)

Tax Preparation

- [Choosing A Tax Preparer](#)
- [Volunteer Income Tax Assistance \(VITA\) program](#) - Provides free tax preparation services. If you worked in 2014, and earned less than \$53,000, then you may qualify.
- Library Branches - [Calendar of Tax Preparation Events](#) (includes AARP events)

Customer Service Phone Numbers

- [Federal Income Tax](#) (Monday - Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.)
- 1-800-829-1040
- [Virginia State Income Tax](#) (Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.)
- 804-367-8031
- [Fairfax County Taxes](#) (Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)
- 703-222-8234; TTY 703-222-7594

Great Falls Legacy White Oak Project

The white oak is considered the king of east coast trees because of its potential to grow into a very large, strong tree with sweeping crown and longevity of several centuries. The Great Falls Citizens Association (GFCA), in conjunction with Fairfax County, has initiated a program to ensure that future generations know the beauty of these giant trees.

In recent years, Great Falls has lost nearly all of the large white oaks that once populated the village area. The White Oak Legacy Program begins to make up for what man and nature have brought down in recent years. The program uses private donations to purchase, plant and care for 8-10' high white oaks on public land such as the Old Schoolhouse, Colvin Run Mill, Riverbend Park, Nike Park, and Lockmead Park (on Riva Ridge Drive). Sites at the Grange will be available in fall 2015. GFCA and county staff have carefully chosen planting sites so they are not under power lines and in open spaces where the trees can mature and reach their full size and grandeur. Homeowners, churches and businesses can separately purchase trees for planting on private property.

The program relies on:

- Tax-deductible contributions that residents make for the planting and watering of 8-10 foot tall native white oaks in county parks, or
- Direct purchases by homeowners, churches or businesses for planting on private property. In 2014, 17 large white oaks were planted in and around Great Falls through this program.

Your financial support will enable the planting (and summertime watering) of one 8-10 foot native white oak: donation is \$466 to the Fairfax County Park Foundation (tax deductible) or \$556 for an oak on private property. If you water a tree planted on private property yourself, one oak is \$406.

If you have questions or would like to support The Legacy White Oak program, contact Great Falls Citizens Association Vice President Bill Canis at bcanis@yahoo.com.

2015 Real Estate Assessments Available Online

2015 real estate assessments for Fairfax County property owners are now available online and 352,910 notices have been mailed to all county owners of taxable properties. Approximately **74 percent of residential property in the county increased in value** over the past year. The **average increase in residential value** across the county was **3.39 percent**. **Nonresidential real estate values (including commercial) decreased 0.60 percent**. The assessed value provides the basis for real estate taxes. The real estate tax rate for Fiscal Year 2016, will be set by the Board of Supervisors on April 28.

Several factors that affect real estate assessments:

- Sales in the neighborhood.
- Economic factors - It took an **average of 45 days to sell a home in 2014**, up from an average of 37 days in 2013.
- Improvements to the property (remodeling, additions).
- New construction and rezonings.
- Property characteristics (such as size, age and amenities).

Breakdown of average home property assessments for 2014 (averages are not necessarily indicative of individual properties/neighborhoods):

- Countywide average for all homes - \$517,101.
- Single family-detached homes - \$620,080, up 3.27 percent.
- Townhouse/duplex properties - \$385,338, up 3.81 percent.
- Condominiums - \$259,752, up 4.48 percent.

For more information about tax assessments from the Department of Tax Administration (DTA):

- Online: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dta
- Call: 703-222-8234; TTY 703-222-7594, Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; extended Thursday hours until 6:30 p.m.
- **Taxpayers are encouraged to review their assessment notice within 30 days.** If you have questions, call DTA to discuss your assessment with appraisal staff.

Information on how to appeal your real estate tax assessment:

- You may file an appeal with DTA if you think your assessment is not reasonable in comparison with similar properties or it exceeds fair market value.
- Appeal applications can be found at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dta/real-estate-assessments.htm, or call 703-222-8234; TTY 703-222-7594 to have an application sent to you.
- Appeal applications should be filed by April 3, 2015.

- Real estate appeals can also be filed with the [Board of Equalization](#) (BOE). Under state law, the BOE is separate from the DTA and consists of nine taxpayers appointed by the Board of Supervisors. The BOE conducts formal hearings and takes sworn testimony. By law, all appeals to the BOE must be filed and postmarked by June 1, 2015. BOE appeal forms are also available on the BOE website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/boe/application.htm or by calling the BOE office at 703-324-4891, TTY 711.

Resources

- [Find Your Assessment](#)
- [New Format: Five Things to Know About 2015 Real Estate Assessment Notice](#)
- [Real Estate Assessments and Taxes](#)
- [Budget Information](#)
- [Sign Up to Receive County Tax Deadline Info via Fairfax Alerts](#)

Property owners are encouraged to contact DTA directly concerning assessments; however, property owners may appeal directly to the BOE or to the [Fairfax Circuit Court](#).

2015 Fairfax County Community Shredding Events

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 only open to Fairfax County residents along with residents of the Towns of Vienna, Herndon and Clifton and the Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church. Documents from businesses will not be accepted.

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 five medium-sized packing boxes per vehicle.

Prohibited Items:

- Binders of any type (3-ring, plastic, spiral, metal)
- Plastic document covers
- Wet or moist paper
- Hanging file folders with metal support bars
- Metal binder clips
- Electronic media, including computer disks and diskettes or CDs
- Books, either hardback or paperback
- Credit cards
- Magazines, catalogs and newspapers (unless just the page with the address)
- Film or photographs
- Fairfax County will not shred documents for businesses - even if documents are delivered by an employee who is a county resident. These events are only for residents

to destroy sensitive material they have from their home. If you require written certification of document destruction, it is recommended that you contract individually with a shredding service provider.

2015 Shredding Event Schedule:

All shredding events are held from 8 a.m. - Noon.

- April 25: North County Human Service Center, 1850 Cameron Glen Drive, Reston 20190
- May 16: South County Governmental Center, 8350 Richmond Hwy., Alexandria 22309
- June 20: Cooper Middle School, 977 Balls Hill Rd., McLean 22101
- July 18: Oakton High School, 2900 Sutton Rd., Vienna 22181
- Aug. 15: Mount Vernon High School, 8515 Mt. Vernon Rd., Alexandria 22309
- Sept. 19: Springfield Governmental Center, 6140 Rolling Rd., Springfield 22152
- Oct. 17: Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly 20151
- Oct. 24: Braddock District Governmental Center, 9002 Burke Lake Rd., Burke 22015

Procedures for the Event

- Residents drive through a line as directed by staff.
- For safety reasons, residents **MUST** remain in their vehicles.
- County staff remove boxes from cars and trucks and empty paper into rolling carts.
- Once full, the carts are taken to the shredding truck where they are emptied into a shredder.

For additional information, please contact us at **703-324-5230, TTY 711.**

Related information:

[Document Shredding Event Video](#)

[Electric Sundays](#)

[A-Z List of Recycling and Trash Topics](#)

[Materials for Recycling or Disposal](#)

Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board News

Opportunities and information for people with mental illness, substance use disorders, intellectual and developmental disabilities

Virtual career fairs for job seekers with disabilities

[GettingHired](#) is offering [five virtual career fairs during 2015](#) for job seekers with disabilities. They will be offering some industry specific virtual career fairs to better align job seekers with employers looking to hire in areas such as information technology, customer service, retail, and others.

- [April 8 - Businesses hiring for a variety of open positions](#)
- [May 13 - Businesses hiring for Information Technology and STEM positions](#)
- [July 15 - Businesses hiring for Retail, Sales, and Customer Service positions](#)
- [September 16 - Businesses hiring for Healthcare, Accounting & Finance, and Administration/ Clerical positions](#)

- [October 7 - Businesses hiring for a variety of open positions](#)

Report highlights CSB & Neighborhood Health partnership at Gartlan Center

The Northern Virginia Health Foundation 2014 Annual Report [highlights the CSB's primary and behavioral health care integration partnership](#) with Neighborhood Health and includes great comments from the doctor providing services at the Gartlan Center.

Apply now for county government summer internships for college students with disabilities

Fairfax County's [John Hudson Internship Program](#) provides paid summer internships for **college students and recent graduates with disabilities** to work in Fairfax County Government. The program is named in honor of John Hudson, a longtime county employee who courageously and tirelessly advocated for the inclusion, rights and needs of people with disabilities. Application materials are due on April 17, 2015. For more information, please contact [Jill Clark](#) (703-324-5874, TTY 703-449-1186).

Virginia Individual and Family Support Program accepting applications after March 31

The Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services' Individual and Family Support Program provides assistance to individuals on the waiting list for the intellectual disability (ID) or developmental disability (DD) Medicaid waivers in accessing short-term resources, supports, and services that will help them remain in their own community homes. Their next application period begins March 31. [Learn more about how to apply.](#)

Reminder - free income tax preparation available

- Individuals and families who earned less than \$53,000 in 2014 may qualify for free income tax preparation assistance through the county's [Volunteer Income Tax Assistance](#) program.
- Volunteers certified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) help ensure that participants receive the maximum tax refund to which they are entitled and they can help determine if participants are eligible to receive an Earned Income Tax Credit. Visit the [Northern Virginia coalition for Creating Assets, Savings and Hope website](#) to find out about [site locations and hours](#).

For more information, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/csb, email wwwcsb@fairfaxcounty.gov or call 703-324-7000, TTY 711.

Volunteer Solutions of Fairfax County Division of Adult and Aging Services

Volunteer Solutions of Fairfax County Division of Adult and Aging Services provides meaningful volunteer opportunities to improve the lives of older adults and adults with disabilities in Fairfax County.

To volunteer for any of the following positions, please complete an online registration form at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/volunteer/VolReg/VolunteerRegistration.aspx>. For more information please call 703-324-5406, TTY 711, email VolunteerSolutions@FairfaxCounty.gov or visit <http://fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults> and follow the link to "Volunteer Solutions".

- The **Wakefield Senior Center** in **Annandale** needs a **friendly greeter** to check-in and interact with participants on Wednesdays from 9:55 a.m.-1:55 p.m. and an experienced **Canasta Player** to lead a group. They also need certified instructors for classes in **Pilates**, and **Ballroom Dance**. Volunteer instructor positions **could** lead to part-time employment.
- The **Kingstowne Center for Active Adults** in **Alexandria** needs an instructor to teach a class in **Mosaic Art or Jewelry Making**.
- **Vietnamese Meals on Wheels** needs drivers in **Falls Church** to deliver meals between the hours of 11 a.m.-1 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. (Speaking Vietnamese not required.)
- The **Sully Senior Center** in **Centreville** needs a **certified personal trainer**, preferably with experience working with older adults, for one hour, twice a week.
- The **Herndon Adult Day Health Care Center** needs **lunch assistants** on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and a **Piano Player** to play classical or music from the 1960s and before for one hour a few times per month during lunch.
- **Meals on Wheels** needs **substitute drivers** for routes throughout the county between the hours of 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
- The **Annandale Adult Day Health Care Center** in **Annandale** needs **Spanish-speaking** social companions Monday-Friday from 3-5 p.m. and a **lunch assistant** from 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
- **Korean Meals on Wheels** needs **Korean-speaking volunteers** to deliver meals midday on Monday, Wednesday and Friday in **Centreville, Reston, Fairfax, Annandale** and **Falls Church**.
- Fairfax County needs volunteers to **drive older adults to medical appointments** and wellness programs; **urgent need in Reston area**.
- The **Bailey's Senior Center** in **Falls Church** needs an **office assistant** Monday to Friday from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. to answer phones, greet and check in participants and complete some data entry.
- The **Lewinsville Senior Center** in **McLean** needs an **office assistant** on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and instructors for the following classes: **Book Club, Hot Topics/Current Events, American Sign Language, Knitting/Crocheting, Certified Arthritis Exercise, Ballroom or Square Dance, Basic Guitar, Meditation, Art, English as a Second Language, and Basic Spanish**.
- The **Mount Vernon Adult Day Health Care Center** in **Alexandria** needs a **front desk assistant** on Wednesdays from 11 a.m.-12 p.m.; a **licensed beautician** twice a month; a **social companion** on Mondays from 3-5 p.m.; a volunteer to **play the piano and lead a sing-along** once or twice a month; and a **Spanish-speaking social companion** on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 3-5 p.m.
- The **Hollin Hall Senior Center** in **Alexandria** needs a **DJ** to provide a wide array of music from ballroom to line dancing, Wednesdays from 2-4 p.m., a **Ballroom Dance Instructor** to teach a class on Thursday afternoons, and an **Italian Instructor**.

- **Respite Care** volunteers give family caregivers of a frail older adult a well-deserved break so they can go shopping, attend a doctor's appointment or just have coffee with a friend. Volunteers visit and oversee the safety of the older adult for a few hours each month. Support and training are provided. Contact Kristin Martin at 703-324-7577, TTY 711, or Kristin.Martin@fairfaxcounty.gov.
- **Adult Day Health Care and Senior Centers** - Visit centers to assist with fitness activities, arts and crafts, meal time, entertainment and much more.
- **Grocery Shopping** - Shop for an older adult or accompany them to the grocery store. Commitment: two hours every other week.
- **Group Volunteering** - The *Helping Hands Program* provides an excellent opportunity for groups looking for a time-limited community service project. The program occurs every May in honor of Older Americans Month. Volunteers assist older clients with house and yard work including: deep cleaning, organization, decluttering, and yard work. This is a terrific opportunity for work groups, sororities, faith communities and civic groups.
- **Household Services** - Unpack boxes, change light bulbs, paint small areas, straighten cupboards or closets, organize paperwork, and write letters. Commitment: varies.
- **Insurance Counseling** - The [Virginia Insurance Counseling and Assistance Program](#) helps older adults understand and resolve issues with Medicare, Medigap, Medicare HMO Plans, and Long-Term Insurance. Volunteers primarily work in the office. Some volunteers also go to homes of individuals who are unable to come into the office. A two-day training is required. Commitment time varies.
- **Meals on Wheels** - Transport meals to older adults or adults with disabilities Monday, Wednesday and Friday, midday. Program also needs driver coordinators and group coordinators. Commitment: two hours/month and longer. Volunteer opportunities are available near where you work or live. Employee groups are welcome to share a delivery commitment. Check us out on [YouTube](#) now!
- **Nutritional Supplement Delivery** - Pick up and deliver nutritional supplements to an older adult's home. Deliveries are made early in the month. Commitment: a six-month commitment is requested. Two to three hours per month.
- **Regional Volunteer Office Managers** - Help Volunteer Solutions recruit and train volunteers, track status of new volunteers, collect and enter volunteer hours. Must be highly skilled with computers, data entry, records management, phone etiquette, communication (both oral and written). Must be able to volunteer in the office, use county database, and maintain confidentiality. Commitment: 10-15 hours per week.
- **Senior Centers** - provide assistance to program managers or offer activity programming.
- **Social Visits** - Visit older adults who need company. Commitment: once a week visits for one hour at a time. A one-year commitment is requested.
- **Transportation** - Drive older adults to and from medical appointments, pharmacy, bank, library, grocery shopping etc.
- **Volunteer IT On-Call** - This program delivers much needed computer assistance to residents age 60 and older. Computer savvy volunteers handle simple computer fixes and also teach clients how to use Skype, send emails, use social media, etc. The service is generally delivered at the client's home. This wonderful service provides flexible hours.
- Bilingual volunteers are needed to plan seminars and resource fairs that inform older adults of county services. There is a special need for volunteers who speak Arabic, Cambodian, Chinese, Farsi, Korean, Laotian, Spanish, Urdu and Vietnamese. Commitment time varies.
- **Fairfax Pets on Wheels** - Visit residents of nursing homes and assisted living facilities with your pets. Provide companionship and compassion through pet therapy. Pet orientation and temperament testing is required. Commitment: one time weekly or monthly.

- [Northern Virginia Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program](#) - Advocate for the rights and quality of life of residents in nursing and assisted living facilities.

Spring 2015 Free Seminars for Family Caregivers in Fairfax County

Register at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/OlderAdults or call 703-324-5205, TTY 711.

- **Strategies for Difficult Conversations**, *Wednesday, April 15, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.* Conversations with an older family member about issues like driving, accepting help in the home or moving to a safer environment are often difficult. Using driving as a tough example, we'll explore strategies to identify the roadblocks to successful conversations and offer tools to overcome them. Chantilly Regional Library, 4000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly.
- **Communication is the Best Medicine**, *Tuesday, April 21, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.*
As a caregiver, you may have an active role in your loved one's health care. Get tips on preparing for a visit to the doctor or pharmacist and learn what questions to ask so you can make wise choices for the best possible care of your loved one. Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria.
- **Understanding and Caring for a Person with Dementia**, *Saturday, April 25, 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.* This class will discuss the different types of dementia, common behaviors, troubling behaviors, communication techniques, and services. Insight Memory Care Center, 3953 Pender Drive, Suite 100, Fairfax.
- **Caregiving 101**, *Monday, April 27, 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.*
Learn about resources and get useful information to help you navigate the caregiving journey. Thomas Jefferson Library, 7415 Arlington Blvd., Falls Church.
- **Money Management Tips and Tools for Caregivers**, *Tuesday, April 28, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.* Learn how to handle the unique money management challenges associated with being a caregiver while keeping your finances organized at the same time. Herndon Fortnightly Library, 768 Center Street, Herndon.

Fairfax County is committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability in all county programs, services and activities. Reasonable accommodations will be provided upon request. For information, call the Dranesville District office at 703-356-0551, TTY 711.

If you would like your community announcement included in Dranesville Happenings please send an email to Dranesville@FairfaxCounty.gov.

