



# Dranesville Dispatch

January 2015: Issue 30

## *News and Information for Dranesville District Residents*



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## **A Message from Supervisor John Foust ...**

Dear Dranesville Resident,

Welcome to the January 2015 issue of the Dranesville Dispatch. My staff and I hope that you and your family had a wonderful holiday season and we extend best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year.

Before discussing this issue of the Dispatch, I need to talk about the weather. As you may recall, VDOT did an amazing job of dealing with several severe weather events last winter. Unfortunately, today's snowfall seems to have caught them by surprise. Roads are bad across the County. My staff and I have been in contact with VDOT all day and I believe they are starting to make decent progress. However, if there are streets that have not been plowed or that seem especially unsafe, please let us know at [Dranesville@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Dranesville@fairfaxcounty.gov) and we will encourage VDOT to address them. You can also report problems directly to VDOT at 1-800-FOR-ROAD or <http://www.virginiadot.org/travel/citizen.asp> or email concerns to [NOVAinfo@VDOT.Virginia.gov](mailto:NOVAinfo@VDOT.Virginia.gov). In the interim, please be aware that there have been numerous accidents and some road closures. Be safe!

As discussed in this issue of the Dispatch, there are many good things happening in Fairfax County and the Dranesville District. Fairfax County voters approved a transportation bond in November. The proceeds of that bond will fund numerous transportation projects that were identified through extensive community outreach sessions. Recently, the Board of Supervisors approved changes to the County's blight regulations and passed an ordinance to establish a Resident Curator Program to protect and preserve historic properties.

You can also read about important changes at Turner Farm Park in Great Falls and about some long needed and recently completed pedestrian projects on Leesburg Pike, Dead Run Drive and Lewinsville Road. There were exciting developments in central McLean including completion of a long planned effort to underground utility lines at the major intersection in the business district. This issue also introduces our new Dranesville representatives to the Park Authority and Public Library boards and includes helpful advice from VDOT on the coming winter season.

We are fortunate in Dranesville to have outstanding volunteers and long-established civic associations serving our community. Several organizations are marking important anniversaries this year including the Herndon Woman's Club (75 years) and the McLean Citizens Association (100 years). And many of your Dranesville neighbors have been recognized for their outstanding efforts. You can read their stories in this issue.

I hope you enjoy reading about your community and the many good things that are happening. As always, I welcome your thoughts on how to best serve the Dranesville community. Please feel free to contact my office with your suggestions and concerns. It is an honor to serve you.

John Foust  
Dranesville District Supervisor

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## DRANESVILLE DISTRICT NEWS

### Fairfax County Voters Approve Transportation Bond

On Tuesday, November 4, Fairfax County voters approved a \$100 million transportation bond. Funds from the bond are intended to provide:

- Spot road improvements to increase roadway capacity, reduce congestion, improve safety, and improve transit access (\$16 million)
- Pedestrian improvements to improve capacity, enhance safety and complete missing pedestrian links that connect neighborhoods, and improve access to schools, Metrorail stations and activity centers (\$78 million)
- Bicycle improvements that include developing new bicycle facilities, constructing trails, adding bicycle parking and enhancing accessibility (\$6 million)

The bond is one of the many funding sources identified to pay for [\\$1.4 billion in transportation priorities over the next six years](#). Due to the flexibility of bond funds, projects like spot roadway, pedestrian, and bicycle projects can be funded and implemented efficiently and expeditiously. These projects were identified through extensive public outreach and engagement, called the [Countywide Dialogue on Transportation](#).

[Click here for a description of the bond](#) and [view a detailed list of projects by category and location here](#). For more information and to view a map showing the location of the approved projects visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bond/>.

## **VDOT's Got Your Back This Winter**

*Online neighborhood tool again part of plan to clear subdivision streets in Northern Virginia*

**Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) would like Northern Virginia residents to know about its snow removal plan for winter 2014-15. Here are the highlights:**

VDOT is responsible for 17,737 lane miles in Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William counties (Arlington County maintains its own secondary roads). About half of those miles are highways, and half are neighborhood streets. In Northern Virginia, VDOT has one snow removal program for interstates and high-volume roads such as routes 1, 7, 15, 28, 50, and the Fairfax County Parkway, and another program for subdivisions. During winter weather, crews work on both concurrently.

### **Neighborhood plowing website:**

Residents are encouraged to continue using the website [vdotplows.org](http://vdotplows.org) to monitor the status of plowing in Northern Virginia neighborhoods. Once it snows more than two inches, residents in Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William counties can enter their address and a color-coded snow map shows whether plowing is underway, completed or not yet started in their neighborhood.

### **Equipment:**

More than 4,000 trucks and plows are available and all are equipped with automatic vehicle locator (AVL) equipment. Special equipment includes:

- A **jet-powered snow melter** for park-n-ride lots where massive snow piles block spaces.
- Seven **high-pressure flush trucks** clear snow and ice around the bollards separating the I-495 Express Lanes and regular lanes.
- A **truck-mounted weather station** provides mobile measurements on road conditions (dry, moist, wet, snow, ice), as well as surface, dew point and air temperature, humidity and thickness of ice. This helps ensure that crews do not over- or under-apply chemicals.
- **Two super-sized front loaders** plow interstates with 20-foot wide blades during severe storms.
- **Speed-activated anti-icing equipment** puts the right amount of material on the road.

### **VDOT's winter resources**

- See the status of plowing in northern Virginia neighborhoods at [www.vdotplows.org](http://www.vdotplows.org).
- Follow [@VaDOTNOVA](https://twitter.com/VaDOTNOVA) on Twitter.
- Report unplowed roads: [novainfo@vdot.virginia.gov](mailto:novainfo@vdot.virginia.gov) or 800-367-7623.
- More details are available at this website: [Northern Virginia snow removal](#).

## Fairfax County Adopts New Rules to Deal with Blighted Properties

On December 2, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors voted to change the County's existing rules to allow it to better deal with [blighted properties](#). **The changes will allow the County to make repairs to blighted homes at an owner's expense, as well as impose liens to recover costs.**

The Board took two related actions during its meeting. It changed the regulations for the County's Blight Program, and it added new provisions to Chapter 46 of the County Code that deals with public menaces.

**In 1996, the Board adopted more stringent provisions for the County's blight program than required by state law.** These provisions required a property to meet all of the following conditions to be considered blighted:

- Vacant and boarded up for at least one year
- Subject to complaints
- No longer maintained for useful occupancy
- Dilapidated or lacking in normal maintenance or upkeep

**The December 2 Board action repealed the above self-imposed restrictions, giving the County more flexibility.**

In addition, **until now, Fairfax County only used its program to tear down blighted properties,** but state law allows jurisdictions to make repairs, not just demolish unsafe buildings. **Now, the County will have the ability to also make repairs to blighted properties.**

Under the Program's previous rules, the County typically only demolished a couple of properties per year, and although the County will now be able to repair blighted homes, **officials expect to use this authority sparingly.**

In a related action, Fairfax strengthened its rules for public health or safety menaces. The amendments include:

- Expanding the definition of a public menace or nuisance **to include dilapidated buildings that may partially or completely collapse; unsecured vacant buildings; and buildings that are a danger to life or public welfare or both.**
- Changing how property owners are notified, requiring notice by certified mail and newspaper advertising.
- Allowing the County to impose liens on properties for the cost of repairs.

The repeal to the County's 1996 limitations for dealing with blighted properties and the new provisions to Chapter 46 take effect immediately.

## **Board of Supervisors Establishes Resident Curator Program for Historic Properties**

At its November 18 meeting, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors approved an ordinance that permits a Residential Curator Program. The program calls for unused, publicly-owned historic properties to be leased to individuals or groups for little or no rent.

The Board's action provides the opportunity to preserve historic properties at a minimum cost to taxpayers and can put the property to practical use as residential, office or commercial space. Curators would be required to rehabilitate and maintain the properties at their own expense. The rehabilitation must be in accordance with national historic preservation standards, and curators must allow the public to visit or tour the buildings.

County staff is scheduled to present ways to implement the program to the Board of Supervisors in February.

## **Central McLean Utility Undergrounding and Traffic Signal Mast Arm Projects Completed**

### *Listrani's Peninsula Extended to Provide Pedestrian Refuge*

The appearance of McLean's major intersection at Old Dominion Drive and Chain Bridge Road has been noticeably improved with the completion of recent projects to remove overhead utility lines and traffic signal support wires.

A Fairfax County and McLean Revitalization Corporation (MRC) project to bury overhead utilities lines and a Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) project to replace traffic signal support wires with stronger mast arms are now complete. In addition, VDOT has extended the pavement "peninsula" created where Old Dominion Drive meets Elm Street, adjacent to Listrani's restaurant. The result is a new pedestrian median refuge in the crosswalk on the west side of the intersection. This change will improve pedestrian safety by providing a waiting place for walkers crossing the two streets at this wide intersection.

The utility undergrounding project, completed on time and under budget, runs under the south side of Old Dominion Drive from the Shell service station to Center Street (beyond the PNC Bank), and under both sides of Chain Bridge Road from approximately Laughlin Street (Capital One/Starbucks) to approximately Curran Street (Boston Market/McLean Cleaners).



*The intersection appears less cluttered with the removal of overhead utility wires and wire-supported traffic signals.*



*Dranesville Supervisor John Foust addresses group at ribbon-cutting ceremony, marking completion of project.*

The mast arms project replaced traffic signals that previously hung from wires attached to various poles, with modern mast arm poles now preferred by VDOT. While the intersection was not on VDOT's schedule for signal replacement, at the urging of Supervisor Foust, VDOT found the funding necessary for construction. The mast arms are a customized black color to better blend with ongoing streetscape improvements.

The next streetscape project, funded through a Federal Transportation Enhancement Grant (TEG) obtained by the MRC, will install brick and concrete sidewalks throughout the undergrounding project area. This project is in the design stage.

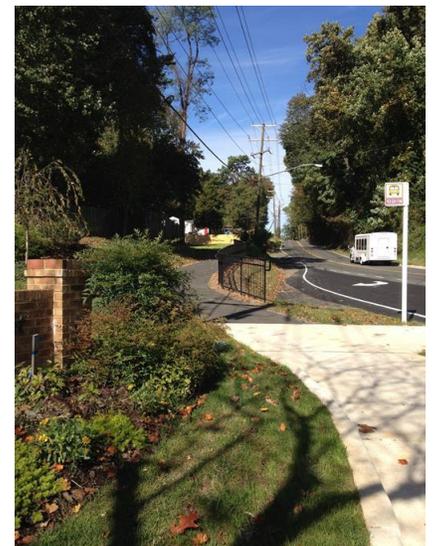
"It is very exciting to see the undergrounding project completed," said Supervisor John Foust. "I am extremely grateful to the various property owners who granted easements at no cost to the project. I also want to express deep appreciation to County staff and the MRC for working long and hard to get us to where we are today. Thank you to VDOT for prioritizing the signal mast arm replacement and building the pedestrian median refuge. The new dark mast arms allow us to fully appreciate the absence of overhead lines of all kinds. The intersection looks great."

## **Lewinsville Trail Completed Between Elsinore Avenue and Snow Meadow Lane**

Fairfax County has completed a pedestrian walkway running along Lewinsville Road between Elsinore Avenue and Snow Meadow Lane. The trail segment filled a critical need for safe pedestrian passage on a section of Lewinsville Road that included a road-narrowing framed by steep embankments, previously unsafe for pedestrian use. This new trail will be used by residents living along Lewinsville Road to reach several destinations including the McLean and Spring Hill Silver Line Metro stations, the Spring Hill RECenter and downtown McLean.

Fairfax County has also completed two other trails on Lewinsville Road: between Windy Hill Road and Scotts Run Road, finished in June 2013; and between Woodhurst Boulevard and Altamira Court, completed in April 2012. All combined, residents now have nearly continuous walkway between Dolley Madison Boulevard and Leesburg Pike. Supervisor Foust obtained funding for all three projects from Commercial and Industrial tax revenues in October 2009.

Two other critical pedestrian projects needed to walk safely to the McLean Metro Station from McLean are currently underway by Fairfax County Department of Transportation. One will run along



the south side of Dolley Madison Boulevard between Great Falls Street/Lewinsville Road and Anderson Road. The other will be on the north side of Chain Bridge Road between Seneca Avenue and Anderson Road.

## **Supervisor John Foust and Neighbors Celebrate Completion of Long-Awaited Sidewalk On Dead Run Drive**

McLean residents may have noticed the recent completion of a long-awaited pedestrian walkway, running along Dead Run Drive, between its eastern Carper Street intersection and Congress lane. Dead Run Drive is a popular walking route for students walking to and from Churchill Elementary School, Cooper Middle School and Langley High School. It is also used by walkers to Dead Run Stream Valley Park, McLean Community Center, Dolley Madison Library, McLean Central Park and the McLean central business district.

Prior to the project completion, there was a missing stretch of sidewalk along eleven properties on the west side of Dead Run Drive. In 2010, through the County's Residential Traffic Administration Program, the community worked with Supervisor Foust to slow down traffic on Dead Run Drive with the installation of stop signs at two intersections as well as a speed hump. Still, even with the traffic calming features installed, the hilly terrain and on-road parking at this location made the lack of continuous sidewalk particularly dangerous to those who were required to walk along the street, especially elementary school students walking to and from school. The new sidewalk is making a big difference in pedestrian safety.



## **Pedestrian Crossing Improvements Completed on Leesburg Pike** *New Safe Crossings at Lewinsville Road and Baron Cameron/Springvale Road*

Fairfax County has completed projects to install pedestrian crossing features at two major intersections on Leesburg Pike. New crosswalks, pedestrian signals and ADA accessible ramps have been installed at the intersections of Leesburg Pike and Lewinsville Road and Leesburg Pike and Baron Cameron Road/Springvale Road. Revenues from the County's Commercial and Industrial Tax funded the projects.



*Leesburg Pike and Lewinsville Road  
(on Lewinsville Road, facing south)*



*Leesburg Pike and Baron Cameron Road/Springvale Road  
(on Baron Cameron Road facing north)*

## **New and Future Improvements Celebrated at Turner Farm** *Ground Breaking for New Roll-Top Observatory and Ribbon Cutting for new Picnic Pavilion*

Dranesville District Supervisor John Foust gathered with members of the Fairfax County Park Authority Board and members of the Analemma Society, Northern Virginia Astronomy Club, Friends of Turner Farm, Save the Farm, and Celebrate Great Falls for two ceremonies at the Turner Farm park in Great Falls. Ceremonial shovels were used to break ground on a new roll-top observatory located within the Observatory Park, and a ribbon was cut to open a new picnic pavilion. Both projects reflect the community's interest in shaping the 52-acre park located on the site of a former dairy farm.

The Analemma Society, a non-profit organization, has a partnership agreement with the Park Authority to develop recreational and educational astronomy programs at Turner Farm.



## **Park Authority Celebrates Renovations to Clemyjontri Park**

Representatives from the Fairfax County Park Authority Board and staff, along with the Friends of Clemyjontri Park, the Fairfax County Park Foundation, and Julie Ide, from the office of Dranesville Supervisor John Foust, gathered in the rain under the park's pavilion on December 6, to celebrate the recent completion of renovations to Clemyjontri Park.

Since the Fairfax County Park Authority opened the park in 2006, the park has hosted more than 200,000 visitors each year. Heavy usage by large numbers of enthusiastic park visitors has had an

impact on the play equipment and the safety surfacing throughout the park. Clemyjontri required an extensive renovation to ensure that the park remained a safe and fun family destination. In response to this need, the Park Authority renovated and repaired the playground.

Clemyjontri Park in McLean, is a two-acre, fully accessible playground facility. The park is designed without barriers to accommodate wheelchair users, those with walkers or braces, or who have sensory or developmental disabilities. It is a unique recreational park that allows all visitors to have a parallel playground experience of fun and exploration.

For more information about how you can join the Friends of Clemyjontri Park, visit online at [Friends of Clemyjontri Park](#) or [Clemyjontri Park](#). For more information on how you can help support Clemyjontri Park visit the [Fairfax County Park Foundation](#).



## **Supervisors Transfer Property to Park Authority**

The Fairfax County Park Authority now owns an additional 11.7 acres of parkland in the Dranesville District. The new acquisition was the result of a fee simple, land transfer by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to the Fairfax County Park Authority Board. The property, located near Dulles Station Boulevard in Herndon, will be known as Dulles Rock Hill Park. In the near future, a community park will be established at this location through a developer proffer agreement. The site is contiguous with the Merrybrook Run Stream Valley Park.

The Fairfax County Park Authority currently owns 23,322 acres of parkland and has 426 parks.

## **Fairfax County Board Approves Additional Commuter Park-and-Ride Lot Near Tysons Metrorail Station**

*Action in Response to Board Motion by Supervisor Foust*

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors voted at its September 9 meeting to approve a second agreement for an interim park-and-ride lot in proximity of a Tysons Metrorail station. The agreement sets aside 100 spaces of an existing 1,529-space parking garage for the Tower and Atrium buildings, located on the northeast corner of Westpark Drive/Jones Branch Drive intersection - approximately ½ mile from the Tysons Corner Metro Rail Station. The property is also served by Fairfax Connector Route 423, one of the new Fairfax Connector Tysons circulator

routes. The site will help serve Tysons Metrorail parking needs of the Tysons, McLean and Great Falls communities.

In 2010, the Board approved Supervisor Foust's follow-on motion to the Tysons Comprehensive Plan, calling on County planners to identify commuter parking opportunities for the next 10-15 years in Tysons. The first interim commuter parking lot approved by the Board was in July 2013, for 711 spaces adjacent to the McLean Metrorail Station. The lot was constructed, and is maintained and managed by Cityline Partners. The County is continuing to look for additional interim parking opportunities.

For more information, please contact Benjamin Wiles in the office of Supervisor Foust at 703-356-0551 or email [Benjamin.Wiles@FairfaxCounty.gov](mailto:Benjamin.Wiles@FairfaxCounty.gov).

## Upcoming Land Use Cases in Dranesville

The following land use applications are under review by Fairfax County. The review process includes public hearings before the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors.

**Mark Dennis McFadden, Trustee / Lynne Marian McFadden, Trustee**  
([SE 2014-DR-043](#))

*1470 Ingleside Avenue, McLean*

Applicant seeks to extend the amount of time allowed to use a single family home as an office. The current use, as a real estate office, was approved by the Board of Supervisors in May 2009 and requires the applicant to reapply to the Board of Supervisors after five years to continue the office use. This application would extend the time period for ten years. The applicant does not propose any changes in the use of the property or alterations to the building.

\* Planning Commission hearing: Approved on 12/03/2014

\* Board of Supervisors hearing: 01/13/2015

**Wesley Hamel Lewinsville, LLC** ([SEA 94-D -002-02](#))

*1609 Great Falls Street, McLean*

Proposal to amend a previously approved special exception amendment to redevelop the Lewinsville Center facility. This application would retain the senior center, adult day care, and child care facility uses but replace the mix of independent living and assisted living units with independent living units only. The number of residential units would not change.

\* Planning Commission hearing: 01/22/2015

\* Board of Supervisors hearing: 02/17/2015



**Trinity Land, LLC ([SE 2014-DR-052](#))**

*11801 Leesburg Pike, Herndon*

Applicant requests a Special Exception to build 30 single family units utilizing a cluster development configuration. The 28.9 acre property is currently zoned R1 property and is used as a golf driving range.

\* Planning Commission hearing: 02/11/2015

\* Board of Supervisors hearing: TBD

**Krishna R. Murthy ([SE 2014-DR-033](#))**

*8512 Lewinsville Road, McLean*

Applicant proposes the re-development of a single family detached home within a minor floodplain and Resource Protection Area. The amount of post-development impervious area will be less than under existing conditions.

\* Planning Commission hearing: 02/25/2015

\* Board of Supervisors hearing: TBD

**Stephen C. Bryan and Sally T. Bryan ([SE 2014-DR-057](#))**

*1318 Rockland Terrace, McLean*

Proposed Special Exception to develop four homes in a cluster subdivision configuration. The subject 5.6 acre property contains an existing two-story single family detached home and is currently zoned R-1. No change in zoning is proposed.

\* Planning Commission hearing: 02/25/2015

\* Board of Supervisors hearing: TBD

**Sunrise Development, Inc. ([SE 2014-DR-068](#))**

*1988 Kirby Road, McLean*

Proposed Special Exception to allow an assisted living facility on a 3.7 acre property zoned R-1. This request seeks to develop approximately 73 assisted living units in a 40,309 square foot building.

\* Planning Commission hearing: 04/08/2015

\* Board of Supervisors hearing: TBD

**Basheer/Edgemoore-Brooks, LLC ([RZ 2014-DR-022](#))**

*Approximately 600 Feet East of Springvale Road and North of Parkerhouse Drive*

Applicant proposes to rezone a 51.9 acre property from the R-A zoning district to R-E Cluster (Residential Estate), at a density of .5 dwelling units/acre. The rezoning would permit 23 single-family detached homes and would be served by a public street.

\* Planning Commission hearing: 04/15/2015

\* Board of Supervisors hearing: TBD

**PS Holdings, LLC ([SE 2014-DR-072](#))**

*856 and 872 Dolley Madison Boulevard, McLean*

Applicant proposes a Special Exception to allow a private school of general education on a 3.3 acre property zoned R-1. No change in zoning is proposed. The estimated number of students is 250 pre-kindergarten through sixth grade. The proposed building would be 21,5741 square feet in size.

\* Planning Commission hearing: TBD

\* Board of Supervisors hearing: TBD

**Elm Street Residential, LLP (RZ/FDP 2012-DR-019)**

*6862 Elm Street, Mclean*

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors approved a plan by The JBG Companies to redevelop a 4.43 acre parcel, located in the McLean Business District. The seven-story residential building will include 5,033 square-feet of retail on the first floor, which JBG believes is a prime location for a restaurant. An additional 2,758 square-feet of retail will be added to the existing office building and will include an outdoor plaza seating area. Parking for the office, residential, and retail uses will be a combination of 57 surface spaces and a 610-space parking garage.

Look for announcements of future community meetings relating to applications in the monthly Dranesville Happenings publication found at

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dranesville/newsletters.htm>.

For more information contact Ben Wiles in the office of Supervisor Foust at

[Benjamin.Wiles@FairfaxCounty.gov](mailto:Benjamin.Wiles@FairfaxCounty.gov) or call 703-356-0551.

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**Grace Han Wolf Appointed  
Dranesville District Park Authority Board Member**

Dranesville District Supervisor John Foust has appointed Grace Han Wolf as the new Dranesville District representative to the Park Authority Board. Ms. Wolf replaces Richard "Rip" Sullivan, who resigned following his recent election to the Virginia General Assembly where he will serve as Virginia State Delegate for the 48<sup>th</sup> District. Ms. Wolf assumed the post effective December 12.

Supervisor Foust said of the appointment, "Dranesville District residents love our parks. We are fortunate that Grace Wolf, an experienced and successful business and community leader, has agreed to serve as our representative to the Park Authority Board. I am looking forward to working with Grace to make sure our parks continue to meet the many diverse needs of our

community."

Ms. Wolf is a well-known figure in Fairfax County. She is currently serving her third term on the Herndon Town Council and is the first Korean-American woman elected to office in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Ms. Wolf also serves on the Board of Directors for the Arts Council of Fairfax and is an appointed Commissioner for the Virginia Commission for the Arts. She serves on the Board of Directors for Reboot Reuse Rebuild, the Asian American Chamber of Commerce, and in 2011, Ms. Wolf became a founding member of the Jade Philanthropy Society.

In 2006, she received Herndon's Distinguished Service award, recognizing her volunteerism. She's received the Volunteer Fairfax Benchmark Service award annually since 2008, and in 2012 received the Public Service Award from the Asian American Chamber of Commerce. In 2013 she was recognized by Virginia Lawyers Weekly as one of Virginia's influential women.

Ms. Wolf's professional credits include positions in finance and accounting at IBM Consulting, Deloitte & Touche Management Consulting, Dun & Bradstreet and Bankers Trust. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in economics and an MBA in finance and strategy, both from Cornell University.

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### **Darren Ewing Appointed Dranesville District Representative to Fairfax County Library Board**

Dranesville Supervisor John Foust has appointed Darren Ewing as the new Dranesville representative to the Fairfax County Library Board.

Mr. Ewing was born and raised in Northern Virginia and has actively served in a variety of community volunteer roles through the years. He is president of the Olney Park Citizens Association, a member of the McLean Citizens Association board, and was appointed by Supervisor Foust to serve on the McLean Pedestrian Task Force.

His McLean-based business provides financial wealth management services to clients from all across the greater metro area. Along with his wife and son, Mr. Ewing frequently visits the local libraries and is passionate about the wonderful resources they provide.

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### **Carole Herrick Named Chairman of the Fairfax County History Commission**

McLean resident and historian, Carole Herrick, has been named the Chairman of the Fairfax County History Commission. Members of the Commission select its Chairman from the Commission membership. Ms. Herrick was appointed to the Commission by Dranesville District Supervisor John Foust.

Ms. Herrick co-chaired the "McLean Centennial Celebration" in 2010 and chaired the "McLean Remembers the Civil War" event in 2011. She is a recipient of the "Heartbeat of Rotary Award".

Recently, Ms. Herrick served as a member of the Salona Park Task Force, which made recommendations to the County Park Authority on how the historic Salona property in McLean should be developed.

Ms. Herrick is the author of several books on the history of McLean.

As an avid tennis player, she was inducted into the National Women's Tennis Hall of Fame in 2012.

The History Commission was established by the County of Fairfax in 1969 to help identify, document, record, and preserve the historic past.

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## **Herndon Town Council Adopts Ordinance Changing Town Election Date from May to November**

The Herndon Town Council has adopted an ordinance that would move the town's election date from May to November. The ordinance will now be submitted to the 2015 Virginia General Assembly, which convenes in January and has the authority to amend the town's charter. If adopted by the General Assembly, the change would be in effect for the 2016 election.

The Town Council held four public hearings on the proposed ordinance prior to its December 9, vote. For more information, visit the Herndon website at [www.herndon-va.gov](http://www.herndon-va.gov).

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## **CrisisLink's Text Hotline for Suicide Prevention**

*The Community Services Board also offering free, online suicide prevention training.*

**[Need help now? Text the words "Need Help" to 703-940-0888.](tel:703-940-0888)**

The Community Services Board has partnered with CrisisLink to make it possible for anyone in our community, at any age, to text concerns to CrisisLink for prompt response, counsel and referral. Information about the new text line is posted on CrisisLink website: <http://crisislink.org/crisislinks-text-hotline/>.

This service is confidential and available all day, every day.

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## **Council for the Arts of Herndon and Supervisor Foust Team Up for Shoe Drive**

Every holiday season, the Council for the Arts of Herndon joins with the Dranesville Supervisor's

office to gather new shoes for children at Hutchison Elementary School in Herndon. Hutchison is a Title I school serving many students with challenging social and economic issues.

"Staff and teachers will notice children who are wearing open sandals or shoes that are falling apart," said Hutchison principal Judy Baldwin. "We can provide for them with these donations. Last year this was especially bad since it was extremely cold, and this year, we are seeing the same thing happening. Winter is just starting now, and we know it will get worse. This is such a blessing for kids in our school."

This year, 25 pairs of new shoes and \$615 in gift cards were donated. Supervisor Foust would like to thank all the kind and generous donors who provided much needed and appreciated shoes and gift cards.



*(Pictured from left to right) Grace Han Wolf, immediate past president, Council for the Arts of Herndon, Herndon Town Council Member; Signe Friedrichs, Executive Director, Council for the Arts of Herndon; Cathy Lanni, Board of Directors, Council for the Arts of Herndon; John W. Foust, Dranesville District Supervisor; Anna Bledsoe, Staff, Council for the Arts of Herndon; Jenny Phipps, Herndon Aide to Supervisor Foust; and Judy Baldwin, Principal, Hutchison Elementary School.*

## **Blanket Drive for Syrian Refugees a Success**

For the second year, the Northern Virginia Regional Commission coordinated a regional effort to collect blankets for refugees who have fled Syria and other countries for Turkey due to the violence in the Middle East. This year's blanket drive was a resounding success; 17 tons of blankets were collected and boxed, compared to the 12 tons collected last year.

The drive had collection locations throughout Northern Virginia, including several Fairfax County Supervisor offices. Once collected, the blankets are trucked to Norfolk for loading on a freighter destined for Mersin, Turkey. There the blankets are off loaded and distributed to

refugees in camps and in the community.

Thank you to everyone who donated!



*Volunteer, Megan Flynn, collected 99 blankets and delivered them to the Dranesville District office. Megan is shown here with Supervisor John Foust. Dranesville donated the largest number of blankets among Fairfax County Supervisor office collection points.*



*Carlos, an enthusiastic student volunteer from Cooper Middle School in McLean, unloads one of many boxes for the blanket drive contributed by Cooper Middle School.*

## RECOGNITIONS

### **Park Authority Presents 2014 Elly Doyle Awards**

*Robert Lundegard Given Mayo Stuntz Cultural Stewardship Award*

*Alan Figgatt Honored for Volunteer Efforts at Turner Farm Park*

The Fairfax County Park Authority Board presented its 2014 Elly Doyle Park Service Awards at a ceremony held on November 21. The annual awards recognize individuals and organizations that contribute outstanding volunteer service to the Park Authority. Among this year's awardees were two Dranesville residents, both from Great Falls. Bob Lundegard received the Mayo Stuntz Cultural Stewardship Award and Alan Figgatt received the Dranesville District Elly Doyle Park Service Award.

The Mayo Stuntz award celebrates outstanding service through the stewardship of historic resources. Award recipient Bob Lundegard has provided support for over 15 years to Colvin Run Mill in Great Falls. He is a founding member of the Friends of Colvin Run Mill, an organization dedicated in part to preserving the technological and industrial heritage of Northern Virginia. He served as the organization's treasurer and newsletter editor and then two terms as its president. He has lobbied hard to gain support for a Colvin Run Mill visitor center.

Elly Doyle Park Service Award winner, Alan Figgatt, has volunteered for over ten years at the Analemma Society's Friday Night celestial observation programs held at The Turner Farm Observatory Park. He has met with students, scout groups and many others, to share his knowledge of the heavens and telescopes with residents.



*Supervisor John Foust with Bob and Marjorie Lundegard at Elly Doyle ceremony.*



*Bob Figgatt at Elly Doyle ceremony. (5th from left)*

## **Board of Supervisors Recognizes the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of McLean Citizens Association**

This year marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the McLean Citizens Association (MCA), Fairfax County's oldest civic organization. To celebrate the occasion, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors recognized representatives of the MCA Board at its November 18 meeting. Chairman Sharon Bulova and Supervisor John Foust also recognized the group on November 20, at an MCA event celebrating this special milestone.

Since 1914, the MCA has served as the "voice of McLean", an unofficial town council for the 31,000 households of the greater McLean area. The MCA is led by a 40-member Board of Directors, which includes 20 members representing active homeowner and civic associations, 14 at-large members and 6 officers.

Founded as the School and Civic League of McLean, the organization has been dedicated to enhancing the civic, educational, environmental, recreational and social interests of the greater McLean area community and has provided a forum in which local residents may come together to discuss problems and concerns affecting the area and work collaboratively toward their resolution, including with elected officials and government staff.



## **Champions of Character Award Winners Honored**

The annual Fairfax County Champions of Character Awards (FCAC) program honors youth, coaches and parents who have demonstrated extraordinary service in the sports community while modeling the basic traits of good character: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship. A female athlete, male athlete, coach and parent who exemplify these traits are selected from each Fairfax County Magisterial District.

This year's award winners were recognized at a ceremony with the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors on November 10. Dranesville residents receiving 2014 FCAC honors were:

### **George Divone, Male Athlete (Great Falls Lacrosse Assoc.)**

George Divone, an 11 year-old athlete from the Great Falls Lacrosse Association, began playing the sport when he was only five years old. He is in his sixth year with Great Falls Lacrosse. After the death of his mother from cancer, George started a fund raising campaign for cancer research, turning his personal loss into a positive message for his team.

### **Emily Boyd, Female Athlete (Great Falls Lacrosse Assoc.)**

Emily Boyd is a 14 year-old young lady who is entering her eighth season with the Great Falls Lacrosse Association. Besides being an outstanding athlete, Emily has been noted for her dedication as a volunteer and mentor to the younger kids in the lacrosse program.

### **Abbey Piro: Coach (Great Falls Little League)**

Abbey Piro is a high school senior at Stone Ridge School. She is a standout softball player and balances her athletics with an intense school workload. With all of her academic and athletic success as a student athlete, Abbey still finds time to coach younger girls in softball.

### **Chuck Pruitt: Parent (McLean Youth Volleyball)**

Chuck Pruitt is the chairman of the McLean Youth Volleyball program. He began the program in 2012. Prior to that, the volleyball program consisted of about 80 participants and was conducted

in a clinic type setting. The program now includes over 400 participants.



## Herndon Fortnightly Club Celebrates 125 Years of Serving the Community

The Herndon Fortnightly Club, the oldest active women's club in Virginia and founder of the first lending library in Fairfax County, celebrated its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. Eleven women formed the club in 1889 to enhance their knowledge of literature, art, science, and the issues of the day. They collected enough books to start a lending library for the Town in a rented room. In 1927, the club moved into its newly-built brick building on Spring Street, and operated the Herndon Fortnightly Library until it was incorporated into the County's Public Library system.

During the planning of the new public library building in 1990, club members successfully lobbied to have the building placed in downtown Herndon. The new building was named in honor of the club, and in 1995 the Herndon Fortnightly Library opened its doors.

Over the years, the club has generously supported the community and has made contributions to a number of worthy charities. A top priority has been to help students with higher education. Since 1971, the Fortnightly Club has awarded over \$192,000 in scholarships to Herndon-area students and adults to further their education.

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors recognized the Herndon Fortnightly Club on this special milestone, at its October 7 meeting.



## Herndon Woman's Club Celebrates 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The Herndon Woman's Club was recognized for 75 years of providing service to the Herndon community at the September 23 meeting of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

The Club was formed originally in 1939 as the Junior Woman's Club of Herndon, sponsored by the Herndon Fortnightly Club.

Over the years, the club has generously supported the community and has made contributions to a number of worthy charities. A top priority has been to help students with higher education. Since 1971, the Fortnightly Club has awarded over \$192,000 in scholarships to Herndon-area students and adults to further their education.



## Board of Supervisors Recognizes Franklin Sherman Elementary School on its Centennial

Franklin Sherman Elementary School is celebrating its 100th year. For the occasion, Principal Kathleen Quigly and other school officials were recognized by the Board of Supervisors at its December 2 meeting.

Franklin Sherman Elementary School is a neighborhood school with historic ties to Fairfax County. Franklin Sherman opened in 1914 as the County's first consolidated school. One hundred years later, the Franklin Sherman community is now enriched by a marvelous international population. Built in 1952, the present-day Franklin Sherman Elementary School serves a population of students from preschool through grade 6.



## **Board of Supervisors Recognizes Long-Serving Election Officers** *Dranesville Resident, Caroline Williams, Among Those Recognized*

The Fairfax County Office of Elections values the dedicated service of the 3,600 election officers who offer their time to ensure an open, fair and efficient electoral process in Fairfax County. A special group of these individuals have worked at 20 or more elections. In recognition of their service, the Board of Supervisors presented these long-serving officers with a certificate of appreciation and a Fairfax County pin at its July 2014 meeting.

Among those honored was Caroline Williams of Dranesville, who has worked at 56 elections.



## **Longfellow Middle School Principal Carole Kihm Named** **2014 Outstanding Middle School Principal of Virginia**

Carole Kihm, who has served as principal of Longfellow Middle School since May 2008, was named the 2014 Outstanding Middle School Principal of Virginia by the Virginia Association of Secondary School Principals.

Kihm, who won the Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) First-Year Principal of the Year award in 2009, is praised as a collaborative team builder who uses innovation to lead the school. She is known for spending the majority of her time in classroom observations and providing immediate feedback to teachers, while challenging them to reach beyond the basic curriculum to tap into students' interests and passions.

Principal Kihm was recognized before the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors at its September 23 meeting.



## **McLean High School Officer Scott Davis Named Distinguished School Resource Officer for Fairfax County Schools**

Police Officer First Class Scott Davis, who serves as the School Resource Officer at McLean High School, has been named the 2014 Fairfax County Public Schools Distinguished School Resource Officer. Officer Davis was honored by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors at its September 23 meeting.

Davis was praised for his involvement in the school community and regular attendance at after-school events, including sports, plays, dances, concerts, and Special Olympics basketball games. Nominators say he is routinely viewed by students as a role model, mentor, and friend.



## **Board of Supervisors Recognize Doug Downer and Herndon Dulles Chamber of Commerce Friday Night Live Committee**

At its October 28 meeting, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors recognized Doug Downer and the Herndon Dulles Chamber of Commerce Friday Night Live Committee for their excellent work on behalf of the community.

Twenty years ago, Doug Downer initiated a series of free Friday evening concerts in Herndon Town Green during summer months. Today, Mr. Downer and the Herndon Dulles Chamber of Commerce Friday Night Live Committee organize and run the concert program.

Proceeds from sales at the concerts benefit a number of Herndon-based organizations.



## Fairfax County 2014 Environmental Excellence Awards

*Among award recipients, Dranesville residents*

*John DeNoyer and Ann Csonka Recognized*

Each year, the Fairfax County [Environmental Excellence Awards](#) recognize County individuals and groups that dedicate time and energy to benefit the environment and support County environmental goals and initiatives.

Among this year's award recipients, Dranesville residents **John DeNoyer** and **Ann Csonka** (posthumous) have been recognized for leadership and engagement to protect our natural resources and the environment.

John DeNoyer served on the Herndon Town Council and chaired the Environmental Quality Advisory Council. Ann Csonka was cited for her expertise and passion for teaching others about conservation and ecology. Their many contributions include:

- Supporting enactment of the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act.
- Founding Tree Action in the early 1980s, the predecessor to Friends of Runnymede Park.
- Organizing the first Sugarland Run and Runnymede Park Cleanup in 1987, which has become an annual event.
- Organizing the recording of 450 plant species in Runnymede Park, resulting in the park's being designated as a Native Plant Registry Site.
- Participating in the Herndon Environmental Network (recipient of a [2013 Environmental Excellence Award](#)).

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](mailto:Dranesville@FairfaxCounty.gov).*

