



Dranesville Happenings

May 2016

Announcements and Upcoming Activities in and Around the Dranesville District



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EVENTS

April 30: Operation Medicine Cabinet Cleanout

Safely dispose of unused or expired medications

Drop off unused or expired medications during Operation Medicine Cabinet Cleanout. Only pills and liquids will be accepted; pressurized canisters and needles will not be accepted. Medications can be dropped off at any Fairfax County District Police Station (Dranesville District information provided below). Safe handling of unused or expired medications prevents accidental poisoning and drug abuse and protects the environment.

Event Details

Saturday, April 30

8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

McLean District Station

1437 Balls Hill Road

This event is hosted by the Unified Prevention Coalition of Fairfax County and other government partners.

For more information on Operation Medicine Cabinet Cleanout or for a list of other drop-off sites, visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/csb/news/2016/operation-medicine-cabinet-cleanout.htm>.

May 1: Meet the MCC Governing Board Candidates Reception

Hosted by the Friends of the McLean Community Center

Join the Friends of the McLean Community Center for its 3rd Annual Meet the McLean Community Center (MCC) Governing Board Candidates Reception.

Event Details

Sunday, May 1

2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

McLean Community Center, Community Hall

1234 Ingleside Avenue

For more information on the candidates, visit <http://bit.ly/1MZA6fo>. To RSVP, email elections@mcleancenter.org. For questions about the event, call Mary Anne Hampton at 703-255-4944.

May 2: Nominations for MCA Teen Character Award Due

The McLean Citizens Association (MCA) is seeking nominees for the 19th Annual MCA Teen Character Award. Each year, the MCA recognizes six teens who have demonstrated outstanding character through contributions made to the welfare of their neighborhood or community, on their own, and not for compensation. Teenagers who live in McLean and are between the ages of 13 and 19 are eligible for this recognition.

In order to qualify for consideration, the teen's community involvement must meet the following criteria:

- activity is performed on a continual basis (at least 10 times) and for at least 30 total hours
- activity is voluntary and initiated by teenager
- activity has not been previously recognized, does not provide compensation or constitute an unpaid internship, and is not school-related
- activity demonstrates one or more of the following values: caring, trustworthiness, responsibility, fairness, respect, citizenship

The award will be presented at a ceremony at McLean Day on Sunday, May 21 at 3:00 p.m. The application should be completed and submitted online by May 2 and is available at <http://goo.gl/forms/E07e9pWstb>.

Contact Elizabeth Baird at teencharacteraward@gmail.com for more information.

May 2: VDOT Six-Year Improvement Program Public Meeting

VDOT Seeks Public Input

The public is invited to share comments on transportation projects that have been scored and recommended for funding through Virginia's new data-driven, prioritization process. This process was used to score nearly 300 transportation projects proposed by localities and regional planning bodies across the state. The scoring is a key part of a new law, referred to as House Bill 2, to invest limited tax dollars in transportation projects.

The Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) will consider public comments as it develops the Six-Year Improvement Program (FY 2017-2022). The program allocates public funds to highway, road, bridge, rail, bicycle, pedestrian and public transportation projects. The CTB will select the final list of scored projects to be included in the six-year program following the public meetings.

Northern Virginia Meeting Details

Monday, May 2, 6:00 p.m.

Northern Virginia District Office, Potomac Room

4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax

Online Resources

Project prioritization information: <http://www.virginiahb2.org/>

Six-Year Improvement Program: <http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/syp-default.asp>

Public Input

Submit comments by email or mail by May 27, 2016:

For roads and highways: Six-YearProgram@VDOT.Virginia.gov or Infrastructure Investment Director, Virginia Department of Transportation 1401 East Broad St., Richmond, VA 23219.

For transit and public transportation: DRPTPR@drpt.virginia.gov or Public Information Office, Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation 600 East Main Street, Suite 2102, Richmond VA, 23219.

Once projects are scored and public input is received, the CTB will select which projects will be funded and included in the six-year program by July 1, 2016.

For additional information, contact Jenny Kaplan in the office of Supervisor Foust at Jennifer.Kaplan@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-356-0551.

May 3 - 22: *Unlimited* at ArtSpace Herndon
The League of Reston Artists Honors Shakespeare

The League of Reston Artists (LRA) is honoring Shakespeare for the 400th anniversary of his death with *Unlimited*, which features selected art from LRA artists.

Event Details

Tuesday, May 3 - Sunday, May 22

Hours: Tuesday through Thursday: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Friday and Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

ArtSpace Herndon

750 Center Street

Meet the artists and enjoy light refreshments and a performance by local guitar player, Bill Cabrera at the Opening Reception.

Opening Reception

Saturday, May 7, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

ArtSpace Herndon

For more information on the exhibit and artists or to purchase sponsorships please visit www.ArtSpaceHerndon.org.

May 4: Community Meeting on Proposed Restoration of Dead Run Stream
Revised plan developed with Task Force

Supervisor Foust and the Fairfax County Department of Public Works and Environmental Services (DPWES) invite you to attend a community meeting regarding revisions to the proposed restoration of Dead Run Stream through McLean Central Park and the Dead Run Stream Valley Park.

Event Details

Wednesday, May 4, 7:00 p.m.

Dolley Madison Library (Meeting Room 1/2)

1244 Oak Ridge Avenue, McLean

In October 2015 Supervisor Foust convened a Task Force of interested residents, members of the McLean Citizens Association Environment, Parks and Recreation Committee, the McLean Trees Foundation, Potowmack Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society and various County agencies to reevaluate a proposed restoration plan for Dead Run by Fairfax County. The purpose of the Task Force was to develop a plan that balanced the need to restore the stream with concerns about tree loss and park access.

The latest design concept restores approximately 3,000 linear feet of degraded stream using natural channel design principles that promote long-term bank stability, reduce sediment and nutrient loads, and mitigate flooding impacts on adjacent properties. With input from the Task Force, the design has reduced tree impacts by 33 percent (from 221 to 148 trees greater than 6 inches in diameter), when compared to the original proposal. The design also includes a new access road alignment that further reduces impacts to residential parcels and park users.

For more information contact Ben Wiles in the office of Supervisor Foust at 703-356-0551 or by email at Benjamin.Wiles@fairfaxcounty.gov.

May 5, 18: NVTC Open House and Public Hearing *Transform 66 Inside the Beltway Multimodal Components*

The Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) is seeking public input on the multimodal components submitted for FY 2017 funding consideration as part of the Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT's) Transform 66 Inside the Beltway Project.

Event Details

Thursday, May 5

6:00 p.m. - Open House, 7:00 p.m. - Public Hearing

Northern Virginia Transportation Commission, First Floor Conference Room
2300 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington

Wednesday, May 18

4:30 p.m. - Open House, 6:00 p.m. - Public Hearing

Reston Station
1904 Reston Metro Plaza, Reston
(Near the Wiehle-Reston East Metro Station)

The public comment period opened on April 5, 2016 and has been extended through the close of business May 23, 2016.

For more information:

- Visit www.novatransit.org/i66multimodal
- Call NVTC at 703-NVTC-321 (703-688-2321)
- E-mail i66multimodal@nvtvc.org
- Visit NVTC's offices at 2300 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 620, Arlington, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

May 5, 6: Big Truck Days

Hosted by the Town of Herndon's Department of Public Works

Join the Town of Herndon's Department of Public Works for its annual "Big Truck Days," an opportunity for children - and their parents - to see the town's big trucks and heavy equipment on display. Light refreshments will be served and souvenirs will be provided to children.

Event Details

Thursday, May 5, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Friday, May 6, 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Public Works Maintenance Complex
1479 Sterling Road, Herndon

The event is free; however, attendees are encouraged to bring non-perishable food donations for the needy. Large groups should call ahead.

For more information, contact the Public Works Maintenance Complex at 703-435-6860 or via email at publicworks@herndon-va.gov.

May 9: Slow-Down to Get-Around Education Campaign Kick Off Event

Hosted by the Fairfax County Solid Waste Management Program

The Fairfax County Solid Waste Management Program is hosting a county-wide education initiative regarding the importance of HB 1649, the Slow-Down-to-Get-Around law that Governor McAuliffe signed in 2015. This legislation is a safe driving law intended to protect trash truck workers who must access roadways to collect trash.

Event Details

Monday, May 9, 10:00 a.m.

Fairfax County Government Center
12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax

The event will include a trash collection truck outfitted with the new safety light array, new safety light and uniform demonstrations, presentation of a testimonial from a trash collector who was injured by a passing car, remarks from distinguished guests, and light refreshments.

View a PSA about Slow-Down to Get-Around from the National Solid Waste Management Association at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QNZT8sMmgwg>.

May 9, 11: Transform 66 Inside the Beltway Project ***VDOT Public Information Meetings - Eastbound Widening***

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) will host public information meetings for the proposed widening of a four-mile stretch on eastbound I-66 from the Dulles Connector Road to Ballston as part of the Transform 66 Inside the Beltway Project.

Information on the widening will be provided, including an update about the Environmental Assessment (EA) that VDOT is preparing for the widening to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Each meeting will include the opportunity to view project displays and attend a formal presentation, followed by a question and answer session.

Event Details

Monday, May 9

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., brief presentation at 7:00 p.m.

Washington-Lee High School Cafeteria

1301 N. Stafford Street, Arlington

Wednesday, May 11

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., brief presentation at 7:00 p.m.

Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School Cafeteria

7130 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22043

The public will have the opportunity to review project materials at the meetings, including concepts, project schedule, right-of-way, and environmental and civil rights information. Materials will also be available for review at www.Transform66.org.

May 10: McLean Historical Society Meeting

The May meeting of the McLean Historical Society will feature prominent local historian, William Page Johnson II, who will present his research into the life of Mottrom Dulany

Ball. A native of Lewinsville, Mottrom Dulany Ball had a colorful Civil War career, was a lawyer and newspaper editor in Fairfax Courthouse, and ultimately served as the first territorial governor of Alaska.

Mr. Johnson, the elected Commissioner of the Revenue of the City of Fairfax, has served on the boards of Historic Fairfax City, Inc. and the Historical Society of Fairfax County.

Event Details

Tuesday, May 10, 7:30 p.m.
McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Avenue

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Paul Kohlenberger at 703-980-0885 or paulkohl@msn.com.

May 19: Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce May After-Hours Mixer
Shop McLean First

Join the Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce for its monthly After-Hours Mixer. As part of the Chamber's ongoing Shop McLean First initiative, the community is invited to visit the Langley Shopping Center for refreshments, demonstrations, and specials.

Event Details

Thursday, May 19
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Langley Shopping Center
1394 Chain Bridge Road, McLean

Participating merchants include Flowers & Plants, etc., Dal Grano, McLean Pharmacy, Music & Arts, PR at Partners, Destination Fitness, Masala, Color Wheel, and Lamps Unlimited. Those who visit every retailer will have a chance to win a raffle prize! This free community event offers attendees the opportunity to network with business and community leaders while learning more about and supporting local businesses.

For more information, contact Paul Kohlenberger at pkohlenberger@mcleanchamber.org or 703-356-5424.

May 20: Fairfax County Bike to Work Day

Fairfax County Invites Residents, Employers to Participate in Bike to Work Day

Time to tune up those brakes and grab your helmet for the 16th annual Bike to Work Day! With 14 pit stops in Fairfax County from Mount Vernon to Herndon, local cyclists will have the opportunity to take a break from their ride and be rewarded for participating in the event.

Each pit stop will welcome bicyclists with refreshments, entertainment, and the chance to win great prizes, while supplies last. The first 15,000 to register will receive a free t-shirt at the pit stop of their choice.

Dranesville District Pit Stops

Greenberry's Coffee Shop
McLean Square Shopping Center
6839 Redmond Drive, McLean

Herndon Town Hall Green
Intersection of Lynn and Elden Streets, just off the W&OD trail

For more information about Bike to Work Day 2016 and to register online, visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/bike/btwd2016.htm> or contact the Fairfax County Department of Transportation at 703-877-5600, TTY 711.

May 21: McLean Day

Produced by the McLean Community Center

Join other community members for the annual McLean Day festival. Enjoy carnival rides, food trucks, live entertainment, a petting zoo, exhibitor booths, field games, a tennis clinic, bumper ball, laser tag, a magician, balloon animals, and more.

Event Details

Saturday, May 21
10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Lewinsville Park
1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean

Admission is free. For festival updates, driving directions, shuttle bus stop locations and a festival area map, visit: www.mcleancenter.org/special-events or call the Center at 703-790-0123, TTY 711.

May 23, 24, 25: I-66 Outside the Beltway Public Hearings

Hosted by VDOT and DRPT

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), in partnership with the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT), will host hearings to present the complete set of draft Request for Proposals (RFP) documents for the Transform 66 Outside the Beltway project and provide an opportunity for public comment on the draft comprehensive agreement.

In addition, VDOT will provide information and receive comments from the public regarding its intent to change the existing High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) designation on I-66 from HOV-2 to HOT-3 (High Occupancy Toll or Express Lanes, where vehicles with three or more occupants travel for free) when the Express Lanes on I-66 Outside the Beltway open to traffic in late 2020.

Event Details:

Monday, May 23

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., brief presentation at 7:00 p.m.

Oakton High School, Cafeteria

2900 Sutton Road, Vienna

*Tuesday, May 24

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., brief presentation at 7:00 p.m.

VDOT Northern Virginia District Office

4975 Alliance Drive, Fairfax

*Visit www.Transform66.org to view a live stream of this hearing at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 25

6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., brief presentation at 7:00 p.m.

Piney Branch Elementary School, Cafeteria/Gym

8301 Linton Hall Road, Bristow

Comments related to these hearings must be postmarked, emailed, or delivered to VDOT by June 10, 2016 to be included in the public hearing record.

For more information on the public hearings, how to submit comments, and to view the public hearing notification, visit www.Transform66.org.

May 26: Deadline to Apply for Herndon Fortnightly Club Scholarship

Applications are being accepted for one-year scholarships from the Herndon Fortnightly Club. Individuals living in the greater Herndon area are invited to apply. Past recipients of Fortnightly scholarships are not eligible for further consideration.

Candidates should be accepted for entrance or enrolled in an educational institution before applying for the scholarship. Qualifying coursework includes undergraduate, post graduate, continuing education, and coursework required for reentering the workforce.

Candidates should write a one-page letter, without attachments, to The Herndon Fortnightly Club explaining why the scholarship is needed, what career goals are being pursued and what academic institution has or will provide acceptance. Comments relating to activities, community service and academic standing should also be included.

The letter with applicant's name, address, and phone number should be sent to Scholarships, c/o The Herndon Fortnightly Club, P.O. Box 55, Herndon, VA 20172-0055. Application letters must be received by May 26, 2016.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Herndon Friday Night Live! At Herndon Town Green

Friday nights during the summer, Friday Night Live! concerts are held on the Herndon Town Green. Concerts are free and feature popular local and regional acts.

Event details:

6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

Herndon Town Green in Old Town Herndon

777 Lynn Street

(Behind the Municipal Building)

Friday Night Live! is almost always held regardless of forecast unless actual rain forces cancellation. Food, beer, and wine are available.

2016 Music Schedule*

May

- 6 - Go Go Gadget
- 13 - The Rockets
- 20 - Split Decision
- 27 - The Reagan Years

June

- 3 - Herndon Festival (No Friday Night Live!)
- 10 - Gonzo's Nose
- 17 - Burnt Sienna
- 24 - Fish Out of Water + The Jerx

July

- 1 - Turtle Recall + South Bay
- 8 - Kristen & the Noise
- 15 - Crazy in Stereo + Six to Midnight
- 22 - The Reflex
- 29 - Herr Metal + Dr. FU

August

- 5 - Sam Grow + Delta Spur
- 12 - Love Seed Mama Jump
- 19 - For the Win
- 26 - The Vigilantes

*Schedule Subject to Change

For more information, visit <http://www.herndonrocks.com/> or follow @HerndonRocks on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

Free Secure Shredding Events Provide Protection Against Identity Theft *2016 Residential Document Shredding Event Schedule*

Protect yourself from identity theft by destroying sensitive documents such as old tax forms, sales receipts, and other financial records that contain private information. This year, Fairfax County's Solid Waste Management Program will run shredding events throughout the county, where residents may securely shred up to five medium-size boxes of documents. The documents will be reduced to unreadable shreds thereby preserving residents' privacy and preventing fraud.

Material from businesses will not be accepted. Other items that will not be accepted include plastic report covers, metal binder clips, floppy discs, CDs, newspapers, junk mail, film, and photographs.

Remaining Dates for the 2016 Schedule of Shredding Events (8:00 a.m. to noon):

- May 14: Braddock District Governmental Center, 9002 Burke Lake Rd., Burke 22015
- June 25: Kilmer Middle School, 8100 Wolftrap Rd., Vienna 22182
- July 23: Mount Vernon High School, 8515 Mt. Vernon Rd., Alexandria 22309
- August 20: Spring Hill Elementary School, 8201 Lewinsville Rd., McLean 22102
- September 24: North County Human Service Center, 1850 Cameron Glen Drive, Reston 20190
- October 15: South County Governmental Center, 8350 Richmond Hwy., Alexandria 22309
- October 22: Springfield Governmental Center, 6140 Rolling Rd., Springfield 22152

For more information, visit

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/recycling/shredding.htm> or call 703-324-5230, TTY 711 or contact Matthew Kaiser, Public Information Officer, Department of Public Works and Environmental Services, 703-324-8455, TTY 711.

Fairfax County Business Hazardous Waste Disposal Program

The Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generators (CESQG) Program, run by Fairfax County's Solid Waste Management Program, includes hazardous waste disposal events for qualifying small businesses. Events will be held at the household hazardous waste disposal facility at the I-66 transfer station (4618 West Ox Road, Fairfax, phone: 703- 631-1179) from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., rain or shine. Only business and commercial waste will be accepted during disposal events.

Remaining Dates for the 2016 Schedule of CESQG Events at the I-66 Transfer Station:

- Wednesday, May 4
- Wednesday, July 13
- Wednesday, September 14
- Wednesday, November 2

Details about sign-up, participation, and disposal can be accessed online at

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/trash/disphazcomm.htm> or by calling the Fairfax County Solid Waste Management program at 703-324-5230.

Tysons Library Friends Used Book Sale

Tysons-Pimmit Library Temporary Location

While the Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library is closed for renovation, the Tysons Library Friends will host a Used Book Sale every Saturday at their temporary location. Books on a variety of subjects and in several languages, children's books, vinyl records, and other media will be sold.

Used Book Sale Event Details

Every Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
7700 Leesburg Pike, Suite 137, Falls Church

The Tysons Library Friends will also accept donations Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. In addition, a book donation bin, located in the parking lot between the North and South Lobbies of 7700 Leesburg Pike, can be used to drop off books 24/7.

For more information, to make an appointment, or to arrange for large donations or purchases, please contact the Tysons Library Friends at TysonsLibraryFriends@gmail.com or 703-338-3307.

For more information regarding the library renovation, contact Ben Wiles in the office of Supervisor Foust at Benjamin.Wiles@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-356-0551.

Rain Barrel Workshops and Sale

Rain barrels are used to collect rain water that can be used around the house and in the garden. Using a rain barrel can help save money and water. As part of a regional initiative, NVSWCD offers build-your-own rain barrel workshops and distributes low-cost rain barrels to Fairfax County citizens. Rain barrel workshop attendees will learn how to install and maintain a rain barrel and take one home!

Build Your Own Rain Barrel Workshop Event Details (\$55)

Saturday, May 7, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
2900 Business Center Drive, Alexandria

Saturday, May 14, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Walker Nature Center, 11450 Glade Drive, Reston

Rain Barrel Sale Event Details (\$65)

Saturday, June 4, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
7100 Gordon Road, Falls Church

Registration is required and closes 3 to 4 days prior to each event. The fee per barrel is \$55 for the build-your-own workshops and \$65 per barrel for the distribution event. Only two rain barrels will fit in most vehicles.

For more information or to register, visit
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/rainbarrels.htm.

The Northern Virginia Rain Barrel Program is a regional partnership between the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District, Cities of Falls Church, Alexandria, and Fairfax, Reston Association, Arlington County, and Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment.

McLean AAUW Book Collection

The McLean American Association of University Women is collecting used books, CDs, DVDs, software, children's books, records, and recent textbooks for their 47th Annual Book Sale, which will be held in September. Proceeds from the sale are used to help fund scholarships for women.

Book Collection Details

Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
May 21
June 18
July 16
August 13

Sun Trust Bank
515 Maple Avenue East, Vienna

47th Book Sale Event Details

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, September 16, 17, 18
McLean Community Center
1234 Ingleside Avenue

For more information, email aauwbookfair@gmail.com or call 703-527-4206.

How to Report and Request Road Maintenance

Information from VDOT and Fairfax County

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) is responsible for the maintenance of most roads in Fairfax County. Some are maintained by Fairfax County, and even fewer are privately owned and maintained.

As the weather continues to improve, maintenance and repair operations will be ramping up from both the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and Fairfax County. Now is the time to report any potholes, damaged or down traffic signs, or other issues to VDOT. You can submit concerns and requests online at <https://my.vdot.virginia.gov/>.

Potholes occur when pavement is weakened by seeping moisture which freezes and expands, causing the road to crack. Traffic driving over the roads loosens the pavement further, and it eventually crumbles, causing a pothole.

If you see a pothole you may report the problem to VDOT [online](#) or by calling 1-800-FOR-ROAD (1-800-367-7623). VDOT will investigate each report and will schedule repairs as soon as possible.

Public street name signs are maintained by the Fairfax County Department of Public Works and Environmental Services. More information is available from the County Sign Shop at 703-877-2800, TTY 711. To report a problem (e.g., missing sign, bent pole, etc.), call the Sign Shop or submit the information using the on-line Street Name Sign Maintenance Form at <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/utilities/streetsignform.htm>.

For more information or for help determining who maintains your road, contact Jenny Kaplan in the office of Supervisor Foust at Jennifer.Kaplan@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-356-0551.

Call 811 Before You Dig

A Message from Columbia Gas

Whether you are planting a tree, installing a deck, or digging a garden, Virginia law requires you to call 811 at least three working days before you start to dig. A representative from each utility operator will mark the approximate location of the buried utilities at your dig site. It is a free service and will provide you with an understanding of which utility may be in conflict with your digging plans. Striking a utility can cause personal injury, repair costs, fines, and loss of important utility service.

When you dial 811, you are connected to Virginia811, which notifies all the utility companies with facilities in the excavation area of the caller's intent to dig. Qualified professional utility locators are sent to the requested digging site to mark the approximate locations of underground lines with flags and color-coded spray paint. Each type of utility has designated marking colors to clearly identify the type of underground facilities. Yellow is the designated color for gas and oil pipelines.

The depth of utility lines can vary for a number of reasons, such as erosion, previous digging projects and uneven surfaces. Installing a mailbox, building a deck and planting a tree or garden are all examples of digging projects that should only begin a few days after making a call to 811.

More information about Columbia Gas of Virginia is available at www.ColumbiaGasVa.com.

Call for Volunteers and Drivers

Shepherd's Center of McLean, Arlington, and Falls Church

The Shepherd's Center of McLean, Arlington, and Falls Church has initiated two programs for senior adults who find it difficult to leave their homes. The Friendly Visitor program matches volunteers to seniors who would like a visit periodically. The Friendly Caller program allows volunteers to call seniors and remind them to call the Center if they need help.

In addition, the Shepherd's Center seeks volunteers to help provide transportation for individuals in need. These rides are often to medical and therapy appointments, the pharmacy, or the grocery store.

No long term commitment is required and scheduling is flexible.

For more information or to get involved, call the Shepherd's Center at 703-506-2199, email info@scmafc.org, or visit www.scmafc.org.

Volunteer Opportunities and Events

County Division of Adult and Aging Services

Meaningful volunteer opportunities and events are available to improve the lives of older adults and adults with disabilities in Fairfax County. For a complete list of volunteer opportunities in Fairfax County or more information about those listed below, visit <http://fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults> and follow the link to "Volunteer Solutions" or call

703-324-5406, TTY 711. Register online at <https://volunteer.fairfaxcounty.gov/custom/1380/index.php>.

Events and Volunteer Opportunities

[Adult Day Health Care and Senior Centers](#) - Visit centers to assist with fitness activities, arts and crafts, meal time, entertainment and more.

Caregiver Respite - Respite volunteers give family caregivers of older adults, who cannot be left alone, a well-earned break. Volunteers are matched with families in or near their own neighborhoods. Volunteers receive training and support.

Grocery Shopping - Shop for an older adult or accompany them to the grocery store. Commitment: two hours every other week.

Group Volunteer Opportunity - During the month of May in honor of Older Americans Month, Volunteer Solutions' Helping Hands program links volunteers to older adults throughout the County to help them maintain their homes. Volunteers assist older clients with yard work and home projects including: deep cleaning, decluttering and organization. This opportunity is ideal for individuals, groups, college students, faith groups, youth groups, friends, and families.

Household Services - Unpack boxes, change light bulbs, paint small areas, straighten cupboards or closets, organize paperwork, 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 or more. Volunteer opportunities are available in several locations throughout the County. Employee groups are welcome to share a delivery commitment.

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, and communication (both oral and written). Must be able to volunteer in the office, use County database, and maintain confidentiality. Commitment: 10 to 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, the pharmacy, bank, library, grocery shopping, and more.

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 and provides flexible hours.

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.

