



Joan M. DuBois
Dranesville District Supervisor

1437 Balls Hill Road • McLean, VA 22101
Tel. 703-356-0551, TTY 711 • Fax 703-821-4275
E-mail: dranesville@fairfaxcounty.gov
Web site: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dranesville/

Dranesville Dispatch

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Letter from Supervisor Joan DuBois

Dear Dranesville Constituent,

I hope you had a safe and relaxing holiday season and are ready for a productive 2007! There are many wonderful things going on throughout Fairfax County and Dranesville. I encourage you to continue to subscribe to my newsletter for updates, events, and programs.

Later this month many citizens will receive a hard copy mailing of "The Dranesville District Citizens Handbook". This handbook is a resource for you on how to access government agencies and elected officials. By using this guide, you can quickly contact your local post office, parks, and schools, or browse a directory of important county numbers. If you do not receive a copy in the mail, please stop by my McLean or Herndon offices.

On Monday, January 8, I co-sponsored a resolution with Chairman Connolly and several Board members to reaffirm our strong preference for the Dulles Corridor Metrorail project to be implemented as a tunnel through Tysons Corner. I would like to thank all of you who have contacted me regarding this issue and let you know I have heard your concerns. To view a copy of the resolution please visit my [Web site](#). To read updates on the efforts to get the Federal Transit



**Happy
New Year
Dranesville!**

Administration to consider the tunnel and efforts to get the Governor to consider competitive bidding for the project please visit, www.tysonstunnel.org.

Please feel free to e-mail me about current issues that are important to you and your family in the coming year.

Joan M. DuBois



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Celebrate the Founding of Jamestown

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors invites residents to participate in the commemoration of the founding of Jamestown, the first permanent English settlement in America. This year marks the 400th anniversary of Jamestown's founding!

In September, 2006, Supervisor DuBois hosted her monthly Dateline Dranesville television show on local Jamestown 2007 celebrations showcasing Fairfax County as an official Virginia 2007 Community involved in the statewide commemoration. Countywide events include:

- * Publishing an anthology this spring that features historically significant events and stories that have taken place in Fairfax County during the past 400 years - since the settlement of Jamestown in 1607.
- * Sponsoring 10 different public service announcements about historically significant people and places in Fairfax County during the past 400 years. These PSAs are being cablecast on Fairfax County Government Channel 16 through December. To view the PSAs, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/opa/va2007, or watch Channel 16 throughout this year.
- * Encouraging all public and private property owners to plant an "Anniversary Garden," with a red-white-and-blue theme. For more information, suggested garden designs or tips, visit www.ext.vt.edu/americasgarden or call the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University Department of Horticulture at 540-231-7906, TTY 711, or e-mail Professor Joyce G. Latimer ilatime@vt.edu.

To sponsor a 2007 event or for more information about Fairfax County's 2007 program, contact the Office of Public Affairs, 703-324-3187, TTY 711, or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/opa/va2007/.

For more information about Jamestown 2007 and the Virginia 2007 program, please visit: www.americas400thanniversary.org.

County Public Schools News

Superintendent Jack Dale has presented a \$2.2 billion operating budget for FY 2008 reflecting a 4.3% increase over the FY 2007 approved budget. The FY 2008 budget includes funds for expanding full-day kindergarten to 21 additional elementary schools (\$5.6 million), covering an increase in students receiving special education services and English for speakers of other languages services (\$1.3 million). It also includes salary increases and improved health and retirement benefits for teachers. To review the budget and the School Board budget calendar, please visit www.fcps.edu/news/fy2008.htm.

Superintendent Dale also released the FCPS FY 2008-12 capital improvement program (CIP). It discusses plans for new schools, renovations, and additions over the next five years totaling \$794.6 million. Included in the presentation were renovations for Langley and Herndon High Schools, Franklin Sherman and Great Falls Elementary Schools, and Longfellow and Cooper Middle Schools. Statistics shown during the presentation reflected that school enrollment is slowing down from recent years. To view information about the CIP, please visit www.fcps.edu/news/cip.htm.

In other related news, the School Board has elected Dan Storck (Mount Vernon District) as chairman and Kathy Smith (Sully District) as vice chairman for 2007. They assumed office at the January 11 School Board meeting and will each serve a one year term. Dranesville representative Janie Strauss will co-chair the Budget Committee with Stuart Gibson (Hunter Mill District) .

Updates on Dulles Metro Project and Work of Tunnel Supporters

During December, citizens supporting the tunnel option signed a contract with a team of leading tunnel and transportation infrastructure engineers to complete preliminary engineering plans and an environmental assessment for a tunnel alignment under Tysons Corner. The groups participating in the tunnel engineering project include Dr. G. Sauer Corporation, an international tunnel engineering company, Arup Engineers, one of the largest design engineers in the world, KGP Design Studios, a leading metrorail system architect, and Earthtech, one of the largest engineering firms in the country.

This study will be provided to Governor Kaine on January 22, with the hope of persuading him that the tunnel option is financially competitive with the aerial alignment. Dulles Transit Partners is also scheduled to provide its firm bid on the aerial alignment to the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA)

On December 29, VDOT signed the first of several agreements that would transfer responsibilities for the Dulles Toll Road to MWAA. Ultimately, the Metrorail project, from West Falls Church to Route 773 in Loudoun County, would be managed and built by MWAA which will operate and maintain the toll road for 50 years. However, VDOT will continue to operate and maintain the Toll Road until the fall of 2007. For updates on activities of tunnel advocates, please visit www.tysonstunnel.org. For information on activities of the Dulles Transit Partners, please visit www.dullesmetro.com.

Finally, the Federal Transit Administration has approved an amended Record of Decision (ROD) for the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project, signifying the completion of the planning process and finalizing the alignment for the entire 23-mile project, including an aerial portion through Tysons Corner. To view the resolution I co-sponsored with several colleagues on January 8, again reiterating the Boards support for the tunnel alignment: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dranesville and click the link for transportation.

Heart Gallery

The Heart Gallery is a unique photo exhibit featuring children currently in foster care throughout the region who are seeking permanent adoptive homes. The Heart Gallery, sponsored by our Tysons Corner neighbor the Freddie Mac Foundation, will be displayed in 10 locations, including **January 29-February 2** at both the Fairfax County Government Center and Reston Regional Library. The display will return to Fairfax County again on **March 5-6** at the Herndon Fortnightly Library.

There are over 60 Heart Galleries nationwide with each representing local children from its region. This year's Heart Gallery includes several children from Fairfax County. For information on adoption through the county, please visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/.

To view the Heart Gallery online, with pictures and information about children seeking loving homes, please visit www.freddiemacfoundation.org/heartgallery/.

Marrow Donor Campaign Starts

Each year, more than 35,000 children and adults in the United States are diagnosed with diseases like leukemia for which a marrow or blood cell transplant may be a treatment option. Only 30 percent will find a matched donor in their own family.

The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department has partnered with the National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP) to sponsor several marrow donor drives throughout Fairfax County during February.

The program goal is to encourage residents to enroll in the national registry and increase the overall numbers of nationalities with lower representation. A quick and easy swab inside the cheek is all it takes to join the registry. Numerous opportunities for residents to register with the National Marrow Donor Program have been scheduled throughout February.

Thursday, Feb. 1..... Fairfax County Government Center,
1200 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Virginia 22030, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 3..... Tyson's Corner Mall Community Room, (next to escalators to cinema level)
1961 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, Virginia 22102, 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 17..... Tyson's Corner Mall Community Room,
1961 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, Virginia 22102, 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.

To find many other February dates and location sites throughout the county, please visit:

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fr/news/maarchive/ma2007/ma07_001.htm

For more information about this program, call Daniel L. Schmidt or Lieutenant Raúl G. Castillo, Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, 703-246-3801, TTY 711 or e-mail fire-rescue.PIO-LSE@fairfaxcounty.gov



Toy and Canned Good Drive

Technician Ronald Bauserman (left) and Lieutenant Glenn Mason (right) of the McLean District Fire Station receive donations collected from the toy drive held at the Dranesville District Supervisor's office.

Overall, the Ninth Annual holiday toy drive was once again a huge collaborative success between the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots program and Fire Rescue organizations across the Metropolitan area. Over 87,000 toys were collected for needy children. In Fairfax County, Woodlawn Fire Station 24's toy drive, collected 3,500 toys including 300 bicycles.

The Dranesville District office also held a successful canned good collection that went to SHARE, a non-profit that provides emergency needs to individuals and families in McLean, Great Falls, Pimmit Hills and surrounding area. Supervisor DuBois would like to thank the community for their outstanding generosity and encourage them to continue the spirit of giving and volunteerism throughout 2007, by checking out some of the county's volunteer opportunities: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/living/community/.

Library Shelf Space

I have received a number of calls about the recent *Washington Post* article, "Hello, Grisham – Goodbye, Hemingway," which implied that the library system is eliminating classic literature from its shelves. This is absolutely incorrect. Although the system occasionally reduces the number of copies of a particular title -- perhaps trimming Hemingway's *For Whom the Bell Tolls* from 110 copies to 108, for example -- the County remains committed to offering classic texts by leading authors of western culture. Here are the facts and circumstances surrounding the shelf trimming decision made by the library system.

There is a growing demand for more books in more formats and languages, while shelf space remains limited. Using industry standards, a new and efficient computer system, and a complex decision matrix along with the expertise of librarians with decades of professional experience, the system offers a dynamic, balanced collection of classics, new literature and reference materials.

However, when analysis reveals that copies of a specific book at a specific branch have not been checked out in at least two years, a process known as "weeding" takes place. There are several possible outcomes for that book: librarians may decide that its literary merit demands that all copies be kept on the shelf, whether or not it's been checked out. It may be sent to another branch of our library system where that title has proved more popular. The branch may provide it to a Friends group for their used book sales, or this particular copy of the book may be removed.

As a result of these efforts, the system expects 12 million books to be checked out during this fiscal year, a 10 percent increase over FY2005, when the new "weeding" process began. I regret that such a successful process has been mischaracterized by the press and urge you to explore the new services available to you, which reflect your requests that the library system be accessible and responsive to your tastes and needs: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/living/libraries/. I am sure you will find that Voltaire, Aristotle and John Locke remain available. If it is not at the branch of your choice, you can have it sent from the comfort of your living room to be picked up the same week.



Dolley Madison Renovation

In November 2004, Fairfax County voters passed a \$52.5 million library bond to finance the construction of two branches and the renovation of other branches including Dolley Madison Library in McLean. Construction is slated to begin in summer 2007 and be completed in fall 2008.

One of the changes to the building will be a lower level addition to include the Dranesville District Supervisor's office which is currently housed at the McLean Governmental Center. The Supervisor's

current space at the McLean Governmental Center is needed to accommodate the expanded operating responsibilities of the McLean District Police Station. The total building at the library, including the Supervisor's office, will be expanded to 24,700 sq ft. The Supervisor's office will be 5,800 sq ft.

The library will be closed during renovations and services will be provided via temporary trailers in the McLean Community Center parking lot. The plans for this project are available for review at the Dranesville Supervisor's office. A public hearing on the addition of the Supervisor's office to this facility is scheduled for Thursday, March 22, 2007 before the Fairfax County Planning Commission.

*Learn more about
the Board of
Supervisors*

The Board meets two Mondays per month beginning at 9:30 a.m. in the Board Auditorium in the Fairfax County Government Center. The Board's scheduled agenda is published ten days in advance of meetings in the [Weekly Agenda](#), available by e-mail subscription. The [Weekly Agenda](#) contains links to summaries of prior Board meetings, agendas of the Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals, and other information.

The Board of Supervisors is scheduled to meet at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 22, in the Fairfax County Government Center Board Auditorium, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. The draft agenda is available at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/board/bdagenda/schedule.htm. A 2007 meeting schedule and past agendas are also available at this site.

To speak at a public hearing before the Board, you are encouraged to register with the Office of the Clerk to the Board at 703-324-3151, TTY 703-324-3903. Lists of scheduled speakers for specific public hearings are posted inside the Board Auditorium the day of the meeting. To learn more about the details involved in speaking at a public hearing, please visit: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bosclerk/public.htm

Supervisors meetings are aired live on Fairfax County Government's Channel 16 and can also be viewed at: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cable/channel16/vod.htm. For more information, questions or a printed copy of the meeting agenda call the County Executive's Office at 703-324-2531, TTY 711 or send e-mails to: CoExec@fairfaxcounty.gov

Planning Commission

The Planning Commission is scheduled to meet at 8:15 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 25, in the Fairfax County Government Center Board Auditorium, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. The agenda is available at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning/calendar/CalendarJan07.pdf.

To view Planning Commission information, including the newsletter "Planning Communicator," meeting calendars and the summaries and minutes of past meetings, please visit: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning/.

Planning Commission meetings are also aired live on Fairfax County Government's Channel 16.

For more Planning Commission information, questions or a printed copy of the agenda, call the Planning Commission office at 703-324-2865, TTY 703-324-7951 or send e-mails to: plancom@fairfaxcounty.gov



As part of ongoing efforts to become a Wildlife Habitat, members of the Great Falls community have dedicated time to restoring riparian buffers at Turner Farm, as seen above with this planting project.

To have your home certified as a Great Falls Wildlife Habitat or get involved in local riparian buffer projects, e-mail Robin Rentsch robrentsch@cox.net.

Tyson's Land Use Task Force 2007 Activities

The Tyson's Land Use Task Force has outlined its planning and public outreach activities for 2007, which center around alternative models of Tyson's Corner and extensive opportunities for public input. The centerpiece of the planning process will be public workshops to be held in March when the public will help the task force shape the future of Tyson's Corner.

"We are firmly committed to using broad-based public input to determine the future of Tyson's Corner," said Clark Tyler, chair of the task force and Tyson's area resident. "We are working hard to engage residents, workers and landowners in every stage of this process."

The main planning and public outreach activities to be conducted in 2007 and approximate time frame include:

- **January:** Information sessions with interested groups on the process and opportunities for public involvement.
- **January-March:** Development of a base-case model, along with three alternative models based on the task force's guiding planning principles.
- **March:** Workshops to explore the public's ideas, suggestions and concepts for reshaping the alternative models.
- **April:** Refinement of the alternative models based on input from the public workshops.
- **April-June:** Evaluation of the refined alternative models to understand feasibility and ramifications.
- **June:** Presentation of the refined alternatives to the public for comment.
- **July-August:** Development of a preferred model using public comment and findings of the evaluation.
- **September:** Public comment on the preferred model.
- **September-November:** Refinement of the preferred model based on public comment.
- **December:** Final model presented to the task force.

The task force's planning principles, meeting schedules, presentations, and additional resources can be found at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/tysonscorner.

To sign up for e-mail or printed mail updates, visit the Web site, call the information line at 703-324-1344, TTY 711, or e-mail tysonscornerspecialstudy@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Child Internet Safety

Have you ever been concerned about your child's internet use?

Parents have a unique opportunity to learn Internet safety strategies and understand how they can help children with Internet filtering and monitoring software.

The McLean Presbyterian Church and Safe Community Coalition are sponsoring an event with speaker Jennifer Krell, a technology specialist with Fairfax County schools, on ways kids use the Internet, including discussion of instant messaging, chat rooms, blogs, webcams, cellphones, MySpace and Facebook.

The event will be held January 30 from 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at the McLean Presbyterian Church, 1020 Balls Hill Rd. This program is for adults only. The event is free, however participants are asked to register at www.safecommunitycoalition.net/upevents.html

Operation Popsicle Toes Warms Feet!

Supervisor DuBois presents Hutchinson Elementary School Principal Judy Baldwin with a gift certificate and dozens of new shoes for students.

Thanks to generous contributions from the Great Falls Optimist Club, the Herndon Council for the Arts, and local residents, Operation Popsicle Toes delivered over 85 pairs of new shoes and gift certificates for up to an additional 100 pairs, to students at Clearview Elementary School, Hutchison Elementary School, Lemon Road Elementary School, and Westgate Elementary School.



Companion Animal Evacuation and Shelter Plan Grant

On Monday, January 8, The Board of Supervisors voted to seek \$200,000 in grant money from the Department of Homeland Security for an Evacuation and Sheltering Plan for Companion Animals in the National Capital Region. The Fairfax County Police Department hopes to use the money to hire a consultant to develop a regional pet plan that would prevent an animal crisis situation similar to what occurred as a result of Hurricane Katrina.

Supervisor DuBois encourages residents to be responsible pet owners by including animals in their own individual emergency planning. For tips on where to begin, please visit: www.vaemergency.com/prepare/pets/.

*Pet Reminder: Dogs four months and older must be up-to-date on their 2007 dog license. To register, please visit: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dta/dog_licenses.htm



Herndon Community Center

Mayor Steve DeBenedittis, Supervisor DuBois, Chairman Gerry Connolly, Delegate Tom Rust and other Herndon officials at the ribbon cutting for the phase IV expansion of the Herndon Community Center.

For more information on the programs available at the center, please visit, www.herndon-va.gov/ or call 703-787-7300.

Upcoming Events

VDOT Public Workshop

Virginia Department of Transportation will host a Public Workshop for the Idea-66 Inside the Beltway Project. January 23, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Washington-Lee High School (Cafeteria), 1300 North Quincy St. Arlington, VA . For more information, please visit: www.idea66.com

Tysons Task Force Meeting with Dranesville District Community

Tysons Land Use Task Force will meet with community leaders in Dranesville to discuss the planning process for Tysons and upcoming opportunities for public input to shape the future of Tysons Corner. January 23, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 pm. Spring Hill Elementary School, 8201 Lewinsville Rd, McLean. For more information, contact Katrina Newton 703-324-1356, TTY 711.

McLean District Burglary Seminar

The McLean District Police will host a seminar on preventing home burglaries, discuss burglaries in the McLean District in 2006, how burglars target homes and how citizens may avoid becoming victims. January 24, 7:00 p.m. - 8:45 p.m. James Lee Community Center, 2855-A Annandale Road, Falls Church. For more information contact Officer Tom Black, Crime Prevention Specialist, at 703-556-7750.

McLean Community Center Governing Board

January 24. 7:30 p.m. 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. McLean Community Center. Members of the public who want to speak may call, 703-790-0123, TTY 703-827-8255, to be placed on the agenda.

Homebuying Seminar

Free homebuying seminar hosted by the Herndon Neighborhood Resource Center. Topics include: home buying options; qualifying and applying for a loan; and establishing or restoring credit. January 27, 11:30 p.m. – 12:30 p.m. Neighborhood Resource Center, 1086 Elden Street, in the Dulles Park Shopping Center. Free to the Public. For information contact, Pablo Hollstein at 703-435-3182.

School Board Public Hearing on the Proposed Budget

The School Board will hold public hearings on the FY 2008 proposed budget on Monday, January 29, and plans a work session on Monday, February 5. Adoption of the advertised budget is scheduled for the School Board business meeting on Wednesday, February 7. For more information about the schedule, visit www.fcps.edu/fs/budget/index.htm.

Congratulations

The Fairfax County Department of Community and Recreation Services, Senior Services Division, announces the receipt of the Virginia Recreation and Park Society's 2006 Award to Herndon Senior Center as the Best New Recreational Facility in Virginia.

Dranesville All-Met student athletes! Megan Shifflett, *Langley High*, First Team, Volleyball; Faith Adams, *Langley High*, Second Team, Field Hockey; Ermin Mujezinovic, *Herndon High*, Second Team, Boy's Cross County; Marshall Moore, *Langley High*, Second Team Offense, Football.

The following young men have attained their Eagle Scout rank, the highest rank in the Boys Scout of America! Christian Eubank, Troop 1570 of Herndon; James Holman, Troop 128 of McLean; Brian McElhaney, Troop 1130 of McLean.

Twenty-seven Fairfax County Public Schools teachers earned national board certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) in 2006. To date, a total of 271 Fairfax County Public Schools teachers have earned national board certification from the NBPTS including: Amy Vallath (*Chesterbrook Elementary*); Barbara Benton (*Forestville Elementary*); Laura Allen (*Kent Gardens Elementary*); Mary Landis (*Langley High*); and Anthony Philippon (*Longfellow Middle*).

Hundreds of Drunk Drivers Arrested in December

The Police Department's Safe December Squad made 1454 traffic stops during their annual campaign to promote a safe and sober holiday season. Officers arrested 111 people for driving while intoxicated, six people for driving after illegally consuming alcohol and three people for driving under the influence of drugs. Combined with arrests made by the rest of the department, 359 people were arrested for driving while intoxicated between November 29, 2006 and January 1, 2007.

Officers from the Safe December Squad issued 1175 traffic summonses. The summonses include 82 tickets for driving with a suspended license, 120 reckless driving tickets and 438 speeding tickets. Police have also placed 66 criminal charges. Those charges include possession of a concealed weapon, larceny, forgery, identity fraud, and possession of marijuana.

FAIRFAX COUNTY CRIME SOLVERS

Cash Rewards for information leading to the arrest of criminals.

You need not give your name.
1 (866) 411-TIPS (8477)

CRIME STATISTICS INFO LINE

*Residents interested in receiving reports on the frequency and types of calls dispatched in a specific area in the past 12 months, may call **703-246-7932**.*

Teenage Drivers

Beginning January 3, 2007 the formal ceremony to issue all original driver's licenses to applicants under the age of 18 will take place at 3:15 p.m. on the scheduled day. In the past, this ceremony has been in the evening. For further information regarding the ceremony, contact the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court at 703-246-3030, TTY 711.

In related news, the Fairfax County Police Department recognizes the need for advanced driving skills for our teenage drivers who are at a higher risk than any other age group of being involved in fatal crashes. In an effort to reach out to teens aged 16-18, FCPD has undertaken a partnership with the community to address this issue. The Youthful Driver Program is a one-day, hands-on course developed to provide advanced driver training techniques. Skills covered during the sessions include, but are not limited to, recovery techniques and crash avoidance.

Training takes place on Saturdays from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Fairfax County Criminal Justice Academy's Emergency Vehicle Operations Center located at 3725 Stonecroft Blvd, Chantilly, Virginia. It is a secured facility located just off Route 50. Fees are associated with the program. Students must be 16 to 18 years old; a Fairfax County resident; and possess a valid drivers license (not a learner's permit).

While there is currently a waitlist, to apply contact your School Resource Officer. If the applicant attends a private school, access the Police Department's Web site, www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police and download the "Youthful Driver Registration Form". For questions about the program, please contact the Emergency Vehicle Operations Center at 703-818-1924.