



# Hunter Mill Highlights

## From Supervisor Cathy Hudgins

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**Hunter Mill District  
Supervisor Cathy Hudgins**

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Hunter Mill Highlights is my electronic newsletter. Please share this issue with your organizations. To be added to our mailing list, e-mail us at [hntmill@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:hntmill@fairfaxcounty.gov)

Dear Hunter Mill Friends,

As the year winds down, it's a good time to look back on our efforts over the last year to celebrate our accomplishments, face our continuing challenges, and set our sights on goals for the new year. The one theme that stands out in looking over the list of accomplishments of 2010 is partnerships. As we get ready to tackle the County's FY 2012 budget, these partnerships become all the more important as we strive to maximize our resources to continue to grow and move forward.

Through the Private/Public Education Act, the County partnered with Comstock Development to build 2300 parking spaces for Metro riders at the Wiehle Avenue Metrorail station. The garage and the new development will be ready when the Silver Line opens in late 2013. The Silver Line Metrorail to Dulles is another collaboration between federal, state, regional and County and private entities.

By working with federal agencies, funding has been secured to complete a multi-use trail at Trap Road over the Dulles Toll Road that will connect the trail system and provide a walkable alternative to Wolf Trap and the Barns. Through our partnering with the Town of Vienna, another pedestrian amenity came on line and now residents can walk safely and securely on the new sidewalk along Lawyers Road.

Where human services are concerned, I am proud to have facilitated Social Action Linking Together (SALT) and the Fairfax County working with state and Congressional leaders so that Fairfax County was able to leverage \$1 million through its budget process to receive \$4 million in Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Emergency Funds through federal stimulus funds for both FY 10 and FY 11. As well, I was pleased to host and coordinate Aging in Community: A Forum for Hunter Mill District, a forum sponsored by Reston Community Center, Reston Association, Reston Interfaith, and Reston Citizen's Association, which brought three hundred residents together to find out about available services, programs and options for the community to consider to help us age gracefully in our homes.

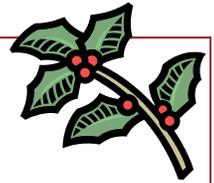
Just last month we cut the ribbon on Hunter Mill's newest acquisition and jewel of a park, Arrowbrook Park. The 23 acre park, part of the Arrowbrook Centre mixed-use development, features state-of-the-art lighted synthetic turf athletic field, playground, tennis and basketball courts, and picnic pavilion. Unlike most proffers, this time the County took possession of a fully built, ready-to-play active recreational facility built by the developer.

On the fun side, through the support and partnership of the business community and the Park Authority, my office hosted the inaugural season of Hunter Mill Melodies summer concert series at Frying Pan Farm Park. The free Thursday night concerts drew hundreds of residents out to enjoy fine live performances with their families.

In the coming year, I will continue to seek out opportunities to maximize our tax dollars and resources. My staff and I extend our best wishes for the holidays and hope 2011 will bring you and your family a prosperous and healthy new year.

*Cathy Hudgins*

## Latest Hunter Mill Announcements



### *Lend a Helping Hand*

## Donations Needed to Aid Victims of Domestic Violence

Reston District Police Station has partnered with the local community to collect emergency supplies for domestic violence victims in Fairfax County. Artemis House offers safe, confidential, emergency and short-term residential services and supportive counseling to those who are fleeing physical violence from an intimate partner. Your donation of any of the follow items will be greatly appreciated. Drop off donations to the Reston District Station, 12000 Bowman Towne Drive, in Reston. For additional information, contact the Reston Crime Prevention Office at 703-478-0799, or [restoncpo@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:restoncpo@fairfaxcounty.gov)

### Non-Perishable Food

Canned meats/fish	Vegetables, beans, soups	Protein or fruit bars	Peanut butter and nuts
Dried fruit	Crackers	Canned juices	Bottled water
Canned/jars baby food	Baby formula		

### Medical and Health Emergency Supplies

Medicines for fever	Cough medicines	Infant/baby Tylenol	Thermometer
Anti-diarrheal medication	Sterile gauze pads	Cohesive bandage	Germicidal hand wipes
Hand sanitizer	Antiseptic wipes	Anti-bacterial ointment	Cold pack
Vitamins	Fluids with electrolytes	Cleansing agent/soap	Scissors

### Other Non-Perishable Items

Tools and supplies	Portable radio	Manual can opener	Disposable diapers
Paper plates, cups	Personal hygiene items (toothbrush, toothpaste, comb, feminine products)		

### Save the Date

## 2011 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration Monday, January 17, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Reston Community Center at Hunters Woods

9:00 a.m.	Commemorative March begins at Southgate Community Center
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Especially for Youth
10:30 a.m.	Michele Norris Keynote Address and Community Service Awards
12:15 p.m.	Issue Discussion, Community Service Projects and Workshops
1:30 p.m.	Art Reception for Reston Elementary Schools



### First Monday with Supervisor Cathy Hudgins

**January 3 - Patrick Henry**

**February 7 - Reston Regional**

Supervisor Cathy Hudgins holds First Monday each month to hear from you. Every month, alternating between the Reston Regional Library and the Patrick Henry Library in Vienna, you are invited to come and share any concern you may have on any issue with Supervisor Hudgins.

First Monday hours are from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Walk-ins are welcome, or if you prefer, you can schedule an appointment by calling the Hunter Mill District office at 703-478-0283.

## Hunter Mill District Budget Committee

The Hunter Mill District Citizen Budget Committee has been formalized and has met initially with Supervisor Cathy Hudgins, as well as with the Director of the Fairfax County Department of Management and Budget. The Committee, representing a cross section of residents from across Hunter Mill District with diverse professional and community backgrounds, will begin its substantive process of coming up with recommendations to guide Supervisor Hudgins through the FY 2012 Budget process.

HMD Budget Committee members includes:

Bill Penniman, Chairman	Amanda Andere,	Delores Bailey	Hank Chao,
Gina Cocomello	Carl Deshazior	Laurie DiRocco	Susannah Frazier
Pam Konde	Barb Loving	Kathleen McKee	Guru Nagaraja
Carl Pletzke	Marion Stillson	Cathy Vivona	

and representatives from the Reston Chamber of Commerce and Vienna Chamber of Commerce.

For individuals who would like to observe the proceedings, the Committee has scheduled 7:30-9:00 p.m., each Thursday in January and February for its meetings, at the Lake Anne Human Services Building, 11484 Washington Plaza W, in Reston. You can verify the meetings by checking the [Hunter Mill District webpage](#) or by calling 703-478-0283.

### Dulles Toll Road New Rates Go Into Effect on January 1 25¢ Increase at Main Toll Plaza; Tolls at On/Off Ramps Remain the Same

Effective January 1, 2011, toll rates on the Dulles Toll Road will increase by 25 cents at the Main Toll Plaza to \$1.25. Toll rates on the on/off ramps will remain 75 cents.

## 2011 Advisory Citizen Reapportionment Committee Selected

The Virginia Constitution requires the Virginia General Assembly and those local governing bodies elected by district to consider redistricting in calendar year 2011. Because of the uneven populations among the present County election districts, the Board of Supervisors needs to reapportion the present election districts. This will require the County to: (1) consider changes to the County election districts and precincts; (2) adopt a plan to revise the present election districts; (3) secure federal preclearance of all changes affecting voting pursuant to Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965; (4) notify each County voter of any changes to that voter's election district; (5) be prepared to send out absentee ballots upon request forty-five days before the primary and general elections; and (6) conduct the primary and general elections based on the new election districts.

Local redistricting must comply with the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended, and that law has two major components. Section 2 of that Act prohibits any voting practices that have the effect of discriminating against voting rights on the basis of racial minority or language minority, and Section 5 requires federal preclearance of any change affecting voting made by certain state and local governments. The County is required to comply with the federal Section 5 preclearance procedure.

### 2011 Advisory Citizen Reapportionment Committee:

Walter L. Alcorn  
Bettie Baca  
Kristin Cabral  
Christopher Thomas Craig  
Fran Fisher  
Honorable Katherine K. Hanley  
Ralph Hubbard  
Anne S. Kanter  
Paul E. Krizek  
Michael Kwon  
Paul J. Liberty  
C. Denver Lovett  
(Hunter Mill Representative)  
Carrie Nixon  
Scott T. Robinson  
Robert Schwaninger  
William E. Sudow  
David Thomas

## ***Hunter Mill Holiday Wish List***

### ***Hunter Mill District Winter Coat Closet***

Winter coats for adults and children are needed to provide our neediest families with a warm winter coat. The Coat Closet is open for coat distribution and to drop off donations on Tuesdays, 10 AM to noon, Thursdays 6 to 8 PM, and Saturdays 10:30-12:30. The Coat Closet is sponsored by my office and Reston Interfaith, and operates out of the North County Government Center, 12000 Bowman Towne Drive, in Reston. Call the Hunter Mill District office, 703-478-0283, for information.

### ***Food Drive for Committee for Helping Others (CHO)***

Northeast Vienna Citizens Association organizes a food drive for CHO each year to serve families in the greater Vienna area. Contributions of non-perishable foods can be dropped off at sites around Vienna; Patrick Henry Library, Town Hall, Bikes@vienna, Caffe Amouri, Encompass, Rexall Drug, Vienna Presbyterian Church. The food drive continues through December 31st. For further information including additional CHO programs such as the furniture program, transportation assistance, holiday giving programs, is available on their website at [www.cho-va.com](http://www.cho-va.com).

### ***Herndon-Reston FJSH Holiday Basket Program***

Volunteers and contributions are needed for holiday food and gift baskets program. Contributions of non-perishable foods and grocery card gift certificates are needed for local families. Volunteers are needed to collect, sort and pack food and gifts on December 16, 17, 18, and 20, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., plus drivers needed on December 21st for making deliveries. Contributions can be delivered to FISH at 11484 Washington Plaza West, in Reston on the above dates and hours. For information on the program is on the [Herndon-Reston FISH website](#).

### ***Operation 88 Keys: James Madison HS Choral Department***

The piano in the choral room is beyond repair and needs replacing. "Operation 88 Keys" fundraiser to purchase a new piano is underway with the goal of \$18,000 for the replacement piano. This investment will last for years! Contributions are tax deductible. Contact Choral Director [Claire Rowan](#) at JMHS.

### ***Joey Pizzano Memorial Fund Splash Program and Special Harbor***

The Joey Pizzano Memorial Fund (JPMF) and Fairfax County have partnered since 2001 to develop a unique public-private partnership serving individuals with disabilities and their families. Their signature water safety program, JPMF Splash, has taught over 5,000 children with disabilities how to be safe and have fun in the water. JPMF spearheads a campaign, Our Special Harbor, to build a fully accessible, zero-water depth sprayground that children of all abilities can enjoy the water with their families, planned as part of the Family Recreation Area at Lee District Park. The sprayground fundraising campaign is halfway to their goal and needs to raise another \$500,000 to complete the park. For more information on how to help out, go to [www.jmpf.org](http://www.jmpf.org), or 703-549-4444.

# FROSTIVAL

Celebrate Fairfax Inc. second annual FROSTIVAL, an exciting winter-themed family festival with programs targeted to elementary and pre-K aged children, is coming up over the winter holiday. This year's FROSTIVAL will include more than 15 interactive rides, games, and attractions; more than 15 winter-themed crafts, science activities, demonstrations and shows; two stages of performances including storytelling, musical performances, and nationally recognized children's artists.

FROSTIVAL runs from Thursday, December 30th through Sunday, January 2nd, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, except on New Year's Eve until 4 p.m. All activities will take place at the Dulles Expo and Conference Center in Chantilly.

Different ticket options are available with daily and weekend passes which include all four days. Specials at the door include Grandparents Day (12/30) where grandparents get free admission, and Military Appreciation Day (1/2) with free admission to active duty military and veterans. Advance discounted tickets are on sale through midnight Wednesday, December 29th. Check out their website for ticket options and requirements.

Schedule and further information is available at [www.frostival.com](http://www.frostival.com)



*Don't hibernate.  
Celebrate!*

## Youth Mentoring Training for New Volunteers

Registration is now open for **Fairfax Partnership for Youth's** next **Youth Mentoring 101**, basic one-on-one youth mentoring training sessions for volunteers. Anyone who is interested in getting an overview of traditional youth mentoring, or who is or desires to be registered with a mentoring program as a new volunteers, may attend this free training session. New class is on **Monday, January 24**, from 6:30-8:30 p.m., at the Penning Building, room 206, 12011 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Register online at <http://www.fairfaxyouth.org/Mentoring101.xml>

Fairfax Partnership for Youth develops programs and services that address the whole youth through advocacy, prevention, and intervention. FPY partners with County agencies, local businesses and non-profits to provide mentoring partnerships, mental wellness resources and other programs.

## Dating Abuse Stops Here: DASH Website

Dating Abuse Stops Here (DASH) is a excellent website aimed at educating parents and teenagers about dating violence and abuse. The site is the work of Lynne Russell, who began the project after her 19 year old daughter was murdered by her boyfriend. The site tells her daughter's story and provides resources and information about the problem of dating abuse.

**Early Warning Sign for Dating Abuse:** You may be in an abusive relationship if your partner

1. Tells you what to do or how to act.
2. Insults you, calls you names
3. Keeps you from spending quality time with your friends or family
4. Blames you for his/her anger
5. Threatens or intimidates you
6. Has a history of discipline problems ("bad boy")
7. Has serious drug or alcohol abuse
8. Has a history of violent behavior
9. Threatens others regularly
10. Has trouble controlling negative emotions.





## Status of Hunter Mill District Projects

### **Reston Excelsior LLC:**

PRC 86-C-121-03 - Development of two residential buildings on Tax Map 017-4((01))007B - Oracle Campus. Town Center Concept Plan (CPA 86-C-121-8-3) to permit the development with a maximum of 457 units and a maximum height of 180 feet. On November 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Planning Commission voted to recommend approval of this application. **The Application was approved by the Board of Supervisors on November 16, 2010.**

### **Fairway Apartments Redevelopment Proposal:**

Fairway I & II Residential LLC (Applicant) has filed a Planned Residential Community (PRC) Plan (**PRC A-502-2**) to convert the existing Fairway Apartments consisting of 346 units with 543 parking spaces. The Applicant is proposing the following: Fairway East section will consist of 370 multi-family units with 593 parking spaces. Fairway West will consist of 593 multi-family units, 64 single family attached units, 985 parking spaces @ Tax Map 17-2((18))1 and 17-2((19))2A. On September 22, 2010 the **Planning Commission** deferred this application indefinitely in order to continue addressing concerns regarding the development.

### **RPB & M, LCC: 11401, 11403, 11407, 11411 & 11417 Sunset Hills Road, Reston**

RPB & M, LLC has filed rezoning application RZ 2010-HM-004 and Final Development Plan 2010-HM-008. The application proposes development at Section 913, Tax Map 17-4((19)) Parcels 1,2,3,4,5A and 6A and 17-4((24)) 4B to develop one mid-size multi-family residential building (520 units), office building 170,000 sq. ft and 8,000 sq. ft. of support retail. No Planning Commission public hearing has been scheduled at this time. Planning staff is waiting for additional information from the Applicant regarding the 527 traffic analysis.

### **Sekas Homes: 8900 Old Courthouse Road, Vienna**

Sekas Homes, Ltd. and Land Design Consultants, Inc. has revised zoning application RZ 2010-HM-006 to rezone from R-1 to R-3 conventional with the development of six (6) lots @ 8900 Old Courthouse Road, Tax Map 28-4((1)), Parcel 20. Planning Commission public hearing was held on December 2, 2010 at 8:15 p.m. Decision only deferred until January 11, 2010 at 8:15 p.m.

### **Board of Supervisors: 12050 Sunset Hills Road, Reston**

The Board of Supervisors have filed application proffer condition amendment Proffer Condition Amendment - PCA 86-C-119-006, Development Plan Amendment (DPA 86-C-119-02) and Planned Residential Community – PRC 86-C-119 to change the use of a temporary parking lot to an interim commuter lot at 12050 Sunset Hills Road, Reston, VA., (Tax Map 17-3((1)) Parcel 29B. The lot will have approximately 607 parking spaces and provide a passenger pickup area and bus loop. On November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010, the Planning Commission voted to recommended approval. **The applications were approved by the Board of Supervisors on December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2010.**

### **Hunter Mill Country Day School: 2021 Hunter Mill Road, Vienna**

Hunter Mill Country Day School is amending SE 86-C-066 previously approved for General Education, nursery and childcare to permit building additions, with reduction of students. **This application is indefinitely deferred pending status of waivers relating to Virginia Department of Transportation issues.**

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## Land Use Special Projects and Programs

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### Rail Construction to Impact Parking at Reston East Park and Ride

Phase I of the Reston East relocation plan took effect on November 29, 2010. Fairfax Connector routes 595 and 597 will now leave from the Reston North Park and Ride. These passengers will use approximately 200-250 parking spaces at this site.

On Tuesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> 2010, the Board of Supervisors' approved the interim parking lot at 12050 Sunset Hills Road, that will serve the remaining parking spaces for Phase II of the Reston East Relocation Plan. The remaining parking spaces at Reston East will close completely the week of February 27, 2011.

For up-to-date information about parking or travel options, commuters who use Reston East are encouraged to:

- Check the Fairfax Connector Web site ([www.fairfaxconnector.com](http://www.fairfaxconnector.com)) for updates and parking options
- Sign up for emailed announcements from ConnectorInfo ListServ on the Fairfax Connector Web site.

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### Reston Master Plan Special Study Task Force

Since the last publication of the Newsletter, the Task Force has held two key meetings:

November 30<sup>th</sup>, Barbara Byron, Director-Office of Revitalization and Reinvestment shared various implementation mechanisms under consideration for funding Tysons improvements that might be beneficial for the Task Force to review. [http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/projects/reston/presentations/ocrr\\_reston\\_funding\\_11-30-10.pdf](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/projects/reston/presentations/ocrr_reston_funding_11-30-10.pdf) . Also, Heidi Merkel, Department of Planning and Zoning presented draft land use development Intensity Scenarios with the intent to demonstrate how scenario can be built and start to get an idea of the scale of change compared to the current Comprehensive Plan. [http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/projects/reston/presentations/staff\\_scenario\\_update\\_tu\\_11-30-10.pdf](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/projects/reston/presentations/staff_scenario_update_tu_11-30-10.pdf)

At the December 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, Terry Maynard, representing the Reston 2020 Committee, gave an alternative report for the Reston Town Center. Chairperson Patty Nicoson and Sub-committee chairpersons provided a recap of Sub-Committees' Visions for Station Areas . For meeting schedule and updated information on the Task Force you can access [http://fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/projects/reston/meetings\\_taskforce.htm](http://fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/projects/reston/meetings_taskforce.htm).

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### Route 28 Station South Study Group

At the November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting, the Study Group discussed the "Vision" for the northern area of Land Unit A. The following meeting on November 22, 2010, the Study Group discussed the "Vision" for the southern portion of Land Unit A. Preliminary recommendations for the study area were discussed at the December 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. Jennifer Bonnette, Department of Planning and Zoning provided an overview of updated data and discussed scenario building process. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 12, 2010. For meeting schedule and updated information on the Rt. 28 South – Station Study you can access <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/projects/route28.htm> .

**Questions on the Reston Master Plan Special Study or the Rt. 28 Station Study Group should be directed to the Hunter Mill office at 703-478-0283, or e-mail at [hntmill@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:hntmill@fairfaxcounty.gov)**



## Reston East Connector Store Closure

Effective Thursday, December 23, the Reston East Connector Store will close. Hours of operation will be extended beginning January 3, 2011, at the Herndon-Monroe and Tysons West\*Park Connector Stores;

### Herndon-Monroe Connector Store

Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday  
6:30-10:30 a.m. and 3-7 p.m.

### Tysons West\*Park Connector Store

Monday-Thursday: 6:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Fridays: 10 a.m. -6 p.m.

Connector Stores offer SmarTrip sales and assistance, other fare media, and transit information.

## Traffic Calming News

County staff says that a bid has been accepted for traffic calming devices for Abbotsford Road and Center Street. The project was approved by the Barrister's Place community earlier in the year. A Watch for Children Sign has been approved by the Board for Liberty Tree Lane in north Vienna.

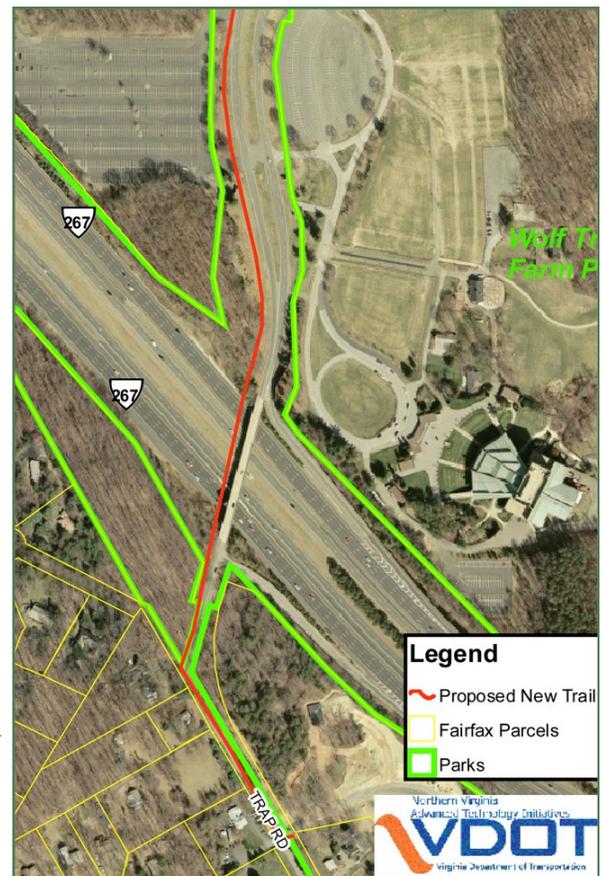
## Beulah Road Bridge Repairs

Following news on November 16 that a flatbed truck carrying a backhoe had struck the bridge supports shutting down traffic on the Dulles Toll Road and closing the bridge, I sent a letter to VDOT's new Northern Virginia District Administrator, Garrett Moore, P.E., requesting replacement of the bridge. Fortunately, no one was injured in the accident. VDOT classifies the bridge as "Structurally Deficient" and residents in north Vienna sent a letter to MWAA during the 2009 Public Information Meeting on proposed Toll increases asking that the bridge be included in MWAA's Capital Improvement Program for replacement. Mr. Moore responded promptly to our letter stating that VDOT plans to repair and rehabilitate the bridge so that it is no longer structurally deficient, the cost differential being significant (\$1.5 million vs about \$15 million for replacement). He did note that when the bridge is replaced in the future that bicycle and pedestrian accommodations would be included. By November 21<sup>st</sup>, the bridge was reopened to traffic but the incident makes residents more keenly aware of the importance of the overpass bridges that connect our communities.

## New Multi-Use Trail at Trap Road over the Dulles International Airport Access Highway (DIAAH) and the Dulles Toll Road is fully funded

There will be a safer connection between the north and south sides of Trap Road over the DIAAH and the Dulles Toll Road now that the Multi-Use Trail over these roads is fully funded. Construction is expected to begin at the end of 2011. This trail and connection has been a goal of residents in north Vienna for a number of years. I am grateful to Representative Jim Moran, 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, for his patience in obtaining the necessary \$3.7 million in appropriations beginning in 2004, to construct the bridge. Ellen Vogel, Hunter Mill District resident and VDOT employee, is project engineer and has worked with the community during the design process.

The project is administered, designed, and will be constructed by the Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division of the Federal Highway Administration in cooperation with the Virginia Department of Transportation, Fairfax County, Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts, Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA), and Dulles Transit Partners (DTP)





## Tips for Buying a Digital TV

If you are considering buying a new high-definition digital TV, this is a good time. Prices have come down substantially, the pictures are brighter, clearer and sharper with more vibrant color and contrast. Digital TVs have flat screens, take up less space and are relatively light. A digital set receives both regular and high-definition signals and shows. Most hook up directly to a cable. If an older analog television set is being replaced, the digital-to-analog DTV converter box (for over-the-air broadcasts) and its remote control will be eliminated. Before you buy, a few tips from the Department of Cable and Consumer Services can help you choose the quality you want and know what to watch for when shopping.

**720p vs. 1080p Picture Display Format** — Both are considered “high definition”: 1080p has better picture clarity and detail sharpness; 720p sets are less expensive. If the packaging is labeled “high definition” without a specific format number or says “1366x768 resolution,” it is probably 720p. TVs with an “i” rather than “p” designation (such as “1080i”) have a lower quality display.

**60 Hz vs. 120 Hz** (the rate the screen cycles or refreshes) — Programs with fast-moving objects, such as sports, can appear jerky on a 60 Hz set. Motion is smoother at 120 Hz, particularly on a 32” or larger TV. If the TV packaging is unclear, the set is probably 60 Hz. Some high-end sets are 240 Hz and 480 Hz, but in most viewing situations the difference is not particularly noticeable.

**LCD vs. Plasma** — Plasma TV screens have traditionally provided a sharper picture. LCD technology has come a long way and sets now have excellent brightness and color. *LCDs* are good in rooms with several windows, as sunlight, glare or reflections interfere with plasma displays. *Plasmas* have somewhat better contrast and color in rooms with little ambient light.

**Edge-Lit LED** — This feature, offered for LCDs, provides more brightness, notably to the four edges of the picture. It is not critical and can add to the price.

**3-D** — Top-quality sets currently are expensive and there is little programming. Newer 3-D sets likely will move up to 240 Hz. It might be advisable to wait for prices to go down and more 3-D programming.

**Cable Boxes** — You may need a different cable box; check with your cable provider, particularly if you are replacing an analog set.

**Bringing the TV Home** — Put padding beneath the packaging in the trunk. Inside the vehicle, make sure it is secure and braced from tipping or sliding forward. Digital TVs are relatively simple to set up: they are plug and play if no other speakers or other devices are to be connected.

**Delivery and Setup** — For a larger TV particularly, check if the store offers delivery, setup and hooking up at least one component (such as a DVD or VHS player). Be sure to clarify what will be included. The store may be willing to negotiate its standard price.

### Some Final Tips —

- Ask if any new cables will be needed and how to connect them. Don't automatically buy an HDMI cable unless you know that your cable box has the correct connections (call the cable provider). On larger sets, perhaps have the HDMI cable hooked up as part of the delivery and setup price.
- Find out store policy on short-term returns and the store and manufacturer warranties provided. Keep the original packaging for a bit in case you need to return the set.
- If you use their credit card, some companies will double the manufacturer's warranty length at no additional cost. Call the customer service number on the back of your card to see if this applies and the conditions. Keep the original sales receipt and a copy of the original manufacturer's warranty, in case you ever have to make a claim through your credit card company.

**Further Questions? We Have Answers.** Call the **Cable TV Help Line (703-324-5900)**, a service of Fairfax County's Department of Cable and Consumer Services – Communications Policy and Regulation Division.



## Hunter Mill Holiday Open House Highlights

On Wednesday, December 15th, we opened up our Community Room to enjoy a cup of punch, some tasty goodies and holiday cheer with our friends, residents, partners and staff. My thanks to the local businesses that contributed to our festivities and to all who attended. Happy Holidays!



Joe Leighton (Reston Association) enjoys a chat with Vienna Mayor Jane Seeman



Cathy enjoys punch with Bob Haley (Southgate Advisory Board), and Sheila Olem (Herndon Town Council)



Bob Simon holds court with Ellen Graves, (Southgate) and Beverly Cosham (Reston Community Center)



Reston Station Captain Debbie Burnette, Kathleen McKee (Reston Association) and Maj. A.J. Hurlock

My thanks to the following businesses for their wonderful contributions;

- Culinaria Cooking School of Vienna
- Giant Foods
- La Madeleine Country French Café
- On the Board Mexican Grill
- Trader Joe's
- Vie de France
- Whole Foods



Photos by Mike McKee

## Fairfax ReLeaf Seeks New Board Member

Fairfax ReLeaf, a non-profit organization dedicated to re-forestation in Fairfax County, is seeking someone with a strong background in accounting (preferably a working professional accountant) to join its Board of Directors to help manage its accounting activities. Since its founding in 1992, Fairfax ReLeaf and its volunteers have planted more than 92,000 trees in northern Virginia.

The Board of Directors is a group of individuals from diverse backgrounds who share a common interest in planting trees and restoring urban forests. The Board is actively involved in the operation of the organization and meets monthly to review activities and set priorities.

If you are interested and would like more information, please call our Executive Director, Taylor Beach, at 703.324.1409.





## Big Changes at the Hunter Mill District Office



At our Holiday Open House, I had the opportunity to say adieu to long-time staff member, **Merrily Pierce**. Merrily is retiring from the County after serving the Board of Supervisors honorably for many years. She worked in the Hunter Mill District office and that of former Chairman Kate Hanley. We will miss her steady hand on the Transportation/Public Safety desk and wish her well in her next more leisurely endeavors including the world's best grandmother and community volunteer.

We also say hello to new staff member, **Paul Davis**, who will join the Hunter Mill District staff as transportation and public safety aide. Paul joins our office after a previous stint in Prince William County. Stop by and say hello!

## Home 4 the Holidays Adoption Event

Fairfax County Animal Shelter is offering a free spay or neuter for the first 100 cats, kittens, dogs or puppies adopted from the shelter during the month of December. The special offer is part of the shelter's annual Home 4 the Holidays adoption celebration to help homeless animals make their way out of the shelter and into a new home in time for the holidays.



A variety of cats and dogs are available for adoption in addition to a host of small mammals, reptiles and birds. To view the animals available for adoption visit the [Animal Shelter's website](#) and click on adoption. The shelter is located at 4500 West Ox Road, Fairfax, 22030. Regular adoption hours are Tuesday-Friday, 12 to 6:30 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m.-4:30p.m. Call the shelter for additional information - 703-830-1100.



## From Fairfax County Public Library: FY2010 By the Numbers

- Average daily library visits **16,386**
- Average daily visits to the library's webpage **13,332**
- Annual attendance at library programs **97,953**
- Children reached through early literacy outreach efforts **4,661**
- E-books downloaded every month - **more than 10,000** (a 78% increase over FY2009)
- Materials in the library's collection **2,544,456**
- Library card holders **491,804**
- Per capita expenditure for library materials in 2008 & 2001, respectively **\$4.46/\$2.11**
- How much each life is enhanced by reading **Immeasurable**

