



The Providence Online



2007 November Edition

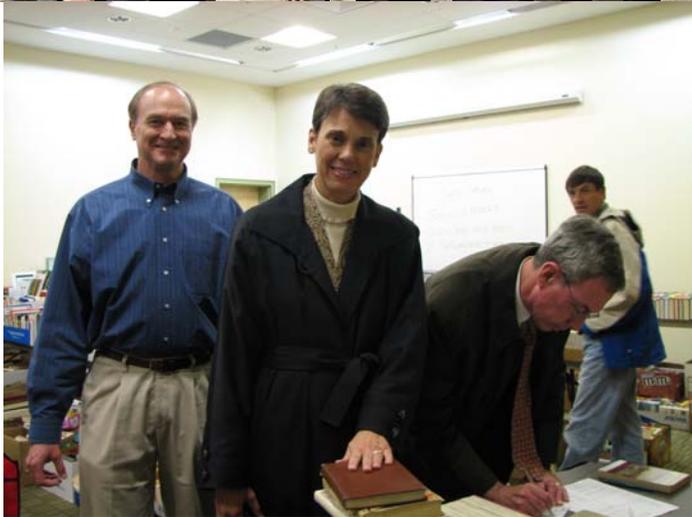
The [Providence Online](#) is a monthly electronic newsletter from the Office of Providence District Supervisor Linda Q. Smyth and provides information and updates for Providence residents.



A view of the [Third Annual Merrifield Festival](#) held on Saturday, October 20 at [Luther Jackson Middle School](#).

Supervisor Linda Smyth is joined by (left to right) Chairman Gerry Connolly, Delegate Jim Scott (53rd District), "Tall Guy," Senator-Elect Chap Petersen and Providence District School Board Member Phillip Niedzielski-Eichner.

The festival was attended by over 3000 residents of [Merrifield](#), Fairfax County and neighboring counties and cities, including Washington, D.C. and Maryland. This event was sponsored by the [Greater Merrifield Business Association](#) and highlights the spirit of volunteerism in Merrifield. It kicks off the annual [Providence District VolunteerFest® projects](#). ■



Supervisor Smyth and Nigel Smyth make a purchase at the [Oakton Library](#) Book Sale hosted by the Friends of the Oakton Library, as Friend's President Ralph Tener conducts the sale (left). Friends of the Oakton Library volunteer working at the book sale (right).

[The Friends of the Oakton](#) Library facilitates community involvement to support the library's ongoing programs. The Oakton Library Book Sale was sponsored by the Friends group in conjunction with the [Providence District VolunteerFest® projects](#) hosted by [Supervisor Smyth's office](#). ■

Focus on Residents with Disabilities

The library is a wonderful resource for residents with disabilities. The Fairfax County Library's [Access Services](#) programs are intended to remove barriers to library service for people with disabilities. Library services are available for people with physical disabilities including people who are blind or visually impaired, deaf or hard of hearing, the homebound and their family, friends and caregivers. The various categories of services and information include media, fact sheets, the [Loud and Clear Newsletter](#) and [Talking Book Services](#). You may call the library at 703-324-8380, (TTY: 703-324-8365), or email to access@fairfaxcounty.gov, or visit the [Access Services website](#).

The County also has a great deal of information on resources for individuals with disabilities on the [Human Services website](#) or by calling 703-324-7948, TTY 711. Below are some of the topics of interest:

- State Agencies that Serve People with Disabilities
- Important Phone Numbers
- Housing Information
- Americans with Disabilities Act
- Adult Protective Services
- Adult Services - Learn about services for adults 18 and over with disabilities
- Health Care including adult day health care; community health care centers; Medicaid; the Virginia Insurance Counseling and Assistance Program, which provides free help with understanding Medicare rules, Medigap policies, Medicare HMO plans and long-term care insurance; and a Home Care Guide that provides information for persons who need assistance caring for themselves or a loved one
- Leisure activities to include gardening, golf courses, a home-based visiting program for isolated and homebound residents and recreation and fitness centers
- Long-Term Care information for locating and choosing facilities, regulations, resolving complaints, and an ombudsman program to assist people receiving care
- Disability Related Legal Resources
- Resources and Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Therapeutic Recreation - Recreational programs for people with disabilities
- Transportation Related Matters to include disability parking placards and plates; Fairfax Connector for discounted fares for seniors and the disabled; Fastran for scheduled, discounted bus or taxi services for income-eligible residents and Metro Access for public transportation providing curb-to-curb service for those who cannot use the Metrobus or Metrorail system.
- Volunteer Opportunities

Additionally, the Virginia Assistive Technology System (VATS) is a statewide program authorized and funded by the Assistive Technology Act of 2004, which is guided by an Advisory Council composed of individuals with disabilities, family members and representatives from Virginia's disability service agencies. Through the VATS Information and Referral System, callers can access information on assistive technology products, funding options, and resources that range from therapists, to service providers to assistive technology vendors. A toll free number, 1-800-435-8490, connects you with a professional who can answer inquiries and guide you to the best resources in your community. More information is available on the [VATS website](#). ■



The City of Fairfax Regional Library is Moving on Sunday, November 25th!

The [City of Fairfax Regional Library](#) and the [Virginia Room](#) will close on Sunday, November 25, 2007, at 6 p.m. for its move to the new location at Old Lee Highway and North Street. The library will reopen with a grand celebration on Saturday, January 26, 2008. More information is also available by calling the City of Fairfax Regional Library at 703-293-6227, TTY 711. ■

Police Department News

The Public can now research and access current information about incidents reported to [Fairfax County Police](#) with a new tool called the "[Police Incident Viewer](#)." The tool is an add-on to Fairfax County's online mapping application called "My Neighborhood."

The mapped police incidents are described as:

- ▶ **Assault:** Unwanted touching by one person upon another with the intent to inflict harm.
- ▶ **Burglary:** Unlawful entry of a residential or commercial structure to commit another crime such as arson, assault, destruction, larceny, murder, rape or robbery.
- ▶ **Destruction:** Damage to another person's property (excluding vehicles).
- ▶ **Drug Offense:** distribution, possession or possession with the intent to distribute narcotics and/or marijuana.
- ▶ **Larceny:** Unlawful taking, carrying, leading or riding away of property with the intent to deprive the owner of the item.
- ▶ **Noise Violation:** Any unnecessary noise that interferes with another person's quality of life.
- ▶ **Robbery:** Confrontation where suspect takes or attempts to take anything of value from a person or persons by force, threat of force or violence and/or intimidation if the victim does not comply.
- ▶ **Peeping:** Peering into a residence, not one's own, while on private property.
- ▶ **Prowling:** A person roaming an area with unlawful intentions.
- ▶ **Sex Offense:** Offense of a sexual nature; includes (but not limited to) indecent exposure, rape and sexual battery.
- ▶ **Stolen Vehicle/Recovered Stolen Vehicle:** Theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle/recovery of a motor vehicle previously reported stolen.
- ▶ **Vehicle Tampering:** The act of committing damage to a vehicle belonging to another person without the owner's consent.

Residents can conduct research by accessing the "My Neighborhood" application and clicking on the "[Incident Mapping](#)" under "Quick Links." This online application is not a police complaint form. Please call 911 in the case of an emergency. ▪



Domestic Abuse Assistance is Available for People and Their Pets

The "[Someplace Safe](#)" program provides temporary protection for domestic violence victims to assist in processing what has happened, to access resources and possible courses of action, support and encouragement. Domestic violence victims will be offered comfort, counseling, assessment of needs, referral to available resources and information regarding criminal and civil procedures. Someplace Safe is available 24-hours a day, and should victims need overnight accommodations, they will be housed at a safe location. For more information about Someplace Safe, call the [Victim Witness Unit](#) at 703-246-2141 or the [Fairfax County Police](#) non-emergency number at 703-691-2131.

For domestic violence victims, the issue of what to do with a pet in the home may prevent a person from leaving an unsafe situation. Many shelters that assist domestic violence victims help people, but are unable to provide a place for pets. The Fairfax County Animal Shelter is working with the Victim Services Section of the Police Department to formalize a Safe Haven program for pets in at-risk homes where domestic violence occurs. The Safe Haven program is designed to provide temporary shelter for pets at no cost to the family. Meanwhile, Victim Services works with the family to find an alternative, long-term residence for family members and the pet.

The domestic abuse HOTLINE is also available through the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board [Victim Assistance Network](#). They are located at 8350 Richmond Highway, #507, Alexandria, Virginia, 22309, and are near a Metrobus route. The 24 hour phone numbers are 703-360-7272 and 703-360-7273, TTY 711. ▪

Middle Potomac Final Draft Plan Workshop Thursday, November 29 at 6 p.m. at Longfellow Middle School 2000 Westmoreland Street, Falls Church

Residents are invited to attend the [Middle Potomac Watersheds](#) Workshop to provide input on the final draft of the watershed management plan for our five community streams: Pimmit Run, Turkey Run, Scotts Run, Dead Run and Bull Neck Run. More information is available by emailing Marissa Soule at middlepotomac@virginia.edu or by calling 703-820-3840 x 2110, TTY 711. ▪

Want Some Chill Cash? The Chill Spot's Got It!

Beginning November 1, you can earn Chill Spot cash when you stop by the Chill Spot Teen Center. Chill Spot cash is only good at the teen center and you can use it to buy cool stuff in the Chill Spot cash store. You can use your Chill Spot Cash for field trips, snacks, parties and other activities at the Chill Spot. You can earn some Chill Cash in the following ways:

- ▶ Be active in one of the teen clubs
- ▶ Participate in Project Success
- ▶ Join in special calendar activities
- ▶ Bring a friend
- ▶ Get good grades on your report card
- ▶ Work on homework

The [Chill Spot Teen Center](#) is administered by the [Fairfax County Department of Community and Recreation Services' Teen Service](#) at the [James Lee Community Center](#). For more information on the center, please call 703-234-TEEN (8336), TTY 711. ■



Kids Serve Too!

Kids Serve Too is a program created by military families in support of military children who currently have a parent deployed overseas. Military children quietly shoulder part of the family's burden of overseas deployment by making sure their mom or dad know they support what they are doing and believe it is important.

The mission of [Kids Serve Too](#) is to honor, support and thank military children by offering programs and resources that demonstrate our appreciation for the sacrifices they make and the unique challenges they face. This partnership between Kids Serve Too, Fairfax County and the General Dynamic IT Fairfax Division offers scholarships to military children so they may reduce some of this stress through recreation and leisure programs. Scholarships may be used for camps, sports leagues and a variety of recreational activities.

For more information on the program or to apply, contact the [Fairfax County Department of Community and Recreation Services](#) at 703-324-4386, TTY 711. ■



[Must-Have Phone Numbers](#)

Providence District Supervisor Linda Q. Smyth

Telephone: 703-560-6946 / Fax: 703-207-3541 / TTY: 711

Adult Protective Services: 703-324-7450 / Child Protective Services: 703-324-7400

Suicide Crisis Hotline: (703) 527-4077 Rape Crisis Hotline: (703) 360-7273

Please call 703-FAIRFAX (703-324-7329), TTY 711 for other county related information.

The [2007 Providence Resource Directory](#) is available by calling the Providence District Supervisor's office. ■



Fairfax County is committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability in all county programs, services and activities. Special accommodations will be provided upon request. For information call our office at 703-560-6946, TTY 711.

Subscription to the ProvidenceOnline

To receive a copy of the e-newsletter, residents are requested to subscribe to "[ProvidenceOnline](#) – Information and Updates for Providence residents." ■