

June 1998

October 1998

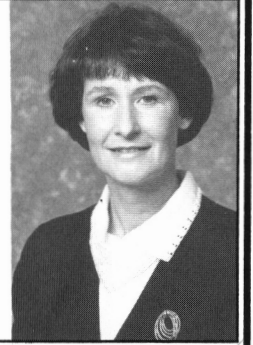
BRADDOCK BYLINE

Braddock District Supervisor Sharon Bulova

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TDD 703-978-7973, e-mail Braddock@co.fairfax.va.us



June, 1998

- When was the last time you heard a great speech? John F. Kennedy's inaugural address comes to mind. Or perhaps it was Martin Luther King's "I had a dream." Today, our elected officials communicate with us in sound bites. Complex issues are boiled down to the least common denominator so that they fit neatly into a referendum question. Society has become so large and the issues so complicated that it's hard to sift through the avalanche of information to determine what's important, to put things in perspective and to know when and how to weigh in. We're often left feeling frustrated and disengaged from our government.

As we stand just 18 months from the threshold of a new century, my **Tuesday June 9th TOWN MEETING** will be an opportunity for us to reflect a bit about **GOVERNING**. What has the relationship been between *The People* and their elected leaders? What might it be like in the future? How will evolving technology, shifting demographics and changes in our moral outlook affect the way we govern and are governed. Joining me for this last installment of the **Braddock 2000 Miniseries** will be Washington Post columnist **Bob Levey**, Fairfax County Board Chairman **Kate Hanley** and County Executive **Bob O'Neill**. As with our last two Miniseries Town Meetings, a portion of our program will consist of interactive small group discussions. If you are not able to join us at Little Run Elementary School, you can watch live on Channel 16. Call for information about rebroadcasts.

- Our **Fiscal Year 99 BUDGET** has been on the front burner this spring. During the 90's, as we've recovered from a severe recession and declining property values, the County has sometimes relied on one time savings to meet increasing needs and balance our budgets. When the Board adopted the FY 97 budget in the Spring of '96, we began to correct our "structural imbalance" as we cut spending by \$55 million and eliminated a number of County services - Mini Libraries, Satellite Tax Offices and the Office of Road Program Management. We abolished 477 positions and instituted a hiring freeze. Last year we only selectively filled vacancies and adopted a policy to **limit increases in expenditures to projected increases in revenue**. We also sought a new County Executive to help us reduce the cost of administration so limited resources could be spent on direct services we value. To further close our structural imbalance, this year's fiscal plan is categorized into expenditures that are "recurring" and "non-recurring." Non-recurring items make a small dent in the backlog of community needs, such as **streetlights** in neighborhoods where crime has been a problem, **storm drainage projects** to address house and yard flooding, and **safe pedestrian walkways**. Recurring expenditures, funded through recurring revenues, provide a number of **public safety** enhancements. A major element of the budget is a call for significant **reorganization** of several County departments. This budget begins a multi-year phased approach to reorganization which invites employees to help shape changes that will result in a streamlined, more responsive and cost effective delivery of services.

- With warm weather ahead, I'm looking forward to our fourth season of **BRADDOCK NIGHTS**. See inside for this year's program. These free Friday night productions make our Braddock District feel like a small town. Bring a picnic to enjoy with your neighbors, friends and family and listen to live music while the sun sets over Lake Accotink and Lake Royal. As always, please let me know if you have any questions, comments or need my assistance in any way. Hope to see you this summer at Braddock Nights and at the Town Meeting on June 9th!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Sharon Bulova". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

ROADWORKS UPDATE

Roberts Rd. Extension - Complete a two lane segment of Roberts Rd. from Collingham Dr. to north of Colony View Dr. (State Project - 0.4 mile) A redesign of the project reduces the amount of property needed to construct this project. The Braddock District Tree Planting Project, in conjunction with the County's Office of Transportation, has applied for a grant to provide some fencing and trees for residents adjacent to the project. I held a "Pardon Our Dust" meeting with neighbors on April 9th to answer questions regarding construction, which is now under way and should be completed this fall.

Roberts Rd. Flyover - Construct overpass over the Norfolk Southern Railroad tracks (State Project) In addition to the overpass, there will be significant safety improvements at both approaches to the bridge. South of the tracks, the conflicting turning movements on Roberts Parkway at Premier Court, the Burke VRE Station and the Burke Commons Community Center will be addressed by means of a single access point at the community center controlled by a traffic signal. North of the tracks, there will be dual right turn lanes on north/east bound New Guinea Road with a traffic signal at Roberts Road and New Guinea Road. In order to avoid future disruption to Colony Park, VDOT will widen New Guinea Road along Colony Park as a part of this project. When the flyover is completed, the new traffic signal, located where the traffic circle used to be, will be eliminated and Old Guinea Road will dead end north of the tracks.

Last year, I assembled a "**Bridge Design**" Task Force, comprised of over 20 neighborhood volunteers. We met with officials from VDOT, their consultant and the County's Office of Transportation to provide guidance on materials and design to ensure that the bridge is an attractive community landmark. Construction of the flyover is planned to begin in '99.

Guinea Rd. - Roberts Rd. to Pommeroy Dr. (State Project - 1.5 miles) Widen from two to four lanes. Funded for preliminary design in 2000.

Burke Centre Parkway - From Marshall Pond Rd. to Burke Lake Rd. (County/State Project - 0.87 mile) Widen from two to four lanes. Final design completed. Land acquisition underway. Construction goes to bid in September '98.

Rt. 123 (Ox Rd.) - From Burke Lake Rd. to the Occoquan River (State project - 7 miles) Widen Ox Rd. to four lanes (with right-of-way for a future six lanes). Public hearing on design in summer/fall '98.

Shirley Gate Rd., Extended - From Braddock Rd. to the Fairfax County Parkway (State Project - 0.9 mile) This project will connect Shirley Gate Rd. to the Fairfax County Parkway. It's funded for preliminary design in the State's Six Year Plan in 2002.

I-95/I-395/I-495 Interchange Improvements - (State Project). This ambitious, 12 year project to fix the "mixing bowl" will be done in eight phases. Impacts will be felt starting in early '99. In preparation for this project, several small congestion management projects to facilitate traffic flow in the area have been proposed. Three are in Braddock District: **Backlick Rd.** - add a left turn lane from NB Backlick to WB Leesville Blvd., **Backlick Rd.** - extend left turn lane from SB Backlick to EB Edsall Rd., **Braddock Rd.** - close left turn lane to Danbury Forest Dr. and extend left turn lane to NB Wakefield Chapel Rd. I'm supportive of the two Backlick projects but have serious concerns about the Braddock/Wakefield proposal and have asked VDOT to provide further justification for the recommendation.

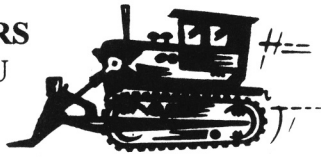
Braddock District Spot Traffic Improvements (County Projects) - Three "quick fix" traffic improvements recommended by the Braddock District Council of Community Associations and Braddock residents were approved:

Extend right turn lane on northbound Guinea Rd. at Rt. 236 - Restriping to extend the lane was completed in Fall '97.

Close median break on westbound Braddock Rd. to prevent left turns into Ravensworth Shopping Center - Median was closed in late '97.

Construct right turn lane on northbound Rt. 123 at Middlegate Dr. Preliminary design completed. Right-of-way issues are still being resolved. If no additional land is needed, construction will be in Fall '98. Keys property developer is making a contribution toward the cost of construction.

YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK FOR YOU



SANITARY SEWER PROJECTS

Woods of Ilda: Under construction. July '98 completion date. **Holly Park Project:** In redesign. Land acquisition in summer '98; construction in early '99. **Chestnut Hills/Fairfax Hills:** completed in summer '97. These projects are *cost shared with affected property owners* for extension of sewer service where failing septic systems pose a health problem.

TRAILS

Woodland Way Project: this 400 ft. segment from Woodland Meadows to Fleming Drive will complete the sidewalk along Woodland Way, providing a link for walkers to Canterbury Woods Elementary School, Kings Park Shopping Center and Kings Park Library. Survey work almost completed. Design to be done this summer with land acquisition to follow. Construction planned for spring '99. **Guinea Road Project:** west side of Guinea from Braddock Rd. north to Rutherford Park. This 3,400 ft. project is under study. **Bonnie Brae Elementary School Walkway:** 450 ft. segment from Whitfield Ct. to Calumet Grove Dr. Burke Centre is reviewing this project. A determination will be made about its viability.

STREETLIGHTS

In 1989 when we experienced a downturn in the economy, the County stopped funding **Streetlight installation** in neighborhoods. Six projects that had been approved with funding were put on hold. The FY 99 County budget includes funding for those six projects. Three are in the Braddock District: thirty streetlights will be installed in **Southport**, two lights in **Kings Park West** in the Tapestry Dr./ Roberts Rd. area and twelve lights in the **Burnside Landing** area.

OTHER STUFF

A **Bus Shelter** has been installed on eastbound Braddock Rd. near Wakefield Chapel Rd. using Federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality funds.

A **Pedestrian Crossing Button** on Rt. 236 at the intersection with Lake Dr. has been installed to aid NVCC students crossing to the Metro bus stop.

YOUR STREETS & SIDEWALKS

The following communities have been approved by the State Department of Transportation (VDOT) to receive new sidewalk, curb and gutters: **Canterbury Woods, Chapel Square, Chapel Square West, Oak Hill, Chapel Hill, Dunleigh, George Mason Forest, Willow Woods.** Work will begin in May, and continue until early winter. VDOT will place hangers on area doors indicating the inspector to contact in case of problems. Sidewalks with "temporary" asphalt patches will be replaced. Let contractors know of sprinkler systems, electric fences, and other devices buried next to your sidewalk so they will know to use caution.

VDOT also plans to repave a number of streets in the Braddock District. Some of the areas are: **Annandale Terrace, Bristow, Chapel Square, Kings Park, North Springfield, Ravensworth, & Wakefield Chapel.**

Fairfax County Public Works Maintenance & Stormwater Management phone numbers have changed. The new numbers are **Maintenance/Citizen Calls, 934-2800**

Street Sign Shop, 934-2840

Administration, 934-2860

After hours flooding emergency calls, continue to contact the **DPW 24-Hour Trouble Response Center** at 323-1211.

DID YOU KNOW.....

- A new State law requires motorists to **turn on their lights** whenever the weather warrants the use of windshield wipers.
- The State's Department of Environmental Quality is requiring an **enhanced emissions inspection program for motor vehicles** built since 1968 to address the region's non-compliance with Federal Clean Air amendments ozone standards. These new requirements will result in significant changes to the inspection process. Not all service stations that formerly provided inspections have opted into the program. For a copy of the list of inspection facilities in the area, call my office at 425-9300.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

George Mason University:

Camp Mason (993-2073) is a day camp designed to promote physical and intellectual development in children from ages 6-12.



Camp Hemlock Outdoor Adventure Camp (993-3754) offers a day camping experience for children 6-8 and a residential camping opportunity for children 10-13. **The Child Development Center Summer Camp Program** (993-3750) is open to children from ages 2 ½-8 with a variety of developmental and recreation activities provided. Also being offered are **sports camps, academic assistance and enrichment programs**. Call 993-8783 for information.

Fairfax County's Park and Recreation Programs:

Summer day-camp programs have expanded courses and locations. There are camps for sports, drama, excursions and many specialty camps such as local heritage study, pioneer activity, cooking and water activities. Fairfax County has also added **all-day teen programs**, including a two-week program for younger teens to learn about careers, and an adventure camp at Lake Accotink Park, where they will fish, boat, mountain bike and in-line skate. For more information call the Fairfax County Park Authority at 324-8571 or Community & Recreation Services at 222-4664.

Braddock District's Teen Center "The Zone" has extended summer hours for teens in the 7th through 12th grades from June 19 through August 15. Hours are Tuesday - Friday, 6-10 P.M. and Saturday, 7 - 11 P.M. There will be day trips, sports tournaments, community service projects, leadership training, films and much, much more. Call Michele Chapman-Campbell at 324-5715 for more information.

Fairfax County has one objective for its **WEB Site**: to let anybody anywhere do almost any kind of business with local government, 24 hours a day. **The County's WEB Site (www.co.fairfax.va.us)** provides maps, directories & event schedules. You can apply for County jobs, a library card, report a missing animal or view photos of dogs and cats available for adoption. **Our Braddock District page (www.co.fairfax.va.us/gov/bd.htm)** has information about what is happening in Braddock. Included is a monthly Community Association Newsletter, Braddock Nights Concert Schedule and histories of our area.

HAPPENINGS AT THE LIBRARY

George Mason Regional Library: One year ahead of schedule, and under budget, renovation and expansion are finished and the Grand Opening was held April 25. George Mason Library now has more space and public seating and, most importantly, has been brought up to date in terms of technology.

"Go Wild!" Summer Reading Program: Your child is invited to join thousands of Fairfax County preschool to high school-aged children in this year's summer reading program. The program begins June 17 and runs through August 31. Students who complete the program will be awarded coupons for free prizes and discounts on food, clothes, sporting events, and more! Each year, the County's school system teams up with the library to encourage children to maintain their reading skills during the summer. This year, the library's summer reading program is theme "Go Wild!" and highlights the environment, animals and adventure. When children come to the library to check out books, they can also check out fun programs and activities, such as storytellers, musical performances, interactive theater, puppet shows, and beginning videography - all for free! For a list of program dates and times, log onto the Library's web site at www.co.fairfax.va.us/library or call the library branch nearest you.



FAIRFAX COUNTY HISTORY FILM

The Fairfax County Department of Consumer Affairs Department of Cable Programming in conjunction with the County History Commission have recently produced the first of a proposed five part series of Fairfax County history films. This first segment is titled "Occupied Territory: Fairfax County During the Civil War."

The film is being broadcast on Channel 16 four times a week: Mondays at 7 P.M., Tuesdays and Fridays at 3 P.M., and Thursdays at 5 P.M. Plans are under way to make the film available to County schools, libraries and community organizations. If you would like to borrow a videocassette of "Occupied Territory" please contact my office at 425-9300.

CELEBRATE OUR COMMUNITY IN CONCERT!

1998 SEASON

Braddock Nights

Performances are **FREE** and begin at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Concerts are cancelled in case of rain; call 425-9300 for cancellation information.

LAKE ACCOTINK

ROYAL LAKE

JUNE

- 5 **Ann Bauer:** Sing rounds about birds, blossoms, trees, sky and other natural wonders. Join Ann and the "Round Robins" of the New Dominion Chorale in an open rehearsal at 6:30 pm and concert/sing-along/sign-along at 7:30 pm

- 12 **Laurie Rose Griffith and Peter Mealy:** Critical acclaim greeted the CD "Tocoi Light" by these popular acoustic musicians and singers.

- 19 **Fairfax City Concert Band:** Music reviewers rank this band one of the nation's finest volunteer concert bands, featuring nationally and internationally acclaimed artists.

- 26 **Falls Church Concert Band:** A concert of summer favorites highlighted by popular all-American tunes and patriotic music for the Fourth of July.

JULY

- 10 **Fairfax Symphony Summer Band:** A showcase for the talents of the county's best young musicians.

- 17 **National Concert Band:** America's heritage of symphonic band music is celebrated by this talented 70-member concert band.

- 24 **Annandale Orchestra:** From classics through pop, musical selections and arrangements especially for young people — and the young at heart.

- 31 **Kings Park Concert Band:** Light classics, favorite American tunes, international folk music and marches by a concert band with over 30 years of tradition

AUG

- 7 **Fairfax Symphony-Dixieland Band:** Echoes from the Deep South in New Orleans jazz and ragtime.

- 14 **Moonlighters:** Little William and the Moonlighters are the area's downhome blues masters.

- 21 **Outback Jack:** A zany performance filled with classic animal ditties and tales of the bush.

- 28 **"AUGtoberfest" featuring music by Alte Kameraden German Band:** Part of the City of Fairfax Band, this authentic "Blaskapelle" keeps alive the musical heritage and spirit of Bavarian village bands.

JUNE

- 5 **Swing Shift:** Be ready to dance with this high energy 17-piece dance band presenting a variety of pop, jazz, and swing tunes from the golden age of big bands.

- 12 **Hula Monsters:** An innovative mix of Hawaiian, western swing, jazz, and rockabilly.

- 19 **Paul Reisler:** Vivid and imaginative instrumental work integrated into folk, jazz and international music is the trademark of this talented duo.

- 26 **Night Music:** Classic rock and top 40s hits from a local favorite.

- 10 **The Continentals:** An evening of polkas and waltzes served with contagious enthusiasm.

- 17 **Minors Aloud:** An original blend of country, rock, blues, and jazz.

- 24 **John Jackson:** This talented traditional blues musician, songwriter, recording artist and a National Heritage Award winner has performed for presidents, the U.S. Congress, and kings and queens around the world. But he'll tell you that he's "just a working man".

- 31 **Big Trouble:** Terence McArdle and Big Trouble presents swinging, rocking, blues guitar with a touch of boogie woogie.

- 7 **Negleatha Johnson:** Gospel songwriter, recording artist and winner of the 1996 Mid-Atlantic songwriters award will present selections from her most recent release, "A Life Poured Out".

- 14 **Little Bit of Blues:** These veteran blues men are favorites on the festival circuit, taking their special style of folk blues from Mississippi to Boston

- 21 **Mariachi de Los Estrelles:** You will get the best of Mexican music from this dynamic and festive strolling group.

- 28 **Potomac Brass Quintet:** The power of horns is showcased in music from the classical to marches and everything in between.

JULY

AUG

Braddock Nights is made possible through the efforts of Braddock District Supervisor, Sharon Bulova, a steering committee chaired by Clai Richardson; and the generous support of The Washington Post, Giant Foods, Virginia Power, and Media General Cable.

PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT



New initiatives to protect our environment were very much on the minds of Board members as we approved several reorganizations in conjunction

with adoption of the FY 99 budget. While consolidating the Department of Environmental Management into the Department of Public Works, we also enhanced efforts to safeguard the quality of our water and air and to protect our wooded open spaces.

A new **Environmental Coordinator** position will have oversight of activity affecting the environment. This position will be responsible for coordinating with senior level management the review of all local, State and Federal regulations. He or she will audit how the County does business to ensure that we too are obeying all the rules. The Environmental Coordinator will also mediate disputes between departments when there is conflict between what we are trying to achieve and the impact on the environment.

Laws and plans to preserve trees are only as good as our ability to enforce them. During the recession years of the 90's the number of County urban foresters was reduced with the hope that private landscape architects could be employed during the development process to fulfill those functions. Everyone from citizens to builders agrees that it didn't work. In the approved budget, **five urban forester positions** were added. They will be our front line defense to ensure that tree save areas are not only delineated on development plans but that the limits of clearing in the field are adhered to. They will also provide valuable, expert advice on whether individual trees will survive the development process.

Conserving and protecting green spaces and streams requires a partnership between government and citizens. Residents can be local government's eyes and ears. **Citizen Watchdogs** can report suspicious activity related to *land clearing and tree removal, erosion of construction sites and dumping and filling activities*. Look for the following clues to illegal or improper activities:

- Work is occurring before 7 A.M. or after 7 P.M. or only on weekends
- No company name on the construction equipment or vehicles.
- Construction is occurring on a site with no advertising sign.
- Land is being cleared without surveyor's flagging on trees.
- No construction entrance adjacent to the roadway.

More information and phone numbers to call are available in the "***Citizens Guide for Reporting Land Development Related Environmental Concerns.***"

For a copy of this brochure, please call my office at 425-9300.

Another excellent publication is "***You and Your Land, A Homeowner's Guide for the Potomac Rivershed.***" This book is packed with a variety of practical information designed to aid homeowners in the care and maintenance of their property. It's full of practical advice on solving common problems encountered in yards, gardens and common areas. Give my office a call for a free copy of this excellent publication.

Little River Glen

Little River Glen provides a comfortable place to call home for moderate income senior adults age 62 and older. Designed to enhance an independent lifestyle, residents enjoy attractive, affordable units equipped with many amenities and safety features, a Senior Recreation Center on the premises providing a full calendar of activities and beautifully landscaped courtyard with fountain.

See for yourself! Tours are offered every Wednesday at 2 P.M. No reservations necessary, just drop by! Little River Glen is sponsored by the Fairfax County Department of Housing and Community Development. Call 503-8700 for an information packet.



Fairfax County is committed to nondiscrimination in all County programs, services and activities. Special accommodations/alternative information formats will be provided upon request. Call 324-3187, TTY 324-2935.

MEDIA GENERAL CABLE'S FRANCHISE RENEWAL

After eighteen months of negotiation between Media General Cable (MGC) and the County's staff, the Board of Supervisors voted on May 11, 1998, to renew MGC's franchise. A 15-year non-exclusive franchise was awarded in exchange for the company's agreement to rebuild its cable system to a state-of-the-art technology that will provide improved signal quality and reliability, increased subscriber choices, new interactive service capabilities, and the ability to respond to technological developments and customer expectations in the future. *It also includes a 10 year review option, which allows the County to invoke the refranchise process early if we are dissatisfied with Media General's progress and/or performance.*

A Needs Assessment Survey, conducted by the County's Cable Regulatory Division, highlighted several areas for upgrade to the cable system: more reliability, more capacity, and "a la carte" program selection. Media General's proposal addresses those issues. The upgrade proposed is a fiber optic backbone that will result in a higher level of reliability and more capacity on the system. Media General has pledged to begin offering digital converter boxes by next spring. The new Media General proposal also contains new consumer protection provisions that include fines for customer service violations. These include fines for missed appointments, failure to respond to subscriber complaints in a timely fashion, failure to perform property restoration and various other customer service violations.

In 1982, when the Fairfax County Board of supervisors signed the franchise to MGC it was non-exclusive and at any time during the past sixteen years, another cable operator could have entered into an agreement to provide service in the County. The *new* contract will also be non-exclusive. Several other new technologies will soon introduce competition for the services Media General provides.

PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX RELIEF ACT OF 1998

On April 24, 1998 the Virginia General Assembly passed legislation to phase out the payment of personal property taxes by individuals on certain motor vehicles. The law will apply to personal property taxes due for tax year 1998 and after.

The tax relief act does not eliminate the personal property tax. It does, however, provide for State reimbursements to the taxpayer in 1998 and to localities in 1999. The reimbursement amount is 12.5% of the taxes paid in 1998 on qualifying vehicles with an assessed value between \$1,001 and \$20,000. Taxpayers who own vehicles with a value of \$1,000 or less will receive a 100% reimbursement of the tax paid for 1998. Taxes on the value in excess of \$20,000 are paid to the County and not subject to the phase out.

In Fairfax County, taxpayers who pay the 1998 personal property taxes prior to December 31, 1998, will receive reimbursement from the State by May 15, 1999. Taxpayers who pay after December 31, 1998, should receive a reimbursement within 100 days of

payment. Reimbursements do not apply to any delinquent taxes assessed for tax year 1997 and prior.

The phase out only applies to privately owned passenger cars, motorcycles and pickup or panel trucks used for non-business purposes. Taxpayers who lease a vehicle and use it for personal rather than business will receive a direct reimbursement from the State after taxes are paid.

For tax year 1999, the percentage of reimbursed tax becomes 27.5% of taxes on the value up to \$20,000. The State reimbursement amount will be reflected on the County bill. The phase out increase is not automatic and subject to the availability of funds at the State level.

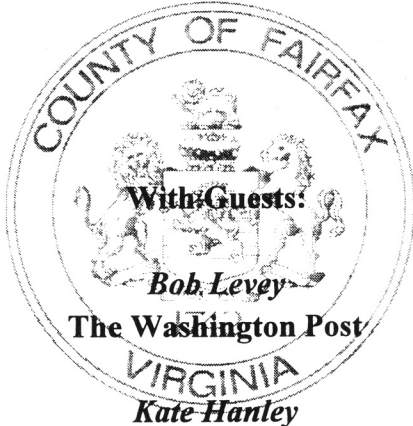
The Fairfax County Department of Tax Administration will be sending more information with your tax bills for 1998 and will soon post additional information on their website:
www.co.fairfax.va.us/dta.

Remember, you must still pay your personal property taxes by October 5, 1998. No credit will be reflected on the 1998 tax bill.

**THE MINISERIES CONTINUES
SPRING TOWN MEETING**

BRADDOCK 2000

**"REINVENTING GOVERNMENT FOR
THE NEXT MILLENNIUM"**



Fairfax County Board Chairman

Bob O'Neill
Fairfax County Executive

Tuesday, June 9th 1998
7:30 P.M.

Little Run Elementary School
4511 Olley Lane, Fairfax

YOURS FOR THE ASKING

Contact my office for the following brochures:

- **A GUIDE TO BOARDS, AUTHORITIES, & COMMISSIONS** - Citizen participation in Fairfax County
- **1998 BRADDOCK NIGHTS BROCHURE**
- **CITIZEN'S GUIDE FOR REPORTING LAND DEVELOPMENT RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS**
- **ELDERLINK** - Care giving solutions for the elderly and their families
- **EMISSION INSPECTION FACILITIES BY ZIP CODE**
- **FAIRFAX COUNTY CITIZENS' HANDBOOK**
- **1998 FAIRFAX COUNTY HOMEGROWN FARMERS' MARKET SCHEDULE**
- **GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY** - A Guide to University Services for the Community
- **GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY** - InfoMason - Two month Calender of Events
- **TRANSPORTATION PLANNING BOARD** - Soliciting public comment on a Transportation Plan for the 21st Century - We need your opinion!
- **RESOURCE GUIDE FOR WOMEN** - Resources for Women and their families that are free, low cost or based on a sliding scale fee
- **TOURISM AND ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE** - Northern VA., Suburban Maryland, and Washington, D.C.

SHARON BULOVA
BRADDOCK DISTRICT SUPERVISOR
4414 HOLBORN AVENUE
ANNANDALE, VIRGINIA 22003

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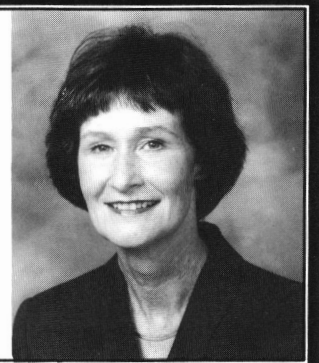
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October, 1998

In Spring of 1996 I hosted a Town Meeting about "The Maturing of Fairfax County." Our theme dealt with the fact that our population is growing older. We contemplated the Baby Boomer "bubble" that will cause the number of persons 65 and older to peak between the years 2010 and 2030. Our brick and mortar are aging too. Most of Braddock District was built during the 60's, 70's and early 80's. We moved into our shiny new homes, planted trees and flower gardens and met our new neighbors over barbecue grills. As time has marched on, our houses are no longer shiny new, the trees and bushes may be crowding out lawn space and empty nesters barely have time to meet new neighbors. Fairfax County is aging. How do we make sure we continue to be an attractive, vibrant place to live and work? How do we ensure that our homes and businesses continue to be good investments? My fall **TOWN MEETING on October 27th** will be an opportunity to discuss this issue. I hope you will join me and an outstanding group of panelists to learn about new tools and programs designed to keep the "vital" in Revitalization.

Two essential ingredients for a vibrant, attractive community are safety and opportunities for recreation and open space. **REFERENDA** regarding both of these items will be on the ballot this fall. See inside for information about both the **PARKS** and **PUBLIC SAFETY** bonds. See inside also for information about some major **TRANSPORTATION** projects, both within and outside of the Braddock District. After many years of working its way up the State funding ladder, I'm especially pleased that construction on the Roberts Road railroad overpass will begin this spring. This project will resolve a serious safety concern and improve traffic flow in the area. I want to thank members of the community who worked with my office and State highway officials to make modifications to the design which I believe will make the bridge a unique and attractive community landmark.

Also integral to our continued vitality is a strong **SENSE OF COMMUNITY** for residents of our Braddock District. If you have the time and inclination, think about volunteering through my office on a number of community-building projects during the next year: **Braddock Nights** (concerts in the parks), the **Braddock District Tree Project**, and the **100th Anniversary Celebration for the Wakefield Chapel** in Annandale. Additional volunteer activities are listed inside under "**YOUR CHANCE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.**"

As always, please let me know whenever you have questions, suggestions or need my assistance in any way. Hope to see you at my Town Meeting on October 27th or at the polls on November 3rd!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon Bulova".

Sharon Bulova

ROADWORKS UPDATE

Roberts Rd. Extension - Complete a two lane segment of Roberts Rd. from Collingham Dr. to north of Colony View Dr. (State Project - 0.4 mile)

Construction is underway and should be completed by November '98. The Braddock District Tree Planting Project, in conjunction with the County's Office of Transportation, applied for a grant to provide some fencing and trees for residents adjacent to the project. The grant has just been awarded and planning for the project is underway.

Roberts Rd. Flyover - Construct overpass over the Norfolk Southern Railroad tracks (State Project) Along with the overpass, there will be significant safety improvements at both approaches to the bridge. South of the tracks, the conflicting turning movements on Roberts Parkway at Premier Court, the Burke VRE Station and the Burke Commons Community Center will be corrected with a single access point controlled by a traffic signal. North of the tracks, there will be dual right turn lanes onto NE bound New Guinea Road with a traffic signal at Roberts and New Guinea Roads. To avoid prolonged disruption to the Colony Park community, VDOT will widen New Guinea Road adjacent to Colony Park as a part of this project.

When the flyover is completed, the new traffic signal, located where the traffic circle used to be, will be eliminated and Old Guinea Road will dead end north of the tracks. VDOT is evaluating the need for a traffic signal at Colony View Dr. Design of the bridge is complete and land acquisition is underway. Construction will begin in spring '99.

Guinea Rd. - Roberts Rd. to Pommeroy Dr. (State Project - 1.5 miles) Widen from two to four lanes. Funded for design in 2001.

Burke Centre Parkway - From Marshall Pond Rd. to Burke Lake Rd. (County/State Project - 0.87 mile) Widen from two to four lanes. Final design completed. Land acquisition to be completed in early '99. Construction goes to bid in April '99.

Rt. 123 (Ox Rd.) - From Burke Lake Rd. to the Occoquan River (State project - 7 miles) Widen Ox Rd. to four lanes (with right-of-way for a future six lanes). Public hearing on design in early '99.

Shirley Gate Rd., Extended - From Braddock Rd. to the Fairfax County Parkway (State Project - 0.9 mile)

This project will connect Shirley Gate Rd. to the Fairfax County Parkway. It's funded for preliminary design in the State's Six Year Plan in late 2000.

Rolling Rd. At Burke Lake Rd. Funding has been secured for the addition of a right turn lane on NB Rolling at Burke Lake Rd. The project schedule is being developed.

Roberts Rd. At Still Meadow Dr. As a first step for improved safety at this intersection, VDOT installed a small median on Still Meadow so southbound Roberts Rd. motorists have to pull up farther to turn left, thus aiding sight distance. Shaving the humps and filling in the dips on Roberts Rd. are the long term solution but right-of-way issues and design have presented problems.

I-95/I-395/I-495 Interchange Improvements - (State Project). This ambitious project to fix the "mixing bowl" will be done in 8 years. Construction will start in spring '99. Several small congestion management projects to facilitate traffic flow in the area have been proposed. Two were approved in Braddock District: **Backlick Rd.** - add a left turn lane from NB Backlick to WB Leesville Blvd., **Backlick Rd.** - extend left turn lane from SB Backlick to EB Edsall Rd. *Turn lanes are meant to unclog thru lanes on Backlick and not encourage traffic onto neighborhood streets.*

The plan to close the left turn median break on **Braddock Rd.** to Danbury Forest Dr. and extend the left turn lane to NB Wakefield Chapel Rd. was not justified and has been deleted. The congestion management plan will also encourage car pooling and transit use. For more information go to www.vdot.va.us and in late '98, www.springfieldinterchange.com.

I-95/I-495 Capital Beltway Widening - (State Study) Major study of the entire Capital Beltway in Virginia from the Woodrow Wilson Bridge to the American Legion Bridge is complete. Phase 2, preliminary engineering and environmental documentation of the alternatives, is to be completed by late '99. Phase 2 is from the Springfield Interchange project to the American Legion Bridge. VDOT plans to hold public hearings in November '98.

UPDATE ON FAIRFAX COUNTY PARKWAY/ FRANCONIA-SPRINGFIELD PARKWAY

Full funding is now in place for the remaining pieces of the Fairfax County Parkway, including grade separated interchanges at Route 7, Telegraph Rd. and Baron Cameron Ave. Funding to complete the parkway comes from a combination of \$50 million in State bond funds and \$7.2 million in Federal funds.

85% of the parkway is now open to traffic or under construction. Construction is complete from Sunset Hills Rd. in Reston to the Rolling Rd./Franconia-Springfield Parkway interchange and from Fullerton Rd., just west of the I-95 Newington interchange, to Route 1. The Franconia/Springfield Parkway spur is complete from the Rolling Rd./Fairfax County Parkway interchange to Beulah St. The Route 7 to Sunset Hills Rd. segments are either under construction or scheduled to be advertised for bid within the next eight months.

In August, the Board of Supervisors approved a recommendation for revising the Engineering Proving Grounds (EPG) segment of the parkway that calls for building a six lane facility initially with a grade separated, single access point between the EPG and the parkway. The redesign also includes an eventual grade separated interchange at Fullerton Rd.

Braddock District Spot Traffic Improvements

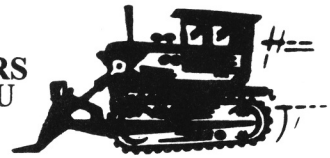
(County Projects) - Three "quick fix" traffic improvements recommended by the Braddock District Council of Community Associations and Braddock residents were approved:

The long awaited trail connection along Wakefield Chapel Rd. to the NVCC parking lot is under construction. It will tie into the existing sidewalk located at 4311 Wakefield Chapel

Construct right turn lane on northbound Rt. 123 at Middlegate Dr. Construction will begin this fall and take 30 to 60 days to complete. Keys Crossing developer is making a contribution toward the cost of construction.

Construct right turn lane from Wakefield Chapel Rd. to eastbound Rt. 236. Funding was identified this year to initiate the project. Construction bid advertisement in late '99 with construction completed in the first half of 2000.

YOUR TAX DOLLARS AT WORK FOR YOU



TRAILS

Woodland Way Project: this 400 ft. segment from Woodland Meadows to Fleming Dr. will complete the sidewalk along Woodland Way, providing a link for walkers to Canterbury Woods Elementary School, Kings Park Shopping Center and Kings Park Library. Design and land acquisition to be completed this fall. Construction planned for spring '99.

Guinea Road Project: west side of Guinea from Braddock Rd. north to Rutherford Park. This 3,400 ft. project is under study.

Bonnie Brae Elementary School Walkway: 450 ft. segment from Whitfield Ct. to Calumet Grove Dr. has been deleted due to right-of-way issues and reduced need.

STREETLIGHTS

In 1989, the County stopped funding **Streetlight installation** in neighborhoods when we experienced a downturn in the economy. Six projects, approved and funded were put on hold. The FY 99 County budget funded those six projects. Three are in Braddock: 30 streetlights will be installed in **Southport**, two lights in **Kings Park West** in the Tapestry area and 12 lights in **Burnside Landing**. Residents should see the lights by the end of the year.

BACKLICK VRE STATION ACCESS

Funding has been secured for construction of the long awaited sidewalk on Backlick Rd. between Industrial Rd. And Hechinger Dr.

LAKE ACCOTINK PARK RENOVATION

Construction begins soon on the renovation and reconstruction of the marina area at Lake Accotink Park. The carousel and mini-golf course will be relocated. The Heming Ave. entrance will be improved and additional parking added. The picnic pavilion and upper restrooms will be rebuilt and walkways added and improved.

ATHLETIC FIELD IMPROVEMENTS

New sideline, outfield and dugout fencing has been installed at the two fields at **Rutherford Park**. At **Howery Field**, a fence and a crosswalk have been installed along Glen Park Dr. to channel pedestrians to a single point to cross the street. This is part of a continuing effort to address traffic safety and congestion at these heavily-used fields.



REMEMBER ELECTION DAY IS NOVEMBER 3RD

In addition to Congressional elections, there will be five Commonwealth of Virginia Constitutional Amendments on the ballot to consider:

- **Overseas Voters** amendment concerns the residence requirement and how it applies to voters who leave Virginia to work overseas. This would allow voters to continue to vote under certain circumstances even though they have given up their housing or place of abode in Virginia.
- **Judicial Inquiry and Review Commission** investigates charges against judges. The commission's proceedings are confidential. This amendment will give the General Assembly the authority to determine the extent to which that confidentiality extends.
- **Economic Development Areas; Governing Bodies** amendment would allow two or more localities to jointly develop a specific land area with a special governing body to oversee it. Debt incurred by this special body would not be included in factoring the debt ceiling of the individual jurisdictions participating in this arrangement.
- **Economic Growth-Sharing Agreements** amendment adds another exception to the constitutional limits on local debt. The new exception covers the debt that results from an agreement among two or more localities to share the revenue, tax base or benefits of economic growth. The debt created would not be subject to the constitutional ceiling on city or town debt or the referendum requirement for county debt.
- **Tax Exemptions** amendment would allow local governments to grant exemptions to the BPOL tax and/or the merchants' capital tax.

Please give my office a call (425-9300) for a brochure describing the Amendments. We also have **Absentee Ballot applications**. The deadline for applying by mail to vote absentee is October 29. You may vote absentee in person up to October 31. **The deadline to register to vote in this election has passed (closed October 3).**



1998 BOND REFERENDUM

Fairfax County voters will be asked to vote YES or NO on two separate bond questions in the November 3rd General Election.

The Public Safety Bond question asks voters to allow the County to borrow \$99.9 million for public safety projects that presently include plans to expand the courthouse and add more parking, build new stations for the police and fire department and renovate older stations.

The majority of the money (\$92.5 million) will be used for the **Judicial Center Expansion** which would add approximately 312,000 square feet to the Jennings Judicial Center and relocate the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court. This expansion would address overcrowding and allow after-hours access to the public law library and some court clerk functions, such as getting a marriage license or passports. Expansion would include additional courtrooms to accommodate projected judicial caseloads in the year 2010. Also included are two

parking garages to accommodate approximately 2,100 vehicles. The Bond would provide \$3 million for the **Burke Volunteer Fire Station** project which is being developed and financed as a joint effort between Fairfax County and the Burke Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department. The total project estimate for this facility is approximately \$4.8 million.

The Park Bond question asks voters to allow the County to borrow \$87 million to buy land for new parks and athletic fields, renovate older parks and build a new recreation center in western Fairfax County. The Fairfax County Park Authority would receive \$75 million and the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority would receive \$12 million.

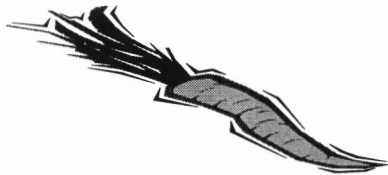
The Braddock District would receive some new park land, lighting for baseball fields, trail improvements, playground equipment and renovation to existing park facilities. Our largest project would be dam repairs and the long overdue dredging of Lake Accotink.

REVITALIZATION STICKS & CARROTS

Most neighborhoods in our Braddock District were built during the 60's, 70's and early 80's. As we approach the turn of the century, our homes and commercial areas are maturing and sometimes showing their age. The County has several new programs designed to address the challenge of revitalization.

- For some time now a **Home Improvement Loan Program (HILP)** has been available to financially eligible homeowners to receive low interest loans and technical assistance to improve their homes. To learn about this program, contact the County's Community Development Division of the Department of Housing and Community Development at 246-5155.

- A **Tax Abatement Program** was adopted about a year ago to encourage property owners to improve and reinvest in their older homes and commercial structures. The Residential Tax Abatement Program is designed to encourage major renovations of homes at least 25 years old that improve the value of the home by at least 25% but do not increase the size of the original structure by more than 30%. Homeowners whose application for this program is accepted will receive tax abatement of the increased value of their home for a period of years. More information on this program is available from the Real Estate Division of the Department of Tax Administration by calling 222-8234.



- Another program - a stick instead of a carrot - gives the County authority to step in and make repairs or even acquire a blighted property before it causes the surrounding community to deteriorate.

Adopted in 1996, the **Spot Blight Program** authorizes the Fairfax County Redevelopment and Housing Authority (FCRHA) to take action against homes that meet the State's definition of "blighted property." These are properties that: have been vacant and boarded for at least one year; have been the subject of documented complaints; are no longer being maintained for useful occupancy; and are dilapidated and/or lack normal maintenance and upkeep.

Once such a property is reported to the Housing Authority it is investigated by several County agencies to determine whether the property fits the definition of blight. The property owner is notified of the blighted status and encouraged to improve the property prior to FCRHA action to compel the abatement or removal of the blighted conditions.

- The Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) oversees revitalization efforts throughout the County. The Board of Supervisors has approved numerous commercial and residential Revitalization Districts in Fairfax County. The **Annandale Central Business District** is a designated Fairfax County **Revitalization Area**. A task force of citizens and business leaders is working with County staff to chart Annandale's promising future. In addition to landscaping and "streetscaping," future plans could include increased densities to encourage reinvestment in this older commercial area as well as changes to the transportation network.

IN SEARCH OF - A HOME FOR THE BRADDOCK DISTRICT OFFICE

Unlike most District Supervisor offices, which are located in satellite governmental centers with police or fire stations, the Braddock District Office has always been a bit of an orphan. When we were known as the "Annandale" District, our offices were in rental space in downtown Annandale and later in the Kings Park office townhouses. In 1984, following the consolidation of the Chapel Square and Wakefield Forest elementary schools, Chapel Square was converted into the School's Library Services and Media Center. An arrangement was made to reserve a portion of the former school (the kindergarten) for the Braddock Supervisor's office. Recently our shared space has also become home to the School System's Computer Training Center. Office space, storage and sufficient parking have become a problem and the Schools have tactfully inquired as to whether there are plans to eventually relocate the Braddock office.

I am exploring a number of possibilities for a permanent home, the most promising being co-location with the King Park Library on Burke Lake Rd. This would be a convenient, central location for my constituents and the library appears to be a good candidate for shared resources and meeting spaces. Accessibility would be an improvement over Chapel Square, which is located on residential streets within a subdivision. Because Kings Park Library is already used to capacity, a relocation would involve construction of a wing onto the east side of the building for our offices and a separate meeting room. I'll be sure to keep you informed about this possibility and, as always, am interested in your thoughts.

PLANNING A NEIGHBORHOOD CLEANUP?

If your community is interested in organizing a cleanup of the neighborhood, 30 gallon trash bags, clear bags for recycling, painters hats and safety tips are available from **Clean Fairfax Council**. These supplies are free and are available on a first come, first served basis. Contact my office to obtain a sign up sheet or call Clean Fairfax Council at 324-5471. Supplies can be delivered to my office or to any public school. Lots more information about cleanup, recycling and the environment is available on the Internet, including some fun and informative pages for children (www.cleanfairfaxcouncil.org).

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! WAKEFIELD CHAPEL'S BIRTHDAY PARTY

As I write this newsletter, the view from my window is of a pretty piece of area history, the Wakefield Chapel, located on Toll House Rd. In Annandale. Built as a Methodist Church in 1897/98, it graced the landscape of what was once the Besley family's property near the Ravensworth estate, part of a 21,996 acre tract granted to William Fitzhugh in colonial times. The chapel faced a bleak future from 1968 to 1974, when it was acquired by the Anglican Orthodox Church which began to remodel it but ran into difficulties and voluntarily relinquished its rights of trusteeship.

Neighborhood residents Vic and Gloria Danisavage organized the community, enlisted the aid of Supervisor Audrey Moore and began a two year campaign to save the chapel. As a result, Wakefield Chapel became Park Authority property and was renovated. It is used today for weddings and community events. Children play soccer and practice football on its pretty grounds. In the fall of 1999 the Wakefield Chapel will celebrate its 100th anniversary and a number of area residents (including Vic Danisavage) have expressed an interest in planning an event to celebrate this occasion. My office is looking for **volunteers** to help with what should be a very exciting event. We are also seeking **information or items of interest** regarding Wakefield Chapel or the Toll House/Holborn area during the years when the chapel was built. Please give us a call if you would like to help.



NEED A NOTARY?

With two notaries on my staff, I'm able to provide free notary services. Please call my office at 425-9300 before coming by to ensure that Joanne or Florence is available. My office hours are from 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday.

CAMPUS CORNER

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY announces "The Old Town Hall Lecture Series." The series starts Wed., Oct. 21, at 7:30 p.m. at Fairfax City's Old Town Hall and begins with "Women and Men Communicating: Who's From Mars?" The next lecture, "The Civil Wars Through The Eyes of Williams Cowan McClellan," is on Nov. 18. For further information, call 993-8846.



GMU publishes a bi-monthly calendar of events titled infomason. To be added to the mailing list, call 993-8693 or visit Today@Mason on the Internet at www.gmu.edu/today.

GMU's annual **Homecoming** celebration on Feb. 20 will coincide with their final regular season men's basketball game (George Mason vs. American University). *Alumni, students, faculty, staff, and neighbors are all invited to attend.*

George Mason's new Aquatic and Fitness Center opens this month. Faculty, staff, students and members of the community may use the \$11 million, 68,000-square-foot facility, which houses an Olympic-sized pool, a smaller, warm-water recreational pool, locker rooms, a whirlpool, a fitness gallery, and meeting rooms. Operation is from Mon. through Thurs. 6 A.M. to 10:30 P.M.; Fri. 6 A.M. to 8 P.M.; Sat. 9 A.M. to 8 P.M.; and Sun. 11 A.M. to 8 P.M. Annual and semester memberships are available beginning at \$175 for an annual and \$75 for a semester. Full-time students with ID may use the facility at no cost. Part-time students pay a fee of \$25 per semester. For more information, call 993-3939.

NORTHERN VIRGINIA COMMUNITY

COLLEGE (NVCC) recently said farewell to **Dr. Richard J. Ernst**, who retired after thirty years as president of the college. Under Dr. Ernst's impressive leadership NVCC grew from a single-campus institution with 5,000 students to the second largest multi-campus community college in the world with five campuses (and a sixth on the way), plus an Extended Learning Institute with an annual enrollment of over 60,000 credit students and over 300,000 participants each year in non-credit programs and services. Dr. Ernst has helped prepare thousands of students (including your Braddock District Supervisor) for the Northern Virginia workforce. Dr. Ernst is a Braddock District resident and I know he will continue to be active in the community.

The Lifetime Learning Institute of Northern Virginia, sponsored by NVCC, is expanding its course offerings for the 1998-99 academic year, and now offers 34 classes in 11 different locations throughout Northern Virginia. LLI offers continuing education opportunities to older adults of all backgrounds and income levels. Enjoy the fun of learning without the homework and exams! For more information about LLI and its offerings, call 503-0600.

YOUR CHANCE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

● **AmeriCorps**, the national volunteer service, needs volunteers (17 and older) to serve in the community. They are looking for volunteers to work part time in the schools to provide tutoring and mentoring and to work in "workforce preparation" and reading programs.

In exchange for service, the AmeriCorp members would receive a monthly stipend and tuition benefits. For more detailed information contact: VA Coop Extension, (703) 324-5314.

● **Fairfax' "FISH"** is sponsoring **Adopt-a-Family** program for Thanksgiving food baskets and Christmas gift & food baskets once again this year. They need your help and ask that you or your office sponsor a family for the holidays. Drivers are also needed for delivery of Thanksgiving food baskets on Tuesday, November 24th in the afternoon or evening. Call Kathy Weaver at 764-3259.

● **The Fairfax County Police Department** is seeking applicants for its **Police Auxiliary**. Auxiliary officers perform both operational and administrative duties and must be 21 years or older and a Fairfax County resident, in good moral character. Please contact Fred Sanborn at (703) 280-0576 if you would like to apply.



Fairfax County is committed to nondiscrimination in all County programs, services and activities. Special accommodations/alternative information formats will be provided upon request. Call 324-3187, TTY 324-2935.

YOURS FOR THE ASKING
(Contact my office for the following brochures)

- Fairfax County Citizens Handbook
- Commonwealth of Virginia's Proposed Constitutional Amendments to be voted on at the 11/3/98 Special Election.
- Bond Referendum Information, 1998 Fairfax County Bond Referendum
- Northern Virginia - VDOT Snow Removal, Questions & Answers
- "You and Your Land", A Homeowner's Guide for the Potomac River Watershed

(The following is available on the Internet)

- Fairfax County, Virginia Profile, Fairfax County Economic Development Authority
[http:// www.FairfaxCountyEDA.org](http://www.FairfaxCountyEDA.org)
- Fairfax County, Virginia Citizens Handbook
<http://www.co.fairfax.va.us>
- Fairfax County Public Library
<http://www.co.fairfax.va.us/library>

TOWN MEETING
FALL 1998

Tuesday, October 27th
7:30 P.M.

**"WHAT'S VITAL
ABOUT REVITALIZATION?"**



**Fairfax County Department of
Housing and Community**

Kevin Greenlief
Department of Tax Administration

Bill Heinz
Annandale CBD Revitalization Committee

Little Run Elementary School
4511 Olley Lane, Fairfax

SHARON BULOVA
BRADDOCK DISTRICT SUPERVISOR
4414 HOLBORN AVENUE
ANNANDALE, VIRGINIA 22003

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