

April 7, 2017

The BRADDOCK BEACON

A Monthly Newsletter from Braddock
District Supervisor John C. Cook

Volume 9 | Issue 4

April is Sexual Assault, Child Abuse Awareness Month- “Make the Call” Campaign Presented

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month and Child Abuse Prevention Month, highlighting the County’s effort to address both of these systemic problems. In concert with these campaigns, Fairfax County and the Domestic Violence Prevention, Policy & Coordinating Council- chaired by Supervisor Cook- are launching the [“Make the Call” campaign](#), a year-long effort to encourage victims and bystanders to utilize the County’s 24-hour Domestic and Sexual Violence Hotline at 703-360-7273.

This “Make the Call” campaign represents a major step forward in communicating to the public what to do if they themselves, or if they suspect someone else, may be the victim of domestic violence or sexual assault. Everyone knows a victim of these crimes- although they may not realize it. Recognizing the signs of [domestic and sexual violence](#), and reporting it when you see it, helps combat these problems. If you are not sure, just



Supervisor Cook has served on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors since 2009 and lives in Kings Park with his wife and six children.



Supervisor Cook stood with advocates for Child Abuse Awareness Month (pictured) and Sexual Assault Awareness Month at the April 4 board meeting. Supervisor Cook also helped roll out the new DVPPCC [“Make the Call”](#) campaign.

“make the call.” Let the professionals on the line take it from there.

If you would like to get involved or volunteer in [Sexual Assault Awareness Month](#), the [“Make the Call” campaign](#) for victims of domestic or sexual violence, or if you would like to get involved and learn more about [child abuse prevention](#), information and resources are available online. These are all troubling and difficult issues to address and comprehend, but the County is reliant on the community stepping up wherever possible to report and familiarize themselves with these issues and neighborhood problems.

VDOT Releases 2017 Northern Virginia Paving Program

The roads selected by VDOT in the Northern Virginia Paving Program have been formally released. Most of the neighborhood roads between Guinea Road and Olley Lane north of Braddock Road will be paved, as will most of the roads in Fairfax Club Estates. Lake Braddock Drive between Burke Lake Road and Burke Road is on this year's schedule, as is Ward Groves Circle and Roberts Road. Nothing west of Route 123 will be paved. Burke Station Road will not be paved. Let's hope for next year!

You can find up-to-date paving information using this [link](#) to VDOT's Northern Virginia 2017 Paving Program. The maps will be updated every Monday. There is a section of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on that page with information about who to contact if you need more information. You may also contact Supervisor Cook's office at 703-425-9300.

Supervisor Cook to Host Braddock District "Battle of the Bands"

Supervisor Cook, looking to showcase the musical talent of the Braddock District and Fairfax County, will host the Braddock District "Battle of the Bands" Festival this summer on Sunday, July 16 at 3 p.m. This event will take place at Lakeside Park by Royal Lake (5216 Pommeroy Dr. Fairfax, VA 22032). Join friends, family, and neighbors to hear some great music as well as share in good old-fashioned neighborhood fun. This free event is open to everyone.

Supervisor Cook's office is looking for amateur and professional bands to compete! This includes youth bands. If you are interested, or if you know of musicians who would be, call Supervisor Cook's office at 703 - 425 - 9300 or email braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov. A flyer for this event can be found at the [end of this issue](#) of the Braddock Beacon, or [online](#).

Fairfax County's 275th Anniversary

Fairfax County was founded in 1742, and to mark this historic occasion, a signature celebration will be held on the Historic Fairfax Courthouse grounds (4000 Chain Bridge Rd., Fairfax, VA 22030) on Saturday, June 17, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Entertainment will include family-friendly activities, history exhibits, performances, and more! This event is free and open to the public. More information about this event can be found [online](#).

This Month in the Braddock Beacon...

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Braddock Neighborhood News

Supervisor Cook hosts a monthly television show, [Braddock Neighborhood News](#), on Fairfax County Channel 16, which is available on most cable networks. Supervisor Cook invites topical guests to share pertinent and informative items with the viewers.

Tourism is an important economic sector, especially to a county right in the backyard of the nation's capital. This advantage has been a critical part of the County's strategy to grow the local economy, and growing the County's tourism sector will make it a vibrant, exciting place to be.

To discuss the tourism sector in Fairfax County, Supervisor Cook invited Barry Biggar, the President and CEO of Visit Fairfax, and Brian Kelleher, the General Manager of the Hilton Tysons, to come on BNN and tell us about what makes Fairfax such an attractive destination. The shows air throughout the month and can be seen Sundays at 5 p.m., Wednesdays at 7 p.m. and Fridays at 5 p.m.



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Cook in the Community

On March 4, Supervisor Cook joined his colleagues on the Board to dedicate the Animal Shelter to former Supervisor Michael Frey.

On March 8, Supervisor Cook spoke at the annual Braddock District Council (BDC) county budget meeting along with representatives from the County Department of Management and Budget.

On March 10, Supervisor Cook joined his fellow board members at the Leadership Fairfax Breakfast.

On March 11, Supervisor Cook joined other policymakers at the Real Food for Kids



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Stakeholders' Forum, where he discussed distributing information about healthy food initiatives to citizens to encourage healthier lifestyles.

On March 11, Supervisor Cook joined the Burke Volunteer Fire & Rescue Department members for their Annual Banquet and installation of new officers.

On March 17, Supervisor Cook joined representatives from the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce for their annual Valor Awards Ceremony at the McLean Hilton.

On March 19, Supervisor Cook joined members from the Northern Virginia Family Service for a VIP reception in anticipation of their "Road to Independence" Gala, which honored former Congressman Frank Wolf and Karen Cleveland, President and CEO of Leadership Fairfax.

On March 20, Supervisor Cook attended the first meeting of the newly-established Civilian Review Panel, where new panel members were sworn in.



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On March 27, Supervisor Cook hosted his annual Budget Town Hall event in the Recital Hall of Robinson Secondary School, and informed residents of the fiscal affairs of the County.

On March 28, Supervisor Cook attended the Shelter House's Changing Lives Annual Benefit Breakfast and thanked them for their great work on behalf of victims of domestic violence.

Community Information

Code Compliance Corner

April's topic for Code Compliance Corner is grass height. As warmer weather arrives and the County begins to green and come alive during spring and summer, citizens may begin to notice un-mowed tall grass on residential and commercial properties in their neighborhoods. Chapter 119 of the State Code regulates grass height, which may not be taller than 12-inches on any property, vacant or occupied. DCC accepts complaints related to excessive grass height from April 1st through Mid-October. For more information, visit the [DCC website](#) or see the [Grass Height Flyer](#).

Braddock Nights Concert Series Schedule Posted

Supervisor Cook invites you to mark your summer calendar for the return of the free Braddock Nights Concert Series at Lake Accotink and Rutherford Parks on Friday evenings from 7:30-8:30 p.m. Braddock Nights has always been about bringing the community together with music- so come out with friends, family, and neighbors to enjoy some great summer tunes.

If you or your organization would like contribute funds or volunteer hours, please call Supervisor Cook's office at 703-425-9300. Concerts are cancelled if it is raining. If there is a threat of bad weather, call 703-324-SHOW (7469) one hour prior to the start of the concert or before leaving home for cancellation updates. Concerts are held outdoors. Please bring your own blankets and lawn chairs. Concert information is subject to change. For updates, visit Summer Entertainment Series' [webpage](#) at after May 1.

Burke Historical Society Events

The Burke Historical Society is pleased to announce its events for the second quarter of 2017. A full list of events can be found [online](#). Events for April and early May are listed below.

Sun., Apr. 30, 3:30 p.m.; Pohick Regional Library; General Meeting: "The Carrington Event, Locally And Globally"

In late August and early September of 1859, a massive solar storm caused dramatic and poorly understood effects across the earth. Hear some of the local and worldwide accounts of this event and learn about its implications for the present day.

Sat., May 6; 1-4:15; Field Trip: St. Mary's & Jerusalem Baptist Cemeteries

The Historical Society will join the Fairfax County Cemetery Preservation Association in tours of the historic cemeteries of St. Mary of Sorrows Catholic Church and Jerusalem Baptist Church in Fairfax Station.

Braddock Neighbor of the Month

Jeff Cummins, the Artistic Director of Virginia Music Adventures, Inc, is the Braddock Neighbor of the Month! Jeff has showed that he is a neighborhood leader by encouraging community service and music. [Virginia Music Adventures'](#) primary mission is to expose its students to community service and travel opportunities, with the goal that they will develop empathy and respect for other cultures, as well as learn to be seasoned musicians and well-rounded international travelers.



Jeff Cummins is the April Braddock Neighbor of the Month. Jeff has been a neighborhood leader by encouraging community service and music.

Virginia Music Adventures program participants try to give back to every community they visit, often by providing free performances and workshops as well as dedicated fundraising efforts, such as their recent Guatemala tour. The group that traveled to Guatemala is its Chapel Square Combo, a small combo-size group that is made up of the highest level and most advanced students, focusing on improvisation and performance technique. The Chapel Square Combo had a truly amazing tour to Guatemala, during which they visited El Jicaro, Guatemala City, and Antigua. The Combo's students were able to successfully raise funds to sponsor food buckets for families in need. They also brought over musical instruments for music programs at the schools they visited.

In total, the Chapel Square Combo sponsored 140 food buckets, each of which designed to feed a family of four for a month. They also brought two suitcases of instruments, including small percussion instruments and recorders, which were donated to Los Bordos School following a concert and workshop with the students there.

April is jazz appreciation month celebrated all around the world. In the month of April,

Virginia Music Adventures' Annandale Jazz Ambassadors will be visiting Vietnam, working with a youth music group there who will then visit them here in Northern Virginia in July.

Virginia Music Adventures will also be performing a Jazz music program at the American Center in Saigon, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State. Upon returning, they will perform in two festivals in Washington DC: one at Georgetown University on Saturday, April 22, and the other at the Blues Alley Big Band Jam on Saturday April 29.

If you would like to nominate one of your neighbors for their service to the community, contact Supervisor Cook's Office at 703-425-9300 or email braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov.



The Chapel Square Combo had an incredible tour to Guatemala, during which they visited El Jicaro, Guatemala City, and Antigua. The Combo's students were able to successfully fund raise and sponsor food buckets for families in need.

Human Services Corner

County Wins Bronze Telly Award for Suicide Prevention Campaign

Fairfax County's suicide prevention campaign, aimed at helping teens in crisis, was recently named a Bronze winner in the 37th Annual Telly Awards. The series of videos, titled "Reach Out. Find Hope," are currently airing on local cable television, in movie theatres and lobby screens, and on digital platforms. Supervisor Cook is proud to have contributed to increasing awareness of the problem of suicide, and for examining the issue and finding ways to address the problem head-on.

Having recognizing suicide as a major issue faced by the County, Supervisor Cook introduced a [board matter](#) in 2013 that requested county staff, the Community Services Board (CSB), and Fairfax County Public Schools provide the Board with a briefing on the incidences of suicides in the County, especially those involving children, and present prevention strategies to the Board. The campaign receiving this award was an outgrowth of that effort. Part of any campaign of suicide prevention must include increased awareness of the issue, and Supervisor Cook has called for September of each year to be declared "Suicide Prevention Month" in Fairfax County. To learn more about the County's awareness campaign, or to see the award-winning videos, go [online](#).

Preventing Gangs in Fairfax County

Fairfax County continues to be one of the safest jurisdictions in the country. Working together, we can make sure the County remains at the forefront of preventing gang crime and the influence of gangs on our children. Parents, family members, and entire communities are the number one defense against a child becoming part of a gang or choosing to participate in gang-like activities. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors' comprehensive gang prevention, intervention, and suppression effort coordinates county, school, private, faith-based and community-based gang prevention programs and initiatives.

- Fairfax County Gang Prevention Coordinator Ed Ryan - 703-246-2396
- To report suspected gang activity in Fairfax County call 703-691-2131, TTY 711, or in an emergency call/text 911.
- To report information regarding gang-related crime to the Northern Virginia Gang Task Force call 1-866-NO-GANGS (1-866-664-2647).
- If you or someone needs help, call 703-GET-HELP (703-438-4357), the Northern Virginia Gang Task Force resource information line.

More resources available to parents and other concerned citizens is available [online](#).

Deaf, DeafBlind, and Hard of Hearing Information Fair

The Northern Virginia Resource Center for Deaf & Hard of Hearing Persons (NVRC) will host an information fair for the deaf, deafblind, and hard of hearing on Saturday, April 22 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. If you or a loved one is deaf, deafblind or hard of hearing, you can find useful information at the information fair. Over 40 exhibitors will be on hand to answer many questions about new and emerging technologies, relay services, sign language, cued speech, assistive listening and alerting devices, agency services, social organizations, hearing aids, cochlear implants, and much more. More Information is available [online](#).

Environmental Update

Braddock Stream Clean-up Events Huge Success

On Saturday, April 1, and Sunday, March 26, dedicated volunteers from over 30 communities in the Braddock District made their way into our parks and stream areas to clean up our watersheds. Unfortunately, trash and debris often finds its way into our parks and nature areas. However, working with the Fairfax County Park Authority and Clean Fairfax, significant clean-up efforts were made for both the Accotink and Pohick Watersheds.

Many civic, community and homeowner association volunteers, scouting groups, secondary school students, and individual volunteers gave their time to improve their community. Together, these individuals took great care of the natural resources we enjoy here in Braddock.



At Woodglen Lake, volunteers collected several bags of trash, the remains of an old television, and an old rusted riding lawn mower that took 4 volunteers to lift out of the woods.

Land Use Update

Woodward Property at Burke Lake and Coffer Woods Roads (RZ/FDP 2016-BR-019)

On April 4, the Board of Supervisors approved an application by Tetra Corporation and Christopher Companies to rezone a 2.72-acre tract of land located just southwest of the intersection of Burke Lake Road and Coffer Woods Road in Burke and authorize construction of nine single-family detached homes. The master plan for this site calls for four to five houses to the acre, and this proposal works out to 3.3 dwelling units per acre. The design includes approximately 30 percent open space, a trail with benches, tree preservation areas, supplemental landscaping, and stormwater management. Each house would have a two-car garage with driveway and an additional five to eight on-street parking spaces would be available.

Two possible layouts were submitted with this application. In both, the homes would be oriented to a private street, which would enter from either Burke Lake Road or Coffer Woods Road. The primary and most likely layout would have right in, right out access from Burke Lake Road. The alternate layout is dependent on the granting of an easement by the Burke Village Homeowners Association through a small strip of land running along Coffer Woods Road. The HOA has declined, so unless that changes before the site plan is submitted later this spring, the primary layout will be used.

In consultation with VDOT, the location of the entrance and turning radius going into the new subdivision were modified to achieve safe and appropriate access. Because the intersection of Burke Lake and Coffey Woods Roads has significant traffic, safety has been a major focus. The recent installation of an additional signal head on the left-side of Burke Lake Road between Burke Road and Coffey Woods Road, as well as signs indicating that a traffic signal is ahead, are helping alert drivers headed southbound on Burke Lake Road and we hope will reduce problems at this intersection. VDOT has also agreed to install a “No Turn On Red” sign on eastbound Coffey Woods Road at its intersection with Burke Lake Road to reduce driver conflicts and increase safety.

Many thanks go to the Braddock District Land Use and Environment Committee, which spent a significant amount of time reviewing and ultimately recommending approval of this application, Planning Commissioner Nell Hurley, and county staff who worked through the details. Thanks also to the community members who attended the community meeting and were in contact with my office on this proposal. While it may not be perfect, the community’s help has been key in making important improvements to this project.

Community Council on Land Use Engagement

After missing a meeting due to snow, the Community Council on Land Use Engagement, created earlier this year as part of an effort to identify better ways of communicating with and engaging the community when land use changes are being considered, has now completed its sessions on history and background of the current process. At its next meeting on April 17, the Council will turn to breakout sessions, focus groups, and discussion centering on how communications can be improved and citizens can be more involved. Recommendations from these conversations will form the basis of the Council’s report to the Board of Supervisors.

Community members are welcome to attend meetings. For the updated meeting schedule, agendas, handouts, and a link to video of past meetings, please visit the Council’s website at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/chairman/communitycouncil.htm>. Written comments may also be submitted to Chairman Bulova’s Chief of Staff at Clayton.Medford@fairfaxcounty.gov. All comments will be shared with Chairman Bulova and Council Chair Walter Alcorn.



Braddock Nights Summer 2017 Schedule

Lake Accotink Park

(7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield, VA 22152)

July

- 7 Shenandoah Run (Folk)
- 14 The NOVA Annandale Symphony Orchestra (Summer Pops)
- 21 City of Fairfax "Concert Band" (Concert Band)
- 28 Linwood Taylor (Texas Swing Blues)

August

- 4 Kings Park Band (Concert Band)
- 11 The Nitehawks Swing (Big Band)
- 18 City of Fairfax Band "Alte Kameraden German Band" (German)

Rutherford Park

(4710 Guinea Road, Fairfax, VA 22032)

July

- 7 Orquesta Tropikiimba (Latin)
- 14 David Bach Consort (Jazz)
- 21 Cool McFinn (Irish/Folk)
- 28 Little Red & The Renegades (Zydeco)

August

- 4 Gina DeSimone and the Moaners (Blues/Swing)
- 11 Barefoot Movement (Bluegrass)
- 18 King Teddy (Swing)

Supervisor John C. Cook

Invites you to the Braddock District



Sunday, July 16, 2017
3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Lakeside Park – Royal Lake
5216 Pommeroy Dr.
Fairfax, VA 22032



Join friends, family, and neighbors at the Braddock District Battle of the Bands Festival on Sunday, July 16 starting at 3 p.m. This free event is sponsored by Braddock Supervisor John C. Cook and is open to everyone.

We are pitting the bands from all across the District and the County against each other to showcase their incredible musical talents. We are looking for amateur and professional bands to compete! For more information, please call 703 – 425 - 9300 or email braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Food carts, music, and neighbors!

This event is sponsored by Braddock District Supervisor John C. Cook