



Volume 13 | Issue 4

# James R. Walkinshaw

## Braddock District Supervisor The Braddock Beacon

Dear Neighbor,

Yesterday, **Governor Ralph Northam announced** that beginning April 18, every Virginian age 16 and older will be eligible to register for the COVID-19 vaccine. In order to meet this goal, Fairfax County plans to **open registration for Phase 1c early next week** and transition to Phase 2 by the governor's deadline. Now that vaccine supply is steadily increasing and everyone will soon be eligible, the upcoming challenges will be spreading information about the effectiveness and safety of the vaccines while increasing accessibility to communities disproportionately affected by COVID-19.

Here in Fairfax County – and across the nation – COVID-19 has had a disproportionate impact on Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) communities. The Health Department's outreach team is actively working to build confidence and support residents in making an informed decision. My staff and I are also ready to connect you, or a loved one, with the proper resources and information needed to make an informed decision. Pages 4 through 7 of this month's Braddock Beacon include comprehensive updates related to vaccine access, including a list of common myths about the vaccines. Please share this information with anyone you know who might be hesitant about getting a vaccine.

On Tuesday, March 30, I hosted the Braddock District Budget Town Hall on the **proposed FY 2022 budget**. If you were not able to join us, you can watch the recording by visiting my **YouTube account**. You can also enjoy an audio only recording on my **Soundcloud account**. As a reminder, there are still plenty of opportunities to share your thoughts with the Board during one of our **upcoming public hearings** scheduled for April 13-15.

As noted in a recent Advisory email, DMV has decided to construct a new customer service center on Braddock Road near the site of the former NVTC. At my request, they will be hosting a **virtual community meeting** on Tuesday, April 6, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. You can learn more about the project and how to register to speak at the meeting on page 21 of this newsletter.

Yours in service,

Supervisor James Walkinshaw

# Walkinshaw in the Community



Supervisor Walkinshaw hosting the Braddock District Budget Town Hall with Braddock School Board Member Megan McLaughlin and County Chief Financial Officer Joe Mondoro on March 30.



Supervisor Walkinshaw examining water samples on a Lake Accotink Vernal Pool walk organized by Friends of Accotink Creek on March 13.



Supervisor Walkinshaw providing feedback to George Mason University students on their environmental policy initiatives project on March 29.

Supervisor Walkinshaw also:

- Joined the Women's Club of Country Club View Civic Association and provided Braddock District updates on March 2.
- Met with the North Springfield Civic Association to provide an overview of the Braddock Road Improvement Project and other topics on March 3.
- Met with Fairfax County Youth Leadership participants on March 4.
- Provided opening remarks at the Fairfax County Department of Family Services' Step Up 4 Kids Video Series Premier on March 26.

# Citizens of the Month

This month's Braddock District Citizens of the Month are the Volunteers of Friends of Accotink Creek who work to protect the ecological wellbeing of the Accotink Creek Watershed. Philip Latasa, Beverly Rivera, and other FACC volunteers have been able to raise awareness, and make lasting change by hosting educational walks, clean-ups, and invasive species removal events. I'd like to thank Beverly, Philip, and all of the volunteers who devote their time to protecting the Accotink Creek Watershed.



Photo by Ana Ka'ahanui ([Capital Nature](#))

# COVID-19 Vaccine Updates

## **Starting April 18, Everyone Over 16 Years Old Will Be Eligible. It's our turn to roll up our sleeves and get vaccinated!**

It's hard to imagine a time when we didn't know COVID-19 existed. Now when people say "virus," we know what they mean. The impact of COVID-19 on our lives, our activities, and our freedom has affected us all. The responsibility is ours, as a community, to help stop this virus. We have a safe and effective tool to help us do that—COVID-19 vaccines.

### ➤ **It takes everyone.**

We all need to step up to beat COVID-19. We ask you to join us in protecting yourself, your family and friends, and our community by getting vaccinated.

Getting vaccinated adds an important layer of protection for you, your family, and loved ones. Here are some things you should know about the COVID-19 vaccine:

- All COVID-19 vaccines currently available in the United States are very effective at preventing the disease.
- The most common side effects are pain in the arm where you got the shot, feeling tired, headache, body aches, chills, and fever.
- Stopping a pandemic requires using all the tools we have available—wearing masks, staying at least 6 feet apart from people who do not live with you, avoiding crowds and poorly ventilated spaces, washing your hands frequently, and **getting vaccinated**.

## **Why is it important for everyone who is eligible to get vaccinated?**

COVID-19 vaccines train our immune systems on how to recognize and fight the virus. Once fully vaccinated, you will be able to go back to some of the normal activities you were able to do prior to the pandemic. You can gather with loved ones who have also been vaccinated indoors. You can also gather indoors with one other household if they are unvaccinated. However, we will not be able to return to life as normal until everyone who is able to get vaccinated does so.

The more people who are vaccinated the less of an opportunity the virus has to spread and mutate into other variants. Also, the more people who are vaccinated the sooner we can reach herd immunity which will protect our loved ones who aren't able to receive the vaccination due to medical reasons or allergies.

Please review [Virginia Commonwealth University](#)'s list below that debunks common myths about the COVID-19 vaccines:

### ➤ **Myth: Vaccine creation was rushed, so the vaccines may not be safe.**

In this case, speed did not sacrifice safety. The exceptional speed of COVID-19 vaccine development is due to years of prior research on other viruses, including coronaviruses such as severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) and Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS). Scientists were not starting their research from scratch.

As for safety, rigorous safety and efficacy standards are set by the FDA for these (and all) vaccines. Each COVID-19 vaccine candidate has had to meet these standards.

➤ **Myth: The mRNA vaccines will alter your DNA.**

The technology behind the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines is mRNA. Think of mRNA as an instruction manual for your body on how to make a specific protein — in this case, a small part of the “spike” protein that appears on the virus’ surface. This protein CANNOT cause infection, but it does teach your body to respond to the COVID-19 coronavirus, should you encounter it.

In addition, the mRNA never actually enters the nucleus of your cells, where your DNA resides. Because the two don’t share the same space, the mRNA doesn’t interact with your DNA and therefore can’t alter it. Your cells break down and get rid of the mRNA quickly.

➤ **Myth: mRNA vaccines are made with fetal tissue.**

mRNA vaccines work by teaching your body how to make a specific protein. This protein triggers an immune response to the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which causes COVID-19. mRNA vaccines do not contain any live virus, nor do they contain a weakened or inactivated form of the virus. Fetal tissue is in no way used to produce the vaccines.

➤ **Myth: You can get COVID-19 from the vaccines.**

No. You cannot get COVID-19 from any of the vaccines. None of the vaccines approved by the FDA contain the live coronavirus nor do they contain a weakened or dead version of the coronavirus. The vaccines have no coronavirus to pass on to you.

Because it typically takes a few weeks to develop immunity (protection) after vaccination, you could possibly be infected with the virus just before you get vaccinated or right afterwards, before you’re protected. You may think the vaccine made you sick, but it didn’t. You simply hadn’t had time to develop immunity.

➤ **Myth: You can suffer a fatal or severe allergic reaction to the vaccine.**

As with any medication, some people may experience an allergic reaction to the COVID-19 vaccine. This risk is extremely small. To be on the safe side, health care workers may ask you to remain 15 minutes after your vaccination so they can monitor you for an allergic reaction and take action should one occur.

If you do suffer an allergic reaction, skip the second dose of the vaccine. Also refrain from the vaccine if you’ve ever had a severe allergic reaction to any ingredient in the vaccine. An allergic reaction is considered severe if you require epinephrine or an EpiPen for treatment or you go to the hospital.

➤ You may experience side effects from a vaccine, but these are not the same as an allergic reaction and are not dangerous. Common side effects include pain and swelling in your

arm, where you got your shot, as well as fever, chills, fatigue or headache. These side effects are normal and should go away within a few days.

➤ **Myth: The vaccine will alter your immune system.**

Vaccines work by stimulating an immune response. This immune response disarms an invading virus and protects you from harm. Causing an immune response, however, is not the same as altering your immune system. None of the technologies used in the three vaccines approved by the FDA can alter your immune system.

➤ **Myth: If you've already had COVID-19, you don't need to be vaccinated.**

It is recommended that you get the vaccine. Although rare, reinfection is possible. Some experts recommend waiting three months from when you developed COVID-19. This is because you probably have some degree of natural immunity, and the vaccine supply is currently limited. Importantly, it is not clear how long natural immunity will last. If you are in this three-month window, you should discuss the best time to get the vaccine with your doctor. If you've had symptoms of COVID-19 but were never diagnosed, don't assume you had the disease and are immune. Get the vaccine.

➤ **Myth: The vaccine will cause female infertility.**

This myth stems from a petition filed by Drs. Wolfgang Wodarg and Mike Yeadon in which they state that a protein in the Pfizer vaccine is similar to one that can disrupt placental development in pregnant women, in effect rendering them sterile. This is not the case. The protein in the Pfizer vaccine bears no resemblance to the harmful protein the doctors cite and has no adverse effect on pregnancy.

The key ingredient in both the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines is mRNA. mRNA trains your cells to make a protein that allows your body to learn how to disable the coronavirus. The mRNA and the protein it codes for have no effect on the placenta.

The false infertility claim was promoted on the social media blog "Health & Money News." The blog is known for its conspiracy theories — claims that lack evidence to back them up. These include claims that the coronavirus is not real and that wearing face masks causes irreversible brain damage.

Both Wodarg and Yeadon are known for making false and misleading claims — including one several months ago that the COVID-19 pandemic was nearly over and another that the virus was no worse than the flu. Since making those claims, more than 350,000 people have died of COVID-19 in the United States, and the death rate continues to rise.

➤ **Myth: It's better to catch COVID-19 to gain immunity.**

Vaccines allow you to build immunity without suffering the damaging effects of the disease itself. COVID-19 can cause serious long-term health problems and even be fatal.

All of this can be avoided by getting vaccinated. Also, it's not clear if infection with the virus will lead to immunity, or for how long.

➤ **Myth: The virus has mutated, so our vaccines won't work.**

It's true that new strains of the coronavirus have emerged and are spreading quickly around the world. The new strains appear to be transmitted more easily than current strains, increasing the likelihood that even more people will fall ill. Viruses mutate all the time, though. This is not new, nor is it rare.

The current vaccines may be less effective for certain strains of the virus, such as the strains from South Africa and Brazil. The degree to which the vaccines are less effective is not yet fully known. However, data suggests they all still offer some protection.

Because it's so easy to catch the new strains of coronavirus and vaccine distribution is still in its early phases, protective measures such as wearing face masks, social distancing, avoiding crowds and frequent handwashing are still critically important.

## **What You Need to Know About Vaccination Locations in the Fairfax Health District**

As the allocation of COVID-19 vaccines from the Virginia Department of Health continues to increase, the Fairfax County Health Department has been working diligently to ensure that we are administering these vaccines as quickly as possible. One way we are doing that is by partnering with local health care providers to help vaccinate [eligible residents](#).

At Fairfax County Health Department and partner locations, vaccines will continue to be **by appointment only**.

When vaccines become available, people who have registered with the Fairfax County Health Department are emailed an invitation and instructions for scheduling an appointment for the first dose at one of the Health Department sites or partner sites.

## **Continue Testing for COVID-19**

It's important to continue testing for COVID-19 anytime you display any [listed symptoms](#), or you have been in close contact with someone who may have been infected. While COVID-19 cases are currently trending downward, testing remains paramount in identifying who is infected in order to perform a case investigation and identify close contacts -- which will ultimately help slow the spread of illness.

Throughout the pandemic, the Health Department has focused on making COVID-19 testing readily available and equitable. In addition to [the 80+ clinics and health care providers offering testing](#), the agency provides community testing in neighborhoods where socioeconomic factors and transportation make it difficult to access testing. The [Health Department's testing sites](#) are open Monday through Friday in locations based on epidemiology (disease) data and input from community leaders. No appointment is necessary and testing is free of charge.

Learn more about testing options in Fairfax County by visiting [Fairfax County's website](#).

# Environmental News



## Grass Height

### *Do you know about Fairfax County's rules on Grass Height?*

- ◆ Complaints regarding grass height are accepted from **April 22nd – Mid-October**
- ◆ **RESIDENTIAL:** Grass may not be taller than 12 inches in height on any developed residential lots (vacant or occupied) that are one-half acre (21,780 sq. ft.) or less. This also applies to undeveloped residential property, which is less than one-half acre and which is located in a recorded subdivision where 90% of the lots have been developed.
  - ◆ Grass height is not regulated for properties that are larger than one-half acre.
- ◆ **COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL:** While some exemptions may apply, grass may not be taller than 12 inches in height on any vacant developed commercial/industrial property.
- ◆ After sending a Notice of Violation to the owner, Fairfax County may have tall grass cut at the owner's expense if compliance was not met.
- ◆ **Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)** is responsible for cutting tall grass along roads or in medians on state maintained roads. To make a complaint call: **1-800-367-7623**.



To report a possible violation OR for more information contact:



Fairfax County Department of Code Compliance  
12055 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035  
Phone: 703-324-1300, TTY 711  
Web: [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code)



To request this information in an alternate format, call the Department of Code Compliance.

*This Fairfax County, VA Publication (published September 2014) summarizes a few regulations. See relevant codes for specific requirements.*

## Reminder About the Elimination of Plastic Bags for Yard Waste

Joining several neighboring communities in the D.C. Metro Area that have banned the use of plastic bags for yard waste, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, February 23, amended the county's Solid Waste Management ordinance, which now prohibits the use of plastic bags for set out and collection of yard waste.

The change took effect on Monday, March 1, and requires County residents who have curbside collection of yard waste to use reusable containers or paper yard waste bags to set out grass, leaves, and brush. \* Although the new rule took effect March 1, the Solid Waste Management Program will be exercising enforcement discretion for a six-week period to allow time for customer notification and education on the new rule. **Enforcement will begin Monday, April 19, 2021\***. Learn more about the [elimination of plastic bags](#) on the County webpage.



\* Check with your private hauler if you do not use the County hauling service.

## Fairfax Food Council Urban Agriculture Work Group Workshop!

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, April 14 at 7:00 p.m. – and then sign-up for a virtual workshop with [Brie Arthur](#), an enthusiastic and very knowledgeable horticulturalist who will share her front-yard edible gardening advice in a 1 ½ hour workshop. [Register today](#).

With more than a decade of experience as a grower and propagator, Brie Arthur is the author of *The Foodscape Revolution* and *Gardening with Grains*. She studied Landscape Design and Horticulture at Purdue University and currently serves as President of the International Plant Propagator's Society Southern Region. If you are looking for fresh garden inspiration, live virtual entertainment, and practical plant selection advice, don't miss this special event funded by the Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth and co-hosted by the Fairfax Food Council Urban Work Group and the Virginia Cooperative Extension.

## Friends of Lake Accotink Park (FLAP) April Clean-Up

Friends of Lake Accotink Park (FLAP), an official partner of the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA), needs help for their monthly Lake Accotink Park Clean-up taking place Sunday, April 11, from 9:00 a.m. through 11:00 a.m. The sign in location will be the Lake Accotink marina. Make sure to [register today](#). FLAP's mission is to protect, restore, preserve, and educate the community concerning the natural, historical, and cultural resources of Lake Accotink Park.



# Help Lake Accotink VOLUNTEER

**WHAT:** Clean-Up, Garden Weeding  
**WHEN:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sun of every **Month**  
**TIME:** 9:00am -11:00ish  
**WHERE:** *Lake Accotink Marina*

**Register:** [https://volunteer.fairfaxcounty.gov/custom/1380/#/organization\\_details/71653](https://volunteer.fairfaxcounty.gov/custom/1380/#/organization_details/71653)

**ACTIVITIES:** Pick-up or bring your own trash bags from FLAP Volunteer and hit the trail to fill your trash bags with debris carelessly dumped, dropped  
**Note:** Long sleeves, gloves, boots and long pants are encouraged ALL COVID Protocols are in place, **MASKS are MANDATORY**

**Tax Deductible Donations:** [www.flapaccotink.org](http://www.flapaccotink.org)  
[contact@flapaccotink.org](mailto:contact@flapaccotink.org)

[facebook.com/friendsoflakeaccotinkpark/](https://facebook.com/friendsoflakeaccotinkpark/)  
[twitter.com/accotinkfriends](https://twitter.com/accotinkfriends)  
[www.flapaccotink.org](http://www.flapaccotink.org)



# Community News

## **Congressman Gerry Connolly's Congressional Art Competition**

The Annual Congressional Art Competition provides Members of Congress with the unique opportunity to showcase the artistic creativity and talent of high school students from across the United States.

This competition is open to all high school students who are residents of the 11th Congressional District regardless of where they attend school; public, private and home-schooled students are invited to participate. Due to space limitations, students may not submit more than one piece of art.

**Verify that you live** in the 11th Congressional District of Virginia.

Starting again this year, students will get the chance to see their art professional as all of the artwork that is entered into the competition will be exhibited at the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton, Virginia. Students will have the chance to visit in accordance with the Workhouse Arts Center's COVID-19 safety protocols. The display will be up from **May 5, 2021 to May 16, 2021**. Learn more by **visiting Congressman Connolly's website**.



***Attention Artists!***

*Announcing*  
*Congressman Gerry Connolly's*  
**2021 Congressional**  
**Art Competition**

**Enter for a chance to have your artwork displayed in the U.S. Capitol!**

*All entries are exhibited at The Workhouse Arts Center.*  
*Prizes are awarded to the top pieces.*

**Categories Include**  
Painting, Drawing, Collage, Mixed Media, Prints, Computer Generated Art, and Photography.

**Entry Deadline: Friday, April 30, 2021**

Questions?  
Visit <https://connolly.house.gov/constituent-services/art-competition.htm>

## Community Meeting on Pickleball Courts at Wakefield Park Scheduled for April 8

Supervisor Walkinshaw and the Fairfax County Park Authority will hold a virtual community meeting on Thursday, April 8, at 7:00 p.m., to discuss repurposing two underused spaces at Wakefield Park as dedicated pickleball courts. Courts 12 and 13 were originally built for platform tennis, but have not been used for that purpose in many years and are in poor condition. The Park Authority said that the court dimensions would work for conversion to pickleball. In addition to placing the courts at surface level, they would make them ADA accessible and could add some seating between the courts. Funding would be provided through monies for renovation of park facilities and ADA funding to provide full accessibility. The community meeting will provide an opportunity to discuss this potential project. Click to [join the meeting](#).



Earlier this year, the Park Authority conducted a survey to seek public input on pickleball. This survey was designed to help provide additional insights on the community's needs and wants related to pickleball facilities. Over 1,800 responses were received, and the Park Authority is currently analyzing the data. They hope to share those results in early June. These broader issues will not be part of the April 8 meeting, which will focus only on the possible conversion of Wakefield Park Courts 12 and 13.

## Tax Relief for Seniors and People with Disabilities

Real estate and vehicle tax relief is provided by Fairfax County to citizens who are 65 or older, or permanently disabled, and meet certain income and asset eligibility requirements. For an application, please call the Tax Department (DTA) at (703) 222-8234, TTY 711 or [download the form](#) from their website. Returning applicants must file their taxes between January 1 and May 3. DTA is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., and on Tuesdays and Thursdays by appointment. To learn more about tax relief and exemptions or to make an appointment, please visit the [Tax Administration's website](#) or call (703) 222-8234.

Supervisor Walkinshaw's office is available to assist you with technical services and to connect you with the Tax Administration if you are applying for tax relief. Contact us at (703) 425-9300.

## Marian Homes Document Shredding Events

[Marian Homes Inc.](#), a local nonprofit dedicated to serving the intellectually disabled, is hosting two upcoming document shredding events. The events will take place on:

- April 10th from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at the St. Mary of Sorrows (Fairfax)
- April 24th from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm @ Holy Spirit (Annandale)

This event is free to the community, but contributions to Marian Homes are graciously accepted.

## Annual Scam Jam

Every day, hundreds of residents lose their hard-earned money to a variety of fraud schemes. In fact, every two seconds, a con artist steals someone's identity! To strike back against scammers, AARP and the [Fairfax Silver Shield Task Force](#) are bringing together top experts and law enforcement officials to present at a free informational **virtual Scam Jam on Friday, April 23 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.** The event will be hosted on Zoom.

**The keynote speaker is Susan Hogan, consumer investigative reporter for NBC News4;** her remarks will focus on how individuals can outsmart scammers. Presenters and exhibitors will discuss scams targeting Virginians, such as internet, telephone and mail fraud, COVID-19 vaccination schemes and the latest identity theft shams. [Registration is required.](#)

## Re-Employing Virginians (REV) Initiative

You may be eligible to receive free training in a high-demand field if you apply by **Friday, November 19, 2021.**

The Re-Employing Virginians (REV) initiative is intended to help Virginians whose employment has been impacted by the COVID-19 crisis. The Fairfax County Department of Family Services will assist you with the entire process.



### ➤ Who Qualifies?

Answer: This opportunity is open to Virginia residents who meet one of the following two criteria:

- Lost job due to COVID-19 and received unemployment benefits on or after August 1, 2020, or
- Laid off from a full-time job due to COVID-19 and now work part-time, earning less than \$15/hour.

Training costs must not exceed \$1,000; participants may choose to cover the remaining cost should it exceed the limit. Funding also varies for short-term programs, part-time students (less than 12 hours), and full-time students (12 hours or more). More information will be provided at the live information sessions. Visit the [REV Initiative website](#) to learn more.

## County Collecting Input on the Strategic Plan

Help shape the future of the Braddock District and your community by giving us feedback on the proposed [Countywide Strategic Plan](#). The proposed strategic plan was developed through extensive community engagement and lays out a community-based vision for the next 10 to 20 years. Originally proposed to the Board of Supervisors in February 2020, COVID-19 paused the public progress until now. The updated proposed plan includes recognition of the immediate and longer-term impacts of the pandemic.

As work on the strategic plan continues, the County needs your feedback again. We invite you to take a survey to provide your input into the future of our community. Many areas are covered,

such as Health and Environment, Safety and Security, Housing and Neighborhood Livability and Mobility and Transportation.

[Find the survey online](#) in English, Spanish, Korean, Chinese, Arabic, Farsi, Urdu and Vietnamese. The survey closes on April 15.

## Hiring Information for Therapeutic Recreation Services 2021 Summer Camp

Experienced in working with school-aged youth who have disabilities? Interested in working at a therapeutic rec summer camp? Join NCS's Therapeutic Rec team at an upcoming [Open Hire & Information Session](#) to learn about hiring for their 6-week summer camp.



If you are interested in working at a summer camp for school-aged youth who have disabilities, join NCS at an upcoming Open Hire & Information Session. They are hiring over 100 individuals for the 6-week summer program. Learn more and [register on the program's website](#).

## 9<sup>th</sup> Annual America's Adopt a Soldier 5 and 10 K Walk-Run

Bring a new Toy and join America's Adopt A Soldier on Saturday, April 24 for their 9<sup>th</sup> Annual 5 and 10k Walk –Run at Lake Accotink Park. [America's Adopt A Soldier](#) is a nonprofit organization that supports our nation's wounded, deployed service members, homeless veterans, veterans and their families. Their goal is 500 toys to support their toy bunkers located at Walter Reed and Fort Belvoir Hospitals, for our military kids. The route is marked off (as in the past) in the morning prior to the race. Learn more about the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual America's Adopt a Soldier 5 and 10 k Walk – Run by [visiting the event website](#).



*9th Annual America's Adopt A Soldier  
5/10k Walk –Run*



**WHERE:** Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Rd, Springfield VA 22150  
**WHEN:** Sunday 24 April 2021  
**RACE START:** 10:00AM (Packet Pick-Up Open 8am)  
**REGISTRATION:** <http://americasadoptasoldier.eventbrite.com>



**Our Goal**  
**500 NEW Toys for our Hospitalized Military Kids  
at Walter Reed (WRNMMC)**



## Traveling Players Ensemble's Upcoming Events

The nonprofit Traveling Players Ensemble offers award-winning theatre training, camps, and classes for child, tween, and teen actors in the DC area. The Ensemble will have the following events Theatre Classes, Summer Camps and Performances for grades 4-12:



- **Summer Camp Open House**
  - Virtual (April 9)
  - In person at Tysons Corner Center (April 10)
- **Improv D&D**
  - Create a character and go on an EPIC adventure! (April 10)
- **Antigone** – Streamed (April 11)
- **Auditions** – Advanced summer theatre training (April 17)
- **Girl Scout Theatre Badges**
  - Junior Girl Scouts earn 2 badges in 1 day!
  - Theatre (make your own) + Playing the Pas

Please note there are fees involved. Scholarships are available.

## Virginia Libraries Launch Local Author Contest

Fairfax County Public Library supports its creative community through programming, meeting spaces, and our Local Author Program. Now, in partnership with Library Journal and Biblioboard, we are proud to facilitate submissions to the Virginia Author Project Contest in further support of our writers.

This project accepts submissions of adult and young adult fiction to be recognized as the top indie-published eBooks in Virginia. **Submissions are accepted from April 1 through May 31.**

The winners of this contest will receive:

- \$500 each in adult and young adult categories
- Honors at the 2021 Indie Author Day Reception
- Opportunities to promote your book(s) at Virginia public libraries
- Inclusion in a full-page print spread in *Library Journal*
- Opportunities to earn royalties through the IAP Select collection

Each book that is submitted to the contest must be:

- Indie-published
- In an adult fiction or young adult fiction genre
- Written by a Virginia resident
- Available in either ePUB or PDF file

# Human Services Corner

## Need Help Getting to Your COVID-19 Vaccine Appointment?

If you or someone you know does not have a trusted family member or friend who can provide transportation to a COVID-19 vaccination appointment, Fairfax County and community providers have numerous options to get residents to their appointments.

For older adults, people on limited incomes or individuals with disabilities, our Department of Neighborhood and Community Services offers a subsidized taxi voucher program; visit the [Human Services Transportation website](#) to apply for vouchers. The following community organizations are providing volunteer transportation to older adults:

- [Herndon Village Network](#) – For those 55 and older in Herndon. Must be a member (annual fee is \$20). Call (703) 375-9439.
- [Shepherd's Center of Annandale-Springfield](#) – For those 50 and older in Annandale and Springfield. Call (703) 941-1419.
- [Shepherd's Center of Great Falls](#) – For those 55 and older in Great Falls. Call (703) 586-9696.
- [Shepherd's Center of Fairfax-Burke](#) – For those 50 and older in the Fairfax and Burke areas. Call (703) 323-4788.
- [Shepherd's Center of McLean-Arlington-Falls Church](#) – For those 50 and older in McLean, Arlington, and Falls Church. Call (703) 506-2199.
- [Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna-Reston-Herndon](#) – For those 55 and older in Oakton, Vienna, Reston, and Herndon. Call (703) 281-0538.
- [Shepherd's Center of Western Fairfax](#) – For those 50 and older in the Western Fairfax area. Call (703) 246-5920.
- [Shepherd's Center of South County](#) – For those 50 and older in the South County area. Call (703) 799-0505.
- [MetroAccess](#) – For customers who are eligible, this is a shared-ride, door-to-door, paratransit service for people whose disability prevents them from using bus or rail. See [MetroAccess Eligibility Requirements](#) for more information.

Additionally, the county is providing free rides via taxi companies to anyone with a vaccine appointment who does not have access to their own transportation. To schedule your vaccine transportation, call the Health Department Vaccine Call Center at (703) 324-7404, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. You will need to provide your name, phone number, date and time of vaccine appointment, and appointment address as well as your home address. Once the call center confirms eligibility, they will contact the Human Services Transportation team to arrange transportation.

## **COVID-19-Related Funeral Cost Assistance Available from FEMA**

Beginning in early April, residents may apply to FEMA for financial assistance to help cover funeral costs incurred by COVID-19-related deaths. This assistance will be available to all residents (U.S. citizens, non-citizen nationals and qualified aliens) who incurred expenses after Jan. 20, 2020, for a death attributed to the virus.

### ➤ **Who is Eligible?**

In order to be eligible, the COVID-19-related death must have occurred in the United States. Family members or other individuals may apply together to receive funding for a single funeral, and applicants may also apply for multiple deceased individuals. Assistance is limited to a maximum of \$9,000 per funeral and a maximum of \$35,500 per application. The assistance received is intended to help with expenses for funeral services and interment or cremation.

### ➤ **How to Apply**

In the coming weeks, a dedicated 1-800 number will be established to help individuals who apply. In the meantime, **potential applicants are encouraged to start gathering the following documentation:**

- **Official death certificate** that attributes the death to COVID-19 and shows that the death occurred in the U.S. The death certificate must indicate the death “may have been caused by” or “was likely the result of” COVID-19 or COVID-19 like symptoms.
- **Funeral expense documents**, such as receipts, funeral home contract, etc., that include the applicant’s name, the deceased individual’s name, the amount of funeral expenses and the dates the funeral expenses were incurred.
- **Proof of funds received from other sources**, specifically for use toward funeral costs.

Learn more by [visiting FEMA’s website](#).

## **Becoming One Fairfax!**

[Lifetime Learning Institute](#) invites you to join Fairfax County’s Chief Equity Officer, Karla Bruce, on Wednesday, May 5, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. to learn more about the county’s commitment to racial and social equity through the One Fairfax Policy. The presentation and discussion will broaden the community’s understanding of the strategic importance of equity, covering key equity concepts, outlining some of the current equity challenges facing Fairfax County, and offering guidance on how the community can engage in the work of advancing equity. Make sure to [register by April 30](#) to join the event.

Karla Bruce serves as the Chief Equity Officer for Fairfax County, Virginia. She has over 20 years of local government management experience and is known as a driver of innovation in public service delivery, bridging the efforts of local government with the collective action of residents and broad networks of partners to strategically address issues facing vulnerable populations and neighborhoods. Karla successfully championed the adoption of the One Fairfax Racial and Social Equity Resolution and Policy and provides overall management of the One Fairfax strategic framework, advising and supporting the Board of Supervisors and county

leadership and staff in shaping and directing policy and practice to foster equitable opportunity for all Fairfax County residents.

The Lifetime Learning Institute of Northern Virginia (LLI/NOVA), affiliated with the Annandale campus of Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA), is a non-profit, member-run organization offering stimulating educational and cultural pursuits to adults age 50 and over.

## Low-Cost Rabies Clinic Schedule Finalized

Rabies is a deadly virus spread through saliva, and most often transmitted through bites by an infected animal. There is no cure for rabies. You can protect your pet against this virus by having them vaccinated against rabies, and Virginia state law and Fairfax County ordinances requires that dogs and cats four months of age and older be vaccinated against rabies.

### ➤ Dogs

- **Pre-registration required!**
- Time: April 11, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
- Location: Pender Veterinary Centre, 4001 Legato Road, Fairfax VA 22033
- Cost: \$20 per vaccination, exact cash or check only.
- All dogs MUST be on a flat/fixed leash (i.e., no retractable leashes), and MUST be comfortable being handled by strangers without their owner present.
- This is a drive through clinic, and pet owners must remain in their car while shelter staff unload leashed dogs to walk them to the tent to receive the rabies vaccination(s) and then return them to the car. Dog owners will be within eyesight of their dogs the whole time!
- Pet owners must wear a mask to receive services. If you do not have a mask, one will be provided to you.

### ➤ Cats and Ferrets

- **Pre-registration required!**
- Time: April 11, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- Location: 4500 West Ox Road, Fairfax VA 22030
- Cost: \$20 per vaccination, exact cash or check only.
- Cats and ferrets MUST arrive in a secure carrier.
- This is a curbside clinic, and pet owners must remain in their car while shelter staff ferry cats and ferrets in carriers into the building to receive the rabies vaccination(s) and then return them to the car.
- Pet owners must wear a mask to receive services. If you do not have a mask, one will be provided to you.



# Transportation Updates

## Rolling Road Walkway Update

Construction is anticipated to begin on the Rolling Road Walkway project in mid-April. The project is expected to be complete late Fall 2021. The project is just south of West Springfield High School and starts at the intersection with Roxbury Avenue in the south and extends up the east side of Rolling Road to the intersection with Tuttle Road on the northern end. Approximately 1,100 feet of sidewalk will be installed, along with handicap accessible ramps. An underground stormwater control facility will be constructed to manage the runoff from storm events. Additionally, a retaining wall will be constructed so that the sidewalk will be at the approximate elevation of Rolling Road.

## Springfield To Quantico Enhanced Public Transportation Feasibility Study

The Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) has initiated a study to look at enhanced transit options and opportunities in the corridor between Springfield and Quantico. The study was initiated in response to direction that came out of the 2020 General Assembly session. To [learn more about the study](#), provide comments on the study, or sign up for email updates about the study, please visit DRPT's website. View the [Elected Officials briefing](#) that was held on March 11, 2021 for more information.

## Burke Centre VRE Connector Phase IV project update

The Burke Centre VRE Connector Phase IV project will provide for 900 linear feet of 8-foot-wide asphalt trail connecting residential neighborhoods between Oak Bluff Court and Premier Court to the Burke Centre VRE Station, 715 feet of concrete sidewalk, 365 feet of concrete retaining wall, and related work in the Braddock District. The project will provide improved pedestrian and bicycle connectivity and safer access to the Burke Centre VRE Station, thereby reducing vehicle trips to the station by commuters.

- The Notice to Proceed was issued to the contractor on March 22, 2021. The adjacent Crevanna Oaks Apartments and the businesses on Premier Court have been notified. Tree clearing work has started and the contractor is currently installing temporary fences around the construction site. Construction of the retaining wall behind the apartments will begin in early April.
- Access to the trail will be closed starting mid-April 2021 through early January 2022 during construction. Contractor will post signs and notify residents accordingly.
- Access to the businesses on Premier Court will be maintained when stormwater, concrete sidewalk and the asphalt work on the road will be performed (anticipated to begin in June 2021).

## **ActiveFairfax Transportation Plan Community Conversations**

Join the Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) for virtual community conversations on the ActiveFairfax Transportation Plan. Learn about the plan and tell us how you travel and access destinations by biking, walking, rolling (scooter/wheelchair/stroller), hiking, running, and riding in and around your local community. The Braddock District virtual meeting will be on Monday, April 26, 2021 at 7:00 pm (link will be provided closer to the meeting date). [Visit the meeting page](#) to find the registration and log in info.

## **Fairfax Families for Safe Streets**

Have you experienced or observed a “near miss and dangerous location” pedestrian or cyclist almost crash? Fairfax Families for Safe Streets (Ffx FSS) wants to know about it!

- Ffx FSS brings the community together to create safe streets for all people to walk and bike, by telling the impact stories, educating the public, and educating policymakers about policies and investments that eliminate traffic-related fatalities and injuries in our city.
- Ffx FSS is seeking data that is not reflected in traditional crash data sources. The “near miss” data is collected and shared with Fairfax County Department of Transportation and the Fairfax County Police Department for decisions on locations and engineering improvements and the level of police surveillance.
- Report “near miss” incidents here: [Near Miss/Dangerous Intersections Survey – Fairfax Families for Safe Streets \(novasafestreeets.org\)](#).

## **VDOT 2021 Paving Status Map**

[VDOT's 2021 Paving Status Map](#) is now available on their website. This application provides the status of each paving project scheduled on VDOT maintained roads for this year. Users can zoom to an area to view specific paving projects and their status (to be paved, in progress, completed).

The link to the [Northern Virginia Paving Program](#) provides information on the different treatment types, State of the Pavement report, and other information you may find useful.

## **Pitch and Pilot: Pedestrian/Bike Safety Innovation Challenge**

In partnership with Fairfax County Department of Economic Initiatives, [Smart City Works](#) will hold a regionally focused virtual Pitch and Pilot to find the best safety solutions to support Fairfax County’s goals, including increasing bike and pedestrian safety, promoting active living, and sustainability. The County is agreeable to partnering with participants who offer innovative safety solutions that are aligned with County goals and policies.

At least eight teams from around the world will virtually present their solutions to an audience of Fairfax government officials and other safety, innovation, and community stakeholders from around the region.

[Learn more and review eligibility](#) requirements on Smart City Works’ website.

# Land Use & Development

## Upcoming Meetings and Hearings

**Community Meeting on DMV Customer Service Center** – April 6 at 7:00 p.m.

**Braddock District Land Use & Environment Committee Meeting** – April 20 at 7:00 p.m.

### Planning Commission Hearing

- Kenilworth II Rezoning Proposal – April 21 at 7:30 p.m.

## Virtual Community Meeting on Construction of Braddock Road DMV Customer Service Center Scheduled for Tuesday, April 6

On Tuesday, April 6, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m., Supervisor Walkinshaw and the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) will hold a virtual community meeting on construction of a new DMV Customer Service Center at 9911 Braddock Road. Use this link to [join the meeting](#). The DMV site is just east of Burke Station Road, across from the entrance to Fairfax Memorial Funeral Home, and is currently being used for motorcycle training. The DMV purchased this property in August 2015 with the intent to build a new facility to replace the Fair Oaks Mall Customer Service Center. Because this is a state facility being built on state property, it follows the procedures required by the state, not county procedures which require notice and provide for community input. The DMV has developed plans and specifications and presented them to the Virginia Department of General Services for review. The next step is for them to present their proposed final plans to the State Art and Architectural Review Board.

The new customer service center will be 15,435 square feet, with 20 teller windows, one overflow/testing window, and three information windows. All windows will be outfitted with clear plastic partitions, and lobby seating will be arranged to allow for adequate social distancing. The DMV will continue to use the appointment system that has been in place since May 2020, allowing control over customer flow. When it opens, the office will staff 9 windows to accommodate 350-400 appointments per day on weekdays and half that on Saturdays. When it is appropriate to increase the number of open windows, the DMV anticipates operating at 75 percent capacity, which would result in 600 appointments per day on weekdays and 300 on Saturdays. The parking lot will accommodate not only customers and employees, but also road skills testing. That will avoid sending cars onto Braddock Road for that purpose.

Our office only recently became aware that the DMV was moving forward with this project. Supervisor Walkinshaw contacted DMV Commissioner Richard Holcomb expressing disappointment that the DMV had done nothing to inform the community about their plans as they have moved forward, engage residents, or receive input that could inform and improve the project. At the request of Supervisor Walkinshaw and Speaker Eileen Filler-Corn, the DMV agreed to participate in this virtual meeting to present their plans and answer questions or hear thoughts from community members.

The format will be similar to that used in Planning Commission or Board of Supervisors hearings. **Those who wish to speak are asked to register in advance by emailing [communications@dmv.virginia.gov](mailto:communications@dmv.virginia.gov).** To ensure the DMV provides the most helpful information in their responses, please provide the following in the email:

- Your name
- Your question/comment

Speakers are asked to keep their comments to a maximum of 3 minutes. **The deadline to register to speak is noon on April 6.** There will be an opportunity for additional questions or comments after those who have registered have finished speaking, as time allows.

Because this is a state facility and state decision, community members with questions or concerns are also encouraged to contact their state representatives.

This site falls in Senator Chap Petersen's and Speaker Eileen Filler-Corn's districts. However, this area is near the districts of several other Senators and Delegates, so you may wish to contact your own representatives, as well.



DMV FAIRFAX BRADDOCK CSC BUILDING  
IN  
FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA



## Board of Supervisors Adopts Updated Zoning Ordinance

On March 23, the Board of Supervisors adopted a new and modernized Zoning Ordinance as part of the Zoning Ordinance Modernization (zMOD) project. This new Ordinance, which replaces the 1978 Ordinance, is easier to read and understand and includes more tables, graphics, and hyperlinks. By this summer, the Ordinance will be integrated into a user-friendly online platform that will be easy to navigate and usable on multiple devices, including cellphones and tablets. The new Ordinance includes modernized land uses and regulations, and corrected gaps and inconsistencies in other regulations. The regulations become effective on July 1, 2021.

The zMOD process included over 100 meetings for Board members and the community. The Board received significant input, but most concern was over three changes to the ordinance—Accessory Living Units (ALUs), home-based businesses (HBBs), and limits on flags and flagpoles. Thanks to many of you who submitted your thoughts and comments throughout consideration of the draft proposal. Notable changes adopted by the Board include:

- Removing the age and disability requirement for ALUs, which allow people to house additional residents in their existing home while still adhering to county regulations, so long as no exterior changes to the house are made and parking can be accommodated, and changing the process from requiring special permit approval to an administrative

permit for interior units. Homeowners may have an ALU consisting of up to 800 square feet of gross floor area or an entire existing basement. A homeowner on a lot larger than 2 acres can request permission from the Board of Zoning Appeals to build a detached structure for use as an ALU. To be approved, a homeowner must reside at the property with an ALU, not be a distant landlord.

- Modernizing the home-based business use by simplifying the process and lowering the permitting costs associated with establishing HBBs. These changes were developed with extensive community input, taking into consideration the impact on neighborhoods. HBBs with on-site customers or clients will only be allowed with approval of a special permit. The only exception is for specialized instructional activities, such as music lessons, where up to 4 students at a time and 8 in a day are allowed. If the HBB has customers, one designated off-street parking space must be made available. If the house is served by a well or septic system, the applicant must obtain Health Department approval prior to either administrative permit or special permit approval.
- Adding a maximum flagpole height of 25 feet for lots with single-family dwellings or manufactured homes and 60 feet for lots with all other uses. If residents wish to have taller flagpoles, they may apply for a special permit. The size or content of a flag is not regulated.
- Allowing accessory structures, such as sheds, children’s play equipment, and gazebos, up to 12 feet in height to be located 5 feet from the side and rear lot lines.

These changes are in alignment with virtually every jurisdiction in our region. The Board instructed county staff to monitor and evaluate ALUs and HBBs in the county and report back to the Board 18 months after the effective date. Over the next several months, additional [educational resources and information](#) regarding outreach events will be added to the county’s website.

## **Planning Commission Hearing Scheduled on Kenilworth II Development Proposal**

In March, Supervisor Walkinshaw held a community meeting to discuss the revised zoning application submitted by Christopher Land, LLC for approximately 4.43 acres of land located just south of the Kenilworth community at Caprino Court and Braddock Road. This property is currently developed with one single-family home built in 1955 that will continue to be occupied by the current owner and would be included in a subsequent phase of the project. The applicant is requesting to rezone this land from the R-1 District to the PDH-3 District to build 12 single-family detached dwelling units at a density of 2.71 dwelling units per acre. Nine houses would be constructed in phase one, and an additional three houses would be part of phase two, when



the existing house is removed. The application shows that access would be provided by connecting Banting Drive and Caprino Court at a "T" intersection with a three-way stop. An underground stormwater management system would handle stormwater runoff.

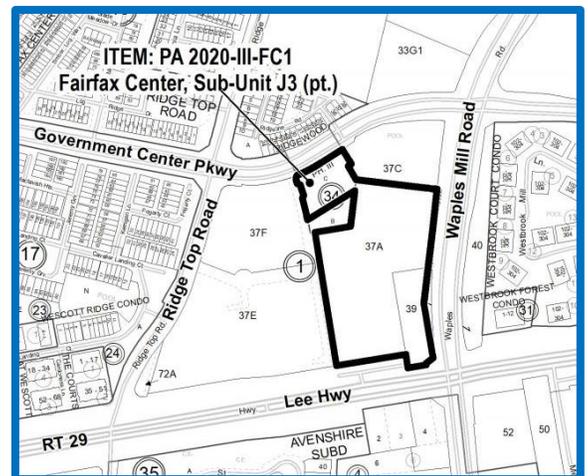
During the community meeting, residents expressed their continuing concern about connecting Banting Drive and Caprino Court. Representatives from the Virginia Department of Transportation stated that VDOT adopted a connectivity policy over a decade ago in order to provide for a network of publicly maintained streets and to address concerns with cul-de-sacs and dead-end streets. The State Code requires that when new streets are dedicated, they must be connected to road and pedestrian networks with the existing and future transportation network. Connections provide flow for both vehicles and pedestrians within local developments rather than requiring people to go onto a larger collector road to access neighboring houses. Connectivity is vital in providing timely access for emergency vehicles. It is also important for school buses, trash collection, street maintenance, and snow plowing. Questions were also raised about tree save, future traffic calming measures, and a potential deceleration lane on eastbound Braddock Road prior to Caprino Court.

The Braddock District Land Use and Environment Committee was briefed by the developers at their March 16 meeting. They raised questions about the removal of the existing driveway, amount of tree save, and stormwater treatment. There was a good deal of discussion about the required road connections and traffic. Representatives of FCDOT noted that VDOT accepted both Banting Drive and Caprino Court into the state road system with the intent that they would be connected should this parcel of land be developed.

The staff report on this application is expected to be published in mid-April, and a hearing before the Planning Commission is scheduled for April 21 at 7:30 p.m. For information on how to testify, please go to the [County website](#).

## **Comprehensive Plan for NW Corner of Lee Highway and Waples Mill Road**

The northwest corner of the intersection of Lee Highway and Waples Mill Road contains an older house and an outbuilding that was formerly used as a contractor's office and workshop. An existing Public Storage facility surrounds the property on the north and west. The corner lot is for sale and Public Storage has expressed interest in expanding its self-storage use onto that property. This area is planned for office use with an option for office/mixed use should it be redeveloped. The intersection is also planned for a potential interchange after Shirley Gate Road is extended to the Fairfax County Parkway.



Early last year, at Supervisor Walkinshaw's request, county planning staff began considering a Comprehensive Plan Amendment for both the corner lot and the surrounding Public Storage property to ensure that the plan for this corner remains in line with the vision for Fairfax Center. During this review, consideration is being given to what options might be appropriate for the site, whether self-storage or alternative uses. Particular attention is being paid to architecture and design, landscaping, pedestrian improvements, and park/recreational space.

County planning staff and representatives of Public Storage have been meeting for several months to try to come to agreement on general concepts. The Braddock District Land Use and

Environment Committee provided additional comments at its November 2020 meeting. Based on that feedback, along with staff comments, Public Storage has proposed modifications to their proposal. The Land Use and Environment Committee acknowledged the significant improvements that have been made. We expect that draft Comprehensive Plan language consistent with these discussions will soon be developed.

A concurrent rezoning application has been filed by Public Storage Southeast One, Inc. to consolidate the corner parcel with their existing self-storage property. Public Storage is proposing to demolish one row of its existing single-story self-storage bays and construct a climate-controlled five-story self-storage facility of approximately 150,000 square feet on the southeast corner of the property. Access to the site would be provided through a modified and improved entrance along Lee Highway designed per VDOT standards and the existing service drive that is being used for parking of commercial vehicles, including food trucks, would be removed. Consideration of the rezoning application has been deferred during discussion of the revised Comprehensive Plan, but we expect a revised rezoning application to be filed within the next few months.

### **Rezoning Filed for Annandale United Methodist Church**

The Trustees of Annandale United Methodist Church have filed a rezoning application for their 1.77-acre property located on the west side of Heritage Drive and adjacent to Heritage Mall. The existing building was constructed and originally used solely as a place of worship. However, more recently, the Church has increasingly used the site to provide social services to address significant unmet needs in the surrounding community. Residents in the area walk to the Church property to access a food pantry and clothes closet operated by Church volunteers. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Church collaborated with Chef Jose Andres of the World Central Kitchen to coordinate and distribute over 18,000 meals in the Annandale community. Many of these meals were targeted to families who were unable to access free and reduced meals from Fairfax County Public Schools.

The Church now proposes to formalize this operation and, in addition to the place of worship, create a community resource center that will provide a range of supportive educational and healthcare services, including a robust food distribution program, health and wellness screenings, and a mobile dental clinic, among other initiatives. They intend to expand existing collaborations with the Fairfax County Health Department, Department of Family Services, and Neighborhood and Community Services; Food for Others, George Mason University, Northern Virginia Community College; Medical Care for Children Partnership Foundation; and other public and charitable organizations.

Under the county's Zoning Ordinance, this operation would be considered a Public Benefit Association. However, the site is currently split zoned to the C-5 and R-20 Districts. Given this unique split zoning, such a use is not permitted on the residential, or R-20, portion of the property, which encompasses nearly half of the building. For that reason, the Church has filed an application to rezone the property to entirely C-5, which would allow the public benefit use to legally operate and expand the valuable work and services it provides to the community. No construction or physical changes to the existing site or buildings is planned. The Church will re-stripe the existing travel aisle and parking spaces in accordance with recommendations from the Fairfax County Fire Marshal.

A hearing of the Planning Commission is scheduled for June 16, and the application is scheduled for a Board hearing on July 21.

## **BRADDOCK DISTRICT LAND USE & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

The Braddock District Land Use and Environment Committee will be holding an electronic meeting on Tuesday, April 20, at 7:00 p.m. The agenda will include updates on the pending Braddock District cases. Braddock District Land Use and Environment Committee meetings are open to the public and interested residents are encouraged to participate.

**Microsoft Teams meeting**  
**[Click here to join the meeting](#)**

**Or call in (audio only)**

**+1 571-429-5982 | 730922969#** United States, Arlington  
Phone Conference ID: 730 922 969#

## **Cases Filed with the Board of Zoning Appeals**

The Fairfax County Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) hears and makes decisions on requests for variances (relief from specific zoning regulations such as lot width, building height, or minimum yard requirements) and Special Use Permits. It meets on Wednesdays beginning at 9:00 a.m. Meetings are currently being held electronically with distance participation due to the State of Emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. BZA meetings are aired live on the county government's cable TV Channel 16. Residents who have concerns about an application are encouraged to submit a letter for the record or testify by phone or video at the hearing on the case. For information on how to submit comments or testify, please visit the [County website](#). These matters will not come before the Board of Supervisors but will be decided by the BZA. Staff reports are normally available online a week before the scheduled hearing.

➤ **Leena Qazi Tukhi and Belleairs Little Learners – 6236 Belleair Road, Burke  
SP 2020-BR-102**

The applicant requested expansion of a home childcare facility. The applicant currently cares for 7 children ages 3 months to 12 years old and asked for an increase to care for 12 children at any one time. The applicant has one full-time employee and would add another part-time employee. Hours of operation would be from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. This application was approved by the BZA on March 17 by a vote of 5 to 0. Information, including a map of the site and staff report, when available, may be found on the [County website](#).

➤ **Craig J. Herberg – 4614 Tapestry Drive, Fairfax  
SP 2021-BR-007**

The applicant is seeking a reduction in certain yard requirements to permit an addition 19.5 feet from the rear lot line and a reduction to minimum yard requirements based on error in building location to allow a deck with steps to remain 2.6 feet from a rear lot line. This application is scheduled to go before the BZA on April 7. Information, including a map of the site and staff report, may be found on the [County website](#).

If you have any further questions regarding these land use cases or any other issues of concern to you, please email [braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov) or call us at (703) 425-9300.