

The BRADDOCK BEACON

Burke Center VRE

A Monthly Newsletter from Braddock
District Supervisor John C. Cook

Volume 9 | Issue 12

Taste of Braddock 2017



More than 300 hungry residents came to Taste of Braddock in Braddock Hall to enjoy delicious food donated by 19 local restaurants on Wednesday. The holiday cheer radiated as guests gleefully tried an array of dishes, which included Lebanese, Thai, Italian, Mexican, Greek and American cuisine.



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



This Braddock tradition is one I look forward to every year because it gives a chance for local businesses, residents,

and local government to celebrate the spirit of the district. The hard work by the student volunteers from Annandale High School's culinary program helped make the event a success.



None of this would be possible without the generous donations from our sponsors which include: Bangkok Golden Thai, Lebanese Bistro, Magill's Famous Pizza, Milano's, Wegman's, Kilroy's, Vocelli, Giardino's, Subway (Kings Park), Dominos (Kings Park), Brion's Grille, Hunan West, McAllister's, Margarita's Grille, Spartan's, Popeye's (Twin Brook), Waraku, CAVA, and Chef G from Annandale High School.

Happy Holidays!

Supervisor Cook to Speak at West Springfield Police CAC Meeting in January

On January 2, 2018, Supervisor Cook will be one of the guest speakers at the West Springfield Police Citizens Advisory Council Meeting. He will be there to talk about the Diversion First Program, what it is and the success it has experienced since its implementation. The meeting will take place at the West Springfield Government Center (Police Station Building) at 6140 Rolling Road, Springfield, VA 22152 and will begin at 7 PM. All are welcome to attend.

In 1979, the Fairfax County Police Department established a program to enhance its ability to communicate with and better serve the community. This program took the form of advisory groups, known as Citizens' Advisory Committees (CACs), comprised of citizens representing a cross-section of the various neighborhoods of Fairfax County. Each of the eight police stations formed its own CAC to work hand-in-hand with the station commander on issues confronting that particular district. The CAC meets on a monthly basis, and meetings are open to the public.

The purpose of the CAC is to:

1. Provide a forum for obtaining citizen input about the delivery of police services
2. Provide a formalized process that will facilitate citizen and community cooperation with the police
3. Identify specific and potential problem areas concerning the police

The West Springfield CAC supports the West Springfield District Station located at 6140 Rolling Road. Meetings are held in the community room at the station on the **FIRST TUESDAY** of every month except July and August.

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Cook in the Community

Little River Glen's Community Day: Supervisor Cook attended and spoke at Little River Glen's Annual Community Day on Saturday, November 4.



BoatUS/GEICO Marine Insurance HQ Groundbreaking: Supervisor Cook joined the leaders behind the new BoatUS/Geico Marine Insurance Headquarters for the building's groundbreaking ceremony on Tuesday, November 14.

Cub Scout Talk: Wednesday, November 15 Supervisor Cook met with Cub Scout Pack 1965 to teach them about local government and the importance of community service groups.

Virginia Governor's Housing Conference

Award: Supervisor Cook joined the Fairfax County Housing and Community Services Board on Thursday, November 16 to accept the Best Affordable Housing Award for the Residences at the Government Center.



Inclusive School Week Recognition: Supervisor Cook attended the Fairfax County School Board's Meeting to mark Inclusive School Week in Fairfax County on Monday, November 20.



Stepping Up County Justice Peer Exchange: On Wednesday November 29, Supervisor Cook joined 25 other elected officials to travel to Maricopa County, Arizona to learn more about their mental health diversion program. Supervisor Cook represented Fairfax County's Diversion First program in the exchange, which helps provide mental health treatment to those in the criminal justice system.

FCCPTA Advocacy Day: Supervisor Cook attended the annual Advocacy Day event for

Fairfax County Council of Parent Teachers Associations on Monday, December 4.

50th Anniversary of the Age Discrimination Employment Act: Supervisor Cook passed a proclamation in September to have the County mark the 50th anniversary of the passing of the Age Discrimination Employment Act. On Tuesday, December 5 the County celebrated this momentous legislation with a reception at the Government Center.

Community News

Fertilizing Trees

Usually, healthy trees do not need fertilizer. In a forest setting, decaying leaves and other organic matter provide a slow, steady source of natural fertilizer. In an urban setting, however, soils are likely to be compacted, poorly aerated and drained and low in natural fertilizer because of annual leaf removal which may stress trees. There is also competition from lawns which surround many urban trees. Fertilization may be needed in these situations to increase plant vigor.

The majority of the feeding root system for many trees is less than twenty inches deep, while the structural support roots go deeper. In general, the availability of nutrients to the shallower roots will depend on soil quality, aeration and drainage. Having a wide, shallow mulch ring around each tree can help mimic their natural habitat and provide a slow release of nutrients, while also improving soil structure and drainage.

Signs of tree stress or need for nutrition are:

- Premature fall color and leaf dropping.
- Smaller than normal leaf size.
- Chlorotic (pale green or yellowish) leaf color.
- Noticeable reduction of twig, bud or branch growth.

Before applying fertilizer to your lawn or mulch area specifically for your trees, you should test your soil to see what nutrients, if any, may be lacking in the soil. Soil test kits are available from Virginia Cooperative Extension.

You may also want to contact an International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist to assess the health of your tree or trees to give you guidance on possible fertilizer needs. See <http://www.goodtreecare.com/> for a list of certified arborists.

If you decide to fertilize, do so in the late winter or early spring using fertilizer that is high in nitrogen. The nitrogen content is indicated by the first number in the listed ratio, such as 27-3-3, or 26-4-6. Follow the label directions on the container, for example, if using 27-3-3 use one pound per inch of trunk diameter at breast height, so that a ten inch diameter tree will take ten pounds. Do not over fertilize or fertilize too frequently, as too much is worse than too little.

More information about trees is [here](#) or call the Fairfax County Urban Forest Management Division (UFMD) at 703-324-1770, TTY 711.

Meeting for Independent Pools in the Braddock District January 8

On Monday, January 8, 2018 at 7:30 PM, Supervisor Cook will be hosting a meeting for independent pools and swim clubs in the Braddock District. This meeting provides the leaders of swim clubs the opportunity to talk with one another about the challenges and successes that experience, as well as to talk with Supervisor Cook and representation from the county regarding changes in regulations and opportunities for improvement that affect swim clubs. These meetings have been well attended in the past, and we hope to see many of you again. This meeting will take place in Braddock Hall, 9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke, VA 22015. If you have questions, please feel free to call Ann Sharp at 703-425-9300 or email her at ann.sharp@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Citizen of the Month



Woodson Senior and Girl Scout Emma Brahmey is the creator of PlanDNova.org, a website specifically created for teens who suffer from depression. Teens who are experiencing a mental health crisis can go to Plan D Nova and find information on available resources for help through Government, non-profit, and private services.

Brahmey was inspired to start this website as part of her “Gold Award” project after serving as the only youth representative on the County’s work group that created the “Children's Behavioral Health System of Care Blueprint.” Brahmey’s work will surely help improve the lives of local teens and their families.

Human Services Corner

Robinson Concert Orchestra

December 19 –The Robinson Concert Orchestra will perform some beautiful music at the Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road from 7:00 pm-8:30 pm. Call 703-249-1520

George Mason Winter Sports

Winter Sports at Mason! George Mason's wrestling team, and women's and men's basketball teams are in season! Wrestling matches are FREE! Individual, group and season tickets are available to women's and men's basketball games; group tickets start at \$3! Special event experiences and packages are also offered for all afternoon, evening and weekend basketball games! For schedules and ticket or additional information, visit www.gomason.com or contact Brian Banks at (703) 993-3236, or via email at bbanks@gmu.edu.

Braddock District Council Aging in Place Committee presents “Brain Health”

Braddock District Council Aging in Place Committee presents “Brain Health”, optimize cognitive health & improve brain activity by Suba Satay, AARP on Wednesday, December 20 from 1 – 3 pm at the Braddock District Supervisor’s Office, 9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke, VA 22015.

Constituent Services

Our office received a call from a disabled constituent who had a large bulk item to dispose of. He believed he was in a sanitary district of the county but was turned away after calling the county trash number. After speaking with the office of Solid Waste Management we discovered he was in a sanitary district and they were able to get him taken care of.

Environmental Update

Turkey Run at Truro Subdivision Stream Restoration Project



The Truro Homes Association and its Stream Team were recently presented with a Fairfax County Department of Public Works and Environmental Services (DPWES) Champion Award for Partnership and Collaboration. This new award was created to show appreciation and recognition for an outside individual or group whose collaboration and partnership with DPWES supported the Department's mission, vision, and values and contributed to the Department's ability to deliver high-quality services to county residents.

The Truro Stream Team was instrumental in the successful completion of the Turkey Run Stream Restoration Project, which involved restoring approximately 3,850 linear feet of stream channel and tributaries that drain into Accotink Creek. Restoration was achieved through the use of natural channel design principles, which used natural materials to stabilize the stream bed and banks, including use of trees from the project area. In addition to efforts to remove and control invasive species, the project reduces total phosphorus by 773 pounds per year, reduces total nitrogen by 1,661.5 pounds per year, and removes 265,771 pounds of sediment per year from this tributary leading to the Potomac River and ultimately the Chesapeake Bay. The project is substantially complete, although some plantings along the stream will be done next spring.

Pohick Creek Stream Restoration Project

Last month, the Fairfax County Stormwater Planning Division began work on the Pohick Creek at Queen Victoria Stream Restoration Project, which borders the Southport and Signal Hill communities. The project will restore approximately 4,200 linear feet of highly degraded tributaries, including replacement of two pedestrian bridges and removal of one bridge where the outfall pipe will instead be extended. Preliminary work is underway. It is anticipated that the clearing and installation of access path and erosion control measures will take place through February. Stream work is not scheduled to begin until sometime in March.

The trails through the project area will be closed during construction. There will be heavy construction equipment in the area, including excavators, dump trucks, loaders, and backhoes. For your safety, do not use the trails until work is complete and the trails reopen. Please encourage students who may have used these trails in the past to go to/from school to use alternate routes. We expect the project to be completed in March 2019.

Land Use

UPCOMING COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Tuesday, January 9, 2018 – Proposed Goddard School at 11909-17 Lee Highway
7:30 p.m. – Eagle View Elementary School Cafeteria

Saturday, January 20, 2018 – Training Center Site Planning Workshop
9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. – Lake Braddock Secondary School Cafeteria

Saturday, February 3, 2018 – Snow Date for Training Center Site Planning Workshop *IF NEEDED*
9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. – Lake Braddock Secondary School Cafeteria

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT

Training Center and State Police Site on Braddock Road

The community is invited to participate in a comprehensive planning workshop for the former Northern Virginia Training Center site and the adjacent State Police site on Saturday, January 20, 2018, from 9:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m., in the cafeteria of Lake Braddock Secondary School, 9200 Burke Lake Road, Burke. The snow date for the meeting is Saturday, February 3, also at Lake Braddock Secondary School.

On October 24, the Board of Supervisors adopted my motion to authorize the consideration of a Comprehensive Plan amendment for the Training Center and State Police site. The current Plan for this area recommends public facilities, governmental and institutional uses. A small area on the western edge of the parcel lies within a stream valley and Resource Protection Area and is planned for public parks. Staff has begun a process to consider all potential uses for the site.

At the workshop on January 20, county staff will review existing conditions and an assessment of needs for the area. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions and, most importantly, provide input as to potential future uses for the site. A community task force will use this input as a starting point as they review and provide recommendations for the site. Members of the task force will be announced at this meeting and will begin meeting in early February.

Box lunches will be provided. Those who wish to attend are asked to register with our office either by email or phone so that we will have an accurate count.

CASES FILED BEFORE THE PLANNING COMMISSION & BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Goddard School Child Care Center 11909 & 11917 Lee Highway and 4613 Holly Avenue SE 2017-BR-023

On **Tuesday, January 9**, Supervisor Cook will hold a second community meeting to discuss a proposal to locate a Goddard School private preschool and daycare facility on four parcels of land located at the southeast corner of Lee Highway and Holly Avenue. The meeting will be held in the cafeteria of Eagle View Elementary School, 4500 Dixie Hill Road, Fairfax, at 7:30 p.m.

The proposed facility would be one story, approximately 12,146 square feet, and would serve a maximum of 200 students with up to 26 full-time and six part-time employees. Access would be from Holly Avenue. The applicant has modified the original plans to address comments from various county agencies. An updated traffic study has also been prepared. Based on that information, the applicant has proposed making the northbound approach on Holly Avenue right turn only for all traffic in order to mitigate potential delays at the intersection. Representatives from the Fairfax County Department of Transportation and the Virginia Department of Transportation will be present at the community meeting to discuss this proposal. More information on the application, including the staff report when it is available, may be found here: <http://ldsnet.fairfaxcounty.gov/ldsnet/ZAPSMain.aspx?cde=SE&seq=4235773>.

The Braddock District Land Use and Environment Committee is scheduled to make a recommendation on this proposal at its January meeting. A public hearing before the Planning Commission is scheduled for **January**

18. Residents who wish to testify before the Planning Commission are encouraged to register in advance at <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning/speaker.htm>.

Housing Development at Braddock Road and Roberts Road RZ/FDP 2017-BR-030

A proposal has been filed to rezone approximately 9.56 acres on the north side of Braddock Road and east of Roberts Road from R-1 to PDH-8 to create a high-end residential development with 49 single-family detached homes. The property is currently developed with three single-family detached homes and a church, which would be removed. The proposal states that the development would include amenities such as a central lawn area, community garden, pavilion, children's playground, and small corner park. Access to the property would be from a single entrance on Roberts Road. Supervisor Cook plans to hold a community meeting on the proposal in February. Please watch your email for more information. A public hearing before the Planning Commission has tentatively been scheduled for April 26. More information on the application may be found here: <http://ldsnet.fairfaxcounty.gov/ldsnet/ZAPSMain.aspx?cde=RZ&seq=4239309>.

University Mall PCA C-083-03 with PCA 2009-BR-015

The owner of University Mall has filed an application to allow rental of a building that is currently vacant. When the shopping center was renovated, the proffers prohibited renewal of the lease for the former bank on the northwest corner of the property because that land area is reserved for right-of-way dedication for the eventual widening of the Braddock Road/Ox Road intersection. The bank has moved out and the building is now vacant. VDOT recently made improvements to that intersection and does not plan to do anything further for a number of years. The mall owner would like to rent the building to another permitted user rather than leave it empty. The new lease would require the tenant to vacate the premises and terminate the lease if VDOT requests to use the dedicated area. A public hearing before the Planning Commission is currently scheduled for April 18, but because this case is relatively straightforward, the applicant has requested that it be moved to February. More information on this application, including any changes in the public hearing dates, may be found here: <http://ldsnet.fairfaxcounty.gov/ldsnet/ZAPSMain.aspx?cde=PCA&seq=4237368>.

2232 PUBLIC FACILITIES APPLICATIONS

Stormwater/Wastewater Consolidated Facility at Freds Oak Road 2232-B17-21

Supervisor Cook has hosted two community meetings focused on the county's plans to expand its current Wastewater Collection Division facility at 6000 Freds Oak Road to consolidate the Wastewater Collection, Maintenance and Stormwater Management, and Stormwater Planning Divisions. Following discussion during a neighborhood walk held on November 15 with county staff and community residents that focused on screening, noise, and lighting, the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services is making some minor revisions to its plans. The majority of residents preferred Option 2, which has the entrance from Freds Oak Road that is closer to the Fairfax County Parkway as the main entrance; the second entrance would be for emergency purposes only. No county vehicles would be on Clara Barton Drive. A ten-foot high masonry wall would be extended behind the area denoted for equipment shops and salt and sand storage to act as a sound barrier for the residences behind that area. A revised plan, as well as information presented at the community meetings, will be available on the project website at: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/construction/consolidating-management-programs-one-location.htm>.

With regard to traffic concerns, county staff met with VDOT following the second community meeting to discuss justification requirements for a traffic signal at the intersection of Freds Oak Road and the Fairfax County Parkway. The warrant analysis coordination is ongoing.

Because this is a proposed county government facility, the proposal will be considered under the 2232 Review Process. Under this process, a public hearing will be held before the Planning Commission, which will determine if the proposal is in substantial accord with the county's Comprehensive Plan. The proposal will not go before the Board of Supervisors for consideration. The Planning Commission's public hearing on this application is scheduled for **January 18**. Residents who wish to testify before the Planning Commission are encouraged to register in advance at <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning/speaker.htm>.

BRADDOCK DISTRICT LAND USE & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Braddock District Land Use and Environment Committee will be on Tuesday, December 19, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in Braddock Hall. Braddock District Land Use and Environment Committee meetings are open to the public.

CASES FILED WITH THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

The Fairfax County Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) meets on Wednesdays beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Auditorium of the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. BZA meetings are also 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 at the hearing on the case. You may register to testify at <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/bza/bzaspeaker.htm>. These matters will not come before the Board of Supervisors, but will be decided by the BZA. Staff reports are normally available two weeks before the scheduled hearing.

Jubilee Christian Center – 4650 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax SPA 96-Y-031-02

The applicant's request to expand their existing parking lot to add 108 spaces, install new storm sewer inlets and piping, relocate an existing shed, add a dumpster pad enclosure, and add parking lot lighting was approved by the BZA on December 6.

Lee W. Pendleton – 7905 Kalorama Road, Annandale SP 2017-BR-079

The applicant is seeking to waive yard requirements to permit conversion of a carport into a two-car garage 6 feet from a side lot line and to reduce minimum yard requirements based on an error in building location to permit an accessory storage structure to remain 3 feet from the other side lot line. This application has been rescheduled to come before the BZA on January 10. Staff recommends denial. Information, including a map of the site and staff report, may be found here:

<http://ldsnet.fairfaxcounty.gov/ldsnet/ZAPSMMain.aspx?cde=SP&seq=4230071>.

Patricia Springer – 7500 Murillo Street, Springfield SP 2017-BR-111

The applicant is seeking to allow a fence over 4 feet in height to remain in the front yard of a corner lot. This application has been scheduled to come before the BZA on February 14. Information, including a map of the site and staff report (when available), may be found here:

<http://ldsnet.fairfaxcounty.gov/ldsnet/ZAPSMMain.aspx?cde=SP&seq=4226695>.

Sky Springfield LLC D/B/A Sky Zone – 5325 Port Royal Road, Springfield SP 2017-BR-102

The Braddock Beacon

The applicant is seeking a Special Permit to operate an indoor recreational (trampoline) facility. This application is scheduled to come before the BZA on February 7. Information, including a map of the site and staff report (when available), may be found here:

<http://ldsnet.fairfaxcounty.gov/ldsnet/ZAPSMain.aspx?cde=SP&seq=4239547>.