

March 15, 2017



Burke Center VRE

The BRADDOCK BEACON

A Monthly Newsletter from Braddock
District Supervisor John C. Cook

Volume 9 | Issue 3

Senior Safety Summit to be Held March 31

As the Chair of the Public Safety Committee on the Board of Supervisors, Supervisor Cook believes that preparing for emergencies, as well as doing whatever is possible to prevent them, is a top priority. To help educate residents on this subject, and present them with this key information, Supervisor Cook will be hosting the Senior Safety Summit on Friday, March 31 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Kings Park Library (9002 Burke Lake Rd., Burke). All are invited to attend and learn more about various safety subjects that pertain to the County's senior population. This summit will provide information to seniors from our different government agencies here in Fairfax County. This program will include:

- File of Life and Yellow Dot Programs
- How to Defend Yourself from Scams/Frauds
- Mosquito and Tick Bite Prevention
- Project Lifesaver
- Examining Financial Exploitation of Older Adults
- Next Generation 9-1-1
- Cable and Consumer Services Information



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

Each agency will have an informational table available from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. By attending this program, and actively taking part in your county's emergency response, preparations, and prevention efforts, you can help make your county and neighborhood safer for everyone. For more information on this program, please contact the office of Supervisor Cook at 703-425-9300 or Battalion Chief Willie F. Bailey of the Fairfax Fire & Rescue Department at 703-246-3801.

Braddock District Shredding Event set for March 25

Mark your calendar for the annual [Braddock District shredding event](#)! This year's shredding event will take place on the NOVA Annandale Campus in the B-15 Parking Lot. It is scheduled for Saturday, March 25 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. All cars must be in line by 12 p.m. These are drive-through events and residents will be asked to remain in their vehicles. For everyone's safety, you will not be able to stand by and watch your paper being shredded.

Supervisor Cook to Host Budget Town Hall on March 27 at Robinson SS

Supervisor Cook will host a Budget Town Hall on March 27 at Robinson Secondary School (5035 Sideburn Rd) at 7:30 p.m. in the recital hall. Supervisor Cook will be joined by County Executive Ed Long, who will present a summary of the advertised budget. Jeanette Hough, School Board Member-at-Large, will attend as well. All residents of the Braddock District are welcome to attend and share concerns, thoughts, and ask questions.

Applications for Express Lanes Community Grant Programs due March 31

The [395](#), and [495 and 95](#) Express Lanes Community Grant Programs are designed to support organizations that sustain, enhance, or protect the local environment and neighborhoods of these highways. The most recent winners of these awards were just announced, and the next application deadline is March 31. The [395 application](#) and the [495 and 95 application](#) can be found online.

Braddock Bus Routes Originally Slated for Elimination Are Restored

It was proposed that the Washington Metropolitan Area Transportation Authority (WMATA) cut the 18 P, R, and S bus lines, which serve Burke Centre, and the 17 A, B, F, and M lines, which serve the Kings Park area. To find a solution, Supervisor Cook contacted the Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) to learn of possible alternatives to these reductions. After working with his office to identify the most essential bus routes (the 18 P and the 17 M), FCDOT staff members contacted WMATA with the request to include both of them in their revised service changes. Those two routes are being restored, and Braddock neighborhoods will continued to be served with these restorations.

The Braddock Beacon

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.

To increase transparency and pursue the reengineering of the Fairfax County Police Department, the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission was established. The Ad Hoc Commission, which consisted of community representatives with diverse backgrounds and perspectives, created a list of recommendations it felt should be implemented by the County and FCPD to improve service.

For this month's show, Supervisor Cook invited Ad Hoc Commission representatives Adrian Steel and Phillip Niedzielski-Eichner to come on BNN and tell us about their mission of improving transparency in the police department.



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Cook in the Community

Cub Scout Pack 50 Den Meeting - On February 1, Supervisor Cook stopped by the Cub Scout Pack 50 den meeting to learn about the Building a Better World Adventure which calls for the scouts to meet with a government leader in the community.

Braddock Road Community Meeting - On February 6, Supervisor Cook hosted the Braddock Road Community Meeting at Lake Braddock Secondary School and informed the attendees of the status of the Braddock Road Study. The presentation from the meeting can be found [here](#).



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Crossing Guard Appreciation Day - On February 8, Supervisor Cook joined Cardinal Forest Elementary School teachers, staff, and others in thanking “Ms. Mary” for Crossing Guard Appreciation Day.

Cub Scout Pack 1969 Meeting - On February 9, Supervisor Cook met with members of Cub Scout Pack 1969, who were tasked with meeting with a government leader.

Braddock District Appointee Reception - On February 23, Supervisor Cook hosted a reception for the Braddock District appointees to County Advisory Commissions.

Wakefield Senior Center 30th Anniversary Celebration - On February 23, Supervisor Cook joined seniors and friends at the Wakefield Senior Center 30th Anniversary Celebration.

Kojo Show on WAMU - On February 24, Supervisor Cook went on the “Kojo Show” a WAMU radio show and discussed a variety of issues in Fairfax County. You can listen to Supervisor Cook on the program [here](#).

NAACP Black History Month Commemoration - On February 25, Supervisor Cook joined NAACP representatives, Attorney General Mark Herring, and Chairman Sharon Bulova for the NAACP Black History Month Commemoration.

Developmental Disabilities Inclusion Month Reception - On February 28, Supervisor Cook took part in the Developmental Disabilities Inclusion Month Reception at the Government Center, and joined others in discussing ways to make the community more accessible and inviting to our disabled population.

Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia Press Conference – On March 3, Supervisor Cook joined other elected officials and faith leaders to strongly condemn the recent threats of violence against Jewish community centers across the Country.



Supervisor Cook joined Cardinal Forest Elementary School teachers, staff, and others in thanking “Ms. Mary” for Crossing Guard Appreciation Day.



Community Information

Code Compliance Corner

The topic for the third installment of “Code Compliance Corner” is unpermitted construction. Fairfax County requires a Building Permit for all new residential and commercial construction. If you notice suspicious new construction or demolition of an existing structure, construction vehicles, construction equipment or materials, mud on the streets, or work occurring late at night, you can call the Department of Code Compliance (DCC) to confirm if there is an active building permit associated with the address. A flyer with more information can be found [online](#). For more information on code compliance in Fairfax County, visit the [DCC website](#).

CERT Training Begins March 20

The Fairfax County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) trains people to safely help themselves and their communities in case of major disaster. A CERT Basic Training Class (No. 122) will take place this spring at St. Louis Catholic School. This class follows the FEMA curriculum, tailored to local disasters and hazards. It educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills. The instructor will provide a syllabus with the class schedule at first session. This training does not require any special physical strength or agility. You must attend all 8 sessions to receive the certificate. Classes will meet between 6:30 to 10 p.m. on March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 24, May 1, 8 and 15. Go online to [register](#).

Aging in Place Meetings

The Braddock District Council (BDC) Aging in Place Committee is sponsoring a Chronic Disease Management course,

The Braddock Beacon

Braddock Neighbor of the Month

Welcome to a new section of the Braddock Beacon: the Braddock Neighbor of the Month! This section will highlight the accomplishments of an involved citizen who has worked to make their community a better place.

The March Braddock Neighbor of the Month is Joe Osborne, a resident of Burke Centre who has worked to greatly improve his community. Joe has served on the Open Space Committee and has acted as a Wood Sorrel Cluster representative for a number of years. He is a member of the Burke Centre Pedestrian and Motorist Safety Task Force.

Most recently, he has been instrumental in advocating for the [Burke VRE Connector Trail](#), and pushed for its funding and approval. He also advocated for the Pohick Stream Valley Trail and the VRE Pedestrian Bridge. Joe has helped implement Burke Centre Trail enhancements and Roberts Commons trail improvements, and is an active supporter of South County East-West Trail improvements and connections. Thank you for your service Joe!



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.

which is a six week program (once a week on Wednesdays) from March 15 through April 19th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. by Colleen Turner, Fairfax County Area Agency on Aging at the Braddock District Supervisor's Office, 9002 Burke Lake Road (attached to the Library). To reserve your spot, email Wallbdc@gmail.com.

Burke Historical Society Meeting

The Burke Historical Society will hold a quarterly meeting on March 26 at 3:30 p.m. at the Pohick Regional Library (6450 Sydenstricker Rd, Burke). The topic will be "Burke in the 50s and 60s", and Siblings Chip and LaVerne Carson, fifth-generation Burkites, will share some of their own and their family's experiences in "Old Burke."

Exciting Offerings at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI)

If you have a passion for learning, 84 stimulating, diverse, exam-free daytime courses and special events, plus social and cultural activities, are in store for you this spring term 2017 (March 20 – May 20) in Fairfax by joining the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at George Mason University. Please go online to [register](#) for a full list of workshops.

Environmental Update

Braddock District Communities Participating In Park Authority Accotink & Pohick Watershed Clean-Up Event

On Saturday March 18, Saturday, April 1, and Sunday, March 26, dedicated volunteers from over 30 communities in the Braddock District will be venturing into our parks and stream valleys to help clean up our watersheds, making the Braddock District a better and more attractive place to live. Working in concert with the Fairfax County Park Authority and Clean Fairfax, significant clean-up efforts are planned for both the Accotink and Pohick Watersheds.

Come out and be a part of this district-wide event! Join the many civic, community and homeowner association volunteers, scouting groups, secondary school students, and individual volunteers.

Park Authority staff will direct volunteers at Lake Accotink Park, and specific Friends groups, as identified below, will help coordinate efforts at other parks and stream valley land in the Braddock District as Park Authority volunteers. Together, we can demonstrate our stewardship of the natural resources we have and make a difference!

The **Friends of Woodglen Lake (FOWL)** on Sunday, March 26, 2017 Bonnie Brae volunteers should meet at the Fireside Court entrance at 12:30 p.m. Middleridge volunteers will meet at Middleridge Park at 12:30 p.m. The clean-up will also include parts of the Pohick Stream Valley.

Points of Contact: Sarah Mayhew (Middleridge) sarah.mayhew@yahoo.com
Pamela Lepold (Bonnie Brae) pamelalepold@verizon.net

The **Friends of Audrey Moore RECenter (MooreFriends)** will coordinate clean-up areas on April 1 along the access road and in as many stream valleys as possible. Meet at the site where the dumpsters used to be located at 9:00 a.m.

Points of Contact: Mary Cortina marycortina@verizon.net
Tom Kennedy tfkinva@aol.com

The **Friends of Long Branch Stream Valley (FLBSV)** will clean up areas in and around the Long Branch Stream Valley from Guinea Road to Wakefield Chapel Road, and in and about Olde Forge/Surrey Square Park, on April 1. FLBSV has a lot of fun with these clean ups, sponsoring scavenger hunts for younger patrons. For those assisting on the section between Guinea Road to Wakefield Chapel, meet at Canterbury Woods Pool at 9:00 a.m. For Olde Forge/Surrey Square meet at the pedestrian bridge at Twinbrook and Pickett Roads at 9:00 a.m.

Points of Contact: Bryan Campbell campbelp929@gmail.com
Scott Thaxton scott.thaxton15@gmail.com
Gary/Mimi Krauss (OF/SS) mgkrauss89@gmail.com

The **Friends of Accotink Creek (FACC)** are not only participating in the April 1 clean-up, but are also sponsoring a series of clean-ups in the Accotink Watershed both above and below Lake Accotink. For additional information, see <http://www.accotink.org/2017/PotomacWatershedCleanuppre-event2017.htm>.

Points of Contact: Kris Unger krisunger@gmail.com
Philip Latasa steward@accotink.org

The **Friends of Lake Accotink Park (FLAP)** will assist Lake Accotink park staff in overall coordination and clean-up efforts on April 1. Meet at the marina at 9:00 a.m. FLAP will also be weeding the butterfly garden on April 1 from 8:30 to 11:00 a.m. If you are already in the park for the FCPA clean-up, stop by and say hi, learn about butterfly gardens, and help pull a few weeds! More information can be found at <http://signupgenius.com/go/20f0d4ea5ae29a3f49-butterfly>.

Points of Contact: Meghan Walker flap.president@gmail.com
Jim Hickey jimhickey12@gmail.com

The **Friends of Oak Hill Park (FOHP)** will coordinate trash removal from the park and the removal of as many invasive English ivy vines as possible from standing trees on April 1. A number of pines have been lost to the English ivy. Come out and see how damaging these vines can be and help get rid of them. Meet at the Oak Hill Park trailhead on Tarheel Way in the Chapel Hill Neighborhood at 8:30 a.m.

Points of Contact: Mark Pocock mark.pocock@gmail.com
Carlin Brundage carlinbrundage@gmail.com

The **Friends of Royal Lake Park (FORL)** will clean up areas in and around Royal Lake, including points south of the dam, on April 1. DPWES is finishing up lake dredging operations and the lake is starting to fill in. This is the last opportunity for a dedicated clean-up of the shoreline from the lake bed as the lake will be filled in by the

Fall Clean-Up. Meet in the parking lots of either Lakeside Park (Bronte/Pommeroy) or Royal Lake Park (Gainsborough entrance) at 8:30 a.m.

Points of Contact: Paul Gross paul.grossjr@verizon.net

Sarah Lennon friendsofroyallake@gmail.com

The **Friends of Rabbit Branch Stream Valley** will coordinate the clean-up of the Rabbit Branch Stream Valley, including both the east and west forks that lead from the headwaters at George Mason University to Royal Lake, on April 1. West fork volunteers will meet at Rabbit Branch Park on Tapestry Drive at 8:00 a.m. East Fork volunteers (George Mason Forest) will meet at the intersection of Red Spruce Road and Braddock Road at 8:30 a.m.

Points of Contact: Sarah Lennon (West Fork) sarahgjlennon@gmail.com

Katherine Lieb (East Fork) President@GMFHOA.org; liebkathleen@gmail.com

Royal Lake Update

Thanks to the good weather and hard work by the Department of Public Works & Environmental Services, the project is ahead of schedule. They are hoping to close the gate to the structure by mid-March to allow the lake to fill back up. Paving and sidewalk repair will be done this spring, and landscaping will be done partially in the spring with the remainder this coming fall. The entrance to the park will be closed for a few days during the paving and sidewalk repair, but the park will remain open. Once we get a date, we will pass that information along.

Land Use Update

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

On February 21, the Braddock District Land Use and Environment Committee recommended approval of an application by Tetra Corporation and Christopher Companies to build nine single-family detached homes on a 2.72-acre tract of land at the intersection of Burke Lake and Coffey Woods Roads. The Committee heard five presentations from the developer over the past year and twice heard from the adjacent Burke Village Homeowners Association during its deliberation on the application.

This property is currently vacant. The proposal would include approximately 30 percent open space, a recreational trail with benches, and stormwater management facilities on the site. Tree preservation areas are located around the periphery and supplemental landscaping would be included to enhance the screening. The wetland and floodplain areas at the northeast corner would be preserved.

Of the two possible layouts, the most likely one features entry from Burke Lake Road. The alternate layout would provide access from Coffey Woods Road, but since the adjoining Burke Village Homeowners Association, which owns the small strip of land between the property and Coffey Woods Road, has declined to agree to an easement, it appears as though the first layout is probable. Despite this, the proposal that will go before the Board includes both layouts.

Because the intersection of Burke Lake and Coffey Woods Roads has significant traffic, that has been a primary focus as this project moves forward. Staff from our office have been involved in numerous conversations with FCDOT and VDOT. We are pleased that VDOT has installed an additional signal head on the left-hand side of

Burke Lake Road between Burke Road and Coffey Woods Road as well as signs indicating that a signal at the Coffey Woods Road intersection is ahead. It is our hope that these improvements will help alert drivers going southbound on Burke Lake Road of the upcoming traffic signal and reduce problems at this intersection. VDOT has also agreed to the installation of a “No Turn On Red” sign for eastbound Coffey Woods Road at the intersection with Burke Lake Road. This signage will reduce conflicts with drivers making U-turns as well as help address issues with limited sight lines looking north on Burke Lake Road.

The Planning Commission recommended approval of this application on March 2. A hearing before the Board of Supervisors was scheduled for March 14, but because of the need for a minor technical revision has been rescheduled for Tuesday, April 4, at 2:30 p.m. The Staff Report, which contains details on the project, is available at <http://ldsnet.fairfaxcounty.gov/ldsnet/ldsdfw/4559234.PDF>.

To testify before the Board of Supervisors on April 4, you may register at https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bosclerk/speaker_bos.htm.

Community Council on Land Use Engagement

The Community Council on Land Use Engagement was 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. Five residents from the Braddock District were selected by Chairman Bulova to serve on the Council. Two meetings were held in February, both of which were very well attended. Four more meetings are planned over the next two months. For the 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>. Community members are welcome to attend meetings or watch them live on Channel 16 or online. Written comments may also be submitted to Chairman Bulova’s Chief of Staff at Clayton.Medford@fairfaxcounty.gov, who will also share them with Council Chair Walter Alcorn.