November 2018



November brings the **season of giving thanks**. During this time of year, I like to stop and reflect on **all I am grateful for**, from a wonderfully supportive family to the **joy of serving as your Mount Vernon District Supervisor**. Whether you are blessed with family, education, employment, resources or health, I encourage you to **take time in this season of giving** to offer your time, talent or treasures to the **neediest in our community**. There are **many opportunities** and needs in our own neighborhoods, from helping

those experiencing loneliness to spreading spirituality, providing friendship or supporting someone aging in place.

This month also brings **elections** to the forefront and reminds us how **important our vote is**. In the current political environment that seems to promote divisiveness instead of inclusion and acceptance, each of us needs to **find ways to bring our community together**. I hope you will **exercise your right to vote** on Tuesday, November 6! This is your chance to **stand up for your beliefs, values and priorities** for our great nation that provides us the **freedom** to express our opinions.

During this time of year, I also enjoy **tromping around in the outdoors**, enjoying the cool, crisp air. I hope you will join me at the **two major events** my office is hosting this month. **Environment Expo: Saving the Earth One Person at a Time** on **Saturday**, **November 10** from 8 a.m. – noon at Walt Whitman Middle School will educate, engage and inspire action to protect and preserve our planet. Then, come enjoy our Mount Vernon community and the **great outdoors** at the RESCHEDULED **3rd Annual Tour de Mount Vernon** community bike ride, beginning and ending at Fort Hunt Park on **Saturday**, **November 17**, starting at 8:30 a.m.

It is my pleasure to serve you and I hope to see you this month in our neighborhoods!

Respectfully yours in public service,

Dan Storck Supervisor, Mount Vernon District Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

Visit our Website

October 2018 Activities:

- Phone calls: 1272
- Meetings: 75
- Hosted meetings: 40

NEW DATE! November 17, 2018

MOUNT VERNON DISTRICT



Office Hours

Monday - Wednesday, Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Stay Connected:

Mount Vernon Governmental Center 2511 Parkers Lane Mount Vernon, VA 22306 703-780-7518 (TTY 711) 703-780-1491 (fax) mtvernon@fairfaxcounty.gov Second Saturday Each Month (except August) Lorton Library: 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. MV District Office: 12:30 p.m. - 3 p.m. Walk-ins and by appointment

Environment Expo

Saving the Earth One Person at a Time

Join us to LEARN, ENGAGE and ACT to save our environment!

Mount Vernon District **Supervisor Dan Storck** and the Mount Vernon District **Environmental Advisory Committee** will host the District's FIRST Environment

Expo where we will explore how everyone can help save

our planet, with the theme "Saving the Earth One Person at a Time". The morning will feature an Exhibit Hall with a variety of County agencies, service providers and educators, informational and hands-on workshops and screenings of the film "Hometown Habitat". Read more...

Saturday, November 10, 2018 8 a.m. - noon Walt Whitman Middle School

In the News

Embark on Opportunity

Several months ago, **Supervisors Dan Storck and Jeff McKay** embarked on the revitalization of Richmond Highway by kicking off the **Strategic Economic Development Team.** Last week, Team member **Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation** (SFDC) brought together **new and familiar faces** to discuss the **economic and development opportunities** this revitalization will bring. Read more about Richmond Highway revitalization in the Washington Business Journal's article about South Alex.

Hollin Hall Village celebrates 75th anniversary

To mark the 75th anniversary, the **Hollin Hall Village** Citizens Association put together a **50-page booklet** recounting the **history of the neighborhood**. It features **photos, newspaper clippings and recollections** from longtime residents about what Hollin Hall was like, particularly during the post-World War II



baby boom period that saw its population grow. Read more on Covering the Corridor...



Supervisors Host Appreciation Breakfast

Supervisors Dan Storck and Jeff McKay celebrate the local planning efforts that led to the Embark Richmond Highway Comprehensive Plan Amendment and the formation of the Strategic

Economic Development Team. To kick-off the regular monthly meeting of the Team, the Supervisors hosted a breakfast to thank County staff, the Embark Advisory Team, and the Economic Strategic Development Team for their **efforts and dedication** to bring the Embark project to fruition. Read more...



Penn Daw Firefighters, Keeping Children Warm

Penn Daw Fire Station 11 held its annual Firefighters and Friends coat drive distribution day on October 26, with more than 3,000 new coats and 500 new books going to 80 schools, shelters and nonprofits throughout the county. New Fairfax County Fire Chief John Butler and Supervisor Dan Storck



(pictured right with Battalion Chief Willie Bailey) were on hand to greet more than 200 Head Start preschoolers, who were each assisted by a firefighter, police officer or volunteer in selecting their own new coat and several books. Read more in the Mount Vernon Gazette...



Fort Hunt 2nd Grader on Cover of Time

Havana Chapman-Edwards first gained attention earlier this year when she was the **only student at her school to walk out** of class as part of a **national protest against gun violence**. Since then Champman-Edwards has participated in other protests and was recently selected as one of 245 people to appear on Time's cover of a **special issue on gun violence**. Read and watch more on WJLA.com.

Upcoming Events

- November Library Events
- Nov 8: Officers in Your Neighborhood 7 p.m.
- Nov 9 Dec 7: Blanket & Coat Drive for Syrian Refugees 2018
- Nov 10: Environment Expo: Saving the Earth One Person at a Time 8 a.m.
- Nov 10: Fairfax County 14th Annual History Conference 8:30 a.m.
- Nov 10: VDOT Incident Management Open House 10 a.m.
- Nov 11: 10 Days of ERA Bus Stop Equality Tour 11 a.m.
- Nov 13: FCDOT Open House: Fairfax Connector Service in the Franconia-Springfield Area - 6 p.m.
- Nov 13: South County Federation 7:30 p.m.
- Nov 14: Captain's Breakfast with Faith Community Leaders 9:30 a.m.
- Nov 14: Occoquan Dam Siren Testing 10 a.m.
- Nov 14: The Match Game Volunteering With Passion and Purpose 1 p.m.
- Nov 14: FCDOT Open House: Fairfax Connector Service in the Franconia-Springfield Area - 6 p.m.
- Nov 17: NEW DATE! Tour de Mount Vernon 8:30 a.m.
- Nov 17: HIRING EVENT! Fairfax County Police Department 10 a.m.
- Nov 22 23: County Government Offices will be closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday
- Nov 28: Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations Meeting 8 p.m.
- Dec 6: Mount Vernon District Holiday Open House
- Dec 10: Police Civilian Review Panel 2018 Public Forum 7 p.m.

Community Champions

Last month, several Mount Vernon residents were honored with County awards.

2018 Champions of Character

Elias Anwar, Male Athlete, Gum Springs Community Center Meredyth Walker, Female Athlete, Gunston Soccer Club Dave Wilsey, Coach, Northern Virginia Girls Softball Association (NVGSA) Daryl and Leia Towe, Parent, Cross Training Athletes into Believers (CTAB) Read about the Champions and watch the awards ceremony!

2018 Environmental Excellence Awards

Betsy Martin and Paul Siegel, *Little Hunting Creek* **Danielle Wynne**, *Stormwater Education* Read about the winners...



Virginia's Time Is Now

Did you know that the U.S. Constitution protects race, religion and national origin, but not gender equality?

In 1972, Congress finally passed the **Equal Rights Amendment** and set a 7-year ratification deadline, later extended to 10 years. In 1982, 35 states had ratified the ERA, just **3 states short of the required 3/4 of states**. Although the deadline passed, the ERA lives on! On March 22, 2017, exactly **45 years after Congress passed the Amendment**, Nevada became the 36th state to ratify. On May 30, 2018, Illinois became the 37th. Virginia is well-positioned to be the 38th state. **The nation's spotlight is on us!** Won't you join us to help **VIRGINIA MAKE HISTORY**?!!

The **VAratifyERA State Campaign** will launch **"10 Days of ERA,"** with a **statewide bus tour** helmed by Delegate Jennifer Carroll Foy (D) and Senator Glen Sturtevant (R). The tour's goal is to **educate Virginians** about the **absence of gender equality** in the U.S. Constitution. In addition to lawmakers and community leaders, VIPs will join along the route for programs both scheduled and spontaneous.

Join the Tour on **Sunday, November 11** at George Mason University, starting at 11 a.m. at IKE'S Eatery Dining Hall, 10445 President's Park Drive. Learn more about ERA, the movement and how you can get involved!

STEM Fest 2018



On Saturday, October 27, 2018, Bucknell Elementary school's cafeteria **transformed into a scene of experiments**, **exploration and enlightenment** as hundreds of students and community members enjoyed STEM Fest—**a celebration of science, technology**, **engineering and math**—presented by local nonprofit Magic of Mothers. The free event gave **300 students from 70 schools** direct experience with STEM subjects through fun, interactive and hands-on activities.

Supervisor Storck and School Board President Karen Corbett Sanders were pleased to attend the event and are both an **avid supporter** of STEM enrichment. Supervisor Storck commented, "*Educational programs like the Magic of Mothers' STEM Fest present vital educational enrichment* for youth and residents, alike. These events offer fun, creative

opportunities to **explore and learn**. Through the collaborative efforts of Magic of Mothers, STEM Fest participants and contributors **shared their knowledge** with the hope of sparking a lifelong interest in building **valuable STEM skills**." Read more about the event...

Saving the Environment

Rain Gardens at Home

Make Your Personal Contribution to Clean Water

Rain gardens **reduce stormwater runoff** and help prevent some of this damage. Every homeowner and business that installs a rain garden will be **doing their part to protect**: communities from flooding; streams and lakes from pollution, sedimentation and erosion; the water table and



underground aquifers; and the beauty of local communities. Read more...



Can You Help Identify Litter Hot Spots?

Our office is working with Clean Fairfax to **address litter issues** in the District! **Clean Fairfax** has launched a **Community Map.** Found at cleanfairfax.org, it displays **local community cleanups** as well as environmental events (garden tours, talks, workshops, etc.,) and farmers markets. If you're looking for **volunteer opportunities** or something for your family to do

outside, this is the perfect place to start! Please contact Clean Fairfax if you'd like to share your cleanup or event on the map. Also, if you'd like to **organize a cleanup in your community**, contact Clean Fairfax and they'll send cleanup supplies at no cost.

Want to add your litter hot spot to the map? Contact Clean Fairfax.

Franconia Station Officers in Our Community





The Franconia District Station hosted two **"Trunk or Treat"** events at the Franconia District Station at the Lorton Library. Many children, along with their parents, came in **Halloween costumes** to get some early **Halloween treats**, learned a few **Halloween tips**, and **met with officers**. The Fairfax County Sheriff's Office was present and made **child ID's** for the kids. In addition, the **Mount Vernon District Station** hosted a very successful **Trunk or Treat** at the Station this year.

Next month, the Station is starting a community meeting series called Officers in Your

Neighborhood at the Lorton Library on **Thursday, November 8, 2018**, from 7 - 8:30 p.m. For more information and to register...

On Wednesday, **November 14, 2018**, at 9:30 a.m. at the Franconia Station, **Station Commander Captain Greg Fried** will host a **Captain's Breakfast** with **Faith Community Leaders**. For more information and to register...

Upcoming November 6 General Elections

What You Need to Know about Voting in Fairfax

- What's on My Ballot? (November information TBA)
- Voter Photo ID Requirements
- Upcoming Voter Photo ID Opportunities
- Additional Information for College Students (Video)
- November 6: Vote in Person Today! Absentee Ballot return deadline, 7:00 p.m.

Read more ...

Supporting Our Seniors

Did you know the County regularly produces Fairfax 50+ Podcasts?

Recent discussions include:

- Making Accessible Parking Accessible Again
- A Caregiver Specialist Offers Advice

Take a listen!

Community Information

Refugee Coat & Blanket Drive for Syrian Refugees 2018

The **Mount Vernon District office** will again be a **drop-off site** for the NOVA Relief Center's **Blanket & Coat Drive**. Over the last several years, NOVA Relief has sent over 100,000 blankets and coats to Turkey and Lebanon. This year, **NOVA**



Relief Center is accepting donations to distribute to three camps in Jordan: Mafraq, Jerash and Irbid.

You can help **make this event a success** by making and collecting donations, giving **gently used blankets and/or coats**, and by **volunteering**. Donations will be accepted from **November 9 - December 7, 2018**. Read more and donate...



Hiring Event! Fairfax County Police Department

The Fairfax County Police Department **Mobile Recruiting Unit** (MRU) will be on site **Saturday, November 17 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Lorton Library**. Detectives will be taking **applications for the April 2019 police academy**. Human resources recruiters will also be on hand to assist those interested in other positions

with the Fairfax County Government as well.

Police Civilian Review Panel

Join the Police Civilian Review Panel at its 2018 Public Forum at the Mount Vernon Governmental Center! The Panel welcomes the opportunity for you to attend their 2018 Public Forum on December 10, 2018, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. At the Public Forum, you will learn how to initiate the **complaint process**, who will investigate complaints, what to expect once a complaint is filed, and receive a 2018 update on Panel activity. The Independent Police Auditor will also be present to explain the Auditor's role in oversight. You will have the opportunity to engage the Panel with your questions about the process. For more information, visit.



Fairfax County & Franconia-Springfield Parkways Study

The Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) invites you to take the online survey to give your feedback on your vision of the future of the Fairfax County & Franconia-Springfield Parkways. This online survey mirrors feedback opportunities available at the prior community meetings and will be open through Nov. 19, 2018. Click here to take the survey! Haga clic aquí para español!

Food for Fines - Libraries Waive Fees for Food Donations

During the month of November, residents are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to their local libraries. In return, the library will waive \$1 in fines owed for each item brought in, up to a **maximum of \$15** in reduced fines per person. Don't owe any fines, please still consider donating. All food collected will go to Food for Others, a nonprofit food pantry helping people in need in Northern Virginia. All Fairfax County libraries are participating.

Free Memory Depot at Two Fairfax Libraries

Remember back in the day, before you (or your parents) took photos and videos on a smartphone and had boxes of prints, slides and VHS cassettes? Many of us have boxes of those family histories and memories tucked away in our basements and attics. Now is the time to pull out those dusty boxes and put your photos, videos and documents in digital format - the Library has launched the free Memory Depot at two locations, the City of Fairfax Regional Library and Sherwood Regional Library.

Important Safety Messages

Occoquan Dam Siren Testing

An audible test of the siren system installed along the banks of the Occoquan River between the Town of Occoquan and Belmont Bay will be held between the hours of **10 am and 2 pm on November 14**. People living and commuting in the area will hear a loud siren at various points during that timeframe.

Fairfax Water is responsible for the test which is expected to be an **annual exercise** to test functionality.

Read more... Visit the website...

Interactive Map for Sidewalk Maintenance

Is that sidewalk cracked? Need it fixed? Who is responsible - the State, the County, your HOA? The County has an application for determining sidewalk and trail maintenance responsibility called the Walkway Maintenance web application. Using similar tools as the Road Maintenance application, walkways are color-coded by maintenance responsibility. Clicking a walkway segment will reveal maintenance contact information as well as



information about the material and width. **No longer is maintenance responsibility a mystery**. These applications are just two of **over fifty interactive mapping applications** available on the Fairfax County GIS & Mapping Services website. For a list of all the applications, see the Interactive Mapping Applications gallery.

November is Fire Safety Month A Chill Is In The Air! Please Heat Your Home Safely!

The days and nights are **starting to get a little colder**! All of us will be seeking ways to **keep our homes warm**. Please make sure you do so safely. Take a moment to **watch a brief video** below from our partners in safety at the National Fire Protection Association. **More specific safety information:**

- Electric Blanket Safety
- Turning Up The Heat? Use Space Heaters Safely!
- Fireplace & Fireplace Ashes Safety



Boards, Authorities and Commissions

Help **serve your community** by serving on a Fairfax County Board, Authority or Commission. Please ask your friends, neighbors and community members if they are willing to help serve Fairfax County. Supervisor Storck has vacancies on:



Architectural Review Board - Historical Architect

The purpose of the Architectural Review Board shall be to administer the provisions of the Historic Overlay Districts, of the Zoning Ordinance and to advise and assist the Board of Supervisors in its efforts to preserve and protect historic, architectural, and archaeological resources in the County.

Health Care Advisory Board

This Board is responsible for a periodic review of a comprehensive health plan for the County; to initiate an on-going health care information process in coordination with local, regional, State and Federal agencies.

Health Systems Agency Board

The purpose of this Board is to improve quality of the health services provided them, both private and public, while restraining increases in the cost of providing health services.

Volunteering on these committees **increases citizen participation** in our District. If you are interested in serving on a county board, authority, commission, or committee (BAC), please provide a current résumé to Donna.Slaymaker@fairfaxcounty.gov. For more information, please download the brochure for a brief guide to BACs, or learn more on the County website.

Additional Opportunity to Serve

Police Civilian Review Panel

The mission of the Panel to **enhance police legitimacy** and to **build and maintain trust** between the citizens of Fairfax County, the Board of Supervisors, and the Fairfax County Police Department. You can read more about the Panel here: https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/policecivilianreviewpanel/about-us

To be <u>considered for future appointment</u> to the nine-member panel, please send a resume or bio with a brief note explaining why you'd like to be appointed to: MtVernon@FairfaxCounty.gov

Mount Vernon District Office | 703-780-7518 MTVernon@fairfaxcounty.gov | FairfaxCounty.gov/MountVernon

STAY CONNECTED

