



Fairfax County Park Authority

*Elly Doyle*

2020

VIRTUAL PARK  
SERVICE AWARDS

Friday, November 20, 2020  
7 p.m.

*"The Star-Spangled Banner"*

The Westfield High School Chamber Singers,  
under the direction of Katie H. Pierce

*Emcees*

Cynthia Jacobs Carter, Ed.D.  
Marguerite Godbold  
Ronald Kendall



Fairfax County Park Foundation

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## *Cynthia Jacobs Carter, Ed.D.*

**Lee District  
Park Authority  
Board Member**



Dr. Cynthia Jacobs Carter was appointed for a second four-year term on January 28, 2020.

Dr. Carter is a senior advancement officer at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of African American History and Culture. She leads the museum's gift-planning efforts. These efforts include heading the Harriet Tubman Legacy Society and helping to build an endowment for the museum.

Before joining the museum's staff, Dr. Carter served at the Smithsonian as chief development officer in the Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage. Before that she was chief development/external affairs officer at Africare. Other positions were held at Howard University and at The George Washington University.

Dr. Carter has taught at Georgetown University and at The George Washington University, both in Africana Women's Studies. She is a National Geographic author of two books: "Africana Woman: Her Story Through Time" (Simon and Schuster) and "Freedom In My Heart: Voices From the United States National Slavery Museum" (Penguin Random House), which was nominated for the NAACP Image Awards for Best Literary work in 2010.

Dr. Carter earned a Doctor of Education degree in Educational Leadership and a Master of Arts degree in International Education from The George Washington University. Her undergraduate degree is from Virginia State University.





*Marguerite  
Godbold*

**Sully District  
Park Authority  
Board Member**

Marguerite (Maggie) F. Godbold, began her service on the Park Authority Board in 2016.

On the Board, Ms. Godbold serves as Vice Chair of the Budget Committee and Chair of the Resource Management Committee. She is also the Board liaison to the Environmental Roundtable/Land Trust.

Ms. Godbold is a retiree and active community volunteer. Before she retired, she worked as a certified project management professional and was a consultant providing system engineering and management services for the federal government.

Over the years she led several teams in assisting the government with large systems development and maintenance. She has worked for several firms throughout her career, including Scitor Corporation, General Dynamics Advanced Information Systems and Veridian Information Solutions.

Ms. Godbold grew up in Northern Virginia and has been a resident of the Sully District for over 30 years, currently residing in Oak Hill. She is an avid birdwatcher and environmentalist, and an amateur musician. She is passionate about increasing access to the outdoors and arts for all Fairfax residents.



## *Ronald Kendall*

**Mason District**

**Park Authority Board Member**

Park Board Member Ronald Kendall has been the Mason District representative since 2017. He was reappointed to the Board in November 2018 to a four-year term.

Mr. Kendall served 30 years in the federal government. He served two years as a volunteer in Haiti with the Peace Corps and six years at Peace Corps headquarters in D.C., in administration and program support.

He also worked for 22 years at the Environmental Protection Agency's D.C. headquarters in the Office of Pesticide Programs. During his federal service, his duties included project management, grants management and regulatory oversight. He led teams in budget and work plan development, as well as program and process improvement. He received many awards during his tenure for collaboration, continuous improvement and promoting excellence in workplace relations. He served as liaison with state, tribal and municipal pesticide programs over many years.

Mr. Kendall has served the Park Authority Board as a member of the Green Team advocacy group on passage of the 2016 and 2020 Park Bond. He serves as the board's trails representative, as well as vice chair on the Park Authority Awards Committee.

Mr. Kendall was born in Richmond, Massachusetts. He earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Massachusetts and a master's in business from Central Michigan University.

# Welcoming Remarks

*William G. Bouie*

Park Authority  
Board Chairman



Park Authority Board Chairman

William G. Bouie joined the Park Authority in 2005. He has served as Chairman of the Board since 2009. Mr. Bouie is currently the president and CEO of Sky Communications Inc. He is an active volunteer involved in civic organizations.

Mr. Bouie's service includes past membership on the boards of Wolf Trap Center for the Performing Arts and the Reston Hospital Center Board of Trustees. He currently serves on the boards of Public Links Inc., the Reston Community Center Board of Governors, Public Art Reston and Leadership Fairfax.

Well-known for his work with youth in the Northern Virginia area, Mr. Bouie remains active and involved. He served as the president of Reston Youth Baseball, assistant district administrator for Little League Baseball of Northern Virginia, was the Northern Virginia Little League Volunteer of the Year. He was selected to serve on Project Gold, a committee of the United States Olympic Committee. He is a nationally ranked racquetball player, and the three-time defending Senior Olympic Gold Medalist.

Prior to his work with Sky Communications Inc., he served as a president – public sector for Acumatic Corporation; senior business development director for Siemens Enterprise Communications; and senior vice president – business development with HCI Technologies.

Born and raised in Detroit, Mr. Bouie received his bachelor's degree in political science from Western Michigan University and his master's degree in business management from Central Michigan University. He has provided consulting services to major vendors in the telecommunications industry and has served as an expert witness for various government organizations.

He and his wife, Regina, live in Reston, Virginia.



# *2020 Awards*

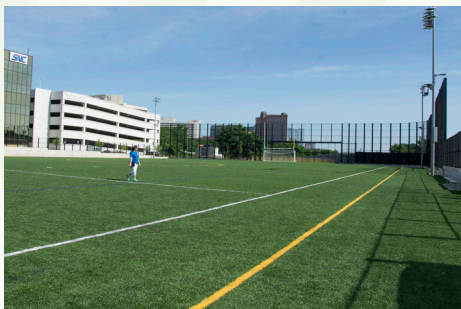
## *Harold L. Strickland Partnership and Collaboration Award*

The Fairfax County Park Authority Board established the Harold L. Strickland Partnership and Collaboration Award in 2015 in honor of the retired Park Board member's long service and significant contributions to the Park Authority.

In the spirit of Strickland's accomplishments, this award recognizes the value and importance of teamwork and cooperation necessary to provide residents with state-of-the-art facilities in Fairfax County Parks, often at limited, reduced or no capital expense to the taxpayer.

Harold L. Strickland Partnership and Collaboration Award nominees demonstrate significant long-term accomplishments that provide the residents of Fairfax County with tangible examples of the benefits of partnerships and collaborations that help to sustain or grow service to the community, while reducing the need for Fairfax County Park Authority financial resources to accomplish the service delivery.

# *The Meridian Group*



The Fairfax County Park Authority Board honors the Meridian Group with the Harold L. Strickland Partnership and Collaboration Award for its work on Quantum Field in Tysons.

The real estate equity investment and development company partnered with the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and the Fairfax County Park Authority to assure that a recreation area would be a component of The Boro – Meridian's transit-oriented, live/work/play neighborhood in Tysons. Company representatives worked with county staff on a proffer agreement that turned a former parking area into a multi-sport athletic field.

The county's Comprehensive Plan vision for Tysons includes a robust park system to help transform the suburban office park into a vibrant, mixed-use urban area. The plan envisions new sports fields, since Tysons residents and workers are expected to seek an active, urban lifestyle that includes organized sports play.

Through this unique partnership between developers and park planners, Meridian agreed Quantum Field would be operated by the Park Authority and built in accordance with Park Authority standards. This partnership allowed Meridian and the Park Authority to overcome challenges with the site related to utility easements and the field's location adjacent to the Capital Beltway.

The field, which opened in 2019, is built with synthetic turf and has a playing surface of 180 feet by 360 feet. It offers play for five sports and includes black vinyl perimeter chain-link fencing, concrete walkways, bleacher pads, parking lot lighting, sound-containing walls, and landscaping.

Because it was built with synthetic turf, Quantum Field allows for year-round use and is not affected by weather to the degree of natural turf fields. Lighting allows for extended use into the evening hours. Concrete walkways make it accessible for all; landscaping enhances its aesthetic appearance; and the sound barriers benefit area residents who are not using the field.





## *Sally B. Ormsby Environmental Stewardship Award*

The Sally B. Ormsby Environmental Stewardship Award was established by the Park Authority Board in 2007, in recognition of Ormsby's many years of service as a citizen steward. Her actions promoted the responsible and sustainable management of natural resources.

This award recognizes individuals and organizations whose actions embody the spirit and values of stewardship and result in tangible environmental benefits.



## *Catherine C. Ledec*

Cathy Ledec is the recipient of the 2020 Sally Ormsby Environmental Stewardship Award. This award recognizes her 17 years of volunteer service at Huntley Meadows Park and the Fairfax County Park Authority.

Ms. Ledec's outstanding leadership and volunteerism, including as president of the Friends of Huntley Meadows Park (FOHMP), have contributed significantly to the long-term preservation of natural resources at Huntley Meadows and throughout Fairfax County.

Her advocacy on behalf of the Park Authority has successfully educated many about the importance of a healthy environment in maintaining Fairfax County's high quality of life for residents, businesses and visitors. Her work is firmly focused on improving the environment and on protecting and restoring irreplaceable natural resources, including native wildlife.

Besides her leadership of the Friends of Huntley Meadows Park, Ledec provides frequent public comments and testimony in support of the Park Authority's annual budget, defends parkland from the impact of development projects, performs hands-on ecosystem restoration as a site leader for the Park Authority's Invasive Management Area Program, actively participates in citizen science activities, and serves on multiple advisory boards that influence parks and natural resources, including the Fairfax County Tree Commission and Supervisor Dan Storck's Environment Advisory Committee.



# Keynote Address

## Chairman Jeff McKay

### Fairfax County Board of Supervisors



Chairman Jeffrey C. McKay is a lifelong Fairfax County resident, born and raised on the historic Route One Corridor in Lee District. From kindergarten to eighth grade, he attended two of the county's world-class public schools, Woodlawn Elementary School and Walt Whitman Middle School, before graduating from Bishop Ireton High School. Mr. McKay earned a bachelor of science in public administration from James Madison University. He is a graduate of the Sorensen Institute of Political Leadership at the University of Virginia.

In Fairfax County, Mr. McKay first served as then-Supervisor Dana Kauffman's chief of staff for more than a decade before running and winning the election as Lee District Supervisor in November 2007. As supervisor, Mr. McKay has been a champion for equity, education, affordable housing, transportation, revitalization, and the environment in Fairfax County. He has chaired the board's Transportation, Revitalization, Budget, and Legislative Committees. As Budget and Legislative chairman, he has fostered collaborative relationships with federal and state officials, as well as the school board.

Mr. McKay is also a regional leader, twice serving as chairman of the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission. He works with his counterparts on initiatives to better the quality of life for Fairfax County residents, having served on the Northern Virginia Regional Commission and the board of directors for the statewide Virginia Association of Counties, where he is currently president.

Mr. McKay lives in Lee District with his wife, Crystal, his children Leann and Aidan, who attend Fairfax County Public Schools ... and of course, their latest retired racing greyhound Pascal.

A graphic of the American flag, featuring red and white stripes and white stars on a blue field, flowing diagonally across the page. The background has a light green and white sunburst pattern.

## *2020 Outstanding Volunteers*

Volunteers offer invaluable services at county parks, recreation facilities, golf courses, nature centers and historic sites. In fiscal year 2019, more than 5,000 volunteers provided 188,386 volunteer service hours to the Park Authority. Volunteers who will be honored this year work at a wide variety of park locations and serve diverse needs.



## Outstanding Award Recipients

### *Debbie Berry*

Falls Church, Virginia

Volunteer at

Providence RECenter

Length of Service: 1.5 years

Front Desk Associate

Debbie Berry has endeared herself to staff and patrons alike in the time she has been at Providence RECenter. A quick study, she has picked up any and every role with ease and even trained other volunteers without ever getting rattled. She takes on each role with positivity and a strong work ethic. With her friendly and easygoing demeanor, she can be counted on not only for her “official” roles, but for extra help as needed -- from weekend check-ins for the first day of aquatics classes to helping with Get Fit onboarding for prospective patrons.

As the Providence Volunteer of the Year, Berry brings to her duties a keen attention to detail and sense of pride in the RECenter, as well as a warm and encouraging nature. Staff members are thankful to have her as a member of the team. Her can-do attitude is contagious.



## *Ronald “Ronnie” Billodeaux*

**Oak Hill, Virginia**

**Volunteer at Frying Pan Farm Park**

**Length of Service: 1.5 years**

**Volunteer Wagon Ride Driver**

Ronald “Ronnie” Billodeaux provides wagon rides for members of the public, as well as school field trip groups and special events. He is an extremely reliable volunteer who believes in the mission of Frying Pan Farm Park and strives to achieve a high level of customer service. He treats the customers and staff like he would his own friends and family.



Billodeaux works a weekly shift as a wagon ride driver in spring, summer, and fall. In addition to his weekly duty, he regularly signs up for extra driving shifts for special events, such as Spring Farm Day, Fall Harvest Days and Wagon Rides with Santa. During the 2020 winter months, he also led a team of volunteers to refurbish and rebuild picnic tables at the park. He is dependable, goes above and beyond his regular duty, and produces high-quality work.





## *Roberta Bucher*

Alexandria, Virginia

**Volunteer at Huntley Meadows Park**

**Length of Service: Eight years**

**Volunteer on Duty (front desk)**

Roberta Bucher consistently provides an excellent customer service experience with her warm personality and ability to answer myriad questions at the visitor center at Huntley Meadows. In addition, she coordinates extraordinarily well with staff to ensure excellent experiences for all with whom she interacts. She is an incredibly approachable person, and customers often remark how easy it is to talk with her.

Bucher works four regular shifts per month and often picks up additional shifts or stays late when needed. She attends extra trainings offered by Huntley Meadows staff to enrich her knowledge and ability to answer questions at the front desk. She is always game for last-minute park needs, such as cutting out craft items for programs, sorting store merchandise or helping to clean the store. Her calm demeanor, flexibility and good humor are a highlight of any day she comes to the park.



## *Allison Carnathan*

**Chantilly, Virginia**

**Volunteer at Sully Historic Site**

**Length of Service: 4.5 years**

**Volunteer/Scout Assistant**

An interest in history led Allison Carnathan to Sully Historic Site, where she started giving tours of the historic house, sharing her knowledge about the Lee family and the enslaved African American community who lived at Sully. She helps at special events, such as candlelight tours, historic All Hallows' Eve and the annual Easter Egg Hunt. Without hesitation, Carnathan also signed up to help with Girl and Boy Scout programs.

Carnathan is the type of volunteer every museum would love to have, always going beyond what is required and being willing to step up wherever help is needed. She works with all age groups with a smile on her face and a cheerful hello, and visitors appreciate her enthusiasm for history. When staff see that Carnathan is volunteering on a day they are at Sully, you can hear the sigh of relief.





## *Lisa Dickenson*

Centreville, Virginia

Volunteer at Oak Marr RECenter

Length of Service: Two years

Landscaping Assistant

Lisa Dickenson is a positive, energetic volunteer who is reliable, friendly and hardworking. She willingly participates in all aspects of gardening and landscaping tasks regardless of the heat, humidity, rain or freezing temperatures. She organizes materials and storage sheds, plants, weeds, mulches, waters; and she lends a hand with seasonal displays both inside and outside Oak Marr RECenter. Dickenson shows up with a smile on her face and is ready for whatever the task of the day may be.

During the uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic, Dickenson was the first Oak Marr volunteer to ask when she could go back to volunteering. Her dedication to the Oak Marr RECenter landscaping team has allowed the team to maintain, increase and enhance the gardens around the RECenter. Customers often comment on the beauty of the gardens and how much they are enjoyed.





## *Bob Dinse*

**Annandale, Virginia**

**Volunteer at Hidden Oaks Nature Center**

**Length of Service: 11 years**

**Trails Manager**

Bob Dinse has dramatically improved the trails at Hidden Oaks and exemplifies the outstanding volunteer. He regularly meets with site management and develops strategies to manage projects. He has rerouted several trails to protect the eroding side of the stream, altered a steep inclined trail to improve safety for children, and created fair-weather crossings due to lack of bridges. He regularly adds volunteer days to remove fallen branches and report tree conditions to management after major storms.

Dinse also has monitored Boy Scout Eagle trail projects. He leads Fairfax Master Naturalists in an annual group project with the native wildflower garden or in making enhancements to Nature Playce. He has led groups of more than 300 seventh-graders for MWEE stewardship activities. He knows all the park walkers and serves as the site ambassador. His contributions enable the public to enjoy safe, attractive trails, beautiful native gardens, and safe, convenient stream crossings.



## *Lina Le Faucheur*

McLean, Virginia

Volunteer at Spring Hill RECenter

Length of Service: 2.5 years

General Support Assistant

Lina Le Faucheur has enriched and improved the quality of Spring Hill RECenter's volunteer program through her kind spirit and strong work ethic in a variety of roles. During her time volunteering, no task was beyond her -- from organizing the aquatic instructor's toy storage room, to sanitizing fitness equipment, to assisting with office administration tasks, to helping maintain the garden grounds at Spring Hill. She was named Spring Hill's Most Outstanding Volunteer of the Year, while balancing college and a full-time job.

Through her hard work ethic, compassionate leadership, and sense of global stewardship, she was an inspiration for today's youth. She served as model for the volunteer program and brightened the atmosphere for customers at the RECenter. She returned to her home country of Sweden in late summer, but her presence left a permanent mark on all those she encountered



*Sara Holtz*

**Oakton, Virginia**

**Volunteer at Invasive Management Area Program**

**Length of Service: Three years**

**Site Leader**

Sara Holtz works with the Invasive Management Area (IMA) Program to recruit and supervise volunteers, provide educational outreach during volunteer workdays, remove invasive plants, restore native plantings, and monitor sites. As the site leader at Difficult Run Stream Valley Park in Oakton, she is always willing to assist in educating the public about IMA and the importance of controlling invasive species and planting native plants.

Holtz is an organized, enthusiastic leader with a gift for motivating volunteers. She goes above and beyond to inspire others to help remove invasive plants from parks, learn about invasives in their own yards, and take steps to remove them. Holtz also serves as an adviser for Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Hornaday conservation awards, and Eagle Scouts, educating young volunteers on the importance of habitat restoration. She is credited with removing hundreds of invasive Japanese barberry shrubs, a particularly thorny and unpleasant plant to handle.





## *Karen Hunter*

**Centreville, Virginia**

**Volunteer at Cub Run RECenter**

**Length of Service: 4.5 years**

**Front Desk Volunteer**

Karen Hunter has been volunteering twice a week for the early morning shift at Cub Run RECenter and is always cheerful and helpful to all who enter the RECenter during those early hours of the day. The retired teacher from Manassas Park Elementary School is dependable and personable as a front desk volunteer and is knowledgeable about all aspects of the RECenter.

Hunter is always willing to help wherever there is a need and go above and beyond her front desk duties. She is quick to answer customer questions, give tours to new customers, and tell customers about fitness classes, camps, or new programs at Cub Run. She has transformed visitors into members because of her engaging nature and deep knowledge about RECenter operations. Her great attitude and friendly demeanor are a huge asset to Cub Run.





## *Mary Alice Huybrechts*

**Falls Church, Virginia**

**Volunteer at Green Spring Gardens**

**Length of Service: Lots**

**Gardener**

Mary Alice Huybrechts has spent many years on gardening tasks at Green Spring, such as weeding, mulching, planting and plant propagation. When Green Spring was short on staff and the garden volunteers were released for the winter, she came into the park regularly during the week to take on watering and plant-tending duties.

Huybrechts assists two staff gardeners with plant management. She has helped maintain the Green Spring rock garden and has assisted with special projects, such as painting nutcracker figures for the Park Authority's holiday lights event. In addition, she has donated plant cuttings to enhance the gardens. Staff say that without the help of Huybrechts, two greenhouses worth of plants would have died from neglect due to personnel shortages.







## *Janet Jaeger*

**Alexandria, Virginia**

**Volunteer at Lee District RECenter**

**Length of Service: 3.5 years**

**Front Desk Volunteer**

Janet Jaeger has volunteered for a host of duties at Lee District RECenter, and the wealth of knowledge she has gained from these activities benefits customers. Jaeger goes far beyond the usual duties at the front desk. In addition to greeting the public and orienting them to the facility, she assists with programs and projects as needed and helps take care of front desk equipment and the working area.

Jaeger has served more hours than any other volunteer at the facility and often helps to fill the shifts of other volunteers when they are unable to serve. She has volunteered to run the carousel, help with the Bike-to-Work Day event, worked as a parking attendant at concerts, and assisted with Community Day. She also has served as a Special Harbor attendant. Customers are well-served by her extensive knowledge of the facility.



## *Richard Langguth*

Chantilly, Virginia

Volunteer at Twin Lakes Golf Course

Length of Service: 21 years

Play Manager

Richard Langguth has been a reliable and knowledgeable volunteer at Twin Lakes Golf Course for more than 20 years. As the play manager on Wednesday mornings, he supervises volunteers and activities associated with on-course management and spends most of his time moving around the course, assessing conditions and speed of play, and assisting golfers as needed. Langguth is a team player who loves golf and is willing to give back to the community and the golf facility.

During Langguth's weekly shift, he is responsible for managing the play of the Twin Lakes Women's Golf Association (TLWGA), which added a record number of new members in 2019, making it the largest women's golf league in the county park system. The president of the TLWGA wrote to Twin Lakes to acknowledge the efforts of Langguth and his team. He is a great asset to course operations.







## *Johnny T. Lopez*

**Springfield, Virginia**

**Volunteer at South Run RECenter**

**Length of Service: Almost two years**

**Front Desk Associate and Scouting Program Coordinator**

As a front desk volunteer, Johnny Lopez is a front-line superstar, and his knowledge of the RECenter's operations has enabled him to significantly add to customer satisfaction. He is friendly in every interaction with staff, patrons and fellow volunteers. Those who work with Lopez say that when he comes on duty, the whole place lights up. His dependability, enthusiasm and follow-up have greatly influenced customer retention.

As scouting program coordinator, Lopez has given freely of his time to help Eagle Scout candidates develop service projects that teach them about leadership, teamwork and productivity. He has overseen nine multiple-day Eagle Scout projects in the past year and worked on the modified measures needed for the first post-COVID-19 project. His contributions to each scout have made projects truly memorable. Current and future Fairfax County residents benefit from the support that the scouts provide to save South Run's forests.



## *Ron Pickett*

**Springfield, Virginia**

**Volunteer at Laurel Hill Golf Club**

**Length of Service: More than two years**

**Starter**

Ron Pickett “manages chaos” as a starter at Laurel Hill Golf Club, getting golfers on the course with pertinent information for the day. He goes above and beyond as a volunteer, helping on days off, cleaning trash, fixing carts, and assisting with everything he can. Pickett has established personal relationships with several of the members and is always available to help with customer requests. He also has helped wherever he can with the Eisman Golf Academy, which is based at Laurel Hill.

Going above and beyond is the best way to describe Pickett’s work ethic. Customers can see Pickett not only on his workdays, but many other days during the week. His pure passion for golf brings him to Laurel Hill even when he is not scheduled, and the golf club is the better for it.





## *Peggy Plunkett*

**Springfield, Virginia**

**Volunteer at Audrey Moore RECenter**

**Length of Service: Seven years**

**Front Desk and Special Events Support**

Peggy Plunkett can be found assisting customers at the front desk at the Audrey Moore RECenter, working the Audrey Moore Farmers Market, and walking the trails around the RECenter. She is

described as a “rock” at the facility, who is incredibly helpful to staff and visitors. Plunkett consistently goes above and beyond her duties. Whether it’s coming in at 4 a.m. to greet everyone with a smiling face, standing outside in all kinds of weather to help at the farmers market, or making sure trails and fields are free of debris, she is an invaluable part of the RECenter team.

Plunkett helped with setup and takedown at last year’s Audrey Moore Arts and Crafts show and has adapted to COVID-19-related changes this year to make the farmers market a fun place to be. Audrey Moore customers love speaking with her and leave “feeling good.”







## *Savannah Purdy*

**Springfield, Virginia**

**Volunteer at Hidden Pond Nature Center**

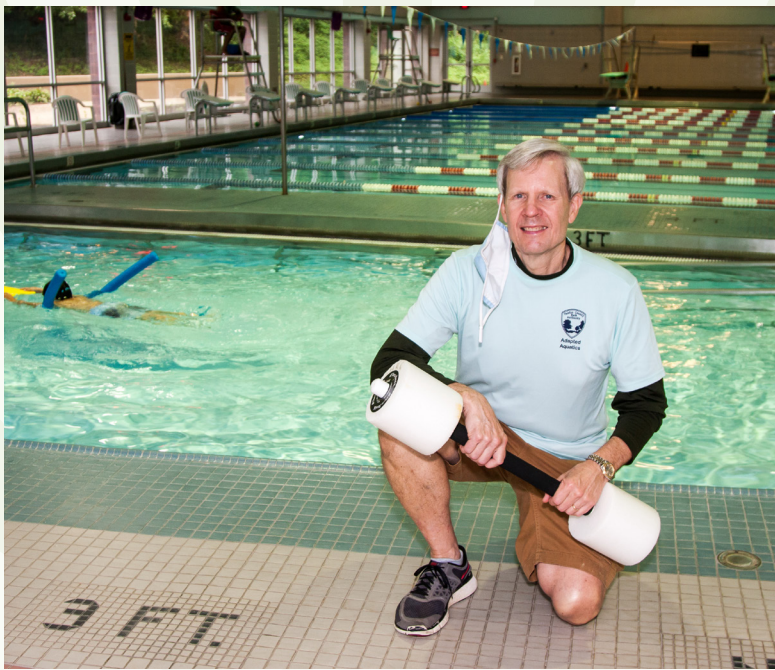
**Length of Service: Three years**

**Assistant Naturalist-Animal Care**

Savannah Purdy started as preschool program helper at age 11, and as she gained experience with nature center operations, she added duties as an animal caretaker. She has often been credited with helping first-time participants feel more at ease in the programs at Hidden Pond, and staff members have been impressed with how the youngsters take to Purdy's kind demeanor. She can be counted on to do a wonderful job reaching people of all ages, as she shares her knowledge of Hidden Pond's live exhibit animals and their habitats. No visitor question is too repetitive for her, and she always answers with interest.

As an animal caretaker, Purdy doesn't just didn't feed the animals. She has learned to keep an eye out for anything that might indicate any health problems with the animals. Her diligence has been helpful to staff in catching issues before they get out of hand.





## *Robert "Tim" Schnoor*

**Springfield, Virginia**

**Volunteer at Spring Hill RECenter**

**Length of Service: 10 years**

**Adapted Aquatics Volunteer**

Robert "Tim" Schnoor has been an outstanding adapted aquatics volunteer at Spring Hill RECenter for 10 years. He is dedicated to improving the lives of individuals with disabilities and eagerly jumps into the pool to work with individuals ages 13 and up who have physical disabilities. Schnoor is an incredible asset to the program and has formed lasting relationships with the RECenter customers whom he supports.

Through his unique volunteer role, Schnoor primarily supports adults who have acquired a disability and are relearning how to walk, gain strength and improve their mobility in the pool. His patience, positivity and encouragement are keys to the customers' success, as he assists them in reaching their goals. His contributions are invaluable, and he can be relied on to be there for his swimmers every week.



## *Tony L. Williams*

**Arlington, Virginia**

**Volunteer at Mount Vernon RECenter**

**Length of Service: 8.5 years**

**Class Instructor**

Tony Williams provides a safe, comfortable, and effective learning experience for his martial arts students at Mount Vernon RECenter. He creates lesson plans for staff review, offers verbal instruction and skills demonstrations, provides feedback to students, answers questions, and provides written materials. He is more than accommodating if there are unavoidable disruptions to the class schedule.

RECenter staff feel “incredibly lucky” to have Williams as a volunteer twice each week, a duty he has performed for nearly a decade. With a kind and unassuming nature, he arrives early to prepare the classroom for instruction, teaches, and then spends time after class talking to his students and developing a tight rapport with them. His work is done passionately but without fanfare, and his students truly benefit from his selfless time. Williams’ teaching style assures that no student is left behind.







## *Justinian “Juss” Wright*

Centreville, Virginia

Volunteer at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park

Length of Service: Two years

**Environmental Resource Volunteer**

Justinian “Juss” Wright delights staff with his beautiful singing and play on words to keep the workload light and pleasant at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park. He is kind and fun to work with and is willing to do whatever it takes to help where needed. His duties have included work in the kitchen garden and landscape beds, lawn maintenance and upkeep, trail, and natural area restoration work, laying gravel, and removing invasive plants.

Wright works with volunteers from the local high school and helps guide the new volunteers. With his consistent help on a weekly basis during the school year and every day during the summer, staff has been able to do more to keep the park attractive. Wright’s support was key to helping staff keep up with a long to-do list of tasks at the park.







## *State of the Parks*

*Kirk Kincannon, CPRP, FAAPRA, FULI*

### **Executive Director, Park Authority**

Kincannon is the Executive Director of the Fairfax County Park Authority and was selected by the American Academy of Park and Recreation Administrators (AAPRA) as a Fellow in 2015. He also earned a Fellowship through the Urban Land Institute.

Prior to his tenure with the Fairfax County Park Authority, he was the director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Boulder in Colorado; Director and Deputy Director of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities for the City of Alexandria in Virginia; and Director of Parks and Recreation for Wythe County, Virginia.

During his 36 years in the profession, Kincannon has served on multiple boards and committees over the years that include: Boulder Convention and Visitors Bureau, Economic Development, Boulder Park Foundation, Wythe County Tourism, the Virginia Recreation and Park Society Executive Board and Board Chair, the National Recreation and Park Association State Affiliates committee, Urban Directors Committee of the AAPRA.

He is well-known by his colleagues for his collaboration, leadership, and his ability to engage with staff, colleagues, the community, and political leaders. Kincannon holds a bachelor of arts in recreation and leisure services, and physical education from Virginia Wesleyan College.

# *Fairfax County Park Foundation Eakin Philanthropy Awards*

*The Eakin Philanthropy Awards  
will be presented by  
Tim Eakin Walsh and  
Laura Eakin Erlacher*

The Eakin Philanthropy Award, established in 2009 by the Fairfax County Park Foundation, is named in honor of the Eakin family -- donors of the first parcels of parkland to the Park Authority more than 50 years ago.

The annual award recognizes individuals and organizations whose financial or in-kind contributions have significantly enhanced Fairfax County parks through the Foundation. The impact of Eakin awardee-supported projects have long-term benefit to the community; and visionary contributions create new programs or facilities and provide a creative approach to addressing community needs.



Fairfax County Park Foundation



## *Dominion Energy* Organization Award



**Dominion  
Energy®**

Dominion Energy is honored with a 2020 Eakin Philanthropy Award for its support of Fairfax County parks through the Fairfax County Park Foundation. It receives the foundation honor in the Organization Award category.

Dominion Energy has donated \$191,000 to the Park Authority and Foundation since 2001 to support a wide range of programs. It has supported environmental projects through donations to Open Space, TrailFest, and the Lake Fairfax Bridge and Trail Project that connected several neighborhoods surrounding Lake Fairfax Park. It has supported community events through long time donations to help fund the Summer Entertainment Series in all nine Supervisory Districts, the Evenings on the Ellipse at the Fairfax County Government Center, and the Arts in the Parks Children's Series.

The company has also supported the countywide SpringFest Fairfax celebration of Earth Day and Arbor Day by sponsoring a popular environmentally focused children's entertainer for several years. Dominion Energy is a consistent donor to power improvements and outreach events throughout Fairfax County parks.





## *The Hwang Family* Individual Category

The Fairfax County Park Foundation (FCPF) honors the Hwang Family for their support of county parks and park programs. The Hwangs receive the 2020 Eakin Philanthropy Award in the Individual category.

The Hwangs have generously supported a variety of Park Foundation programs since 2011, with monetary gifts at the five-figure level.

William Won K. Hwang has served three terms as a director on the FCPF Board, spanning nine years. He and his wife, Young M., and daughter Jennifer have donated funding for camp scholarships through the Rec-PAC summer camp program for children living in low-income households and PACT (Parks and Community Together) camps for children living in homeless shelters and supportive housing.

Their philanthropy also has included sponsorships of the U.S. Amateur Public Golf Links Tournament and numerous Combo Classic Golf Tournaments. Their Summer Entertainment Series contributions for Evenings on the Ellipse helped bring nationally recognized performers to Fairfax County for the enjoyment of residents and visitors.

The Hwang family also facilitated outreach between Fairfax County Parks, the Park Foundation, and members of the local Korean community, who frequently visit golf courses and other parks.





## *Trinity Centre and I-66 Express Mobility Partners* **Builder or Developer Category**

Trinity Centre and I-66 Express Mobility Partners are the recipients of a 2020 Eakin Philanthropy Award in the Builder or Developer category for their commitment to co-sponsor the Park Authority's Starlight Cinema Summer Entertainment Series.

This partnership has contributed \$170,300 to the popular drive-in movie series. Their donations fund the movie rental fees, technical support and projectors, restrooms, cleaning services and Starlight Cinema signage.

Trinity Centre has supported Starlight Cinema and the Park Foundation since 2005, with total monetary donations of \$115,300. In addition to its financial support, Trinity Centre also provides the venue, conveniently located between Interstate 66 and Routes 28 and 29, for the movie presentations at no cost to the Park Authority.



Since just 2019, I-66 Express Mobility Partners has been a significant supporter, donating an expected

\$55,000 to help continue the family-oriented movie series through 2021.

This important community partner is investing in Fairfax County to keep it moving forward into the future through the "Transform 66 Outside the Beltway" mega-project. Long-term benefits of this multi-year effort include 18 miles of shared use trails for bicycles and pedestrians to connect the widely used existing trail network in Fairfax County.

TRINITY



CENTRE



## *Friends of Riverbend Park*

The Friends of Riverbend Park, or FORB, receives a 2020 Eakin Philanthropy Award in the Fairfax County Park Authority Friends Group/Park Volunteer Team category.

The group of dedicated volunteers is being honored by the Fairfax County Park Foundation for its generous support of Riverbend Park programs and projects.

FORB has donated more than \$85,600 through the Park Foundation since 2016 to support a variety of Riverbend Park programs and projects. Its donations have funded valuable forest restoration and environmental field trips to Riverbend Park for the educational enrichment of Title I school students.

FORB has paid for numerous summer intern awards and underwrites unfunded needs of Riverbend Park staff and volunteers. FORB has helped purchase much-needed canoes, equipment and interpretive signs that teach and inspire many who retreat to this stunning park located on an isolated bend of the picturesque Potomac River.



Friends of Riverbend Park, Inc.

The background of the page features a stylized American flag. The top right corner is a dark blue field with white stars of various sizes. A diagonal band of red and white stripes runs from the top left towards the bottom right. The bottom left corner is a light cream color with faint, radiating lines.

## *Elly Doyle Park Service Award*

The Elly Doyle Park Service Award was established by the Fairfax County Park Authority in 1988 in recognition of former Park Authority Board Chairman and member Ellamae Doyle's years of outstanding service toward the preservation of parkland and establishment of natural and recreational areas for the benefit of Fairfax County residents. There are three Elly Doyle categories including a Student or Youth Honoree, Special Recognition, as well as the agency's top award – the Elly Doyle Park Service Award that is presented to no more than three recipients annually.

The purpose of the award is to publicly recognize a volunteer or group of volunteers for outstanding contributions to Fairfax County parks.





## *Youth Award*

### *Joshua Morrisson*

Joshua Morrisson, of Springfield, Virginia, has been described as an “all-round volunteer dynamo,” and he is the 2020 Youth recipient of a Fairfax County Park Authority Elly Doyle Park Service Awards.

Morrisson was nominated to honor the service and contributions he has made to Hidden Pond Nature Center through a variety of volunteer roles.

Morrisson worked regular weekend volunteer shifts at the park, often filling in for others who were unable to work their shifts.

He was assigned to live exhibit care, which included feeding and cleaning of tanks.

During his Saturday shifts, he often led or co-led birthday party reptile talks and pond studies for the participants. He also performed light maintenance work, assisted with trail maintenance projects, and gave occasional impromptu reptile talks for visitors to the nature center. Aside from his regular duties, Morrisson also helped with summer camps, proving to be a responsible group leader.

In 2020 alone, the 14-year-old contributed more than 75 hours of service to Hidden Pond before the facility was closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. When site management began sending out calls for interest in returning to volunteering, Morrisson was one of the first to say he was ready to get back to volunteering and was scheduled to help with animal care and some programs.



## *Special Recognition Awards*

### *Birds and Bees Engineers*

**including of Mike Bishop, Joe Gorney, Cynde Sears, Alexis Slebodnick, Paul Slebodnick, and Bill White**

At no cost to the county, the Birds and Bees Engineers team of volunteers has invested hundreds of hours over the past six years to install and maintain homes for bluebirds and purple martins at county parks. This group--consisting of Mike Bishop, Joe Gorney, Cynde Sears, Alexis Slebodnick, Paul Slebodnick and Bill White--has monitored the bluebird houses at Twin Lakes Golf Course, Burke Lake Park, Oak Marr RECenter, and the Upper Occoquan Service Authority. It has worked to educate and install purple martin colonies throughout Fairfax County, including Twin Lakes. And last year, members of the group established a partnership with Twin Lakes management to start a honeybee yard on the course. The team has bolstered the bird population and helped the survival of important pollinators.

Through these efforts, the team is helping to assure the biodiversity of natural areas and preserve native species. The projects have bolstered the bird population and helped with the survival of important pollinators. Twin Lakes alone now has 35 bluebird boxes with 75 fledglings this year. Its six purple martin colonies are expected to produce 350 new birds. Each of the four active honeybee hives can house an average of 50,000 bees.



## *Jane Gamble*

Jane Gamble is an amateur photographer who provides professional-quality photos to the Park Authority's Public Information Office and Resource Management Division for use in the agency's communications. Her specialty is wildlife, and her stunning close-ups frequently appear on the Park Authority's social media outlets -- Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Gamble's eye-catching photos have also been used in the ResOURces newsletter and other agency publications to promote stewardship and highlight the wealth of natural resources in the county.

Gamble first offered a few sample photographs to the Park Authority in April 2019. Since then, the agency has used well over 100 of her images. Her photos help the agency promote its stewardship message by providing an illustration of the richness of the county's natural resources. The Park Authority has witnessed steady growth in the number of followers on its social media sites, and there is little doubt that Gamble's unique, beautiful and engaging photographs have helped to spur that growth. Posts featuring her photos consistently produce large numbers of "likes," and clearly, she can capture eye-catching moments in the natural world.





## *Sara Holtz*

Sara Holtz is the site leader at Difficult Run Stream Valley Park in Oakton for the Invasive Management Area (IMA) Program. She works to remove nonnative invasive plants from the park, leads workdays for volunteer groups, and acts as an adviser for Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Hornaday conservation awards and Eagle Scouts, educating young volunteers on the importance of habitat restoration.

Holtz is an organized, enthusiastic leader, and her passion and dedication have inspired her neighbors and other volunteers to spend hours removing invasive plants from parkland and their own yards. She also assists fellow site leaders with their IMA sites. At the time of her nomination, Holtz had logged 150 volunteer hours, filled 570 bags with invasive plants, and led 430 volunteers in 930 hours of service. She has removed hundreds of the thorny Japanese barberry shrub from Difficult Run Stream Valley Park, which has encouraged native ferns and wildflowers to thrive. Park visitors have commented on the improvements.





## *Jean Ann Linney*

Jean Ann Linney has been a front desk volunteer at Riverbend Park's Visitor Center for two years, working regularly, even through the holidays. She manages the sales at the gift shop, answers calls, provides visitors with guidance and support, and often takes on additional tasks while on duty. She provides excellent customer service to visitors and outstanding support to park staff.

Linney has gone above and beyond her duties at the front desk by assisting the park's Visitor Services manager with inventory and completing a Front Desk Handbook, updating important information, resources, and training tools for staff and volunteers.

The handbook will be used for years to come to help with training and to help keep everyone on the same page. Linney has also provided staff support at the Bluebell Festival and the Native American Festivals by attending to visitors at the gate. The commitment, dedication and care she exhibits during her volunteer shifts never goes unnoticed.







## *Elarbi Taouil*

Elarbi “El” Taouil has worked with the Cub Run Park Volunteer Team since 2017, participating in periodic cleanup events and using his gift for photography to inspire community members to appreciate the park more fully. He has volunteered to lead photography expeditions into the park to teach camera and photography basics, and the Fairfax County Park Foundation has used his photographs in social media posts, annual reports and fundraising appeals.

Taouil has become a core Park Volunteer Team (PVT) member through his attendance and presentations at the group’s quarterly meetings, and he has provided photographic content to the team’s Facebook page to help encourage local residents to get involved with the park. He is described as one of the kindest men you will ever meet, always willing to talk about photography or the nature of the parks. When people see the beauty in his photography, they are more likely to explore the park and hopefully volunteer to take care of it, as Taouil has.







## *Tony L. Williams*

Tony L. Williams has been a volunteer martial arts instructor at Mount Vernon RECenter for more than eight years, providing safe and effective learning experiences for his students. He brings a positive attitude, flexibility, and dedication to his role, whether teaching a class for one or 10 students. He arrives early to ready his classroom space and is willing to stay late to talk with participants and answer their questions, developing a strong teacher-student rapport.

Students love Williams' classes because of his engaging teaching style and the assurance that no student will be left behind. For the Park Authority, his efforts have been a positive asset, providing greatly desired services and helping to generate revenues. His classes are never canceled. He is Mount Vernon's only volunteer land class instructor, and his contribution to the RECenter has been consistent and greatly appreciated. Staff offer high praise and thanks for his work.





## *Elly Doyle Service Award Winners*

### *Kathleen J. O'Hara*

Kathleen “Kitty” O’Hara has been giving tours at Colvin Run Mill for 17 years and supports the historic site as the treasurer for the Friends of Colvin Run Mill. She shares her knowledge about milling and the importance of simple machines with hundreds of the county’s third graders who visit the mill each year on school field trips.

This past year, she initiated the design and purchase of a unique educational object that will give visitors a hands-on experience and a “behind the curtain” look at how raw grain and finished flour is moved around the mill untouched by human hands. The model is expected to significantly enhance the visitor experience.

As a docent at the mill, O’Hara had to learn the mechanical engineering attributes of a site important in the Industrial Revolution and went on to teach the popular “Simple Machines” program.

Through Friends of Colvin Run Mill, O’Hara has developed new fundraising mechanisms and established the group’s web page. She also distributes the group’s newsletter each quarter to nearly 500 recipients.



## *Leslie Painter*

Leslie Painter has been a volunteer at Frying Pan Farm Park for more than a decade, and as secretary of the Friends of Frying Pan Farm Park Board, she has provided a wealth of technological support for the Board and park staff.

An avid horsewoman, she also teaches equestrian sessions, helps manage shows at the park, and is quick to volunteer when any work needs to be done -- from serving meals to cleaning the barn to running major events. She has made a major impact on the Friends' fundraising efforts by increasing participation and managing the paperwork and responses to the group's many donors.

Painter uses the computer and all its tools to get work down properly and with appropriate attention to detail. She teaches interns and other volunteers, too. She has provided volunteer support at times when park staff is short-handed and was a regular contributor to communications during the COVID-19 shutdown. She also launched Frying Pan's Yard Sale events to huge success.





## *Carolyn Banks Summers*

Carolyn Banks Summers has volunteered for more than 15 years to maintain the home, grounds, and cultural aspects of her family's former homestead for the use and enjoyment of the Kingstowne and Franconia communities.

She has done this at the Olander and Margaret Banks Neighborhood Park through myriad activities, cleanups and engagement with the community and neighborhood students. She created the Friends of Olander Banks to support the park and worked with her father and the Park Authority to design and dedicate a large brick and stone memorial bearing her parents' likeness and names.

Over the years, the park has hosted a children's Sunday School celebration, a middle school End-of-Year picnic, and the Franconia Museum Hometown History Tour. Summers has publicized and made the community aware of the park through the First Kingstowne Community Day and with activities in connection with National Public Lands Day. She serves as the eyes and ears for the property and as a catalyst for continuing upkeep of this Park Authority property that brings so much pleasure and peaceful surroundings to the Lee District.

# *Closing Remarks*

## *Special Thanks*

Special thanks to the following individuals and organizations who gave so generously of their time and talent to bring this virtual awards ceremony to life.

Fairfax County Park Foundation

Pam Gardner, Channel 16

Westfield H.S. Chamber Singers

Hanna Kras, Multi-media Coordinator

### **Park Authority Staff Elly Doyle Team**

Cristin Bratt

Cindy Fortuno

Elizabeth Gallagher

Hanna Kras

Roberta Longworth

John Mandell

Judy Pedersen

Tammy Schwab

Kristina Stanton

Don Sweeney

Margaret Thaxton

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Marguerite F. Godbold, Sully District

Linwood Gorham, Mount Vernon District

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Kirk W. Kincannon, FCPA Executive Director

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