



Sign up for the Mount Vernon Advisor



Dear Neighbors,

It's mid-November and the 2016 General Elections are over. Voters turned out in record numbers in Fairfax County. Whether you're a Democrat, Republican or an Independent - hopefully you were able to exercise your right-to-vote and engage in one of our precious freedoms - democracy. May we move forward with a sense of unity and purpose for all Americans.

On Nov. 1, I requested the Board of Supervisors defer until Feb. 14, the proposed senior living community to be built on a little over 1/3 of what is known now as Bock Farm, located at Parkers Lane and Hinson Farm Road. Changes to the remaining seven acres are restricted by Fairfax County and a legal covenant. This deferral will enable more options to be identified, provide more information about the proposed changes, and an opportunity to work with the community and the Bock's to reach an acceptable outcome. For more details on the Bock Farm deferral, and other actions from the Nov. 1 Board of Supervisors (BoS) meeting, visit [here](#).

With the partial collapse of one of the structural columns in one of the three buildings at River Towers on October 2, 32 households and an estimated 50 individual residents were displaced and forced to find other places to live, likely for many months. This has been a true hardship for many of the families, one that our office from the first day, in conjunction with many County first responders and engineers, area social service agencies and the River Tower community, have worked to address. We are all looking for the River Towers Condominium Association and their engineers and contractors to repair and restore the structure as soon as possible so residents can return to their homes.

In This Issue

- [Skinner Memorial](#)
- [OMVHS Historical Marker](#)
- [Huntington Levee](#)
- [Firefighters and Friends Annual Coat Drive](#)
- [Virginia Conservation Assistance Program](#)
- [NVTA Survey](#)
- [Supervisor Storck in the Community](#)
- [Jeff Todd Roadway Cleanup](#)
- [Civilian Review Panel](#)
- [Vacancies on Boards, Authorities and Commissions](#)
- [Holiday Volunteering](#)
- [Workhouse Arts Center](#)

This past Wednesday, our office held a second community meeting where County staff and engineers provided detailed technical explanations on the partial column collapse and likely next engineering steps required by River Towers before they would support having residents return. Representatives from my staff were also there to educate residents about available County programs and services. Find updates on River Towers [here](#). If you are a displaced resident in need of food, clothing or housing assistance, please call Fairfax County Neighborhood and Community Services at **703-222-0880** or, of course, you are welcome to call us.

Below is the monthly tally of our office engagement with you in the community. To provide some perspective, here are estimates of the calls, meetings, and events for the month of October:

- More than 1,300 fielded phone calls
- Attended more than 100 meetings
- Nearly 30 constituent meetings

We are creating a collage to showcase Team Spirit throughout the Mount Vernon community. Please capture your team spirit in the community and send us your photos [by email](#). We look forward to using them in future newsletters and presentations.

Finally, as we approach this season of Thanks and Giving, remember the [charitable giving opportunities](#) here in the Mount Vernon District and Fairfax County. I encourage you to help those less fortunate and volunteer your time and talents. May this holiday season find you among those you love, in the community you love, and serving others while sharing the glories of the year. Embrace the triplets of generosity, gratitude and graciousness!

Respectfully yours in public service,

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

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

Office Hours

Monday - Wednesday, Friday: 8:30 am - 5 pm Thursday: 8:30 am - 7:30 pm
Second Saturday Each Month. Lorton Library: 9 am - Noon
MV District Office: 12:30 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Walk-ins and by appointment

Remembering Michael Skinner



A memorial service for longtime Mount Vernon High School teacher, coach and administrator Michael Skinner was held Saturday, Oct. 29 at 10:30 am in the Michael M. Skinner Field House at Mount Vernon High School (MVHS).

Hundreds of community members turned out to honor Skinner who passed away on Oct. 17.

"When it came to his beloved MVHS students, staff and community, Mike was a very hard man to say "no" to; his persistence was too strong and passion too deep," said Supervisor Dan Storck. "With the tens of thousands of lives he mentored and molded and a community he changed, he will never be forgotten or replaced! Every day at the end of morning announcements, Mr. Skinner would end them by saying 'May the sun shine in the halls of Mount Vernon High'. Now looking over MVHS, Mr. Skinner can indeed ensure that the sun continues to shine over Mount Vernon High."

A World War II U.S. Navy veteran, Skinner served aboard the U.S.S. Washington manning a 16-inch gun. He graduated from Shepherd University and earned a Master's degree from George Mason University.

Skinner is survived by his wife of 47 years Lucy Peacock Skinner (pictured at top center above) and three children: Michelle Skinner, Annapolis, Md; Michael W. Skinner, Clearwater, FL; Beverly Hughes, Shepherdstown, W. VA; and four grandchildren: Margaret Taylor, Melissa Mitchell, Michael C. Skinner and Kara Hughes.

Photo credit: Noël Reck

OMVHS Historical Marker

A Fairfax County History Commission historical marker was recently unveiled in front of the original Mount Vernon High School (OMVHS).



Former Lee District Supervisor Joe Alexander and Lucy Skinner, widow of long-time teacher, varsity basketball coach and MVHS administrator Michael Skinner, unveiled the historical marker in front of the OMVHS on October 22.

Franconia Museum president Carl Sell pointed out that what makes this marker unique from others throughout the County is that the cost for the marker was raised by former

OMVHS students.

After years of work and raising funds, the marker will serve as a cornerstone to preserve the history of their beloved school. The OMVHS will not be forgotten.

The marker notes:

- The school was located on land that was once part of George Washington's Mount Vernon estate and was constructed by the County and the Depression-era Federal Public Works Administration.
- The school opened in January 1940 and continued there until 1973 when a new Mount Vernon High School was opened.
- Former Virginia Governor and U.S. Sen. Chuck Robb is among the school's notable graduates.

Learn more about the OMVHS



The Board of Supervisors recognized Karen Garza for her years of service as Superintendent of Fairfax County Public Schools.

Huntington Levee

On October 26, a meeting was held in the Huntington Community Center to discuss the Huntington Levee being built to prevent flooding in the Huntington community.

Project Manager, Aaron Kock



Rendering - Looking Northeast Toward Pump Station

provided an overview of the project, discussing the project status and sharing upcoming construction steps. Stormwater planning experts from the County's Department of Public Works and Environmental Services (DPWES) were available to answer questions. The key takeaways from the meeting were that the project is on time and paid for.

Meeting highlights included the following:

- Based on a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers study, the levee is being designed to protect homes from flash flooding caused by storms up to 100-year events, storms that have a one percent chance of occurring in a given year.
- The levee will be a combination of an earthen embankment and four foot high I-wall that runs parallel to Cameron Run. A pumping station will also be constructed east of the levy.
- ARCADIS engineering firm has been awarded a contract by Fairfax County to design the levee and pumping station.
- Construction is scheduled to begin in late 2017 and last through spring 2019.

[Huntington Levee community meeting](#) (PDF)

For more information to include a Project Timeline:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/huntingtonlevee/>

Watch the video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v+y4Ztn5RRrCM>

Firefighters and Friends Annual Coat Drive

Coats, books distributed to local charities



On October 27, Supervisor Storck was pleased to participate in this year's *Firefighters and Friends* annual Coat Drive in Penn Daw, Fire Station 11.

More than 1,600 new coats and over 500 new books were distributed to 70 schools, shelters and nonprofits in Fairfax County and Alexandria. A few hundred preschoolers arrived by bus to select

their own new coat, along with several books. The remaining distribution was administered through various social services and school representatives.

Special thanks to the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, Fairfax County Police Department, and Fairfax County Sheriffs Office. Captain Will Bailey, organizer of the event and *Firefighters and Friends* founder said "we had requests for over 3,000 new coats so we will have another event in December."



Virginia Conservation Assistance Program

Presented by Virginia Association of Soil & Water Conservation Districts

The Virginia Conservation Assistance Program (VCAP) is an urban cost share program that provides financial reimbursement to property owners installing eligible Best Management Practices (BMP's) in Virginia's Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

Most practices are eligible for 75 percent cost-share and some practices provide a flat incentive payment up to the installation cost. These practices can be installed in areas of your yard where problems such as erosion, poor drainage, or poor vegetation occur. Qualified sites shall be used for residential, commercial, or recreational purposes with a proposed practice that addresses a need.

Eligible BMP's are:

- Conservation Landscaping
- Impervious Surface Removal
- Rain Gardens
- Dry Wells
- Rainwater Harvesting



Rain Garden in action

- Vegetated Conveyance Systems
- Constructed Wetlands
- Bioretention
- Infiltration
- Permeable Pavement
- Green Roofs

Over 372,000 homes and businesses in Fairfax County create 100 million gallons of wastewater every day that must be treated to protect the environment.

The Department of Public Works and Environmental Services Wastewater Management Program maintains 3,390 miles of sanitary sewer pipes that carry wastewater to facilities where it receives high-levels of treatment prior to being discharged into local waterways. The Wastewater Management Program also conducts multiple outreach and education activities to promote environmental stewardship amongst County residents.

For more information, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/wastewater

A map of wastewater treatment plant service areas is available [here](#).

November 2016

Mount Vernon District Police

HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

Fill the Box!

Please join the Fairfax County Police Department for **two** holiday food drives to help feed the hungry of the Mount Vernon community this holiday season by bringing a non-perishable donation to either the Mount Vernon Police station or dropping it off in one of the collection boxes located at area churches and businesses.

Thank You!

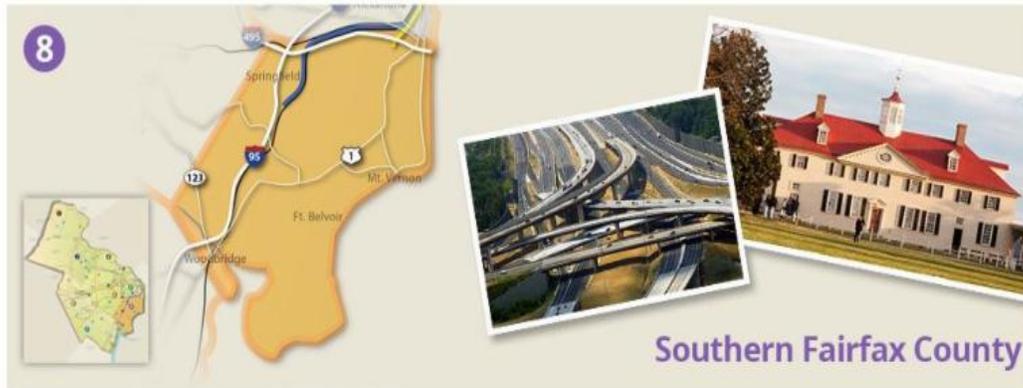
**First collection November 12th
Second collection December 10th**

All donations go to local charities



Take the NVT A Survey





8. Would you like to provide input on this area?

- Yes
 No

The Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) has its fall survey up, and there's a section devoted to the **Richmond Highway and I-95 corridors in Fairfax County**.

Created by the Virginia General Assembly in 2002, the NVTA is a regional long-range transportation planning organization that, among other things, decides which area transportation projects get funded. Earlier this year [the NVTA passed on](#) including funding for the widening of Richmond Highway between Napper Road and Mount Vernon Memorial Highway in their 2017 budget.

The NVTA survey is broken down in to the following questions:

- How do you spend time in the area?
- Please put the following transportation improvements in order from most to least important to you
- Are there any other improvements that you would suggest for this area?
- How would your prioritize ways to address transportation needs?

There are also demographic questions, an option to sign up for email notifications and a space for providing any feedback that wasn't covered in the questions. The survey allows you to answer questions for as many regions as you want; for "Southern Fairfax" you'll need to navigate to the eighth section by clicking the "next" button.

Advocate for Richmond Highway - Take the NVTA Survey Now!

[Click here to take the survey.](#)

Supervisor Storck in the Community

Nomadic Ribbon-Cutting - Nov. 16



Supervisor Storck and CEO Eric Burg

Supervisor Storck was honored to welcome Nomadic Display to the I-95 business park and their 75 employees. The ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on November 16.

[Nomadic](#) is a worldwide leader in top-of-the-line custom modular and custom portable displays for trade shows, events and mobile marketing presentation.

New Veatch Family Emergency Department of Inova Mt. Vernon Hospital is Now Open!



On November 15, Supervisor Storck attended the ribbon-cutting for the state of the art emergency care facility Inova Mount Vernon Hospital thanks to the

generous contribution of Jeff Veatch. Featuring:

- Larger and more private treatment rooms
- Pediatric treatment rooms with child-friendly amenities
- "Fast track" treatment rooms for fast care of less serious injuries

2016 Arts Awards



Supervisor Storck attended and supported the 2016 Arts Awards luncheon. This year's lunch raised more than \$120,000 for more than 200 nonprofit arts organizations, and the 1.1 million people in Fairfax County. The event was held on Oct. 14.

The annual Arts Awards recognize and celebrate our accomplished artists, arts organizations, and arts programs in Fairfax County. The Awards also acknowledge and thank our civic leaders and patrons who enable arts to thrive.

Volunteers Cleanup Jeff Todd Way



A host of volunteers from the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce board, Mount Vernon Paint Co., Mount Vernon High School football team, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and friends and family of Jeff Todd came together last month to clean up trash on Jeff Todd Way. Hannah Todd was glad to retain her father's civic spirit of community alive during the clean-up. Jason Hunt, owner of the nearby Roy Rogers at 8860 Richmond Highway (where Jeff Todd Way

Photo courtesy of Mount Vernon-
Lee Chamber of Commerce

meets Route 1) brought his two daughters to help and provided free warm drinks for the volunteers. Officers from the Mount Vernon district Police Station provided safety support along with Fort Belvoir Police.

Civilian Review Panel

On Dec. 6, the Board of Supervisors will vote on the creation of a Civilian Review Panel (CRP) to review administrative investigations of alleged police misconduct. Additionally, the CRP would be authorized to hold public forums on FCPD policies and procedures. This is a



monumental step our County is taking

toward enhancing the trust between the Fairfax County Police Department and the communities it serves.

In March of last year, the Board of Supervisors endorsed the creation of an Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission. The purpose of the Commission was to engage the community in an open and transparent process to recommend changes to help the Board and our Police Department achieve the goals of maintaining a safe community, ensuring a culture of public trust, providing for the fair and timely resolution of police-involved incidents and reviewing Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) and police responses for cases involving mental health.

The Commission delivered 142 recommendations to the Board in its [report](#) on October 20, 2015, most of these are either in the process of being implemented or have been implemented. The independent panel (CRP) was one of the 142 recommendations from the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission created by Board chairman Sharon Bulova in 2015. The independent panel (CRP) was one of the 142 recommendations from the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission created by Board chairman Sharon Bulova in 2015.

Here are a few other recommendations approved by the Board of Supervisors.

- On Sept. 20, the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved another recommendation for a Police auditor. The Office of Independent Police Auditor, which was established at our Board Meeting of September 20th, would work in conjunction with the Civilian Review Panel to act as a set of independent eyes on administrative investigations of FCPD officers' actions.
- Creation of *Diversion First* program to offer alternatives to incarceration for people with mental illness or developmental disabilities, who come into contact with the criminal justice system for low level offenses. The goal is to intercede whenever possible to provide assessment, treatment or needed supports. People needing diversion may also have a substance use disorder, which often co-occurs with mental illness. Diversion First is designed to prevent repeat encounters with the criminal justice system, improve public safety, promote a healthier community and is a more cost effective and efficient use of public

funding.

Ed Roessler, Chief of Police for Fairfax County, voiced support for the panel. He believes in moving forward with engaging the community in this way, while protecting the rights of officers.

As a reminder, I held a community discussion with Police Chief Edwin Roessler on September 19, from 7:00-8:30 pm, at Walt Whitman Middle School, 2500 Parkers Lane. Approximately 60 residents attended for dialogue and engagement. This was an opportunity for the community to hear more about the ad hoc police practices review commission and their recommendations regarding use of force, citizen oversight, diversity & vetting, mental health, and communication and the Board's implementation of those recommendations to date.

Serve Your Community! Vacancies on Boards, Authorities and Commissions

The Board of Supervisors has several boards, authorities, commissions, and committees that provide an excellent opportunity for civic education and engagement. Each Board member has a representative on the committees. Current vacancies for the Mount Vernon District are:

- Advisory Social Services Board
Monitor the formulation and implementation of social welfare programs
- Airports Advisory Committee
Advise the Board on all airports and aircraft operations affecting Fairfax County
- Animal Services Advisory Commission
Advise the Board on issues relating to animal health and welfare
- Athletic Council
Advise the Board on allocation, use, management and future planning of County athletic resources
- Barbara Varon Volunteer Award Selection Committee
Reviews nominee applications and selects the recipient of the Award
- Child Care Advisory Council
Advise the Board and Office of Children on programs and policies related to child care
- Commission for Women
To promote the full equality of women and girls in Fairfax County
- Human Services Council
To review human services needs and assess the effectiveness of the human services delivery system
- Oversight Committee on Drinking and Driving
To inform the Board appropriately about drinking and driving related conditions which impact public safety and mobility

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 [here](#).

Volunteer this Holiday Season



Volunteer the Fairfax 2016 GUIDE TO



HOLIDAY VOLUNTEERING



FOR HOLIDAY OPPORTUNITIES
VISIT THE VOLUNTEER
FAIRFAX WEBSITE:

WWW.VOLUNTEERFAIRFAX.ORG



1 MAKE PLANS EARLY

Coordinate with family and friends to make your holiday volunteering plans well in advance! Nonprofits get busy and opportunities go quickly!



Pick a date today to help your favorite organization!

2 VISIT OUR HOLIDAY HEROES HANDBOOK

Look for ideas and organization needs in our online handbook!



Consider organizing a toy, clothing or food drive in your community, school or place of worship! Visit www.volunteerfairfax.org/individuals/holiday.php for opportunities!



3 DECORATE A SPECIAL PLACE

Many community facilities seek volunteer assistance to create a festive atmosphere! Ask how you can help.



Hospitals, senior homes, community centers and schools need extra hands to decorate. Reach out to some and see if you can give some joy!

4 SING OR PLAY AN INSTRUMENT

Gather your friends/family to practice a few songs to spread holiday cheer!



Visit a homeless shelter, hospital or retirement center and share your or your group's gift of music! Make sure you coordinate with the facility beforehand.

5 ACT OF KINDNESS

Make someone's day brighter with an unexpected surprise.

6 MAKE SOME BAKED GOODS

Organize a group to bake delicious holiday goodies together.



Cards, watching a child, raking leaves, a cup of coffee, all go a long way to creating smiles!



Consider delivering some to your local ER, fire or police department.

7 MAKE SOME HOLIDAY CARDS

Create some holiday cards and send to various places -- hospitals, veterans center, shelters, etc. Remember to be respectful of different traditions.



Operation Gratitude, Wounded Warriors, Walter Reed Medical Center are also great opportunities!

8 VISIT OUR VOLUNTEER CALENDAR

At Volunteer Fairfax, we provide a database with volunteer opportunities from 900+ nonprofits. Register for opportunities directly!



Go to www.volunteerfairfax.org and click on our volunteer now button to look at all our volunteer opportunities!

9 BE COURTEOUS & RESPECTFUL

Sometimes nonprofits get overwhelmed during the holidays and don't need more volunteers. Make plans to visit them after the busy season!



10 MAKE A NEW YEAR RESOLUTION

Our community needs volunteers year-round, not just during the holidays. Make it a resolution to volunteer all the time!



Check out our program opportunities: Volunteers For Change, Retired & Senior Volunteer Program, and the Volunteer Emergency Team

If you have any questions about volunteering, please contact us via volunteer@volunteerfairfax.org or call our office at 703-246-3460.



The 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program is designed to help caregivers prepare children for one of life's big milestones: kindergarten.

- Studies have shown that families who start reading aloud to their children at birth help strengthen their language skills and build their vocabulary.

How the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Program Works

1. Any child who hasn't entered kindergarten yet is eligible for the program, including infants.
2. Once your child has heard 25 books, sign him or her up at any [Fairfax County Public Library branch](#) and receive a packet of information with reading logs.
3. Track your reading. At the following milestones, return to any Fairfax County Public Library branch to receive a prize.

100 Books | 250 Books | 500 Books | 750 Books | 1,000 Books

The goal is for your child to read or be read 1,000 books before he or she enters kindergarten. Reading unique titles or a child's favorite book multiple times all count toward the 1,000 goal—we know children like repetition. Hearing books at storytimes also counts to the 1,000 book goal.

Get the free 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Mobile App [here!](#)

Workhouse Classes and Events

A [Broadway Cabaret Series](#) is coming up on November 19 from 8-9:30pm, and a free drink is included in the ticket price. Also on November 19 from 7-9pm in another part of the Workhouse, you can attend a [Date Night](#)

[Cooking Class](#) for a fun and unique night out with your special someone. Small Business Saturday is Nov. 26. This Holiday Season, you won't want to miss a one-of-a-kind adaptation of [A Christmas Carol](#) on December 3, a show where one actor plays over forty roles! To keep up with everything happening at the Workhouse, follow them on [Facebook](#) or visit their website at www.workhousearts.org.



Workhouse Arts Center FCPS Artist Teacher Exhibition

<http://www.workhousearts.org/event/fcps-artist-teacher-exhibition/>