April 2020





Neighbors,

As you have seen from my frequent updates, **TEAM MVD** is hard at work continuing my commitment to support our community and keep you informed. Last week we brought together our non-profits and faith-based community support groups to identify, "What do you need and how can we help?" The result, our webpage "Get Help, Give Help" provides local resources for those in need of assistance

and those looking for **ways to help**. (*left: photo taken prior to social distancing*)

This week we are reaching out to our **local and small businesses** to ensure they are connected to **financial assistance and counselors** who can help them navigate that help. We have sent **six COVID-19 updates**, shared much on social media and Nextdoor. *P.S. If you are not part of your Nextdoor community, now is a great time to join – lots of good neighborhood information is shared on this platform.*

Our next outreach efforts include a **Mount Vernon District Virtual Town Meeting on Saturday, April 4 at 10 a.m.**, with updates from me, FCPS schools and the Fairfax Health Department. It will be **broadcast live on a variety of outlets** (see below). In coming weeks we anticipate **hosting a similar Town Meeting for our local and small businesses**, to hear their concerns, learn of their needs and answer their questions. **Watch for more to come!**

While our lives have been temporarily turned upside down, I hope you are finding the silver linings in this new change of pace by reconnecting with loved ones, taking walks in the woods, family bike rides and game nights. It is also critical that we continue practicing social distancing, wash hands frequently and self-quarantine if you believe you are ill, and of course, seek medical assistance if needed.

Another exciting new development is the **newest addition to TEAM MVD - Nicholas Rinehart!** Nick joins Team MVD from the Fairfax County **Department of Family Services**, where he spent the last 2 years as a **Human Services Worker** in the Self-Sufficiency division. With a Master's Degree in Sustainable Development, Nick has **international work experience on land use** in Colombia and is also **bilingual in Spanish**. During grad school he interned with a **community organization** that worked with civil society actors to **facilitate the implementation of peace accords** and collaborate with local officials to advance their interests. He conducted research on the effectiveness of **collaborative approaches to solving issues of inequity** and helped advocate for reparations, **more equitable land use** and allocation for low income peasant communities affected by conflict. Read more about Nick...

Again, our office is here for you. Let us know how we can help!

Happy Spring!

Respectfully yours in public service,



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



Meet Nick, TEAM MVD's New Land Use Aide

Visit our Website

Mount Vernon District Virtual Town Meeting

THIS SATURDAY, join me, School Board Member and Chair Karen Corbett Sanders, School Superintendent Scott Brabrand and County Health Director Dr. Gloria Addo-Ayensu on April 4 at 10 a.m. for a virtual Town Meeting on Coronavirus (COVID-19). The meeting will include the latest updates from the Mount Vernon District, FCPS and the Health Department, and viewers will have the opportunity to get their questions answered. The program will air live on Facebook, Channel 16, Cox Channel 16, Verizon/Comcast Channel 16 and FCPS Channel 21.

YOU can ask questions in a variety of ways. In advance of Saturday, send email questions to MtVernon@fairfaxcounty.gov. **During the program**, you can email, post questions to our Facebook Live Feed, Tweet us @DanStorck or call the call-in line at 703-324-1114.

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Fairfax County strongly urges residents to follow the stay-at-home order issued by Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam.

This order is critical to help slow the spread of the coronavirus as cases continue to climb across the state with 288 confirmed cases in the Fairfax County Health District. Social distancing is the most effective method to limit the disease's transmission.

The governor's action, which currently **remains in effect until June 10**, means that **residents should stay at home** with only a few **exceptions for essential activities**, including:

- Getting groceries or medicines.
- Caring for a sick family member or friend.
- Getting medical care for yourself.
- Going outside for exercise for yourself or pets (although not in groups larger than 10 people).
- Getting essential social or government services.
- Traveling to and from work or place of worship.
- Traveling required by court order or to facilitate child custody, visitation, or child care.

It also allows for services permitted in last week's Executive Order Fifty-Three (EO 53). Read the FAQ here...

All public and private in-person gatherings of more than ten individuals are prohibited with the exceptions of:

- Businesses not required to close in EO 53.
- Gatherings of family in the same residence.



When not at home, you must maintain at least six feet of space between any other person.

Fairfax County will remain open to business from a distance, but will reevaluate other closures to be sure they are in line with the Governor's order.

More details on the order...

Read all my COVID-19 Updates... For more information on COVID-19...

Latest Key COVID-19 Updates

Joint Statement from the Chief Elected Officials of the National Capital Region on the COVID-19 Pandemic

Scam Slam Audios: Stay Alert for Coronavirus (COVID-19) Scams

Video: What Should You Do if You Get Sick from the Coronavirus?

Beware of Door-to-Door Coronavirus Scams

Fairfax County Health Department Reports Second COVID-19 Death in the Fairfax Health District

Video: Simple Steps You Can Take to Stop the Spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Video Update from Chairman Jeffrey C. McKay on Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Fairfax County

Reminder: Fairfax County Government Operating Status, Closings and Exceptions Due to COVID-19

Trash and Recycling Changes Effective March 30

List of Utilities Suspending Service Disconnections, Offering Other Billing Options

Explaining the Increase in Positive Cases; 4 Ways We Can Stop Coronavirus from Spreading Right Now

Need Multilingual Help?

Coordinated Services Planning (part of Health and Human Services) connects community members in a **multilingual call center** to community nonprofits.

- Residents who call are often fixed/low income, have lost wages or employment, or their expenses exceed income.
- They are seeking varying assistance, including but not limited to, food, health, hygiene, and youth programming.
- Need help? Call 703-222-0880, TTY 711

How You Can Help

HealthWorks for Northern Virginia

- Is looking for donations of: surgical or N95 masks (any size), face shields/goggles, gowns, disposable gloves, hand sanitizer and sanitizing wipes.
- Financial contributions can be made here.
- In-kind donations can be arranged by contacting Lisa Knapp at (703) 840-4688, lknapp@hwnova.org

Volunteers are needed to **help older adults and adults with disabilities** with grocery shopping, medical appointments, and other urgent needs. Learn more...

For more ways you can help, visit my "Get Help, Give Help" webpage.

FY 2021 Budget

At Tuesday's **Budget Committee meeting** the Board received an update on the **budget guidance being used to revised the County Executive's Proposed FY 2021 Budget**. The bottom line is that due to the **vast and unknown effects COVID-19** is and will have on our economy, the **revised Proposed FY 2021 Budget that will be presented on April 7** will look **drastically different** than the original proposed Budget. Below are some



highlights of that presentation.

FY2021 Budget

- The pandemic is likely to have a **significant impact on the County's revenue streams in FY 2020 and FY 2021** because of impacts on revenue sources like sales tax and personal property taxes.
- County agencies have been directed to **limit expenses** to those of a critical nature.
- Staff will provide an updated budget recommendation on April 7 and the County will be providing ways in which **residents can give feedback**.

FY2020 Budget Third Quarter Review

- This review is done yearly to **make adjustments** to the remaining portion of the fiscal year.
- This year, the package includes only critical funding items with a balance of \$11.3 million recommended to be set aside in a reserve for the coronavirus pandemic.
- This reserve will be utilized to fund necessary spending requirements resulting from the pandemic, as well as to offset potential revenue losses.

Proposed Microloan Program

- Fairfax County is working on a **loan program to help small businesses** within Fairfax cover gaps in support.
- The purpose will be to **aid businesses immediately** get by, pivot focus, and prepare to restart operations following the crisis.
- Information on how to apply coming soon.

You can see the agenda and meeting materials here and watch the meeting here.

2020 U.S. Census

Today is Census Day! Have You Completed the Census?

Looking for things to do as we practice social distancing and adapt to the new stay-at-home order? Take this time to **complete the 2020 Census!** Everyone Counts! Learn more...





Suspension of Glass Recycling and Yard Waste Collection Explained

Several changes to Fairfax County's **solid waste collection requirements** were made Friday, March 27. (news release). The changes, which went into effect Monday, March 30, are **temporary and in response to the current public health emergency**. There are several **reasons why the changes were made**, including:

- **Protecting the workforce** to ensure that personnel remain available to collect trash and protect public health.
- **Minimize workers' physical contact** with surfaces where the coronavirus can survive for several days.
- Follow **social distancing guidance** by reducing crew sizes and using automated collection vehicles.



Upcoming Virtual Events

- Apr 1: Congressman Don Beyer Tele-Town Hall 4:50 p.m.
- Apr 2: EDA Webinar: Effect of Coronavirus Pandemic on the Washington Region's Economy 10 a.m.
- Apr 2: Mount Vernon Police District Community Meeting 5:30 p.m.
- Apr 4: Mount Vernon Virtual Town Meeting 10 a.m.
- Apr 6: 2020 Legislative Session Virtual Town Hall with Delegates Watts, Sickles, Krizek and Tran - 6 p.m.

In the News

Fire-damaged Hotel Reopens after Long Closure

The **Fairfield Inn & Suites in the Groveton area reopened** recently after being closed for nearly 18 months following a fire. The September 7, 2018 fire started after the hotel was **struck by lightning during a**



thunderstorm. The strike caused a two-alarm fire, but sprinklers helped keep the blaze from spreading beyond the attic and an area above **two unoccupied rooms**, the fire department said at the time. Read more on Covering the Corridor...



Skrimp Shack Coming to Mount Vernon Plaza

Skrimp Shack, a fast casual restaurant chain **specializing in fish sandwiches and fried shrimp**, is coming to the Mount Vernon Plaza Shopping Center. Skrimp Shack will be located near the **back of the shopping center** next to China 1, according to the restaurant's website and a leasing brochure for Mount Vernon Plaza. Read more on Covering the Corridor...

VDOT Crew Protects Historic Barrel Bridge in Lorton

Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) workers constructed bollards to protect the historic Barrel Bridge in Lorton. The cement bollards, which will be capped, and painted yellow for visibility, are positioned to block vehicular traffic from passing over the bridge. Read more in the Connection Newspapers...



Fairfax County Launches New C-Pace Program

The new County Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy and Resiliency program, also known as C-Pace, helps building owners and companies pursue energy saving and water saving strategies. This program will also allow property owners to make improvements to older buildings, and add new energy saving technologies through secure private funding. It allows these property owners commercial, industrial and not for profit owners to undertake energy efficiency, renewable energy, water conservation and resiliency improvements. Read or watch more on Local DMV...

School News

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) continues to adapt and evolve as COVID-19 continues to impact all our lives. For the latest information on distance learning, grades and graduation requirements, food



Community Information

2020 Teen Job Fairs Go Virtual

With the **2020 Teen Job Fairs cancelled**, we still want to **provide a way for students** to **connect with local businesses** for work experiences. A list of available positions from some of our participating businesses has been compiled is now available. Read more...

VDOT 2020 Northern Virginia Paving Map

The map of VDOT Northern Virginia paving schedules is now available to the public. This map shows all scheduled repaving work, as well as upcoming preventive maintenance work. By clicking on a road that is on the schedule, you can find a pop-up box that



identifies the name and contact information for the VDOT Construction Manager in charge of that road's project. **Contact the manager listed directly** to help VDOT more quickly **resolve questions or concerns** related to the paving work. Read more and view the map...

Residential Traffic Administration (RTAP) Traffic Counts Suspended

Due to the wide-spread impacts of COVID-19, all Residential Traffic Administration (RTAP) traffic counts will be put on hold until further notice. The Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) does not conduct traffic data counts during the summer when school is not in session. When normal traffic patterns resume FCDOT will re-start traffic data counts. If you have questions or would like additional information on traffic calming, please contact Supervisor Storck's Transportation Aide, Sally Kidalov, at sally.kidalov@fairfaxcounty.gov.

New Home Schooling Resource

The County Watershed Education and Outreach team, in partnership with FCPS, has created a Fairfax County Field Journal. Kids are encouraged to use the journal to discover their backyard and neighborhood while practicing social distancing. The journal is full of ideas for exploring nature through art, writing, and science. The activities are a great way to engage young minds until distance learning begins. The arrival of spring means there



distance learning begins. The **arrival of spring** means there are **lots of interesting changes to observe**. Download or print the journal...

Noman Cole Pollution Control Plant Updates

If you've driven along Old Colchester Road in Lorton recently, you've probably noticed a lot of **construction activity at the wastewater treatment plant**. The Department of Public Works and Environmental Services, which runs the Noman M. Cole, Jr. Pollution Control Plant, is **upgrading the plant's disinfection system from a chemical process to ultraviolet light, or UV**. This capital improvement project will **improve health and safety**, **protect freshwater resources**, **and reduce the plant's carbon footprint and greenhouse gas emissions**. The new UV system is expected to go online later this year, and it has already earned a **gold level certification** from the from the Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure. Learn more...

Scholarship Applications Open for Chamber Business Scholarship

Applications are now available for **business scholarships** provided by **Mount Vernon Lee Chamber of Commerce**. At least **\$12,000 will be awarded** to local graduating seniors pursuing further education in business. Students may apply online or by calling 703-360-6925 to request an application. The **application deadline is Friday April 24**. Those





applying for the scholarships must plan to pursue further education in a **business-related field whether academic or in the trades**, live in Lee or Mount Vernon Districts or attend one of the seven high schools in these districts. **Visit the website to view all requirements**.



Fairfax County Auxiliary Police Officer Program

Interested in **assisting law enforcement officers**? Do you have what it takes to meet the high standards to become an FCPD Auxiliary Police Officer? Learn more about the **duties & rewards of becoming one of these essential volunteer officers**. If you are interested in applying to this program or learning more about it, please visit the new Volunteer Management System (VMS) system link to **apply for the Auxiliary Police Officer program**. Email questions to AuxiliaryPolice@FairfaxCounty.gov.

Controlling and Managing Invasive Plants

Invasive plants are those that are **not native to Fairfax County or Northern Virginia**. They are brought into the area intentionally or unintentionally. These plants are characterized by **unrestrained growth due to a lack of natural enemies** such as pests and predators. **Physical methods are often the most straightforward way to control** small areas of invasive plants. Read more...



Supporting Our Seniors

WORKSHOPS SUSPENDED & DEADLINE EXTENDED: Free 2020 Tax Relief Workshops for Older Adults and People with Disabilities

NEW: To mitigate the risk of COVID-19 within our community, the Department of Tax Administration (DTA) is **encouraging residents to support social distancing**. Therefore, the **2020 tax relief application due date for seniors and people with disabilities** has been **extended from April 1, 2020 to June 1, 2020**, and the remaining tax relief **workshops have been postponed until further notice**. We encourage all residents to stay home and **submit their annual applications by email, mail, or fax**. If you **require assistance** in filling out the application or **have any questions**, please **call 703-222-8234 (TTY 711)**. Read more...

Fairfax 50+ Podcasts

Looking for something to do with **spare time** on your hands? **Listen to a variety of Fairfax 50+ Podcasts**, from genealogy to energy conservation. Read more and listen...



Saving Our Environment



CECAP Development Process Update

Development of the County Community-wide Energy and Climate Action Plan (CECAP) is in motion and involves numerous participants, including individuals serving as part of district-level Focus Groups and an overarching Task Force. In light of recent guidance from local, state

and federal authorities in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic, some **changes have been made to the CECAP process** to ensure work can continue while also protecting the health and safety of all participants.

All Focus Group and Task Force meetings are cancelled through at least April 1. Based on the latest guidance, updates will be provided on future meetings. With this change, steps are being taken to **move the process forward virtually**, and to try to

maintain the original timeline. To learn more about the process updates, additional schedule changes and plans to keep CECAP development moving forward, please visit the OEEC website.

Environmental Excellence Awards Call for Nominations Is Now Open

Each year, the **Fairfax County Environmental Excellence Awards** recognize individuals, organizations, businesses and county employees who:

- Advance or support the County's environmental goals and policy statements
- Dedicate personal time and expertise beyond normal fiscal or civic responsibilities
- Demonstrate leadership as a role model for others

The 2020 call for nominations is now open and nominations will be accepted until June 1, 2020. If you know of an individual or organization deserving of recognition for their accomplishments between June 1, 2019 and May 31, 2020, please consider nominating them. Learn more...



Team MVD



Mount Vernon District Staff: Abdul Shaban, Donna Slaymaker, Sally Kidalov, Supervisor Dan Storck, Christine Morin, Camela Speer, Volunteer Shirley Short & not yet pictured, Nick Rinehart.

March 2020 Activities:

Phone calls: 1002Meetings: 96

Stav 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 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

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

Looking for a Summer Internship?

Are you, or do you know a college student, looking for a summer internship in local government? Join our dynamic TEAM MVD working for the residents of the Mount Vernon District. Get an up-close look at how local government works, learn about constituent issues and how to resolve them, all while gaining valuable real-world work experience. If you would like to be considered, please send yourresume and a cover letter outlining your interests to mtvernon@fairfaxcounty.gov by April 30.



Boards, Authorities and Commissions

Help serve your community by serving on a Fairfax County Board, Authority or Commission (BAC). Please ask your friends, neighbors and community members if they are willing to help serve Fairfax County.

There are **several At-Large positions** available as of February 2020 on County BACs.

- Affordable Dwelling Unit Advisory Board (Engineer/Architect Rep)
- Affordable Dwelling Unit Advisory Board (Lending Institution Rep)
- Alcohol Safety Action Program Local Policy Board (ASAP)
- Athletic Council (Women's Sports Alternate Rep)
- Board of Building and Fire Prevention Code Appeals (Design Professional)
- Civil Service Commission
- Engineering Standard Review Committee
- History Commission (Historian)
- Human Rights Commissio
- Road Viewer Board
- Tenant Landlord Commission (3 openings Citizen Member, Condo Owner, Landlord Member & Tenant Member)

Learn more about these BACs...

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. You can also check out the County's Volunteer Management System for information on these and other volunteer opportunities near you.

Visit our website

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

STAY CONNECTED





