## August 2019





With torrential rains becoming more and more common place, flooding is a greater concern for an increased number of residents and communities. Fortunately for the Huntington area, the new levee is up and running, doing its job to keep water out of streets and homes. This substantial \$40M County investment in the Mount Vernon community provides sustainable infrastructure well into the future, was completed within budget and won multiple awards. Unfortunately, the July 8 rain event also showed us that there are more neighborhoods that may be

impacted in the future. If your property sustained damage during that storm, be sure to report that information to the County's Disaster Damage Database. The County's declaration of a Local Emergency has been APPROVED! Impacted residents will be able to apply to the Small Business Administration (SBA) for low interest loans to assist with their recovery. You can read more in the Important Safety Messages section below.

For those of you living in a floodplain, such as New Alexandria, Belleview, Riverview and River Towers, I have heard your concerns and have worked with County staff to provide increased education. Please join us for "Living in a Floodplain", an education session on Monday, August 19, 2019, at 7 p.m. at the Mount Vernon Governmental Center. Learn how to prepare for an emergency, what to do during and after an emergency, as well as the roles of the County and the Office of Emergency Management (OEM). Information will be provided about the New Alexandria pump station and tidal flood gates. Share the flyer with your friends and neighbors. In addition, if you live in a flood prone area, be sure to sign up for the County's Riverwatch to get notices and alerts. As the County advances its environmental and sustainability initiatives, resiliency planning, especially along our coastlines, will be critical to future preparedness efforts.

Also coming this month are **deer management meetings**. Stop by the Mount Vernon Governmental Center on **August 22, 2019 at 7 p.m.** to learn about the County's Deer Management Program aimed at controlling this population.

At the end of the month, our students, teachers, administrators and staff head **back to school**. We wish them a **safe and happy start** to the school year. Please **be aware** of busses, walkers and student drivers entering back into our daily commutes and obey all traffic safety laws – **especially stopping for bus flashing lights and stop arms** when students are boarding busses. In addition, many students in our community need a **helping hand at back-to-school time** and multiple organizations hold **backpack and schools supply drives**. In this newsletter we have listed **some of ways you can help**.

As schools open, Fort Belvoir will also be making changes at their entry gates. A ribbon cutting ceremony for Lieber Gate will be held Friday, August 23 at 10 a.m., with the gate opening for access later that day. Walker Gate access will close indefinitely at 6 p.m. on August 23 for reconstruction of the Dogue Creek Bridge.

Respectfully yours in public service,

Our Stout

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



TEAM MVD meets Mount Vernon resident and astronaut Charles Bolden!

Visit our Website

# **National Night Out 2019**









TEAM MVD enjoyed connecting with many of you on NNO 2019. Thank you for welcoming us into your neighborhoods!

# **Transportation Hot Topics**

You may have noticed **VDOT paving throughout the District** this summer. **To find out more** about VDOT paving in the community, use <u>VDOT's interactive map</u> to locate your street. A pop-up will appear with **details about resurfacing**, including treatment type, **location and contact information** to report concerns. <u>More information...</u>

**To report potholes** or other VDOT related issues go to MyVDOT. **For downed trees**, call 1-800-367-7623.

The National Park Service (NPS) is conducting a traffic study along the George

**Washington Parkway**. <u>Learn more about the study and provide comments</u> by August 21, 2019. Supervisor Storck is **interested in receiving your comments** as well. After submitting to them to the NPS, **please share your comments** with us by <u>email</u>.

#### **Old Mount Vernon Road Construction**

Fairfax Water is doing **pipe work** along Old Mount Vernon Road and nearby streets. After the project is complete and tested, the **roads will be repaved**. The project is expected to be **completed in September**. Contact Fairfax Water with questions or concerns...

#### **Old Mount Vernon Road Sidewalk Construction**

Construction of a **5-foot sidewalk along the west side** of Old Mount Vernon Road between Mount Vernon Highway and Westgate Drive has begun. The project should be **completed in the Fall**.

**Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Remaining Summer Mini meetings** are August 14 and 18. More information...





### **Upcoming Events**

- Summer Library Events
- Farmers Markets
- Mount Vernon Nights FREE Public Concert Series
- Aug 10: FREE School Physicals 8 a.m.
- Aug 10: Annual Cops vs. Kids Basketball Tournament 10 a.m.
- Aug 10: Repair Cafe 10 a.m.
- Aug 10: Kingstowne Library 2nd Saturday Book Sale 10 a.m.
- Aug 14: Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Mini-Meeting Station Areas: South County Center - 7 p.m.
- Aug 17: Child Safety Seat Inspections 9:30 a.m.
- Aug 17: Liberty Movies on the Green: Princess Bride dark
- Aug 18: Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Mini-Meeting General Discussion in Spanish - 7 p.m.
- Aug 19:
- Aug 21: Gum Springs FREE Back to School Haircuts & School Supplies 10 a.m.
- Aug 22: Deer Management Program Public Information Meeting 7 p.m.
- Aug 24: Liberty Movies on the Green: Ice Age dark
- Aug 22: GrandInvolve Information Session 1:30 p.m.
- Aug 26: School starts for FCPS
- Aug 26: DMV2Go at Hollin Hall Senior Center 9 a.m.
- Aug 26: DMV2Go at Hollin Hall Senior Center 9 a.m.
- Aug 26: Women's Equality Day & Event
- Sept 7: South County Office of Elections Satellite Service 10 a.m.
- Sept 8: Reduced Cost Rabies Clinic 12 p.m.

### In the News

How Did the Huntington Levee Hold Up in the July 8 Rain Event?

On Monday July 8, the Washington region experienced an intense storm with pouring rain and dangerous flooding. Metro stations turned into fountains, parking garages and roads became rivers, and dozens of people had to be rescued from rising flood waters. The storm was also one of the first tests of the new Huntington levee, which was designed to protect around 160 homes in the Huntington neighborhood from floodwaters off of Cameron Run. Read more on Greater Greater Washington...





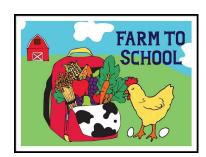
### Highway Design Moves Forward; Storck Says Undergrounding Utilities Remains Goal

Mount Vernon Supervisor Dan Storck stated that while no agreement has been reached on **undergrounding utilities as part of the Richmond Highway** widening project, he is continuing to work on the issue even as

the project moves forward. Storck and his fellow supervisors recently voted to recommend VDOT **proceed with the most recent design** presented to the public, which envisions above-ground utilities along the 3 miles of road affected. Read more on Covering the Corridor...

### FCPS Wins USDA Grant to Establish Pilot Farmto-School Program

FCPS Office of Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) has been named recipient of a grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to create a **pilot Farm-to-School** strategic plan right here at **Hollin Meadows ES**. The **\$50,000 grant** will support the development of the plan with a goal of expanding it throughout the division to **provide more students with fresh and locally-sourced food**. Read more on FCPS News...





### **FCPD Marine Patrol Protecting Our Waterways**

Marine Patrol 1 pulled out of the docks on the **Occoquan River**, and headed out through the no wake zone to the Potomac River as it does **several times a week**, but this time was a little different. The boat is **part of the Fairfax County Police Department**, and officer Tim Judd grabbed the binoculars as what appeared to be a yellow seaplane

was flying low to the water in the distance. Read more in the Connection...

# Audubon Award Winning Photo Taken at Huntley Meadows

The **winning bird entry** in the 2019 Audubon Photography Awards wasn't taken in the jungles of Papua New Guinea or on the cliffs of Iceland. It wasn't a photo of a bird of paradise or a puffin. It was a picture of a **red-winged blackbird, taken at Huntley Meadows Park** in Fairfax County. Read more in the Washington Post...



## **Community Champions**



Distinguished astronaut Charles F. Bolden, Jr. has spent his life serving his country. Born in 1946 in Columbia, SC, Bolden needed a recommendation from Representative Dawson from Chicago to attend the U.S. Naval Academy, because his South Carolina delegation turned him down. After studying at the Naval Academy, Bolden served in Vietnam and flew more than one hundred sorties piloting the A-6A Intruder. He continued to develop his flying proficiency, participating in several test projects at the Naval Air Test Center.

Like many other astronauts, it was Bolden's flying experience that led him to **apply to NASA**. During his time as an astronaut, he logged more than **600 hours in space** across four missions, completing several experiments and technical objectives. He **piloted the shuttles** *Columbia* and *Discovery* in 1986 and 1990, respectively, then **commanded flights onboard** *Atlantis* and *Discovery*. His final mission, STS-60 in 1994, was the **first in history** to include a **Russian cosmonaut aboard** a U.S. space shuttle. After his last spaceflight, Bolden returned to the **Marines and was promoted to major general** until his retirement in 2004.

In 2009, President Obama appointed Bolden to be the **first African American administrator of NASA**. Keep reading...

## West Springfield Police Station in the Community

The West Springfield Station held their inaugural Police & Faith Community (P&FC) Meeting. MPO Robert Urps, the West Springfield Station Community Outreach Officer (formerly with the Mount Vernon Station), has spent the last four months visiting, engaging, and speaking to the staff at houses of worship in the West Springfield District to build relationships and invite representatives to join officers for the P&FC Meetings. On July 23, 2019, approximately 40 representatives from multiple houses of worship met with Captain Cory, Lt. Lee and MPO Urps to discuss the structure of the meetings, future topics and guest speakers. The P&FC Meetings will be held once a month and move around the district, hosted by different houses of worship. The meetings are intended to build relationships and discuss topics that affect the community such as Safety in Houses of Worship, Active Violence Safety, Opioids, Crisis Intervention Training and more.





## **School News**

### **PARENTS: IT'S TIME TO IMMUNIZE**

**Documentation of immunization is required** for children entering **kindergarten**, children entering **seventh grade**, and for **new students transferring** into schools in the County. Fairfax County Health Department **offers school-required immunizations** at five clinics. Read more...



### **FREE School Physicals for Uninsured Children**

On **August 10 from 8 a.m. - noon**, Fairfax County will provide free physicals at the South County Health Department (8350 Richmond Highway) for **new students**, **pre-K through 6th grade who are uninsured**. Appointments required. Read the flyers for more information (English and Spanish)



### **GrandInvolve: Changing the World One Child at a Time**

GrandInvolve recruits **older adults who are interested in volunteering** in the classroom in the County's **Title I elementary schools**. Learn about our Title 1 Schools and how to **change the trajectory of success for our students** by volunteering in the classroom at an <u>information session</u> on **August 22, 2019, at 1:30 p.m.** at Sherwood Hall Library.





### **Apply for PreK and Early Head Start**

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) is looking for 3 and 4 year olds to register for pre-K at many schools in Mount Vernon. To qualify, families must be Fairfax County residents, qualify for free and reduced lunch and the students must be 3 or 4 by Sept. 30, 2019. Spaces are available at Mount Vernon Woods, Woodlawn, Bucknell, Belle View and Hybla Valley Elementary Schools. Apply online or get more information by calling 703-

208-7900 (for English) or 703-208-7901 (for Spanish).

### **Looking for Summer STEM Activities for Your Kids?**

Check out STEM Opportunities for Youth! Find **activities**, **programs and classes** at local libraries, parks, community centers and other locations throughout the county that **offer kids STEM-tastic experiences** while school is out! Details - <a href="http://bit.ly/FairfaxSTEM">http://bit.ly/FairfaxSTEM</a>. Best of all **many programs are FREE or low cost**.



## **Back-to-School Backpack Drives**

### **Good Shepard Housing 2019 School Supply Drive**

Please consider helping GSH to **collect backpacks and school supplies** for the children living in GHS housing. Support from friends like you helps to address the **ongoing struggle** felt by our **low-income working families**. Shop our Amazon Wish List, or purchase items at a local retail, and **drop off new donations** to Betsy at the GSH office. Alternatively, drop your donations off at Curves Alexandria, who are once again acting as a **collection point for our School Supply Drive**!

### **Lorton Community Action Center Back 2 School 2019**

Back 2 School is a crucial time for both out kids & their families. **Be a part of providing supplies & backpacks** to children & teens in the community, so parents and grandparents are not having to **forgo other essentials** like groceries or utilities. Visit our **Back2School page** where you will find a link to our **SignUpGenius adoption page** & school supply lists for all grade levels. **Donate online...** 

### Other Opportunities:

<u>United Community Back to School 2019...</u>
ICNA Relief Back2School campaign...
Brandywine Living is collecting backpacks and supplies through August 26...
Gum Springs Free Haircuts and School Supplies - August 21, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

## **Important Safety Messages**

# Local Emergency Declaration Approved for July 8 Rain Event - Here's How You Can Get Help!

Regional Disaster Loan Outreach Centers (DLOCs) will open in coming days. The DLOC for the County will be located at the Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library. It will open on August 13 and the hours of operation for the first week are below. Residents can also apply online anytime. Impacted residents will be able to apply to the SBA for low interest loans to assist with their recovery. Information on the SBA Disaster Recovery process and locations for DLOCs can be found <a href="https://example.com/here/beauty-state-

The DLOC will also have **information on County resources** from Cable and Consumer Services, Department of Family Services, Health Department, Land Development Services, Neighborhood and Community Services, and the Office of Emergency Management.

### **DLOC Hours of Operation**

Aug 13 - 15: 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Aug 16: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Aug 17: 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Aug 18: Closed

Aug 19: 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.

### Additional Information...



### **Know The Symptoms Of Heat-Related Illness**

Summer is heating up with **temperatures in the 90's** and some days with a Heat Index over 100! These **conditions are potentially dangerous**, and it is important that County residents **know the warning signs and symptoms of heat illness** and the appropriate responses. Read more...

Check out the **Office Emergency Management's** <u>August 2019 Preparedness</u> newsletter...

## **Community Information**

### Election Officers Needed for the Nov. 5, 2019, General Election

Fairfax County needs **hundreds of election officers** for the **Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2019**, general election. Election officers are **paid \$175** for working a full day, although officers also **can volunteer their time**. Election officers must be **registered to vote in Virginia** and must attend a **three-hour training class** before they can work at the polls. For more information, watch the video below and **click here**.



### Women's Equality Day Celebration August 26, 2019

In honor of **Women's Equality Day**, a special movie screening will be held on **behalf of VAratify ERA** to include a **screening of the movie On the Basis of Sex** and a panel discussion by **local leaders regarding women's issues and the Equal Rights Amendment** (ERA).



Repair Café

When: August 26, 2019

Time: 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. (Movie run time is 120 minutes; followed by panel.)

Where: Local theatre - TBD

Confirmed Panelists: Delegates Krizek, Simon, Tran and Kory. Senators Surovell and

Favola. Supervisor Storck. More to come!

More information will be posted to the VAratifyERA Facebook page.

### **Deer Management Program & Upcoming Meetings**

The County Deer Management Program is **implemented in public parks** and overseen by the Fairfax County Police Department. The program manages the **abundant local white-tailed deer population**. It has **strong oversight and regulation** to ensure that it is conducted safely. The primary objective of the program is **deer population control on public parklands**. Other goals include **human safety**, protecting human health, reducing environmental damage caused by browsing deer, conserving biodiversity and **maintaining healthy deer herds**. There will be a **public meeting** about the program on **August 22, 2019, at 7 p.m.** at the Mount Vernon Governmental Center. Read more...



# **Ever Wondered What Tree to Plant in Your Yard?**

Trees provide numerous benefits to properties and the environment. Many trees can live for generations which makes the species selection process very important. When planted in an unsuitable location trees may cause problems over time. The typical approach to tree selection centers on its visual appeal or desired purpose, such as

privacy screening or shade. Read more...

### **Repair Cafe Returns!**

Saturday, August 10, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Mount Vernon Unitarian Church - Hollin Hall, 1909 Windmill Lane, Alexandria
A soothing place to heal your torn, broken, tangled, and dysfunctional household
items. If it is broken, let our repair experts fix it. A Free Market will held in conjunction
with the Repair Cafe. Read more...



### Have a Used Bike You Would Like to Donate?

New signs mark the drop off sites where **residents can donate used bikes** at the **I-66 transfer station and I-95 landfill complex**. The bikes are donated to **Bikes for the World**, a nonprofit organization that ships the bicycles to people in need of transportation.

## Saving the Environment

**Importance of Biodiversity Video** 





### **Making Curbside Recycling Easier**

New County flyer explains the curbside bin recycling program and the new glass-only purple container program, aka The Purple Can Club. Accepted items are clearly identified on one side of the flyer, and material that should never be placed in the bin are depicted on the back. Placing only accepted items in the bin (loose, clean and dry, of course), will greatly help the County's recycling program!

### **New Litter Resources and Reporting Page**

The County's <u>new litter webpage</u> includes **volunteer opportunities**, a list of things you can do to **prevent litter**, and a way to **report litter in your community**. Reporting litter allows us to **track down the property owner or organization** responsible for picking it up. **We will investigate** and get back to you or forward your request to



the responsible organization. Let us know what you saw and where you saw it by calling 703-324-5230, or by emailing.

### **Team MVD**



Mount Vernon District Staff: Anna Smith, Sally Kidalov, Christine Morin, Supervisor Dan Storck, Camela Speer, Donna Slaymaker & Abdul Shaban.

### July 2019 Activities:

Phone calls: 1342Meetings: 88

### **Stay Connected:**

Mount Vernon Governmental Center 2511 Parkers Lane Mount Vernon, VA 22306

### **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

## **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. Supervisor Storck has vacancies on:

### **Transportation Advisory Commission**

The Commission advises the Board on transportation related policies and issues, in accordance with an adopted work plan approved by the Board, and/or as directed by the Board.

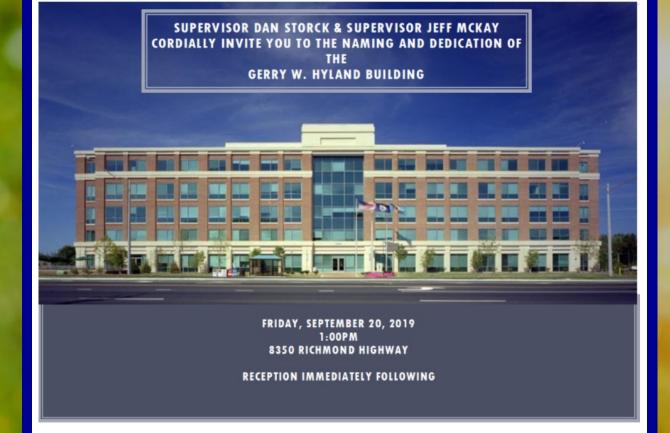
There are also several **At-Large positions available** as of July 1, 2019 on County BACs.

- Affordable Dwelling Unit Advisory Board (Engineer/Architect Rep)
- Affordable Dwelling Unit Advisory Board (Lending Institution Rep)
- Alcohol Safety Action Program Local Policy Board (two open)
- Civil Service Commission
- Engineering Standard Review Committee
- Human Rights Commission
- Police Civilian Review Panel
- Road Viewer Board
- Tenant Landlord Commission (3 openings Citizen Member, Condo Owner, Landlord Member & Tenant Member)

Click here to 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.

## Save-the-Date







Visit our website

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

STAY CONNECTED





