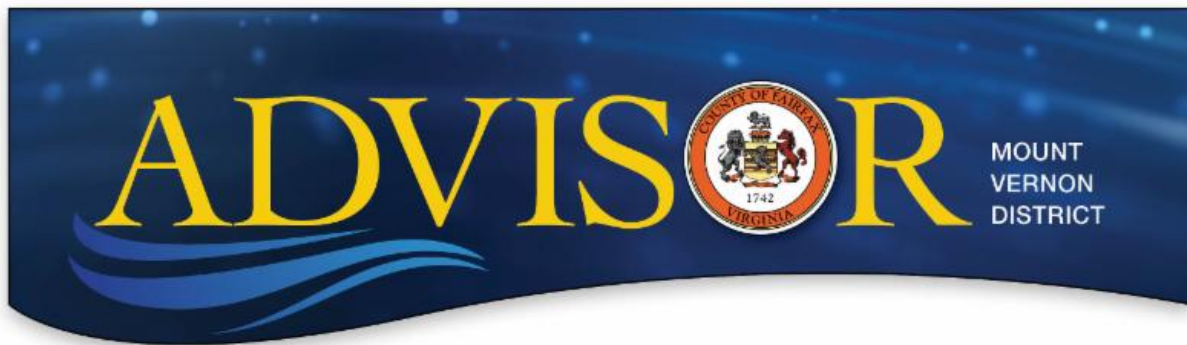


February 2019



**Thank you to everyone** who helped make our **32nd Annual Mount Vernon Town Meeting** a RECURRING success! Held on Groundhog Day (like in one of my favorite movies, *Groundhog Day*, we work hard each year to get it right), with **over 300 attendees**, more than **500 watching our live streams** on Channel 16 and Facebook, 80 exhibitors and many, many local leaders, this year's Town Meeting was once again a **great community event!**

Attendees started the day **connecting with community services**, educational opportunities, local elected officials, friends and neighbors. They were treated to the dulcet tones of the **Harmony Heritage Singers**, special presentations to **former Supervisor Gerry Hyland** and outgoing **Chairman Sharon Bulova**, and a flag waving tribute to our **Federal employees and contractors**. The morning was rounded out with remarks from local leaders on the **State of Mount Vernon**, economic development, Richmond Highway Corridor revitalization and updates on **District schools** and **Fort Belvoir**. Throughout the meeting, those in attendance had the opportunity to **question their local leaders** and were treated to a **virtual tour of the District** at the conclusion.

As some of you may know, February holds a special place in my heart. For the past 25 years, I have had the pleasure of **bringing our American history and democracy to life** through presentations of my favorite president and role model, **Abraham Lincoln**. I immensely enjoy **connecting Lincoln's story** with our lives and new generations. In our current times of increased civil causticness and divisiveness, **Lincoln's saying, "Do I not destroy my enemies when I make them my friends?"** especially resonates. To me making friends means **understanding them**, not mocking them; **connecting with their history and experiences**, not bullying them; **providing a hand-up**, not a put-down. Forming and improving our "more perfect union" has always been about each of us personally growing **so we can help each other** and our Country grow. I am still learning, and I hope you are, too. **Our "more perfect union" needs us all!**

Throughout this month, we have **many reasons to celebrate the history** and events that make up the fabric of our **American spirit**. As we celebrate **Presidents' Day** and **African American History month**, I encourage you to visit the many **historic treasures** in our District. While everyone knows the Mount Vernon Estate was home to our first president, the **Mount Vernon District features more historic sites than any other area in Northern Virginia**. This rich history **shapes our community** and **tells our story** as we are also home to one of Fairfax's oldest and most historic communities, **Gum Springs**, and the oldest documented African American family in the Country, the **Quander Family**. To read more about Mount Vernon's history, visit our [website](#) or read my [letter to the community](#) from last February.

Finally, I invite you to **join me** and Mount Vernon School Board Member and Board Chair **Karen Corbett Sanders** on **Thursday, February 21** at 7:30 p.m. at the Mount Vernon Governmental Center and **Monday, February 25** at 7 p.m. at Laurel Hill ES for the **Mount Vernon District Budget Town Halls**. We will be joined by, **County Executive Bryan Hill** and **County Chief Financial Officer Joseph Mondoro** to inform our community about the proposed budget, **listen to your feedback** and further **explain the budget process**. Learn more about the process and how to **share your input** [here](#).

Respectfully yours in public service,

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

Visit our Website

## 32nd Annual Town Meeting



Thank you to the approximately **300 residents and 80 vendors in attendance**, and more than **500 watching on live streaming channels**, this year's meeting was again a great opportunity **bring the Mount Vernon community together** to share information, learn about new services and engage in civic activism. Attendees started the day **connecting with community services**, educational opportunities, local elected leaders and friends and neighbors. They were treated to the dulcet tones of the **Harmony Heritage Singers**, special presentations to **former Supervisor Gerry Hyland** and outgoing **Chairman Sharon Bulova**, and a **flag waving tribute to Federal employees** and contractors. The morning was rounded out with remarks from local leaders on the **State of Mount Vernon, economic development and revitalization** of the Richmond Highway Corridor and updates on **District schools and Fort Belvoir**.

Missed the meeting, but **still want to watch it?** [Click here](#) for replay and recorded options.

**Mark your calendars for next year's 33rd Annual Town Meeting on  
Saturday, February 1, 2020!**

## Shaping the Future Together

## What does the future of Fairfax County look like to you?

Fairfax County has started working on a strategic plan to **set priorities for 2020 and beyond**, and **we want to hear from everyone in our community**:

- What are your **hopes for the future** of our community?
- What are the **challenges you face** living here?
- What are the **top priorities** county government should address?



Getting involved is easy:

1. **Take our short online survey.** It's just five questions and is **available in multiple languages**.
2. Consider **sharing your thoughts in person** at a **community conversation**.
3. Share the **survey with friends, neighbors and co-workers** and invite them along to a community gathering.

Your input will help us set **7 to 10 initial priorities**. Then, we'll dig a little deeper for input on those issues you deemed most important. This process will help us set unified goals across the county for moving forward in January 2020.

**Become part of this effort to shape the future together.** [For more information...](#)

## In the News



### 32nd Annual Mount Vernon Town Meeting

A **large crowd packed the cafeteria and auditorium** of the Mount Vernon High School on Saturday, Feb. 2 for the 32nd annual Mount Vernon Town Meeting. Thanks to the **Fort Hunt Herald** for sharing these great photos from the Town Meeting! [See them all...](#)

### 2019 Martin Luther King Celebration

The 2019 Martin Luther King Celebration at Bethlehem Baptist Church Saturday, February 7 was **especially inspiring** because of the **participation of area youth**--both as speakers and choir members.

The **winners of an essay contest** entitled "*What would the world be like if Dr. Martin Luther King had never lived?*" **read their work** interspersed with **performances by choirs**--two of them youth choirs--and remarks by **Rev. Abraham Smith**, master of ceremony and pastor of First AME Church of Alexandria and **Joe Fay**, Ventures in Community co-facilitator. [Read more in the Connection...](#)



### Beyer Seeking Congressional Hearing on Ghaisar Investigation

At Saturday's Town Meeting, **Rep. Don Beyer** said that his office is looking into a holding a **Congressional hearing on the case of Bijan Ghaisar**, who was shot by U.S. Park Police officers on Fort Hunt Road in November 2017 and died 10 days later. [Read more on Covering the Corridor...](#)

### Sky View Drive Townhouse Development Gets Final Board Approval

Following a Comprehensive Plan Amendment last spring, this long-planned development will add **11 new townhouses on Sky View Drive in the Woodlawn area**. Tuesday, it cleared its final hurdle when the County



## Upcoming Events

- [January Library Events](#)
  - Feb 9: [Resident Curator Program: Hannah P. Clark \(Enyedi\) House Open House](#) - 12 p.m.
  - Feb 12: [FCPD Hiring Event at Mount Vernon Station](#) - 4 p.m.
  - Feb 12: [South County Federation Meeting](#) - 7:30 p.m.
  - Feb 15: [Know the Past, Shape the Future Black History Month Celebration](#) - 6 p.m.
  - Feb 17: [The Dominion Brass](#) - 3 p.m.
  - Feb 18: [George Washington Birthday Service and Breakfast at Historic Pohick Church](#) - 8 a.m.
  - Feb 21: [District Budget Town Hall - Mount Vernon](#) - 7:30 p.m.
  - Feb 21: [Rediscovering the Workhouse](#) - 8:30 a.m.
  - Feb 23: [Sip and Spell](#) - 6 p.m.
  - Feb 25: [District Budget Town Hall - Lorton](#) - 7 p.m.
  - Feb 27: [Leadership Fairfax Information Webinar](#) - 12 p.m.
  - Feb 27: [Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations Meeting](#) - 8 p.m.
  - Feb 28: [Soil Tilled by Free Men: The Formation of a Free Black Community in Fairfax County](#) - 7 p.m.
  - Mar 1: [Leadership Fairfax Information Webinar](#) - 12 p.m.
  - Mar 2: [12th Annual Monopoly Tournament to benefit LCAC](#) - 9 a.m.
  - Mar 4: [Grist Mill Park Master Plan Revision Public Information Meeting](#) - 6 p.m.
  - Mar 24: [Ides of Bark Dog Festival](#) - 1 p.m.
- 

## Saving the Environment

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### Fairfax Green Initiatives Board Matter

At Tuesday's Board of Supervisor's meeting, I was pleased to introduce the **Fairfax Green Initiatives** Board Matter, a **sweeping call** for the County to consider additional actions to **dramatically accelerate** efforts to **address climate change and environmental preservation**. Joined by **Supervisors Jeff McKay and John Foust**, the Board Matter was ultimately **approved unanimously** by the full Board. Based on recent scientific reports, I believe it is **crucial that we act expeditiously and urgently** if we are to begin to stem the growth of greenhouse gasses which are dramatically altering our environment, our world and the **people, places and property** in our communities. [Read more...](#)



### Native Seedling Sale

The **Northern Virginia Soil and Water District's** annual seedling sale makes **low-cost bare-root native shrub and tree seedlings** available to Northern Virginia residents. Seedling packages went on sale February 1 and are **available for pickup in April**. Trees and shrubs

help cleanse water, prevent soil erosion, provide habitat, cool our climate and clean our air. **Consider adding native trees and shrubs to your community today!** [Read more...](#)

### New County Social Media Resources

The County recently launched a new **Fairfax County Environment Facebook page** and the **Department of Public Works and Environmental Services** has joined **Twitter**. If you're interested in **infrastructure and environmental improvement projects**, follow them both!

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## Franconia Police Station in the

# Community



Franconia District Station Officers and **community members** participated in a **community dialogue** in Lorton on January 28, 2019. Attendees **shared thoughts** about their community and **how to build better police-community relations**. The discussion was intended to help officers understand the **stresses that members of the public experience** when dealing with law enforcement and to help **prevent misunderstandings or misinterpretations** about law enforcement actions. The event was organized by the Lorton Community Action Center, the Fairfax County Police Department and the School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution at George Mason University.

**Special Note:** The Fairfax County Police Department is holding a recruitment hiring event on **Tuesday, February 12, 2019**, from 4 - 7 p.m. at the Mount Vernon District Police Station.

## Supporting Our Seniors

**Fairfax 50+** is a **podcast series** featuring discussions on issues, services and activities of interest to residents 50 and over. On a recent edition, host Jim Person talks with **Courtney Arroyo**, outreach and disabilities integration liaison for the **County's Office of Emergency Management**. She talks about how to **prepare for** the possibility of **winter emergencies**. [Listen to the podcast here...](#)

## Community Information

### Grist Mill Master Plan Revision

The **Fairfax County Park Authority** is updating the master plan for Grist Mill Park. The **planning process** will help **guide the future** of this **75-acre park** which currently provides playing fields, garden plots, off leash dog area, playground, historic barn, parking, trails and forest. A revised master plan will help Grist Mill Park **continue to evolve to meet the needs and interests** of County residents while ensuring protection of the park's important resources for future generations. Public engagement will be key to this process. A **public information meeting** will be held on **March 4 at 7 p.m. at Woodley Hills ES**. [Read more...](#)



**Rediscovering the Workhouse: The Intersection of History, Art and Economic Growth**

Interested in learning more about the **history of our community**? Want to strengthen the area by **building stronger ties** between the business and nonprofit sectors? If so,

join the **Workhouse Arts Center** and the **South Fairfax Chamber of Commerce** at a **Networking Breakfast, Thursday, February 21** from 8:30-10:30 a.m. Enjoy a tasty breakfast while **mingling and networking** with business and civic leaders. This is a great opportunity to learn and grow as an individual, explore business partnerships and **create connections to others in the community**. By participating in the breakfast you are also **supporting the mission and programming** of the Workhouse. [For more information, tickets and sponsorship details...](#)

## Lorton Volunteer Fire Station Demolition Underway

The **final exterior demolition** of the old Lorton Fire Station began this past Monday. Demolition of the existing **Lorton Volunteer Fire Station #19** began this past fall in preparation for the construction of a **new 4-bay 23,450 square foot fire station** on the existing footprint. **Training and community space** will also be incorporated into the new building.



## Airplane Noise Update

In 2017, the **Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)** agreed to consider **new departure flight patterns** to mitigate the **noise in residential communities** adjacent to the airport. The new departure procedure is **currently in testing**. Once tests are complete, there will be a **phase of public outreach** on any changes. The FAA has had **more difficulty addressing arriving flights** and we are at an impasse on new arrival procedures. This is an issue that I will continue to **push the FAA to resolve**. [Learn more...](#)

**I encourage anyone affected** by this issue to **stay engaged** in efforts to address these concerns. Follow the **South Flow Alliance** on [Facebook](#) and attend community meetings. **Report planes that are too loud or too low**.

## Calling All Artists!

TEAM MVD is looking for **creative ways to enhance the entrance** to our office and the Mount Vernon District Police Station. We invite all **community members to connect** with us to learn more about what we are interested in **creating in the space** and to submit artistic proposals. Funding for the chosen idea may be provided. For more information, email [Donna Slaymaker](#) or call 703-780-7518.



## Job Opportunity at Arcadia

Arcadia Food is currently hiring for an **Outreach and Education Coordinator** to support the NVHF **Live, Eat,**

**Grow Route 1 project**. This position is partially grant funded and will be **full-time with benefits**. While it may become a permanent position, it is currently **fully funded only through the grant period**.

Arcadia is looking for someone with some **gardening and/or nutrition education experience, preferably fluent in Spanish**. A full list of responsibilities and qualifications is in the [job description](#).

## Leadership Fairfax Information Sessions

**Leadership Fairfax inspires**, connects, develops and engages leaders to impact issues facing Fairfax County and the region. **Learn more** about their programs at one of these **free information sessions**. [RSVP online...](#)

### Dates:

**Feb 27**, 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.: Virtual Webinar

**Mar 1**, 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.: **In Person Info Session**, 8230 Old Courthouse Rd., Vienna, VA

**Mar 13**, 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.: Virtual Webinar

**Mar 27**, 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.: Virtual Webinar

## Volunteer with Magic of Mothers

Magic of Mothers is a 501[c][3] non-profit that aims to provide a **learning platform** for all by **engaging and empowering students** through the use of **innovative educational activities**

and support. Focused on spreading STEM beyond the classroom, they have hosted **STEM workshops, math and science competitions**, and conduct **summer camps and robotics classes**. They are currently **seeking adult volunteers** to serve on their executive board, a website designer, an administrative and program analyst, and an events team manager. They are also always **seeking partners and sponsors** for upcoming events. If you are interested in **helping to serve your community**, please [email](#) or [visit](#).



## Arts Nominations Open & February Arts Events

**ARTSFAIRFAX** provides monthly Arts Updates. The **District Arts Update** provides a snapshot of opportunities for residents to **engage in and enjoy the arts** throughout the County. This month, **ARTSFAIRFAX** is accepting **nominations for up-and-coming Arts Organizations or Programs, Artists with an outstanding career** of achievements, and/or **organizations or individuals who support the arts** in our community. Self-nominations are accepted. **Deadline February 14**. [To learn more and see the events in our District...](#)

## Important Safety Messages

### Cold Weather Means Pets Need Adequate Shelter

With winter in full swing, please remember to **provide your pets with adequate shelter!** Outdoor shelters should be **insulated to keep in warmth** during these cold months. Insulation materials can include **straw, cedar chips or other materials** that do not hold water. **Our pets depend on us** to keep them warm, healthy and happy, so please make sure your shelter is up to par.

#### Adequate shelter means:

- **Space should be suitable** for each animal, considering species, age, condition, type and size of animal.
- It is **safe and protects** each animal from weather, injury and direct sunlight.
- Protects from heat and **insulated from cold temperatures**.
- Has **proper lighting** and is cleaned regularly.
- Allows for animal to be **clean and dry**, if appropriate for the animal.
- Easily maintained.

[View the information flyer...](#)

[Read more...](#)

### National Consumer Protection Week

Join the **County Consumer Affairs Branch** in celebrating National Consumer Protection Week from **March 4 to 8, 2019**. National Consumer Protection Week is a **national celebration** of federal, state and local agencies and organizations who provide **consumer education and resources** throughout the year. The Consumer Affairs Branch will host **consumer education booths, presentations and workshops** during the week at venues throughout the county. The Consumer Affairs Branch is committed to ensuring that County consumers have the tools and resources they need to **understand their consumer rights**, navigate the marketplace and **make informed financial decisions**. [Events in the District](#). [Read more...](#)

### Slow Down! Neighborhood Yard Signs Available

We have new **"SLOW DOWN. You live here. We live Here."** signs available for pick up at our office. Due to **limited quantities**, we have only **1 sign per community or neighborhood**. Please coordinate within your community or with your HOA to **get one for your neighborhood**.



### Urban Soil Health

Soil is an often forgotten part of the ecosystem but is **extremely important, especially for trees**. Components of soil are minerals (sand, silt and clay), air, water and carbon (organic matter). **Healthy soils** are also **teeming with life**, most of which is



microscopic (fungi, bacteria and nematodes). For example, many **tree species rely on soil** fungi called mycorrhizae which help them take up water and nutrients through their roots. [Read more...](#)

## Team MVD



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

### January 2019 Activities:

- Phone calls: 1281
- Meetings: 104

### 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](mailto: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

## 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:



### Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board

This Board is responsible for ensuring and overseeing the establishment and operation of local mental health, intellectual disabilities, and substance abuse programs.

### Advisory Social Services Board

The responsibility of this Board is to interest itself in all matters pertaining to the social welfare of the people served by the government; to monitor the formulation and implementation of social welfare programs; to meet with the Director of Social Services at least four times a year for the purpose of making recommendations on policy matters; to make an annual report to the governing body concerning the administration of the public welfare program; and to submit to the governing body other reports that the advisory body deems appropriate.

There are also several **At-Large positions available** on County BACs. [Click here](#) for a list of vacancies and [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](mailto:Donna.Slaymaker@fairfaxcounty.gov). For more information, please download the [brochure](#) for a brief guide to BACs, or learn more on the County [website](#).

## Be Prepared with Fairfax Alerts

### "In the know, on the go."

Fairfax County's **FREE alert system** sends you important information during an emergency, helps you navigate your commute and shares community information.

You can also **customize your Fairfax Alerts** to receive the information pertinent to you. Don't miss this important information! Sign up today for [Fairfax Alerts](#).



**The Ides of Bark!**  
Here's the ultimate event for you and your four-footed friend!

Sunday, March 24, 2019  
1-4 p.m.  
Admission is **FREE!**  
Grist Mill Park  
4710 Mt. Vernon Memorial Hwy., Alexandria

Games • Prizes • Food  
Fun • Vendors

Demonstrations by the  
Fairfax County Police K-9 Unit

Register your dog with Fairfax County.  
Fee is \$10 (cash or check), owners  
must show proof of a current rabies shot.

Supported by Mount Vernon District Supervisor Dan Storck

Inclusion and  
ADA Support  
703-324-8563  
TTY: Va Relay 711.

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks

SPONSORED BY  
THE FRIENDS OF LORTON LIBRARY  
& FAIRFAX LIBRARY FOUNDATION



## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23

MOOSE FAMILY CENTER 583  
9612 FERNEDGE LANE  
LORTON, VIRGINIA  
6PM - 8PM, DOORS OPEN AT 5:15PM

Join us for this 21+ event! Show off your intellectual prowess or cheer on all of our brave contestants while enjoying food and beverages. Proceeds will support the purchase of a laptop lab for Lorton Library.

CONTESTANT  
REGISTRATION  
**\$5**

Visit [fairfaxlibraryfoundation.org/sipandspell](http://fairfaxlibraryfoundation.org/sipandspell)  
for more information and to register.

Mount Vernon District Office | 703-780-7518  
[MTVernon@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:MTVernon@fairfaxcounty.gov) | [FairfaxCounty.gov/MountVernon](http://FairfaxCounty.gov/MountVernon)

STAY CONNECTED

