
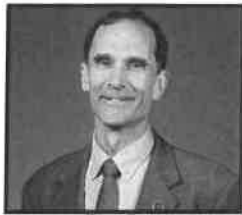


March 2019

ADVISOR



MOUNT
VERNON
DISTRICT



March is **Women's History Month** and we have much to celebrate in the Mount Vernon District. Women fill a vast **variety of roles in our community** - historians, teachers, entrepreneurs, artists, inventors, activists, elected officials, mothers, police officers, fire fighters, the list goes on. These **important role models** teach our youth to reach high and dream big to become whatever they choose.

There are **many places** in the Mount Vernon District that you can visit this month to **celebrate women**. Stroll the **Workhouse Arts Center** featuring many female artists and the **Lucy Burns Museum** that tells the compelling story of the suffragists who were imprisoned there in 1917 for demanding the right to vote. Visit the **Woodlawn Plantation**, home of George Washington's step granddaughter and preserver of his legacy Eleanor "Nelly" Custis, for the 56th Annual Needlework Show and Sale. Then, stop by **Occoquan Regional Park** to see the future home of the **Turning Point Suffragist Memorial**.

It is unfortunate that as we **recognize the important contributions** of women in our society, the Virginia House refused to allow the **Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)** to come to the floor for a vote. Congress passed the ERA in 1972 and sent it to the states for ratification, where it needed 38 of the 50 states to approve the measure. **Virginia had the opportunity this year to make history** and finally give all individuals equal rights under our Constitution. What are the men in the Virginia Senate so afraid of? There appears to be **overwhelming support in the Commonwealth and around the nation** for this to pass. I hope lawmakers will come together at the next General Assembly session to get this **important piece of legislation passed**.

On a more positive note, I would like to introduce the County's **newest Deputy County Executive. Rachel O'Dwyer Flynn** will oversee the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services, the Department of Transportation, the Park Authority, the Department of Code Compliance, Land Development Services and a future agency that will combine the Department of Planning and Zoning and the Office of Community Revitalization. Ms. Flynn has **35 years of experience** in both private and public organizations as an architect, urban planner, director of planning/building/economic development and as a real estate development executive. She is the **former director** of design management, planning and entitlements at **Google**, and from 2016-18, she was the **vice president of FivePoint Communities**. Read more.

And, finally, join us for fun with our **four-footed friends!** Leash-up your canine pal and come to the **4th Annual Ides of Bark** on **Sunday, March 24 at Grist Mill Park**. This event is free and features K-9 demonstrations, games, prizes, gift baskets, food, fun and over 40 vendors.

Respectfully yours in public service,



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

[Visit our Website](#)

Ides of Bark Dog Festival



Join us for the **4th Annual Ides of Bark Dog Festival** on **Sunday, March 24 from 1 - 4 p.m!** All **dogs and their human companions** are invited for an afternoon of fun and frolicking at **Grist Mill Park** . The event is **free** and open to the public, with **games, gift baskets, prizes, food trucks and fun** for the whole family. Highlights include demonstrations by the **Fairfax County Police K-9 unit** and pet first aid/CPR demonstrations and **health assessments** offered by Pet Tech instructors. **Over 40 vendors** will display and sell pet toys, **pet and human food**, health and emergency care information, pet clothes and a whole host of other products. The event is sponsored by Supervisor Dan Storck's office, the Fairfax County Park Foundation and the Fairfax County Park Authority. View the flyer...

Teen Job Fairs

Join us for the **2019 Fairfax County Teen Job Fairs and Resume Building Workshops** at **South County and Mount Vernon HS, Saturdays April 6 and 27, respectively, from 10 a.m. - noon**. First jobs are important and these events help **connect teens and employers** face to face and **prepare our youth** for the workforce.



These events will focus on **student job seekers** (approximately ages 16 to 18) looking for full time employment, after-school employment, seasonal positions, internship opportunities, or volunteer experiences. It is open to **all teens in Fairfax County** looking for employment or wanting **tips to build their resume**. Volunteer opportunities and resume building workshops will be available for younger students looking to begin to build their resume. We ask that students click here to register.

Businesses and organizations have the opportunity to showcase their companies, brand their business in the local community, and advertise the positions they have available. It does not cost to participate. Businesses and organizations seeking to secure space at the job fair should click here to fill out the application form.

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**. **DEADLINE: SURVEY CLOSES SUNDAY, MARCH 17 AT MIDNIGHT!**
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...

Summer Metrorail Closures

Metro announces travel options, customer website for Blue/Yellow line customers affected by summer platform reconstruction work

Starting **Saturday, May 25**, the **six Blue and Yellow line stations south of Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport** will be **closed for full platform reconstruction** and major station improvements.



In collaboration with regional officials and transportation agencies, Metro has released **travel alternatives** and a **detailed project website - wmata.com/platforms** - to help customers begin planning for this summer's closure. To expedite construction and minimize customer inconvenience, the six stations-Braddock Road, King Street, Eisenhower Ave, **Huntington**, Van Dorn Street, and Franconia-Springfield-will be closed from **Saturday, May 25 to Monday, September 2, 2019**, to allow for around-the-clock work. Metro plans an **extensive network of free express and local shuttle bus services** to help customers get around the region during construction. Read more...

Upcoming Events

- March Library Events
 - March Arts Opportunities
 - Mar 16: Exposing a Buried History: The Archaeology of a Slave Life - 9 a.m.
 - Mar 23: Trap, Neuter and Return (TNR) Community Cat Training - 2 p.m.
 - Mar 24: Ides of Bark Dog Festival - 1 p.m.
 - Mar 26: Richmond Highway Corridor Improvements Design Public Hearing - 6:30 p.m.
 - March 27: Leadership Fairfax Information Session - 12 p.m.
 - Mar 27: Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations Meeting - 8 p.m.
 - Mar 28: Mount Vernon District 2019 Paving and Restriping Meeting - 6:30 p.m.
 - Apr 2: Entrepreneurship 101: Starting a Business in Fairfax County - 7:30 a.m.
 - Apr 6: 2019 Teen Job Fair - South County - 10 a.m.
 - Apr 8: Northern Virginia Positive Aging and Wellness Fair - 8:45 a.m.
 - Apr 8: Leadership Fairfax Information Session - 5:30 p.m.
-

In the News

District Forms Tourism Task Force

In a District that has **tourism sites from all ends of the spectrum**, promotions begin with a big picture and fan out from there, aiming to **attract the eyes of tourists** looking to get more value for their visit. The newly formed **tourism task force in Mount Vernon** is a big picture group that is looking to highlight the District's many historic sites. Supervisor Dan Storck is behind the effort and wants everyone to know that "*we have **more tourist sites in Mount Vernon than in the rest of Northern Virginia,***" he said. Read more in the Connection...



Fairfax County Steps Up Environmental Initiatives

The County took a symbolic step toward **protecting the environment** and **addressing climate change** a priority when the Board of Supervisors **unanimously passed a board matter** recommending possible actions that the county can take to **reduce its greenhouse gas emissions**. "*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 gases which are dramatically altering our environment...and **protect the people, places and property** in our communities," Supervisor Dan Storck said. Read more in the Fairfax Times...*



Introducing Avyuk with Two Eyes Toward the Future

Avyuk Dixit's trip to Pondicherry, India, was a **learning experience** in more ways than one. The Mount Vernon resident spent four weeks last summer **working with medical professionals** on the other side of the world to develop a **machine learning model** that can **diagnose glaucoma**. "*It was really just a humbling experience all around to go somewhere and know that I could be **helping so many people,***" Dixit said. Read more in the Fairfax Times...

More great articles:

- Fairfax County police are the **first department in the nation** to start a **Public Safety Cadets program**. Read more in the Washington Post...
- Supervisor Dan Storck discusses **Washington's Farewell Address to the Nation** as part of remarks at Mount Vernon Estate. Read more on the Fort Hunt Herald...
- Park Authority hosted public information meeting March 4 on the status of the **Grist Mill Park master plan revision**. Read the Fort Hunt Herald article...
- County to look at **potential trail connecting Huntington** to the **Mount Vernon Trail**. Read the Covering the Corridor article...
- **Huntington Farmers Market not returning this summer** due to Metro construction. Read the Covering the Corridor article...
- **E-learning laptop initiative** rolls out to **West Potomac High School**. Read the Fort Hunt Herald article...
- County uses **crushed glass in construction project** for first time. Read more on Newswire...

Community Champion



Mount Vernon resident **Cathy Ledec is a force of nature - by being a force FOR nature**, with an intensity and focus that is truly remarkable. She has behind her a **lifetime of volunteerism** that began when she was 14. The hallmark of her accomplishments has been not just volunteering, but **taking on steadily increasing roles** in organizing, motivating and **empowering others to get involved**.

Among other roles, Cathy currently serves as the Mount Vernon District Tree Commissioner and was elected in January 2019 as **Chair of the Fairfax County Tree Commission**. We will all continue to benefit from her hard work to improve our urban forests, on both public and private lands. Cathy also serves on the **Mount Vernon District Environmental Advisory Committee** and recently lead the planning for the **1st Annual Mount Vernon District Environment Expo** and the **installation of natural landscaping** at the Mount Vernon Governmental Center.

Cathy has received **many awards for her extensive volunteer work** since the early 2000s, both as an individual and as part of Friends groups in which she led activities and projects. On April 7, she will receive the **2018 Fairfax County Citizen of the Year Award** from The Fairfax County Federation of Citizens' Associations.

When asked what she likes to do in her spare time, Cathy stated, *"My husband and I enjoy **traveling around the world** and working together on many **issues related to our environment**. He works on **biodiversity conservation** at an international level."*
Read more about Cathy...

Mount Vernon Police Station in the Community



The officers and staff at the Mount Vernon Police District Station began the new year with a renewed commitment to **engaging and protecting our community**. Their focus

continues to be on **crime fighting and prevention efforts**, as well as driver and pedestrian safety.

In addition to **many community engagement activities**, recruitment events and daily enforcement activities, the Mount Vernon officers are also **receiving accolades** from the community. In February, **Officer Katie Treichel** was awarded the Mount Vernon Citizens Advisory Committee Award for **Officer of the Quarter**. Congratulations Officer Treichel! Read the Station's newsletter to learn more about officers in our community...

Important Safety Messages

Community Emergency Response Guide

Emergencies don't happen often or everywhere, but they do happen sometimes and somewhere. In some cases they are predictable, and in others they are unthinkable. **Tornadoes touch down, hurricanes make landfall, floodwaters rise, fires burn, utilities are interrupted, terrorists strike.** But with planning and preparation, you **can make a difference**. You can reduce a disaster's impacts on you, your family, and your community. **You can save lives, homes and livelihoods.**



The **Fairfax County Office of Emergency Management** is a resource for the community. Our mission is to make us all more ready for and resilient to all hazards. In a crisis, the government must focus on those in the greatest peril. The better prepared everyone else is, the better the outcomes are for all of us. By reading this far, you've already taken the first step in preparing for the unexpected. Now it's time to make a plan, build a kit, and help prepare your household and your community.

Community Emergency Response Guides are available at the **Mount Vernon District Office** and online. You can also **schedule a presentation** for your community. Read more...

Don't Throw That Away!

From ashes to electronics...what you put in the trash matters! The average household generates many hazards that can be harmful to the environment and our health. Some waste can start fires if thrown away with regular household waste. Please use proper care when handling the following wastes and always make sure to dispose of them properly.

Read about the proper disposal of electronics, rechargeable batteries, fireplace ashes, BBQ coals, paints, cleaners, oils and other chemicals...



Here's How to Report Those Pesky Potholes

Potholes are a way of life on the roads, **especially as temperatures fluctuate** this time of year. **Please report potholes you encounter!** Your car will thank you.

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) **maintains most primary and secondary roads** in the county and **fixes potholes**. You can look up who maintains every road in the county. **VDOT's online reporting tool** makes it easier to pinpoint exactly where you see a pothole. You can also **report potholes directly from your mobile device** and include images (**but NOT while driving!). Read more...

Supporting Our Seniors

The 2019 Northern Virginia **Positive Aging and Wellness Fair** will be held on **Monday, April 8, 8:45 am-4 pm** at the Fairfax County Government Center. The event will provide useful information to **educate and inspire adults** to achieve a fulfilling and healthy lifestyle as they age. Highlights include workshops, exhibitors and **Keynote Speaker Pat Collins**, general assignment reporter for News4. The event is **FREE**, and lunch is available for pre-purchase. Click here for more information and to register. **Limited transportation** to and from the event is **available**. The event is hosted by the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia (JCCNV) and Celebrate Fairfax, Inc. (CFI), in collaboration with Fairfax County.

Community Information

Richmond Highway Widening Public Meeting



The **VDOT Richmond Highway Corridor Improvements** team will hold a **Design Public Hearing** on **March 26 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.** at Mount Vernon HS.

The project team continues to **finalize project design features** for the proposed improvements coming to Richmond Highway. This meeting is an **opportunity for residents and stakeholders to:**

- Learn about updates to the proposed design
- Review design plans
- Discuss your questions with project staff and submit comments

Read more about the project...

Free Tax Assistance Services at Local Libraries

[Watch the video](#)



****NEW** Fairfax Connector Route 308 - Connecting You to Work, Shopping and More!**

Kickoff Celebration

April 10, 2019 from 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Mount Vernon Governmental Center (Parking lot)



The newest Fairfax Connector Route in the Franconia-Springfield area begins **March 30, 2019**. Fairfax Connector **Route 308** will provide service between the **Franconia-Springfield Metrorail Station and INOVA Mount Vernon Hospital - via Jeff Todd Way and Richmond Highway - with easy access to shopping, community amenities, hotels and employment (full route schedule and map)**. The route operates during the week from 5:45 a.m. to 10:20 p.m., and on weekends from 7 a.m. to 8:20 p.m. The route provides **convenient connections** to the Springfield Town Center, Manchester Lakes Shopping Center, Hilltop Village Center, Mount Vernon Plaza and Gum Springs Center. Route 308 will also take you to the Kingstown and Sherwood Regional Libraries, and the **South County Government Center** and the **Mount Vernon Governmental Center**. **For more information on how to ride Fairfax Connector, visit.**



Mason Neck Eagle Festival Volunteers Needed

The Mason Neck State Park Eagle Festival on **Saturday, May 11** is the Park's biggest event of the year. More than **20 environmentally-oriented organizations** will showcase interactive exhibits. We'll have a **full day of programs**,

including shows on reptiles and raptors, live music, pony rides, a tent for children's activities and more. Last year more than **4000 people attended this great event**. The **Friends of Mason Neck State Park** covers all the expenses for the Festival, as well as providing the volunteers that help to make the event go smoothly. **Would you like to help us out?** Send an email to Volunteer for Eagle Festival and we'll find you a job that you'll enjoy.

Resident Curator Applications Available for Clark House

Another park property has become available through the Resident Curator Program. The Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) is **now accepting applications through July 5** for the rehabilitation and long-term maintenance of the **historic Hannah P. Clark/Enyedi property** located at 10605 Furnace Road in Lorton, VA. Read more...



Entrepreneurship 101: Starting a Business in Fairfax County

This **Fairfax County Economic Development Authority workshop** is held monthly for those contemplating **doing business in the County**. The series, which **covers a full range of basics**, is held in partnership with the **Community Business Partnership**, the Virginia Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity and the U.S. Small Business Administration. Pre-registration is required. **Next date: April 2, 2019**

The Grit and Wit of Women

Join the **Mount Vernon Unitarian Church (MVUC)** and the **Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Association** on **April 14 at 3 p.m.**, at MVUC for an event recognizing the **women who were jailed for seeking the right to vote**. **Pat Wirth** will discuss this often-overlooked chapter of our history and describe plans for the memorial. **Elaine Flynn**, in costume, will **portray Dorothy Parker**, known as the wittiest woman of the 1920s.



The event **will help build the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial** in Lorton where the women were jailed. 2019 marks **100 years since Congress passed the 19th amendment** to the U.S. Constitution prohibiting the states and federal government from denying the right to vote on the basis of sex.

Donation: \$25 per person. Buy tickets...
MVUC is at 1901 Windmill Lane, Alexandria, VA 22307.
Turning Point Memorial: www.suffragistmemorial.org



Exposing a Buried History: The Archaeology of a Slave Life

On **March 16 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Gunston Hall**, discover what recent excavations by regional archaeologist can **teach us about slavery** and the lives of people who were enslaved. Talks will cover **topics from the 16th-19th centuries**. Presented in partnership with the Friends of Fairfax Archaeology and Fairfax County Park Authority. Read more...

Trap, Neuter and Return (TNR) Community Cat Training

Attend this training and learn how and why you should participate and support TNR. You will also learn valuable information so you can speak with those that are opposed to TNR. After you attend the training, you will be allowed to help TNR Fairfax County cats for **FREE**

at the Fairfax Animal Shelter Vet Clinic each Monday. Traps will be loaned **FREE** through the Fairfax County Animal Shelter. Training will be held at the **Kingstown Library** located at 6500 Landsdowne Center, Alexandria, VA on March 23 from 2 - 4 p.m.

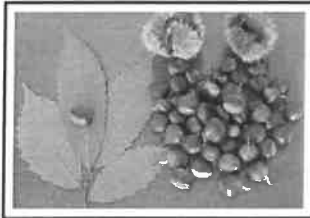
You must **RSVP** to reserve a seat to attend the training session.

Saving the Environment

Adjusting to New Recycling Realities; 5 Ways You Can Help Stop "Wishful Recycling"



What happens to your recycled items these days? That's a good question as the **worldwide recycling market** has **changed dramatically** in recent months, especially due to "Operation National Sword" in China. Here in the County, the local third-party recycling processor says nearly **30 percent of material received is actually trash**. To do our part in this worldwide process, we need everyone to **focus on reducing the amount of contaminated materials** placed in recycling bins. There are **five ways you can help** stop the practice of "**wishful recycling**" - placing items in the recycling bin because you think they will probably be recycled. Read more...



Chestnut Tree Blight and Restoration

Very few people remember mature **American chestnut trees**, but before the introduction of a disease called **chestnut blight**, approximately **25 percent of the trees in eastern North American forests** were American chestnuts. The trees **grew fast and large and produced tons of valuable fruits**. They provided food for wildlife, livestock and people and were an important part of the economy, particularly in rural Appalachia. The **wood was strong and rot resistant** and was used for lumber, fencing, furniture, railroad ties and crafts. Read more...

Team MVD



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

February 2019 Activities:

- Phone calls: 986
- Meetings: 97

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 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:



Athletic Council and Athletic Council (alternate)

This Board serves in an advisory capacity to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. The Council will assist the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services, the Park Authority, School Board, the Planning Commission, commissions, and authorities of Fairfax County on the allocation, use, and management and future planning of County athletic resources.

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. 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-coofed 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 Don Storch

Inclusion and ADA Support
703-326-8563
TTY: Va Relay 711

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks

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

