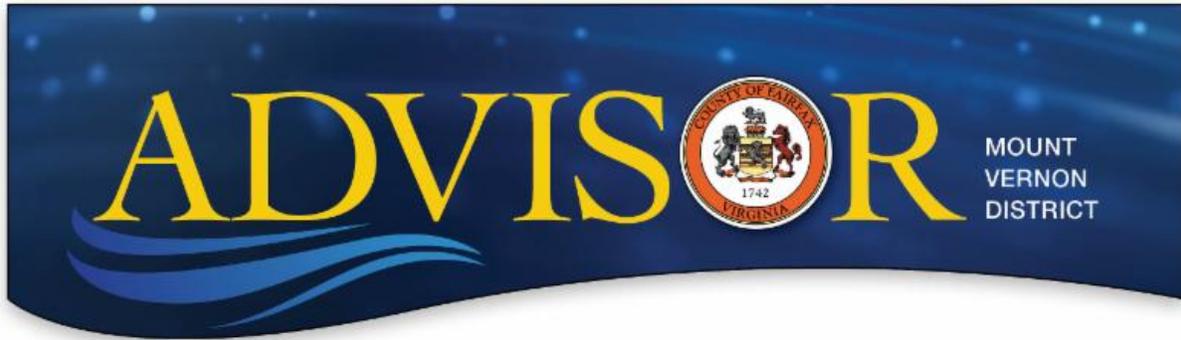


October 2019



It's October and, here in Virginia, its **election season!** This year is a **local-state election cycle** and that means it is our opportunity to elect leaders that represent our beliefs, values and **vision for our future**. Local elections most **directly affect your daily life** and have an importance that is rarely reflected in voter turnout which is traditionally less than a quarter of federal elections. **Local government is where it gets done!**

Did you know Fairfax County operates under the **urban county executive form of government**, which is one option for county governments in Virginia? This means the **powers of government** are vested in an **elected Board of Supervisors** consisting of nine members elected by district, plus a Chairman elected at large. The County **provides, monitors, manages and/or funds** most of the services and many of the amenities you **see in your neighborhood** every day. From **clean drinking water** to trash collection, libraries and schools, public transportation and roadways, RECenters and parks, police and courts, **fire and rescue and emergency management**, animal shelters, homeless and domestic violence shelters, code compliance and consumer services, the health department and family services, and many more. The County also **protects the environment**, manages storm water runoff, **advocates for human rights and equality**, determines land use and manages our elections.

Our **State government elections** are important to our everyday lives as well. Elections this year for state delegates and senators will determine **taxes, appropriations and laws** that we all must follow. **Virginia is a Dillon Rule State**, meaning the State very specifically tells Fairfax government what the County can and cannot do. For example, Virginia cities have the power to diversify their revenues in ways Virginia counties cannot. Additionally, State rules **limit County oversight of development and our ability to install solar fields** to generate clean energy and reduce our carbon footprint. Also, did you know Fairfax only receives back in funding or services about **23% of what Fairfax County residents contribute** in State taxes? **That's 23¢ per \$1!** If we could convince the State to return even 1¢ more to us, it would equal over **\$35 million in additional County funding**. Higher State funding levels could mean **lower costs** for all Fairfax residents!

I encourage you to **engage and vote** in the election process this fall! You may not know it, but **running an election campaign is challenging**, exhausting and never ending. **Volunteering to help a local campaign** can be a huge help to those who want to make a difference in our community. Other ways you can help this election season are to become an election official, volunteer at the polls on election day, **help elderly and less mobile neighbors get to the polls** or just encourage those new to the process to register to vote. Most importantly, **get to know the candidates** and what they stand for, then **get out and vote!** The representatives we elect make an impact on our lives every day and **we deserve the best in Fairfax County!**

Respectfully yours in public service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Storck".

Dan Storck
Supervisor, Mount Vernon District



Visit our Website

Tour de Mount Vernon October 19

Join me for the **4th Annual Tour de Mount Vernon Community Bike Ride** on Saturday October 19, 2019, at **8:30 a.m.**, starting and ending at the [Workhouse Arts Center](#).



RIDE ROUTES JUST ANNOUNCED!

35-mile Ride

- [Ride Map...](#)
- [Map My Ride...](#)

20-mile Ride

- [Ride Map...](#)
- [Map My Ride...](#)

Stay after the ride for food, fun, camaraderie, music and prizes!

[Learn more and register today...](#)

Gerry Hyland Center Naming



A note of thanks from former Supervisor Gerry Hyland:

On September 20, **I was honored and humbled** to have a building named after me. As I do not have an "edifice complex," **I was surprised** when the Board of Supervisors decided to take this action on Supervisor Storck's motion.

As your former Supervisor, I neither expected nor wanted any recognition or thanks for my public service. **My reward** over the years was the **opportunity to represent my constituents** and the **satisfaction of helping** you with any issues or problems.

Few people have the **unique opportunity** to serve their community as a local elected official. For me, it was an **honor and a privilege**. Many folks question why we ask for the opportunity to serve (**some question our sanity**). However, if you recall the voices of all the local officials in communities along East coast affected by Hurricane Dorian who were **advising, directing and helping their residents** with the threat to their lives and property – **that is public service at its best**. And, it is accomplished by people who are committed and **more important – care!**

In closing, I thank you, Dan, for the honor given me. Most importantly, **I thank all the wonderful citizens of Mount Vernon** who gave me the **best job of my life** to have been your Mount Vernon District Supervisor.

God Bless All of You,
Gerry Hyland

For Fun, Supervisor Hyland's last Board Matter:
There once was a Supervisor who told ten puns to his colleagues to get them to laugh, but no pun in ten did.

[View the photo gallery...](#)

South County Site Specific Plan Amendment (SSPA)

You Can Shape Re-Development in Our Area!

Last month Fairfax County kicked off the **South County Site Specific Plan Amendment (SSPA)** process that allows anyone to nominate **site specific land use changes** to the **Comprehensive Plan**, the guiding document for land use and development decisions in the County. The SSPA nomination process will run from **September 3, 2019 until December 3, 2019**. **Community involvement is key** in all stages of the SSPA process, and next month we will begin recruiting individuals for the **community review task force that will review all proposals submitted**. Watch for an announcement on how to be involved. [Read more about the process, community engagement and how to submit your suggestions...](#)

Lorton Visioning 2040

What does the **future** of Lorton look like to **you**?

The Lorton Visioning initiative is a **collaborative** community effort among Lorton's community members and leaders with the goal of developing a **vision** of Lorton in 2040. Our mission is to **engage** with and listen to Lorton's 30,000+ residents and with your **involvement and support**, create a **powerful** Lorton 2040 vision.

<https://tinyurl.com/Lorton2040>



We would appreciate if you could also **share** the link with your friends, neighbors, and adjacent neighborhoods!

Upcoming Events

- Community Farmers Markets
- October Arts Events
- Saturdays: English Conversation Group - 12:30 p.m.
- Sherwood Regional Library Closed through October 14
- Oct 4-6: Fall for Fairfax Kidsfest - 10 a.m.
- Oct 7: Fairfax County Personal Property (Car) Tax Deadline
- Oct 7: Public Presentation on Resident Curator Proposal for Hannah P. Clark/Enyedi Property - 7 p.m.
- Oct 8: South County Federation Meeting - 7:30 p.m.
- Oct 9: Mount Vernon RECenter Accessibility Review Meeting - noon
- Oct 10: MVLC Candidates Forum - 8 a.m.
- Oct 10: On the Table - 6:30 p.m.
- Oct 11: Kingstowne Library Semi-Annual Big Book Sale - noon
- Oct 12: 5th Annual Women's Conference - 8:30 a.m.
- Oct 12: Fire Department Open Houses - 10 a.m.
- Oct 12: Kingstowne Library Semi-Annual Big Book Sale - 10 a.m.
- Oct 17: Financial Basics for the 50-Plus - 7:30 p.m.
- Oct 18: 2019 Arts Awards - noon
- Oct 19: Tour de Mount Vernon Community Bike Ride - 8:30 a.m.
- Oct 19: Electric Vehicle Showcase - 9:30 a.m.
- Oct 19: Mason Neck 2019 Photo Encounter - 10 a.m.
- Oct 19: Financial Basics for the 50-Plus - 10:30 a.m.
- Oct 19: STEM FEST - 3 p.m.
- Oct 20: A Wild Solution to Climate Change - 1 p.m.
- Oct 20: Breaking Bread Breaking Walls - 5 p.m.
- Oct 25 & 26: DMV2GO at Hollin Hall Senior Center - 9 a.m.
- Oct 23: Putting for Pets - 10:30 a.m.
- Oct 23: Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations Meeting - 8 p.m.
- Oct 26: Child Safety Seat Inspections - 9:30 a.m.
- Oct 26: It's Time to Thrive! - 11 a.m.
- Nov 16: Environment Expo: How YOU Can Act on Climate Change - 8 a.m.

In the News



Mount Vernon District Crime Rates Dropped 5.5% in 2018

The Mount Vernon District (MVD) continues to be a **very safe place to live**, with MVD Police Station's **relatively low crime rate** reducing another 5.5% in 2018. In fact, Fairfax County is the **safest community of its size in the country**. **Citizen engagement is critical** to keeping our neighborhoods safe and the **MVD is very engaged!** [Read more in the Fort Hunt Herald...](#)

Fairfax County Ends Curbside Glass Recycling

Don't put glass bottles out at the curb for recycling anymore in Fairfax County. Bring it to the **purple bin** or put it in the trash. "Glass will no longer be part of the curbside collection program," said Eric Forbes, director of recycling, engineering and environmental compliance for the county government. [Read more on WTOP...](#)



Glass can be recycled at the **21 regional purple glass-only recycling bins**. In the Mount Vernon District, we have one here at the **Mount Vernon Governmental Center** and one at the **I-95 Landfill**. There is also one nearby at **S. Royal Street and Jones Point Dr.** [See all the locations...](#)



Small Shopping Center Proposed to Replace Two Rundown Houses on Richmond Highway

A proposal to turn a **pair of deteriorating houses** on Richmond Highway into a **small shopping center** is being considered by the Fairfax County Planning Commission.

The two homes, located at 8212 and 8118 Randolph Highway, are actually on the same property and are **already zoned for commercial use**. The owner is proposing to demolish the homes to make way for a **9,200-square-foot shopping center**. [Read more on Covering the Corridor...](#)

Proposal for Costco Gas Pumps Approved by Planning Commission

The County's Department of Planning and Development has recommended that Costco's request to install **gas pumps at its Hybla Valley location** be approved. The application was approved by the County Planning Commission in a public hearing on September 18. A

second public hearing and final vote on the plan is scheduled for the **October 15 meeting of the Board of Supervisors**." [Read more on Covering the Corridor...](#)



Fairfax County Jobs Reinstated for People with Disabilities

In a recently released press release, Service Source stated that **five individuals with disabilities** were able to **return to their jobs** where they support **Fairfax County's e-Waste collection and recycling needs**. Through this project, more than 1.5 million pounds of electronic materials—including computers, monitors, printers, TVs, and other equipment—are processed annually. [Read more...](#)

Schools in the News

Hollin Meadows ES Wins Exceptional Design Award

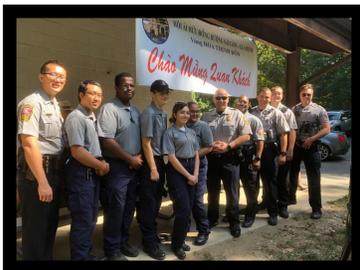
Hollin Meadow ES was selected by the **Exceptional Design Awards** Jury to receive an award this year.

The recipients will be recognized on **Tuesday, October 22, 2019**, during the Design and

Environmental Achievement Awards ceremony at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, at **7:00 p.m. in the Board Auditorium**. A **reception will follow** immediately in the Forum.



Franconia Police Station in the Community



Officers from the Franconia Police Station are **always out and about** in our community!

Recent event highlights include a **picnic with the local Vietnamese community**, enjoying the **Lorton Station Community Fair** and the Communities of Trust Committee **Bias/Hate Crime and Community Resiliency Forum**. At the latter, Officers participated in the discussion and provided valuable information on resources for **educational opportunities available through the Fairfax County Police Department**.

Meet Our BACs



Lester Munson is one of the District's newest Boards, Authorities and Commissions (BAC) members, serving on the **Athletic Council**. He states that **volunteering is incredibly rewarding**. Adding that it is a great way to **meet your fellow Fairfaxians** in their regular lives and perhaps add value to what they are experiencing. While we live in an very prosperous area, there is **more that can be done** to meet all the needs of our community. We need additional volunteer help

particularly in our school system, where the needs are greater than many may think. When asked about his experience on the Athletic Council, he noted that he is very impressed by the **breadth and depth of commitment** from the Council members and the County staffers who work with the Council.

In addition to serving on the Athletic Council, Lester **volunteers at West Potomac High School, his church and George Mason University**. He and his wife Julie have lived in the **Belle Haven area** for almost three decades. They have **two children**, Jonas, a freshman at the University of Central Arkansas, and Annika, a senior at West Potomac HS. He is a **lobbyist with BGR Group** in Washington and spent about 26 years working on Capitol Hill before that. Lester is also an **adjunct faculty member** at Johns Hopkins University's Krieger School of Arts & Sciences.

Supporting Our Seniors

Financial Basics for the 50-Plus

It's never too late to **take charge of your financial future!** In this **AARP workshop**, you will learn how to build upon your smart money habits and make the most of your financial resources. We'll discuss **budgeting and setting goals**, managing credit and debt, building your savings and **protecting your assets** from fraud. This session is a **good overview** for anyone feeling overwhelmed by expenses or simply hoping to **save more for a comfortable retirement**.



Sherwood Regional Library

October 17 from 7:30 - 9:00 p.m.

October 19 from 10:30 - 11:45 a.m.

Fairfax 50+ Expo Keynote Speech on Medical Cannabis and CBD Oil



Important Safety Messages

STEP Into Safety And Reduce Your Risk Of Dying In A Fire! Install Home Fire Sprinklers!

Why should you **install fire sprinklers** in your home? The **risk of dying** in a fire in your home **decreases by 80 percent** when fire sprinklers are installed. The amount of time it takes to escape a modern house when on fire is three to five minutes. With the installation of fire sprinklers, **you will have more time to escape.**

The **best time** to get fire sprinklers is when you are **building a new home.** All existing homes should be able to be retrofitted with fire sprinklers although some are easier than others. Please keep in mind **this is not a DIY project.** To get fire sprinklers installed in your home, contact a certified fire sprinkler contractor. [Learn more and watch the video...](#)

October is Fire Prevention Month

[Read about that and more in OEM's Emergency Preparedness October Newsletter...](#)

Community Information

Mount Vernon RECenter Accessibility Review Meeting

The **Fairfax County Park Authority** will hold a public meeting at the **Mount Vernon RECenter** to discuss **renovation and expansion accessibility** on **Wednesday, October 9, 2019 at noon.** The meeting will provide an opportunity for the public to **"walk through" the building plans** and the **accessibility features** of the design for the approaching RECenter expansion and renovation.



Your **questions and suggestions** for accessibility improvements at this site are welcome. **Interested parties are invited** to come and meet with the project team to learn about accessibility for the new design.

Mount Vernon RECenter is located at 1717 Belle View Blvd in Alexandria, VA. **For more information,** call 703-768-3224 or visit [Mt. Vernon RECenter Renovation and Fitness Addition.](#)



Fairfax County Strategic Plan Survey

As work on the strategic plan continues, **we need your feedback.** The survey will be **available until mid-October** and is available in **multiple languages.** Give us your thoughts on the dozens of draft strategies for each priority area. We want to be **inclusive and transparent**

with you, so we're hoping you will help us **understand the needs of the community** and the **vision for the future** by completing this questionnaire. [Read more and take the survey...](#)

Fort Belvoir Oktoberfest

Through Sunday, October 6, Fort Belvoir's Family and MWR hosts the **23rd annual Oktoberfest.** Located at Fremont Field on Fort Belvoir, Oktoberfest is a four-day festival that highlights **authentic German cuisine, beverages, music, and dancing.** Enjoy an exciting carnival, Volksmarch 10K Walk and much more. This is a **fun-filled event** geared toward the **whole family!** [Read more...](#)



BREAKOUT! 2019 Haunted Trail

Come find out why this year's **haunted prison trail story** is called



BREAKOUT! (See if you can escape the terror!) This year, **screams will echo across the 55-acre historic Workhouse Arts Center** campus, built on the grounds of the abandoned and notorious DC Department of Corrections Lorton Reformatory. Our frightmasters will debut a **fully redesigned trail**, spookier scenes and stories, real prison cells, and creepy characters all designed to **bring our guests' darkest fears and nightmares to life**. Various nights October 1 - 31. [Read more...](#)

Moonlit Night in Marrakech

Join **Good Shepherd Housing & Family Services (GSH) Annual Gala on November 9**. It will be a magnificent evening and enjoy cocktails, tantalizing plates, live and silent auctions, **unique entertainment offerings**, casino gaming, desserts and dancing. [Read more and get your tickets today...](#)



On The Table Community Discussion

The **Fairfax County Communities of Trust Committee (COTC)** invites **community leaders** throughout Fairfax County to join in sharing a meal and discussing the **future of our community** in order to **elevate civic conversation**, foster new relationships, and create a **unifying experience** across the region. "On the Table" will connect individuals and communities of **diverse perspectives and backgrounds**. Listening and talking to our neighbors is an essential step as we continue strengthening a more **unified Fairfax County**. The event will be **October 10, 6:30 p.m. Gum Springs Community Center**. [RSVP for this FREE event...](#)

Write As Rain: Hidden Messages Reveal Top Source of Water Pollution

On **October 8, 2019, at 9 a.m.**, members of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and staff members from the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services will gather in front of the Government Center to **unveil hidden messages** created to engage residents on **stormwater pollution**.

Polluted stormwater runoff is the **top cause of water pollution** in our area, negatively affecting local streams and the Potomac River, a major source of drinking water for the county. The **water-activated messages**, created with a non-toxic, environmentally safe, invisible spray and stencils, **will display informative and motivational messages** emphasizing that **clean water** for drinking, fishing, and outdoor activities starts with a clean stormwater system. [Read more...](#)



Mason Observatory Open to the Public

Mason's astronomical observatory, located atop Research Hall on Mason's Fairfax Campus, houses one of the **largest diameter telescopes** among college campuses in the mid-Atlantic region. **Night sky observing sessions** led by faculty and graduate students are preceded by informative talks. Sessions **open to the general public** are held during the fall and spring semesters, weather permitting. Groups welcome. Observing sessions typically last **approximately 1.5 hours**. [Read more...](#)

What You Should Know About Your Car Tax



Saving Our Environment

Top Tips for Energy Efficiency During Energy Action Month

October is **Energy Action Month** and presents a great opportunity to fine tune your **energy-saving strategies** at home, at work and on the go. On Wednesday, October 2, the County recognized **Energy Efficiency Day**, a national awareness event promoting the many benefits of energy efficient technology and behavior. At its core, energy efficiency is about making smart choices that **save money and conserve resources**. This October, join your neighbors and take one step toward a more energy efficient future. [Read the top tips...](#)

2019 Plastic Free Challenge

Join 350 Fairfax from **October 1 to 30**, and **avoid single-use plastic**—especially plastic bags, bottles, and straws. Along with others across NOVA you can **reduce your plastic footprint and protect our waterways and wildlife**. [Enroll today...](#)

Bagging Yard Waste in Plastic is **NOT** Fantastic!

Paper is Better

Choose paper lawn and leaf bags because:

- » They're made from a renewable resource
- » Use less energy to produce
- » Break down naturally when composted
- » Reduce microplastics in environment
- » Reduce the cost of processing the material
- » Are a more sustainable alternative to plastic



Fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/recycling-trash/recycle

Volunteer Needs

Help Restore Habitat, Plant Natives

Join the **Friends of Dyke Marsh** and the National Park Service on **October 11, 9 to 11 a.m.**, to plant trees and plants in the **native plant area** along the Haul Road. Meet at the Haul Road trail native plant site. **Wear sturdy shoes, gloves, long pants and sun protection and bring water.** This event will take place unless we have severe rain and lightning that day. We will provide tools and some gloves. **Sign up** at info@fodm.org.



Shepherd's Center Of South County Serves Seniors Who No Longer Drive

If you are **50+ years old**, live in our service area, can get from



your house to car in driveway, all without the use of a wheelchair, our volunteers will make it happen!

Volunteer drivers provide transportation to and from **medical, dental, and/or physical therapy appointments**. All drivers have passed a police background check, have a valid driver's license and proof of insurance.

Can you volunteer to be a driver? If you would like **more information** about getting a ride, or wish to volunteer, please contact Transportation Manager, Bob Miller at 703 799-0505 or [email](#).

Team MVD



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

September 2019 Activities:

- Phone calls: 1167
- Meetings: 131

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:

There are also several **At-Large positions available** as of October 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
- 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

2nd Annual Environment Expo: How YOU Can Act on Climate Change

Saturday, November 16, 2019

8 a.m. - noon

Walt Whitman Middle School
2500 Parkers Lane, Mount Vernon

Exhibit Hall, Workshops and a Film Screening will provide attendees with **everyday actions** they can take to **improve our environment and slow climate change**. Join us to make a difference today!

[Visit our website](#)

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

STAY CONNECTED

