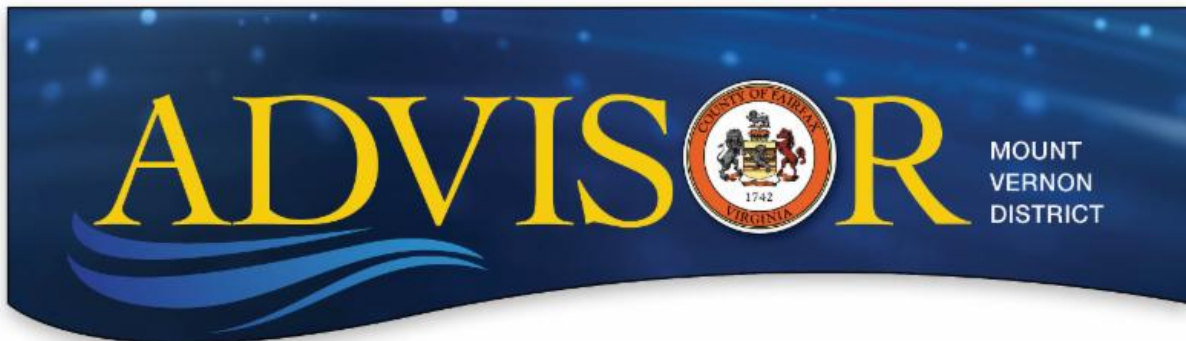


September 2020



Neighbors,

While the past six months of COVID times have brought much **change and challenge to our lives**, they have also brought a **change of pace**. Many are finding more **time to spend with their families**, visit our parks, take a walk in the neighborhood or **ride our many bike trails** throughout the County. Personally, one of **my wife Deb's and my new favorite activities** is to grab a **sandwich from a local restaurant** along with our lawn chairs and **head to the river to** enjoy a **picnic in the park**. Now, with fall upon us, I expect we will see even more of our **friends and neighbors** enjoying opportunities like these.



This change of pace and activity also remind us of the **importance of parks** in our communities. The **November election ballot will include a parks bond** that I hope you will support. **Projects in our area include:** a second sheet of ice at **Mount Vernon RECenter**, renewal of Lee District RECenter, design improvements for the South Run RECenter, phase one of construction for an archaeology-and-collections facility in Lorton and improvements for the **Laurel Hill Golf Course** and Mount Vernon Woods Park. These are in addition to funding for **system-wide renovations and life-cycle needs** for playgrounds, irrigation and lighting systems, restrooms, picnic shelters, bridges and trails.

With the **increase in bicycle riders** on our trails and streets, this is a perfect year to **join the Tour de Mount Vernon Community Bike Ride on October 3, 2020**. With 35-mile and 20-mile options, this ride is **very accessible for most** and an excellent opportunity to **see many of the outdoor highlights** of the southern portion of the District. Starting at the **Workhouse Arts Center**, we will visit Mason Neck State Park, Pohick Bay Regional Park, Fort Belvoir and return to the Workhouse on the **Gerry Connolly Cross County Trail**. Along the way, we will see additional sites such as Gunston Hall, Pohick Church and the **National Museum of the US Army**. This year's ride is **dedicated to my close friend and personal inspiration, Dave Evans**, who was the driving force behind the inception of Tour de Mount Vernon. Dave gave generously of his time and talents as a **community champion and super volunteer**. We have all benefited from his leadership and **he will be missed dearly**. For **more information**, including ride and COVID-19 safety precautions, and **to register visit our [ride webpage](#)**.

Speaking of time out of doors and the environment, the County is developing its **first-ever Community-wide Energy and Climate Action Plan (CECAP)** and your input is needed! **Only three percent of greenhouse gas emissions** in the County come from local government and school operations, the rest are from **cars and trucks** on our roads, energy use in our **homes and businesses**, waste management processes and other community sources. **It's up to all of us to take steps**, even small ones, to reduce our emissions so that our **families, friends, neighbors and future residents** of Fairfax County are spared the worst **consequences of climate change** and can thrive in a clean, healthy, safe and prosperous community. [Learn more and take the survey by September 13.](#)

Finally, now is the time to **make a plan to vote this November**. Many new options are available to Virginia residents this year, including **"no excuse needed" absentee voting**, additional absentee voting locations and **secure ballot drop boxes**. More information will

be **available over the next month** as plans are finalized and **I will address this topic more thoroughly** in my October newsletter. Information about how to vote can be found below and on the [County voter webpage](#).

Respectfully yours in public service,



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



Ride-a-long on FCFR's new Fire Boat stationed at Gunston Station 11!

Visit our Website

Para **subscribirse para nuestro boletín en español** o si conoce a alguien quien quiera subscribirse, o **para hablar con un hispanohablante**, comuníquese con **Diego Rodríguez Cabrera** a su preferencia, por teléfono al (703) 619-4339 o por correo electrónico: diego.rodriguezcabrera@fairfaxcounty.gov.

District Events



Calling all riders and volunteers!

The **5th Annual Tour de Mount Vernon Community Bike Ride** will roll out at 8:30 a.m. from the **Workhouse Arts Center** on **Saturday, October 3, 2020**. This year's ride will be **dedicated to our friend and inspiration, Dave Evans**, who was a true leader in the Mount Vernon community and beyond. The ride is a great opportunity to see the **many historic and ecological sites** of the southern portion of the District, enjoy fresh air, good exercise and **friendly camaraderie!**

We also **need many volunteers to make this community event a success**. From stuffing rider packets and **marking the route the day before**, to set-up, check-in, ride support and post event clean-up volunteers, there are **opportunities for all!** Come for an

hour or stay for the whole morning. **The more the merrier!** [More information and registration...](#)

Lorton Community Center & Library Renovation Groundbreaking & Centennial Women's Equality Day 2020 Celebration

Thank you to everyone who attended our two major **in-person and virtual** events this past month. If you missed them, you can **view the videos** below.

**Lorton Community Center
August 22, 2020**



**Centennial Women's Equality Day
August 26, 2020**



Mount Vernon Police District in the Community

This spring and summer, even with the challenges of COVID-19, the Mount Vernon District Officers were **engaged in our community!**



In May, the Mount Vernon District hosted its first **virtual Spring Sidewalk Chalk Art Contest** to engage with the community. Approximately **50 entries were made by residents** in our district **12 years of age and younger**. The top **three winners were chosen** and they won a **special visit from police officers** in their neighborhood. A long line of police cars greeted the winner with a **show of their lights and sirens** and congratulated the winners. **All participants are eligible for a station tour** at a later date. Despite the pandemic and the outreach efforts being limited, officers made it work to have **fun and engage** with Mount Vernon neighbors.



On July 21, 2020 the Mount Vernon Station partnered with the **Gum Springs Community and Harvest Assembly Baptist Church** to present a session on **what to do if you are stopped by the police**. During the session, instructors from the Fairfax County Criminal Justice Academy talked about **what new officers are taught** in the academy about **subject stops and traffic stops**. This discussion gave citizens an idea what officers have to think about and deal with when stopping people. The attendees were **given scenarios and case laws** during the question and answer part of the session. The citizens walked away with a **better understanding** of the laws, rules and regulations, and other factors that an **officer must consider before engaging with a citizen**.

Upcoming In-Person & Virtual Events

- Farmers Markets Open
- Saturdays: **Workhouse Community Market** - 9 a.m.
- Sept 12: **Stuff the Bus** - 10 a.m.
- Sept 13: **Low-Cost Rabies Vaccination Clinics**
- Sept 13: **Fall for LCAC** - 2 p.m.
- Sept 13: **Mount Vernon at Home Virtual Gala** - 5 p.m.
- Sept 15: **SSPA Meeting - final vote on 5 nominations** - 7 p.m.
- Sept 15: **South County Federation Meeting** - 7 p.m.
- Sept 22: **SSPA Meeting - final vote on 2 nominations** - 7 p.m.
- Sept 23: **Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations Meeting** - 7 p.m.
- Sept 26: **Stuff the Bus** - 10 a.m.
- Oct 3: **Tour de Mount Vernon** - 8:30 a.m.

In the News



Virginia General Assembly Votes to Expand Access to Absentee Voting, Create Ballot Drop Boxes

Virginia's General Assembly passed measures Friday to **broaden access to absentee voting** in this fall's presidential election, including the **creation of ballot drop boxes**. New measures would set aside **\$2 million for prepaid postage on mail-in ballots** and instruct registrars to **allow voters to correct ballot errors** that might keep an absentee vote from being counted. The bills also would **remove the requirement for a witness to certify a ballot signature** and **mandate drop boxes at voting precincts** as an alternative to putting absentee ballots in the mail. [Read more in the Washington Post...](#)

Request for Proposals: Nearly \$2.9M Available to Acquire, Develop and Rehabilitate Affordable Rental Housing

The **Fairfax County Department of Housing and Community Development** has announced the availability of nearly **\$2.9 million in funding** under the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) programs. **Project proposals are being solicited** to acquire, develop and rehabilitate **affordable rental housing** throughout the County. Applications are **due by 4 p.m. September 25**. Read more in the Fairfax County Times.



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

SmarTrip Now Available on iPhone and Apple Watch, Giving Transit Customers a Safer, Faster,



More Convenient Way to Pay

Riders can now **add a SmarTrip card** to iPhone and Apple Watch, and simply **hold their device near the card reader** to pay anywhere SmarTrip is accepted: **all 91 Metrorail stations** in DC, Maryland and Virginia; **all Metro parking garages and lots**; **all Metrobus routes**; and **all regional bus providers**, including ART, DASH, Fairfax Connector, Cue, Ride On, TheBus,

Circulator, Loudoun County Transit, and Potomac and Rappahannock Transit/PRTC. [Read more in the Fairfax County Times...](#)

Army Corps of Engineers Chooses Alexandria-based A2D for \$68M SM-1 Nuclear Reactor Dismantlement Project

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has selected **Alexandria-based APTIM AECOM Decommissioning, LLC (A2D)** as its contractor for the **decommissioning and dismantlement of the inactive SM-1 nuclear power plant** at Fort Belvoir. The announcement caps a **two-year source selection process** and allows work on the decommissioning and dismantlement project to get underway in **early 2021 through to completion "by 2025,"** the Army said. The total contract value is **almost \$68 million**. [Read more on the Fort Hunt Herald...](#)



Community Information



Our Office is Hearing from Many of You Regarding this Year's Election

Virginia is **expanding voting options** and making it **easier for residents to cast their ballot**. For information on **who's on the ballot**, early voting, **absentee voting**, vote by mail and more, visit [Fairfax County's Election Headquarters webpage](#). This page will be continually **updated as new information** becomes available. Information is **available in multiple languages**.

GENERAL INFORMATION

September 18: Early voting/absentee in-person voting begins **ONLY at the Office of Elections**, 12000 Government Center Pkwy., Fairfax, VA

October 13: Voter Registration Deadline. In-person: 5:00 p.m., online: 11:59 p.m.

October 23: Deadline to request an absentee ballot by mail, 5:00 p.m.

October 31: Final day to vote absentee early/in-person, 5:00 p.m.

Satellite locations for early voting/absentee in-person voting open on October 14.

Hours will be Monday - Friday from 1 - 7 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Locations in our area include:

- [Laurel Hills Golf Course](#)
- [Mount Vernon Governmental Center](#)
- [Additional locations...](#)

Fairfax County Seeks Board of Zoning Appeals Member

The Fairfax County Board of Zoning Appeals has an **opening for one member**. Interested candidates must **apply by September 18, 2020**, to the Fairfax Circuit Court, which appoints the board's seven members. The appointment for this open position will be **effective until June 13, 2025**. Members are appointed for staggered, **five-year terms** and they receive a **bi-weekly stipend of \$357.69** for their service. Applicants must be **residents of Fairfax County** and serve as private citizens, not as County employees. [Read more and learn how to apply...](#)



Libraries are OPEN with Temporary Hours for All Locations



Express services will be available at all locations:
Monday–Tuesday 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Wednesday–Saturday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Curbside services will continue to be offered Monday – Saturday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Parktakes Programs and Classes to Resume in Fall

After a monthslong, pandemic-related hiatus, Parktakes **programs and classes are scheduled to resume this fall!** All classes will be conducted according to health department and **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention safety guidelines.** Outdoor, indoor and virtual **programming options are available** in a **wide range of interest areas**, including fitness, nature, fine arts, gardening and golf. You can **start browsing the listings now** through [Parktakes online](#). [Read more...](#)



Richmond Highway Beautification Awards 2020

The **Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation (SFDC)** is accepting votes for the **19th annual Beautification Awards**, in honor of the late Mary Thonen. Awards will be presented to **three properties that made outstanding efforts** to improve and sustain

their **appearances through landscaping**, in the categories of Retail, Residential, and Hospitality. Additionally, **honorable mentions will be made** to the runner-ups in each category. This year, SFDC is **asking the community** to weigh in on the voting process and **cast their vote** for the Beautification Awards. Voting is open **until September 26**. [Vote today!](#)

Progreso Literacy and Citizenship Center Reopening for Fall Program

Progreso Literacy and Citizenship Center **empowers immigrants through education, citizenship services and immigration assistance services.** The program seeks to **increase the English-speaking skills** of area residents.

They are also **looking for volunteers!** If you would like to volunteer teaching in the **Adult Literacy and Citizenship program** please [contact Cristina Schoendorf](#). **Other volunteer opportunities include**, office administration, computer lab support, bilingual English/Spanish translators. [Learn more...](#)

How to Report Possible Car Tax Evaders

Most of you know you **need to register your vehicles** with Fairfax County AND the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles. Most of you do, which leads to your car tax bill every year (**friendly reminder: it's due Oct. 7!**). However, **not everyone registers their new vehicles**, especially some people who have **moved here from another state** or **purchased their vehicle elsewhere.** The **County's Target Program** allows you to **send tips** on vehicles with **out of state plates** that may not be registered in Fairfax County. [Learn more...](#)



Election Officers Needed for the November 2020 Election

The Fairfax County Office of Elections **needs election officers to assist voters** on election day, **Tuesday November 3, 2020.** New election **officer training classes will begin online in September** for the November General election. Fairfax County

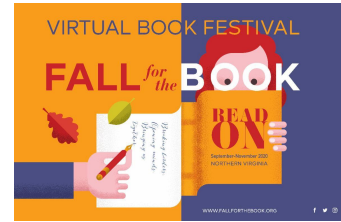
is the **largest voting jurisdiction** in Virginia with 243 precincts countywide. It takes **thousands of enthusiastic and trained election officers** to ensure that we have **efficient and well-run elections.** Compensation **begins at \$175.** If you are a registered Virginia voter, **consider applying today!**

In particular, **bilingual Vietnamese or Korean speakers** are needed in Annandale, Centreville and Falls Church. To ensure the **best chance of a precinct assignment** for the

November 3rd General Election, **apply by September 15, 2020.**
To apply...
More information...

Fall for the Book Festival Goes Virtual This Year

The **Fall for the Book festival** is making some radical changes this year. As a result of the coronavirus pandemic, the **festival going virtual**. Organizers are also **expanding the 22-year-old festival from four days to three months**, running from September to November and offering **"a whole season of great literary events right at your fingertips,"** said Kate Lewis, the festival's marketing director. The festival will be hosting **#FallfortheBookFridays at noon on Fridays** throughout the fall semester, as well as special events. [Read more...](#)



Get Help, Give Help!



Save the Date to Stuff the Bus in September!

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused a **dramatic rise in the demand for food** from area nonprofits. To help meet this demand, the **frequency of Stuff the Bus food drives is increasing**. Response to May drives was immense, with **33.6 tons of food collected** for area nonprofits. On **Saturday, September 12** and **Saturday, September 26**,

Fastran buses will again be parked at **21 locations from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.** to collect food donations. For more information, including donation sites, a list of most-wanted items, safety and information about donating virtually, [visit the web page](#).

Fall for LCAC

Fall for LCAC is happening **Sunday, September 13, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.** and the Lorton Community Action Center (LCAC) is hoping you can help out! **Register to bag rice**, make snack packs or **organize a food drive** at your faith community, neighborhood or office. For more information, visit the [official event page](#). Questions? Contact Linda Patterson [via e-mail](#) or call (703) 339-5161 Ext. 140.



Mount Vernon at Home Virtual Gala

Mount Vernon at Home, a **non-profit serving seniors** in the Alexandria, Mount Vernon area, is holding its **annual fundraising event online Sunday, September 13, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.!** They are excited to offer **unique sponsorship opportunities** to the business community and others who wish to **support your seniors aging in place!** Tickets will include **dinner and wine delivered to your door!** Special guest appearances, **door prizes and a live auction.**
[Learn more...](#)

School Supplies for Success

Students are returning to virtual classrooms **without the tools and materials** needed for academic success. Compounded by the **challenges families faced prior to the pandemic**, our residents are struggling at an even higher rate than the general population and are **having to choose between basic necessities like groceries or paying rent.**



Because there is **no money left** in their families' monthly budgets **for school supplies**, low-income children will begin the school year at a **disadvantage compared to their more privileged peers**. You can help change this for **more than 400 children** living in Wesley Housing's communities! **Purchase \$25 kits online!** [Learn more...](#)



THIS LABOR DAY WEEKEND,
FEED YOUR FAMILY AND HELP
OTHER FAMILIES IN NEED



CHARITY BBQ

SUNDAY, Sep 6th

\$50 Family Pack (feeds 4-5) includes
Full rack of ribs, ½# chicken, 1# pork, slaw, dirty rice

ORDER ONLINE AT www.fireduptohelp.org

PLEASE ORDER BY NOON FRIDAY (Sep 4th) – ONLY 100 PACKS AVAILABLE!

Pick up Sunday between 2:00 – 4:00 PM

7017 Vanderbilt Dr, Alexandria, VA 22307

The mission of Good Shepherd Housing is to reduce homelessness, increase community support, and promote self-sufficiency.

Important Safety Information

See Something, Say Something - Before You Post, Call!

Social media is a great tool, but **not for reporting crimes or suspicious activity**. First **call 911, or the police non-emergency number 703-691-2131**; TTY: 711, then post to share the information with your neighbors. For more **resources to stay informed**, check out the options options below!

News & Information Updates:

<https://fcpdnews.wordpress.com>

See what the police responded to in your neighborhood:

<https://www.crimereports.com>

Find out why a Fairfax County Police helicopter was flying over your area:

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/helicopterdivision/fairfax1>

Learn about crime statistics in Fairfax County:

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/chief/crimestatistics>

Report Crimes Online:

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/howdoi/communityreportingsystem>

Social Media Accounts

Facebook

Twitter

Instagram

YouTube

Contact:

2511 Parkers Lane,

Alexandria, VA 22306

(703) 360 -8400

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/district/mountvernon>

Fairfax County Police enforcement has begun on Jeff Todd Way!



End of Season Guidance for Draining Swimming Pools

Draining swimming pool water incorrectly may **harm aquatic life, flood neighboring properties and violate the Stormwater Management Ordinance**, Chapter 124, Article 9, of the Fairfax County Code. This includes **drainage from above ground pools**. Swimming pool water that was chlorinated or brominated **may be drained (discharged) to a storm drain or a stream only after taking the proper steps**. [Learn more...](#)



Saving Our Environment



Wastewater Program Wins Utility of the Future Award

The **Fairfax County Wastewater Management Program** won the **2020 Utility of the Future award** given annually by the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA). The recognition is based on the adoption of the **seven Utility of the Future principles** and the County's commitment to **protect public health** by providing sustainable, efficient services.

The Utility of the Future program recognizes facilities that **implement advancements in technology and cutting-edge practices** that focus on **resource recovery, efficiency and sustainability**; and improvements that look beyond the traditional operational models based on the **Clean Water Act of 1972**; and consider innovations that preserve best practices, while **incorporating sustainable principles**, which ultimately **benefit communities** and improve financial stability. [Read more...](#)

New Plants Added to Noxious Weed List

Ailanthus, Porcelainberry, Oriental bittersweet, Mile-a-minute, Hydrilla, and Incised fumewort have been added to the Virginia Noxious Weed List! [Read what that means and see photos...](#)

County Conversation Podcast: Solid Waste Management Program (Trash, Yard Waste and Recycling)

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Latest COVID-19 News Links

[5 Things You Should Know about COVID-19 Testing](#)

[Fairfax County's New "Supporting Return to School" Program Bolsters Virtual Learning](#)

[When – and How – Can You Safely Visit Grandparents and Older Adults?](#)

Liaison Team Makes Critical Connections During COVID-19

Podcast: County Executive Bryan Hill Shares Updates About COVID-19

Virginia Eviction Moratorium Extended; Find Rent Help Resources

Health Department Launches New Portal for Community Partners to Share COVID-19 Information

Virginia's New App Warns if You've Been Exposed to Someone With COVID-19

For more information on COVID-19 visit the [County's COVID-19 web page](#).

Team MVD



Mount Vernon District Staff (clockwise): Donna Slaymaker, Nick Rinehart, Christine Morin, Sally Kidalov, Supervisor Dan Storck, Camela Speer, Volunteer Shirley Short, Abdul Shaban, Diego Rodriguez Cabrera.

August 2020 Activities:

- Phone calls: 943
- Meetings: 170

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)

MV District Office: 9 a.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.

Citizen Corps Council

The Citizen Corps Council meets the fourth Thursday of every odd month. The council

serves to **coordinate preparedness initiatives** across the county through internal and external volunteer programs such as, **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)**, Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS), **Neighborhood Watch**, and Fire Corps. Two (2) year term.

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

- Affordable Dwelling Unit Advisory Board (Engineer/Architect Rep)
- Affordable Dwelling Unit Advisory Board (Lending Institution Rep)
- Alcohol Safety Action Program Local Policy Board (ASAP)
- Athletic Council (Women's Sports Alternate Rep)
- Board of Building and Fire Prevention Code Appeals (Design Professional)
- Civil Service Commission
- Engineering Standard Review Committee
- History Commission (Historian)
- Human Rights Commission
- Road Viewer Board
- Tenant Landlord Commission (3 openings - Landlord Member & 2 Tenant Members)

[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**.

National Dog Day!

Become one of Harley's Heroes and Make a Splash with

Virtual Dog Daze!

Sept. 4 – 14, 2020

COVID-19 may have shuttered the Water Mine for the season, but it couldn't stop the fun! Snap a pic with your pet pooch near any body of water, and enter it in the Dog Daze Virtual contest for a chance to win prizes! Yes, bathtubs, pools and puddles count!



Harley's Heroes

Donations gratefully accepted to benefit the Friends of Fairfax County Animal Shelter and the Fairfax County Park Foundation in memory of Harley, a beloved rescue dog who loved running with the big dogs in Fairfax County parks!

Suggested donation: \$10 per dog.

For details and to enter, visit www.fairfaxparkfoundation.org.



Visit our website

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

STAY CONNECTED

