

Mount Vernon Advisor

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mountvernon
April 2018



Sign up for the Mount Vernon Advisor



Dear Neighbors,

Spring is one of my favorite times of year! With flowers poking out of the ground, birds coming home to nest and warmer winds prevailing, spring is the **perfect time to explore the abundant natural habitats**

throughout the Mount Vernon District. Whether you enjoy **hiking** in Occoquan Regional Park, **strolling** the meadows at Huntley Meadows, or **exploring** the marsh lands at Dyke Marsh, make sure you take a moment this month to appreciate our **beautiful natural resources.** My favorite hike (or in my case run) is from my house through Fort Hunt Park, along the George Washington Parkway to the Mount Vernon Estate. This trail is **wonderful for watching the seasons change,** glimpsing eagles and osprey, and noting the changes from woodland to water environments. You will also find plenty of companionship along this busy exercise route, as well as **families enjoying picnics, fishing and outdoor fun!**

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Looking for a new walk or trail? New this month, check out our [Parks & Trails page](#) on our website for to learn more about the amazing parks and trails in our District! (add hyperlink when page is built) This summer, we will be celebrating the Grand Re-Opening of Occoquan Regional Park on Saturday, June 23. We invite you to join us for a fun day on the water, lots of exhibitors, tours of the new facilities and an evening concert! More details to follow. Throughout this year, we are planning to host **Mount Vernon Community Walks.** Watch for more information and join us for a fun community stroll.

Want to help clean up our environment while enjoying a walk in the park? Help get the trash

and litter out of our streams and shorelines! The **30th annual Potomac Watershed Cleanup**, sponsored by Alice Ferguson Foundation, will be held **April 14**. Several sites in our region will host cleanups that day, including at Dyke Marsh, Little Hunting Creek, Accotink Creek, Mason Neck and Pohick Bay. Want to do more, or can't make the 14th? You can also join Senator Scott Surovell and volunteers for another **Little Hunting Creek clean up on April 7**. I will be at several of these clean ups and hope to see you there! Visit <http://trashnetwork.fergusonfoundation.org/map/> to find a cleanup near you.

Other exciting District events in April include the **Mount Vernon HS Teen Job Fair on April 14** from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. and our **Reduced Cost Rabies Clinic on April 29** at the Mount Vernon Governmental Center.

As a reminder, the County Budget Public Hearings are next week. You can now provide **video testimony to the Board of Supervisors** regarding your views on the County budget without traveling all the way to the Government Center. Click here for the 1, 2, 3 on how to share your video testimony with the Board.

Next month, I invite you to join us to thank and celebrate several important community members. I am hosting an Open House on **May 1 to recognize former Planning Commissioner Earl Flanagan** for his tireless service. [Click here](#) for details and to RSVP. On **May 14**, please also join me to **thank Steve Hunt and Marlene Miller** for producing the Mount Vernon Voice for more than 16 years, and for being a "Voice" for our community. Both events will be from 6 - 8 p.m. at the Mount Vernon District Governmental Center.

Happy Spring from TEAM MVD!

Respectfully yours in public service,



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



Hoppy Easter from Teddy Choi!

March 2018 Activities:

- Phone calls: 1188
- Meetings: 32
- Hosted meetings: 49



Mount Vernon District Staff: Allison Miessler, Donna Slaymaker, Christine Morin, Supervisor Dan Storck, Camela Speer & Tae Choi

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.
Lorton Library: 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
MV District Office: 12:30 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Walk-ins and by appointment



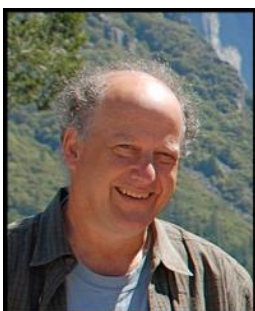


Thank you to our furry friends, their faithful companions, our outstanding vendors and our fabulous volunteers who made this year's event the best ever!

Watch Fairfax County Channel 16's Ides of Bark video (right)!



Recognizing Exceptional Board Authority and Commission Appointees



We have many **District residents** who put forth great effort in **servicing our community** and I believe they deserve special recognition. This month I would like to introduce you to **Jim Klein**, our **District representative on the Trails and Sidewalks Committee**.

As a fair weather **bicycle commuter** from his Hollin Hills neighborhood to his office in Alexandria, Jim is a natural fit to represent the Mount Vernon community on this committee. He is also an **enthusiastic walker** and familiar with many of the parks and trails in the County through both work and pleasure. As one of our newest BAC appointees, Jim **hopes his volunteer efforts will make it easier for more residents to enjoy the benefits of bicycling and**

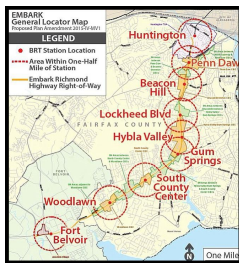
walking.

By trade, Jim is a **professional Landscape Architect** with 37 years of experience designing pedestrian and bicycle facilities throughout the region. He has worked on **plans and designs for regional trails** like the Anacostia Riverwalk Trail, Capital Crescent and Metropolitan Branch Trails, as well as the new Neabsco Creek Boardwalk Crossing, now under construction in Woodbridge.

Jim and his wife Elisabeth Lardner have lived in **Hollin Hills** with their yellow lab since 1993. Their adult sons graduated from **West Potomac High School**. In addition to enjoying nearby parks and trails, **Jim enjoys hiking, canoeing, gardening, and the region's rich array of performing and visual arts**. He and his wife own a small business practicing Landscape Architecture and Planning. Jim believes that **volunteers are the backbone of our community**, adding that without them many of the things we enjoy about living here would either not be available, or would not be as accessible.

Thank you, Jim, for working hard to **improve the trails and sidewalks** in our community for the **benefit and enjoyment of all**.

In the News in Mount Vernon District



The Board of Supervisors **recently approved the Embark Comprehensive Plan Amendment**, the next major hurdle in **re-imagining and redeveloping the Richmond Highway corridor** and **moving us into the 21st century**. The Plan amendment clears the way for **modern, high-density transit oriented development** in the corridor to support a **bus rapid transit (BRT) system**, from the Huntington Metro Station to Fort Belvoir, and ultimately a Yellow Line **Metrorail extension**. Read more in a recent [Mount Vernon Gazette article](#).

I recently visited the **National Museum of the United States Army (NMUSA)** for an update on construction progress and a view of what the museum will bring to our region. The **planning and concept for this endeavor is impressive** and I am certain the NMUSA will be an **asset to the District**. Read more in a recent [Fairfax Times article](#).



This past week we held the **Community Open House for the Original Mount Vernon High School Master Plan** development. Over the coming months we will be **actively engaged with the community** in re-envisioning the 42-acre historic school campus and park site. The Open House was **extremely well attended**. **Thank you** to everyone who took the time to come out and share your ideas. **You can still provide input!** [Click here](#) to learn more, or email us at omvhs@fairfaxcounty.gov.

The South County Boys Varsity Basketball Team are the 2018 State Champions! The South County Stallions defeated the Western Branch Bruins 63-47, for the **school's first 6A State Championship**. Read more in the [Fairfax Station Connection article](#). **Go Stallions!**



The recent major **wind storm damaged four Mount Vernon HS rowing team racing shells**. The team is **seeking donations** to replace the tree damaged boats. The Mount Vernon program is not supported by Mount Vernon High School or Fairfax County, and insurance will not cover the entire replacement cost. According to the team treasurer, the **additional cost of acquiring new (used) equipment could run as high as \$15,000**. Read more and learn how to help in a recent [Mount Vernon Gazette article](#).

Outgoing **Mount Vernon District Planning Commissioner Earl Flanagan** was recently commended for his outstanding service at his last Planning Commission hearing. We **thank Earl for his service** and share this [Mount Vernon Gazette article](#) for your reading enjoyment.

Upcoming Events & Meetings

April

thru Mar		April Library Events	Mount Vernon District Libraries
thru Apr		April Park Events	County Parks
5 - 8		DMV2Go	Hollin Hall
7	9 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	<i>Little Hunting Creek Cleanup</i>	Little Hunting Creek
7	2 p.m.	<i>Ventures in Community MLK Day of Remembrance</i>	Bethlehem Baptist Church
7	6:30 - 11:30 p.m.	<i>LCAC 2018 Spring into Action Gala</i>	Harbour View
7	7 - 8:30 p.m.	<i>Benefit Concert for Alice's Kids Featuring West Potomac Senior Geoff Gallante</i>	Mount Vernon Country Club
10	9:30 a.m.	Board of Supervisors Meeting	County Government Center
10	7:30 p.m.	<i>Monthly South County Federation Meeting</i>	South County HS
10 - 12	various	County Budget Hearings	County Government Center
12	7:30 - 11 a.m.	<i>Economic Summit Outlook 2018</i>	Belle Haven Country Club
14	various	<i>Potomac Watershed CleanUps</i>	various
14	8 a.m. - 12 p.m.	Secure Document Shredding Event	I-95 Landfill
14	10 a.m. - noon	<i>Opioid Awareness Forum</i>	Mount Vernon Governmental Center
14	1 - 3:00 p.m.	Teen Job Fair	Mount Vernon HS
14	6:00 p.m.	<i>UCM Give From the Heart Gala</i>	United States Patent and Trademark Office
17	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Information Meeting: Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)	West Potomac HS
18	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Information Meeting: Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)	Mount Vernon HS
21	10 a.m. - 4 p.m.	Springfest	Sully Historic Site
20	10 a.m.	Board of Supervisors Meeting - Budget Mark-Up	County Government Center
25	8:00 p.m.	<i>Monthly Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations Meeting</i>	Mount Vernon Governmental Center
28	9 a.m. - noon	<i>Community Job Fair</i>	Good Shepard Catholic Church
28	9 a.m. - 1 p.m.	Operation Stop Scams Event	County Government Center
28	10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	Operation Medicine Cabinet Clean Out	All County Police Stations

29	noon - 2 p.m.	Reduced Cost Rabies Clinic	Mount Vernon Governmental Center
30	10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	50+ Employment Expo	Fairfax Marriott at Fair Oaks

May

1	6 - 8 p.m.	Earl Flanagan Celebration	Mount Vernon Governmental Center
5	10 a.m. - 2 p.m.	Preparedness Awareness Weekend	Gum Springs Community Center
6	6:00 - 7 p.m.	Mount Vernon RECenter Citizen Meeting	Mount Vernon RECenter

Honoring Park History

Learn more about Mason Neck State Park.



Saving Our Environment

SOLARIZE FAIRFAX COUNTY RETURNS APRIL 2nd!

Back by popular demand, **Fairfax County's Solarize campaign** returns this year from April 2nd through May 31st. Like last year, the campaign includes **free onsite solar assessments**, a bulk **purchase discount**, vetted contractors, and community support. For more information about Solarize, or to sign up for a free assessment, [click here](#). For more information about solar energy in general, visit [Energy Action Fairfax's Renewables](#) page.

Not sure if solar panels are right for you? We encourage you to attend one of **three information sessions**, where you'll learn the basics of solar panels and be able to ask questions directly to our contractors. The first information session will also be **broadcast live on Channel 16** and will be available after that [on Demand](#).



Nominate Fairfax County to Receive a \$20K Grant for Earth Month

The County Park Authority and the County Park Foundation



invite you to **vote for County parks** in the National Recreation and Park Association's "**Meet Me at the Park**" **Earth Month Campaign**. The locale that receives the **most nominations** will receive a **\$20,000 grant** to improve a local park. [Read more and vote...](#)

Supporting Our Seniors

Real Estate Tax Relief

The County provides **real estate tax relief and car tax relief to citizens who are either 65 or older**, or permanently and totally disabled, and meet the income and asset eligibility requirements. Qualified taxpayers **may also be eligible for tax relief for renters**.

[Read more...](#)

Caregiver College by AARP

AARP has teamed up with Mount Vernon at Home and the Alzheimer's Association to present the [Caregiver College](#). Over the course of six weeks, we'll cover topics including legal and financial planning, healthy living, communications, self-care, and more. Classes will be held at the Hollin Hall Senior Center, 1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria, VA 22308 on Wednesdays from 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. starting on April 18th and running through May 23rd. Light refreshments will be served. Classes are free and open to all. Registration is kindly requested. To register, please call 1-877-926-8300 or [register online](#).

50+ Employment Expo



Community Information

Share Your Thoughts on the County Budget

Speak at the budget public hearings at the Fairfax County Government Center on April 10, April 11 and April 12. Sign up to speak [here](#).

Submit video testimony - easy as 1, 2, 3!

1. Record your 3 minute statement on your Smart phone.
2. Post your video on YouTube.
3. Complete the on-line submission form [here](#).

[Click here](#) for more information on submitting video testimony.

Send written testimony to clerktothebos@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Information Meetings: Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)

Fairfax County will hold **two public information meetings** on the **Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project**:

- **Tuesday, April 17, 6:30-8:30 p.m.**, in the cafeteria of West Potomac High School, 6500 Quander Road, Alexandria; and
- **Wednesday, April 18, 6:30-8:30 p.m.**, in the cafeteria of Mt. Vernon High School, 8515 Old Mt. Vernon Road, Alexandria.

Members of the public are invited to attend either meeting, where representatives from the Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) and project consultants will provide background information, discuss next steps, answer questions and take public comments related to the planning and design of the BRT system. The same material will be presented at both meetings.

[Read more...](#)

Mount Vernon RECenter Citizen Meeting

A citizen meeting will be held on Sunday, May 6 at 6:00 p.m. at the Mount Vernon RECenter for an **update on the RECenter renovation project**. This meeting will be an opportunity for citizens to **meet the architect**, as well as to **learn about the design process and the project schedule**. Attendees will have an opportunity to provide comment and to ask questions. **All are welcome to attend.**

Community Shred Event

The **Fairfax County Solid Waste Management Program** will be sponsoring one secure document shredding event in each supervisory district per calendar year. These events are **only open to Fairfax County residents** along with residents of the Towns of Vienna, Herndon and Clifton and the Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church. Documents from businesses will not be accepted.

Please Note: Shredding events **start at 8 a.m. and conclude at 12 p.m.** All cars must be in line by 12 p.m. These are drive-through events and residents will be asked to remain in their vehicles. For everyone's safety, you will not be able to stand by and watch your paper being shredded.

Looking for a Summer Internship?

Are you, or do you know a college student, looking for a **summer internship in local government**? Join our **dynamic TEAM MVD** working for the residents of the Mount Vernon District. Get an up-close look at **how local government works**, learn about **constituent issues** and how to resolve them, all while gaining valuable **real-world work experience**. If you would like to be considered, please send your **resume and a cover letter** outlining your interests to mtvernon@fairfaxcounty.gov by April 30.

Reagan National Noise Complaint Process

The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) Noise Information Office accepts and analyzes aircraft noise complaints associated with airplanes operating in/out of Reagan National (DCA) and Dulles International (IAD) airports. Each noise complaint received is considered a single data point and becomes the most significant input in determining the environmental impact of the aircraft operations. MWAA forwards the complaints to the airlines and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). In addition, the noise complaint data are analyzed and summarized in MWAA's annual noise report. [Click here](#) to read more and for links to file a complaint.



Preparedness Awareness Weekend May 5th at Gum Springs Community Center

Preparedness Awareness Weekend (PAW) empowers families to prepare for sudden emergencies both natural and man-made. Our program provides **hands-on, developmental training**. The event will have a display of **emergency kits** from infant through adult, including pets and individuals with special needs. Families will also learn how to make an **emergency plan** (evacuation, emergency contact, etc.). **Community partners** will provide a variety of different information to families about **keeping their families safe** for any emergency that might arise in our community.

Gum Springs Community Center (8100 Fordson Rd. Alexandria, VA 22306) on May 5th, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. [Click here](#) for more information.

Mount Vernon Lee Chamber Golf Classic

The **20th Annual Chamber Golf Classic is Wednesday, May 16**, at Laurel Hill Golf Club. This popular event is the main fundraiser for the **Chamber's Scholarship Fund** and will be capped at 120 golfers.

The shotgun start is at 1:00 pm, but plan on coming early for lunch, the putting contest, and **networking with other business and community leaders**. This event is fun, affordable, and the "must play" golf outing for south Fairfax County. [Read more and register...](#)



Important Safety Messages

Operation Medicine Cabinet Cleanout

Residents are encouraged to participate in Operation Medicine Cabinet Cleanout, a **free, convenient, confidential, and safe medicine disposal event** on Saturday, April 28. Unused or expired medications can be dropped off at **all eight Fairfax County District Police Stations** from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Only pills and liquids will be accepted, no pressurized canisters or needles. Drop-off locations are available online. Safe disposal of unused or expired medications prevents drug abuse and misuse, accidental poisoning, and protects the environment. This event is being held in conjunction with **National Prescription Drug Take Back Day**.



Get Involved in Battling the Opioid Crisis this April: Here's How

In 2016, over **63,600 people died of a drug overdose** in the United States; over 66% of those involved an opioid. Nationally, as well as in our own communities, we are experiencing **rapid increases in the number of deaths and overdoses** involving prescription medications and illicit opioids. Fairfax County has a plan to work towards addressing the crisis. Part of this plan includes you, the residents of our community.

In April, there are **free community involvement opportunities** that will allow residents to learn more about the opioid crisis, why it is a danger, and **preventative measures** people can take.

[Read more...](#)

Code Compliance - Hoarding

Hoarding may be defined as 'a pattern of **behavior characterized by the excessive acquisition, collection, and retention of objects** (newspapers, trash, unopened sale items, clothing, paper, rotting food and even animal(s), along with an inability or unwillingness to discard those objects, causing significant distress or impairment.' It is considered to be a **mental illness or a medical condition** that may require evaluation and treatment. Hoarders are generally unaware that their lifestyle is a problem and rarely seek treatment, and it is difficult to change this type of behavior without professional assistance. Conditions in the home of a hoarder can become so extreme that all available space from **floor to ceiling may be occupied** and the day-to-day activities, as well as the emergency access, of the home's occupants are impeded.

For suspected hoarding situations in your neighborhood, **please contact DCC** rather than attempting to clean up the house or solve the person's hoarding problem yourself. See the [DCC Hoarding Protocol](#).

Emerald Ash Borer and Tree Health

Emerald ash borer (EAB) is an introduced invasive insect that has wiped out ash trees in more than 30 states including Virginia where there are unlikely to be many remaining, healthy ash trees. When an ash tree is attacked by EAB, it will almost certainly die if nothing is done to protect it.



Emerald ash borer parasitoids released in County

[Read more...](#)

Summer Camps



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

With more than **1900 weeks of camp** to choose from, the Park Authority is the largest summer camp provider in Northern Virginia. They offer a **wide variety of activities for all ages and abilities**. [Click here](#) to see their summer camp brochure.

ARCADIA FARM CAMP

Arcadia Farm Camp is all about farming, food, and fun! At Arcadia campers will learn about **daily farm life**, explore the delicious world of **sustainable food**, and engage in **fun and safe play** in an outdoor setting. Arcadia located in Alexandria, VA and offers **5 one-week long, themed sessions** that run **July 9th-August 10th**. [Click here](#) today for more information.



WORKHOUSE ARTS CENTER

The **Workhouse Arts Center** has **Visual and Performing Arts Summer Camps** for kids ages 3-17. Campers work alongside Professional Artists and Professional Educators to excel in different mediums, learn various techniques, and create quality **artwork, music, and performances** with every visit. Learn more about this year's upcoming camps at our website. [Contact us](#) at or (703) 584-2900, option 2 for information about our Needs-Based Scholarship, Multiple Child Discount, and Payment Plans. [Click here](#) for more information.



GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

George Mason University offers a **wide variety of summer camps and programs** at its multiple campus locations in the areas of **art, technology, academics, sports, recreation, radio, forensics, debate, and more.** [Click here](#) for more information.

Mount Vernon HS Teen Job Fair

**APR
14TH**

MOUNT VERNON HS

SAT

**11AM
- 1PM**

2018

**LOCAL BUSINESSES
ARE LOOKING TO HIRE
YOU!**

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**& RESUME
BUILDING
WORKSHOPS**

**SUPERVISORS STORCK, HERRITY AND MCKAY, ALONG WITH THE
MOUNT VERNON-LEE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND
CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS INVITE YOU TO
THEIR 2018 MOUNT VERNON HIGH SCHOOL TEEN JOB FAIR
AND RESUME BUILDING WORKSHOPS**

WWW.FAIRFAXCOUNTY.GOV/SPRINGFIELD/TEENJOBFAIRS

**8515 OLD MOUNT
VERNON RD,
ALEXANDRIA, VA
22309**

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 at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/alerts.

Boards, Authorities and Commission Members Needed

Help serve your community by serving on a Fairfax County Board, Authority or Commission. Please ask your friends, neighbors and community members if they are willing to help serve Fairfax County. Supervisor Storck has vacancies on:



Airports Advisory Commission

To advise the Board on all airports and aircraft operations affecting Fairfax County. To expand the committee's responsibilities and feasibility of establishing a countywide aircraft noise complaint center.

Commission on Aging

To identify and promote better understanding of the problems of the aging and to plan and promote and where it is found necessary, conduct activities to contribute to their well-being. Meetings are at 12:00 p.m. on the third Wednesday of every month, except August.

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 [here](#).