



## Mount Vernon Advisor

[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mountvernon](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mountvernon)  
May 10, 2018



### Sign up for the Mount Vernon Advisor



Dear Neighbors,

April showers bring **May flowers**. **WOW** these past few days of spring have been beautiful! As we ease into May, we **think of moms, grads, summer vacations and springtime adventures**. And, these things make me think of my mom, Kathy. Mom is a **farm girl at heart**, with a **strong love for nature**, birds, flowers and family. At the mature age of 91, she still works her flower beds, **fills her bird feeders** and maintains her own household. As the matriarch of our family, she is **devoted to her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and all people**. She can be as stubborn as the day is long and independent as a robin. Most of all, she **always has something positive to say** and cares deeply about each person as one of God's creatures, regardless of the person or situation.

I have gained my **love of nature** and appreciation for the natural world from my mom. Enjoying our natural world and the people in it continues to be a passion of mine, whether running, biking or hiking. I hope as you take time this month to **recognize or remember your wives, moms, grand moms, or other significant female role models in your life**, you remember the happiness, joy, strength and dedication they have brought to you and your family.

As you read through this newsletter, I hope you are inspired to go on some **spring adventures** in the Mount Vernon District. From farmers markets to community clean ups, spring musicals to new playgrounds, **we have much to appreciate!**

In case you did not see my BOS Brief last week, at Tuesday's Board meeting we **adopted the FY 2019 Budget** that **fully funds our schools**, provides market rate

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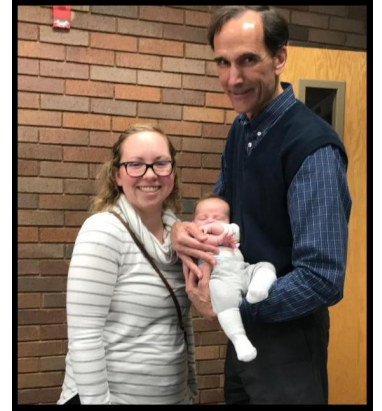
County employee compensation, as well as supports **public safety and social services initiatives**. The FY 2019 Budget strikes the balance between keeping taxes affordable for our residents and **maintaining the high quality services** for which our County is known. [Click here](#) to read my BOS Brief with more information on the County budget.

Please join us on **May 14** for the **Mount Vernon Voice Community Celebration**. We will gather with our community to thank **Marlene Miller and Steve Hunt** for being the "Voice" of Mount Vernon for the last 16 years. [More information](#) and to RSVP.

Respectfully yours in public service,



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



**Allison and Baby Sophia visit the office**

**April 2018 Activities:**

- Phone calls: 1052
- Meetings: 62
- Hosted meetings: 42



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](mailto:mtvernon@fairfaxcounty.gov)

**Office Hours**

Monday - Wednesday, Friday:

8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Second Saturday Each Month.

Lorton Library: 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

MV District Office: 12:30 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Walk-ins and by appointment



## Celebrating Earl Flanagan



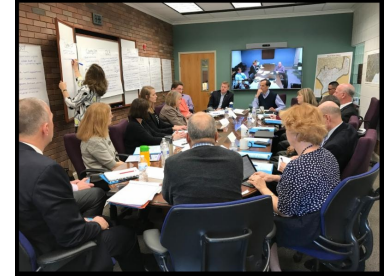
Thank you to everyone who joined us on May 1 to celebrate former Planning Commissioner Earl Flanagan. Enjoy this special musical tribute to Earl on our [Facebook page!](#)

## Strategic Economic Development Team Launched

### Supervisors Storck and McKay Focus on Economic Development

With a laser focus on bringing **new economic development** with both private and public investments to the corridor, Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay and I launched a **Strategic Economic Development Team** to bring together **key organizations** to **drive economic development** to the Richmond Highway corridor. Over the coming year, the Team will work together toward a common goal - the **successful implementation of Embark**. We will work closely with this group to utilize their **varied expertise** to drive **new quality businesses and investment** to the Richmond

Highway corridor. Much like Tyson's and Merrifield, new economic development in the Mount Vernon and Lee Districts will not only **improve the lives of District residents**, but ripple effects will be felt throughout the entire County. [Read more...](#)



## Community Champions



Earlier this month, **Shirley Steenstra** was recognized by Volunteer Fairfax as a **Community Champion**. Shirley works each Friday in Lorton Community Action Center's (LCAC) thrift store, **Lorton's Attic**. The store serves a dual purpose in the community: providing vouchers for LCAC families to shop for free (clothing, household items or furniture) and raising revenue for the organization to purchase food, assist families with past due rent or utilities or other needs.

Shirley is a **selfless volunteer** and a **true "behind the scenes" champion!** Lacking volunteers to keep Lorton's Attic open on Saturdays, Shirley stepped up and has led a team of volunteers for many years. The District is fortunate to have a very active citizenry dedicated and devoted to helping others to connect within the community. **Shirley embodies these qualities and is a true champion!**

Each year the **Fairfax County Animal Shelter** hosts a **Volunteer Appreciation Reception** for all volunteers that provide **outstanding help with the animals** at the shelter. Each month over **2,500 hours of volunteer time** are donated to help with a variety of programs benefiting not only the animals, but also our community. Over **250 volunteers** attended the reception last week. **Thank you to all District residents who support this important effort!**



*Pictured left to right: Former Sully District Supervisor Michael Frey, Deputy County Executive Dave Rohrer, Friends of the Shelter President Evelyn Grieve, Friends of the Shelter Director Celia Frye, Fairfax County Animal Shelter Director Karen Diviney.*



A huge thank you to **Cathy Ledec**, Tree Commissioner, and **Cub Scout Pack 888** and their families who implemented a **Native Landscaping Project** at the Mount Vernon Governmental Center earlier this month. These great volunteers **planted native trees** strategically to shade the building to **reduce energy use, buffer noise, reduce the urban heat island effect, create a natural privacy screen**, and, soften the edges of the building making it more visually appealing to all. The plantings will also **reduce maintenance costs** (less turf grass to mow, also reducing air pollution from the lawn mower) and provide visual relief for staff working inside the building where the **view is now of beautiful native trees and plants**. [Read more](#) about the project and native plantings.

# In the News in Mount Vernon District



**Arcadia Center for Sustainable Food and Agriculture** won a **\$225,000 grant** as part of the first annual Project Innovation grant challenge awarded by NBC4, Telemundo 44 and the NBCUniversal Foundation. Winning organizations were selected for their innovative programs that use technology to solve everyday problems in the areas of civic engagement, skills for the digital economy and STEM/STEAM youth programs. Arcadia notes that the grant will be used to install a

**"Farm in a Box" program** on the **Arcadia Veteran Farm Incubator**. [Click here](#) to read NBC4's story.

**Inova Mount Vernon** achieves **rare perfect score** for its total **hip and total knee replacement programs**. Recently, a comprehensive day-long review of the **Inova Joint Replacement Center** at Inova Mount Vernon Hospital was conducted. **The Joint Commission**, a non-profit organization providing accreditation and certification for healthcare organizations and programs, completed the review and issued the perfect score. [Click here](#) to read Covering the Corridor's story.



*Photo courtesy of Inova Mount Vernon Hospital*



**West Potomac Governor's Health Sciences Academy** has been awarded a grant from the Virginia Department of Education to **purchase new equipment** and make other improvements. The grant, for **\$37,500**, is one of 16 awarded to high schools and technical centers to upgrade equipment for their career and technical education programs. West Potomac Academy is one of six high school academies in Fairfax County Public Schools. [Click here](#) to read more.

South County HS marketing **students pitch big ideas** in Buzz Tank. The I-95 landfill complex is sitting on a goldmine, **liquid gold**, that is, as in **pure honey**. At least that's the case SCHS students in Ms. Kellen Scott's marketing class are making. Recently, **18 teams pitched their ideas** for marketing honey harvested from 24 bee hives at the Lorton site. Next steps include working with **George Mason University's Honey Bee Initiative**, and maybe some of the students, to make some of the **ideas come to life**. [Click here](#) to read more.



A small, private **State Dinner** was **hosted at George Washington's Mount Vernon** last month. Steeped in history and home to our first President, the Mount Vernon Estate has a **long tradition of hosting foreign dignitaries**. The first French notable to visit the Estate was Jean-Bapiste Donatien de Vimeur, Comte de Rochambeau, while in the company of George Washington, on their way to the battle of Yorktown in 1781. This week, the Estate had the privilege to host French **President Emmanuel Macron and his wife, Brigitte Macron**,

for a State Dinner. Rich in history and culture, the **Mount Vernon Magisterial District is proud to have been chosen as the location for this prestigious event**. [Read more](#) about French visitors to the Estate.

## Upcoming Events & Meetings

- May: [District Library Events](#)
- May: [Community Farmers Markets](#)
- May 10: [Northern Virginia Transportation Authority Six Year Program Public Hearing](#) - 5:30 p.m. Open House/7 p.m. Public Hearing
- May 11: [Huntley Meadows Stunning Sunset Tour with Local History](#) - 7:30 p.m.
- May 12: [21st Annual Eagle Festival](#) - 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- May 14: [Mount Vernon Voice Community Open House](#) - 6 - 8 p.m.
- May 16: [Mount Vernon Lee Chamber Chamber Golf Classic](#) - 1 p.m.
- May 17: [Mobile DMV](#)
- May 17: [FCDOT Public Meeting - Changes to Connector Bus Routes](#) - 6 p.m.
- May 17: [Northern Virginia Transportation Authority Six Year Program Public Meeting](#) - 7 p.m.

- May 19: [Friends of Dyke Marsh Planting Day](#) - 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- May 19: [Community Shred Event](#) - 8 a.m. - noon
- May 22: [Free LED Light Bulbs](#) - 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
- May 23: [Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations Meeting](#) - 8 p.m.
- June 4: [Zoning Open House](#) - 7 p.m.
- June 6: [Huntington Levee Community Meeting](#) - 6:30 - 8 p.m.

## Transportation Information

### **COMMUNITY CALL TO ACTION!** **Act Now to Save Richmond Highway Funding!**

**We need your help** to tell the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTA) to **fund our Richmond Highway projects!** Join us for NVTA's Public Hearing and add your voice **tonight, Thursday, May 10 at 7:00 p.m.** at the [NVTA offices](#).

**Three projects** in the Mount Vernon District are being considered for NVTA funding:

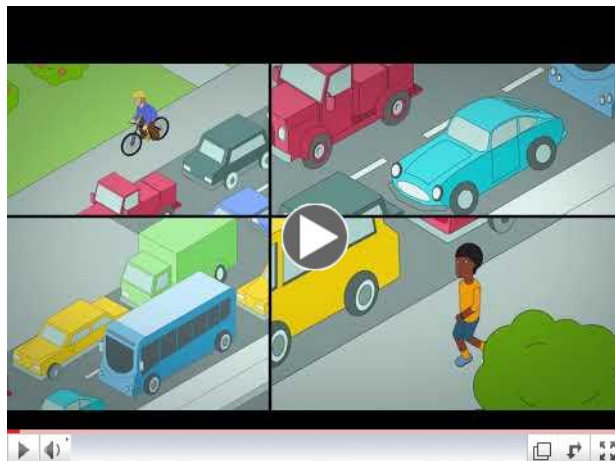
- **\$250 million** for the Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project
- **\$127 million** for the Richmond Highway widening project
- **\$12 million** to match Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) funds to replace the Richmond Highway underpass below the CSX Railroad in Lorton.

**These projects are important to helping bring the recently-adopted Embark Comprehensive Plan Amendment to life!**

[Read more](#) about the funding needs and **additional options** to make your voice heard! **Every voice matters!**

### **Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit**

Fairfax County **Department of Transportation** is working with **residents, community stakeholders**, and partner agencies to **plan, design, and construct a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system** for the Richmond Highway Corridor. Watch the new animated video that **outlines how multi-modal transportation options**, including bus rapid transit and dedicated space for cyclists and pedestrians, **will transform the Richmond Highway corridor.**



**Read more** on the Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit [webpage](#).

## Roadway Paving Schedule 2018

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) **paving schedule is now [on-line](#)**! You can find specific **schedule information**, updated weekly, as well as **direct contact information** to the paving Construction Manager in the field.

### Public Feedback Sought on Proposed Improvements to Existing Fairfax Connector Routes

Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) is requesting **feedback on proposed Fairfax Connector service changes to Routes [171](#) and [699](#)**. The proposed changes aim to **increase ridership** and to **enhance the customer experience** through **improved on-time performance** and **service reliability**. FCDOT will hold an **outreach event** on the proposed changes, Thursday, **May 17, 2018** from **6:00 - 8:00 p.m.** at [Irving Middle School](#). The meeting will include a **presentation at 7:00 p.m.** on the proposed changes and Fairfax Connector representatives will be on hand to **answer questions** and **take feedback** from attendees.

[Public Meeting Presentation](#)

[Read more](#) about the changes and **additional ways to provide your feedback!**

## Honoring Fairfax History

### "Then and Now" Photo Exhibit



## Saving Our Environment

### Educational Light Bulb Events Feature FREE LEDS

Fairfax County is hosting its first series of **LED Light Bulb Exchanges** at libraries throughout the county. The events will **explain the benefits of LEDs** and feature an **interactive lighting display** showing different types of bulbs. Participants can also receive **one free LED light bulb**, and up to four more if you bring in old incandescents or CFLs to exchange. The LEDs provided will be 60W equivalent, warm white, ENERGY STAR® certified, and non-dimmable. For more information, please visit our [Energy Action Fairfax webpage](#).

Visit the **Sherwood Regional Library** on **Tuesday, May 22 between 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** to get your **free LED light bulb!**

## Feel Free to Plant a Tree!

Trees provide **multiple benefits** including **oxygen production, energy savings and aesthetic value**. A **great time** to plant trees is in the **spring or fall**. Before you plant a tree, make sure that the **space will accommodate** the tree you select in terms of mature height and root growth.

[Read more...](#)



## Supporting Our Seniors

### 2018 Creative Aging Festival

**ARTSFAIRFAX** is partnering with Fairfax County and other community partners for the **2018 Creative Aging Festival** during the month of May, coinciding with **Older Americans Month**. The Creative Aging Festival **celebrates older adults' creativity and participation in the arts** across Fairfax County through visual, music, theatre, dance, literary, and culinary arts activities. [Click here](#) to read more.

#### In the Mount Vernon District:

Program Name	Location	Date	Time
Craft Teas w/ Tina	South County Senior Center	Tuesday, May 22	10:30am-11:30am
Creative Writing	Huntington Community Center	Tuesday, May 22	11:00am-12:00pm
Creative Cooking w/ Vivian	South County Senior Center	Tuesday, May 22	12:00pm
Salsa-Themed Chair Aerobics	Gum Springs Community Center	Tuesday, May 22	1:00pm
John the Story Teller	Lorton Senior Center	Wednesday, May 23	10:30am
Art Demo/Display	Lorton Senior Center	Wednesday, May 23	12:30pm
Mixed Media Art Lab	Huntington Community Center	Friday, May 25	10:30am-11:30am
Barefoot Boogie with Chris Howell to Music Bassappella	Hollin Hall Senior Center	Friday, May 25	1:00-2:00pm
La Movida	Lorton Senior Center	Wednesday, May 30	12:30pm

## Community Information

### It's Farmers Market Time

Fairfax County Park Authority's **11 farmers markets** are open for business! **Spring produce** includes fresh cut greens, asparagus, strawberries, rhubarb, apples, beets and carrots. You can also find freshly baked breads and pastries, cheeses, jams, salsas and more. Produce is harvested hours before sale to ensure optimum taste and nutrition. The **markets are producer-only**, meaning farmers and producers must grow or make everything they sell. More information, including locations, directions and a list of vendors at each market is on the Park Authority's [Farmers Markets page](#).



*Supervisor Storck visits the McCutcheon/Mount Vernon Farmers Market on opening day.*

### 2018 Zoning Open Houses in May and June

Come to a **zoning open house** in May or June-this is your chance to learn about **possible zoning**

**changes** that may affect your neighborhood.

**Community gardens, farmers markets, craft manufacturing, signs, assisted living communities, and short-term rentals, like Airbnb** - these are some of the areas where changes are being considered.

The **three open houses** will take place at **7 p.m.** in the cafeteria of these schools:

- **Monday, May 21:** [Colvin Run Elementary School](#), 1400 Trap Road, Vienna
- **Wednesday, May 23:** [Chantilly High School](#), 4201 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly
- **Monday, June 4:** [South County High School](#), 8501 Silverbrook Road, Lorton

At these events, you'll be able to:

- **Hear** short presentations on proposed zoning changes
- **Learn** how zoning affects land use and development
- **Talk** one-on-one with staff
- **Ask** questions about zoning issues

To learn more or for reasonable ADA accommodations, [visit](#) our webpage or contact the Zoning Administration Division by [email](#) or call 703-324-1314, TTY 711.

## Get Connected to Your Neighborhood on the New Website

With the redesign of [fairfaxcounty.gov](#), **translating the website is easier than ever before**. If you need information in a **different language**, just **click the settings wheel** on the top-right of the home page and **choose the language** you'd like to display. **More than 75 languages** are available, allowing most residents to find information easily in a language that speaks best to them.

## Community Shred Event

Support your local Crime Solvers Program while **disposing of your personal and financial documents** securely! Shredding helps prevent identity theft. **Tax-deductible donations** accepted to **benefit Fairfax County Crime Solvers**. Swing by and drop off your papers for a suggested donation of \$5 per bag/box. **Papers will be shredded on-site**. All shredded materials are recycled to help protect the environment.

Shredding your personal documents is a great way to **help prevent crime**, such as identity theft. Our past shred events have each securely shredded over 1,000 lbs. of personal documents!

**Saturday, May 19 from 8:30 a.m. - noon** at the [Mount Vernon Governmental Center](#).

## 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](mailto:mtvernon@fairfaxcounty.gov) by May 30.

## 21st Annual Eagle Festival at Mason Neck State Park

Imagine a **10 square mile area of protected land** right here in the Mount



Vernon District - a place where **bald eagles soar** and **tundra swans winter**, having left the icy Arctic. A place that is home to plant life and wildlife, large and small. Just over 50 years ago, **Elizabeth Hartwell** led a successful **grassroots effort to preserve** this environment on **Mason Neck**. She succeeded by showing Congress how crucial it is to **protect America's natural resources**.



Her legacy lives on - especially through the **annual Eagle Festival at Mason Neck State Park**. The Festival combines **fun, inspiration and encouragement**. We offer a wide variety of **free activities, demonstrations, and educational programs**, in the hope that our guests will gain a renewed appreciation of, and concern for the environment. [Read more...](#)

**Saturday, May 12 from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.** at [Mason Neck State Park](#).

## Preparedness Awareness Weekend 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. Missed the event? Watch the video!



### A-Z Online Library Resources

Did you know the **library offers online access to free resources** for job-seekers, course tutorials for students, help in tracking ancestors, language training, favorite magazines and much, much more? It's all easy to access on the web page titled "**A-Z Online Resources**" where you can choose free resources from **80 different databases**. Just go to [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library), scroll down to the menu under "Department Resources" and click on "Research Center" to view all the **free digital resources** available to you through your library card.

### Outdoor Experiential Learning Opportunities

The **EDGE, George Mason University's Center for Outdoor Experiential Learning**, is located on the Science and Technology Campus in Manassas, Virginia. The Center provides **hands-on experiential learning programs** that offer thought-provoking, yet fun, team development activities. Learning takes place on **35 low-elements and three high-elements**, plus a variety of portable activities. Programs are **designed to meet the specific needs of each group**. For more information call (703) 993-3761 or [visit](#).

# Important Safety Messages

## Code Compliance - Grass Height

As warmer weather arrives and the County begins to green and come alive after winter, citizens may begin to notice **un-mowed tall grass on residential and commercial properties** in their neighborhoods. Chapter 119 of the State Code regulates grass height, which **may not be taller than 12-inches on any property**, vacant or occupied. The Department of Code Compliance **accepts complaints** related to excessive grass height from April 15th through Mid-October. For more information, visit the [DCC website](#) or view the [flyer](#).

## Code Talk Podcast: The Ins and Outs of Adding a Deck to Your Home

Considering adding a deck to your home this spring? Listen to this [Code Talk Podcast](#) - Decks with Caleb Sulzen for what you need to know!

# Keeping Communities Safe and Healthy

### Keeping Communities Safe and Healthy

#### Household Hazardous Waste Collection



Items that are toxic, ignitable, corrosive or reactive should never be placed in the trash. Fairfax County can recycle these items for you.

**WHERE:**

- I-66 Transfer Station on West Ox Road in Fairfax
- I-95 Landfill Complex on Furnace road in Lorton

**WHEN:**

- 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. M-Sat; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday at the I-66 Transfer Station.
- 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday –Sunday at I-95 Landfill.

**WHAT TO BRING:**

Go to [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/trash/disphhw.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/trash/disphhw.htm) for more information

#### Electronics Recycling

Fairfax County can help you responsibly recycle your unwanted electronic equipment—7 days a week!

**WHERE:** Come to the I-66 Transfer Station on West Ox Road in Fairfax, or the I-95 Landfill complex on Furnace Road in Lorton.

**WHAT:**

- Computers and related equipment, gaming systems, televisions, stereos, and other household electronic devices and cables.



**WHEN:**

- 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. M-Sat; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday at I-66 Transfer Station.
- 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday –Sunday at I-95 Landfill.

### Facts About Recycling

- Source reduction is the first goal of sustainability. Then reuse. Recycling is last. Try to reduce waste in the first place, or reuse items before recycling.
- You should be able to recycle everywhere you go—at home, at work, and at play. If you are concerned that there is no recycling available at a location you frequent, call us at 703-324-5230.
- Recycling creates jobs. The industry supports more that 450,000 jobs for Americans and generates \$10.3 billion in revenue for federal, state, and local governments, according to a report by The Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries ([www.isri.org](http://www.isri.org)).
- Recycled materials are commodities that are traded on world markets. The bales of aluminum cans, mixed paper, cardboard, etc. are sold to manufacturers to make new products. Prices for these materials are set on the open market and can rise and fall based on economic conditions.

# 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](http://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.

### **Health Systems Agency Board**

To improve quality of the health services provided them, both private and public, while restraining increases in the cost of providing health services.

### **Transportation Advisory Committee**

To advise the Board and provide information and comments on major transportation issues faced by the County.

Volunteering on these committees increases citizen participation in our district. If you are interested in serving on a county board, authority, commission, or committee (BAC), please provide a current résumé to [Donna.Slaymaker@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Donna.Slaymaker@fairfaxcounty.gov).

For more information, please download the [brochure](#) for a brief guide to BACs, or learn more on the county website [here](#).

