



Mount Vernon Advisor
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mountvernon
January 2018



Sign up for the Mount Vernon Advisor



Dear Neighbors,

Welcome to 2018! I hope your holiday season was rejuvenating, with time spent with family, friends and neighbors. As we start this new year, I encourage you to resolve to get engaged in your community in 2018. Begin by joining us on Saturday, February 3rd for the **31st Annual Town Meeting** to hear about our **2017 accomplishments, our 2018 goals** and the many ways you can contribute to the Mount Vernon District.

Our 2018 focus will remain on **improving the quality of life** for all residents. This includes advocating for and **supporting great schools, public safety improvements** and **increasing community engagement**. We will continue to look for opportunities to provide **better transportation options, new jobs** and **connected communities**, while **protecting our environment** for future generations. Every day **TEAM MVD** (your Mount Vernon District staff) strive to provide **outstanding constituent service**, including answering your calls on the first ring, returning calls and emails within two working days, and communicating regularly. Here are just a few ways our office can help you:

- Who do I call to get my street plowed?
- What can I do if my neighbor is playing loud music in the middle of the night?
- How do I contact my state or federal legislator?
- When is the next County budget public hearing?

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As we ring in the new year, we begin a new **budget season**. As I write this, the new County Executive Bryan Hill is preparing to release his proposed FY 2019 Advertised Budget. In November, the County and the School Boards jointly presented a **cautious FY 2019 budget forecast**. The good news is that we are making progress on our economic success initiatives to grow and diversify our economy. Home sales, jobs and other key economic indicators are improving. However, both the County's and public schools' budgets are being **impacted by concerns about state revenue and uncertainty about federal tax reform and fiscal policies**. As we advance through the budget process, I will share my budget initiatives and other pertinent information, as well as opportunities for you to voice your opinion.

In December, we launched the **Mount Vernon District Environmental Advisory Committee** to focus our efforts on advancing environmental improvements in the District. One of the first tasks of this Committee has been to review and provide feedback on the County's Environmental Quality Advisory Council's (EQAC) **2017 Annual Report**. You can directly provide your input at EQAC's **Annual Public Hearing on January 10, 2018** at the Government Center starting at 7:30 p.m. Or, even easier, you can submit written or video testimony simply by emailing your words or video link to EQAC@fairfaxcounty.gov. Please [click here](#) or contact our office if you would like additional information.



As some of you may have seen from the steam rising again, the **Covanta Energy-from-Waste Facility** has reopened in Lorton. After almost a year to repair and upgrade the facility following last February's fire, Covanta has fulfilled its systems and outreach commitments to the community. Upgrades include **improved facility performance and enhanced fire detection, prevention, response and air quality monitoring**. You can now visit www.covanta.com/our-facilities/Covanta-fairfax to view daily emissions data from

the facility. The facility processes up to 3,000 tons of municipal solid waste per day to produce enough renewable energy to power 80,000 homes continuously, and recycles approximately 9,000 tons of metals annually.

If you haven't had a chance yet, be sure to check out our **new County and District website!** This greatly **enhanced communication tool** will provide community calendars, event postings, information on constituent issues, project status updates and much more. Have something you would like to see on our website, or information you think would be of interest to our residents? Please **send your ideas** to: mtvernon@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Respectfully yours in public service,

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



December 2017 Activities:

- Phone calls: 696
- Meetings: 41
- Hosted meetings: 25

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:



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

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



Mount Vernon District Town Hall



Join Us for the 31st Mount Vernon Town Meeting!

When: Saturday, February 3, 2018

Where: Mount Vernon High School, 8515 Old Mount Vernon Rd., Alexandria, VA 22309

Times: 7:45 - 9:30am - Exhibit Hall Open

9:30 - noon - Program: Speakers, Audience Q&A's and Virtual Tour

Meet your Supervisor and many county, state and federal leaders. Have your questions answered, learn about issues important to you, connect with county agencies and service providers and mingle with your neighbors. The highlight of the meeting will be taking a **"virtual flying tour"** of the changes in the District in the past year, with your **"pilot" Supervisor Storck.**

Speakers: Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova, New County Executive Bryan Hill, Mount Vernon District School Board Member Karen Corbett Sanders and New Superintendent of Schools Scott Brabrand and other community leaders.

Engage in Our Community in 2018!

To request reasonable ADA accommodations or language translation services, call the Mount Vernon District Office, 703-780-7518 or TTY 711 on or before 1/29/18.

George Washington Parkway Safety Study

At long last, and at the insistence of **regional leaders like Supervisor Dan Storck, Congressman Don Beyer, Senator Scott Surovell and Delegate Paul Krizek** the **National Park Service** will conduct a **traffic study** along the southern portion of the **George Washington Memorial Parkway**, to include evaluating key intersections between Belle Haven and Mount Vernon Circle. The study will begin in Spring 2018, with a final



report expected in late 2018 or early 2019.

The study is anticipated to **identify gaps in information** and **collect new data** from residents and roadway users. The goal will be to **evaluate safety at key intersections** to include Morningside Lane, **explore automated traffic enforcement** and **speed reduction measures**. This information will be used to develop recommendations to **improve safety** along the southern portion of the George Washington Memorial

Parkway. Part of the process will include **public engagement** to obtain input from stakeholders, residents and other users.

In addition to the study, the National Park Service is working to **upgrade existing traffic monitoring devices** along the George Washington Memorial Parkway.

I am pleased that the first steps to improving the safety of this now major commuter roadway begin in 2018! Our residents should not have to play "dodge-em" to access our scenic parks, river or Parkway whether by walking, biking or driving. I sincerely appreciate Congressman Beyers' federal leadership and the unanimous state and local officials' support to finally move this long-time community issue a step forward.

Scarf Storming by Chase the Chill



Thanks to a new Mount Vernon group, [Chase the Chill](#), 121 scarves were recently provided to those in need in our community. On Friday, December 29, 2017, Chase the Chill held their first "**Scarf Storming**" at the South County Government Center. That morning volunteers hung 121 scarves from trees, poles, signs and bus stop shelters. The scarves were tagged with simple messages such as, "I'm not lost. I'm yours if you need me". The volunteers then left the scarves for anyone to anonymously take what they needed. Chase the Chill is a community of knitters and crocheters who voluntarily make these scarves throughout the year and then hold "scarf storming" events in public places to distribute them to the less fortunate. **Thank you to the Mount Vernon Chase the Chill members for this valuable service to our community!**

Follow Chase the Chill on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/chasethechillmountvernon/>

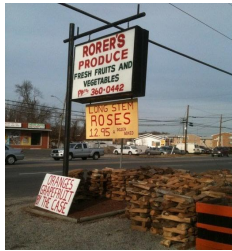
In the News in Mount Vernon District



Our own **Mount Vernon District Police Officer Seth Masterson** was almost struck during a routine traffic stop on Sherwood Hall Lane on Friday, December 22, 2017, when another vehicle sideswiped his driver side door, narrowly missing the 10-year veteran. Fortunately, Officer Masterson was unharmed, but the driver of the striking vehicle was arrested for DWI. "It's a risky business out here with drunk drivers and I know firsthand that it gets awfully close. The cautionary tale is don't drink and drive," says Officer Masterson. **Thank you to Officer Masterson for his service to our community!** [Click here](#) to read the

full ABC7 story and see the interview.

On Christmas night, the District lost a familiar landmark - the **Mount Vernon Antique Center, or Thieves Market**, for those who have lived here long enough. As a result of the massive fire, the market is a complete loss. **Thank you to our brave first responders** who did what they could to control the blaze and keep it from spreading to surrounding buildings. Trucks and personnel from stations in Lorton, Franconia and the city of Alexandria, among others, joined **local units from Penn Daw, Mount Vernon and Woodlawn**.



employees.

Another unfortunate loss for the District was the closure of **Rorer's Produce** at the end of last month. A mainstay on the Richmond Highway Corridor, the market and produce stand have proudly served Mount Vernon residents for more than 30 years. We **wish the best to owner Kenny Rorer**, who has decided to retire after a career dating back to his teen years helping his father grow fruits and vegetables. Kenny says he will miss his customers and

Upcoming Events & Meetings

January

thru 23		<u>Original Mount Vernon HS Master Plan Public Comment Period</u>	Click here to see how to comment
10	6:30 - 9 p.m.	<u>Final Embark Richmond Highway Open House</u>	Whitman Middle School
10	7:30 - 10 p.m.	<u>Environmental Quality Advisory Council Public Hearing</u>	County Government Center
13	9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	<u>Stuff the Bus</u>	Mount Vernon Plaza Shoppers
15		Fairfax County Government Offices Holiday Closure	Mount Vernon District Office
16	7:30 p.m.	<i>Monthly South County Federation</i>	South County HS
23	9:30 a.m.	Board of Supervisors Meeting	County Government Center
18	10 a.m. - noon	<i><u>GrandInvolve: The Match Game - Volunteering With Passion and Purpose</u></i>	Woodlawn Elementary School
24	7:00 p.m.	Community Meeting Launching Fairfax County's Zoning Modernization Project	County Government Center
24	8:00 p.m.	<i>Monthly Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations</i>	Mount Vernon Governmental Center

February

3	7:45 a.m. - noon	<u>31st Annual Mount Vernon Town Meeting</u>	Mount Vernon HS
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George Washington's Mount Vernon Welcomes New Leadership



The Mount Vernon Ladies' Association welcomes **Dr. Doug Bradburn** as the **new President and Chief Executive Officer of George Washington's Mount Vernon**. An accomplished leader and noted American history scholar, Dr. Bradburn has been serving as Founding Director for Mount Vernon's Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of George Washington. With his appointment as president, Dr. Bradburn will expand his responsibilities to oversee the multifaceted daily operations of America's most visited historic home and its research library. He will also work closely with the board to shape the organization's strategic priorities surrounding preservation, education and visitor engagement. We join the Association in welcoming Dr. Bradburn to this new position and **look forward to working with him** to advance "Destination Mount Vernon".

At the same time, we say good bye to **former President and Chief Executive Officer, Curtis G. Viebranz**. Mr. Viebranz has served as president for nearly five years, and was responsible for the successful opening and program development of the Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of George Washington, as well as estate-wide educational and new media initiatives designed to accurately and engagingly portray the life and legacy of George Washington. He spearheaded the development of a five-year strategic plan designed to ensure George Washington's enduring relevance and to affirm Mount Vernon's position as America's most visited historic site, as well as vastly expanding Mount Vernon's digital footprint.

End of Year Report from Inova Mount Vernon

A message from the Inova Mount Vernon CEO:



Zoning Modification Survey

Fairfax County is undertaking a major initiative to modernize its **Zoning Ordinance**, which was adopted in its current form 40 years ago. The county has hired Clarion Associates, a national land use consulting firm, to assist with this important project. The effort will include a reformatting of the structure of the ordinance and a recategorization of land uses to make them more reflective of current terminologies and use characteristics.

Share Your Thoughts

A public survey is available during the month of January. Please take the time to let us know your thoughts about the current zoning ordinance! Your input will help to guide the process. You can find the survey at the following link: www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZMOD

Attend the Kick-Off Meeting

January 24, 2018

7:00 pm | Fairfax County Government Center

12000 Government Center Parkway | Fairfax, VA 22035

To find out more about the project, please visit our project website at:
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning-zoning/zmod

Notice to Fairfax Connector Passengers

Prepare! Stay Informed of Service Changes During Inclement Weather

During inclement weather, heavy snow or icy conditions, **Fairfax Connector** may reduce, modify or suspend service due to poor travel conditions. If road conditions become unsafe, icy or snow packed, service may be suspended on a route-by-route basis, or system-wide.

There are things you can do to plan for your commute and stay informed of service changes during inclement weather:

- **Detours and Service Disruptions:** Make sure to sign-up for [Fairfax Connector BusTracker](#) real-time alerts to get notifications on detours and service disruptions.
- **Operating Status:** Sign-up for "Fairfax Connector Passenger Information" text/email alerts at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/alerts, and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).
- **Routes and Schedules:** View schedules online or call 703-339-7200, TTY 703-339-1608, Mon - Fri 5 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Sat - Sun 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.



Important Safety Messages

Frozen Pipes

If your water pipes or meter freezes, never try to thaw it with an open flame, torch, hair dryer or electrical equipment. Always be careful of the potential for electric shock in and around standing water. Please contact Fairfax Water for assistance at 703-698-5800 during normal business hours or our after-hours/emergency number 703-698-5613.

Helpful Links:

- Winter water tips:
http://www.fairfaxwater.org/current/winter_tips.htm
- Check for recent main breaks in your area: <http://fwnotifications.org/public/>
- Channel 16/FW video on preparing for winter:



Can Your Fire Place Ash!

Keeping warm with a fire in your fire place? Please make sure you do so safely! The County has recently experienced several home fires that were caused by improperly discarded fire place ashes.

The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department would like to remind all residents to be cautious and keep safety in mind when handling fire place ashes. Following a few simple safety tips can help keep you and your loved ones safe.

- Do not discard your ashes into any combustible container such as a paper or plastic bag, a cardboard box, or a plastic trash can.
- Do not place ash containers on decks, porches, or in garages.
- Put ashes into a non-combustible metal container with a lid.
- Pour water into the container to make sure the ashes are cool.

- Keep your can OUTSIDE the home, away from your fireplace or stove and anything combustible.
- Teach all family members to be safe with ashes from your fireplace or wood stove.



Code Compliance

Time to check your smoke alarms! Make sure they are working, but also check to see if they comply with Fairfax County Code Laws. [Click here](#) to read more.

Virginia Flood Survey

A **survey** is being conducted in our area **on attitudes toward flooding and flood insurance**, and related experiences. The survey is sponsored by the Department of Homeland Security and administered by RTI International, a non-profit research institute. The target audience is homeowners in different regions of the state, including Northern Virginia and Southeastern Virginia.

The survey staff report: "The survey is completely voluntary and is unpaid. However, the results of the survey are extremely important and community members may find the survey interesting or helpful. Results from the survey will be used to help us develop education and other materials that will help people in your community. It shouldn't take more than 15 minutes to complete."

The survey closes on January 31, 2018. [Click here](#) to take the survey.

Community Information

Trap, Neuter and Return (TNR) Community Cat Training

Attend this training and learn how and why you should participate and support TNR. You will also learn valuable information so you can speak with those that are opposed to TNR. After you attend the training, you will be allowed to help TNR Fairfax County cats for FREE at the Fairfax Animal Shelter Vet Clinic each Monday. Traps will be loaned FREE through the Fairfax County Animal Shelter.

You must RSVP to reserve a seat to attend the training session. RSVP to animals13@verizon.net

Training will be held at the Kingstown Library located at 6500 Landsdowne Center, Alexandria, VA on the following dates:

- Saturday, January 13, 2018 at 12:00 p.m.
- Saturday, February 10, 2018 at 12:00 p.m.
- Saturday, March 10, 2018 at 12:00 p.m.



Thank you for being part of the solution!

Help Stock Food Pantry Shelves this Winter

Food Pantries are full at holidays, with giving at its peak as people celebrate the season. However, after the New Year "giving fatigue" has set in and most pantries' supplies run ebb. To help, Fairfax County runs "Stuff the Bus", a food pantry giving campaign that partners with nonprofits, grocery stores and MV transportation to restock depleted shelves.

Stuff the Bus runs from Martin Luther King weekend through Presidents Day at fourteen local Giant and Shoppers Food and Pharmacy stores. From 9:30 a.m - 4:00 p.m., volunteers from local nonprofit food pantries collect donated food from local shoppers. The food is then placed in an MV Transportation FASTRAN bus, and when it's full, the bus delivers the food to the food pantry.

Mount Vernon District Locations:

Saturday, January 13

Mt. Vernon Plaza Shoppers 7660 Richmond Highway Alexandria, VA 22306
Benefitting United Community Ministries

Saturday, February 3

Lorton Giant Shoppes at Lorton Valley 8941 Ox Road Lorton, VA 22079
Benefitting Lorton Community Action Center

Saturday, February 17

Kingstowne Giant 5870 Kingstowne Boulevard Alexandria, VA 22315
Benefitting Koinonia Foundation



For more dates and locations, [click here](#).

100% of donations go directly to the nonprofit! Every bit helps - please stop by, donate online or share this on social media. Every bit helps!

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.

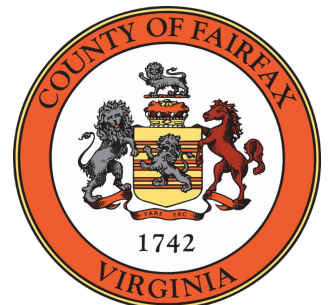


Boards, Authorities and Commission Members Needed

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.

Trails and Sidewalks Committee

To report to the Board for the purpose of providing citizen input and oversight to planning and developing a countywide trails system. The Trails and Sidewalks Committee evaluates existing facilities for trails, sidewalks and bicycle routes and assists the county in producing maps of these facilities, and plans new facilities. Committee members also evaluate subdivision plans and site plans for trail facilities. Monthly meetings are held from 7-9 p.m. in conference room 8 at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax.

Small Business Commission

The purpose of the Fairfax County Small Business Commission is to: (a) study, report and make recommendations on issues of concern to small businesses in Fairfax County; (b) advise and assist the Board of Supervisors, County Executive and County employees on any matter that will enhance the capability of small businesses to succeed in Fairfax County; and (c) promote and assist small businesses generally, but especially with respect to minority-owned and emerging businesses, to establish themselves, develop, and succeed in their pursuits of commercial opportunities and in their vendor relations with Fairfax County. Meetings are usually last Monday of every month @ 7:00 p.m. in Conference Room 9 or 10, Fairfax County Govt. Center.

Wetlands Board

The board shall preserve and prevent the despoliation and destruction of wetlands within its jurisdiction while accommodating necessary economic development in a manner consistent with wetlands preservation. Members of the Board shall hold no other public office in the County except that they may be members of the local planning or zoning commission, directors of soil and water conservation boards, or local erosion commissions, the local Board of Zoning Appeals or the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance Exception Review Committee. Statement of Economic Interests Disclosure required. eff. 4/26/16. Meeting times varies.

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](#).