

BBHCA eNews

April 2009

BBHCA COMMUNITY MEETING

May 12, 2009 (Tuesday)

7:30 pm

Bush Hill Elementary School (Cafeteria)

AGENDA:

Minutes from March Meeting (Vote)

Board and Committee Reports

Elections for 2009-2010 BBHCA Board (Vote)

New Business



TOPIC:

Report on the State of Lee District

GUEST SPEAKER:

Jeff McKay, Lee District Supervisor

>> Visit the Lee District web page at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/Lee/>



LEE DISTRICT SURVEY

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/lee/survey.htm>

Call for BBHCA Board Nominations

If you would like the opportunity to serve your community, now is your chance. The BBHCA is now accepting nominations for President, Vice President—Newsletter, Vice President—Membership, Treasurer, and Secretary.

For information on these positions, please refer to the Constitution and/or contact any of the current respective Board members. To nominate yourself or someone else, please contact President Jeannie Henry at president@bbhca.org.

Nominations for 2009-2010 Board

- President: Jeannie Henry
- VP Newsletter: Sarah Kelly
- VP Membership: Richard Frederick
- Treasurer: Kevin Henry
- Secretary: Deborah Moore



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Puppy Found!

Thanks to all who helped look for Ollie and called or knocked on our door when they spotted him. Ollie was found last night (3/3), thanks to some neighbors and their dogs. It is wonderful to live in a neighborhood with so many helpful, generous people (and dogs!). —Don and Kathy Mueller

Who Do I Call for Assistance?

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/faqs/concerns.htm>

Fairfax County has published a “Neighborhood Concerns” brochure which lists the most common neighborhood issues and the agencies responsible for addressing them. You can download the Neighborhood Concerns brochure (PDF) in your preferred language: English, Spanish, Korean, Farsi, and Vietnamese.

“Fairfax County has adopted regulations to promote public health, safety and general welfare. These regulations are enforced by different agencies within the county.” Links are also provided online for “who to contact regarding neighborhood concerns by type:

- Construction
- Home Businesses
- Housing
- Illegal Signs
- Noise/Glare
- Property Maintenance
- Stormwater
- Vehicles

Board of Supervisors Advertises Real Estate Tax Rate of \$1.05

At its meeting on March 9, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors approved the authorization to advertise a brief synopsis of the proposed FY 2010 Budget and a real estate tax rate for FY 2010 of \$1.05 per \$100 of assessed value. The current FY 2009 rate is \$0.92. Advertising an increase in the rate does not prevent the board from lowering any advertised tax rate, but a higher tax rate cannot be imposed without advertising the higher rate.

The \$1.05 rate will provide flexibility of one cent or \$20.54 million above the county executive's FY 2010 proposed budget. Each one cent increase in the real estate tax rate impacts the average residential taxpayer's annual bill by \$45.92.

The board also authorized the advertisement of a Stormwater Management Service fee of \$0.015/\$100 of assessed value to support stormwater management programs and services and capital project requirements.

Comments about the tax rate and the budget can be submitted 24 hours a day at

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/survey/fy10suggestions.htm or by calling the budget hotline at 703-324-9400. Further information on the proposed FY 2010 Budget is available at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/budget/fy2010/.

County to Charge for Home Business Permit Fee Starting in July

If you have or plan to start a home business and have not filed for a permit, you can still do so for free until July. After July there will be a \$100+ fee.

“To establish a home business you must obtain a Home Occupation Permit from the Zoning Permit Review Branch (ZPRB). Such businesses are subject to strict use limitations and other permits may be required. You may call the ZPRB at 703-222-1082, TTY 711 for additional information.”

>> Home Occupation Permit Guidelines and Application

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/zoning/homeoccupation.htm>

NOTE: "Individuals engaged in home occupations and self employed must also file [business taxes] if gross receipts are greater than \$10,000." For more information, go online to http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dta/business_bppl.htm.

Consumer Affairs Branch Expands Services at South County Center

"Staff members from the Consumer Affairs Branch of the Fairfax County Department of Cable Communications and Consumer Protection are now available at the South County Government Center, 8350 Richmond Highway, Alexandria, for consumer advice on a weekly basis – every Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The staff was previously at that location only on the first and third Wednesdays of the month.

Consumers, landlords and members of the business community can discuss issues with a consumer affairs representative at Access Fairfax, Suite 125, in the South County Center. Consumer Affairs staff will continue to be available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 433, Fairfax.

In addition to providing advice, the Consumer Affairs Branch **investigates and mediates consumer complaints and tenant-landlord disputes** to determine whether consumer protection laws have been violated. The branch provides a complaint history on county businesses to assist consumers with pre-purchase information and supports homeowner associations in the county.

Consumer Affairs staff members also develop **conciliation agreements to resolve complex disputes** and offer binding arbitration when mediation efforts are exhausted. Consumer Affairs takes a leadership role in the community by distributing educational brochures on a wide variety of consumer topics. Regular meetings are conducted with associations, schools and other interest groups to keep them apprised of current consumer trends and ways to avoid consumer scams, frauds and other problems.

Customers seeking consumer assistance at the South County Center also can take advantage of the many services offered at Access Fairfax, a division of the Office of Public Affairs. Access Fairfax is a multipurpose e-government facility providing phones, a copier/fax machine and computers with access to the county's public Web site for information and transactions, including payment of personal property and real estate taxes.

For more information, visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/consumer.htm or call 703-222-8435, TTY 711."

>> **Consumer Central**, <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/consumer/consumer.htm>



EVENTS

Civil War Enthusiasts—"Both Sides Tour"

April 25, 8 am - 8 pm

Sponsored by the Franconia Museum

Start the day with coffee, donuts, and a tour of the Franconia Museum, located in the Franconia Governmental Center, 6121 Franconia Road. Then board a comfortable rest-room equipped motor coach for a short trip to Monocacy, site of the battle that saved Washington. Tour the new visitor's center, then continue to the Cozy Restaurant for a buffet lunch and tour of the museum commemorating visits from presidents to nearby Camp David.

Then it's on to Harrisburg for the National Civil War Museum and its extensive display of artifacts from both the North and South. This museum affords a comprehensive look at the war from both sides.

COST: \$100.00 per person. Includes lunch at the Cozy, admission to the National Civil War Museum, and a contribution to the Franconia Museum and the Monocacy Battlefield Park. Dinner at your own cost at a fast-food restaurant on the way home.

For more information and a reservation form, contact Don Hakenson at 703-971-4984 or dhakenson@cox.net.

Civil War Enthusiasts—Mosby Tour

June 20, 8:00 am - 5:30 pm

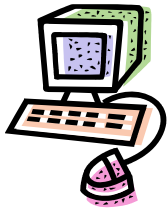
The 2009 Mosby tour will start at the Truro Rectory, in Fairfax City, where Mosby captured Brigadier General Edwin Stoughton. We ask everyone to arrive at the Truro Rectory at 8 a.m., to sign in. The bus will leave at 8:30. We will be going to Culpeper, Orange Court House, Gordonsville and more. We hope to arrive back at the Truro Rectory at 5:30. If you are a member of the Stuart-Mosby Historical Society the cost is \$65. If you are not a member, the cost is \$75. No refunds after June 8. The tour does not include meals, however, we will be stopping at a fast food place somewhere on the tour.

Make your check out to Don Hakenson and send it to: 4708 Lillian Drive, Franconia, VA 22310. The Mosby Tour will be conducted by authors Don Hakenson, Gregg Dudding, and Eric Buckland. Tom Evans will be signing books before the tour at the Truro Rectory. Contact Don Hakenson at 703-971-4984, dhakenson@cox.net, or Gregg Dudding at 703-971-4860, wdudding@cox.net.

Lee District Nights—Summer 2009 Concerts

Lee District Park Amphitheater
7:30 pm every Wednesday

June 3	The United States Navy Band 'Cruisers'
June 10	Chinese Dance and Music
June 17	Bill Emerson and Sweet Dixie (Traditional bluegrass)
June 24	The United States Navy Band Country Courant (Bluegrass)
July 1	Rick Franklin & His Delta Blues Boys (Delta blues)
July 8	King Teddy (Swing)
July 15	The Alexandria Kleztet (Klezmer)
July 22	The Fairfax Symphony Orchestra Summer Band (Classic)
July 29	The Nighthawks (Rockabilly)
August 5	The United States Army Band "Blues Jazz Ensemble" (Jazz)
August 12	Pietasters (Ska)
August 19	John McCutcheon (Folk)
August 26	The Irish Breakfast Band (Irish)



LINKS TO KEEP

Trees

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/environmental/trees.htm>

Trees can add significant value to your property. Learn how to plant and maintain trees, where to buy seedlings, about county programs that regulate the removal of trees during construction, and about county programs that manage insects that damage and kill trees.

Virginia Public Access Project

<http://www.vpap.org/>

"The Virginia Public Access Project is a non-partisan tracker of money in Virginia politics. This Web site is designed to give citizens the power to find out where candidates get their money and how they spend it. VPAP.org tracks candidates for state office and most political action committees registered with the Virginia State Board of Elections. It also tracks a small but growing number of candidates for county and municipal elections. The site also maintains a list of registered lobbyists and has election results dating back to 1997."



RIDE SHARE

Looking to share transportation costs with a neighbor? BBHCA members may send their destination and contact information to eNews@bbhca.org. Indicate whether you are a driver, passenger, or both. Note: BBHCA does not screen participants and takes no responsibility for matches or mismatches. Listings are free and open to current BBHCA members only.

BBHCA 2008–2009 Board

President: Jeannie Henry president@bbhca.org
VP Newsletter: Sarah Kelly newsletter@bbhca.org
VP Membership: Richard Frederick membership@bbhca.org
Treasurer: Kevin Henry treasurer@bbhca.org
Secretary: Deborah Moore secretary@bbhca.org

eNews

Editor: Sharada Gilkey eNews@bbhca.org

This electronic newsletter is sent to current members of the Brookland-Bush Hill Civic Association (BBHCA). If you do not wish to receive this or any other e-mails from BBHCA, respond to eNews@bbhca.org and enter "unsubscribe" in the subject line. The views expressed in eNews do not necessarily reflect the views of the Brookland-Bush Hill Civic Association or its Board of Directors.

Brookland-Bush Hill Civic Association

Alexandria, VA 22310
www.bbhca.org

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