

# BBHCA eNews

September 2009

## BBHCA COMMUNITY MEETING

September 22, 2009 (Tuesday)

7:30 pm

Bush Hill Elementary School (Cafeteria)

### AGENDA:

[Minutes from May Meeting](#) (Vote) ([Click link for PDF](#))

Board and Committee Reports

New Business

### TOPIC:

**Edison High School Renovations**

### GUEST SPEAKER:



Gregory Croghan, Edison High School Principal

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## The BBHCA Membership Year Starts September 1

We don't have fancy announcements or reminders, but we do need your support to cover our basic costs of operation. And if you've seen our budget, those costs entail primarily the print newsletter and the web site—our means of communication with the community. Members also receive the monthly eNews, an exclusive benefit received by e-mail.

**Communication is the key to a successful community and your once-a-year contribution of \$20 family/\$10 individual makes the difference.**

**Renew today!** Just click on the link below to download the current application. Thank you!

>> [MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION](#) (Sept 1, 2009 – Aug 31, 2010)

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## BBHCA Says Good Bye to Long-time Member Ed Sprouse

*by Bob Michie*

Long-time BBHCA member and volunteer Ed Sprouse of Brookland Road died at his home on Sunday, August 23. Ed was under Hospice care at the time. Mr. Sprouse was one of the first BBHCA members that welcomed my wife Helen and I into the neighborhood in 1979. Ed was a newsletter distributor and one of the core Community Improvement Program volunteers in the mid-80s. His example inspired Helen and I to begin our own long association with BBHCA. Ed was a military veteran and a retiree from Fairfax County Public Schools. He is survived by his wife Irma. The BBHCA will miss this longtime member and community volunteer.



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**Fairfax County Park Authority to Hold Listening Forum**

**Thursday, September 17, 2009 at 7 pm**

Huntley Meadows Park  
3701 Lockheed Boulevard  
Alexandria, Virginia  
[Map/Directions](#)

The Park Authority Director wants to hear from you. Come share your comments, concerns, and ideas at a Listening Forum.

The director has been hosting Listening Forums throughout the county, and now he's coming to Lee District to hear from you. Park Authority staff will use the gathered information to guide future decisions regarding the agency's service delivery. Your input on how the Park Authority can best meet the community's needs is welcome.

Following this meeting, county residents will have four more opportunities to meet the director to discuss topics of their choice.

### Other Listening Forums

- October 22, Laurel Hill Golf Clubhouse
- November 19, Government Center Building
- January 21, 2010, E.C. Lawrence Park, Cabell's Mill
- February 18, 2010, Frying Pan Farm Park Visitor Center

Forums are scheduled on Thursday nights at 7 pm. For more information, contact the Public Information Office at 703-324-8662.

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## Are You Ready? Are You REALLY Ready?

### September is National Preparedness Month

Being ready for emergencies goes beyond fire alarms, smoke detectors and dead-bolt locks. Being ready means families can take care of themselves for at least the first 72 hours after disaster strikes. National Preparedness Month in September is a prime opportunity for Virginians to get ready.

Every family should have these items on hand:

- Three days' food that won't spoil, such as canned goods and packaged foods
- Three days' water (one gallon per person per day)
- Battery-powered radio with Weather Band and extra batteries
- Written family emergency plan

"This list is a good starting point," said Michael Cline, state coordinator for the Virginia Department of Emergency Management. "You can add other things such as a flashlight and first aid kit, but everyone should have the basics – three days of food and water, a battery-powered radio and a family plan. Get those things first, and you'll be well on your way to getting ready for emergencies."

Ready Virginia, a public education program that promotes emergency preparedness, seeks to educate Virginians about what it truly means to be ready for disasters and emergencies.

"Every family should sit down together and make a plan," said Cline. "How would you contact each other if phone lines are down? Where would you meet if you couldn't return to your home? Making a plan is free and simple and makes a big difference."

Research shows that most people believe they are ready for emergencies, but 71 percent of Virginians do not have three days' food and water, a battery-powered radio and extra batteries, and a written family plan. Having these items on hand is crucial during the first 72 hours after a disaster.

For more information and worksheets to help Virginians get an emergency supply kit, make a family emergency plan and stay informed about emergencies and threats, visit [www.ReadyVirginia.gov](http://www.ReadyVirginia.gov) or call toll-free 1-866-782-3470. A Spanish Web site is available at [www.ListoVirginia.gov](http://www.ListoVirginia.gov).

During National Preparedness Month, which is prime hurricane and flood season in Virginia, new Ready Virginia public service announcements will begin airing on radio and TV stations to remind residents to take steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, businesses and communities.

Go to [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) for more information about National Preparedness Month.

- Emergency preparedness is everyone's responsibility.
- Everyone should have a family emergency plan.
- Everyone should be prepared to be self-sufficient for at least the first 72 hours.

### Virginia Department of Emergency Management

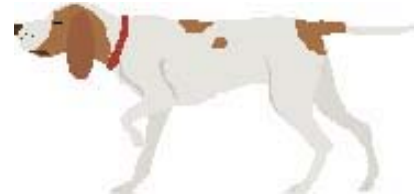
10501 Trade Court, Richmond, VA 23236

[www.vaemergency.com](http://www.vaemergency.com)

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## Dog Owners Urged to Watch for Symptoms of Highly Contagious Canine Flu

Shelter officials and veterinarians caution that this virus is highly contagious and pet owners should keep an eye on their dogs for respiratory symptoms, such as coughing, sneezing or fevers. Dogs that spend time in communal settings or around groups of other dogs would be considered at higher risk, but all dog owners should continue to observe their pets for symptoms and may consider vaccination. **Presently, there are no confirmed cases of dog flu passing to humans or other household pets.**



The Fairfax County Animal Shelter continues to limit dog adoptions. Shelter officials hope to resume dog adoptions in early September but must ensure that all dogs are in good health so there is no firm date yet. Although two additional dogs showed flu symptoms last week, most of the dogs that had been ill have now recovered. No dogs affiliated with the Fairfax County Animal Shelter have died of dog flu complications. The Fairfax County Animal Shelter temporarily halted public dog adoptions due to the confirmed presence of canine influenza. Shelter employees were notified of the highly contagious virus on Thursday, August 13, and immediately isolated dogs showing signs of illness. There are currently 28 dogs showing potential flu symptoms and two confirmed cases. One dog has died from complications of the virus, but that dog was not affiliated with the Fairfax County Animal Shelter.

The Fairfax County Police Department and Animal Shelter will continue to monitor the situation and will resume full operations when medical authorities have decided there is no further risk of contamination. The Animal Shelter, located at 4500 West Ox Road, is still open for public adoptions for other types of animals, with the exception of dogs. Call 703- 830-1100 for more information.

To learn more about Canine Influenza, check [www.cdc.gov/flu/canine/](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/canine/) and continue to monitor this web site for updates as new information will be posted immediately.

**And as always.... when not on your property, keep your dog on a leash at all times and always scoop the poop. Not only are you being a good neighbor, but it's the law. Thank you!**



## EVENTS

### Venture into Volunteering Fair

Saturday, September 26

10 a.m.- noon

Kingstowne Center for Active Adults  
6488 Landsdowne Center, Alexandria (adjacent to the Kingstowne Library)

Baby boomers, retirees and older adults are invited to attend. Local non-profit groups and county agencies will be on hand to discuss their volunteer opportunities. For more information contact: Trina Mayhan-Webb on 703-704-6075, TTY 703-449-1186 or e-mail [trina.mayhan-webb@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:trina.mayhan-webb@fairfaxcounty.gov).

### **Kingstowne Farmers Market**

Kingstowne Town Center across from the Giant Food, near the Sunoco Gas Station  
**Fridays** thru October 30  
4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

### **Lorton Farmers Market**

Lorton VRE Station Parking Lot, 8990 Lorton Station Boulevard, Lorton, VA 22079  
**Sundays** thru October 25  
9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Directions: From I-95 South, take exit 163. Turn left onto Lorton Road, going under railroad tracks. Turn left onto Lorton Station Boulevard. Turn left into the VRE Station parking lot.

From the Fairfax County Parkway and Rt. 1, go South on Route 1 to a right on Armistead Road. past the Lorton Fire Department. Armistead becomes Lorton Station Boulevard. Turn left into the VRE Station parking lot.

### **BBHCA 2009-2010 Meeting Dates**

Bush Hill Elementary School  
5917 Westchester Street, Alexandria, VA 22310  
**Tuesdays** at 7:30 pm

September 22, 2009  
November 10, 2009  
January 12, 2010  
March 9, 2010  
May 11, 2010

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### **BBHCA 2008–2009 Board**

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

### **eNews**

Editor: Sharada Gilkey [eNews@bbhca.org](mailto:eNews@bbhca.org)

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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](mailto: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](http://www.bbhca.org)