

# BBHCA eNews

SEPTEMBER 2010

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## MEMBERSHIP YEAR BEGINS SEPT 1 RENEW TODAY!

(Click above for the application)

### BBHCA COMMUNITY MEETING

September 21, 2010

7:30 pm

Bush Hill Elementary School (Cafeteria)

#### AGENDA:

Minutes from May Meeting (Vote)

Board Reports

- Newsletter
- Membership
- Treasurer (Vote on Budget 2010-11)

Committee Reports

- Financial Audit
- Land Use Task Force Update
- Neighborhood Watch

Old Business:

- Bush Hill Woods Historical Plaque

New Business

- Bush Hill Drive Speed Bump Proposal

#### GUEST: Wil Slaughter, Lead Investigator, Consumer Protection Division, Fairfax County

Mr. Slaughter has been working with the Fairfax County Government for the past 20 years, 11 of which he has worked in consumer affairs. He is the Lead Investigator with the Consumer Protection Division, which involves mediating consumer/business and tenant/landlord complaints and overseeing the work of other investigators. He is a graduate of James Madison University and recently received his Masters in Public Administration from George Mason University.

>> Check out **Consumer Central** online at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/consumer/>

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Virginia Department of Emergency Management

## News Release

### Virginians Need to Prepare for Hurricane Earl

Virginians need to prepare now for Hurricane Earl, which is forecasted to be a Category 3 or 4 hurricane as it approaches Virginia's coast later this week.

The forecasted path for Earl has changed several times, so it is important for Virginians, especially those living in the Hampton Roads region, to pay close attention to the storm. Those in Hampton Roads should review their evacuation and shelter plans. Also, people should make sure they have their emergency supplies ready.



"A small change in Earl's forecasted path could bring a major hurricane to Virginia," said Michael Cline, state coordinator for the Virginia Department of Emergency Management. "Virginia state agencies are getting ready for the storm, and so should residents."

The Commonwealth has activated the Virginia Evacuation Coordination Team for Operational Response to assess Earl's potential impact and to take necessary actions. The Virginia Emergency Operations Center is now at Increased Readiness Condition.

A list of needed emergency supplies and maps of storm surge areas and evacuation routes can be found at <http://www.ReadyVirginia.gov>.



## Lee District Supervisor's Newsletter, Summer 2010

[http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/lee/newsletter/summer2010/in\\_this\\_issue.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/lee/newsletter/summer2010/in_this_issue.htm)

To sign up to receive Supervisor McKay's newsletter, go online to <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/lee/newsletters.htm>.

### >> Missing Link

The missing link in Supervisor McKay's Summer Newsletter was the link to VDOT's explanation of the Telegraph Road ramp construction at

[http://www.wilsonbridge.com/images/stories/wwb/evan/100416\\_eisenhower\\_access\\_ramps\\_factsheet\\_final.pdf](http://www.wilsonbridge.com/images/stories/wwb/evan/100416_eisenhower_access_ramps_factsheet_final.pdf). The finely detailed drawings and time tables give those who use the corridor frequently a much better sense of what is happening and when it is all going to come together. Too bad we don't have similar visuals for other major construction projects in the area. (Ed.)

## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH Traffic Safety Newsletter

[http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/traffic/pdf/traffic\\_safety\\_julyaugust\\_2010c.pdf](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/traffic/pdf/traffic_safety_julyaugust_2010c.pdf)

A Virginia Tech study showed that "80% of all crashes, and 65% of all near crashes, involved a distracted driving incident within 3 seconds of the event." Click on the link above to see which distractions increase your risk of a crash the most.



## Advisory Speeds for Several Area Ramps Decrease to 30 mph

In case you hadn't already noticed, in August the advisory speeds on the ramps off 95 have decreased from 40 mph to 30 mph. Included in the change are the flyover ramps from **395 South to 95 North** and the **Van Dorn exit ramp**. I can only guess that the change is to account for the "blind" curves on these two ramps. If traffic is backed up, you may not be able to see it if it is beyond the curve of the road until it is too late.

When VDOT responded to an inquiry about the changes, they said they were not aware of the changes and did not know why the changes were made. They also noted that yellow speed signs on ramps are "advisory" and are not enforceable. (Ed.)

## Crime Prevention Newsletter

To subscribe to the Franconia District Station's periodic newsletter, "FOCUS ON FRANCONIA" send an e-mail to the Crime Prevention Office at [fracpo@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:fracpo@fairfaxcounty.gov).

## Sample Newsletter

August 13, 2010

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FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

FRANCONIA DISTRICT STATION  
(DISTRICT 6)

*ROBBERY:*

A 38-year-old woman was robbed at gunpoint on Monday, August 9 around 10:06 p.m. The woman was sitting inside her car, parked in a shopping center in the 6300 block of Springfield Plaza. A man approached her passenger-side window, brandished a handgun and demanded money. The victim complied. The suspect fled on his bicycle. He was described as white, 25 to 30 years old. He was about 5 feet 7 inches tall and weighed around 170 pounds.

*MALICIOUS WOUNDING:*

A 45-year-old man was injured after he was struck with a pellet gun projectile around 11 a.m. on Tuesday, August 10. The victim was outside speaking with a friend in the 6200 block of Backlick Road when a red Nissan Sentra pulled up to them. The front-seat passenger called out to them and when the victim looked at the car, the front-seat passenger reportedly shot him with a pellet gun. One projectile struck the victim in his eye. The three occupants in the car fled. The victim was transported to the hospital for treatment of his non life-threatening injury.

*LARCENIES:*

Backlick Road, 6600 Block: Cell phone stolen from business  
Buckskin Street, 6600 Block: Bicycle stolen from residence  
Inwood Drive, 6400 Block: GPS unit stolen from vehicle  
Franconia Road, 6000 Block: Eyeglasses stolen from business  
Glenwood Drive, 5600 Block: Tools stolen from vehicle  
Logsdon Drive, 4500 Block: Tools stolen from vehicle  
Old Rolling Road, 5900 Block: Tools stolen from vehicle  
Rose Hill Drive, 6200 Block: Tires stolen from vehicle  
South Van Dorn Street, 6900 Block: Purse stolen from vehicle

*VEHICLE THEFTS:*

Burdon Court, 6000 Block: 2002 Chrysler Concorde  
Curtier Drive, 6000 Block: 2000 Suzuki motorcycle  
Devereux Circle Drive/ Telegraph Road,: 2001 Dodge Caravan  
Founders Hill Drive, 5900 Block: Kawasaki Ninja motorcycle  
Woodside Lane, 7500 Block: 2007 Suzuki motorcycle

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# Crime Prevention Starts With YOU!

Text Box



A message from the Franconia District Station  
Crime Prevention Office

What's your first line of defense?

## **ALWAYS LOCK YOUR CAR DOORS!**

In the Franconia District, officers take reports daily from people who have not locked their car doors and find someone has been in their car, something missing from their car or their car missing all together. Locking your car doors is your first line of defense.

How do you protect your valuables?

## **TAKE THEM OUT OF YOUR VEHICLE!**

The reason people steal personal belongings from your car is because they see something they want. Remember, what is not valuable to you may be the object of their desire.

**PLEASE** take the extra time to physically remove your CD player, blue tooth, laptop, GPS, CDs, purse, radio, etc. from your vehicle. **Remove** any empty bags or briefcases to relieve the criminals' curiosities. **Clean** the GPS suction cup circle off of your windshield.

What can you do to help?

## **REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD**



Suspicious activity is any person, noise or event that doesn't feel right to you. Report suspicious activity by calling 703-691-2131. The information you provide may be a crucial link to solving a crime in your area.

If you would like more information of how to prevent yourself from becoming a victim or have a crime prevention question, contact the Franconia Crime Prevention Office at 703-922-8263 or by e-mail at [James.reid@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:James.reid@fairfaxcounty.gov)



A Fairfax County, VA. Publication

## Traffic Safety

The goal this school year is to make everyone on the road safe. Be patient and courteous when driving

- Do not let stress and frustration get the best of you while driving.
- Be patient and courteous.
- Do not drive when angry, overtired or upset.
- Allow extra time to get to your destination.
- When possible, change your schedule to avoid congestion.
- Give other drivers the benefit of the doubt - all drivers make mistakes.
- Avoid all conflict, even if you are right.

And let's remember those school buses with passengers that are precious cargo. So, when you're behind a school bus, take a deep breath, be patient, and appreciate that the children are being transported safely to school or child care settings.



Here are general child safety tips concerning school buses:

- When a school bus stops and flashes red lights, traffic approaching from either direction must stop before reaching the bus.
- Motorists should stop at least 20 feet from the bus. Buses can easily be identified by the signage indicating "SCHOOL BUS," the unique yellow/orange paint color. Remember that school buses come in many lengths and sizes. Daycare buses may also be in the vicinity of schools and areas for drop-off and pick-up and motorist caution must be observed around them as well.
- Be prepared to slow down and possibly stop whenever you see a school bus. Also know that school buses stop prior to entering any railroad track, so be sure to not follow too closely.
- Know that you must remain stopped for a school bus until the red lights stop flashing, or until the bus driver or police officer/traffic director directs you to proceed.
- Before proceeding, watch carefully for children on the side of the road and drive very cautiously until you are out of the drop-off area. Children have been known to dart across a street, not realizing motorists are nearby.
- Become familiar with your neighborhood or community bus routes. Don't assume the routes and times will remain the same from last year. Because of student ages and needs, it is likely that the routes will be changed every year. If possible, avoid those routes at the time of day of pick up or drop off of students.

MPO Allie E. Eggers-NREMT-P  
Fairfax County Police Department  
Operational Support Bureau  
Traffic Division/Traffic Safety

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## Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program



The CERT Program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area. CERT trains county residents in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help. CERT members also are encouraged to support emergency response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in their community.

CERT basic is an ideal, low impact way to learn about the need to prepare. The curriculum is the same as the CERT 2 class uses minus "lifts" and patient "cribbing." CERT basic class is taught by a well trained and highly motivated cadre of volunteer instructors. This class is designed to be mobile and can be taught in your neighborhood. This is a great opportunity for homeowners' associations, faith based groups and civic associations to train 16-24 people in their own facility. CERT basic takes approximately 12½ - 15 hours over five or six classes, plus a final exercise.

**If you are interested in participating in a CERT Basic class** in the BBHCA neighborhood, send an e-mail to [eNews@bbhca.org](mailto:eNews@bbhca.org). If enough people can commit (16-24), we can look into arranging for a local course.

>> The **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)** also offers self-paced, online emergency management courses free of charge. Course topics range from "A Citizen's Guide to Disaster Assistance" to "Household Hazardous Materials - A Guide for Citizens" and many more. Go to <http://training.fema.gov/IS/crslist.asp>

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## WANTED! BBHCA Print Newsletter Editor and Secretary

If you have experience publishing a small print newsletter with advertising or would like to learn how, the BBHCA needs you. We also need a good note taker for community and board meetings. These are both Board positions. Curious? Contact Jeannie Henry at [president@bbhca.org](mailto:president@bbhca.org).

## Fairfax County General Parking Restrictions

[http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/parking\\_restrictions.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/parking_restrictions.htm)

Table lists common parking issues, description, responsible agency, applicable ordinances, and phone number(s):

Parking Issue	Related Information	Responsible Agency	Applicable Ordinances	Contact Information
Parking vehicles on lawns	It is a zoning violation to park vehicles on lawns for more than 48 hrs. Generally, only 25% of front lawn in R1-R2 can be paved or otherwise made into a driveway; only 30% of front lawn in R3-R4.	FFX DPZ	FFX PFM 11-100	FFX Zoning Enforcement 703-324-1300*

### PARKING 101

## Are there any restrictions on parking vehicles on residential property?



“The parking of personal vehicles in operable condition is permitted as an accessory use to a dwelling unit. Such parking may occur within a garage or carport or may be located in the front, side or rear yard of any lot. In most residential districts, there are no locational limitations for parking personal vehicles and/or creating driveways/parking pads within the front and side yards of a lot.

However, in the R-1, R-2, R-3 and R-4 Districts on lots for single family dwellings containing an area of 36,000 square feet or less, **all vehicle and trailer parking must be located on a surfaced area in the front yard**, and there is a limit on the amount of surfaced area that can occur in the front yard. In the R-1 and R-2 Districts, no more than 25% of any front yard and in the R-3 and R-4 Districts, no more than 30% of any front yard can be a surfaced area used for a driveway or vehicle/trailer parking. There are exceptions to these limitations.

The specific limitations and exceptions are set forth in Sect. 11-102 of Article 11 or contact the Zoning Permit Review Branch of the Department of Planning and Zoning at 703-222-1082, TTY 711.

In addition, on all lots, all accessory uses and structures, including driveways/parking pads, which are located in the rear yard cannot cover more than thirty (30) percent of the minimum required rear yard.

The parking of a personal vehicles in *inoperable* condition is also permitted as an accessory use to a dwelling unit, provided the inoperable vehicle is kept *within a fully enclosed building or structure* or is kept completely screened or shielded from view.

The **parking of commercial vehicles is permitted** in all residential zoning districts, **subject to a limit of one commercial vehicle per dwelling unit** and the following limitations:

- a. No solid waste collection vehicle, tractor and/or trailer of a tractor-trailer truck, dump truck, construction equipment, cement-mixer truck, wrecker with a gross weight of 12,000 pounds or more, or similar such vehicles or equipment shall be parked in any residential district.
- b. Any commercial vehicle parked in a residential district shall be owned and/or operated only by the occupant of the dwelling unit at which it is parked.



The parking of any vehicle, whether personal or commercial, within the right-of-way of any public street is regulated by Chapter 82 of the County Code and *enforced by the Fairfax County Police Department* and is not regulated by the Zoning Ordinance.”

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## EVENTS

### **2010 Springfield Community BridgeWalk** Friday, September 10, 7-9 pm

An Army Community Covenant Rededication Ceremony. For more information, go to <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/lee/pdf/bridgewalk3.pdf> or contact Jeff McKay's office at 703-971-6262 or e-mail [leedist@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:leedist@fairfaxcounty.gov).



### **Citizens Advisory Committee**

**Wednesday, September 15, 7:30 pm**

Franconia Government Center, 6121 Franconia Road, Helen Wilson Community Room

This is an informational meeting for citizens on a specific subject each month and is done by both the Franconia District Station and the Mount Vernon District Station. The Franconia District Station group meets in the on the third Wednesday each month with a few exceptions. Contact: Crime Prevention Officer Jim Nida at [james.nida@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:james.nida@fairfaxcounty.gov)

### **BRAC Mark Center Town Hall**

**Thursday, September 16, 7:30 pm – 9:30 pm**

Francis C. Hammond Middle School Campus, 4646 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA 22304

Congressman Jim Moran (D-VA) will host a special community town hall to discuss the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) 133 situation at the Mark Center site in Alexandria. The event comes one year out from the military's stated date of implementing the major BRAC relocation. This event is free and open to the public.

Panelists include Rep. Jim Moran, Defense Department officials, VDOT officials, Alexandria City, and Fairfax County representatives

Six thousand four hundred (6,400) people are scheduled to start work in the new Mark Center facility on September 15, 2011. Congressman Moran has raised major concerns regarding the traffic problems that will be caused by this relocation. He has passed legislation in the House restricting the amount of parking available at the site in an effort to force the military to upgrade the Mark Center's transportation infrastructure to prevent the anticipated crippling traffic congestion.

### **Lee District Land Use Advisory Committee**

**Monday, September 20, 7 pm**

Franconia Government Center, 6121 Franconia Road, Helen Wilson Community Room

Call 703-971-6686 to hear what cases will be heard for particular meetings. Call on or after the Wednesday before the meeting (backup or regular) for the agenda and to confirm whether the meeting will be held.

Our BBHCA representative to the Lee District Land Use Advisory Committee is Carol Alim and she can be reached at [landuse@bbhca.org](mailto:landuse@bbhca.org).

### **Lee District Associations of Civic Organizations**

**Wednesday, September 22, 7:30 pm**

Franconia Government Center, 6121 Franconia Road, Helen Wilson Community Room

The Lee District Association of Civic Organizations holds an informational meeting for all residents each month on a particular topic of interest. Supervisor McKay and his staff are usually there for a short question and answer period.

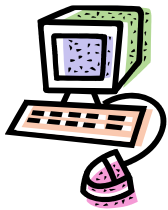
A notice is sent to your association representative with an agenda. If you are interested in being the contact for your association please contact our association president ([president@bbhca.org](mailto:president@bbhca.org)). The meetings are open to all who are interested

The meetings take place on the fourth Wednesday each month. Please call 703-971-6262 to confirm.

### Future BBHCA Meetings (Tuesday, 7:30 pm)

Bush Hill Elementary School (Cafeteria)

November 9, 2010	TBA
January 11, 2011	TBA
March 8, 2011	TBA
May 10, 2011	TBA + BBHCA Elections



### LINKS TO KEEP

#### Fairfax County Consumer Protection Commission: Report on Rates Charged by Water Systems Serving Fairfax County Residents

[http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/consumer/cpc\\_water\\_report.pdf](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/consumer/cpc_water_report.pdf)

Published in April 2010. The Consumer Protection Commission was requested by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors in 2008 to conduct this investigation of water rate disparities charged to the Fairfax County consumers.

#### Meet Up!

<http://www.meetup.com/>

We help people use the internet to get off the internet and form local community. Just enter your zip code to see what's happening in your neighborhood. Find a group or start a group. Want to practice your Spanish? Find a science fiction book group? Meetup is the place to start your search.

#### YELP

<http://www.yelp.com/alexandria-va>

"Yelp is the fun and easy way to find, review and talk about what's great - and not so great, in your area." Add your reviews of businesses in Alexandria to make this resource even more useful.

Categories include Restaurants, Shopping, Food, Health and Medical, Beauty and Spas, Nightlife, Home Services, Local Services, Arts & Entertainment, Active Life, Hotels & Travel, Event Planning & Services, Automotive, Real Estate, Public Services & Government, Pets, Education, Local Flavor, Financial Services, Professional Services, Religious Organizations, and Mass Media.

#### E-ZPass Virginia

<https://www.ezpassva.com/Default.aspx>

"E-ZPass is an automatic, electronic toll collection systems that quickly and efficiently moves traffic through toll facilities in Virginia and along much of the East Coast. A motorist with an E-ZPass transponder mounted on the inside of the windshield or on the license plate, can travel through E-ZPass toll lanes and the toll is automatically deducted from a pre-paid account. It's like having exact change every time, but even easier.



**Current E-ZPass States:** Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Maine, Massachusetts, Indiana and Illinois." Note that the Beltway hotlanes will also use E-ZPass (see *How Hot Lanes Work* at <http://www.virginiahotlanes.com/beltway/how-hot-lanes-work/>).

You are required to have a starting minimum of \$35 in your account for each car. As long as you have direct withdrawal and a credit card on file as backup, there is no deposit for the transponder. Otherwise, you are charged a deposit of \$50 for each transponder.



## Fairfax County Tourism, Vacation, and Travel Site



<http://www.fxva.com/>

Day Trips, Events, Restaurants, Hotels, Official Visitors Guide, Newsletter, and More! Your Connection with what's happening in Virginia and the DC Metro area.

>> **September Events at**

<http://www.fxva.com/seedoplan/events/calendar/index.cfm?&cdate=09-01-2010>

## Suze Orman Resource Library

[http://www.suzeorman.com/igsbase/igstemplate.cfm?SRC=SP&SRCN=layout\\_resourcecenter&GnavID=84](http://www.suzeorman.com/igsbase/igstemplate.cfm?SRC=SP&SRCN=layout_resourcecenter&GnavID=84)

Get free advice and tools on important financial topics, including Insurance, Retirement Planning, Taxes, Online Calculators, Home Ownership, Paying for College, and much more!

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## BBHCA 2010–2011 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: Joan Akins [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)

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