# **The Fairfax County**

# FEDERATION

## of Citizens Associations

Established 1940

April 2012

# THE BULLETIN

Volume 61, Number 8

#### **Federation Membership Meeting**

Thursday, April 19, 2012 (a change back to Third Thursday)

### 7:30 p.m.

**The Packard Center** 

4022 Hummer Road Annandale, VA 22003

*Topic:* Open Forum with Transportation Advisory Commission

♦ ♦

Next Federation Board Meeting

April 26, 2012 (a change back to Fourth Thursday) 7:30 p.m. The Packard Center 4022 Hummer Road Annandale, VA 22003

#### New at the Federation Website

**Budget:** Draft Federation Resolution on Fairfax County FY 13 Budget and the following supporting reports: FCPS 2013 Budget in Light of the FCPS Budget History, Analysis of the 2013 Budgets for Community Development, Analysis of the Pension Funds in FY 2013 Budget, Effect of Tax Rate on Apartment Rents, and Draft Resolution Concerning the Economic Development Agency.

**Legislation:** Video of Tania Hossain's January 7 presentation of the Federation's 2012 Legislative Program to members of the Virginia General Assembly who are from Fairfax County.

#### President's Message, Continued from the right-hand column

Please save the date for the Federation's Annual Picnic scheduled for June 21 starting at 6:30pm. Our picnic is a very special evening where we get the opportunity to engage in a relaxed environment and an excellent opportunity to meet new members of the community. Our picnic also serves as the official ceremony that installs the incoming Federation Officers and which is traditionally presided over by the Fairfax County Chairman. Please join us!

Best regards, Tania

#### **President's Message**

Greetings Friends and Neighbors:

On Sunday, March 25, 2012, the Federation was joined by civic associations, elected officials and members of the community to recognize the Fairfax County 2011 Citizen of the Year Fairfax County Planning Commissioner Walter Alcorn of Reston for his outstanding leadership in revisiting the County's complex plan for the re-development of Tysons Corner from an office park to an urban center where people can work, live, and play; Citation of Merit honorees Ellie Ashford of Annandale for enhancing dialogue on issues such as land use, schools and crime through her community-based Annandale Blog; Cora Foley of Springfield for championing the creation of a Senior Center Without Walls for the well-being of elder residents in West Springfield and Burke; and Terry Maynard of Reston for leading on the redevelopment of Reston and advocating for Metro's Silver Line; and a Special Gratitude Award to Suzanne Harsel for over 30 vears of dedicated service to the residents of Braddock District and the Fairfax County Planning Commission.

Our signature evening was made especially engaging by our Guest Speaker Jeremy Mayer, Director of Master of Public Policy Program, George Mason University, who enlightened us with good humor and delicate balance on the impact of this year's Presidential Politics. The Federation is appreciative to our Citizen of the Year Banquet sponsor SAIC for its continued generous support of the Federation and the work that we do in the community. In addition, we extend a hearty thank you to the catering department and event staff of the Crowne Plaza Tysons Hotel for the excellent support for the evening.

For our membership meeting scheduled for April 19, we look forward to a robust discussion with the Fairfax County Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) on the transportation matters facing Fairfax County. The TAC advises the Board on transportation-related policies and issues, in accordance with a work plan approved by the Board, and/or as directed by the Board. More information about the work of the TAC is available on the County's website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/tac. Our Past President Jeff Parnes is the current Chairman of TAC and the conduit for putting together this programming.

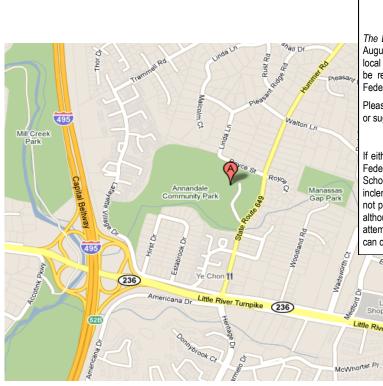
The Federation's Resolution on the Fairfax County's FY13 Budget was approved at our membership meeting on March 22, 2012 (see http://fairfaxfederation.org/budget1.htm.) I would like to take this opportunity to thank Charlie Hall and the Federation's Budget Committee for their diligent and thorough work in focusing on realistic budget priorities. I will be speaking on behalf of the Federation at the Fairfax County Board of Supervisor's Budget Public Hearing on Tuesday, April 10, 2012.

Continued at the bottom of the left-hand column

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#### **Directions to the Packard Center**

Take I-495 (Capital Beltway) to Route 236 (Little River Turnpike, going east toward Annandale) go east 0.4 miles to first traffic signal Turn left at traffic signal onto Hummer Road. Go 0.25 miles, turning left at the bottom of the hill into the Packard Center driveway Bear right up the driveway to the parking lot. Walk down the left pathway to the door facing the parking lot .



Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations 4022 Hummer Road, Annandale VA 22003

#### www.fairfaxfederation.org

2011-2012 President: Tania Hossain Newsletter Editor: Frederick A. Costello

The Bulletin is the newsletter of the Federation. It is usually published monthly, except in August. The purpose is to provide information to member communities, federal, state, and local officials, and other interested persons. Articles reflect the view of their author and may be reprinted with the use of the following citation: "The Bulletin of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations".

#### Federation Meeting Cancellation Policy

If either Fairfax County Government or Schools are closed after 12:00 noon the day of a Federation membership meeting, or if it is announced that Fairfax County Government or Schools will be closed the day after a scheduled Federation membership meeting due to inclement weather or other emergency, the Federation will not hold that event. This does not pertain to regularly scheduled closures. Membership meetings will not be rescheduled, although speakers may be asked to attend an upcoming meeting. We will make every attempt to post the cancellation on *www.fairfaxfederation.org* or, for more information, you can call 703-620-4942.

Little Run Shopping Center Little River Turnpike Unorter Pl

	FCFCA Calendar 2011-2012		
Date	Membership Meetings	Board	Newsletter
Dale	Торіс	Mtg	Deadline
	2011		
Aug	No meeting	25-Aug	25-Aug
15-Sep	Conservation: Backyard to Community (Environmental Committee)	22-Sep	29-Sep
20-Oct	Living Well in the Silver Years (Human Services Committee)	27-Oct	27-Oct
17-Nov	Federation's Legislative Program Presentation (Legislation Committee)	8-Dec	24-Nov
15-Dec	Land Use presentation	8-Dec	29-Dec
	2012		
19-Jan	Review of County's School Budget (meets at Gatehouse, see note below)	26-Jan	2-Feb
23-Feb	Association Services presentation	16-Feb	22-Feb
15-Mar	Review of County Budget	22-Mar	29-Mar
19-Apr	Open Forum with Transportation Advisory Commission	26-Apr	26-Apr
17-May	Report from Richmond	24-May	31-May
21-Jun	Federation Annual Picnic	28-Jun	5-Jul

All meetings start at 7:30 pm, except the picnic, which starts at 6:30 pm. Meeting locations are as follows:

- 19-Apr Packard Center
- 26-Apr Packard Center
- 17-May West Springfield Government Center, 6140 Rolling Rd, Springfield (~ 2 miles south of Braddock Hall)
- 24-May Mason District Government Center, 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale (~ 3 miles northeast of Packard Center)
- 21-Jun Annandale Community Park, Picnic Shelter (in the same park as the Packard Center; inside the
- 28-Jun Braddock Hall, 9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke

#### Do you want to have an impact?

The Federation is as strong as its voice, and the Federation's many committees make up its collective voice. If you are interested in serving on any of the committees that make up the backbone of the Federation please contact the committee chairs using the following email addresses:

Budget: Carey Campbell and Charles Hall	FedBudgetChr2012@fairfaxfederation.org
Citizen Association Services: Don Hinman	FedAssociationServicesChr2012@fairfaxfederation.org
Education: Leonard Bumbaca, Ed Saperstein and Tim Thompson	FedEducationChr2012@fairfaxfederation.org
Environment: Roger Diedrich and Flint Webb	FedEnvironmentChr2012@fairfaxfederation.org
Human Services: Cherie Lejeune	FedHumanServicesChr2012@fairfaxfederation.org
Land Use: Fred Costello	FedLandUseChr2012@fairfaxfederation.org
Legislation: Frank Anderson and Jason Ha	FedLegislationChr2012@fairfaxfederation.org
Membership: open	FedMembershipChr2012@fairfaxfederation.org
	FedPublicSafetyChr2012@fairfaxfederation.org
Resolutions: Bill Hanks	FedResolutionsChr2012@fairfaxfederation.org
Transportation: Carey Campbell and Jeff Parnes	FedTransportationChr2012@fairfaxfederation.org

The committees conduct the bulk of their business by email and formulate positions and suggest actions for consideration by the Board and by the Federation members. They also provide inputs to the Federation's legislation and budget presentations. Here's a chance to make a mark in an area of your interest. Join us in making our County a better place to live!

#### **Membership Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, March 22, 2012

#### Draft to be submitted for approval on 4/19/2012

The March 2012 meeting of the Membership of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations was called to order by President Tania Hossain at 7:30 p.m. at the Packard Center in Annandale. The attendance list is attached to the file copy of the minutes.

#### Program: FY2013 Advertised Budget

Fairfax County Executive Tony Griffin discussed the FY 2013 Advertised Budget Plan—The Federation was pleased and honored that Fairfax County Executive Tony Griffin spent time with us to present the county's advertised budget and to answer our questions. There were quite a few questions and discussions that drew upon Tony's extensive knowledge. The presentation and the Q&A lasted 1½ hours. Tania presented Tony with a Federation mug, thanked him for spending time with us, thanked him for all he has done for Fairfax County, and wished him well in retirement.

A reporter and photographer from the Washington Post covered Tony Griffin's presentation.

**Federation Budget Resolution**—Budget Committee Co-chair Charlie Hall led the membership in a review of the draft FCFCA Resolutions Package which the board on March 17 had cleared for submission to the membership. Discussion and voting was involved and lengthy, consuming nearly three hours. Charlie thanked a number of people for their contributions to the budget package including committee chairs and Linda Boone, Fred Costello, Bill Hanks, and Ed Wyse. The budget committee will perform final editing and publish the resolution.

#### Administrative Topics

**The Bulletin** (Newsletter): Fred Costello—Newsletter articles are due by the end of March.

**Minutes:** Ed Wyse—The membership approved the minutes of the February 2012 meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** Scott Schlegel, Treasurer—Scott presented the report which includes \$1900 in banquet receipts received online via PayPal. Pending deposit are the banquet checks received via the U.S.P.S., which the banquet chair still holds. The membership voted to receive and file the treasurer's report.

**Membership**: Don Hinman, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President—Tania welcomed the Federation's newest member, Jefferson Manor Civic Association, and its president, Chris Soule, who is also the new Lee District Council representative to the Federation.

**2011 Citizen of the Year (COY) Award and Banquet**—Jeff Parnes, Chair—Tania announced a high attendance rate of more than 150, necessitating the banquet facility to open the wall partition and utilize two rooms. She urged board members to volunteer to help with setup and registration at the banquet. Those who are willing should coordinate with Jeff at fedpast-pres2012@fairfaxfederation.org. Also Tania asked board members to make them feel welcome.

#### Old Business - none

#### New and Miscellaneous Business

**Water Rates Resolution**: Tania introduced a resolution supporting the recently passed county water ordinance that cleared the board last week. After discussion and editing, the resolution passed by a vote of 17 for with three abstentions.

#### **Board & Committee Reports**

**Budget**: Carey Campbell and Charlie Hall—see the program topic above.

Because of the time required to consider the budget resolution, the other committee chairs deferred reports. These committees and their chairs are: Citizen Association Services, Don Hinman; Education, Leonard Bumbaca, Ed Saperstein, and Tim Thompson; Environment, Roger Diedrich & Flint Webb; Human Services, Cherie Tripp Lejeune; Land Use, Fred Costello; Legislation, Frank Anderson and Jason Ha, Public Safety, As'ad Hess-Linckost; Resolutions, Bill Hanks, Transportation, Carey Campbell and Jeff Parnes; and Website, Jeff Parnes.

#### **District Council Reports**

Seven supervisor districts have councils of citizens associations; Dranesville & Hunter Mill districts do not.

**Mason**—John Birch—Mason District Council efforts are focused on cleanups and anti-litter programs.

**Providence**—Flint Webb—Charlie Hall reported that the council has escaped deactivation. At the last meeting of the council a slate of officers was elected including him as the chair. The council also considered the county's advertised budget at that meeting.

Because of the time required to consider the budget resolution, the other district council representatives deferred reports. These councils and their representatives are: Braddock, Art Wells; Lee, Don Hinman; Mount Vernon, Karen Pohorylo; Springfield, Mike Thompson; and Sully, Jeff Parnes.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned 37 minutes after midnight.

#### **Next Meetings**

The next membership meeting is Thursday, April 19, 2012, 7:30 p.m., at the Packard Center.

The next board meeting is on Thursday, April 26, 2012, 7:30 p.m., at the Packard Center.

Minutes written by Ed Wyse, Recording Secretary

#### Annandale High School Boosters 5 K Run/Walk

This 6th annual event will be held on Saturday, May 19 at 8:30 a.m. at Annandale High School, 4500 Medford Drive. The certified course winds through the community and concludes at the school's track.

The price for participants is \$18 until May 5 and \$23 thereafter. Students and AHS faculty cost \$15. Free T-shirts and awards in 14 categories.

To register and for more information visit <u>www.annandaleatoms.com.</u>

#### Virginia Legislative Update for HOAs and Condominium Associations

The 2012 Virginia Assembly session considered much legislation affecting HOAs and Condominium Associations. The full legislative record of each bill highlighted below is available at: http://lis.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/legp604.exe?121+men+BIL.

S.B. 628. This bill focused on the problem voiced by many associations that prior to transition from developer to owner control, some developers (who in legal terminology are referred to as declarants) were locking associations into contracts that remained in effect for years after the owners took over control. The bill, modeled after provisions in the Condominium Act, addressed this problem with two key provisions. First, the bill stated that while an association is still under declarant control. there is a five-year limit on management or employment contracts. All other contracts must be commercially reasonable. Second, the bill provides that once the transition from declarant to owner control is completed, the association has up to 60 days to terminate any contracts (without penalty to the association) while providing at least 90 days written notice of the termination. The bill, submitted by Sen. Mark Herring, passed both chambers unanimously.

**H.B. 410**. If the association prevails in legal action against an owner for nonpayment of assessments, under certain conditions the association is entitled to attorney fees and other reasonable costs incurred in pursuing the case, whether or not judicial proceedings are filed and even if the proceeding is settled prior to judgment. Those conditions are that an owner owns more than one unit or has been the subject of prior legal action from the association. The bill, submitted by Del. Vivian Watts, passed nearly unanimously in both chambers.

**H.B. 418**. This bill would have authorized associations to impose a late fee of not more than \$50 for regular or special assessments not received from an owner by the due date. It applies to any installment, such as quarterly or monthly. This was intended to reinstate legislatively such authority after rulings by judges in Fairfax County stating that associations may not impose such fees unless explicitly authorized by the governing documents (i.e., the covenants/declarations). The bill, submitted by Del. Vivian Watts, passed nearly unanimously in the House but was defeated in the Senate. Whether the Federation should take a position on re-introducing this bill will be addressed when it prepares the next Federation legislative package.

These summaries are based on the Legislative Tracking Chart available at: http://www.cai-valac.org/Legislative-Alerts-and-Updates~258554~10171.htm, which is maintained by the Virginia Legislative Action Committee (VALAC) of the Community Associations Institute. VALAC lobbies the General Assembly for legislation favorable to HOAs and Condominium Associations, and supported all three of these bills.

The foregoing report was prepared by Don Hinman, chair of the Citizen Association Services Committee (CASC), who made a presentation on this topic at the Federation's February 2012 General Membership Meeting. He is available for presentations to District Councils and community associations on topics relating to association governance and administration. The CASC website is http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/

CitizenAssnServices.htm. Mr. Hinman may be contacted at FedAssociationServicesChr2012@fairfaxfederation.org.

#### 2011 – 2012 Current Membership

The Federation is honored to be joined by a growing number of citizens associations. It currently includes the following associations. The Federation welcomes all citizens associations in Fairfax County to join in membership in our common efforts to be an effective voice in our advocacy on behalf of residents to local, state and federal officials. To learn more, please see our membership details available on our website at http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/membership1.htm.

Adams Walk HOA Bonnie Brae HOA **Chantilly Farm HOA** Chantilly Highlands Homes Association Civic Association of West Springfield Village Colvin Glen Citizens Association Country Club View Civic Association Fox Mill Estates Greenbriar Civic Association Groveton Va Civic Association Havfield Citizens Association Holmes Run Acres Civic Association Huntington Grove II HOA Innisfree Community Association Jefferson Manor Civic Association Lafayette Village Community Association Lee Boulevard Heights Citizen Association Mantua Citizens Association McLean Citizens Association McLean Hamlet Citizens Association Montebello Condominium Unit Owners Association North Springfield Civic Association Oak Hill Citizens Association Sleepy Hollow Citizens Association Stone Haven Civic Association Stratford on the Potomac Sect Four Corp Sunset Manor Civic Association Truro Homes Association Walnut Hill HOA Waynewood Citizens Association Wolf Run Estates Association

#### 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Potomac River Watershed Clean up

As part of the Alice Ferguson Foundation 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Potomac River Watershed Clean up, the Friends of Accotink Creek has set up a stream cleanup schedule for points along the Accotink Creek. See http://www.fergusonfoundation.org/cleanup/ SelectCounty\_new.php for opportunities to serve, any Saturdays during April. *All Friends of Accotink Creek Activities earn student Community Service hours.* 

# Visit us at WWW.FairfaxFederation.org

**See us also on Facebook:** Search for "Fairfax Federation", click on "See more results", and select "Fairfax Federation" with the Packard Center sign (as logo) from the list of alternatives.

#### Photographs from Citizen of the Year Banquet

Close to 150 people attended this year's Federation and SAIC sponsored Citizen of the Year Banquet held on 25 March at the Tysons Corner Crowne Plaza Hotel. The turn out was the largest we've had in over seven years. This year's banquet was the Federation's sixty-second presentation of the Citizen of the Year honor to a deserving Fairfax County Citizen volunteer.

Federation President Tania Hossain welcomed the banquet guests, and then introduced Doug Koelemay, Vice President, Community Relations, SAIC, who detailed his company's involvement in Fairfax County and continued support of the Federation's efforts in honoring citizens who have contributed to the county's well being.

Jeremy Mayer, Director, Master of Public Policy Program, George Mason University, spoke on the topic "Who Will Win Fairfax, Virginia, and the Country?" Banquet attendees enjoyed his presentation and the question and answer session that followed.

Walter Alcorn, At-Large Fairfax County Planning Commissioner, received the Federation's Citizen of the Year Cup in recognition of his leadership of redevelopment planning for Tysons Corner.

Citations of Merit honors were presented to Ellie Ashford of Annandale, Cora Foley of Springfield and Terry Maynard of Reston.

Suzanne Harsel received a Special Gratitude Award for her long years of service on the Planning Commission and last year's Citizen of the year, Mollie Loeffler received her permanent keepsake, an engraved mantle clock.

The many guests included Congressmen Gerry Connolly and Jim Moran, Past Board Chairman/Past Commonwealth Secretary of State Kate Hanley, Delegate David Bulova, State Senator David Marsden, Chairman Sharon Bulova, former Congressman and past Federation President Herb Harris.



Past Federation President John Jennison, Congressmen Gerry Connolly and Jim Moran Applaud Tania Hossain's Presentation of the Citizen of the Year Award to Walter Alcorn, with his daughter Delia and his wife Kristina Standing By and with Kate Hanley, Past Board Chairman/Past Commonwealth Secretary of State, Joining the Congratulating Party

April 2012



Federation President Tania Hossain's Gives the Opening Remarks



Mason District Council's Loretta Prencipe and Mollie Loeffler Applaud as Ellie Ashford Receives a Citation of Merit Award



George Mason University's Jeremy Mayer Gives the Keynote Speech



Cora Foley Receives a Citation of Merit Award from Linda Byrne, a 2008 Citation of Merit recipient, and Kristin Carbal, Dranesville District, Fairfax County Public Library **Board of Trustees** 



Reston Citizens Association's Tammi Petrine, Federation Officer Fred Costello and Federation President Tania Hossein Congratulate Terry Maynard upon His Receiving a **Citation of Merit Award** 



Delegate David Bulova and Chairman Sharon Bulova Present a Special Gratitude Award to Suzanne Harsel with Tania Hossein's Approval

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at :
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Treasurer				
1 <sup>st</sup> Delegate				
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4 <sup>th</sup> Delegate				
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Association Siz	Association Size/Federation Dues: Organiz	Organization's web site:		Month new officers installed:
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	Attention: Membership Vice President	Under 100	\$20 1	+ \$10 per each mailed
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THE BULLETIN

District: B. Braddock, D. Dranesville, H. Hunter Mill, L. Lee, M. Mason, MtV. Mount Vernon, P. Providence, Sp. Springfield, Su. Sully Association Size/Federation Dues: For example: 90/\$20 Association type: Civic, Coop, Condo, Homeowner