

BRADDOCK DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWS

October 2009

Next BDC Meeting

October 12, 2009 - 7:30 PM

Braddock Hall
9002 Burke Lake Road
Burke, VA 22015
(703) 425-9300

Future Events

Braddock Information Forum - February 9, 2010
Fairfax County Budget Review - March 9
Legislature Forum - April 13
Braddock District Picnic - July 13

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Best of Braddock Awards and the Braddock District Picnic

The Braddock District Picnic on July 14th in Kings Park Library was a wonderful success thanks to all the community participation, volunteers putting it together, and visits by our elected officials. The Best of Braddock awards winners had families and friends and neighbors as witness to their recognition by the Braddock District. Supervisor Cook presented the awards and was supported by the presence of Virginia State Senator George Barker, Virginia House of Delegates David Bulova and Dave Marsden, Braddock School Board Member Tessie Wilson, and special award winner Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Sharon Bulova. The top-notch barbecue with fixin's provided by Red, Hot and Blue and plenty of desserts helped enliven conversations. Next years planning has already started!

New BDC Officers

With this August newsletter, the new BDC officers accept the role of leading the Council and representing you and your homeowner and civic associations. We are listed below and plan to implement a BDC web page for direct communication and access for you to us. We all have a lot of experience with community activities and look forward to teamwork participation with Braddock District residents in BDC meetings, events and issues. See you at the meeting September 8, 7:30 PM.

Special Thank You

The members of the previous BDC board have transferred leadership to the newly elected board after the Braddock Picnic. The past BDC officers express many thanks to all the members for their active participation at our BDC meetings and scheduled events. Special thanks are given to all the organizations that assisted BDC events through payment of their of their annual dues. Active participation and fiscal support are both essential for an organization like BDC to achieve its goals. The overall BDC goal is to be the active voice and representative role in making in Braddock District a safe and fun community that attracts the desire and aim for others to live here. Community involvement, concern for the environment, welfare of current and future residents, and support from elected officials are activities which BDC has positively impacted. The new board will continue to seek, recognize and appreciate your support in achieving our BDC goals.

Braddock Nights 2009 Summer Concerts

Enjoyable Entertainment for the entire crowd! The concerts continue through August!

Fridays 7:30 PM Lake Accotink and Royal Lake Parks and **Sundays 6:00 PM Ossian Hall Park**
Budget reductions have not reduced this series of summer fun thanks to generous corporate sponsors and to your dedicated attendance. Both show the priority we place on this community entertainment. For a lot more information, go to <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/braddock-nights.htm>. You can even sign up to be a "**Friend of Braddock Nights**".

Braddock Road Beautification Project/Mary Read Memorial

Rains and mild weather have encouraged plant growth and blooms. However, they have also encouraged grass growth along Braddock Road and other district streets. The Braddock Office has been working with VDOT and Fairfax County Police to continue the effort to cut the grass.

Informal Listening Forums with Park Authority

On Thursday nights at 7 PM a Park Authority representative meets with communities to discuss issues and needs. Meetings are scheduled in different locations and months. Contact Public Information Office, 703-324-8662. Visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/news.htm>.

Safety First

Adults and especially children are very active outdoors during the summer, walking and playing in yards and driveways. Please be extra alert for kids and pets and maintain proper vehicle speed when driving through our many residential streets.

Burglaries in Braddock District

Three homes in KPW have been targets of day time burglaries. Fortunately, no injuries and only some property losses occurred. Individuals perpetrating the crimes are being pursued. The response of the KPW community and alertness of a family prevented one recent crime and helped in identifying and hopefully nabbing the perps. Community awareness and your preparedness to handle such situations are important preventive and recovery measures. Fairfax County Police encourage us to participate in Neighborhood Watch. After sunset is not the only time to be watchful. Stay Alert and Stay in Touch.

Join the wave - Participate in Braddock District Council

Volunteerism across the Nation is on the rise! Helping one's community is one of the strongest expressions of citizenship. Perhaps this rise is due to the economy or due to examples set by our leaders, but more people are giving their free time to help their fellow citizens and community in services like libraries, parks, and Adopt-A-Highway programs. Homeowner and Civic Association residents provide the dues and volunteers that are the primary support for the Braddock District Council. The BDC is the united and focused voice for all Braddock District citizens to be heard by our District Supervisor John Cook and by the Chair of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Sharon Boluva. Please consider both your responsibility and privilege to participate in this traditional American forum of representation. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/volunteering. Volunteer, help, and contribute. Attend, participate, and enrich.

Say Hi to your neighbors,

Bill

Braddock District Council Officers

Chair: William Barfield

Vice Chair: Janyce Hedetniemi

Treasurer: Kevin Morse

Secretary: Bruce Wallachy

Communications Chair: vacant

Membership Chair: vacant

Information Forum Chair: Tena Bluhm

SUPERVISOR'S CORNER

Summer is no slow time in Braddock District

While most of us hope to slacken our pace over the summer months, I and my staff have been actively involved in meeting with residents on a variety of issues and in preparing to launch a major community enhancement initiative in the fall. I have particularly enjoyed the opportunity to meet so many of you at Braddock Nights, which continues to provide family friendly entertainment to our residents throughout the summer.

This month, I have met with Park staff on continuing plans to provide more recreation opportunities at Ossian Hall Park. To see the proposed plan, please stop by the office. I have met with the Provost of Northern Virginia Community College on ways to improve parking and traffic in the vicinity of the school as I pledged to the communities surrounding the school. I am also working with Supervisor Pat Herry to find ways to save what is often called Top of the Hill or Silas Burke House on Burke Lake Road.

Transportation continues to be an important topic. This month the county finally agreed on the scope of a future widening project at the intersection of West Ox and Braddock Roads. This decision, to pursue what is called the 9-T alignment which would have fewer impacts in regards to storm water management and utilities and will allow the University Mall to present its proposed redevelopment project with assurance about what right of way will be required in the future. In September, I expect to begin scheduling a series of community meetings on this project. I have also been looking closely at a list of previously recommended spot transportation and pedestrian projects that could improve traffic at intersections throughout the District. A 2007 Bond Project to provide a sidewalk on the west side of Roberts Road to Shenandoah Road is scheduled to go to construction in September. When complete, it will provide pedestrian access all the way to the City of Fairfax. In the same vein, I have been informed by George Mason University that it hopes to have pedestrian access along Rt. 123 reestablished by mid-September.

My staff is also working closely with the a newly established group called the Fairfax County Restoration Project, which has been formed to proactively work with VDOT and Fluor to restore much of the land along the HOT Lanes. Preliminary plans include planting of trees, preserving resource protection areas, soil and habitat restoration and community gardening. Residents along American Drive and in North Springfield are clearly in need of relief from the visual and noise impacts of this project.

At the Board of Supervisors meeting on August 3, I joined Supervisors Herry, Bulova and Smyth to vote to deny the application by the Islamic Saudi Academy to expand its campus on Pope's Head Road. After driving this road on three separate occasions, I became convinced that the impacts on its surrounding communities would be unacceptable.

Enjoy the rest of your summer.

John Cook