

LY FOCUS

GOVERNMENT AND THE FALLS CHURCH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



For more news about the Falls Church City Public Schools visit: www.fccps.org

Chairman: Craig Cheney703-237-6931
Vice Chairman: Kathryn Chandler703-536-7564
School Board	
Rosaura Aguerrebere703-536-8638
Susan Kearney703-532-0321
Ronald Peppe II703-534-4959
Kieran Sharpe703-536-3130
Joan Wodiska703-533-1248
Superintendent: Dr. Lois Berlin703-248-5601*

* Indicates TTY 711 Accessibility

JUNE 21-27, 2007

Learn How the New Transportation Finance Law Affects You and Share Your Feedback at the June 25 Public Input Session

The City of Falls Church is hosting a public input session to solicit feedback on the Transportation Finance Act (HB3202) approved by the General Assembly earlier this year to address Northern Virginia's transportation problems. The public input session will take place during the Monday, June 25, 2007 City Council Meeting, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers located at 300 Park Ave., Falls Church.

The new state law, which takes effect July 1, 2007, allows for the adoption of seven taxes and fees which will yield approximately \$300 million annually, all of which is dedicated to transportation needs in Northern Virginia. Public input sessions like this are scheduled across the region

through July 11 to allow the public to learn more about the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority, its plans for the region, and to provide a forum for public feedback to local elected officials. The Authority will hold a region-wide public hearing on Thursday, July 12 at 6 p.m. at the Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School cafeteria, 7130 Leesburg Pike.

Written comments may be mailed before July 12 to:

The Northern Virginia Transportation Authority
c/o NVRC

3060 Williams Drive, Suite 510
Fairfax, VA 22031

For more information, please visit www.novaregion.org/novatrans.

Save the Date—You May Save Your Life

Life Line Screening will be at Thomas Jefferson Elementary School (601 S. Oak St.) on Saturday, July 7 to perform non-invasive ultrasound health screenings for stroke, abdominal aneurysms, peripheral arterial disease, and osteoporosis. These painless, non-invasive tests take less than one hour to complete and are offered at \$45 each (\$35 for osteoporosis screening), but you can get all four for \$129. Pre-registration required. Call 800-324-1851.

Collect the Emergency Kit Top 10

Be prepared for disasters by assembling an emergency kit. Collect the emergency kit top 10 and place these items in a water-proof backpack, duffle bag, or sealed plastic container for easy transport. Keep a smaller kit in your car. Emergency supplies should be adequate to last at least three days per person.

- One gallon of water per person
- Non-perishable food (don't forget the manual can opener and plastic utensils)
- Hygiene items
- Week's worth of prescription medications (if needed)

• One change of clothes and footwear per person and a blanket or sleeping bag

- Battery-powered or hand-crank radio with extra batteries and NOAA alert radio
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- First aid items
- Small tool kit with a wrench and pliers to turn off utilities
- Dust mask, plastic sheeting, and duct tape to create a barrier between yourself and any contamination in the air

For more information and tips on emergency preparedness, visit www.fallschurchva.gov or call 703-248-5003 (TTY 711).

Request House Checks This Summer Season

The Falls Church City Police Department offers an added layer of security while you're away from home. It's the only police department in the region that conducts a daily house check for residents who will be out of town for at least three days.

City police will only conduct house checks on single-family homes and townhouses. Vacant properties will not be checked.

The department cannot guarantee house checks will stop intentional criminal acts. House checks will be conducted depending on manpower and other duties of officers.

To request a house check, visit the Police Department at 300 Park Ave. For more information, call 703-241-5050.

Take the Library Patron Survey

The Mary Riley Styles Public Library is conducting its annual user survey and wants to know what you think about its services, materials, staff and more!

The Library mailed 550 surveys to randomly selected City residents. If you have not received a survey but would like to voice your opinion, you may do so in person at the Library (120 N. Virginia Ave.) or online (www.falls-church.lib.va.us). The survey ends June 30 and results will be tallied and posted shortly thereafter on the Library's bulletin board and Web site.

The survey allows staff to gauge how well they are providing services and resources, and to learn patrons' concerns so they can be addressed.

For more information, call 703-248-5030 (TTY 711).



FCC-TV Spotlight: 2007 GMHS Graduation

Tune in to Falls Church Community Television (FCC-TV) to watch the 2007 George Mason High School Graduation. You can catch the program on FCC-TV at the following times:



- Friday, June 22 at 1:30 p.m.
- Sunday, June 24 at 11:00 a.m.
- Tuesday, June 26 at 5:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, June 27 at 9:00 a.m.
- Sunday, July 1 at 10:00 a.m.

FCC-TV airs on Cox Channel 12, RCN Channel 2 and Verizon Channel 35. For more information about FCC-TV, or complete schedule of the variety of community programs on FCC-TV, visit www.fccctv.net or call 703-248-5538.

Graduates Thank Additional Donors

George Mason High School's All Night Graduation Celebration Committee and the BIE would like to give a special thanks to: the Falls Church City Police Department for its presence at the celebration and to Bob Morrison of Bonnie Briar Productions, LLC for taking the senior photo. We also thank these additional donors to the ANG: Atlantic Realty, BB&T, Robert E. Beach Architects, Blockbuster Video, Coca-Cola Enterprises, Five Guys, Idylwood Grill, Edward Jones, Verizon, Wal-Mart, and the Washington Group.

Another Year of Learning Complete

Graduation, recognition, and fond farewells filled the final week of the Falls Church City Public Schools 2006-2007 school year. 1870 students celebrated a year of learning and growth and the beginning of summer vacation last week.

George Mason High graduated 167 seniors during commencement exercises June 14. Retiring English teacher Michael Hoover, a 37-year veteran of the FCCPS, was the keynote commencement speaker. "During his address, he challenged each graduate to become "intrinsic teachers" throughout his or her life."

Recognition and "moving up" ceremonies were held at the division's other three schools. The last day of school for students in grades K-11 was Friday, June 15.



Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School students waved goodbye to teachers and staff as they headed home for the summer.



BIE Partner of the Week

Nancy Davis, Mike Kerrigan, Ellen Ingson,
Patty McMenemy, Vickie Miller, Mary Fry
Acacia Federal Savings Bank

School Involvement: Corresponded with students at Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School throughout the school year. Each week, students wrote letters in "dialog journals," which were delivered to the bank. Adult pen pals responded in writing. At the end-of-year party, the pen pals met students for the first time. The students were treated to a tour of the bank and an ice cream party.



Why Acacia Federal Savings Bank is a BIE partner: "It was our pleasure to be involved in the lives of these international students for an entire school year. After writing letters for so many months, it was a thrill to finally meet them."

For more information about sharing your expertise through the BIE Partnership, visit www.fccps.org or contact Marybeth Connelly at connellym@fccps.org.

2007 - 2008 School Calendar Available

It's never too early to think ahead to next year. The first day of school for students will be Tuesday, Sept. 4. Winter break is scheduled for Dec. 24 through Jan. 1 (school will reopen on Jan.2). Spring Break will be Mar. 17 - 21 (school resumes on March 24). The last day of school for students will be Thursday, June 12 for seniors and June 13, 2008 for all other students. View the full calendar at www.fccps.org.