

*News from...*

# SUPERVISOR PENNY GROSS



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Mason District Home - Fairfax  
County, Virginia

[www.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov)

Welcome to the Mason District homepage! It is designed for easy use, and I hope you will find the information both helpful and timely.

**October 2016**

A few items of information for you or your association newsletter:

**The Board Corner: Perspectives from Penny** – Election Day is weeks away, but there still is time to register to vote, or update your current registration information, in the **November 8** presidential election. The **Voter Registration Deadline** in Fairfax County is **Monday, October 17**. You may register in person at the Fairfax County Electoral Board office in Fairfax, by mail, or online at [www.vote.virginia.gov](http://www.vote.virginia.gov). Information about in-person absentee voting is on page 2 of this e-newsletter.

In addition to the presidential and congressional election choices, this year's ballot contains two Commonwealth of Virginia proposed constitutional amendments, three Fairfax County bond referenda questions – Transportation Bonds, Parks and Park Facilities Bonds, and Human Services and Community Development Bonds --- plus the Meals Tax question. More information about what's on the ballot is available at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections), or through the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area, [www.lwv-fairfax.org](http://www.lwv-fairfax.org). The ballot is

long; a few minutes spent reviewing the ballot questions now will speed your way through the lines at your polling place.

The Bailey's Community Shelter will remain in Bailey's Crossroads. On September 14, the county acquired property on Seminary Road, not far from the existing facility, that will be the site of a new permanent shelter. The same day, AvalonBay, the county's partner in the redevelopment of the SE Quadrant on Columbia Pike, terminated the Real Estate Exchange Agreement (REEA) that was approved by the Board of Supervisors in February, effectively withdrawing from the project. As a result, the temporary relocation of the shelter at the Lincolnia Senior Center site is not needed. The Planning Commission's decision to approve the relocation application was entirely correct, but the withdrawal renders that decision moot. The new location is subject to a Comprehensive Plan change and a rezoning application, with a goal of opening the new shelter in the fall of 2019. Many thanks to all members of the community who got involved in all aspects; the debate proved that reducing and ending homelessness is a goal for everyone involved.

**Graham Park Plaza Plan Amendment Advances to Next Step** – On January 27, 2015, the Board of Supervisors authorized the consideration of a Comprehensive Plan amendment for Graham Park Plaza, formerly Loehmann's Plaza in the Jefferson Planning District. The current adopted Plan for this area recommends community-serving retail uses. The Board requested that county staff consider a mix of residential and nonresidential uses. Additionally, Plan analysis should provide attention to transportation, while planning for high-quality design for the shopping center. The Plan Amendment will have a public hearing before the Planning Commission scheduled for **Thursday, October 20 at 8:15 p.m.**, and before the Board of Supervisors on **Tuesday, December 6 at 4 p.m.**

**Taste of Annandale October 1, 2016** – The Annandale Roundtable, Inc. proudly presents a "Taste of Annandale" on **Saturday, October 1, 2016**, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. along Tom Davis Drive. Enjoy a variety of cuisines, a full lineup of multicultural music and dance performances, and a children's playground with a variety of equipment and a full schedule of free child development activities. A 5K certified race at 8 a.m. will kick-off the event. Register online at <https://tasteofannandale.com>. For more information, visit [www.facebook.com/tasteannandale2016](http://www.facebook.com/tasteannandale2016), or contact Camilo Quila at (571) 645-8345. Admission is free to the public.

**Semi-Annual Book Sale Ends October 1-2 at George Mason Regional Library!** – The Friends of George Mason Regional Library will conclude its semi-annual book sale on **October 1 - 2** at the library, 7001 Little River Turnpike in Annandale. The hours are **Saturday, October 1**, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; and **Sunday, October 2**, Noon - 5 p.m. Sale includes more than 50,000 books, DVDs, CDs and sheet music. For more information, send an e-mail to [georgemasonfriends@gmail.com](mailto:georgemasonfriends@gmail.com), stop by the library, or call 703-813-6616.

**Observe Fire Prevention Week October 9 – 16** – Plan to attend an Open House at a Fire Station near you on **Saturday, October 15**, from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. This year's theme is "Don't

Wait, Check the Date. Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years." Educational efforts are focused on the importance of having working smoke alarms, checking the dates on smoke alarms, and replacing smoke alarms every 10 years. For more information about fire prevention and safety, and community outreach programs, visit the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Web site at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fr/>.

**Book Sale at Woodrow Wilson Library!** – The Friends of Woodrow Wilson Library will hold its first all-day sale on **Saturday, October 15, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.**, at the library, 6101 Knollwood Drive in Falls Church. Find gently used books and magazines for all ages and interests. Most hardbacks \$1 and most paperbacks \$0.50. For more information, stop by the library, or call 703-820-8774.

**Absentee Voting Available at the Office of Elections and Seven Satellite Locations** – In-Person Absentee Voting is available at the **Fairfax County Government Center**, 12000 Government Center Parkway, **Conference Rooms 2/3** in Fairfax, from now until **October 14**, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday; and 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursday. The Office of Elections and all Satellite Locations will be **closed** for in-person absentee voting on **Monday, October 10** in observance of the **Columbus Day** holiday.

- **Expanded in-person absentee voting hours** at the Office of Elections begin on **October 17 – November 4**, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. On **Saturdays, October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, and November 5**, in-person absentee voting is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- In-Person Absentee Voting at **Seven Satellite Locations**, including the Mason Governmental Center, 6507 Columbia Pike in Annandale, begins weekdays starting from **October 17-November 4**, from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m., and on **Saturdays, October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, and November 5** from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- **Last Day to Apply for an Absentee Ballot by Mail, Fax, E-mail, or Online: Now through November 1 at 5 p.m.**
- **Last Day to Vote Absentee In-Person: November 5, 2016.**
- **For Inclusion in the Election, Absentee Ballots must be returned to the Office of Elections by 7 p.m. on Election Day, November 8, 2016.**

Additional information about absentee voting for the **November 8, 2016** election is available online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/absentee.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/absentee.htm), by calling the Office of Elections at 703-222-0776; TTY 711, or e-mail at [voting@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:voting@fairfaxcounty.gov). If you have moved, need to update your voter registration, or need to register to vote, visit [www.vote.virginia.gov](http://www.vote.virginia.gov). **The deadline to register to vote is October 17, 2016.**

**Election Officer Training Scheduled in October** – Fairfax County needs Election Officers a few days a year, including the upcoming General Election on **Tuesday, November 8, 2016**, at each of the 240 precincts in Fairfax County to run the polls and assist the voters. Election Officers are offered a stipend of \$175 for serving a full day. Classes and locations for **(New) Election Officer Training** and **Experienced Officer Training (EXP)** are available online at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/eotraining.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/eotraining.htm). Bilingual citizens are urged to serve, as language assistance is needed in many precincts. Residency in Fairfax County is not

required. For more information visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/working.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/working.htm), send an e-mail to [elect@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:elect@fairfaxcounty.gov), or call 703-324-4735; TTY 711.

**Got Drugs? Cleanout Medicine Cabinets of Unused and Expired Prescriptions**

– On **Saturday, October 22, 2016**, from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., the Fairfax County Police Department, in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Justice Drug Enforcement Administration Diversion Control Division, will take back unused and expired medications for proper disposal. Stations serving Mason District include: **Mason District Station**, 6507 Columbia Pike in Annandale; **Franconia District Station**, 6121 Franconia Road in Alexandria; and **West Springfield District Station**, 6140 Rolling Road in Springfield. **Only prescriptions in liquid or pill form may be dropped off. No needles or pressurized canisters will be accepted.** Disposal is free, safe, convenient, and confidential. Information about year-round proper disposal of medications is available on-line at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hd/dontflush](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hd/dontflush), or by calling the Health Department at 703-246-2411; TTY 711.

**Participate in the Annandale Fall Festival Parade!** – The Annandale Chamber of Commerce will host the 66<sup>th</sup> Annual Annandale Fall Festival Parade on **Saturday, October 22**, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. (Rain or shine.) For more information, and for participant online registration, visit [www.annandalechamber.com](http://www.annandalechamber.com).

**The Annandale and Bailey's Crossroads Volunteer Fire Departments Invite You to a Crab Legs and Spiced Shrimp Feast**

– An all-you-can-eat crab legs and spiced shrimp feast fundraiser is set for **Sunday, October 30**, 2 - 5 p.m. at the Annandale Volunteer Fire Department, 7128 Columbia Pike in Annandale. Enjoy steamed crab legs, spiced shrimp, corn-on-the-cob, coleslaw, hush puppies, and hot dogs. Soft drinks, libations (must be 21 years or older to purchase/consume), and assorted desserts will be available for purchase. Tickets and sponsorship opportunities are available now for this fabulous feast. Proceeds from this event will be used to assist the Annandale and Bailey's Crossroads Volunteer Fire Departments with ongoing apparatus and station costs. For more information, visit [www.avfd.org](http://www.avfd.org), or [www.bxrvfd.org](http://www.bxrvfd.org), or send an e-mail to [crabfeast@avfd.org](mailto:crabfeast@avfd.org). The Annandale and Bailey's Crossroads Volunteer Fire Departments are non-profit 501c (3) organizations, and all donations are tax deductible. Donations may be mailed to: AVFD, P.O. Box 806, Annandale, VA 22003; and to the Bailey's Crossroads Volunteer Fire Department, P.O. Box 1159, Falls Church, VA 22041-3609.

**Mason Matters! The Television Show**

– The October edition of *Mason Matters!*, the television show that brings you news and information about our Mason District community, hosted by Supervisor Penny Gross, features Michelle Gregory, division director, and Linda Hoffman, system planner, in the Countywide Service Integration and Planning Management Division of the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services. Our diverse and increasing population is changing, and with those changes comes a broader need in the areas of housing, economic self-sufficiency, health, and connections to resources. To understand these changes and prepare for the future, a needs assessment was conducted this year to identify key needs and challenges facing our residents. To maintain our quality of life and long-term prosperity, it

is vital that our entire community partner to find solutions to some new and different challenges – government cannot do it alone. *Mason Matters!* airs on Cable Channel 16 every **Thursday at 7 p.m.**, and every **Friday and Sunday at 6:30 p.m.**, and daily on-line at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mason](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mason).

**The Quick 411** – I heard there is the new "Yellow Dot Program." How does it work? There's a "golden hour" after a vehicle crash or emergency. Medical help may be required, but first responders need to know what medical conditions people might have, especially if they are unconscious or unable to talk. The Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department's new "Yellow Dot Program" could save your life, and it is simple:

1. **Visit your local fire station** for a kit.
2. **Fill out the booklet in pencil** (so you can make future updates).
3. **Attach a current photo** into the booklet.
4. Place the booklet in your **glove compartment**.
5. **Place the yellow dot decal in the lower left of your rear windshield** to alert first responders to check the glove compartment for vital medical information. Tip: place the sticker no higher than three inches from the bottom.

For more information, and to contact or get the address of your local Fire Station, visit the Web site at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fr/deptinfo/stations.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fr/deptinfo/stations.htm).