

Stratford Landing Newsletter

Stratford Landing Mount Vernon District Fairfax County April 2010

Bimonthly Newsletter

2010 Directory Is Here

The 2010 SLCA Directory is published and being delivered along with this Newsletter. If you did not receive one, it either means we have an error in our accounting or you are not currently a dues paying member of the association. In either case, please contact your block captain, or Mary Lou Hoffman, 703-360-7267, or Ken Pribyla, kprib@verizon.net or 703-619-1385.

Your Exec Committee is Complete

We welcomed Terri Maloney of Londonderry Road to the committee in February when she took the Consumer Affairs Delegate position. Included in her duties is the maintenance of the Sweet List. So, we now have someone to focus on updating and modernizing that all important document of 'go to'



providers we all look to when we need help. Terri's contact information is t2maloney@aol.com or 703-780-3454. Thank you Terri and we look forward to working with you over the coming year.

School for the 3rd Annual SLCA Potluck Dinner. Everyone had a chance to sample a variety of dishes, socialize with friends—old and new—and a great time was had by all. Thanks to everyone who attended and contributed to this event.



Past events:

3rd Annual SLCA Potluck Dinner

On Friday, February 26th, many community members gathered at Stratford Landing Elementary

Stratford Landing Spring Fling and Egg Hunt, March 20, 2010

We had a picture-perfect day for the Spring Fling and Egg Hunt. At least 100 children and their families paraded up Camden Street behind a fire truck

and police officers on bicycles. At Stratford Landing Park, the kids descended into the woods for the egg hunt, and enjoyed crafts, games, and refreshments afterwards.

Congratulations to Ruarc Collins, who won the "Guess How Many Hershey Kisses Are in the Jar" game! Please check out www.stratfordlanding.org for pictures of this fun event.

Upcoming Events:

Neighborhood Coffee

Saturday, April 24th
9:00am-11:00am
Stratford Landing Elementary School Cafeteria

Please join us at Stratford Landing Elementary School on Saturday, April 24th starting at 9:00am for our Spring Coffee event. SLCA will supply coffee, tea, and paper goods. Please bring food to share, such as bread, muffins, or fruit. If you have

any questions, please feel free to contact any of the Recreation Co-Chairs: Heather Westphal at hlw1421@yahoo.com or 703-360-5258, Dana Deighton at ddeighton@live.com or 703-799-0664, or Angela Meyers at ahazuda@yahoo.com or 703-887-8387.

Remember Little Hunting Creek Cleanup

9 a.m.-noon April 10th
For more information, contact Betsy Martin at 703-360-0691 or email betsy@folhc.org.

Report Those Pot Holes

Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) has no money to repave our streets and byways, however, they have committed to filling potholes. So, we need to help each other here in Stratford Landing by reporting all potholes immediately. There are several ways to do this but the best, and most successful, is to go to the VDOT website <http://virginiadot.org/travel/citizen.asp> and fill out the specifics. The connection to this reporting window is on the SLCA website. All you have to do is go there and click. VDOT requires who is reporting it and where it is. Alternatively, you can call **800-367-7623**.



Get In The Know

As you know, Stratford Landing is an active

organization and we want you to be involved and informed. We have started an email list to give you up-to-date information regarding events and rain dates, meetings, county news and other important announcements. We'll only email you when we have something to say, so please send your email address to Angela Meyers ahazuda@yahoo.com. She will add you to the list of others who have already sent us theirs and you'll start

The Betty & Jack Shawn Stratford Community Blood Drive is on Saturday April 10th at INOVA Mt Vernon Hospital. Call Jack Shawn at 703-780-4752 for further information. Future drives in 2010: Jun. 5, Aug. 7, Oct. 2, Dec. 4



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-Tom*



receiving Stratford Landing updates. This is not a replacement for the bi-monthly newsletter. It is a way to get readable news to you between issues of this document.

County Budget Update from Chad Coneway, Delegate to the MVCCA Budget & Finance Committee:

Unless you have been living in a cave (and as far as I know we don't have any in the SLCA community), you know times are tough for the state and local budgets. The county expects a 6% General Fund revenue decrease in FY2011, resulting in a projected \$257.2 million shortfall even after FY2010's service reduction and cuts.

Here is a quick summary of the County \$3.2 billion budget:

“Where it comes from” in the proposed FY2011 budget: Over \$2 billion of the revenue comes from real estate taxes, nearly two times all other sources combined. Local taxes (Business, Professional, Occupational Licenses (BPOL), local sales and communications taxes) and Personnel Property taxes generate another \$1 billion. The remaining 5% comes from the federal and state government, charges for services, permits and other fees.

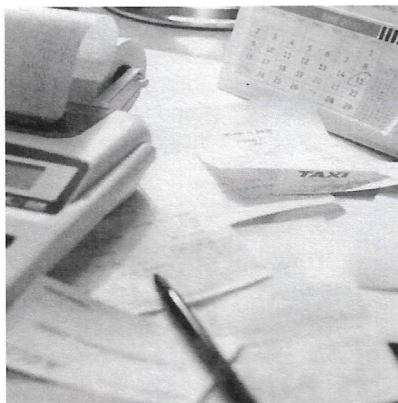
(1.4%), transfers (3.4%), public works (2.0%), central services (2.1%), and community development (1.4%)

The Board of Supervisors has advertised a real estate tax rate of \$1.12 per \$100 of assessed home value. By advertising this rate, the Board essentially defines how big the budget pie can be. Legally, the Board of Supervisors can set a tax rate that is lower, but cannot exceed its advertised rate. The County Executive submitted a budget balanced with \$1.09 per \$100 of assessed home value by finding efficiencies but some significant service cuts. To offer some perspective, the difference of \$0.03 equates to approximately

\$56.1 million in revenue. The \$1.09 tax rate will reflect, on average a \$48.55 decrease in tax per household compared to FY2010. The \$1.12 tax rate, on average, would reflect an increase of \$81.18 on their real estate tax bill compared to FY2010. The table on this page reflects a summary of the County Executive's proposed FY2011 tax rates.

Type	Unit	FY 2009 Actual Rate	FY 2010 Actual Rate	FY 2011 Recommended Rate
Real Estate	\$100/Assessed Value	\$0.92	\$1.04	\$1.09
Personal Property	\$100/Assessed Value	\$4.57	\$4.57	\$4.57
Integrated Pest Management Program	\$100/Assessed Value	\$0.001	\$0.001	\$0.001
Refuse Collection	Household	\$345	\$345	\$345
Refuse Disposal	Ton	\$57	\$60	\$60
Solid Waste Landfill Ash	Ton	\$11.50	\$13.50	\$13.50
Water Collection	\$100/Assessed Value	\$0.015	\$0.015	\$0.015
Sewer Availability Charge	Residential	\$6,896	\$7,310	\$7,750
Sewer Service Charge	Per 1,000 Gallons	\$4.10	\$4.50	\$5.27
McLean Community Center	\$100/Assessed Value	\$0.026	\$0.024	\$0.024
Reston Community Center	\$100/Assessed Value	\$0.047	\$0.047	\$0.047
Commercial Real Estate Tax	\$100/Assessed Value	\$0.11	\$0.11	\$0.11
For Transportation				
Athletic Service Application Fee	Per Participant Per Team Per League Season	\$5.50	\$5.50	\$5.50
Stormwater Services District Levy	\$100/Assessed Value	NA	\$0.010	\$0.015

At the meetings I have attended over the past several months, there has been a healthy amount of discussion and debate, predominantly focused on public school funding. The reality is that all areas of the County



“Where it goes” in the proposed FY2011 budget: \$1.71 billion (53.8%) goes to schools, \$406 million (12.3%) goes to public safety, and \$362 million (11%) goes to health and welfare. The remaining 22.9%, or

about \$722 million goes to 8 areas of the government like judicial (1%), debt service (3.7%), employee benefits (7.2%), parks and libraries

There are so many issues that the County is facing in order to balance this year's budget that an attempt to summarize them in the newsletter would risk over simplifying very complex issues. I encourage you to look at the cuts and documents posted on the Fairfax County website: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/> Additionally, there will be three days of public budget hearings April 6 - 8. Check the website listed above for times and to sign up to speak. The Fairfax County budget will be finalized/approved on April 27, 2010.

FY 2011 Advertised Budget Facts

POPULATION

Fairfax County's population is projected to be 1,059,468 persons as of January 2010, an increase of 0.6 percent over the revised January 2009 estimate of 1,053,672 and an increase of 29.4 percent over the 1990 census count of 818,584.

EXPENDITURES AND POSITIONS

General Fund Direct Expenditures

Totals \$1.18 billion, which reflects a decrease of \$94.7 million or 7.40 percent from the FY 2010 Revised Budget Plan. It is a decrease of \$24.6 million or 2.00 percent over the FY 2010 Adopted Budget Plan.

General Fund Disbursements

Totals \$3.29 billion, which reflects a decrease of \$133.36 million or 3.89 percent from the FY 2010 Revised Budget Plan. The decrease from the FY 2010 Adopted Budget Plan is \$36.32 million or 1.10 percent. These figures include the School Transfer and School Debt Service.

General Fund Transfer for School Operations

The proposed County General Fund transfer for School Operations in FY 2011 is \$1.61 billion, a decrease of \$16.27 million or 1.00 percent from the FY 2010 level of \$1.63 billion. The combined transfer with School Operating and Debt Service is \$1.771 billion, or 53.8 percent of the total County Combined General Fund disbursements.

Expenditures for All Appropriated Funds

Totals \$6.09 billion in FY 2011.

Pay-As-You-Go Capital Construction

These projects total \$15.05 million. from \$20.51 million in FY 2010.

Information Technology

The General Fund funding totals \$3.2 million in FY 2011, a decrease from \$7.4 million in FY 2010.

Authorized Positions

Authorized positions for all funds decreased by a net of 284 positions, as a result of the expenditure reductions recommended by the

Leah Chapla

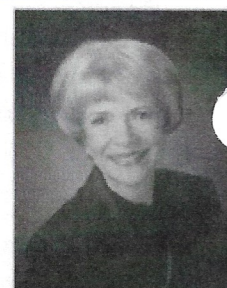
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County Executive. As a result, the ratio of authorized positions per 1,000 residents will decrease from 11.20 in FY 2010 to 10.87 in FY 2011.

Pay For Performance/Public Safety Merit Increments for County Employees

No funding is included in FY 2011 for pay for performance salary increases or for merit increments for Public Safety uniformed personnel. As a result, no County employee will receive a salary increase related to pay for performance, merit increments, or longevity steps in FY 2011.

Market Rate Adjustment

No funding is included in FY 2011 for the market rate adjustment. As a result, all pay scales will remain at FY 2010 levels.

TAX BASE

General Fund Revenue

Totals \$3.24 billion, which reflects a decrease of \$78.79 million or 2.38 percent from the FY 2010 Revised Budget Plan.

General Property Taxes

Total approximately 77.5 percent of General Fund Receipts. It should be noted that this includes personal property taxes that are

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reimbursed by the Commonwealth of Virginia as a result of the Personal Property Tax Relief Act of 1998.

Assessed Value

Assessed value of all real property is projected to decrease \$19.0 billion or 9.20 percent from FY 2010.

Average Residential Assessed Property Value

\$432,439, a decrease of \$25,459 or 5.56 percent from the FY 2010 value of \$457,898.

Average Residential Real Estate Tax Bill

\$4,713.59 at the \$1.09 per \$100 assessed value tax rate.

One Real Estate Penny

Equivalent to approximately \$18.7 million in tax revenue.

One Personal Property Penny

Equivalent to approximately \$1.0 million in tax revenue.

Commercial/Industrial Percentage of County's Real Estate Base

19.7 percent, a significant decrease from the FY 2010 rate of 22.7 percent.

A Message from West Potomac High Parents



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

On June 20, the West Potomac Senior Class of 2010 will be graduating! You have seen these young adults grow up in this neighbor, frequent our local business, baby-sit, mow lawns, etc., for years. It is finally their night!

The parents of the class of 2010 would like to keep our children SAFE on graduation night.

While it is the parent's job to set rules and limits for our children, graduation night is notorious for teen accidents and deaths... a night where typically good kids may make poor decisions. We are hoping to give the kids a safe, alcohol and drug free environment in which to celebrate this momentous occasion.

For the 23rd year, the All Night Graduation Celebration is offering our graduates this safe, chaperoned, alcohol and drug free opportunity.

This year's event will be held at Dave and Busters in Rockville, MD. Fundraising for the All Night Graduation Celebration is strictly up to the parents and graduates themselves, as we get NO FUNDING from the school or Fairfax County. Although we undertake a number of fundraising activities, we still RELY on generous sponsorship from our community... business, neighborhoods, and organizations.

Won't you please consider donating to this worthy cause? No amount is too small! If you would like to help, contact: Co-Chairs Gina Howell 703-660-8980 or Paula Accardi 703-360-0644, Ticket Chair Gayle Alexander 703-360-0094 or mail checks to 2421 Stirrup Lane Alex 22308. Make checks payable to WPHS-ANGC. We can't do this without support! Thanks!

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Save the Date

Mount Vernon At Home is pleased to announce its first annual CELEBRATE MOUNT VERNON AT HOME event, which will be held from 4 to 6:00pm on Thursday, June 3, at historic River Farm, in the heart of Mount Vernon. Please plan to join us as we celebrate our launch and enjoy light hors d'oeuvres, drinks, and lovely views of the gardens and the Potomac. You can check our website, mountvernonathome.org for details on ticket cost and sponsorship opportunities, or call the Mount Vernon At Home office, at 703-303-4060.

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