

Mount Vernon Civic Association

SPRING 2025

www.MountVernonCivicAssociation.org

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Mount Vernon Grove • Mount Vernon Park • Oxford • Riverbend • Riverwood • Vernon Square • Washington Woods
Westgate • Wycliffe on the Potomac • Yacht Haven Estates

March Association Meeting

Please join the MVCA as we host school representatives for a discussion about our system on Wednesday, March 12th. We will be joined by School Superintendent Mateo Dunne, Mount Vernon High School Principal Cary Dimmick, and Regional Assistant Superintendent Ray Lonnett. They will provide insights and updates about the school system. Food begins at 7:00, discussion begins at 7:30. Our meeting concludes at 8:30. Find us at the Washington Mill Elementary School library!



Update Your Information for the MVCA Community Directory

Hannah Wolf, Marcelle Brown, and Jason Leaver are updating the biennial community directory. **Have updates for us? Send them to MVCA at MountVernonCivicAssociation@gmail.com.** The goal is, as always, to distribute the updated directories at the community picnic in May. If you have not already sent in your membership renewal letter, please do so ASAP so we can include your listing information preference. See the QR code which will direct you to the website for renewal and payment. Don't be surprised if your block captain reaches out to ask for any updates!
As a reminder, directories are only available to dues paying members.

Finally, to advertise in the directory, reach out to Sean McCarthy, 703-360-0372, for information on pricing and availability. There are only a few slots left! Increase your visibility with the MVCA!

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Volunteer Updates and Requests

We are still looking for volunteers!

We continue to seek out a representative to lead the **education** and **communication committees**. No prerequisites required, but if you have expertise in education or have children in the public school system, you're a great fit for education! And if you're ready for disseminating news and outreach for neighbors, you're ripe for the role of communications chair. Reach out to Jason Leaver, 703-799-6739 or Alison Huffstetler, 703-799-6739.

And a special request: if you're a volunteer with our community watch program, please, please, **please**, pass along the watch bag to next week's volunteer. If you happen to be in possession of a lost or forgotten bag or magnet, drop it off with Bryan Wood - we won't hold it against you and would love to have them back! mvcaneighborhoodwatch@gmail.com



Measles Outbreak- Quick facts

At the time of this writing on March 7, a total of 222 measles cases had been reported in the United States. Closest to us, there are cases in Pennsylvania, New York, and New Jersey. There are also cases in Alaska, California, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Rhode Island, Texas, and Washington. Most of the cases have occurred in unvaccinated individuals. There have been two deaths due to the measles at this point. Measles is extremely contagious. So who should get vaccinated right now? What other precautions can you take?

The measles vaccine includes a series of two immunizations. The first of the measles vaccines conveys about 91 to 93% protection. Two doses conveys 95 to 99% protection against the measles. If you receive two doses of vaccine as a child, you are very likely protected now. But you can speak with your primary care doctor about obtaining titers to show whether or not you are immune. Most pregnant women also get this checked during pregnancy. Newborns are protected for the first six months of life by immunity that passes through the placenta. Breastfeeding also conveys more immunity. Kids receive measles vaccines at 12 months and between four and six years old. If you are traveling to an area that is having an outbreak, a child can receive a second vaccine 28 days after their first. If you are concerned about the measles spreading to our area, you can also talk with your pediatrician or family doctor about receiving the measles vaccine 28 days after the first vaccine was administered. That kiddo will still need another vaccine between four and six years old.

You might be wondering about babies between six months and 12 months.

Talk to your pediatrician or family doctor about whether your little one qualifies for early vaccination.

Adults born before 1957 are presumed to have immunity through measles exposure as children. Adults who received the measles vaccine between 1963 and 1967 received a different type of killed vaccine that is used today. If you were born in this age group, you might benefit from another measles vaccine. Pregnant people should not receive the measles vaccine. If you are planning to get pregnant, consider getting an MMR vaccine. Measles has spread as an aerosolized virus. If you are planning to spend time in an area with an outbreak, wearing a mask provides protection.

Fairfax Offers Job Resources

Some community members have been impacted by federal layoffs. If you're looking for information on Fairfax jobs, check out the recent webinar resource by the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority that includes information on job openings, tips for success, and staying connected for future opportunities.

Visit:

<https://vcwnorthern.com/wp-content/uploads/FFX-Workforce-Opportunities-Resources-Webinar-Feb-2025.pdf?emci=3c9a28e8-e5f9-ef11-90cd-0022482a9fb7&emdi=756b6982-8ffa-ef11-90cd-0022482a9fb7&ceid=-23508214Real Estate Assessment>

Fairfax County has released the 2025 real estate assessments.

Check your property here: <https://icare.fairfaxcounty.gov/ffxcare/search/commonsearch.aspx?mode=address>.

You can also search ResView, below, to check out how the neighborhoods home values have changed in the past year. <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/c1234b188d104286bc5c22426fb60525/>

If you have any concerns about your real estate assessment, you can file an appeal through the county.



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Transportation, Public Safety, and the FAA Actions Following Recent Accidents

At the February 8th Mt Vernon Town Hall I met with Congressman Beyer, Supervisor Storck and Chairman McKay on the public health and safety issues with FAA airspace and resource management (following 29 Jan accident at Reagan National Airport, DCA). Addressing the concerns for the airport operations and airline transportation, Congressman Beyer had recently joined several other representatives from VA and MD in sending a letter to Secretary Defense, DOT, and FAA to cease helicopter operations and address the resource shortfalls associated with controlling the airspace around DCA. I shared with Congressman Beyer that I applauded his effort and the shared-effort by many Fairfax County and Mt Vernon residents that addressed the same concern. I informed Congressman Beyer of the South of DCA Noise Study-Survey that we supported and how we documented our concerns and complaints to the FAA. Congressman Beyer and his Chief of Staff expressed appreciation for our involvement.

At the same Mt Vernon Town Hall, I asked Supervisor Storck if Fairfax County's Airport Advisory Steering Committee had acted on any South of DCA Noise Study findings.

These findings addressed MVCA concerns about "health and safety risk in the airspace over our MV neighborhoods" and were addressed to the Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority (MWAA) and FAA. I learned that the Fairfax County Steering Committee had received an initial briefing on January 23rd, 2025 on the South of DCA Noise Study Project and would prepare any recommendations for the April 24th MWAA Reagan National Community Noise Working Group meeting. These recommendations are then provided to the FAA.

In a parallel effort to address transportation, public health, and safety, the Mount Vernon Council of Civic Associations Transportation and Public Safety Committees will be combined under the leadership of current Public Safety Chair, John Lincoski. Under his leadership both Transportation and Public Safety Committees will accept the mission to address the current health and safety dangers we face living under Southern DCA airspace. This MVCA Transportation Chair will continue working with the new combined committees to represent the documented concerns of many Mount Vernon residents.

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Grist Mill Park Barn Redevelopment

Many neighbors have reached out about the potential for redeveloping the Grist Mill Park Barn. Our community would be significantly impacted by changes to the current structure, parking, traffic, and noise- so we are involved! The Fairfax County Park authority is considering a redevelopment proposal in accordance with the Public-Private Education Facilities and Infrastructure act of 2002. An unsolicited proposal was submitted by Mark White to renovate the property and is available on the county website (below). The 30 page proposal includes information regarding the leadership team, food and beverage operators and the architectural firm's background. The proposal includes permanent restrooms, family friendly dining, a bike rest stop, and an outdoor music venue. Much of the proposal remains confidential.

Other proposals are invited and encouraged during this time for consideration! Due date is 4/25/25. The Request for Proposals can be found on the county website: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/procurement/ppea/grist-mill-park-barn-redevelopment>. The RFP also provides insight into what elements should be considered when proposing design- check it out if you're concerned about changes to the barn.



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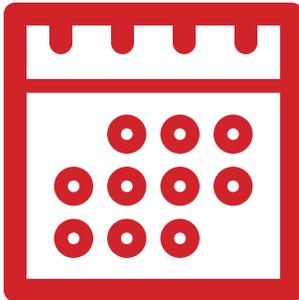


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Mark Your Calendar! Join Us For Association Meetings



All meetings will take place at Washington Mill Elementary School
7:30 pm • Pizza and drinks served.

March 12: Discussion with School Superintendent Mateo Dunne, Mount Vernon High School Principal Cary Dimmick, and Regional Assistant Superintendent Ray Lonnett

May 15: Discussion with Julie Coleman Almay, VP of Media and Communications, George Washington's Mount Vernon

October 8: Speaker TBD

Mount Vernon Civic Association, Inc.

Officers

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Committee Chairs

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Communication: VACANT Reach out if interested in chairing
Education: VACANT Reach out if interested in chairing
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