

Mount Vernon Civic Association

FALL 2024

www.MountVernonCivicAssociation.org

Belle Rive • Ferry Landing Estates • Ferry Landing Villa • Ferry Point Estates • Mount Vernon Forest
Mount Vernon Grove • Mount Vernon Park • Oxford • Riverbend • Riverwood • Vernon Square • Washington Woods
Westgate • Wycliffe on the Potomac • Yacht Haven Estates



Don't Forget to Register to Vote!

Deadline to register to vote, or update an existing registration: **October 15, 2024** (Voters may register after this date, through Election Day, and vote using a provisional ballot).

Deadline to apply for a ballot to be mailed to you: **October 25, 2024**. Your request must be received by your local voter registration office by 5:00 p.m.

Voter registration offices open for early voting: **Saturday, October 26, 2024**.

The last day of in-person early voting at your local voter registration office: **Saturday, November 2, 2024** at 5:00 p.m.

Community Engagement--Cub Scouts

Join Cub Scout Pack 1503 - serving the youth and our community since 1968. Cub Scouts is a year-round program designed to meet the needs of children in kindergarten through fifth grade. The Cub Scout program focuses on character development, citizenship, leadership, and physical fitness while having fun along the way. From the Boy Scouts of America website (<https://beascout.scouting.org>), parents can find a Scouting unit near them for more information and to join. The direct link to join Pack 1503 is <https://my.scouting.org/VES/OnlineReg/1.0.0/?tu=UF-MB-082paa1503>.

On November 9th, is the Boy Scouts of America annual Scouting for Food service project. Scouts across the country will be out collecting non-perishable food, please no glass items, to donate to local charities and food banks. Cub Scout from Pack 1503 will collect food donations in the communities of Mount Vernon. Last year we partnered with the Washington Mill PTA and their Food for Thought program that provides weekend meals to students with food insecurity. We were able to fill their pantry with needed food items and will look to do the same this year.

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Fall Foliage in Our Neighborhood!

Enjoying the changing leaves doesn't require a trip to Shenandoah (although that's always nice!) There are lots of beautiful places either within walking distance or a short drive away that can fulfill your fall foliage fancies.

Huntley Meadows, 3701 Lockheed Blvd: This local park has acres of trails, but the path from the nature center to the boardwalk will let you see both deciduous trees and the wetlands!

Washington Mill Park, end of Volunteer Dr: See your neighbors and enjoy the leaves on this short, circular walk in the heart of our neighborhood. Bonus for parents – there's a small playground a short walk in!

River Farm, 7931 E Boulevard Dr: Open 9-5 weekdays, 9-1 on Saturdays, this home of the American Horticultural Society has beautiful river views wrapped in cozy gardens. They also have a wonderful playground!

Dyke Marsh, parking at Belle Haven Park: Bring your binoculars for this one. Dyke Marsh is a birder's paradise, and the long trail out to the water is the perfect place to see migratory birds and the changing leaves.



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Community Engagement--Washington Mill Elementary School Volunteer Opportunities

There are several opportunities to volunteer with WMES

- *PTA's Trunk or Treat in October*
- *Food for Thought Program, which provides weekend food for students.*
- *Academic instruction for students*
- *School beautification and keeping WMES outdoor space beautiful!*
- *Mentorship programs- counselors at WMES have worked to set up a weekly mentorship one-on-one program for students. Meetings are at least 30 minutes per week, focusing on connection, over lunch. Mentors must complete a background check with FCPS.*

Fundraising Initiatives:

The PTA fundraiser, "The Wolfpack Wobble," is coming up and will be collecting donations. The money is used to support field trips, school beautification, and free after-school clubs for our students. A local soon-to-be Eagle Scout from our neighborhood is raising funds for a project to build benches for the kiss and ride. He is seeking to raise a little over \$500 and would appreciate any support.

Please contact MVCA President, Alison Huffstetler, to be connected with liaisons at WMES.

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Airport Noise Mitigation Study and Community Survey

The presence of aircraft noise and the volume of aircraft flying over our community was the subject of a recent presentation to Mt Vernon District Supervisor Dan Storck, Fairfax County Planning and Development Staff, and attending residents on 17 July. At the Noise Mitigation Project- Status meeting, Fairfax County offered the opportunity for Fairfax County residents to respond to a Community Engagement Survey and identify who, how, and when aircraft noise and traffic most affected residents. The survey, which closed 31 July, allowed MVCA and its members to participate by documenting the noise impact across many neighborhoods in Mt Vernon.

The Noise Mitigation Project Consultant, Vianair Inc, for Fairfax County, plans to review the Community Engagement Survey and prepare some structured solutions that will be given to the South of the Airport Community Working Group which accepts recommendations to provide to the Federal Aviation Administration. This response represents the Fairfax County (and Mt Vernon residents') input that addresses concerns for aircraft noise and air traffic (airplane numbers and flight patterns) over noise-sensitive (residential) areas.

MVCA will strive for accountability and tracking of our community input and what the contractor, VIANAIR Inc, provides to the Airports Advisory Committee members for the South of the Airport Community Working Group and the recommendations for FAA action. The next Fairfax County Airport Advisory Meeting to discuss the Community Engagement Survey, including the Mt Vernon input, is now scheduled for 12 November (location to be announced).

MVCA Point of Contact for monitoring this effort is Mark Yonchak Transportation Committee Chair. He can be contacted at 703-283-7224.



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\$60 per person Make check payable to YHGC Registration form on back of flyer	Send Reservation form and Check to Joyce Tami 310 Strand Street #103 Alexandria, Va 22314

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yachthavengardenclubva@gmail.com

Cherrytree Lane Speed Management Update

In May, the proposal for the installation of speed tables and one speed hump along Cherrytree Drive was passed by the residents within the ballot area designated by the Fairfax County Department of Transportation. Once the vote was completed, the results tallied, and results published, the requirements of the Task Force were finalized. The Task Force then suspended their activity.

The final vote results:

Homes in ballot area: 79

Votes required to pass (50% of homes in voting area): 40

Total # of ballots received by Supervisor Storks office: 65

Duplicate ballots (sent via multiple delivery mediums): 4

Ballots received after cutoff (5pm May 10th): 5

Total # of eligible ballots for tally: 56

Final vote tally number: In favor (Yes): 49

Not in favor (No): 7

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At the Board of Supervisors June 25th meeting, the Board approved the measure for the installation of the speed tables and a speed hump on Cherrytree Drive. As a result, the action passed to the Fairfax County Department of Public Works and Environmental Services for action and installation. The notice to Proceed for Cherrytree Drive was produced and the state's installation of the traffic calming devices began on or about September 16th, for the duration is 90 calendar days. The work shall be substantially completed by December 14, 2024. Failure to complete the work within the established duration will incur liquidated damages in the amount of \$350.00 per day.

If you have any questions about this process please reach out to Diego Rodriguez Cabrera, Supervisor Storck's Transportation, Parks, and Housing Liaison. He can be reached at diego.rodriquezcabrera@fairfax-county.gov.

Best wishes for a safe fall season.

Please consider:

- Bicycle reflectors and bike lights as well as high-visibility clothing and helmets. Carry ID, plastic whistle.
- Motion-sensitive outdoor lighting and outdoor cameras for homes and garages
- Keep garage doors and parked cars locked.
- Watch for young children in street and near or in curb leaf piles.
- STOP when the school bus RED LIGHTS are flashing. DO NOT PASS. Some school buses also have a folding bar or arm with the Stop sign and some of the arms now have cameras.
- Do not pass a stopped school bus as the bus driver may be able to see something or someone that you do not.
- Some jurisdictions are using SPEED enforcement cameras, including the City of Alexandria.
- Check batteries in smoke detectors and flashlights as well as the readiness of fire extinguishers, Have a fire escape plan and family meeting place. Call 911 when Police, Ambulance/Rescue, or Fire Department response is needed. Be specific about your location and address.
- Report Downed Electrical lines to 911 and Dominion Energy. Emergency Numbers are in the back of your MVCA Directory.
- Keep a battery-powered radio on at times of high-winds, road flooding, etc. We have had recent close calls in Northern Virginia this year.



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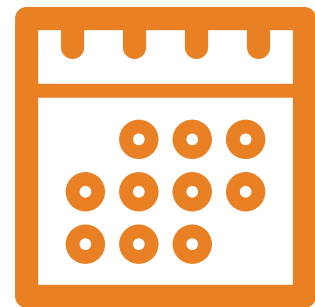
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Mark Your Calendar!

Join Us For Association Meetings

All meetings will take place at Washington Mill Elementary School • 7:30 pm
Pizza and drinks served at 7 pm. Typically, local speakers join for the first 45 minutes
of the meeting, followed by 15 minutes of updates from our community.
January 8, 2025: Speaker: MVHS Principal Cary Dimmick • **March 12, 2025:** Speaker: School Board Rep
Mateo Dunne • **May 14, 2025 • October 8, 2025**

Mount Vernon Civic Association, Inc.

Officers

President: Alison Huffstetler757-303-2254
1st Vice President: Jason Leaver703-799-6739
2nd Vice President: Karan Cerutti703-778-4442
Secretary: Alexis Waters.....703-780-8910
Treasurer: Amy Reitz202-735-6710

Directors

John Hurley703-799-9353
Dan Rinzel703-360-4627
Sean McCarthy703-360-0372

Committee Chairs

Block Captain: Hannah WolfHannahlwolf@gmail.com
Budget and Finance: Brian Paroparobrian@gmail.com
Education: VACANT Reach out if interested in chairing
Environment & Recreation: Christina Reitz.....812-618-8524
Health and Welfare: Peter Bernad202-437-6874
Membership/Directory: Marcelle Brown703-371-7552
Neighborhood Watch: Bryan Wood ..mvcaneighborhoodwatch@gmail.com
Newsletter: Alison Huffstetler757-303-2254
Picnic: Mary Jo Jensen248-245-7224
Planning & Zoning: Karan Cerutti703-778-4442
Public Safety: John Hurley703-799-9353
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