

*News from...*

# SUPERVISOR PENNY GROSS



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**June 2017**

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

**The Board Corner: Perspectives from Penny** – Graduations, Father's Day, the start of summer, and family vacations mark June as a transition time for many Mason District residents. Life dials back a bit and schedules may be less intense, replaced by leisure activities and more personal time with friends and family.

Public safety never takes a break, and neither do emergencies. In Fairfax County, police and fire and rescue schedules continue to be 24/7; a call to 911 or the non-emergency number, 703-691-2131, will get a quick response, regardless of the season. With longer evenings, more pedestrians may be out and about, so drivers should exercise even more caution on neighborhood streets, where the speed limit almost always is 25 mph. Summertime also means more outdoor cooking. Be sure to check your barbecue or grill before each use, to ensure that hose connections are sound, and the grilling area is away from flammable materials and surfaces. An unattended grill on a wooden deck is a recipe for disaster! Don't forget a hat and sunscreen on sunny days, and stay hydrated. A few simple steps can make outdoor activities fun, without lights and sirens!

Summertime also means thunderstorms and the occasional hurricane or flash flood, with potential power outages. A little time spent now to prepare your household ensures that you can handle any summertime excitement that comes along.

The popular (and free) summer concert series at Mason District Park, Spotlight by Starlight, begins on June 18. We have great professional shows lined up, and I look forward to seeing you there.

**Community Forum about Immigration** – On **Saturday, June 3, 2017**, from 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. at the Luther Jackson Middle School Auditorium, 3020 Gallows Road in Falls Church, Fairfax County Government, in partnership with WZDC Telemundo Washington D.C., will co-host a panel discussion about immigration in Fairfax County. Learn about your rights and ask questions about law enforcement, public education, and immigration policies in Fairfax County. The event will be held in Spanish with an English interpreter to accommodate Spanish-

speaking residents. There will be ample time for questions and answers. Audience members will have the opportunity to ask questions of the panelists in a variety of ways, including via microphone, notecard, or Twitter hashtag: #EspecialInmigracionFairfax.

**FHWA Proposes Modular Mini-Roundabout for Ravensworth Road** – The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in collaboration with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), will host a Public Information Meeting on **Monday, June 5, 2017**, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Richardson Room at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, 4801 Ravensworth Road in Annandale. The proposed project would improve safety for pedestrians and facilitate vehicular access through the intersection. FHWA & VDOT staff will be available to answer your questions. **There will be a short presentation beginning at 7:30 p.m.** View displays and learn more about the project at the meeting, online at [www.virginiadot.org/projects/northernvirginia/ravensworth\\_roundabout.asp](http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/northernvirginia/ravensworth_roundabout.asp), or during business hours at VDOT's Northern Virginia District Office, located at 4975 Alliance Drive in Fairfax. Please call ahead at 1-800-367-7623 or TTY/TDD 711 to ensure appropriate personnel are available to answer your questions.

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## Temporary Modular Mini Roundabout Pilot

[www.virginiadot.org](http://www.virginiadot.org)

Official website of the Virginia Department of Transportation

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**Celebrate Fairfax!** – Celebrate Fairfax, **June 9 - 11, 2017**, at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway in Fairfax. Festival Hours are: **Friday, June 9** from 6 p.m. – midnight; **Saturday, June 10** from 10 a.m. – midnight; and **Sunday, June 11** from 11a.m. – 7 p.m. Enjoy performances by local, regional, and nationally known artists, and more than 300 exhibitors, food vendors, and interactive activities. For more information, call 703-324-FAIR (3247), or visit [www.celebratefairfax.com](http://www.celebratefairfax.com).

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## Celebrate Fairfax!

[www.celebratefairfax.com](http://www.celebratefairfax.com)

Celebrate Fairfax!, Northern Virginia's largest community-wide celebration, arrives June 9-11, 2017.

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**In-Person Absentee Voting Available for Primary Election** – **In-Person Absentee Voting** for the **June 13, 2017 Primary Election** will be available for **one day only** on **Saturday, June 10, 2017, from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. at all nine Satellite Voting Locations**, including the Mason District Governmental Center, 6507 Columbia Pike in Annandale. Additional absentee voting

information, including dates and times for voting at the Fairfax County Government Center, may be obtained from the Office of Elections Web site [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/absentee.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/absentee.htm), by phone at 703-222-0776; TTY 711, or by e-mail: [voting@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:voting@fairfaxcounty.gov).

**Virginia Primary Elections** – Virginia will hold its Primary Elections on **Tuesday, June 13, 2017**, from 6 a.m. – 7 p.m. Sample ballots, candidate information, voter registration, and information about absentee voting are available at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections). For more information, call the Office of Elections at 703-222-0776; TTY 711, or send an e-mail to [voting@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:voting@fairfaxcounty.gov).

**Safety Improvements Proposed for Intersection of North Beauregard Street at North Chambliss Street** – Mason District Supervisor Penny Gross and the Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) invite you to a public information meeting on **Tuesday, June 13, 2017**, beginning at 7 p.m. in the Cafeteria of Holmes Middle School, 6525 Montrose Street in Alexandria. A **presentation** is scheduled at **7:25 p.m.**, followed by a **question and answer period** at **7:45 p.m.** In 2011, the Mason District Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC-133) Task Force and FCDOT staff developed the project's proposed concept. The Task Force recommended the project be added to the priority list of FCDOT's Spot Improvement Program. For more information about the project, visit the FCDOT Web site at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/beauregard-chambliss.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/beauregard-chambliss.htm), or send an e-mail to [seyed.nabavi@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:sayed.nabavi@fairfaxcounty.gov), or call 703-877-5759; TTY 711.

**Spotlight by Starlight Summer Concerts Begin Mid-June at Mason District Park and Ossian Hall Park** – Enjoy a variety of free entertainment at **Mason District Park**, 6621 Columbia Pike in Annandale, on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays, beginning **June 18 through August 25, 2017**. Children's concerts are on Saturdays at 10 a.m. The concert season begins on **June 17 through August 19** at **Ossian Hall Park**, located at 7900 Heritage Drive in Annandale, where cultural performances are featured on Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. For a complete summer concert schedule, visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/spotlight-by-starlight.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/spotlight-by-starlight.htm). **Note:** Concerts are cancelled in the event of inclement weather. Call 703-324-SHOW (7469) one hour prior to the performance for weather-related updates.

### **Mason District Land Use Updates**

- **Bailey's Shelter Relocation:** In early fall 2016, Fairfax County purchased the property at **5914 Seminary Road** in Falls Church, which housed the former Fairfax Animal Hospital. This site will be developed as the new location for the Bailey's Crossroads Community Shelter and Supportive Housing for adults. The facility is expected to be approximately 20,000 square feet, and to be completed by late 2019. More information about the proposed shelter can be found at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/construction/baileys-shelter.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/construction/baileys-shelter.htm).
- **Plan Amendment 2017-I-B1:** In January 2017, the Board of Supervisors authorized the consideration of a Comprehensive Plan amendment for **6060 Arlington Boulevard** in

Falls Church, near the Arlington County border. The site currently is developed with a 32,000 square foot medical office building. The Board requested that staff consider redevelopment of the property from office use to residential use up to approximately 12 dwelling units per acre. More information, including a staff report compiled by the county Department of Planning and Zoning can be found at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/fairfaxforward/pa/6060arlingtonblvd](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/fairfaxforward/pa/6060arlingtonblvd).

- **SPA Forest:** C.Castle Group is proposing to repurpose the 145,255 square foot office building at **6432 General Green Way**, into a high-end spa concept called SPA Forest. In addition to the spa, the building will include several floors of pools, a children's play area, saunas, and a restaurant.
- **Columbia Crossroads:** Columbia Crossroads LP is seeking to rezone the **property at Columbia Pike and Moncure Avenue** in Falls Church for a Conceptual Development Plan consisting of a six-story, 370 unit multi-family residential building and four to six townhomes. More information about the plans will be available this summer.

**Hurricane Season Is Here: Are You Ready?** – June 1 is the official start of the Atlantic hurricane season, with the peak season from mid-August to late October, ending on November 30. Update emergency plans, refresh supplies, and be ready should a tropical storm affect our region. The Fairfax County Office of Emergency Management is responsible for coordinating preparedness, response, and recovery efforts for significant emergency events that may occur in our community. Sign up for Fairfax Alerts at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/alerts](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/alerts), or call 571-350-1000. Information about hurricane hazards is available at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency/hazards/hurricane.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency/hazards/hurricane.htm).

**Farmer's Market is Open at Mason District Park** – The Farmer's Market, hosted by the Fairfax County Park Authority countywide, will be open every **Thursday** morning, from 8 a.m. until 12 noon at Mason District Park, 6621 Columbia Pike in Annandale. The Farmer's Market offers vine-ripe produce, fresh baked goods, herb plants, and much more for your spring and summer time enjoyment. For a complete schedule, and other information about the Farmer's Markets visit the Fairfax County Park Authority Web site at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/), or call 703-642-0128; TTY 703-803-3354.

**Mason Matters! The Television Show** – Cable television has provided entertainment to subscribers for decades. It was, and still is, a popular alternative to broadcast programming by major networks. When cable TV works, it's great, but when it doesn't, customers sometimes find wrangling with their service provider difficult. Fortunately, consumers in Fairfax County have the Department of Cable and Consumer Affairs available to assist with cable-related complaints, ranging from service inside the house, to the infrastructure that literally connects cables from a pole to the house, to make program viewing possible. The **June/July** edition of *Mason Matters!*, the television show that brings you news and information about our Mason District community, hosted by Supervisor Penny Gross, features Praveen Tewari, branch chief for Inspection and Enforcement Services, and Allan Hide, communications analyst in the

Communications Policy and Regulation Division of the Fairfax County Department of Cable and Consumer Affairs. *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).

**Mason News and Updates** – To receive news and updates about Fairfax County services and events in Mason District, send an e-mail to [mason@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:mason@fairfaxcounty.gov) to subscribe. If you wish to unsubscribe, send an e-mail and include unsubscribe in the subject line to remove your e-mail address from the subscription list.

**The Quick 411** – Summer is here – need ideas about what to do for fun? Let Visit Fairfax help. Established July 2004, Visit Fairfax is a 501(c)(6) non-profit organization dedicated to distinguishing Fairfax County as a premier tourist destination.

- **Find Things To Do** – Whether you have family visiting from out of town, looking for a restaurant or local event, interested in the wildlife or the nightlife, you can find it all at Visit Fairfax.
- **Calendar of Events** – Farmers Markets, fairs and festivals, or seasonal and holiday events are available in the calendar of events.
- **Neighborhoods** – You can browse local neighborhood listings for events, activities, and restaurants in your neighborhood.

You can sign up for their e-newsletter, request a Visitor's Guide, and more from Visit Fairfax at [www.fxva.com](http://www.fxva.com). You also can visit the Tyson's Corner Center Visitor Center (on the second floor, by Nordstrom), send an e-mail [visitfairfax@fxva.com](mailto:visitfairfax@fxva.com), or call 1-800-732-4732, Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.