

The Fairfax County  
**FEDERATION**  
of Citizens Associations *Established 1940*

January 2011

**THE BULLETIN**

Volume 60, Number 6

**Federation Membership Meeting**

**Thursday, January 20, 2011**

**7:30 p.m.**

**Note New (Temporary) Location**

**Superintendent's Conference Room**

FCPS Administrative Offices (fifth floor)  
8115 Gatehouse Road  
Falls Church, VA 22042  
7:30 p.m.

Note: The Gatehouse garage is located on the east side of the building, and entry closes at 8 p.m. Anyone arriving after that time will need to call someone at the meeting to be let in at the front door on the west side of the building.

**Topic: Fairfax County Public School Budget**

**Presented by: Mrs. Kristen Michael  
Director of Budget,  
Fairfax County Public Schools**



**Next Federation Board Meeting**

**January 27, 2011  
Braddock Hall  
9002 Burke Lake Road  
Burke, VA**

***President's Message***

Greetings Friends and Neighbors:

A new year signals new goals and resolutions; reflections on actions; and desires to reconnect with friends and family. Although the year is halfway over on the Federation fiscal year, the Federation experiences similar sentiments and is gearing up for the rest of the year. We wish you and your community best wishes for the new year.

On the Federation's agenda is the county's budget cycle. Our budget committee is lining up the troops, being led by our Budget Chairs Charlie Hall and Carey Campbell. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Kosmo Tatalias for the extraordinary work that he does to keep us on task on the Budget Committee. The community can provide feedback to this important process by emailing to the committee at

[FedbudgetChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org](mailto:FedbudgetChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org).

Your input in our budget process is invaluable and we thank you for your participation. To continue on the budget path, we will be hosting Kristen Michael, Director of Budget, Fairfax County Public Schools, at our January membership meeting. Please note that our meeting will be held at the Superintendent's Conference Room at the Gatehouse Building.

A couple of community notes: the Federation is winding down with its service to the Partnership for a Healthier Fairfax as the project is conducting its final assessment and putting together its presentation for the community. You can follow the progress of the group on their website at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hd/mapp/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hd/mapp/). The Federation submitted its 2011 Legislative Agenda to the Fairfax Legislative Delegation at their public meeting on Saturday, January 8. More information is available on our website at [www.fairfaxfederation.org](http://www.fairfaxfederation.org). I am delighted to return the baton back to our Legislative Chair Frank Anderson for updates to our legislative agenda while the General Assembly is in session.

We are working on our open house to be scheduled towards late spring in the hopes of connecting your civic association to the various resources in the community. As always, please let us know how we can be of assistance to your community and what common ground projects we can work on. We look forward to working with you.

Best regards,

Tania Hossain

**New on the Federation Web Site**

The Federation's Legislative Program as passed at the October 21, 2010 Membership Meeting and can be reviewed at:

<http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/resolutions/ResolutionLegislativeProgram2011App101021.pdf>

Federation president Tania Hossain's presentation of the Federation's Legislative Program to the Fairfax County legislative delegation (delegates and senators):

<http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/testimony/Testimony2011LegislationProgram110108.pdf>

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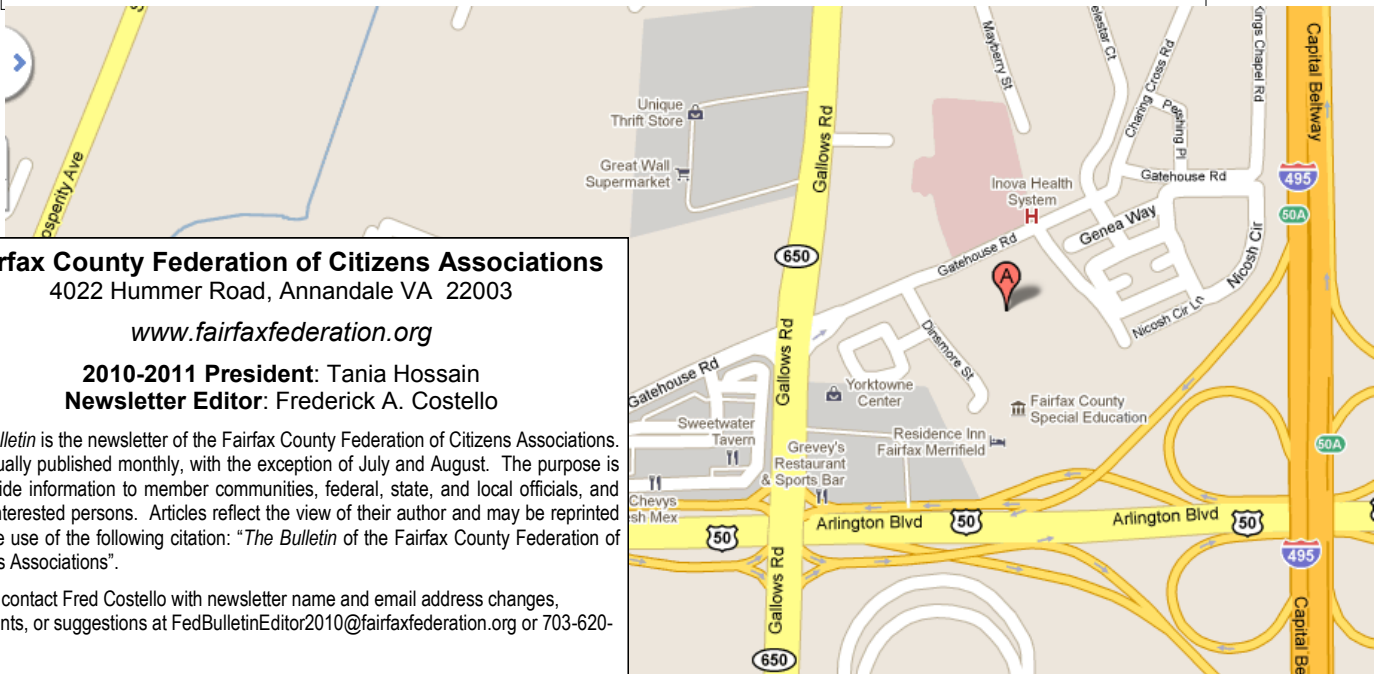
### Directions to Braddock Hall

Take I-495 (Capital Beltway) to Route 50 (Arlington Blvd, Exit 50, going west)  
go west 0.1 miles toward Gallows Road/Rt 650/Merrifield

Turn right at traffic signal onto Gallows Road.

Go 0.2 miles, turning right onto Gatehouse Road

Go 0.1 miles and turn right into the entrance to parking lot to Gatehouse



#### Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations

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

**2010-2011 President:** Tania Hossain  
**Newsletter Editor:** Frederick A. Costello

*The Bulletin* is the newsletter of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations. It is usually published monthly, with the exception of July and August. The purpose is to provide information to member communities, federal, state, and local officials, and other interested persons. Articles reflect the view of their author and may be reprinted with the use of the following citation: "The Bulletin of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations".

Please contact Fred Costello with newsletter name and email address changes, comments, or suggestions at [FedBulletinEditor2010@fairfaxfederation.org](mailto:FedBulletinEditor2010@fairfaxfederation.org) or 703-620-4942.

#### Federation Meeting Cancellation Policy

If either Fairfax County Government or Schools are closed after 12:00 noon the day of a Federation membership meeting, or if it is announced that Fairfax County Government or Schools will be closed the day after a scheduled Federation membership meeting due to inclement weather or other emergency, the Federation will not hold that event. This does not pertain to regularly scheduled closures. Membership meetings will not be rescheduled, although speakers may be asked to attend an upcoming meeting. We will make every attempt to post the cancellation on [www.fairfaxfederation.org](http://www.fairfaxfederation.org) or, for more information, you can call 703-620-4942.

Visit us at  
[www.FairfaxFederation.org](http://www.FairfaxFederation.org)

FCFCA Program Calendar 2010-2011						
Month	Membership Meetings			Board Meetings		Newsletter Deadline
	Date	Program		Date	Program	
<b>2010</b>						
Sep	16	Back to School Issues by Schools Superintendent Dr. Dale, @ Braddock Hall		23	Legislative Program @ Braddock Hall	1-Oct
Oct	21	Legislative Program @ Braddock Hall		28	@ South County Center, Alexandria	1-Nov
Nov	18	County Bicycle Paths @ Braddock Hall			No meeting	22-Nov
Dec	16	An Urban Conservation Ethic @ Sully District Office — cancelled due to snow		2 <sup>a</sup>	@ Marco Polo Restaurant, Vienna, VA	20-Dec
<b>2011</b>						
Jan	20	FC Public School Budget @ FCPS Administrative Offices, 8115 Gatehouse Road By Mrs. Kristen Michael, Director of the Budget, Fairfax County Public Schools		27	@ Braddock Hall	24-Jan
Feb	17	Reston Metro Station - An Example of Good Re-Development Planning @ Braddock Hall By Robert Goudie of the Reston Master Plan Special Study Task Force		24	@ Braddock Hall	21-Feb
Mar	17 <sup>b</sup>	County Budget @ Braddock Hall		24 <sup>b</sup>	@ Braddock Hall	21-Mar
Apr	14 <sup>c</sup>	HOA Governance		28		18-Apr
May	19	Report from Richmond; Election of Federation Officers		26		23-May
Jun	16	Picnic, State of Fairfax by Sharon Bulova, Board of Supervisors Chair; Installation of Officers		23		20-Jun

- a. Dec 2 Board Meeting has been set to avoid scheduling conflicts during the Christmas holiday week. It serves as the December and November meetings combined.
- b. Dates of the March meetings will be interchanged if necessary to enable members to vote on final Federation budget recommendations.
- c. April 14 membership meeting is the second Thursday in April due to FCPS spring break the third week.

### **Do you want to have an impact?**

The Federation is only as strong as its voice, and the Federation's many committees make up its collective voice. If you are interested in serving one any of the ten committees that make up the backbone of the Federation please contact the committee chairs using the following email addresses:

Budget: Carey Campbell and Charles Hall .....	<a href="mailto:FedBudgetChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org">FedBudgetChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org</a>
Citizen Association Services: Don Hinman .....	<a href="mailto:FedAssociationServicesChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org">FedAssociationServicesChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org</a>
Education: Leonard Bumbaca, Ed Saperstein and Tim Thompson	<a href="mailto:FedEducationChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org">FedEducationChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org</a>
Environment: Roger Diedrich and Flint Webb .....	<a href="mailto:FedEnvironmentChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org">FedEnvironmentChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org</a>
Human Services: No chair .....	<a href="mailto:FedHumanServicesChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org">FedHumanServicesChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org</a>
Land Use: Fred Costello .....	<a href="mailto:FedLandUseChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org">FedLandUseChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org</a>
Legislation: Frank Anderson .....	<a href="mailto:FedLegislationChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org">FedLegislationChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org</a>
Public Safety: Gail Parker .....	<a href="mailto:FedPublicSafetyChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org">FedPublicSafetyChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org</a>
Resolutions: Bill Hanks .....	<a href="mailto:FedResolutionsChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org">FedResolutionsChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org</a>
Transportation: Carey Campbell, Roger Hoskin and Jeff Parnes ..	<a href="mailto:FedTransportationChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org">FedTransportationChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org</a>

The committees conduct the bulk of their business by email, and formulate positions and suggest actions for consideration by the membership at large. They also provide inputs to the Federation's legislation and budget presentations. Here's a chance to make a mark in an area of your interest. Join us in making our County a better place to live!

## Membership Meeting Minutes

The December 16, 2010, meeting was canceled due to snow. November minutes (see December bulletin) will be presented for approval at the January 10, 2011 meeting.

## Public-School Budget

Mrs. Kristen Michael, Director of the Budget, Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS), will present the 2012 school budget at the January 20, 2011, Federation Membership meeting. The proposed school budget was released on January 6, 2011.

Kristen reports directly to the CFO Susan Quinn of FCPS. Living in the Herndon area, she has been directly involved with formulating the budget for FCPS for a decade, interfacing with staff and administrations throughout the entire school system, while interfacing daily w/ the County Executive's budget staff who are responsible for creating the county's annual budget (which includes the funds for FCPS).

Kristen will be talking about the changes in both the county and school budgets from last year. The top priority, per the School Board, was to secure some form of pay increase for the rank & file of FCPS, as they haven't had a pay raise or "bonus" in two consecutive years. But, if this is acted upon, what will be the "cost" to the children of the county's public schools. Additionally, there are many areas within the county's Lines of Businesses (agencies, if you will) in which funds are used to pay personnel which are performing their jobs at or for FCPS daily (e.g., clinic aides, policemen in schools - SRO's, SACC program, safety patrols, etc).

Additionally, she has some long range financials into 2015 which can also be helpful for the Federation membership to understand consequences for the upcoming FY 2012 budget, as well as the out years too.

You can review the proposed public-school budget at <http://www.fcps.edu/news/fy2012.htm>.

## News Items

### Citizen of the Year

The Federation is accepting nominations for the Fairfax County Citizen of the Year (COY) award, which honors those citizens whose voluntary contributions of time and talent have resulted in major accomplishments that have enhanced the quality of life for citizens of Fairfax. The criteria and nomination form is at <http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/COY/COYApplication.html>. Nominations must be received by February 28, 2011.

### Fairfax County Budget

How the budget is developed is described in the video: "Juggling in a Struggling Economy: The FY 2012 Budget Process" which can be found at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/>.

which is also where the budget will be posted.

### Land Use Issues

The web site <http://reston2020.blogspot.com/> has many articles from well-informed citizens who are concerned about the development and re-development of Reston along the Dulles Toll Road. Citizens from other communities who are looking at re-development might profit from reviewing the articles.

## Being Safe and Saving Money

by Gail Parker, Public Safety Chair

Being safe and saving money: the perfect combination. As your public safety chair, I have for many years touted the safety benefits of rail, all kind of rail service. So much so, that I decided to get rid of my car since 35,000 folks are killed on our roadways every year and 330,000 are injured or maimed- every year. As I learned, one can save about \$8,000 to \$10,000 per year by not owning an automobile and using public transportation. I gave my automobile away and now use rail transportation to work; therefore, I save the cost of the vehicle plus gas, maintenance, insurance, taxes, decals and parking — without an appreciable increase in transportation cost.

As gas prices increase and more and more folks abandon their vehicles in favor of public transportation, there are more and more ramifications for FX County: there are no full service grocery stores or pharmacies within walking distance of my complex, which has over 1,000 housing units, although we are within a 7-minute walk of a Metro-rail station. Our housing complex offers private bus shopping-trip service three days per week, but, alas, this wonderful service is during the week when most of us work. Grocery delivery service is available (24 – 48 hour advance order, minimum purchase of \$60 with about \$10 delivery fee), or taxi or Enterprise rental (they pick you up), if you must.

Metro-bus and/or FX Connector serve the Metro-rail station every 30 minutes to a shopping area and Metro-bus serves the return trip from the shopping area to within two blocks of my home, also every 30 minutes pretty much 24/7, AND they accept SmarTrip cards for the \$1.50 base fare (otherwise \$1.70 exact change cash fare). FX County will even assist you online with trip planning for those unfamiliar with bus schedules. **Cautions must be used, however, when crossing busy streets (Jefferson Davis Highway for me) to catch the bus or disembark.** Jefferson Davis Highway is a high-risk area for pedestrians. Extreme care is advised when crossing Jefferson Davis Highway on foot.

Metro-rail, of course, provides clean, safe service about every 6 minutes during rush hour and every 9-15 minutes otherwise.

What the lack of walking-distance grocery and pharmacy availability may mean to FX County is that car-less folks within walking distance of Metro-rail and folks who routinely use Metro-rail may be doing their shopping in Alexandria, Arlington or the District (i.e., lost sales tax revenue). As more high-density, transportation centric housing comes on line and as gasoline prices continue to rise, we can expect more folks to turn to safer, car-less transport and transportation-centric housing that appreciates in value.

## Redistricting Virginia

Rob Jackson, the current President of the McLean Citizens Association, is the Federation's representative on the Redistricting Subcommittee of the Virginia House Committee on Privileges and Elections. Rob was named Community Advocate of the Year in 2010 by The Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce for his outstanding service to McLean (see <http://themcleanear.com/rob-jackson-community-advocate-of-the-year/>.)