

Annandale VA

Annandale news, covering redevelopment, schools, transportation, businesses, restaurants, crime, parks, local government, shopping, entertainment, and neighborhoods in Annandale and Mason District in Fairfax County.

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CONGRATS

- to the winners of 2014 Annie Awards, presented by the Annandale Blog to the best local places selected by blog readers in an open-ended survey:
- Best restaurant: [Siverado](#)
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- Best coffee shop: [Beanetics](#)
- Best gym: [Pro Maxx Fitness](#)
- Best gift shop: [AnnSandra and Collector's World](#)

MONDAY, MAY 20, 2013

More public involvement urged for Fairfax Forward



The shopping center on Annandale Road being developed by Bill Page Honda.

Fairfax County Planning and Zoning Department (DPZ) staff have agreed to strengthen provisions on community involvement and public outreach in *Fairfax Forward*, the proposed plan for overhauling the way changes are made in the county's land use policy.

The county, however, is not expected to go along with recommendations calling for community groups with a stake in land use changes to appoint members to the committees that advise the county supervisors.

Fairfax Forward would replace the Area Plans Review (APR) process for updating the county's *Comprehensive Plan* with a more holistic system. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has scheduled a public hearing, followed by a vote, on Fairfax Forward July 9.

At a meeting of the *Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations* May 16, Meghan Van Dam of the DPZ told the group the planning staff is willing to consider recommendations by the *Providence District Council* to ensure that local residents will have meaningful opportunities to review and comment on proposed land use changes. She also said the staff would improve community outreach to ensure local residents know about upcoming plan reviews.

Members of the Fairfax Federation also want to a uniform rule in Fairfax Forward spelling out how the county's supervisors deal with the task force or committee on land use in their districts. Charlie Hall of the Providence District Council said land use committees should be representative of the broad community, including PTAs, business groups, citizens' association, and homeowners associations, and those groups should be able to appoint representatives to the committee. If the supervisor appoints the members, the committee is more likely to go along with the supervisor's agenda.

Some supervisors have land use committees that operate that way, and some don't. In the Mason District, the supervisor appoints the members of the Mason District Land Use Committee (MDLUC). That committee meets once a month to review development proposals before they are presented to the *Planning Commission*. The MDLUC hears comments from the public and votes to recommend whether the

WILSON LIBRARY CLOSES

The temporary location of the Woodrow Wilson Library, in an office building on Leesburg Pike, will close 5 p.m. on Jan. 17 so staff can prepare for the move back to the library's permanent site at 6101 Knollwood Drive, Falls Church. The newly renovated library will reopen March 21.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- Jan. 2 - Wild Animals Puppet Show, Hidden Oaks Nature Center, 11 a.m.-noon. Ages 3-6. \$5. Register online or call 703-222-4664.
- Jan. 3 - Open House, Kings Park Library 10:30-3 p.m. puppet show at 10:30, face painting at 11, sing-along at 1.
- Jan. 3 - Nature by Touch, Hidden Oaks Nature Center, 2-3 p.m. Ages 4-9. \$6. Register online or call 703-222-4664.
- Jan. 3 - Flying Squirrels: Gliding in Tonight, Hidden Oaks Nature Center, 5-6 p.m. Ages 4 and up. \$6. Children must be accompanied by a paying adult. Register online or call 703-222-4664.
- Jan. 4 - Free concert, St. Alban's Episcopal Church, Columbia Pike, Annandale, 4 p.m. Retired Army Band Sergeant Major Chuck Sleep on trumpet and U.S. Army Band pianist Joel Ayau, both on the Shenandoah Conservatory faculty. Multimedia tribute to veterans and the military.
- Jan. 6 - Mason Police District Citizen

(1e)

We love comments from readers. We'll publish just about anything, as long as it isn't spam. Be nice!



Planning Commission should approve or reject a land use proposal, but it's recommendations aren't binding.

The *Mason District Council* agreed to endorse the Providence District Council's comments on Fairfax Forward and added an amendment to require supervisors' land use committees to have members appointed by the community.

Marianne Gardner, director of the planning division in the DPZ, said the supervisors would likely oppose a "one-size-fits-all" requirement on how members of these advisory committees are selected.

Van Dam said Fairfax Forward would focus on four types of planning studies:

- activity centers, such as Annandale, Bailey's Crossroads, and Seven Corners, as well as areas around transit stations and the Tysons urban center.
- neighborhood studies, including low-density residential areas.
- communitywide planning studies, and
- amendments to the Comprehensive Plan authorized by the Board of Supervisors.

Fairfax Forward outlines a series of proposed amendment to the Comprehensive Plan that could be undertaken within the next two years. The only one in the Mason District is a proposal to redesignate the Lincolnia area from a "suburban neighborhood" to a "community business center." That effort has not begun yet.

Posted by [Ellie Ashford](#) at 9:24 AM

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Advisory Committee Meeting, "Crimes/Scams Against the Elderly," Mason Government Center, 7-9 p.m. Public invited.

- Jan. 7 - Special Working Group on the Sears Site, Mason Government Center, 6:30-9 p.m.
- Jan. 10 - Family Fun: Desert Dreams, Green Spring Gardens, 1-2 p.m. Ages 5 and up. \$6. Register online or call 703-642-5173.
- Jan. 11 - Consider Carnations, Historic House at Green Spring Gardens, 1-3 p.m. \$32. Ages 13 and up. Register online or call 703-324-3988.
- Jan. 11 - Winter Lecture: Beautiful Winter Gardens, Green Spring Gardens, 1:30-2:30 p.m. Ages 18 and up. \$10. Register online or call 703-642-5173.
- Jan. 14 - Introduction to Special Education, FCPS Parent Resource Center, 2334 Gallows Road, Dunn Loring, Room 105, 10 a.m.-noon. Register online or call 703-204-3941.
- Jan. 15 - Learn about the Children's Science Center to open in 2019 in the Dulles area, presentation at Hidden Oaks Nature Center, 7:30 p.m.
- Jan. 17 - Gardening Lecture: Elements of Design, Spring Gardens, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Ages 18 and up. \$36. Register online or call 703-642-5173.
- Jan. 17 - Squirrel Appreciation Day, Hidden Oaks Nature Center, 2-3 p.m. Ages 4 and up. \$5. Register online or call 703-222-4664.
- Jan. 18 - Hot Cocoa Party, Green Spring Gardens, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Ages 5 and up. \$16.
- Jan. 20 - Special Working Group on the Sears Site, Mason Government Center, 7-9 p.m.
- Jan. 22 - Control Screens so They Don't Control Your Family, free presentation by the FCPS Parent Resource Center, at Woodson High School, 7-9 p.m. Register online or call 703-204-3941.
- Jan. 24 - Alice in Wonderland Tea Party, Hidden Oaks Nature Center, 2-3:30 p.m. Ages 5 and up. \$15. Register online or call 703-222-4664.
- Jan. 25 - Caricature: The Wicked Art, Historic House at Green Spring Gardens, 1-3 p.m. \$32. Ages 13 and up. Register online or call 703-324-3988.
- Jan. 25 - Winter Lecture: Truth on Plant Hardiness, Green Spring Gardens, 1:30-2:30 p.m. \$10. Ages 18 and up. Register online or call 703-642-5173.
- Jan. 25 - Australia Day Celebration, Hidden Oaks Nature Center, 2-3:30 p.m. Ages 2 and up. \$7. Register online or call 703-222-4664.
- Jan. 29 - Dino Puppet Show and Activities, Hidden Oaks Nature Center, 10-11 a.m. Ages 3-8. \$6. Register online or call 703-222-4664.
- Jan. 30 - Who-oo's at the Campfire? Hidden Oaks Nature Center, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Ages 4 and up. \$6. Register online or call 703-222-4664.
- Jan. 31 - Flying Squirrels: Gliding in Tonight, Day Celebration, Hidden Oaks Nature Center, 6-7 p.m. Ages 3 and up. \$6. Register online or call 703-222-4664.
- Feb. 1 - Tea with Tempo: Meet John Philip Sousa, Historic House at Green Spring Gardens, 1-3:30 p.m. \$38, \$15 for the program only. Ages 13 and up. Register online or call 703-324-3988.
- Feb. 1 - Groundhog Day Celebration, Hidden Oaks Nature Center, 2-3 p.m. Ages 3-11. \$6. Register online or call 703-222-4664.
- Feb. 5 - Special Working Group on the Sears Site, Mason Government Center,

7-9 p.m.

- Feb. 14 - Chocolate and Tea Tasting Party, Green Spring Gardens, 10 a.m.-noon. \$27. Ages 18 and up. Register online or call 703-642-5173.
- Feb. 15 - Winter Lecture: Winning Against Weeds, Green Spring Gardens, 1:30-2:30 p.m. \$10. Ages 18 and up. Register online or call 703-642-5173.
- Feb. 16 - Animal Valentines, Hidden Oaks Nature Center, 2-3:15 p.m. Ages 4 and up. \$7. Register online or call 703-222-4664.

POPULAR POSTS



Gallows Road trees torn down to make way for assisted living facility

Six houses were demolished to make for an assisted living facility on Gallows Road. The developer of the Brightview assisted living fac...

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The lawsuit filed by former employees against Bailey's Elementary School Principal Marie Lemmon and Fairfax County Public Schools is going...



Where to celebrate on New Year's Eve

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FCPS outlines solutions to school overcrowding

Portable classrooms handle the overflow at Glen Forest Elementary School. The proposed Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for fiscal ye...



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Dominion wants to bury these power lines on Brenda Lane, Annandale. Dominion Virginia Power plans to bury approximately 4,000 miles of...

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BLOGS/WEB LINKS

- A Look Back at Braddock District
- ACCA

- Annandale Acres
- Annandale Arts videos
- Annandale Regional Planning Study
- Annandale Revitalization District
- AnnandaleFC (soccer league)
- Art Now
- Bel Air Civic Association
- Blue Virginia
- Broyhill Park
- DC on Heels
- Edsall Park
- Fairfaxpedia
- Falls Church Times
- Friends of Accotink Creek
- Greater Greater Washington
- Holmes Run Acres
- Lafayette Village
- Lake Barcroft
- Lincolumbia Hills/Heywood Glen
- Mason District Council
- My FairfaxVille
- Northern Virginia History Notes
- Oak Hill
- Parklawn
- Ravensworth-Bristow
- Ravenwood Park
- Raymondale
- Sleepy Hollow
- Sleepy Hollow Woods
- TMI Living - It's a Lifestyle
- The Tysons Corner
- Winterset-Varsity Park

Join the conversation. The Annandale VA blog covers redevelopment plans for Annandale, Bailey's Crossroads, and Seven Corners; transportation; schools; parks; businesses; land use; restaurants; crime; real estate; community activities; and politics (with a progressive viewpoint). Comments are welcome.

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