

The Virginia Hills Echo

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Land Use Committee Approves Bus Garage, Restricts Use of Telegraph Road

At its meeting on November 8th, the Lee District Land Use Committee considered the application of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) for construction of a bus storage area and service garage on Cinderbed Road. This facility will replace the existing facility on Royal Street in the City of Alexandria.

The parcel of land has been before the Land Use Committee a number of times. It is a site with a history of environmental problems and zoning violations. The Committee agreed that the proposal submitted by WMATA would represent a major improvement.

Members of the Committee from the Telegraph Road corridor, including those from Virginia Hills (Doug Boulter), Wilton Woods, Tartan Village, Burgundy Village, and Manchester Lakes were extremely concerned about the buses using Telegraph to go to and from their routes.

The Committee ascertained that there are currently 62 buses using the Royal Street garage, and initially the number could go to 80 at the new facility. The facility would be designed for 160 buses in total to accommodate future expansion. Of these, 35% might use Telegraph during early morning (4:00-5:00 AM), mid-afternoon (2:00-3:00 PM), and early evening (7:00-8:00 PM). The point was made by several members that the buses would not be serving routes on or near Telegraph Road -- or many of them even in Fairfax County. When a substantial number of Committee members indicated that they could not support the plan if that volume of buses were to use Telegraph, WMATA asked for time to re-look its proposal.

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How Virginia Hills Voted on November 2nd

Residents of Virginia Hills vote in either the Virginia Hills precinct or the Wilton precinct, depending on their address.

Virginia Hills Precinct

For Member of Congress

Murray	222
Moran	261
Fisher	11

Constitutional Amendment #1

(allows local rules for property tax relief)

Yes	376
No	104

Constitutional Amendment #2

(disabled vets, 100% property tax relief)

Yes	420
No	65

Constitutional Amendment #3

(state rainy day fund as much as 15%)

Yes	281
No	195

Transportation Bonds (for Metro)

Yes	315
No	169

Wilton Precinct

For Member of Congress

Murray	293
Moran	491
Fisher	9

(continued on page 6)

Virginia Hills Citizens Association Meeting

Tuesday, December 7th – 7:30 PM
Old Virginia Hills School, Diana Lane

Speaker: TBA

The President's Corner
Comment from VHCA President Ralph Zecca

Since September, I have been hand delivering the Virginia Hills Citizens Association (VHCA) membership cards in order to meet everyone and find out what issues are on the minds of our members. I found one prevailing theme: what does the VHCA actually do?

Well, I see this organization as having two major responsibilities. First, it serves as the central point for promoting friendship and community within our neighborhood. As stated in my last article, I envision VHCA as being an organization that holds socials and other functions -- with the help of you. Second, VHCA serves as a voice for our neighborhood on community-wide issues in relation to other neighborhoods, Fairfax County, and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

You've seen one example of the effect of our voice on page 1 of this *Echo*, the WMATA bus garage.

For another example, many of you are aware that one of the sports fields in Lee District Park is now lit for evening games. This resulted in complaints regarding the lights being on too late at night and being on even when there were no games! VHCA joined with the Rose Hill, Willow Oaks (Mission Court), and Vantage associations to engage with Supervisor McKay's office to discuss this issue. The result was that Supervisor McKay and Fairfax County Park Authority agreed to move the shutoff time for the lights from 11:00 PM to 10:00 PM.

Now, the VHCA is engaging with Supervisor McKay's office and VDOT about the proposed change to rules governing truck traffic on the Groveton side of South Kings Highway that may result in an increase of truck traffic through our neighborhood. I hope to have good news regarding this issue in our next issue of the *Echo*! In the meantime, have a wonderful holiday season and please remember to reach out to your neighbors -- especially elderly neighbors in the event of snow!

We can now be found on Facebook -- Virginia Hills Citizens Association. And if you have any suggestions for the Association, please feel free to contact me!

- President Ralph Zecca

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The Virginia Hills Echo

Editor Doug Boulter
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For yearly discount rate, see www.virginiahills.org/Echo.html

Virginia Hills Citizens Association Officers 2009-2010		
President	Ralph Zecca	President@VirginiaHills.org
Vice President	Vacant	VP@VirginiaHills.org
Treasurer	Robin Welsh	Treasurer@VirginiaHills.org
Secretary	Debbie Bodlander	Secretary@VirginiaHills.org
Membership	Vacant	Membership@VirginiaHills.org
<i>Echo</i> Editor	Doug Boulter	Echo@VirginiaHills.org

VHCA Members for 2010-2011

George & Lee Anne Alloway, Kathleen Alwes, Carl & Evelyn Berlin, Don Blasl, Doug & Donna Boulter, Mike & David Broderick, Dan & June Carlton, Rosemary Carter & Vivian & Kenny Williams, Marilyn Doebel, Ruth & David Dove, Ruth & Lawrence Emswiler, Sharon Forrest, Ray & Vivian Frantz, Betty & Pete Galbaugh, Jim Gillespie, Shirley Glass, Marie & Gene Gordon, Bob Gorman, Larry & Gloria Gray, Alan Haskel & Michele Menapace, Michael & Pamela Higgins, Kevin Jackson, Heidi Jordan-Ackerman & Mervin Jordan, Constan & Annik Kanellos, David & Linda Kidd, Marian Lamb, Ed & Anna Lineweaver, Fran McPoland & Ron McHugh, Sam & Pat Morris, Kimberly Munch, Christian Norfolk, Ortho Easterday, Jr., Rebecca Reinaker & Scott Clapper, Margaret Seitzinger, Don & Grace Shamblin, Martha Singleton, Guntis & Inta Sraders, Rudolph & Juanita Tarlosky, Jim & Kathy Tucker, Dan & Joyce Turner, June Ward & Edgar Seward, Robin Welsh, Russell Witt, Dick & Ella Louise Wright, Heather Young & Chuck Boyer, and Ralph Zecca & Akiko Ueda-Zecca.

If you haven't yet joined the Association or renewed for the current year, please do so by filling out the membership form in the opposite column and mailing it to the address shown.

Police Again to Hold "Santa's Ride" to Help Children

The Fairfax County Police Department asks residents to consider donating an unwrapped game, toy, or book as part of their 22nd annual Santa's Ride holiday campaign. All gifts will be delivered by uniformed officers on motorcycles to children across Fairfax County, where some very special children won't have to wait until Christmas Eve to open these gifts. The ride will take place on December 9th, 10th, and 11th.

Santa's Ride toy drop off boxes are now in the lobbies of all Fairfax County Police Stations. Closest to Virginia Hills are the Mount Vernon Station on Parkers Lane and the Franconia Station on Franconia Road.

2010-2011 Membership

Mail to: VHCA, P.O. Box 10837, Alexandria, VA 22310

I'd (We'd) to join / renew my (our) membership in the Virginia Hills Citizens Association. Enclosed are the annual membership dues of \$7.00 per household. I am also including a contribution in the amount of \$ _____.

Name (\$ _____)

Address _____

City _____

Zip Code _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Comments: _____

Checks for dues may be made payable to VHCA or the Virginia Hills Citizens Association.

Note:
Restaurant discounts are only available to members upon presentation of a valid VHCA membership card.

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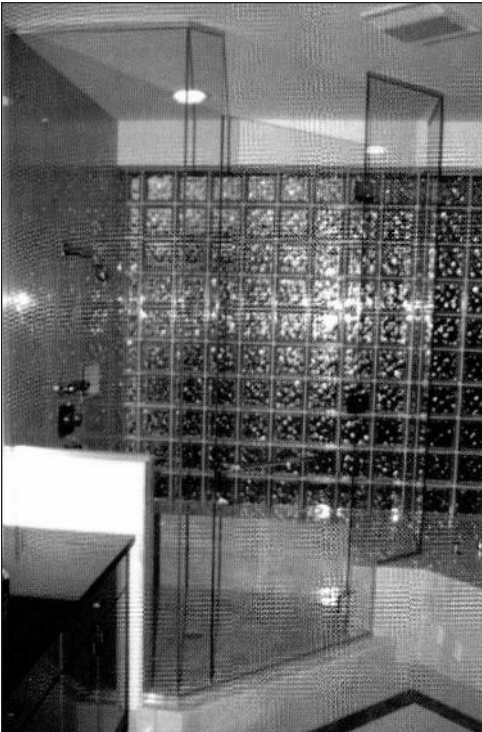
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All of Virginia Hills Back in the Mount Vernon Police District

Several years ago, coverage of the Virginia Hills neighborhood was divided between the Mount Vernon police station and the Franconia station. This was done because part of Virginia Hills was in the same map sector as Lee District Park, and the park was much more accessible from the Franconia Station. As a result, Virginia Hills had two crime prevention officers and two community advisory council meetings to attend. Virginia Hills residents were served by different stations, depending on the street on which they lived.

President Boulter and President Zecca have been working with Master Police Officer Greg Kotterman, Mount Vernon's Crime Prevention Officer, to put Virginia Hills back into one police district or the other. There was agreement in the police chain of command that this should happen. The delay was due to the need to work out the technical details.

Officer Kotterman has notified VHCA that the neighborhood is now entirely within the Mount Vernon police district again, and that calls to the dispatcher will have a Mount Vernon officer responding.

Next project: Getting all of Virginia Hills into the same electoral precinct.

***Best Wishes for the Holidays
and the New Year!***

WMATA Garage (from Page 1)

At the meeting on November 15th, WMATA came back to the Committee and announced that it had modified its plan so that the buses originally to be routed on Telegraph Road would use Route 1 instead unless they were serving a route on or just off of Telegraph. With this proffered condition, the Land Use Committee approved the requested special exception to allow the garage to be built.

Election Results (from page 1)

Wilton Precinct

Constitutional Amendment #1	
Yes	625
No	155

Constitutional Amendment #2	
Yes	675
No	106

Constitutional Amendment #3	
Yes	497
No	286

Transportation Bonds (for Metro)	
Yes	590
No	194

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Message from Supervisor McKay

As your local elected official, I take sidewalk level issues seriously and make a point to get into our neighborhoods as often as I can. Neighborhoods that I'm accustomed to seeing in the light of day take on a different cast when seen at night from the passenger seat of a police car. While I often tour my district with the police, it's usually during the day. Recently, I joined Captain Shawn Bennett, commander of the Franconia police station, on a ride-along from 9:30 pm to midnight. (Captain Dave Moyer commands the Mount Vernon station that covers the Virginia Hills area of Lee District.) You can read more about public safety at

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/stations/mountvernon

Our drive-along included a good part of the district, focusing on neighborhoods where individuals had requested additional police presence or where there were a number of calls for service. (That's why it's important for you to call the police if you see or hear something worrisome in your neighborhood — police resources are allocated in part by calls for service.) During the ride-along, I saw our police bike team patrolling shopping centers and neighborhoods; those officers know every inch of our district. They have a

true sidewalk-level perspective and with the flexibility and mobility of a bicycle, they can do things that police in cars cannot. They're one of the reasons that our police officers are on a first name basis with many of our residents—both the good ones and the bad ones.

Thanks to this ride-along, I saw some things that need correction and I'm now pushing for action. For example, we need a guardrail along sections of the Franconia-Springfield parkway, and we need additional lighting in the Rose Hill Shopping Center.

Overall, Fairfax County and Lee District are very safe communities — among the safest in the entire country. While we expect a high level of service in Fairfax County, I think this is even more impressive when you consider that our police force has fewer police officers per 1,000 residents than any other suburban area in our region. (The Franconia station has 140 sworn officers and 30 civilians and the Mount Vernon station staffing includes 157 sworn officers and 31 civilians.) That's why I insisted that our budget reductions spare our public safety forces as much as possible.

After this recent ride-along, I have a renewed appreciation for the dedication and commitment of our public safety forces.



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Status	Style	Address	BR	FB	HB	List \$	Close \$	Bsmt	Gar
ACTIVE	Rambler	6406 PROSPECT TER	3	2	0	\$389,950		Yes	
ACTIVE	Rambler	6108 PIKE CT	4	2	0	\$345,000		Yes	
ACTIVE	Rambler	6425 VIRGINIA HILLS AVE	4	2	0	\$394,900		Yes	
ACTIVE	Rambler	6417 PROSPECT TER	3	2	0	\$355,000		Yes	1
CNTG/NO KO	Rambler	6325 DORSET DR	3	2	0	\$349,000		Yes	
CONTRACT	Bilevel	6413 BERKSHIRE DR	3	2	0	\$367,000		Yes	
CONTRACT	Rambler	3709 AUSTIN AVE	3	2	0	\$250,000		Yes	
SOLD	Rambler	6507 DORSET DR	3	2	0	\$219,900	\$231,500	Yes	
SOLD	Cape Cod	6214 SANDLIN CT	5	2	0	\$359,000	\$351,000	Yes	
SOLD	Colonial	6114 ALGONA CT	4	2	0	\$250,000	\$250,000	Yes	
SOLD	Raised Ranch	6615 BERKSHIRE DR	3	2	0	\$215,900	\$215,900	Yes	
SOLD	Colonial	6507 ENFIELD DR	5	3	0	\$299,900	\$302,000	No	
SOLD	Rambler	3703 HEATHER CT	3	2	0	\$355,000	\$349,000	Yes	
SOLD	Colonial	3600 OAKWOOD LN	7	3	0	\$424,000	\$424,000	Yes	1
SOLD	Rambler	6403 RONSON CT	3	2	0	\$368,000	\$368,000	Yes	
EXPIRED	Raised Rambler	6403 WILCOX CT	3	1	1	\$365,000		Yes	
EXPIRED	Colonial	6320 GENTELE CT	5	3	1	\$284,900		No	
WITHDRN	Rambler	3712 LOGAN CT	4	2	0	\$250,000		Yes	
WITHDRN	Rambler	6308 PROSPECT TER	4	2	0	\$399,700		Yes	
WITHDRN	Other	6615 BERKSHIRE DR	3	2	0	\$269,900			

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