

The Fairfax County
FEDERATION
of Citizens Associations *Established 1940*

Mid-September 2010

THE BULLETIN

Volume 60, Number 2

Federation Membership Meeting



Thursday, September 16, 2010

7:30 p.m.

Note New (Temporary) Location

Braddock Hall

9002 Burke Lake Road
Burke, VA

Topic: 2010-2011 Back-to-School Priorities

**Guest Speaker: Jack Dale, Superintendent,
Fairfax County Public Schools**



2010 Federation Board Meetings

September 23, 2010 (*fourth Thursday*)
Braddock Hall

President's Message

With the summer of 2010 winding down and the settling down from the Labor Day weekend celebrations; the Federation is full swing into its 70th year. We are very excited at all the prospects available for the Federation to be a conduit for connecting communities on countywide issues. To that end, we welcome the addition of three new homeowners associations over the summer and continuously welcome new members to join so that we can create a more meaningful connection in our communities.

We will be hosting Dr. Dale at our Thursday, September 16 membership meeting in time to discuss "Back to School" matters. We hope you will join us at Braddock Hall at 7:30 pm for this pertinent programming. We have some very important countywide issues coming up in the months ahead such as Redistricting Virginia and the Chesapeake Bay Amendment Review. As the Federation gets ready to address these issues, we will post them on our website. Your feedback will be invaluable in amplifying our voice on these important issues. We hope to hear from you and hope you will stop by during our meetings.

In pursuit of our communications endeavors, we have revamped our website which includes the 2010 Federation contacts. We have put together a great internship package and are working with various organizations to provide an opportunity to a promising student in the field of online communications and marketing. We would greatly appreciate your recommending us to a student seeking an internship by emailing to fedwebmaster2010@fairfaxfederation.org with "Internship Inquiry" on the subject line. We are also looking forward to our launch on Facebook that will be primarily used for event information and invitation. Our website and newsletter will continue to be our primary communication vehicles.

These are difficult times for many of our communities and yet these are the opportune moments to make a meaningful difference in the lives of many. We hope you will join and guide us in advocating on countywide issues of common concern to Fairfax County residents to local, state and federal officials.

Best wishes to you and your community.

Tania

**Volunteers Needed for Emergency Preparedness
Exercise Saturday, September 25th**

Individuals are needed Saturday, September 25, 2010, to act as mock emergency volunteers. Volunteer Fairfax, the Fairfax County Office of Emergency Management, and the Fairfax County Health Department will be testing their Volunteer Reception Center (VRC) plans, which assign volunteers to the needs of emergency response and recovery specialists. By simply passing through each station of the VRC, you will help improve our ability to direct volunteers in future emergencies. No prior training is needed and there are no physical limitations prohibiting participation making this a great event for ages 14 and up. Participants will be asked to provide general feedback and suggestions after exiting the VRC. The event will be held in the Fairfax County Government Center lobby on Saturday, September 25 between the hours of 9am and 11am. There will also be additional information and resources on hand to help you better prepare your family, business, and property for an emergency.

If you are interested in acting as an emergency volunteer for this event, please email Volunteer Fairfax at ERexercise@volunteerfairfax.org or visit their website at www.volunteerfairfax.org/individuals/emergency-response.php. If you plan on volunteering with a group, please include the number of individuals that will be joining you at the exercise.

FCFCA Program Calendar 2010-2011						
Month	Membership Meetings			Board Meetings		Newsletter Deadline
	Date	Program		Date	Program	
2010						
Sep	16	Back to School Issues by Schools Superintendent Dr. Dale, @ Braddock Hall		23	Legislative Program @ Braddock Hall	30-Aug
Oct	21	Legislative Program @ Braddock Hall		28	Location to be determined	1-Nov
Nov	18	Transportation (Location to be determined)			No meeting	22-Nov
Dec	16	Environment (Location to be determined)		*2		20-Dec
2011						
Jan	20	FC Public School Budget		27		24-Jan
Feb	17	Land Use Planning		24		21-Feb
Mar	**17	County Budget		**24		21-Mar
Apr	***1 4	Open		28		18-Apr
May	19	Report from Richmond; Election of Officers		26		23-May
Jun	16	Picnic, State of Fairfax by Sharon Bulova, Board of Supervisors Chair; Installation of Officers		23		20-Jun

* 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.

** Dates of the March meetings will be interchanged if necessary to enable members to vote on final Federation budget recommendations.

*** April 14 membership meeting is the second Thursday in April due to FCPS spring break the third week.

Federation Organization

The Federation has 10 issue-oriented committees (e.g., County Budget), 7 representatives on each of the County Supervisory Districts that have district committees (e.g., Providence District), and 15 positions as representatives on County committees (e.g., Affordable Housing). The following paragraphs give a brief description of two of the committees. We are always looking for more committee members. Consider volunteering.

The Federation's **Education Committee** is comprised of eight members with diverse and broad background's in education. a teacher and former teachers, a former military trainer, chair of two Fairfax Country District Education Committees, present presidents of PTAs and a member of the Fairfax County PTA Council, a representative from the Fairfax Education Coalition, those with personal experiences on school boards and with student with disabilities, a student mentor, and others active as volunteers/observers on school programs. The Committee meets every other month except July and conducts extensive discussion and document review by e-mail. During the year, the Committee usually addresses an educational topic at the September and May meetings, and devotes the other three meetings principally to review and comment on the FCPS proposed budget. The FCPS budget for FY 2012 will again be the major issue addressed by the Education Committee, as the July FY2011 budget forecast projected a \$75M shortfall if the funds provided by the County are not increased. This year's budget will also be complicated by the fact that federal stimulus money ends this year and FCPS must begin to replenish the State retirement funds which were reduced this year with an unrealistic percentage contribution.

At our September meeting, the Committee will meet with the Assistant Superintendent of Information Technology to discuss eCart, ISIS and the new platform on which both FCPS and County will co-exist upon using the same human resources, financial, and warehousing programs with expected savings to be generated. At our November meeting in addition to early discussion of the FCPS budget, the Committee will review our final input into the Federation's Legislative Program, especially those desired General Assembly educational positions. Then, in the spring, the Committee will provide its input into the County budget, especially on those school related County funds activities.

The Federation continues to have active representation on several Fairfax County Public School committees including the School Board's Advisory Committees on Advanced Academic Programs, Human Relations, and Students with Disabilities, and on the FCPS Superintendent's Business and Community Advisory Committee.

The **Land Use Committee** covers from Land-Use Planning to Land Use, including Homeowner Association issues of Countywide importance. Most recently the Committee has been involved with the Tysons Corner Planning, but most intensely by the chairman's County-appointed position on the Reston Comprehensive Plan Special Study Task Force, planning development of Reston in the area along the Dulles Toll Road. Our most significant contribution to the Reston plan has been the raising and analyzing of the issue of balancing non-residential development with residential development using, in part, the developmental statistics we derived for Ballston-Rosslyn. We also analyzed the transportation requirements associated with imbalance.

Redistricting Virginia

The Redistricting Subcommittee of the Virginia House Committee on Privileges and Elections seeks public comment on the redistricting process, criteria to be considered in preparing redistricting plans, and potential district changes to legislative and congressional districts. Public hearings will be held according to the following schedule:

- Wed, Sept 8 at 7pm Natural Science Center, V A
Western Community College
(Roanoke)
- Wed, Sept 22 at 7pm ... Roper Performing Arts
Center, Tidewater Community College
(Norfolk)
- Tue, Oct 5 at 7pm Mason Hall, George Mason
University
- Mon, Oct 18 at 7pm Regional Center for
Advanced Technology and Training,
Danville Community College
- Mon, Dec 6 at 7pm University Hall, University
of Mary Washington (Stafford Cam-
pus)
- Fri, Dec 17 at 10 am 9th Floor Appropriations
Room, General Assembly Building
(time approximate, after Governor's
remarks to the money committees)

The Subcommittee Members are The Honorable Mark Lo Cole, Chairman, the Honorable Robert B. Bell, the Honorable Rosalyn R. Dance, the Honorable Algie T. Howell, Jr, the Honorable S. Chris Jones, the Honorable Jackson H. Miller, the Honorable David B. Albo, and the Honorable Johnny S. Joannou. Questions may be directed to Jack Austin, Division of Legislative Services at (804) 786-3591 or:

FJAustin@DLS.Virginia.gov

Persons wishing to register in advance to speak at one of the September hearings may do so by contacting Scott Maddrea [SMaddrea@house.virginia.gov], House of Delegate Committee Operations at (804) 698-1540. Persons wishing to be notified of future meetings may also contact Scott Maddrea. More information is available on the Redistricting Virginia website at <http://dsgis.state.va.us/Ref/NewsReleases/NewsRelease082310.pdf>

Horticultural Help Desk

Volunteers from the Fairfax County Master Gardener Association and Green Spring master gardeners staff a year-round horticulture help desk to answer home gardeners' questions and help solve gardening problems. During the growing season (April through October) they are on duty from Monday through Friday, from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. In November through March, the desk is staffed 9:30-12:30 on Tuesday and Thursday mornings only.

Contact them anytime by voice mail at (703) 324-8556 or by e-mail at mgfairfax@vt.edu. Please clearly explain your question or problem, and they will conduct any needed research before getting back to you. During their duty hours, residents can also stop by their desk in the VCE Office on the 10th floor of the Pennino Building in the Fairfax County Government Center.

Vehicle Registration Fee in 2010 Personal Property

2010 Fairfax County Personal Property Tax bills are being mailed out to residents during the next several weeks and are due on October 5. The bill includes new registration fees (see below) for vehicles normally located in the county as of July 1, 2010. There is no county windshield decal to purchase or display. Residents living within the towns of Clifton, Herndon and Vienna have additional decal and/or fee requirements; contact your respective town for more information.

Fairfax County residents, including town residents, must register vehicles with the Department of Tax Administration if the vehicles are normally garaged or parked in Fairfax County, even if the vehicle is registered in another state. Failure to locally register vehicles on time will result in additional penalties

Fees:

\$18 for motorcycles.

\$ 23 for any taxi or other vehicle that is kept for rent or hire operated by a chauffeur for the transportation of passengers. If the vehicle weighs more than 4,000 pounds, the fee is \$ 28.

\$ 23 for a bus used exclusively for transportation to and from church school, for the purpose of religious instruction, or church, for the purpose of divine worship. If the empty vehicle weighs more than 4,000 pounds, the fee is \$ 28.

\$ 33 for all other vehicles. If the vehicle weighs more than 4000 pounds, the fee is \$ 38.

For more information, please visit the Department of Tax Administration online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dta/cartax_home.htm or by calling 703-222-8234 (TTY 703-222-7594)

Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations

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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 address changes, comments, or suggestions. at 703-620-4942 or FedBulletinEditor2010@fairfaxfederation.org.

Federation Meeting Cancellation Policy

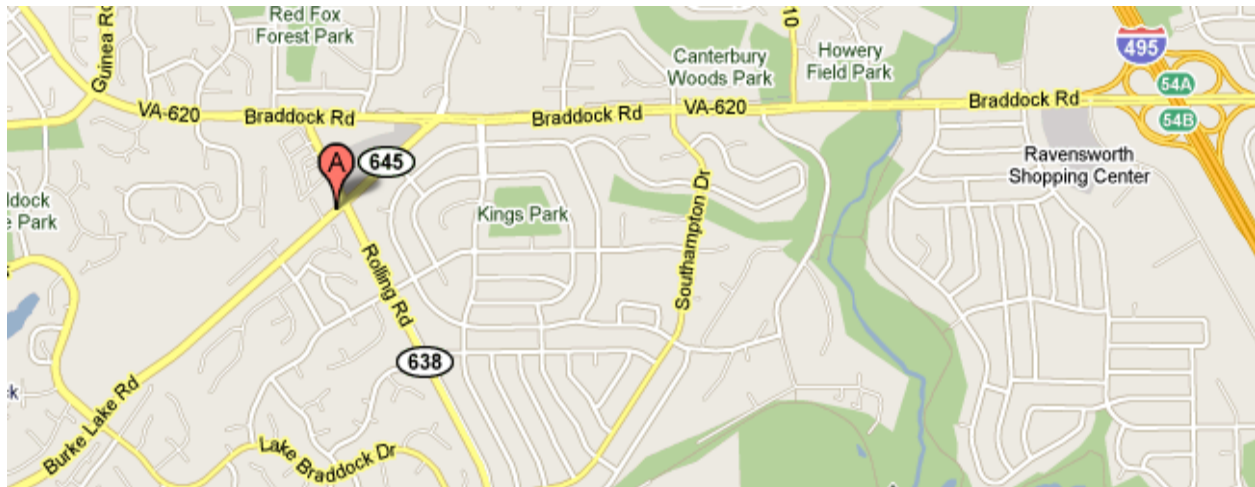
If either Fairfax County Government or Schools are closed after 12:00 noon the day of a Federation membership meeting, or if it is announced that Fairfax County Government or Schools will be closed the day after a scheduled Federation membership meeting due to inclement weather or other emergency, the 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 or, for more information, you can call 703-620-4942.

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Directions to Braddock Hall

Take I-495 (Capital Beltway) to Braddock Road (Route 620 - Exit 54);
go west 1.5 miles toward Burke.



www.fairfaxfederation.org