



# GFCA NEWS

GREAT FALLS CITIZENS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Visit our website at [www.gfca.org](http://www.gfca.org)  
November 2011

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<b>TREASURER</b> David Kondner (703) 404-1117
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<b>Land Use and Zoning</b> Bill Harvey, Dianne Van Volkenburg
<b>Environment/Parks/Trails</b> Bill Canis & Stella Koch
<b>Transportation</b> Eric Knudsen & Joan Barnes
<b>Long-Range Planning/ Development</b> Doug Cobb, Glen Sjoblom
<b>Communications (open)</b>
<b>Membership/Outreach</b> Ed Behrens-Outreach Pam Grosvenor-Members

**GFCFA will hold a Town Forum on  
the Draft Long Range Plan for Great Falls**  
  
**“GREAT FALLS LONG RANGE  
PLANNING-POSSIBILITIES”**  
  
**at the Great Falls Grange Hall,  
9818 Georgetown Pike (next to the library)  
at 7:30 PM on Tuesday, November 15**

**Please come to hear the progress so far by this team of  
community leaders and to share your own vision.**

**Join in the project to draft a relevant  
Long Range Plan for Great Falls**

**By Glen Sjoblom & Doug Cobb, Co-chairs,  
Long Range Planning**

Our community has not had a long-range plan in the past, although from time to time, nominations have been made to the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan. With the 2020 Vision survey, conducted in 2007 using a professional polling organization poll about 1000 local residents, the results helped in understanding what the residents envision and would like to see for the future. The 2020 Vision Survey professional report can be viewed on the bottom of the Long Range Planning and Development section of the GFCA website. As a result of that effort, a committee initiative was created to “Explore the possibilities for the Great Falls “

In 2010, the Long Range Planning Committee held a meeting of 30 leaders of the numerous volunteer groups and business owners to again brainstorm ideas for new venues and ventures that would make Great Falls a better place to live, work and play.

(Continued on Page 2)

**Coming Up: Important Meetings for  
current Land Use and Zoning issues**

**By Bill Harvey & Dianne Van Volkenburg,  
Co-chairs, Land Use and Zoning**

Please plan to attend these important meetings  
Nov. 10 & 29 and Dec. 15 at 7:30 PM at the Grange

The GFCA Land Use and Zoning (LUZ) Committee held a committee hearing on Nov. 10 as part of its continuing investigation of two pending matters. A recording will be available on the GFCA web site. The matters addressed at that November hearing may include:

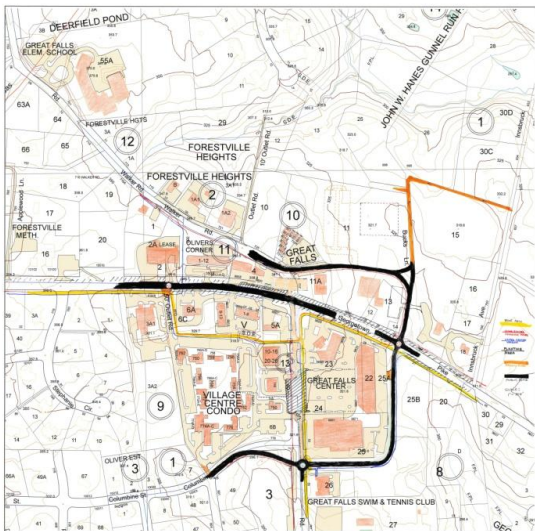
1. **SIVNAM Partnership LLC’s Special Exception Application #SE 2010-DR-019.** The applicant is requesting approval to convert a former bank branch to a fast food restaurant (Popeye’s) with a drive through.
2. **Great Falls Lacrosse Assoc.’s Pending Minor Site Plan Application.** The applicant is seeking pre-application input from the Great Falls community before filing its application to install a synthetic turf field.

(See details page 2)

**Long Range Planning Committee**  
Douglas Cobb and Glen Sjoblom, Co-Chairs

It was felt that these people have vested a great deal of their time and energy in improving the community, and therefore would likely to have good and useful ideas, and indeed this was so. Then a smaller group met several times and drafted a long-range plan document, which attempts to collect in one place all the opportunities for improvement, as well as discussion of options and future actions.

At this point, the ideas are a collection from individuals, and the document has not been approved by any of the groups whose individuals contributed and it is now ready for discussion within Great Falls. Because this document is about 40 pages in length, it is not practical to send a printed copy to the 5,500 households in Great Falls. Therefore, it will be uploaded to the website ([www.gfca.org](http://www.gfca.org)) for download and review, and emailed to all GFCA members who have provided their email addresses. This plan is being advertised in the GFCA newsletter and website. In addition, brochures have been placed in kiosks around the Community, and announcements regarding its availability are being made in local newspapers. A Town Forum to discuss the long range plan possibilities will be held on November 15 at the GFCA Town. We also envision smaller meetings of interested groups to focus on various aspects of the plan, including those interested in transportation, arts groups, community center or performing arts center, better access to the existing facilities in Great Falls, playing fields, senior living facilities, historical preservation, and beautification including underground utilities. We anticipate that by Spring, in 2012, we would have another Town Forum, in which we would focus as a Community on what elements of the Great Falls Plan should be carried forward to the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan.



**Land Use and Zoning (LUZ) Committee Report**  
Bill Harvey & Dianne Van Volkenburg, Co-chair

**SIVNAM Partnership LLC's Special Exception Application #SE 2010-DR-019.** The applicant is requesting approval to convert a former bank branch to a fast food restaurant (Popeye's) with a drive through.

The applicant's property is located at 12218 Leesburg Pike, Herndon, VA 20170 (i.e., Fairfax County Tax Map 0061-01-0018), which is just east of the Fairfax-Loudoun boundary. This application has been deferred since April 2010 but is reportedly in the process of being resubmitted.

Great Falls residents in the vicinity of Holly Knolls should be particularly interested in this land use matter.

A special exception application requires approval by both the Fairfax County Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors; however, no hearings are scheduled as of this writing.

**Great Falls Lacrosse Assoc.'s Pending Minor Site Plan Application.** The applicant is seeking pre-application input from the Great Falls community before filing its application to install a synthetic turf field.

The applicant plans to request approval of a minor site plan that will permit the installation of a synthetic turf field at Leo Santaballa Park. The applicant leases the rectangular field located at 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, VA 22066 (i.e., Fairfax County Tax Map 0131-01-0011), which is part of the Great Falls Library site.

The applicant is currently awaiting laboratory test results of the infill material it plans to use and hopes to finalize its presentation to the Great Falls community very shortly.

Great Falls residents in the vicinity of the library should be particularly interested in this land use matter.

A minor site plan application does not require approval by the Fairfax County Planning Commission or Board of Supervisors.

LUZ recently completed its investigation of Brix American Bistro Restaurant's request for pre-application input from the Great Falls community before it files an application for a permit to install a lighted tenant directory sign on the grounds of the Seneca Square shopping center, which is located at the corner of Georgetown Pike and Seneca Road.

LUZ's investigation and input received from the Great Falls community resulted in changes to the sign's specifications. The GFCA Executive Board approved a resolution in support of Brix's pending application for a sign permit at the meeting held on October 18, 2011.

## SPICY DEBATES

By: Ralph Apton, President Pro-tem;  
Coordinator and Moderator for debates

Election Debates with packed audiences were held at the Grange on October 11th and 25th. The two GFCA sponsored town meetings had participation by 20 of the 24 local candidates on the November 8 ballot.



Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova faced Spike Williams. They differed on affordable housing and the Planning Commission approval process when converting residential zoned land to commercial land.

Dranesville Supervisor John Foust and his opponent Dennis Husch agreed that the quasi-independent Water Authority and County Park Authority recently approved significant expansion projects without sufficient time for community input and that this practice must be changed. However, they had sharp differences on a new Riverbend Park adventure ropes course called "Go Ape", resolving summertime weekend parking problems associated with "Go Ape", how to clean-up the 7-11 shopping strip, and implementing the recently passed resident curatorship in connection with the Mark Turner House and its barns.

Barbara Favola of Arlington and Caren Merrick of McLean are the two State Senator candidates for 31<sup>st</sup> district that now encompasses three counties, Arlington, Fairfax, and Loudoun in a strip bordering the Potomac River. They had different approaches to Route 7 traffic problems, financing the \$30 million state transportation budget, gasoline taxes, and illegal immigrants.

Dranesville-Herndon State Delegate Barbara Comstock faced challenger Pam Danner and they fought over political differences, the labor agreement for the Dulles Metrorail project, the effect of potential excess Dulles toll road fees on commuters, developer share of paying for Tyson's Corner infrastructure costs, and the difficulties many excellent Dranesville students are encountering when seeking admission to top Virginia colleges.

Because his challenger chose not to attend, Incumbent Sheriff Stan Barry, the 90<sup>th</sup> County sheriff since 1740, alone, did a fine job answering questions concerning the

## SPICY DEBATES (cont.)

By: Ralph Apton, President Pro-tem;  
Coordinator and Moderator for debates

Sheriff's office and how it differs and complements the County Police Department.

Of the five candidates for three Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District Directors, only George Lamb and Tom Cranmer chose to participate. Even when they differed, both showed a good understanding of their responsibilities and gave potential solutions to questions covering septic fields, solving poor water quality in private ponds, deer tree damage, and Potomac River shoreline erosion partially caused by Canadian geese damage to plant vegetation.

After prior elections without a challenger, Dranesville School Board member Janie Strauss is facing Louise Epstein in what many believe is a close race. Their approaches often are sharply different, including, (i) recruitment of, and relations with, the next Superintendent, (ii) how to be responsive to public demands, the urgency of new classrooms to replace trailers, (iii) priority capital improvement needs, (iv) overcrowded elementary school classes with 30 to 35 students, and (v). unfair low allocation of school resources to Dranesville compared to elsewhere in the County.

A pleasant surprise was the appearance of all seven candidates for the three at-large County School Board positions. The candidates are Ilrong Moon, the only incumbent, Sheree Brown-Kaplan, Lin-Dal Kendall, Lolita Mancheno-Smoak, Ryan McElveen, Steven Stuban, and Ted Verkoff. The questions they faced covered unfunded capital improvement needs, whether capital improvements should continue to be financed via long-term County bonds rather than the annual school operating budget, the lack of promised federal funding for federally mandated school programs, and the adequacy of the changed new County school grading system.

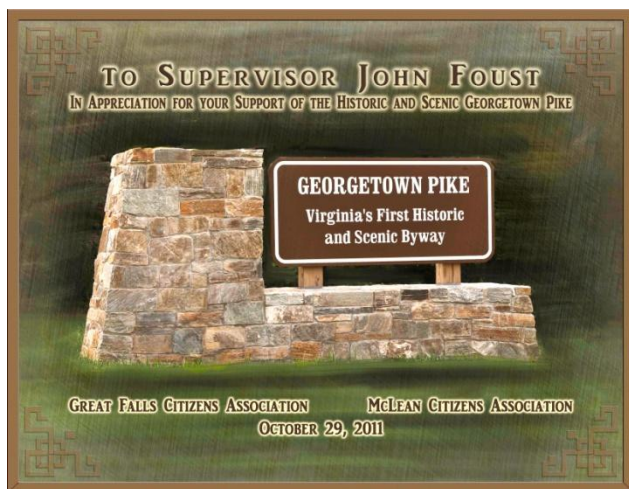
PRESIDENTS NOTE: Ralph Apton, shown here with Barbara Comstock, did an outstanding job of organizing and moderating these debates. THANK YOU, RALPH!



## Georgetown Pike Recognition Reception



On October 29, the Great Falls and McLean Citizens Associations, GFCA and MCA, jointly held a Georgetown Pike recognition ceremony honoring ten bipartisan retired and active officials, elected and non-elected, all of whom were or are leaders in preserving the Pike as a two-lane historic byway. The Brix Bistro ceremony was attended by almost 50 guests, all of whom had been active participants in protecting Georgetown Pike, one of the Commonwealth's early turnpike roads that best retains its original engineered structure and alignment. The earliest snow in a century did not mar the formal "dedication" of a roadside marker near the western Route 7 entrance to Georgetown Pike, one of four installed commemorating the roadway as Virginia's first Byway.



Note: This appreciation plaque was created by Great Falls Studios member Mike McDermott for officials and community contributors.

## Transportation and Roads Committee Eric Knudsen & Joan Barnes, Co-chairs

Hot Topics on Transportation and Roads in Great Falls

1. The GFCA Transportation Committee is currently monitoring several current VDOT projects and is happy to announce that both bridges that were washed out in Great Falls have been repaired. Towlston Road Bridge has reopened and the Beach Mill temporary bridge which will open by Monday have been completed on schedule.
2. The GFCA Transportation comm. has joined with the McLean Citizens Association and Reston Citizens Association to monitor and influence the current planning of Route 7 widening. The old plan was scrapped and according to Garret Moore the VDOT Northern District director during a meeting with the above associations last month. (Next Meeting is Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>)
3. There is a planning program at Riverbend Park to put in a ropes course. Neighbors feel that current traffic patterns are insufficient to allow any further development of the park. The committee intends to collect or obtain the statistics and patterns and then examine what, if any solutions, might be possible.
4. Finally there is currently a plan to reconstruct the stretch of Walker Road between Georgetown Pike and Columbine to reduce speed and provide a crosswalk from the bank to the grocery store.

These are all reasons to come to the GFCA Transportation meetings. The next meeting will be at 7 pm Monday, November 14 at the GRANGE

Besides celebrating the completion of our bridge repairs, the Agenda for the November meeting will include:

- 1) Route 7 Widening update
- 2) Update on the Retention pond at Rt 7 between Reston Parkway and Dulles Toll road.
- 3) Riverbend Park traffic issues - existing & proposed "Go Ape" ropes facility
- 4) Great Falls long range planning concepts

FYI from VDOT Nicholas J. Roper, P.E. VDOT Engineer:

*"I'm pleased to notify you that the design approval and design exception for retaining a one lane bridge configuration and for constructing a new bridge with timber deck and railings at Beach Mill Road over Nichols Branch has been approved. We are negotiating with the consultant for preparing final design plans, and we continue to plan for bridge construction in the summer-fall of 2012. As noted earlier, we have discarded design-build delivery and will be using conventional design-bid-build.*

*The final acceptance inspection for the temporary box culvert was performed yesterday. I've been informed that the only remaining task for the contractor to complete before re-opening the road is installation of guardrail, and I would expect that to be complete before the end of the week."*

**Environment Committee**  
Bill Canis & Stella Koch Co-Chairs

The Environment Committee of the Great Falls Citizens Association had a joint meeting with the Great Falls Trail Blazers on October 6. Topics of discussion were the state of the trails in Great Falls and future trail efforts including a potential Memorandum of Understanding with Fairfax County and the Trail Blazers that would endorse local maintenance of trails. Also on the agenda were presentations from Go Ape, a ropes group being considered for Riverbend Park, and adjacent neighbors who had parking and traffic concerns.

At the November 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Committee the committee worked on putting together a map of all historical and natural history features of Great Falls along with showing existing trails.

The Environment Committee will be arranging the key topics for the GFCOA Town Meeting on December 13. Stay tuned to learn about environmental decisions we will be making as a community that potentially have substantial impact on the health of our children and adult residents.

**Fairfax County Watershed Management Plan**

Location: Fairfax County Government Center, 1200 Government Center Pkwy, Fairfax (Conference Rooms 9/10)  
Wednesday, November 30 at 7:00 PM  
Public is Invited - No Reservations Required!

A series of comprehensive watershed management plans have been developed to help Fairfax County and its residents restore and protect streams and other vital natural resources. other stakeholder groups, staff of the Fairfax County Stormwater Management Program identified more than 1,700 projects to improve the health of local watersheds.

County staff will present an update on several watershed management topics including:

- Introduction to the stormwater management program;
- Overall perspective of the watershed management plans;
- Status of project implementation and infrastructure reinvestment;
- Non-structural policy and action recommendations;
- Regulatory compliance with the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load;
- (TMDL) and the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permits;
- Partnership opportunities and how residents can become more involved.

For more information call 703-324-5821, TTY 711

E-mail: [SWPDmail@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:SWPDmail@fairfaxcounty.gov)

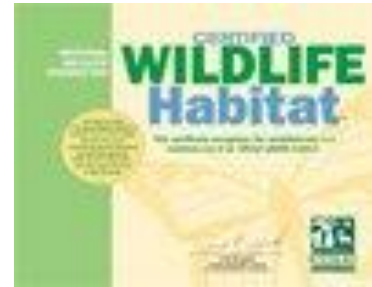
Related websites:

[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/DPWES/watersheds](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/DPWES/watersheds)

[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/DPWES/stormwater](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/DPWES/stormwater)

**Help Our Community be**  
**"Environmentally Astute and Friendly"**  
**Participate in these Initiatives**

**Certifying Your Backyard as a**  
**Wildlife Habitat (NWF)**



GFCOA sponsors and has won awards for its massive National Wildlife Federation Certification project through which about 220 Great Falls homes, schools, and churches have been designated backyard Wildlife Habitat (NWF). Great Falls became the 23rd community in the United States to earn that distinction and also received a commendation from the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. Fairfax is one of only four counties in the USA to achieve NWF Wildlife Habitat status. The GFCOA Environment Committee is continuing NWF annual maintenance requirements, including adding households, etc.

If you would like some assistance, a NWF Habitat Steward will be happy to visit your property and help identify the sources of "Food, Water, Shelter and Places to Raise Young" that qualify your property for certification. This is educational and fun for families. For more information and to get started, [www.nwf.org/CertifiedWildlifeHabitat](http://www.nwf.org/CertifiedWildlifeHabitat)

**Getting Involved in the**  
**Great Falls "Cool Community"**



Key "green" goals are to raise awareness of our carbon footprint, to promote carbon reduction and cleaner air, and to help develop a pilot program for Fairfax County. For more information and to be part of the Great Falls "Cool Community", [gfgreenteam@cox.net](mailto:gfgreenteam@cox.net)  
Team Leader is Jill Baker

# ATTENTION PLEASE!

## Special Announcement:



**Need to Enhance your resume or college application?**

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**Potential Intern Opportunity  
with GFC**

**If you know a high school or college Journalism or Communication major that need a boost for their college application or resume, please contact President, Jackie Taylor at 703-759-4737 with any questions**

GFC needs an individual to serve as the GFC Communications Coordinator with the local press and EDITOR/Reporter of the "GFC NEWS". Of critical interest will be enhancing or maintaining the continuity, responsive, informative and interesting "GFC News" publication. This Editor/reporter may be expected to cover and report on various GFC activities and collect pictures to include in the newsletter.

The position requires a close working relationship with the Association Committees and Board, especially the President, and the community overall in coordinating the development of written reports by various committees and officers of the Board and generating stories of general interest to the community.

A second potential internship may be available to enhance the GFC website and membership applications. We would be interested in hearing proposals for the approach of either and leadership to make it happen.

### Membership & Outreach Committee Ed Behrens & Pam Grosvenor, Co-chairs

The fall 2011 membership drive is underway with walkabouts being conducted in neighborhoods throughout Great Falls.

While the committee's goal is to double membership in GFC within a year, it is clear that this objective will only be met if residents see value in belonging to the association and if sufficient numbers can be reached as part of this year's membership drive. The benefits to GFC are a larger membership base and greater resources (both financial and manpower) to undertake the projects planned for this year.

The walkabouts are being done in areas that were not visited in 2010—particularly those communities on the south side of Georgetown Pike. Doug Cobb and Terry Graves recently visited homes in Lexington Estates; Ed Behrens has been speaking with residents in Falcon Ridge and Mr. William Waugh, President of the EPHO; Bill Harvey has been doing his own community (Riverside Manor); and Amy Stephan and Glen Sjoblom covered Deerfield Pond. Fallswood (off Georgetown Pike) and Falls Manor (located adjacent to the Turner Farm) have also been completed. Pam Grosvenor is now focusing her efforts on neighborhoods bordering route 7 that would be impacted by the planned widening of route 7 from the Dulles Toll Road to Reston Avenue. Approximately 90 homes were visited in that area last weekend.

As the committee recognizes that board members are busy with their own projects and have other commitments, anyone who originally volunteered to do a walkabout but now find that he is unable to participate in this effort should feel free to return their materials to Pam. Alternate arrangements will be made to cover the neighborhood.

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### Help GFC Grow so a "Community Voice" is even Louder and more Influential with Our Elected Officials

GFC is a non-profit organization with the following purposes:

- To preserve and enhance the historic, low-density, semi-rural character of the Great Falls community via promotion of sound planning and development policies;
- To promote community interests and services through non-partisan advocacy;
- To stimulate citizen participation in community affairs and its organizations;
- To provide a forum for the exchange of community information and ideas; and,
- To foster and develop policies for economic, educational, recreational, cultural, social, and environmental improvement and to protect natural resources.

**WHAT'S HAPPENING IN GREAT FALLS:  
November 2011**

**November and for the next several months, Keller Williams Realty of Great Falls is hosting an exhibit of photographs by Ed Behrens**, a member of the Great Falls Studios (GFS). Keller Williams is located at 746 Walker Rd. #14, Great Falls, VA 22066 (703) 636-7300.

**Saturday and Sunday, November 5 and 6, 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM – Colvin Run Mill Kiln Club Pottery Show & Sale** in the Colvin Mill Barn, 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls, VA 22066 (703) 759-2771. Looking for great hand-crafted holiday gifts at reasonable prices?

Members of the Ceramic Guild and the Kiln Club of Washington, DC, will display and sell a variety of pottery styles in the Colvin Run Barn. A portion of the sales benefits Colvin Run Mill. Free – no reservations required.

**Thursday, November 10, 7:30 PM -- a GFCA Land Use and Zoning Committee hearing** is tentatively scheduled at the Old Schoolhouse. The hearing will focus on SIVNAM Partnership LLC's presentation regarding its Special Exception application for a fast food restaurant with drive-through on Tax Map 006-1-((1))- 0018.

**Friday, November 11, Galaxy Explorers will meet at Observatory Park** at the Turner Farm on Springhill Road in Great Falls – viewing begins at sundown one night following the full moon. Events are held only when the weather is good for viewing.

**Saturday, November 12, 9:00 AM to 12: PM, – the Great Falls Trail Blazers are hosting a workday at Great Falls National Park.** Meet at the Visitors Center; wear good shoes and gloves. Questions? Contact [GreatFallsTrailBlazers@yahoo.com](mailto:GreatFallsTrailBlazers@yahoo.com) or call 703-853-8109 (Mary Anger).

**Saturday, November 12, 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM tea tasting presentation at the Colvin Run Mill: Around the World in a Tea Cup.** Taste black teas from around the globe, then sample flavorful additions used by early Americans and modern-day tea drinkers to add sparkle to your holiday menus. Presented by Certified Tea Specialist & Chef Laurie Bell of Great Falls Tea Garden. **\$25.00 – reservations required by Thursday, November 10. Contact Colvin Run Mill at 703-759-2771**

**Monday, November 14, 7 pm @ the GRANGE GFCA Transportation committee's meetings.** See Transportation report on Page 4 for the agenda.

**WHAT'S HAPPENING (continued):  
November 2011**

**Saturday, November 19, the Great Falls OPTIMISTS CLUB is partnering with "generosity can" [www.generositycan.org](http://www.generositycan.org) to provide Thanksgiving meals to local area needy families.** Delivery is scheduled for 11:00 AM Saturday, Nov. 19, 2011. Volunteers are sought – please contact Jess and Mike Heistand at: (301) 367-9079 [ijheistand@gmail.com](mailto:ijheistand@gmail.com)

**Sunday, November 20, 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM, Colvin Run Mill "Mill Run Dulcimer Band" concert – Free!** Last concert of the season.



**Wednesday, November 30, 7:00 PM Fairfax County Watershed Management Plan**

Location: Fairfax County Government Center, 1200 Government Center Pkwy, Fairfax (Conference Rooms 9/10) Public is Invited - No Reservations Required! (See page 5 for details on the meeting agenda)

**SAVE THE DATES:**

**Friday, December 2 HERDON ES will meet at Observatory Park** at the Turner Farm on Springhill Road in Great Falls – viewing begins at sundown. Events are held only when the weather is good for viewing. Notice the formerly scheduled 12/16 date has moved to 12/2. Contacts: Amanda Butcher-Ennesser: [landonandtysmom@aol.com](mailto:landonandtysmom@aol.com) [druffinpta@aol.com](mailto:druffinpta@aol.com)

**Saturday and Sunday, December 10 and 11 from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM the Great Falls Studios (GFS) will host their annual Holiday Art Show and Sale at the Village Green Day School, 790 Walker Road, Great Falls.**

Over twenty-two artists from Great Falls, including painters, potters, jewelry designers, photographers, weavers, and others will offer original creations for sale. The festival is an annual arts celebration sponsored by Great Falls Studios (GFS), an organization with more than 100 member artists dedicated to the advancement of local art. Admission is free. For more information contact Linda Jones, 703-442-9251.

**To all Great Falls organizations and HOAs:**

**You are invited to announce your upcoming events on this page of the monthly GFCA newsletter. Please submit the announcements to Ed Behrens, GFCA Co-chair focused on Outreach, by email at [behrensel@cox.net](mailto:behrensel@cox.net).**

## **GFCA NEWS**

Great Falls Citizens  
Association (GFCA)  
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Great Falls, Virginia 22066



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### **Upcoming GFCA MEETINGS: All are Welcome!**

#### **Thursday, Nov 10:**

- **Land Use & Zoning**  
7:30 p.m., Old – Grange - Upstairs

#### **Tuesday, Nov. 14:**

- **Transportation and Roads**  
7:00 p.m., at the Grange

#### **Tuesday, Nov 15 (at GFCA Town Mtg) :**

- **Community Long Range Plan for input**  
7:30 p.m., GF Grange – Upstairs  
(See Page 1 for information.)

#### **Thursday, Nov. 29 (Tentative)**

- **Land Use & Zoning**  
7:30 p.m., at the Old School House

#### **Monday, Dec. 5:**

- **The Environment Committee**  
7:30 at the Old School House
- **Membership & Outreach**  
7:30 p.m., at the Grange - Downstairs

#### **Tuesday, Dec. 6**

- **Long Range Planning Committee**  
7:00 p.m., at the Grange – Upstairs
- **Transportation and Roads**  
7:00 p.m., at the Grange – Downstairs

#### **Thursday, Dec. 15**

- **Land Use & Zoning**  
7:30 p.m., at the Old School House

#### **EXPRESS YOUR CONCERNS AND IDEAS: [www.gfca.org](http://www.gfca.org)**

- ARE YOU AWARE THAT VDOT IS PLANNING TO WIDEN ROUTE 7 FROM THE DULLES TOLL ROAD TO RESTON AVENUE?
- ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT HOW THIS WILL IMPACT YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD AND HOW ROUTE 7 ACCESS WILL BE HANDLED?
- ARE YOU INTERESTED IN HOW ROADS IN GREAT FALLS WILL BE AFFECTED DURING CONSTRUCTION?
- ARE YOU CONCERNED HOW THE ADDITION OF TWO LANES WILL BE HANDLED NEAR COLVIN RUN MILL AND DIFFICULT RUN?
- WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE HAPPEN AT MAJOR INTERSECTIONS LIKE SPRINGVALE ROAD/BARON CAMERON AVENUE AND ROUTE 7, E.G. BRIDGES, FLYOVERS, ETC.?
- WOULD YOU LIKE VDOT TO CONSIDER HOV LANES, DEDICATED BUS LANES, OR OTHER ALTERNATIVES TO REDUCE THE VOLUME OF COMMUTER TRAFFIC?

The Great Falls Citizens Association, McLean Citizens Association, and Reston Association have formed a joint subcommittee to proactively work with our elected officials and Virginia Department of Transportation experts (VDOT) to ensure that the interests of our respective communities are considered.

Two additional lanes are not going to solve the congestion problem along route 7 given the development occurring at Tyson's Corner and opening of the Metro silver line. VDOT will be scheduling a series of meetings with the joint subcommittee so that concepts can be discussed. The feedback obtained from these meetings will be used to define the scope of work before a new comprehensive long-term regional transportation plan is developed