



Supervisor John T. Stirrup
Gainesville District

THE GAINESVILLE EXPRESS

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Update on Silver Lake: A last minute proposal was announced to the press on Friday, June 19th by two Eastern District Prince William County Supervisors, without consultation with the Gainesville District community. Supervisor Mike May, Occoquan District and Supervisor Martin Nohe, Coles District, have not made their proposal available for review at this time and without the details it is impossible to evaluate. I am concerned that the last minute nature of this proposal may persuade the Board of County Supervisors (BOCS) to further delay the park in our Gainesville District. The County has owned the Silver Lake property for two and one half years and it is time to name an operator of the park so that it can open as soon as possible. I remain confident the Silver Lake property will be conveyed to the Prince William Park Authority for the use and enjoyment of passive recreation for our residents.

Dear Gainesville Resident,

“When is Silver Lake going to open?” This is one of the most common questions I get these days. The Board of County Supervisors (BOCS) is scheduled to consider the conveyance of Silver Lake to the Park Authority at its next meeting on June 23, 2009 during the afternoon. Given the amount of time that has passed since the County took possession of the property, I thought it might be helpful to provide a brief timeline of events.

The property known as Silver Lake was originally obtained by Prince William County as a proffer associated with the most recent rezoning of Dominion Valley Country Club. This rezoning occurred in July 2006 and the County took possession of the property in December 2006. In early 2007, the County received three proposals to utilize Silver Lake as a park. The Bull Run Mountains Conservancy, Inc. (BRMC), the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority (NVRPA), and the Prince William County Park Authority (PWCPA) submitted the three proposals. In June 2007 the BOCS adopted a competitive process and criteria for review of the proposals and public meetings were held to allow the public to comment of the individual proposals. Then in September 2007 a Staff Review Committee was formed to assess the strength of each proposal. The Staff review Committee summary report was submitted to the BOCS and found the PWCPA’s proposal to be the strongest one because of its governing structure and the fact that the PWCPA already operates numerous facilities within the County and has extensive experience. Next, the BOCS discussed all three proposals. During this discussion, some questions concerned the relationship between the proposals and the draft “Park and Open Space” chapter of the Comprehensive Plan, which was pending at the time. The BOCS decided to delay action until after its consideration of the draft “Park and Open Space” chapter. The BOCS also indicated its desire to hold a public comment session on this item.

In April 2008, the BOCS held a public hearing to consider the conveyance of the Silver Lake property. After the public hearing, the BOCS attempted two separate votes, one to convey the property to the PWCPA, and a second vote to convey the property to BRMC. Both votes failed to pass. By Board directive, senior staff was requested to meet with both the PWCPA and BRMC representatives to discuss shared use of Silver Lake. At a later meeting, I requested Nokesville Horse Society be included in this meeting. Through the summer of 2008 County staff worked with the PWCPA and the BRMC to develop a plan that allowed the shared use of Silver Lake. All suggestions were unacceptable to the BRMC. In October 2008, the BRMC withdrew its proposal for Silver Lake.

I hope that the last date in this timeline will be next Tuesday, June 23rd with the conveyance of the property to the PWCPA. The BOCS has gone through an exhaustive process to determine who would be best to operate the park. With the PWCPA being the only organization with an active proposal, I would hope that the BOCS would be able to finally take action on this issue so that the park can be opened to the public and become the amenity it is supposed to be to residents. If conveyed to the PWCPA the park would offer trails, bank fishing, picnicking and other passive recreation.

Please feel free to contact my office by phone at 703-792-6195 or by email at gainesville@pwcgov.org if you have any questions on Silver Lake or any other issue.

Sincerely,



John T. Stirrup
Supervisor Gainesville District

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Board of County Supervisors (BOCS) Meetings

The **BOCS** will hold meetings on June 23rd, July 14th and 21st and August 4th, starting at 2:00 p.m. in the Board Chambers at the McCoart Building located at 1 County Complex Court in Woodbridge. Meetings are broadcast live on Comcast Cable Channel 23, and then re-broadcast in their entirety at 7:30 p.m. on the Wednesday, Thursday and Friday following the Tuesday Board meeting and at 10 a.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. To view the current agenda, visit: [PWC - Board Of County Supervisors \(BOCS\)](#). You can also visit the County website to view video of past BOCS meetings using the following link: <http://www.pwcgov.org/MeetingRoom.aspx>.

Land Use and Transportation Town Hall Meetings

Prince William County residents are invited to provide input on the future of land use and transportation in the County at a series of meetings throughout the County. The Board of County Supervisors has scheduled a series of town hall meetings on the update of the Long-Range Land Use and Transportation chapters of the Comprehensive Plan. Residents may attend any of the Town Hall Meetings to provide input. For more information on the proposed changes, visit <http://www.pwcgov.org/PlanUpdate> Town hall meetings will be held throughout the County:

Occoquan
July 15, 2009: 7-9 p.m.
Westminster at Lake Ridge
12191 Clipper Drive
Woodbridge, VA 22192

Dumfries/Neabsco
July 23, 2009: 7 - 9 p.m.
Dr. A.J. Ferlazzo Building
15941 Donald Curtis Drive
Woodbridge, VA 22191

Coles
Sept. 17, 2009: 7-9 p.m.
Development Services Building
5 County Complex Court
Prince William, VA 22192

Brentsville
Sept. 30, 2009: 7-9 p.m.
Marstellar Middle School
14000 Sudley Manor Drive
Bristow, VA 20136

Gainesville
Sept. 23, 2009: 7:30-9 p.m.
Battlefield High School
15000 Graduation Drive
Haymarket, VA 20169

Business Community (county-wide): Oct. 5,
2009: 7-9 p.m.
James J. McCoart Admin. Building; 1 County
Complex Dr.; Woodbridge, VA 22192

Community Meeting on the Environment - June 24, 2009 at 7 p.m.

Prince William County residents, businesses, and organizations are invited to provide input on environmental policies for the County. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 24 at 7 p.m. in the Board Chambers of the James J. McCoart Administration Building at 1 County Complex Court in Prince William.

The Planning Commission is seeking comments and ideas from residents on updates to the Environment Chapter of the Comprehensive Plan. The intent of the chapter is to ensure that the County's natural beauty is preserved, streams and wetlands are protected, property values and quality of life are enhanced, and wildlife habitats are preserved. The chapter covers a range of topics, including storm water standards, impervious surfaces, tree save areas, low impact development, clearing and grading limits, streams and wetlands, sewer systems, energy conservation, land conservation and more.

Visit <http://www.pwcgov.org/envirouupdate> for details and a complete schedule of the process. Residents may offer comments by e-mailing PCFeedback@pwcgov.org. For more information, call the Planning Office at 703-792-6830.

DID YOU KNOW?

Gainesville Interchange Video

The Virginia Department of Transportation website for the Gainesville Interchange project now has video Animation of the project rendering. This is a fantastic visualization tool to better understand how the various flyovers will work.

[Gainesville Improvements](#)

Susan Roltsch has been named acting County Executive

Assistant County Executive Susan Roltsch has been named acting County Executive by the Prince William Board of County Supervisors. She will serve as the county government's chief administrative officer until the Board of County Supervisors makes a permanent appointment. In her new position, Ms. Roltsch will take on the duties of the County Executive during the search process for a permanent replacement for County Executive Craig Gerhart, who is retiring from the County to take a position with Amtrak.

Police William County Police Advisory – Telephone Scam

Prince William County Police are advising County residents of reports of a telephone scam where the caller falsely identifies himself as a Prince William County police officer and/or detective.

On June 11, 2009, a business in the Manassas area reported that a call was received where an individual identified himself as a detective with the Prince William County Police Department. The caller solicited funds for a youth drug prevention program. On June 15, 2009, a Woodbridge resident reported receiving a call from a person who identified himself as an officer with the Prince William County Police Department. The caller solicited funds for families of fallen officers.

These calls are not legitimate. The Prince William County Police Department does not solicit funds. If you receive an unsolicited call for donations, the Department encourages you to check with the organization the caller claims to represent before making a decision or a contribution. Anyone who has received this kind of call from someone claiming to be with the Prince William County Police Department is asked to contact the police non-emergency number, 703-792-6500, to report the incident. As much information as you can provide about the call, including a telephone number, will assist the police investigation into this matter.

Mosquito Spraying Begins for the Season

The Department of Public Works is beginning the spray program for the 2009 mosquito season. Typically, the County sprays all summer and into November, depending on the weather. Spraying usually ends with the first frost. Spraying occurs near dusk when mosquitoes are more active.

Residents are advised to remain indoors during the application. Trained County staff conducts the spraying from a unit mounted on the back of marked trucks. The County uses an effective pesticide that is approved by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Neighborhoods are sprayed a limited number of times throughout the season. Spraying is based on need, which is determined by citizen reports, staff surveys or health concerns. For more details about the spraying, including which neighborhood is scheduled to be sprayed when, visit www.pwcgov.org. The information is also updated daily at 703-792-4636.

Citizens can help control mosquitoes on their property by eliminating standing water and emptying containers that hold water. Be sure to change water frequently in bird baths, pet dishes and wading pools. Residents are reminded to wear protective clothing and use insect repellent containing DEET when outdoors. If you have questions or concerns, contact the Department of Public Works, Environmental Services, Gypsy Moth and Mosquito Control Branch, 4092 Merchant Plaza, Woodbridge, VA 22192, 703-792-6279.

2009 Taxi Safety and Meter Inspections are Completed; Look for New PWC Taxi Permit Decals in Left Rear Window!



Did you know that the Prince William County Police Department is tasked with conducting annual vehicle and meter inspections of all Manassas and Yellow Cabs? The 32-point vehicle inspection, and the annual meter calibration, is done to ensure the safety of taxi patrons as they use the only cabs legally allowed to pick up passengers in Prince William County. By law, only Yellow Cab, Manassas Cab, and

Washington Flyer are allowed to pick up passengers in the County. Every Manassas and Yellow Cab will have a purple decal affixed to the top left corner of the rear window of the taxi. This signifies that the vehicle has passed a thorough safety inspection. The color of these decals will change annually. If the vehicle has failed inspection, it will have a red and white sticker on it, citing the repairs that must be made before it can be re-inspected and operate legally.

If you have questions, please call the Police Department's Administrative Division at 703-7926552.

Traffic signal at Sudley Manor Drive and Rodes Drive

A new traffic signal is operational at the intersection of Sudley Manor Drive and Rodes Drive. Supervisor Stirrup would like to thank Helen Cuervo, Assistant District Administrator of the Virginia Department of Transportation, for working with his office and residents to make this traffic signal a reality.

Recent Happenings in Gainesville

Samuel L. Gravely Elementary School Dedication Ceremony



*Mrs. Gravely with Supervisor Stirrup at the Gravely Elementary dedication ceremony
June 4, 2009*

*Samuel L. Gravely, Jr. Elementary School
Haymarket, Virginia*

Gravely DDG 107, United States Navy Aegis Guided Missile Destroyer Christening



*Supervisor Stirrup presents a plaque of commendation from Prince William County to Commander Doug Kunzman
May, 16, 2009*

*Samuel L. Gravely Ship Christening Ceremony
Northrop Grumman Shipyard
Pascagoula, Mississippi*

On Saturday May 16, 2009 the Gravely DDG 107, United States Navy Aegis Guided Missile Destroyer was christened at the Northrop Grumman ship building yard in Pascagoula, Mississippi. The ship was named to honor the late Vice Admiral Samuel L. Gravely.

There were approximately 2000 people in attendance. Several Prince William area residents attended; Alma Gravely, Bart Colandene, Mary Ellen Colandene, Tony Guiffre', Cindy Hughes, Theresa Kapp, Linda Ropchock, John Stirrup and Tracy Walker. The principal of Gravely Elementary School Michele Salzano and her husband C.J. were also in attendance.

National Tourism Week May 9-17, 2009

To celebrate National Tourism Week Supervisor Stirrup visited a hotel in the Gainesville District.



*Nikul Patel, General Manager and Supervisor Stirrup
May 13, 2009
Hampton Inn, Gainesville, Virginia*

Supervisor Stirrup receives a Thank You Card from Battlefield High School Choir Students



*Pictured from left to right: Alison Choe, Supervisor Stirrup and Christie Massey
May 28, 2009*

*Battlefield High School Choir Broadway Concert
Battlefield High School
Haymarket, Virginia*

Photo courtesy of Mrs. Robin Massey

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