



# County of Fairfax, Virginia

## MEDIA ADVISORY

January 9, 2009

Media Contact: BeBe Nguyen  
Director of Communications  
703 476- 4500

[bebe.nguyen@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:bebe.nguyen@fairfaxcounty.gov)

### CONGRESSMAN HAROLD FORD, JR. TO ADDRESS 1000 RESTON YOUTH IN HONOR OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BIRTHDAY



Members of the media are cordially invited to attend this exclusive speaking engagement to kick off Reston's 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Weekend Celebration (January 17 - January 19, 2009 at the Reston Community Center.) All media interviews with Congressman Ford must be scheduled prior to the event. Please contact BeBe Nguyen at (703) 390-6145 or [bebe.nguyen@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:bebe.nguyen@fairfaxcounty.gov). This event is **NOT** open to the public and is by invitation only.

**WHEN:** Wednesday, January 14, 2009 at 1 p.m.  
(12:45 p.m. Meet & Greet)

**WHERE:** South Lakes High School - Gymnasium  
11400 South Lakes Drive, Reston, VA 20191

**WHAT:** Reston Youth Civic Engagement with  
Congressman Harold Ford, Jr.

- more -

To request this information in an alternate format, call Bebe Nguyen at 703-476-4500.

**Reston Community Center**  
2310 Colts Neck Road  
Reston, Virginia 20191  
[www.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov)



In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday, the Reston Community Center presents Mr. Harold E. Ford, Jr. to address 1000 South Lakes High School and Langston Hughes Middle School students. Mr. Ford's remarks will focus on how Dr. King's ideals impacted his life and how they translate into civic action today. His aim is to inspire teens to be engaged actively in the civic life of their community.

**WHO: Harold E. Ford Jr., Former US Representative, Chairman of the Democratic Leadership Council, NBC & MSNBC News Analyst**

**Sponsored by Reston Community Center**

**WHY:** Harold Ford, Jr. served Tennessee in the United States Congress for 10 years. Described by President Bill Clinton as "the walking, living embodiment of where America ought to go in the 21st century," Ford is now Chairman of the Democratic Leadership Council, a news analyst for NBC and MSNBC, and a visiting Professor of Public Policy at Vanderbilt University.

During his 5 terms in the Congress, Ford's focus was results. Having served on both the Financial Services and Budget Committees, his passion for free enterprise and balanced budgets and confidence in American ingenuity to overcome any foe bolsters his belief that America's best days are in front of us. The challenge and opportunity to grow America's economy, strengthen our moral stature and standing in the world, make America safer and stronger through a revolution in clean energy technologies, and modernize our military to better be able to fight the enemies of democracy and tolerance around the world continues to inspire his work today. He believes that government is most effective when it's working for the betterment of everyone.

Ford is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, where he got his B.A. in American history, and the University of Michigan Law School. Ford also serves on the Pentagon's Transformation Advisory Group (TAG), an assembly of current and former military commanders, political figures, academics and business leaders who advise the Pentagon on how to modernize our armed forces to meet and defeat 21st century threats. Ford is also an overseer on the board at the International Rescue Committee (IRC) and a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. Ford lives in Memphis and Nashville and has offices in New York and Nashville.

For more information on the weekend commemorative program, call 703-390-6145, or visit our website at [www.restoncommunitycenter.com](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com).

-more-



Reston's 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration weekend is co-sponsored by the Reston Community Center, Martin Luther King, Jr. Christian Church, Office of Fairfax County Supervisor Cathy Hudgins, Reston Community Orchestra, Reston Interfaith, the Northern Virginia Ethical Society, along with the support of many other religious and civic organizations, business groups, and schools.

### About the Reston Community Center

Each year RCC offers more than 1,800 positive, self-development experiences that enhance the quality of life for all people living and working in Reston. RCC provides a wide range of programs in arts, aquatics, enrichment and life-long learning. We also create and sustain community traditions through special events, outreach activities and facility rentals. To find the programs or events that are right for you, visit [www.restoncommunitycenter.org](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.org) or call 703-476-4500.

Photo 1: Harold Ford, Jr. with Political Science students

Photo 2: Harold Ford, Jr. with Supervisor Catherine M. Hudgins

###

Fairfax County is committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability in all county programs, services and activities. Reasonable accommodations will be provided upon request. For further information, contact the Reston Community Center at (703) 476-4500, Virginia Relay (800) 828-1120 (TTY) or visit the website at <http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com>. The Reston Community Center is located at 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston, VA 20191. The Reston Community Center is completely accessible to persons with disabilities and will provide reasonable accommodations in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

**So Close to You. So Much to Do.™**

To request this information in an alternate format, call Bebe Nguyen at 703-476-4500.

**Reston Community Center**  
2310 Colts Neck Road  
Reston, Virginia 20191  
[www.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov)

