

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Great Falls CONNECTION

Insiders
Edition
2013-2014

"We drifted eastward along Bealls Island heading for this pair of Mallards. I knew that they would take flight once we got too close so I started taking shots several yards away. All of a sudden both of them seemed to explode into the air, practically straight up, leaving a shower of water drops in their trail."

— WALT LAWRENCE

On the Potomac at Riverbend

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PHOTO BY WALT LAWRENCE

AUGUST 28 - SEPTEMBER 3, 2013

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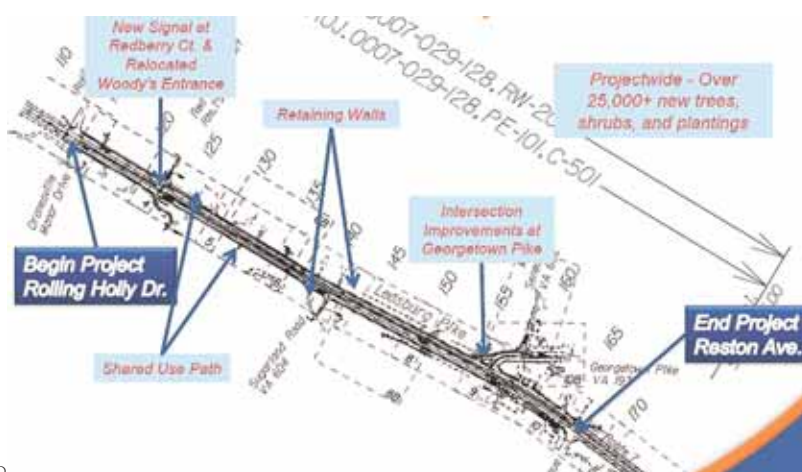
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NEWCOMERS

GREAT FALLS CONNECTION EDITOR KEMAL KURSPAHC
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The Virginia Department of Transportation's plan for the widening of a one-mile stretch of Route 7 from Rolling Holly Drive to Reston Avenue.



CONTRIBUTED

New Projects Underway In Great Falls

Upcoming projects will widen Leesburg Pike, slim Walker Road.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Residents of Great Falls will be seeing plenty of orange traffic cones over the coming months, and even years when it comes to the Route 7 widening project.

The \$37 million project commenced in May, and will widen Route 7 east of Rolling Holly Drive to Reston Avenue, a stretch of approximately one mile. It is part of an overall plan to widen Route 7 from Tysons Corner to the Loudoun County border.

Improvements will include: a new traffic signal at Redberry Court, relocation of the entrance to Woody's Golf, retaining walls added on Leesburg Pike on each side of Sugarland Road, a 10-foot wide shared use path, intersection improvements at Georgetown Pike, Seneca Drive and Leesburg Pike and the addition of more than 25,000 trees, shrubs and other plantings.

During the first phase of the project, which will run through the end of 2013, temporary pavement will be constructed along eastbound Route 7, and traffic will use that pavement for a time while the widening occurs.

The existing median at Georgetown Pike will be removed, and there will also be temporary pavement placed there.

Phase Two will run from late 2013 to fall 2014, and will include the addition of temporary traffic signals at Redberry Court and Georgetown Pike, temporary pavement along westbound Georgetown Pike and the construction of the retaining walls.

Phase Three will be from fall 2014 to summer 2015, and move westbound traffic into the new lanes, implement a detour on Sugarland Road, and see construction of new medians at the Georgetown Pike-Seneca Road intersection.

Phase Five will see a full shift to the completed lanes, median and lane widening and the addition of landscaping.

According to VDOT, construction is expected to finish by December 2015.

CLOSER TO THE CENTER of Great Falls, the section of Walker Road south of Georgetown Pike is scheduled to undergo a "diet" plan to make it easier to navigate for drivers and pedestrians. Currently there are stretches that are up to three lanes wide in one direction, but with no markings.

The diet plan will slim the road down, adding five bumpouts on the west side and three on the eastside. The bumpouts will narrow the road to three lanes, one in each direction, and one two-way turn lane in

SEE ARTS CENTER, PAGE 12

A crosswalk will be added to Walker Road between the Safeway shopping center and the Wells Fargo, part of the Walker Road "diet" project expected to begin any day.



PHOTO BY
ALEX McVEIGH/
THE CONNECTION



Sharon Bulova

PHOTO
CONTRIBUTED

Welcome to Fairfax County!

BY SHARON BULOVA
CHAIRMAN, FAIRFAX COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Hello and welcome to Fairfax County! Congratulations on finding the best place in the country to live, work, play and grow older comfortably. Fairfax County is home to a fantastic public school system, top tier businesses and some of the best parks and open spaces in the DC Metro region.

The Fairfax County Public School system is consistently ranked among the best in America. We have a new superintendent, Dr. Karen Garza, and I look forward to working with her to make our world class school system even better.

Fairfax County is also home to wonderful institutes of higher learning. Northern Virginia Community College, with campuses in Annandale and all over Northern Virginia, boasts Guaranteed Access Agreements offering an affordable path to all Virginia's highly-rated public universities. NOVA also partners with the region's high schools to offer dual enrollment opportunities, giving students a head start on their college education. George Mason University in 2012 was named the top "Up-and-Coming University" by U.S. News and World Report. Mason was just this summer recognized as a top 100 university for research by Forbes magazine.

Fairfax County is home to almost 50 corporate or U.S. headquarters of major firms, and 10 Fortune 500 company headquarters. Hilton, Volkswagen, Bechtel and Northrop Grumman have all moved their corporate or U.S. headquarters to Fairfax County since 2007.

But it's not all big business here. About 97 percent of the companies in Fairfax County are small businesses with fewer than 100 employees and less than \$1 million in annual revenue. Our business community is also diverse, boasting the largest number of foreign-owned firms in the region. Through the first six months of this year, our Economic Development Authority worked with 87 companies that will add more than 2,800 jobs to the county economy.

Fairfax County is home to more than 48,000 acres of parks and open space, and over 500 miles of hiking and biking trails. In 2010, our Park Authority won the coveted Gold Medal for Parks and Recreation from the National Recreation and Park Association and the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration.

As chairman of the Board of Supervisors, I am elected at-large by all registered voters in Fairfax County. If you have any questions or concerns, please email me at chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov or call my office at 703-324-2321. Thanks for making Fairfax County your home!

NEWCOMERS



A local photographer and friend of mine, Dean Souleles, took this image which shows Ethan and I doing our thing on the river. When you go out in a boat numerous times with the same person you begin to get to know each other. Ethan is not only an experienced guide and boat handler but I consider him a good friend. For me these times together on the river were almost like therapy sessions as they reminded me of times 60 years ago when I would go fishing with my father.



This image was taken in winter as many birds would perch along the Maryland side of the river to capture the warmth from the late afternoon sun. I found this shot to be amusing as the great blue heron could care less about the mergansers as they are madly running on the water trying to get airborne and he seems just interested in soaking up the remaining warmth from the sun.

On the Potomac at Riverbend

Whether a newcomer or an “oldcomer” like me, I urge everyone to explore Riverbend Park and the Potomac as it flows by Great Falls.

BY WALT LAWRENCE

For the past several years I have been photographing the landscapes, landmarks and wildlife of this place we call Great Falls. During this period I have been to Riverbend Park numerous times with my camera, but in May 2012 I noticed a sign near the boat rental area that listed the rates for each type of craft such as canoes, kayaks and aluminum flat-bottomed jon boats. There was also a 2-hour rate for a Fairfax County Park Authority fishing guide to include a jon boat and fishing gear. I inquired if the guide would take out someone who was trying to catch photographs rather than fish. A couple of years ago I went out in a canoe on a local pond to take pictures but I could never keep the canoe headed in the right direction while I worked with the camera. So I thought that with a guide to run the boat I could focus all of my attention on the subject/scene and my camera. Two weeks later Ethan Kuhnhenh, the Park Authority's fishing guide, and I pushed off from the Riverbend shoreline in the early morning and slowly made our way out into the river. This was my first time on the river and while the water level was low I found the flowing water to be extremely powerful. It was also foggy which made it difficult to see so our sense of hearing took over and we were treated to the sounds of water rapids coursing over and around rock formations and the calls of birds hidden by the fog.

After that first trip I realized that there was much more to experience and to photograph than what could be accomplished in a single 2-hour trip. The river seems so serene and beautiful with its collection of islands scattered all the way from Riverbend Park to the Seneca Breaks which is just about at the far western edge of the Great Falls area. Even on a calm day with no wind and a low water level the force of the moving water is deceptively strong. The real power of the river is evidenced everywhere as trees, logs and debris have been swept down the river and snagged into jumbled piles against the western edge of each island. I even saw an aluminum canoe that had literally been wrapped around a tree trunk by the force of the water. The piles of debris notwithstanding I felt that the water with a backdrop of rocks and islands provided for some very interesting seasonal landscape and waterscape images. Another attraction was the birds, as I am particularly drawn to photographing them as they take off and land. I knew the river serves as a major flyway for migrating birds so the types of birds would change during the seasons. There were also opportunities to shoot other creatures such as deer, fox and raccoon on the islands and even snakes in the water. I talked with Ethan about going out on the river in all seasons of the year and he was very willing to support the effort so long as it did not interfere with his other duties at the park. Well, we made 11 trips

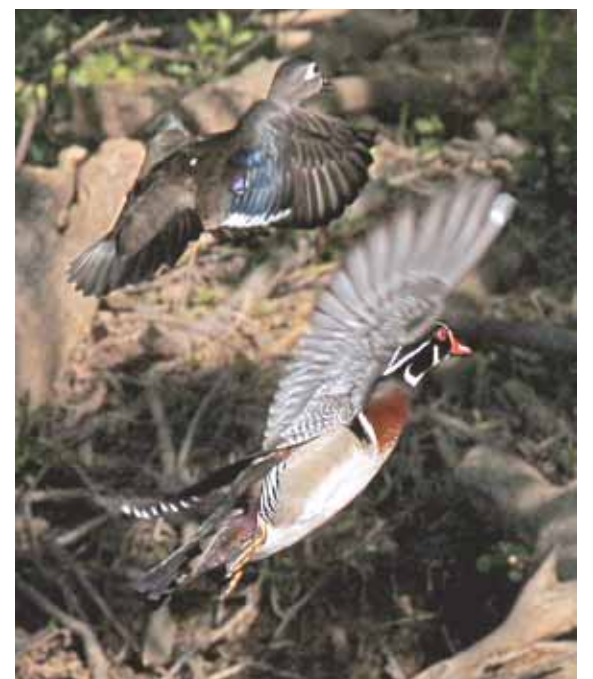
SEE EXPLORING, PAGE 18

In my 30 plus years in the area I have never seen a great egret in Great Falls so on a foggy morning in September I got my chance when we spotted about four of them on different rock outcroppings. They are truly magnificent as the early morning sun caught this one just as he was getting ready to move and I captured this pose with one leg up. These birds are the size of great blue herons yet quite skittish and just seem to spend the summer in the Potomac.



PHOTOS BY
WALT LAWRENCE

We had seen a few of these birds in flight on previous trips but in the spring we came across this pair sitting right on the water. Like the great egret they are very skittish and this was the only shot I was able to get. The males can be quite large but both the male and the female are beautifully marked.



NEWCOMERS

Obsessed With Politics? Fairfax County Welcomes You!

What newcomers need to know to be politically-savvy insiders.

By VICTORIA ROSS

THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County may be physically separated from Washington, D.C.—the ground-zero of All Things Political—but residents here are a politically-savvy bunch.

We know who Larry Sabato is—a prominent University of Virginia political analyst—and we pay attention to Not Larry Sabato—a Virginia politics blog by Ben Tribbett, a Fairfax County resident and self-described “vicious campaign insultant.” We follow our politicians on Twitter and Facebook.

We know that Fairfax County won the “water wars,” and we understand why Fairfax County parents get fired up over SLEEP and FAIRGRADE.

We know that “one and done” means our governor cannot succeed himself. And we’ve debated Virginia’s Dillon Rule, the most vilified judicial doctrine in the state, which limits the authority of local governments.

Most importantly, we vote.

Fairfax County residents go to the polls in record numbers compared to their national counterparts. During last year’s presidential election, voter turnout was 80.5 percent, significantly more than the lukewarm 53 percent of voters who turned out nationwide. In the past decade, voter turnout is trending higher in Fairfax County, while the reverse is true nationally, according to the Center for the Study of the American Electorate. By late September last year, nearly 90 percent of eligible voters, about 721,000 out of 800,000 people, had already registered to vote.

It shouldn’t come as a surprise, then, that U.S. News ranked Fairfax County as one of the top 10 Cities for Political Junkies in a 2010 study, calling the county a place “where those obsessed with political affairs live.”

Fairfax County has become much more competitive in recent years, turning reliably red and



PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

Great Falls residents prepare to cast their vote Tuesday, Nov. 6 at the Great Falls Library. During last year’s presidential election, voter turnout in Fairfax County was 80.5 percent, significantly more than the lukewarm 53 percent of voters who turned out nationwide.

blue districts into 50 shades of purple, and putting the state into play in national elections.

In 2012, pollsters predicted that Obama’s 2008 domination of Northern Virginia was a fluke. Instead, Northern Virginia (NoVa) handed Obama a historic victory with more than 60 percent of the vote, compared with 52.7 percent in “the Rest of Virginia” (RoVa).

Fairfax County residents are also more educated and well off than the country as whole—key factors that play into political participation. Prosperous, tight-knit communities are natural breeding grounds for political activity.

In 2013, Fairfax County residents are ready to cast their bal-

lots for critical statewide offices, including the triumvirate of governor, lieutenant governor and attorney general. And while our state senators get to sit this race out, the Virginia’s House of Delegates race is shaping up to be the most competitive in a decade.

According to an official candidate list released last month by the Virginia State Board of Elections, 57 House seats will be contested this November—marking only the second time in the last decade where at least half of the 100 House seats will have more than one name on the ballot.

If you’re a newcomer—and you want to be an insider—start paying attention to politics.

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FX8051316 - \$1,285,000
897 Falls Bridge Ln,
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FX8044281 - \$770,000
8728 FOXHALL TER
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FX8046045 - \$850,000
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Join us for dinner on September 9 at our next
Military Appreciation Monday (MAM)

event at The Old Brogue in Great Falls.

We will be hosting **Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund**

The Old Brogue is located at the corner of Georgetown Pike and Walker Road in Great Falls.

Call (703) 759-3309 to reserve your table at either the 5:30 or the 7:30 seating.

Bob and his co-sponsors will each make a 10% matching donation of your dinner tab!

Visit www.kwmcleangolf2013.com
to learn about this year's charity golf
tournament on October 28th at
Trump National

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NEWCOMERS

Chamber Gives Voice to Businesses

The Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce (Fairfax Chamber), the Voice of Business in Northern Virginia, represents 650 member companies with nearly 500,000 employees throughout the region. Since 1925, the chamber has been working to build a strong business community by providing unparalleled access to business development and thought leadership opportunities; professional development and mentoring; business advocacy and strategic community partnerships.

From small, entrepreneurial startups to some of the country's largest corporations—businesses have leveraged the chamber to raise their profiles, grow revenue and develop new business relationships. The chamber facilitates industry-focused councils, thought leadership groups, community partnerships and many other opportunities for its member companies to expand their networks and raise their profiles in the highly competitive Northern Virginia market.

Visit www.FairfaxChamber.org for more information about the organization, members and events.



Jim Corcoran, president & CEO, Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



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Sept. 11 Ceremony At Freedom Memorial

On Wednesday, Sept. 11, at 7 p.m., the Great Falls Freedom Memorial Committee will hold its annual 9/11 Ceremony at the site of the Freedom Memorial (behind the Great Falls Library at 9830 Georgetown Pike). This ceremony especially remembers the six citizens of the Great Falls community who died when Flight 77 crashed into the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001. The speaker will be Robert J. Zoldos, a member of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department for 20 years and currently operations deputy chief of A-Shift. On Sept. 11, 2001, he served as a Rescue Squad officer with Virginia Task Force One, responding to the attack at the Pentagon. Chief Zoldos will share his experiences and the work of his team. Members of the St. Thomas a Becket Family Choir will join us at the ceremony.

This ceremony is open to all and ample parking is available in the library parking lot. In case of rain, the ceremony will move into the library's meeting room.

A Great Falls Tradition: Dancing At the Colvin Run Community Hall

Since 1932, Great Falls' nightlife has centered around the dance hall on Colvin Run Road. Pass by most nights and you'll see silhouettes sweeping past the glowing windows.

Drop in sometime—no experience or partner is needed, and everyone is welcome.

❖When: Ballroom Dance every first Saturday of the month; other dance styles (tango, West Coast swing, lindy) throughout the month. Most dances are preceded by a lesson.

❖Where: The historic Schoolhouse at 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls, now called the Colvin Run Community Hall. Dancers have been twirling across its 1,200 square feet, sprung oak floor for 81 years.

Questions? Call Kathleen Milks at 703-759-2685, find Colvin Run on Meetup.com, or visit www.colvinrun.org.

All dances are hosted by the Colvin Run Citizens Association, a 501(c)(3) public charity. Donations are welcome.

SCHOOL NOTES

Send School Notes to greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com. The deadline for submissions is Friday.

Scholarship. The Langley High School graduate plans to study biology.

Megan Kent of Great Falls has graduated from Georgetown University with a master's in public relations and corporate communications and a 3.96 GPA. She currently works as the director of marketing, communications, and public relations at Marshall Moya Design and in Nuevo in Washington, D.C.

Christie S. Goddard of Great Falls received the National Merit Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University Scholarship. The Langley High School graduate plans to study computer science.

Praveena Mylvaganam of Great Falls received the National Merit University of Maryland

Rodney A. McLaren of McLean was one of 125 students to receive a Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Kentucky College of Medicine on Saturday, May 11 at the U.K. Singletary Center for the Arts.

Joshua D. Higbee of McLean received the National Merit Brigham Young University Scholarship. The McLean High School graduate plans to study economics.

Nicholas M. Kemp of McLean received the National Merit Northwestern University Scholarship. The George C. Marshall High School graduate plans to study music.

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THE CONNECTION

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NEWCOMERS

Every Year Is Election Year in Virginia

Northern Virginia has most two-party races on ballot.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

While the Virginia governor's race is the one getting the most attention, both nationally and in the state, Virginia's House of Delegates race is shaping up to be the most competitive in a decade.

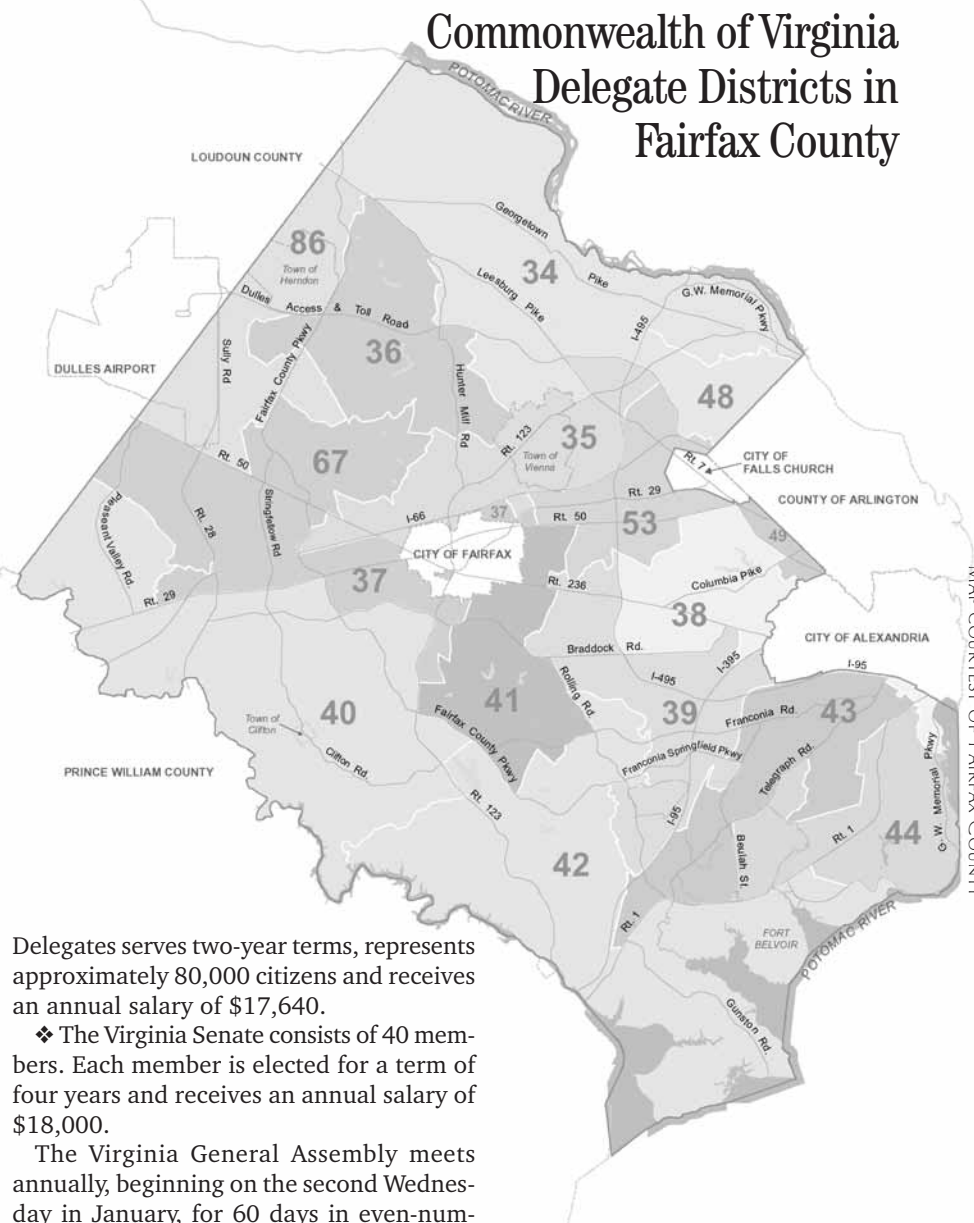
According to an official candidate list released last month by the Virginia State Board of Elections, 57 House seats will be contested this November—marking only the second time in the last decade where at least half of the 100 House seats will have more than one name on the ballot.

2013 is the second election cycle since the House Republican leadership redrew district boundaries following the 2010 Census. In 2011, voters in nearly two-thirds of the 100 House districts had no choice on the ballot.

Of the 57 contested races, 44 include races with at least one Republican and one Democrat, and most of the two-party races on the ballot will take place in Northern Virginia (see chart.)

Throughout the state, 43 of the 100 House districts are uncontested, meaning there is only a single candidate on the ballot. Delegates Ken Plum (D-36) and Charniele Herring (D-43) are the only uncontested candidates in Fairfax County.

❖ Each member of the Virginia House of



- ❖ District 40—Democrat Jerrold Foltz challenges Republican incumbent Tim Hugo.
- ❖ District 41—Republican Fredy Burgos and Independent Christopher DeCarolo challenge Democratic incumbent Eileen Filler-Corn
- ❖ District 42—Democrat Ed Deitsch challenges Republican incumbent Dave Albo
- ❖ District 53—Democrat Marcus Simon faces Brad Tidwell (R) and Anothry Tellez (L) to replace retiring Del. Jim Scott (D)
- ❖ District 67—Democrat Hung Nguyen challenges Republican incumbent Jim Lemunyon
- ❖ District 86—Democrat Jennifer Boysko challenges Republican incumbent Tom Rust

LOCAL RACES WITH ONLY THIRD-PARTY CHALLENGERS:

- ❖ District 38—Jim Leslie challenges Democratic incumbent Kaye Kory
 - ❖ District 43—Glenda Gail Parker challenges Democratic incumbent Mark Sickles
 - ❖ District 44—Joe Glean challenges Democratic incumbent Scott Surovell
 - ❖ District 45—Jeff Engle challenges Democratic incumbent Rob Krupicka
 - ❖ District 47—Laura Delhomme challenges Democratic incumbent Patrick Hope
 - ❖ District 48—Lindsey Bolton challenges Democratic incumbent Bob Brink
 - ❖ District 49—Terry Modglin challenges Democratic incumbent Alfonso Lopez
- Local Uncontested Races:
- ❖ District 36—Democratic incumbent Ken Plum
 - ❖ District 46—Democratic incumbent Charniele Herring

Fairfax County Sheriff's Special Election

Stacey Ann Kincaid (D)
www.Staceykincaid.com
Bryan A. "B.A." Wolfe (R)
(no site listed on SBE)
Christopher F. DeCarlo (I)
www.honestlyandethics.com
Robert A. Rivera (I)
(no site listed on SBE)

School Bond Referendum

On Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 5, Fairfax County voters will be asked to vote YES or NO on the \$250 million school bond question in the general election. The schools plan to use the money to:

- ❖ Build two new elementary schools, one in the Richmond Highway area and one in the Bailey's area
 - ❖ Help renovate 22 schools including 17 elementary schools, two middle schools (Thoreau and Rocky Run) and three high schools (Langley, Herndon and Oakton)
 - ❖ Buy land for the South West County High School
 - ❖ Enhance the capacity of Westbriar Elementary and South Lakes High School
 - ❖ Replace or improve infrastructure, such as roofs, major mechanical systems and parking lots.
- See <http://www.fcps.edu/news/bond13.shtml> for more details.

Key Political Sources and Websites for Fairfax County Voters

❖ For a detailed list of candidate information, including websites, go to www.voterinfo.sbe.virginia.gov/PublicSite/Public/FT2/PublicElections.aspx.

The Virginia State Board of Elections page provides a detailed list of candidates, website information available for each candidate and sample ballots. Scroll down the "Locality" bar to Fairfax County to filter the election search, or go to "Elections" and scroll down to "November General 2013."

SEE ELECTION GUIDE, PAGE 28

On the Ballot 2013

GOVERNOR

- ❖ **Terry R. McAuliffe (D)**
www.terrymcauliffe.com
- ❖ **Ken T. Cuccinelli (R)**
www.cuccinelli.com
- ❖ **Robert C. Sarvis (I)**
www.robertsarvis.com

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

- ❖ Ralph S. Northam (D)
www.northamforlg.com
- ❖ E.W. Jackson (R)
www.jacksonforlg.com

ATTORNEY GENERAL

- ❖ Mark R. Herring (R)
www.herringforag.com
- ❖ Mark D. Obenshain (R)
www.markobenshain.com

House of Delegates 2013 Elections

LOCAL RACES WITH MAJOR PARTY CHALLENGERS:

- ❖ District 34—Democrat Kathleen Murphy challenges Republican incumbent Barbara Comstock.
- ❖ District 35—Republican Leiann Leppin challenges Democratic incumbent Mark Keam
- ❖ District 37—Republican Patrice Winter challenges Democratic incumbent David Bulova
- ❖ District 39—Republican Joe Bury challenges Democratic incumbent Vivian Watts

Delegates serves two-year terms, represents approximately 80,000 citizens and receives an annual salary of \$17,640.

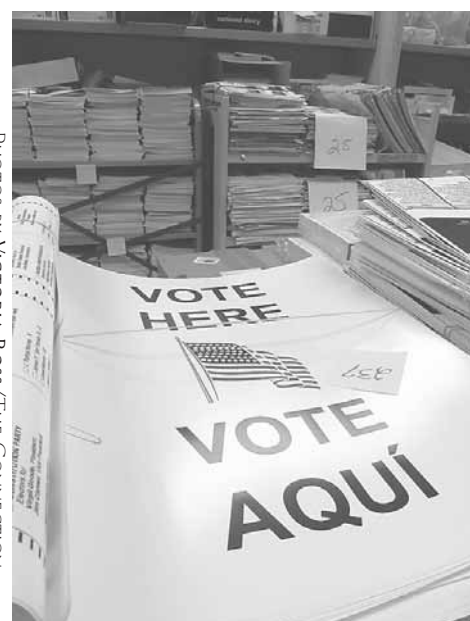
❖ The Virginia Senate consists of 40 members. Each member is elected for a term of four years and receives an annual salary of \$18,000.

The Virginia General Assembly meets annually, beginning on the second Wednesday in January, for 60 days in even-numbered years and for 30 days in odd-numbered years, with an option to extend annual sessions for a maximum of 30 days.



PHOTOS BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

In addition to the optical scan voting machines, every polling place will be equipped with WINvote "touch-screen" machines, which have been used in Fairfax County since 2003. Luke Baranyk, voting machine custodian, demonstrates the touch-screen technology.



All voter information material must now be translated into Spanish to comply with new state mandates, and signs in Spanish and English hang in all of Fairfax County's polling precincts.

OPINION

About the Connection

Newcomers and Community Guide 2013-2014

As your local, weekly newspaper, the Great Falls Connection's mission is to bring the local news you need, to gather information about the best things in and near your community, to advocate for community good, to provide a forum for dialogue on local concerns, and to celebrate and record milestones and events in community and people's lives.

Here in our Newcomers and Community Guide, we've included an expanded and updated insider's look at the parks, plus details of how to vote in the upcoming elections, information on local government, nonprofits and business organizations, plus tips and tidbits from the community.

We invite newcomers and long-time residents alike to let us know how we're doing and let us know what is going on in your part of the community. If you have questions or ideas, send us an e-mail or call us, contact us on Facebook or send us a tweet. We invite you to send letters to the editor or to send an e-mail with feedback about our coverage.

We want to know if someone in your family or your community published a book, started a business, became an Eagle Scout, raised money for a good cause, accomplished some feat like running a marathon, supporting a cause or having art included in an art show. We publish photos and notes about personal milestones and community events, including births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, awards and obituaries. We are also interested in events at your church, mosque, synagogue, community center, pool, school, club, etc. Email us a note about the event, being sure to include when and where the photo was taken

EDITORIAL

and the names of all the people who are in a photo. We also publish notes about news and events from local businesses. Notes about openings, new employees, anniversaries are welcome. It is especially important to us to let people know about events ahead of time in our calendar of events. We appreciate getting notice at least two weeks ahead of the event, and we encourage photos.

The paper you're reading, the Great Falls Connection is one of 15 papers published by the independent, locally owned Local Media Connection LLC, serving the suburbs of Metropolitan Washington in Northern Virginia and Potomac, Md.

Our flagship paper, the Alexandria Gazette Packet, is one of the oldest continuously publishing papers in the country, beginning publication in 1784.

The Connection Newspapers have won hundreds of press awards in just the past few years, including the Virginia Press Association Award for Journalistic Integrity and Community Service, and awards in news, art, business, special projects, sports, entertainment, design, photography, and much more.

We have staff and contributors here at the Connection with remarkable talent and experience, far greater than one might expect. While the last few years have brought many challenges to the newspaper business everywhere, affecting us as well, we continue to publish 15 distinct papers every week that serve their communities in distinct ways.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

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— MARY KIMM,
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@MARYKIMM

Places to Visit in Dranesville District

Supervisor John W. Foust (D-Dranesville) recommends places to see in the area.

Newcomers to Dranesville should visit our beautiful Potomac riverfront parks. Scotts Run in McLean offers fantastic hiking trails and great views of the Potomac. Riverbend Park and Great Falls National Park in Great Falls have visitor centers, great trails, spectacular river views and scenic picnic areas.

Places that I would take a newcomer to the Dranesville District:

❖ Farmers Markets in Herndon, Great Falls and McLean: Delicious fruit, vegetables, fresh baked pastries, eggs/meats, plants and flow-

ers, free gardening advice and always a neighbor or three to meet. The Park Authority operates the markets in Herndon and McLean from May to October/November.

The Great Falls Community Farmers Market operates year-round and is volunteer-run.

❖ MPAartfest: Every October, MPA converts McLean Central Park into a free, one-day festival of the arts. Vendor tents display the works of numerous juried artists, which are complemented by the exhibitions of childrens' and seniors' artwork, an Open Stu-



Foust

dio demonstration, and performances by local musicians.

❖ Great Falls Freedom Memorial: Dedicated in 2004, the memorial plaza on the library grounds honors local military personnel, firefighters, police officers, the six Great Falls residents who died in the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, and others who have given the ultimate sacrifice to defend our liberty and freedom. The service on 9/11 is extremely moving.

❖ Herndon Festival: Every spring, as it has done for 33 years, the Town of Herndon holds its 4-day festival. The event attracts over 80,000 people from the greater Washington, D.C. metropolitan area and includes live entertainment, international foods, carnival rides, arts & crafts shows and 5K and 10K runs.

consider traffic problems and education, both issues whose solutions Ms. Comstock has failed to support.

In addition, Virginia has been in the news lately for passing laws that were rejected in other Southern states as being too backward. If we are to be the forefront of

cutting edge technology, we need legislators who are not trying to pull us back into the 18th century. Barbara Comstock is not the person we need representing us right now, or in the future.

Haida McGovern
Great Falls

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Pulled Back to 18th Century

To the Editor:

I read with interest Del. Barbara Comstock's piece ["Investing in 21st Century Industries and Jobs," Connection, August 21-27, 2013]. If Ms. Comstock really wants to make Virginia a welcoming desti-

nation for new businesses, she should stop voting for socially repressive and discriminatory legislation. Tax breaks and open land are not the only factors that companies consider when deciding to make a move. Top executives also

Great Falls CONNECTION

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THE COUNTY LINE

What in the World Does a Supervisor Do, and Why Should We Care?

Local Government 101: Where the rubber meets the road.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

We see them at just about every community event. They manage a budget larger than the budgets of four states, and rule over a county with a diverse, well-educated population of more than a million people.

The 10 members of the Fairfax County Supervisors have an intense, time-consuming, insanely detailed job, one that comes with enormous power and even more responsibilities.

They impact our lives in large and small ways, allocating money and resources in ways that can propel our community forward—or cost us our first-rate status in education, livability and culture.

Yet most of us, media included, are so focused on politics at the state and national level that we overlook the decision-makers in our own backyard.

As an electorate, we put the rest of the nation to shame when we turn out in record numbers to vote in top-of-the-ticket races. But when it's time to cast a ballot for county supervisors? We collectively shrug our shoulders, providing, at best, a 35 percent show of hands.

What do they even do at the county level that's important enough for us to care about in the first place?

A fair question.

So we asked them to tell us, in 250 words or less. Below are their unedited responses.

What is a supervisor? How do you impact the lives of county residents and why should we care?

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SHARON BULOVA (D-AT-LARGE)

"Local government is where the rubber meets the road. Each year, when the Board of Supervisors approves the budget, we invest in our community's priorities. We boast a well-educated, informed and engaged community. It is critical to have Fairfax County residents at the table when we make important decisions that affect their daily life. This year we will make significant investments in transportation, thanks to new revenue approved by the General Assembly. We need our civic leaders to let us know what transportation improvements you would like to see in and around your community. We will also make critical investments in health and human services. We need to continue making progress toward our goal of ending homelessness as we know it in Fairfax County. Our economy is slowly recovering from the recession and development will begin to pick up. We will concentrate that development in areas that can support it in order to keep growing while protecting our older, stable neighborhoods. Growing our business community is key to our success and will help keep residential



From left to right: Catherine M. Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill District); Michael R. Frey (R-Sully District); John C. Cook (R-Braddock District); Gerald W. Hyland (D-Mount Vernon District); Sharon Bulova (D-chairman, at-large); Penelope A. Gross (D-Mason District, vice chairman); John W. Foust (D-Dranesville District); Jeffrey C. McKay (D-Lee District); Pat Herrity (R-Springfield District); Linda Q. Smyth (D-Providence District). Board members are elected for four-year terms. There is no legal limit to the number of terms a member can serve. Each board member, including the chairman, receives annual compensation of \$75,000 per year. For more information on the BOS, go to <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/board/about-the-board-of-supervisors.htm>.

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taxes low. We've added 2,800 jobs so far this year, and we will make sure our policies allow our local business to expand and keep Fairfax County attractive to firms looking to relocate. As a resident of Fairfax County, you have a strong voice in how your government operates. I encourage you to get involved and help shape the community you live in and keep Fairfax County the best place to live, work, play and grow older comfortably."

SUPERVISOR JEFF MCKAY (D-LEE)

"As Lee District Supervisor, constituent service is the most important thing I do. The supervisor's office is the first and sometimes the last resort. We hear from people who want a pothole filled and from those with human service needs. We hear from people asking if they need a permit to build a garage—and from those asking if their neighbor's construction has a permit. We help to resolve stormwater management problems, drainage issues, parking disputes, and many other issues—from animal control to zoning.

Land use is an important part of the Lee District supervisor's job and requires balancing the needs of property owners, neighbors, the larger community and the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

On a broader scale, I work with our state and federal government to get the best outcomes for our region and our district, for example Rail to Dulles and BRAC [Base Realignment and Closure Commission, which places, realigns and consolidates military installations in the DoD].

Local government is a balancing act walking on a thin tightrope. Virginia is a Dillon Rule state, unlike Maryland, a Home Rule state. In Virginia, counties can only enact laws and ordinances with enabling legislation from the General Assembly. Every year, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Legislative Committee (that I chair) prepares its legislative package with details of legislation that it supports or opposes. That package is presented to the General Assembly.

Public service is a 24/7 job. The rewards are in helping to shape the future of our district and our region and to making Lee District and Fairfax County a great place to live, work and raise a family.

SUPERVISOR JOHN FOUST (D-DRANESVILLE)

"As the Dranesville District supervisor, I represent the approximately 120,000 residents of the district on the board. I work with the chairman and the other eight supervisors on county policies, programs and projects for transportation, the environment, land use, health care, human services, housing, economic development and many other services that directly impact all county residents and businesses. We also formulate and approve the annual county budget (including the amount transferred to the school system), establish local tax rates, approve or reject land use proposals, and make appointments to

SEE BOARD, PAGE 35

NEWCOMERS

Arts Center Proposed at Turner Farm Park

FROM PAGE 3

the center.

"During the process, there will be driveways to the shopping centers closed, but only one at a time, so the other can be used," said Eric Knudsen, president of the Great Falls Citizens Association. "There will be no construction at night."

Other improvements that will be built will be a crosswalk that will go from the Wells Fargo Bank to the Safeway center and wider sidewalks.

"It can be a tough stretch for cars and pedestrians, because there's no markings to tell drivers where to stop to make a left turn," said Gary Beuler of Great Falls. "We like to come as a family to the events at the Village Centre, which often means parking at the Safeway and crossing Walker, and that's OK with a police crossing guard, but very dangerous any other time."

The plan is a result of a traffic calming study conducted in 1999, and the contract was awarded in late spring.

Construction on the "Walker Road Diet" is expected to start any day now, and will conclude sometime in November. Fencing is currently being put up, and pipes and other equipment has been delivered to the site.

Another major transportation project is scheduled to conclude by the end of this month, the replacement of the bridge on Beach Mill Road, which started at the beginning of the summer.

The new bridge replaces a temporary one that was installed after the original was destroyed in Sept. 2011 storms. The replacement was delayed from late 2012 to this summer in order to minimize impact on school buses.

According to Supervisor John Foust's (D-Dranesville) office, substantial completion occurred last week and following clean up of the site, the bridge will officially open Aug. 29, prior to the first day of school, which is Tuesday, Sept. 3.

The addition of a sewer line to serve the Great Falls Village Centre is a project that has been discussed in recent years. The GFCA held exploratory meetings to come up with solutions to the failing septic fields in the area, including a sewer line that



Turner Farm is the site for a proposed community arts center.

would run from an existing sewer line down Walker Road.

"We studied the possibilities and options, but in the end the business owners and other stakeholders just couldn't come to a consensus when it came to the cost of putting a sewer line in," Knudsen said.

TURNER FARM IS THE SITE of a proposed community arts center by the Great Falls Foundation for the Arts. Planning for the project began as far back as December 2011, and the foundation kicked off their fundraising in February of this year.

"We're still in the midst of starting our capital campaign, as well as meeting with the local organizations that would be affected," said Julie Casso, director of the foundation. "Turner Farm is important to many groups in this community, and our number one goal is to be able to build a center than can co-exist with all of the park's uses."

Casso said they have made changes to their original plans after getting feedback from local equestrian groups, who use Turner Farm often.

She said they have also received questions about the future of the Turner Farmhouse, which has fallen into a state of disrepair. The foundation will not have anything to do with the house, which will be a Fairfax County Park Authority issue.

INSIDERS' TIPS

What Is So Great About Living in Great Falls?

—MORGAN SASSER

Nathaniel Howe, Yale University student, 19-year resident:

"The best thing about Great Falls is the fact that we're surrounded by natural parks and trails; it's relatively undisturbed and scenic here. But at the same time, we have Washington, D.C. nearby, and good public transportation to get there. You should definitely make an effort to learn your way around and figure out the most accessible way to D.C. I also like that Great Falls has lots of public fields and athletic facilities to use. In the summer, I play pick-up soccer with my friends twice a week at the Great Falls Grange, which is a good way to unwind."



PHOTOS BY MORGAN SASSER/THE CONNECTION

Laura O'Connor, class parent at Langley High School, 15-year resident:

"It's very peaceful here, and you always run into somebody you know. People here are very giving, and if you ever need help with anything, there are always people to ask. The schools are also great, which is why most people move here. There are also lots of volunteer opportunities. You can be as involved as you want, and the more involved you are in the schools, the more positive interaction there is. Our kids were also both involved in Great Falls Little League, and it was a wonderful experience for them. Recently, when the boys' Little League team went to the Little League World Series, the Tavern was packed with people from the community to watch the game on television—there's a great sense of community."



George O'Connor, used car director at Koons Tyons Toyota, 15-year resident:

"My favorite experience here was being involved in the Little League. I coached and helped with fundraisers; most of my friends here are people that I met through that. I also think people should make an effort to get to know their neighbors, because it's easy to get isolated here, especially if you live in a less densely populated neighborhood. Find something that interests you and get involved to have interaction in the community. Everyone should also go to Concerts on the Green at Great Falls Village in the summer because it's a relaxing way to end the week."



Silvia Roman, attorney/artist, 20-year resident:

"Although Great Falls has grown and changed quite a bit since we moved here 20 years ago, it continues to have a small town feel. I believe this is a result of the people who choose to live in Great Falls and the beautiful natural setting that is the hallmark of our town. As a photographer, I love to head out to Great Falls National Park just before dawn to take photographs of the dramatic sunrise scenes. I recommend that newcomers take part in our community and experience the beauty of our natural surroundings. As a member of the Great Falls Studios, a consortium of over 100 artists living in Great Falls, I encourage artists to join this energetic and creative group."





Celebrate Great Falls Foundation

Join the Celebration !



Celebrate Great Falls is a nonprofit foundation that has become the umbrella organization for many of our town's major annual events.

Celebrate Great Falls also provides information for and about community schools, nonprofits, sports organizations and other local entities via our website and online calendar at www.CelebrateGreatFalls.org



Our Main Events

Halloween Spooktacular

Trick or Treat!

Children up to age 12 are encouraged to wear their favorite Halloween costume and enjoy trick or treating with local merchants.



Be sure to visit the Haunted House!

Concerts on The Green

Sunday Evenings during the Summer Village Centre Green at the Gazebo

Come out with your picnic baskets and chairs for an entertaining evening of live, free music.

Summer Kickoff

A whirlwind weekend of local hometown events the 1st weekend in June



Cars and Coffee

Alumni Baseball Game

Summer Concert on the Green

Annual Golf Tournament

July 4th Celebration

Join us for a real Hometown 4th of July Celebration.



Activities include a 5K Run/Walk, The Little Patriot Baby & Toddler Parade and the Main Parade through Village Centre with games & food immediately after.

Celebration of Lights

Celebrate the beginning of the season with our Annual Christmas Tree Lighting.

The petting zoo and pony rides will keep your kids busy until Mr. & Mrs. Claus arrive by fire truck.

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NEWCOMERS

Get to Know Great Falls' Non-profit Community

Celebrate Great Falls

Hosts annual events such as the Christmas Tree Lighting and a Fourth of July Parade, and raises funds for the three local elementary schools. Celebrate Great Falls is currently looking for volunteers to help with general tasks, events and marketing. 571-293-0474, www.celebrategreatfalls.org or

info@CelebrateGreatFalls.org.

Great Falls Rotary Club and Foundation

The newly founded organization has plans in the works to fund scholarships and currently is looking for volunteers to offer whatever combination of time,

talent or resources works for them. <http://www.rotarygreatfalls.org/>.

Friends of Colvin Run Mill

Friends of Colvin Run Mill is dedicated to assisting the Fairfax County Park Authority in enhancing the Colvin Run Mill Historic Site and its educational programs. The restored Colvin

Run Mill, a working example of 19th century water powered grist milling technology, serves as an educational focal point for visitors, children and families. 703-759-2771 or <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/crm/>.

Friends of the Great Falls Library

A group of book-lovers that raises

money to expand programs for children and outreach at the Great Falls Community Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike. 703-757-8560, 202-429-3806 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/gf/.

Great Falls Ecumenical Council

The Great Falls Ecumenical Council has members from all the churches in Great Falls.

The group supports Habitat for Humanity, Meals on Wheels, the Good Shepherd alliance housing for the homeless, Pedals for Progress in April, after-graduation parties for local high schools, Camp Fraser and a 5K walk/run and blood drive on July 4.

It also sponsors blood drives throughout the year.

The council hosts ecumenical worship services at Thanksgiving, on Good Friday, a sunrise service at Great Falls National Park on Easter Sunday and a January ecumenical service. 703-759-6068.

Great Falls Optimist Club

A group of men and women committed to programs that educate youth and help them expand their horizons and avoid pitfalls as they mature.

The Optimists sponsor the "Just Say No" program and an oratorical contest as well as the Adeler Jewelers Children's Festival.

They sponsor boys and girls softball and baseball teams and Operation Smile. 703-938-5858.

Great Falls Trailblazers

The Trailblazers support development and maintenance of trails, both stonedust and natural surface, in Great Falls.

They monitor development to ensure compliance with the trails designated in Fairfax County's Comprehensive Plan trails map and actively work to complete trails on Georgetown Pike and Walker Road.

They meet monthly at 7:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday, except August and December, at the Old Schoolhouse in Great Falls. 703-759-2059 or <http://www.geocities.com/greatfallstrails/>.

Great Falls Woman's Club

This diverse group makes things happen in the community and looks to residents to join in.

For the last two years, the club has raised thousands of dollars with a Casino Night Gala and fundraiser to support construction of a new fire station for professional and volunteer firefighters and paramedics in Great Falls.

While they perform community service, raise money and award women's scholarships, members of the Great Falls Woman's Club have programs that foster camaraderie within the club. Membership includes many former Great Falls Newcomers. 703-757-6234.

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NEWCOMERS

New Superintendent Relishes Opportunity

A fan of Baylor grad RG3 ... not Cowboys.

KAREN K. GARZA, PH.D.
SUPERINTENDENT, FAIRFAX COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

I am honored and humbled to be the new superintendent of Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS). I arrived here from Lubbock, Texas, where I served for the past four years as the superintendent of the Lubbock Independent School District. The opportunity to lead a world-class school system like FCPS was one that I simply could not pass up. I am so appreciative of the very warm welcome my husband, Louis, and I have received since our arrival in June.

You should know that the question I have heard most in my first few weeks on the job is: "Are you a Dallas Cowboys fan?" I can state, unequivocally, the answer to that question is "No." In fact, we are big fans of Baylor grad RG3. Our family includes four grown children and five wonderful grandchildren. One child of ours is now in his third year as an elementary school teacher and, as a former teacher myself, it has been an exciting experience to watch as he grows into the job and learns the joys and, yes, the challenges of teaching. Where I am today is due, in large part, to the many excellent and caring teachers I had along the way. I have already met



Karen K. Garza

many FCPS teachers, principals and administrators and I have been so impressed with their commitment to our students. Together, we will make a great team.

One of my first goals is to work with the school board in developing a long-range strategic plan that will incorporate input from FCPS stakeholders including parents, students, educators and community members. The strategic plan will serve as a roadmap to improve academic achievement for all of our students.

I also believe it is important that we develop a graduate profile that clearly shows what our students need to know and be able to do when they leave FCPS for college and career opportunities. We will

build upon the success of the past and, at the same time, confront our realities—achievement gaps, disparities in graduation rates among student groups and the increasing expectations for our schools while experiencing diminishing resources.

Here in Fairfax, not only do we have the talent and the expertise to solve the problems facing us in FCPS, but we are uniquely positioned to solve the most pressing issues facing public schools across the country. We want to lead the national discussion to develop new systems to measure teaching and learning. Standardized testing, while well intentioned, has gone too far and often results in narrowing the instructional focus of schools. We can develop new ways to measure how well our students are learning and how well our teachers are teaching without taking the joy out of either learning or teaching.

I plan to visit schools regularly because the best way for me to understand the needs and expectations of our school division is to talk with and listen to all of our stakeholders. The start of a new school year serves as a reminder that we have wonderful opportunities to make a difference in the lives of our students and that we are extremely fortunate to live in a community that values public education.



The Langley High School Class of 2013 celebrates graduation. New superintendent of Fairfax County Public Schools Karen K. Garza calls FCPS "a world-class school system."

I invite you to share your ideas on ways to make the Fairfax County school system the very best it can be. I believe it is critical that we at FCPS hear from you. Please take a minute and visit www.fcps.edu and click on "Advice for Superintendent Garza." I wish

you all a most enjoyable and successful school year and I look forward to meeting many of you in the days ahead.

Karen K. Garza is the new superintendent of Fairfax County Public Schools.

Langley High Band to Hold Tag Day Fundraiser

On Saturday, Sept. 7, band members from Langley High School will participate in "Tag Day" throughout neighborhoods in McLean and Great Falls. Each year, the Langley High School Band raises money through door-to-door fundraising, "tagging" neighbors for their monetary support. In return, band members are personally inviting donors to come and enjoy one or all of Langley HS Bands free concerts held in the school auditorium in the winter and spring. The concerts are scheduled for early December and late February.

The Langley Marching Band also provides music and half-time entertainment at all Langley HS Football home games (www.langleysports.org). Home games this year are Sept.

6, 12 and 27, and Oct. 11 and 25, and this year's entertainment features music from "Les Mis."

The monies raised during Tag Day help Langley Band to replace and restore concert instruments and provide specialized training.

Last year, Langley HS welcomed its new band director, Doug Martin. The band program has grown significantly with Martin and this year, Langley will have one of its largest bands in years. Tag Day is the band's biggest fundraiser, and the band is counting on the support from the community to help them achieve their fundraising goals. Please go to www.langleybands.org to donate, and see the calendar of upcoming events.



The Langley High band plans to canvas area neighborhoods via door-to-door fundraising to support the band. Expect a friendly "Tag Day" visit Saturday, Sept. 7.

NEWCOMERS

Keeping the Past

Our village, Great Falls, Virginia.

BY KATHLEEN J. MURPHY
PRESIDENT, GREAT FALLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Local history captures the story of those who have lived before us in this place, Great Falls. A birds-eye view spanning centuries of just a few local people and projects humbles, inspires and calls us to action.

***George Washington's (1732-1799) endeavor to make the Potomac River navigable**—George Washington, mentored by William Gunnell who lived here in Great Falls, surveyed the area along the Potomac River when he was just 16 years old, at Gunnell's request. What he saw shaped his vision of the potential of the river, which stayed with him for the rest of his life. A successful general in the American Revolutionary War, A Founding Father, the first president of the United States (1789-1797), he is less well-known for the land he owned in Great Falls as a potential mill seat—the land where the Colvin Run Mill sits today, or for his formation of The Patowmack Company in May 17, 1785, drawing directors and subscribers from both Virginia and Maryland, to build the Patowmack Canal, a system of canals and locks to make the Potomac River navigable. Ruins of the canal locks and Matildaville, a small village built up along the river to house the construction team, still stands today. "From 1788 to 1830 more than \$10 million worth of products and produce came through the Patowmack Canal system, but the company steadily lost money." (Source: <http://www.candocanal.org/articles/washington.html>.)

Jack and Ethel Durham, (owners and restorers of the Towlston Grange (1759), purchased in 1930), promoted the creation of the Great Falls National Park, and advocated for the restoration of the Patowmack Canal and preservation of the C&O Canal right-of-way as a national park, culminating in The Patowmack Canal Historic District being declared a National Historic Landmark in 1982, the National Park Service's highest honor. Thanks to their preservation instincts, we can marvel at George Washington's engineering mind today.

***The Georgetown & Leesburg Turnpike Co., and Falls Bridge Turnpike Co.'s Georgetown Pike (1813 to 1827) to connect suppliers with markets**—From 1813 to 1827, crews constructed the engineered roadbed of the Georgetown Pike, not for motorized vehicles, which would take until 1910 to reach Great Falls, but for horseback riders and horse-drawn carriages. No one could have imagined that hundreds of troops would be making their way along the road in the not too distant Civil War to forage for food for men and livestock and participate in the Battle of Dranesville at Georgetown Pike near Seneca Road. As the expansive dairy farms lined the road in the early 20th century just as the first motor vehicle was arriving, who would imagine that cow pastures would give way to the most affluent community in the U.S.—according to Money Magazine, August 2011?

In 1995, the Georgetown Pike was nominated, and then determined to be eligible to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Thanks to the fine work of Tanya Beauchamp, sponsored by Great Falls Heritage and others, and advocated by John Adams, Betty Cooke, Karen Washburn and others

GFHS

The Great Falls Historical Society was organized in 1977 to promote community spirit by bringing the past into the present. GFHS does this through: monthly programs on local history and people, preservation efforts, publication of historical essays, collection of artifacts and photographs, oral history interviews, genealogical research and tours and dinners at historic sites. Our website is www.gfhs.org.

over many years, the nomination was completed, submitted, and successfully listed last August 2012, 199 years later. Thanks to their preservation initiatives, what was once conceived as a way to bring more commerce through our area, will serve to bring us back in time as we appreciate the results of state-of-the-art road engineering performed 200 years ago upon a rural two-lane road.

***Addison Millard (1843-1898) & family's 51-year operation of the Colvin Run Mill (1883-1934)**—The Colvin Run Mill, situated on land previously owned by George Washington, was a state-of-the-art water-powered gristmill built circa 1811. Deemed a nationally significant example of automated technologies, the mill was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1975. It was not until 1883—three owners later—however, that an experienced miller, rather than investors, owned the mill—which made all the difference. When Addison Millard moved from Maryland to the mill with his wife and 20 children in 1883, the local community finally began to thrive.

During the glory days at the turn of the 20th century, the Colvin Run community had a post office that established Colvin Run as a town, its own school, a doctor and hospital, surrounding black smiths and millwrights, etc. Based on research by the Great Falls Historical Society's 2012 summer interns, the Virginia Department of Historic Resources has deemed that a Colvin Run Historic District is still eligible to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places—Tanya Beauchamp had submitted an earlier application in 2005. The final nomination, which is in progress, shows the rise of a vibrant small-village community and the demising impact of the industrial revolution on the community during the period of significance from 1883 to 1943. It is a tale of a community's economic platform, community institutions, daily life and local culture over approximately 60 years.

***Mark Turner's (1889-1959) dairy farming and local leadership.** After the Civil War ended, the Northern Virginia area was in despair. Over the next 20 years, dairy farming emerged as the next great economic hope. Great Falls, being close to Georgetown, built a highly successful local dairy industry over the next several decades. By 1920, however, dairy prices became depressed. Residents of Great Falls, then know as Forestville, decided to support each other rather than go it alone. A group of local dairy farmers and tradesmen decided to join the national Grange movement. Members raised funds for community projects through local fundraising, including an annual Forestville Day. From 1920 through 1929, members of the Great Falls Grange raised funds for a Grange building, which was opened in 1929 and became a thriving center of the community until the mid-1970s when dairy farms began to close.

Mark Turner—son of John Turner (1808 to 1892)

SEE INSPIRING, PAGE 33



PHOTOS BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

Georgetown Pike, the state's first scenic and historic byway, was named to the Virginia Register of Historic Places, and is up for national consideration.



Georgetown Pike, which was named Virginia's first Scenic and Historic Byway, was named to the state's Register of Historic Places in 2012.

NEWCOMERS



As spring began to breakout in late April I was drawn to the budding yellow and green colors of the trees along the river banks. This image of the white structure tucked along the dark water's edge embedded in the yellow-green of the foliage seems to have an almost painting-like quality. I have this image printed on canvas and it looks even more like a painting.

Exploring Potomac at Riverbend

FROM PAGE 4

on the river between May 2012 and June 2013 including January and February. As a result of this effort I began to develop an extensive collection of images that I call "On the Potomac at Riverbend" which has become a logical extension of my primary collection of "Images of Great Falls."

The stretch of river that I am concentrating on begins at the warning buoys west of Conn Island and extends westward to Pond Island, which is off the end of Seneca Road. This covers about 5 miles of the Potomac with several named islands and countless rock formations, some of which are visible above the water line and many that can only be found with the bottom of the boat. I realize that the river and the islands are part of Maryland and that I am stretching the geographical definition of what may be technically called Great Falls but that's for another story.

Each excursion on the river was unique, as water levels changed, the islands and wildlife provided seasonal variations and, of course, the light was always different. I discovered birds that I had never seen be-

fore, especially the migrating birds that either just rest on their way north or south and those that stay for the season. While Ethan is a professional fisherman and possesses incredible knowledge of the river he also is very skilled in spotting and identifying birds. We saw all kinds of birds but I was not always lucky or skilled enough to get good shots in every instance. While we spotted eagles, osprey, hawks and turkeys, to name a few, I was unable to capture any collectible images of these creatures. I had hoped to get some images with snow and ice but the weather was pretty mild this past winter so these are likewise scheduled for future trips. So my quest for images of Great Falls never seems to end and I look forward to making many more trips on the river to capture more of the beauty that surrounds our daily lives. I would also add that Ethan says the fishing is very good in this section of the Potomac so perhaps I may put down the camera for a while and try my hand with the rod and reel. Whether you are a newcomer to Great Falls or an "oldcomer" like me I would urge everyone to check out



PHOTOS BY WALT LAWRENCE

I was able to shoot several images in a sequence as this bird left its perch along the banks of an island. The crisp focus of the bird against the island foliage with a bit of fog still in the air provides an almost jungle or tropical like feel to the scene. This is perhaps my favorite image so far and it even was awarded an honorable mention in a local art show this past spring.



When you are sitting in a boat just 2-3 feet above the surface of the water floating by islands and underneath overhanging trees reflections seem to come at you from every direction. One morning as Ethan guided the boat around the end of one island I caught this image. I particularly like the symmetry in the positioning of the islands, the trees and their reflections all bathed in fog.

Riverbend Park and the Potomac as it flows by this place we call Great Falls. It's here in our own backyard!

I have selected but a few of the images that I have collected for this article, I hope you enjoy them. I will be exhibiting some at Katie's Coffee in Great Falls during the

month of October and the entire collection will be featured in my studio during the Great Falls Studio Tour on Oct. 19th and 20th. If you have any questions or comments about my work please feel free to email me at waltlawrence@cox.net or call at 703-757-6762.

Senior Center Welcomes New Residents

Great Falls Senior Center (GFSC) brings new focus to seniors.

The Great Falls Senior Center (GFSC) is spearheading a new program for the community's mature adults. Responding to the absence of sufficient social and educational opportunities for them, GFSC is bringing the growing senior population together with stimulating programs and activities on

wide-ranging topics that enrich their cultural, social and educational interests. GFSC is supported by public and private entities in Fairfax County and the Great Falls area. Seniors are responding with their attendance and volunteerism.



Each monthly program reflects seniors' interests and is presented by a well-known expert in the field. Local families, businesses and organizations sponsor the programs.

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

unanimously approved GFSC as a Center Without Walls in September 2012—the center doesn't have a brick-and-mortar building. But the Great Falls Ecumenical Council supports them with space for programs. GFSC also is incorporated in the State of Virginia. Both newcomers and long-time residents can benefit by their involvement in GFSC. Membership is \$10/year and provides voting rights, giving voice to the direction of the center. Interested? Contact Linda Fernald, communications chair, at linda.fernald1@verizon.net or 703-759-3721.

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Santa Claus hands out candy to children during the 5th Annual WinterFest Parade in McLean on Dec. 2, 2012.



PHOTOS BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

Gabriel Chaves, 3, sits on his father J.J.'s shoulders while waiting in line to see Santa Claus while attending the 2012 Celebration of Lights and Christmas tree Lighting ceremony in Great Falls.



Mayor M. Jane Seeman and Santa Claus light the holiday tree to kick off the 2011 Church Street Holiday Stroll and Vienna's holiday season.

A Year in Fairfax County

A sampling of some of the cherished, annual events of the county.

SEPTEMBER 2013

King Street Art Festival, Sept. 7-8, 2013
Burke Centre Festival, Sept. 7-8, 2013
Annual Workhouse Clay National Ceramics Exhibition, through Sept. 8, 2013
Reston Triathlon, Sept. 8, 2013
CCÉ Irish Folk Festival in Fairfax, Sept. 21, 2013
Clarendon Day, Sept. 28, 2013
Dulles Day Plane Pull, Sept. 14, 2013
Reston Multicultural Festival, Sept. 28, 2013
Fall for the Book Festival at GMU, Sept. 22-27, 2013
Walk to End Alzheimer's, Sept. 29, 2013

OCTOBER

Oktoberfest Reston, Oct. 11-13, 2013
Art on the Avenue Alexandria, Oct. 5, 2013
McLean Project for the Arts ArtFest, Oct. 6, 2013
Fall Festival in Old Town Historic Fairfax, Oct. 12, 2013
Potomac Country House Tour, Second Saturday-Second Sunday in Oct., 2013
Potomac Day, Third Saturday in October, 2013
Claude Moore Colonial Farm 1771 Market Fair, Oct. 19-20, 2013
Great Falls Artists Studio Tour, Oct. 19-20, 2013
Vienna Halloween Parade, Oct. 24, 2013
Volunteer Fest, Fourth Saturday in Oct., 2013
The Washington West Film Festival, Oct. 23-27, 2013

NOVEMBER

Election Day, Nov. 5, 2013
The Robinson Marketplace, Nov. 9, 2013
Joyful Noise Holiday Bazaar and Bakeshop, Third Saturday in Nov., 2013
Bull Run Festival of Lights and Winter Wonderland Holiday Village, Third Tuesday in Nov., 2013-First Saturday in Jan., 2014
Alexandria Tree Lighting, Fourth Saturday in Nov., 2013

Church Street Holiday Stroll, Fourth Wednesday in Nov., 2013
Christmas at Mount Vernon, Nov. 29, 2013
Scottish Walk, Nov. 29-30, 2013

DECEMBER

City of Fairfax Festival of Lights and Carols, Dec. 7, 2013
Great Falls Celebration of Lights, Dec. 7, 2013
Holiday Boat Parade of Lights, First Saturday in Dec., 2013

JANUARY

Bull Run Festival of Lights and Winter Wonderland Holiday Village, through the first Saturday in January, 2014
Live Music at Paradise Springs Winery, Jan. 10, 2014- Jan. 3, 2015

FEBRUARY

Community Tax Assistance Day

MARCH

Clarendon Mardi Gras Parade, March 4, 2014
"City Works" by The Art Monkeys, Second Saturday-Last Sunday in March, 2014
Chantilly Egg Hunt, Second Sunday in March-First Monday in April, 2014
Fairfax Brewfest, March 15, 2014
Herndon Bluegrass Concert Series, Third Wednesday in March, 2014
2013 National Cherry Blossom Festival, March 20-April 13, 2014
Northern Virginia Artists League 12th Anniversary, Fourth Wednesday in March, 2014
2013 National Cherry Blossom Festival Central, Last Sunday in March, 2014

APRIL

Reston Founder's Day Fest, April 5, 2014
23rd Annual Best of Reston Gala, April 10, 2014
Destination Fairfax: Annual Spotlight on the Arts Festival, Third Saturday in April-First Monday in May, 2014
Historic Garden Tour, April 26-May 3, 2014
Great Grapes Wine, Art and Food Festival, Fourth Saturday-Fourth Sunday in April, 2014
Fairfax Fine Arts Festival, Fourth Saturday-Fourth Sunday in April, 2014
Bull Run Swamp Stomp, April 19, 2014
Dinosaur Egg Hunt, April 19, 2014
Easter Puppet Show and Egg Hunt, April 19, 2014
Herndon Easter Egg Hunt, April 19, 2014
Ticonderoga Spring Easter Festival, April 19-20, 2014

MAY

Historic Garden Tour, through May 3, 2014
Herndon Festival, May 29-June 1, 2014
Relay for Life, May 17-18, 2014

JUNE

Alexandria Armenian Festival, First Saturday in June, 2014
Springfield Days: Party in the Park, First Saturday in June, 2014
Springfield Days: Cardboard Boat Regatta, First Sunday in June, 2014
Taste of Reston, Second Friday-Third Sunday in June, 2014
Crystal Screen: Blockbusters, First Monday in June-Last Monday in August, 2014
Vintage Crystal: Wine in the Water Park, Fridays in June, 2014
Lee District Nights Concert Series, First Wednesday in June-Last Wednesday in August, 2014
Celebrate Fairfax!, June 6-8, 2014
Mount Vernon Nights Concert Series at Grist Mill Park, First Friday in June-Last Saturday in August, 2014

Concert on the Green, Sundays in June-August, 2014
Clifton Wine Festival, Fourth Saturday in June, 2014

JULY

Great Falls Fourth of July Celebration, July 4, 2014
City of Fairfax Independence Day Celebration, July 4, 2014
Obon Festival, Second Saturday in July, 2014
U.S.A. and Alexandria Birthday Celebration, Second Saturday in July, 2014
Annual Workhouse Clay National Ceramics Exhibition, Last Wednesday in July through Second Sunday in Sept., 2014

AUGUST

County 4-H Fair and Frying Pan Farm Park Show at Frying Pan Farm Park, First Saturday-First Sunday in Aug., 2014
National Night Out, Aug. 5, 2014
Arlington County Fair, Aug. 6-10, 2014
Pakistan Independence Day Festival U.S.A., Third Sunday in Aug., 2014

SEPTEMBER 2014

King Street Art Festival, First Saturday-Second Sunday in Sept., 2014
Burke Centre Festival, First Saturday-Second Sunday in Sept., 2014
Reston Triathlon, Second Sunday in Sept., 2014
Dulles Day Plan Pull, Second Saturday in Sept., 2014
Fall for the Book Festival at GMU, Fourth Sunday-Fourth Friday in Sept., 2014
Clarendon Day Run, Last Saturday in Sept., 2014
Reston Multicultural Festival, Fourth Saturday in Sept., 2014
Walk to End Alzheimer's, Last Sunday in Sept., 2014

CALENDAR

Send announcements to greatfalls@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit www.connectionnewspapers.com

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 28

The Post + Jason Brown With Guest Amy Andrews. 6:30 p.m., at Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. New artists on the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan music scene, soulful folk-rock band The Post headlines with indie gospel singer/songwriter Jason Brown and his band; Ethan Schaefer and Mariah Maxwell open for special guest Amy Andrews. \$10. <https://jamminjava.com/events/august28>.

Carly Rae Jepsen and Hot Chelle Rae. 7 p.m., at Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Carly Rae Jepsen makes her Wolf Trap debut this summer, bringing her dance-pop tunes such as "Call Me Maybe" and "Good Time," along with Nashville-based foursome Hot Chelle Rae. \$30-\$42. 1-877-965-3872 or <http://www.wolftrap.org>.

THURSDAY/AUG. 29

Lyle Lovett and His Large Band. 8 p.m., at Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Texan singer/songwriter Lyle Lovett and his band fuse country music with hints of blues, gospel, and swing. \$24-\$42. 1-877-965-3872 or <http://www.wolftrap.org>.

The United States Army Field Band Jazz Ambassadors. 7:30-8:30 p.m., at Nottoway Park, 9537 Courthouse Road, Vienna. The Jazz Ambassadors—America's Big Band is the official touring big band of the United States Army. www.armyfieldband.com.

FRIDAY/AUG. 30

Lowland Hum. 7 p.m., at Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Husband and wife folk-duo from North Carolina incorporate sight, sound, smell and touch into their show using visual elements that frame the performance area, hand-bound lyric books and essential oil burners. \$10. <https://jamminjava.com/events/lowland-hum>.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 1

STS9 & Umphrey's McGee. 7 p.m., at Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Improv-rock instrumental band STS9 and progressive jam band Umphrey's McGee deliver a performance at Wolf Trap that combines electronica, funk, dub, and breakbeat. \$35-\$40. 1-877-965-3872 or <http://www.wolftrap.org>.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 7

AAUW Open House. 10:30 a.m.-noon, Oakton Public Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. The Vienna branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) will host an open house for prospective members; light refreshments provided. 703-321-7499.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 10

Great Falls Writing Group Meeting. 1-2:30 p.m., at the Great Falls Public Library in the large conference room, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. The first meeting of the Great Falls Writing Group (GFWG) joins for discussion on the daily practice of writing. Local writers and authors within the community are invited to take part in the twice-a-month meetings. 703-757-8560.

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www.mcleancenter.org

Rather sell than shop? Rent a space for \$45. Open to individuals selling household items and commercial flea market dealers.

Deadline to apply is **Thursday, Sept. 5.** This is a very popular community sale! Spaces go quickly, so please register early!

Space has been provided through the courtesy of General Assets, Inc., and the support of Giant and McLean Properties. We are grateful for their community support!

MIDDLE EASTERN FOOD FESTIVAL

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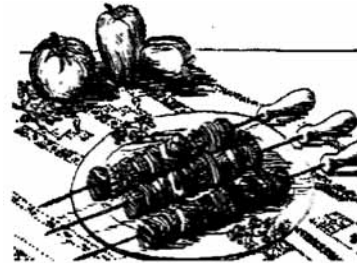
Saturday, Aug. 31, 11:00 am-11:00 pm
Sunday, Sept. 1, 12:00 noon-6:00 pm

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Roast Lamb Dinner
Sat., Aug. 31, 6-9 pm
Sun., Sept. 1, All Day

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Eyewear Gallery
Faber, Coe & Gregg Sundries
FedEx Office
Francesca's Collections
Gap
Gap Kids/Baby Gap
Greater Reston Arts Center
Hyatt Regency Reston
Jos. A. Bank Clothiers
Jouissance/Aveda
L'Occitane
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restontowncenter.com

NEWCOMERS



PHOTO BY DEAN SOULELES

Great Falls artist Ronni Jolles works in her studio, designing a piece in her signature style of layered paper collage. Jolles is one of over 40 artists who will take part this year in the annual Great Falls Art Studio Tour sponsored by Great Falls Studios, now in its 10th year.

A selection of upcoming theatre, music and art shows in and around Great Falls.

COMPILED BY CHELSEA BRYAN AND
INTERNS PARKER KOBAYASHI,
SYDNEY LO, SWETHA RAMESH
AND KRISTEN SHAW

Colvin Run Community Dance Hall

Colvin Run Community Dance Hall, 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. The historic dance hall, previously known as the Colvin Run Schoolhouse, welcomes guests for active social events. All dances are hosted by the Colvin Run Citizens Association, a 501(c)(3) public charity. 703-759-2685 or <http://www.colvinrun.org/>.

ONGOING/MONTHLY

Dancing at the Colvin Run Community Hall. Most dances are preceded by a lesson; ballroom dance is on the first Saturday of each month; other dance styles such as tango, West Coast swing, and lindy, occur throughout the month.

Great Falls Foundation for the Arts

Great Falls Foundation for the Arts Gallery, 1144 Walker Road, Great Falls. The Great Falls Foundation for the Arts offers art workshops and an impressive art gallery. <http://www.greatfallsart.org/>.

Great Falls Studios

Village Green Day School, 790 Walker Road, Great Falls; The Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls; Starbucks Coffee, 9863 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls; Katie's Coffee House, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls; Artist's Atelier, 1144 Walker Road, Great Falls; Seneca Hill Animal Hospital, Resort, and Spa, 11415 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls.

Great Falls Studios promotes the work of local artists throughout the community. www.greatfallsstudios.com/.

SATURDAY/OCT. 5

Great Falls Studios 10th Anniversary Celebration. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., The Great Falls Library. A celebration of the 10th Anniversary of Great Falls Studios at a special all-day event and exhibition; refreshments available.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 19-20

Great Falls 10th Annual Studio Tour. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The artists of Great Falls Studios open their studios to the public to demonstrate their techniques and exhibit their latest work.

ONGOING

Starbucks Coffee: Revolving Student Art Exhibition. Starbucks Coffee. Exhibition of art by students of Colvin Run Elementary School, Forestville Elementary School, and Great Falls Elementary School.

ONGOING

Katie's Coffee House: Revolving Art Exhibition. Katie's Coffee House. Exhibition of art by one or more members of Great Falls Studios.

ONGOING

Great Falls Foundation for the Arts "Atelier": Revolving Art Exhibition. Artist's Atelier. Constantly changing art exhibition by 14 painters in a loft studio.

ONGOING

Seneca Hill Animal Hospital: Revolving Art Exhibition. Seneca Hill Animal Hospital. Exhibition of art by one or more members of Great Falls Studios.

Adrienne's Art Studio on the Green

Art Studio On the Green, 756 Walker Road, Great Falls. Adrienne's Art Studio on the Green in Great Falls offers art workshops and lessons for locals. artstudioonthegreen.com/.

SEE ARTS, PAGE 25

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

A YEAR OF THE ARTS

FROM PAGE 24

The Artist's Atelier

The Artist's Atelier, 1144 Walker Road, Suites D&G, Great Falls. The Artist's Atelier is a working studio that holds the work of Great Falls' talented artists. <http://theartistsatelier.wordpress.com/about>.

Dynamite Performing Arts

Paula S Fantasy Theatre, 1087 Man-

ning St., Great Falls. Dynamite Performing Arts brings dance and entertainment to residents of Great Falls. 703-759-3972.

The School of Theatrical Dance

The School of Theatrical Dance, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls.

The School of Theatrical Dance in Great Falls showcases dances in ballet and tap, as well as offering exercises like aerobics and Zumba. 571-732-3744 or www.theatricaldance.com/.

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra, 3905 Railroad Ave., Fairfax.

The Fairfax Symphony Orchestra aims to present orchestral music to the audiences of Northern Virginia. 703-563-1990 or www.fairfaxsymphony.org/.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 21

Ricardo Morales, Clarinet. 8 p.m. The principal clarinetist of the Philadelphia orchestra performs Beethoven's "Symphony No. 7" and

Copland's "Music for the Theatre" and "Clarinet Concerto." Price to be determined.

SATURDAY/OCT. 26

Tony Arnold, Soprano. 8 p.m. The award-winning soprano presents Haydn's "Symphony No. 60, 'Il Distratto,'" Stravinsky's "Pulcinella Suite," and the world premiere of Theofanidis's "Ordo Virtutem." Price to be determined.

SATURDAY/NOV. 16

Carrie Koffman, Saxophone. 8 p.m. The internationally renowned saxophonist performs Grieg's "Peer

Gynt: Suite No. 1," Larry Alan Smith's "Concerto for Soprano Saxophone and Strings," and Rachmaninov's "Symphonic Dances." Price to be determined.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/JAN. 18-19, 2014

William Hite, Tenor. 8 p.m. on Jan. 18, 2 p.m. on Jan. 19. The nationally recognized performer presents Elgar's "Serenade for Strings," Britten's "Serenade for Tenor, Horn, and Strings," Shostakovich's "Chamber Symphony in C Minor," and Britten's "Simple Symphony." Price to be determined.

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NEWCOMERS

Great Falls Community Farmers Market: Treasuring Heritage, Home and Habitat

BY KATHLEEN MURPHY
MARKET MANAGER

Our local community farmers market has been growing steadily all spring and summer, with more produce vendors, both local and organic; more local farmers bearing meats, fish, cheeses, artisan soaps, etc.; more micro-local vendors who have launched their own businesses to bring their unique offerings to our community; and the Great Falls Historical Society, offering information, membership, publications and programs on local history.

In the fall, a community tent will be added and more non-profits will be making their information available to the community on a weekly basis.

As the reality of our local farmers market has unfolded since its inception in April 2007—a concept that originally emerged in focus groups and our Great Falls 2020 Vision Survey conducted in 2007—its meaning and possibilities have evolved.

The tagline created in a community brainstorm after the survey in 2008, “Great Falls, Treasuring Heritage, Home & Habitat” has been dusted off and applied to the farmers market over the last year, providing an umbrella of purpose...

Treasuring—valuing, cherishing, protecting, caring for—used as a counterpoint to “wealth,” often used disparagingly when people refer to Great Falls. We value our local community and work toward a common good.

Heritage points to our roots in a rural, agricultural community—milling, dairy farming—and ties to that past: preserving our village’s semi-rural character. Preserving a rural heritage calls for preserving authentic seeds, growing healthy crops, feeding and caring for animals with dignity, protecting honeybees, honoring crafts handed down from generation to generation—being loyal to a connection to the past.

Home captures our village of families—not a collection of mega-mansions.

A town becomes a village when there is love, commitment, coaching, mentoring, guidance, including all residents—young and old, healthy and ill, successful and struggling—active concern, tangible support, acting as neighbor within a village family. Making time on a Saturday morning to



PHOTO BY ARCHIE BROWN

Neighborhood conversations abound at the Great Falls Farmers Market.



PHOTO BY KATHLEEN MURPHY

Great Falls IT experts buy local Great Falls-made artisan soaps from their colleague Keyvan Moussavi, whose wife Sarah Wehri owns Amalthea Ridge and handcrafts all of their products.

walk the farmers-market circle, greeting each other, is one expression of a willingness to participate in a community family.

Habitat speaks to a healthy ecosystem for our families and our wildlife neighbors—ensuring that food and water are pure, that there are protected undisturbed spaces to raise our young, refraining from using pesticides on our lawns in deference to the honeybee, using gentle soaps to go easy on our sep-

tic systems, composting to minimize waste, gathering rain water or building rain gardens to protect our land from erosion, planting a garden to appreciate the profound abundance of nature.

Saturday, that special time when neighbors gather: Beholding the fruits of our local farmers’ labor, appreciating artisan’s creations, greeting each other, enjoying community, honoring local. Come enjoy the music and walk the circle...

CHAMBERS

Find a comprehensive online listing of county business resources at <http://www.fairfaxcountyped.org/business-resources>. Below are Great Falls area chambers and business associations, in no particular order.

GREAT FALLS BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

Advances community welfare by encouraging ethical business and professional practices. Supports patronage of local retail and professional services. Supports Celebrate Great Falls Day, the Great Falls Freedom Memorial and other community developments and events. 703-759-3011, 703-759-4155 or greatfallsbpa.com.

GREAT FALLS CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

A non-partisan community political advocate to promote of community interest and seeking to preserve the historic, low density, semi-rural character of Great Falls and its natural resources. <http://gfca.org/>.

US LEBANESE CHAMBER

A privately held business association founded in 2010 offering networking and resources to Lebanese Americans. 703-761-4949.

AFGHAN AMERICAN CHAMBER

AACC provides resources to members to stimulate U.S.-Afghanistan business and investment. AACC also encourages economic policies that result in increased business and investment between the U.S. and Afghanistan. 703-442-5005 or <http://www.a-acc.org/>.

THE VIRGINIA HISPANIC CHAMBER

Based out of Vienna, the chamber offers business education and information to the Hispanic community. <https://www.vahcc.com/>.

PAKISTAN AMERICAN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION, INC.

PABA is a non-profit, bilateral trade association that promotes business opportunities between Pakistan and the United States of America, and nurtures leadership skills within the Pakistani American business community. 703-627-1500 or <http://www.pabausa.org/>

NORTHERN VIRGINIA BLACK CHAMBER

The Alexandria-based organization provides resources to black-owned businesses in Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William counties. <http://www.novabcc.org/>.

ASIAN AMERICAN CHAMBER

Located in Tysons, it offers programs to Asian and Pacific business communities in the region. <http://www.asian-americanchamber.org/>.

Great Falls

747 Ellsworth Ave, Great Falls, VA 22066

\$779,000



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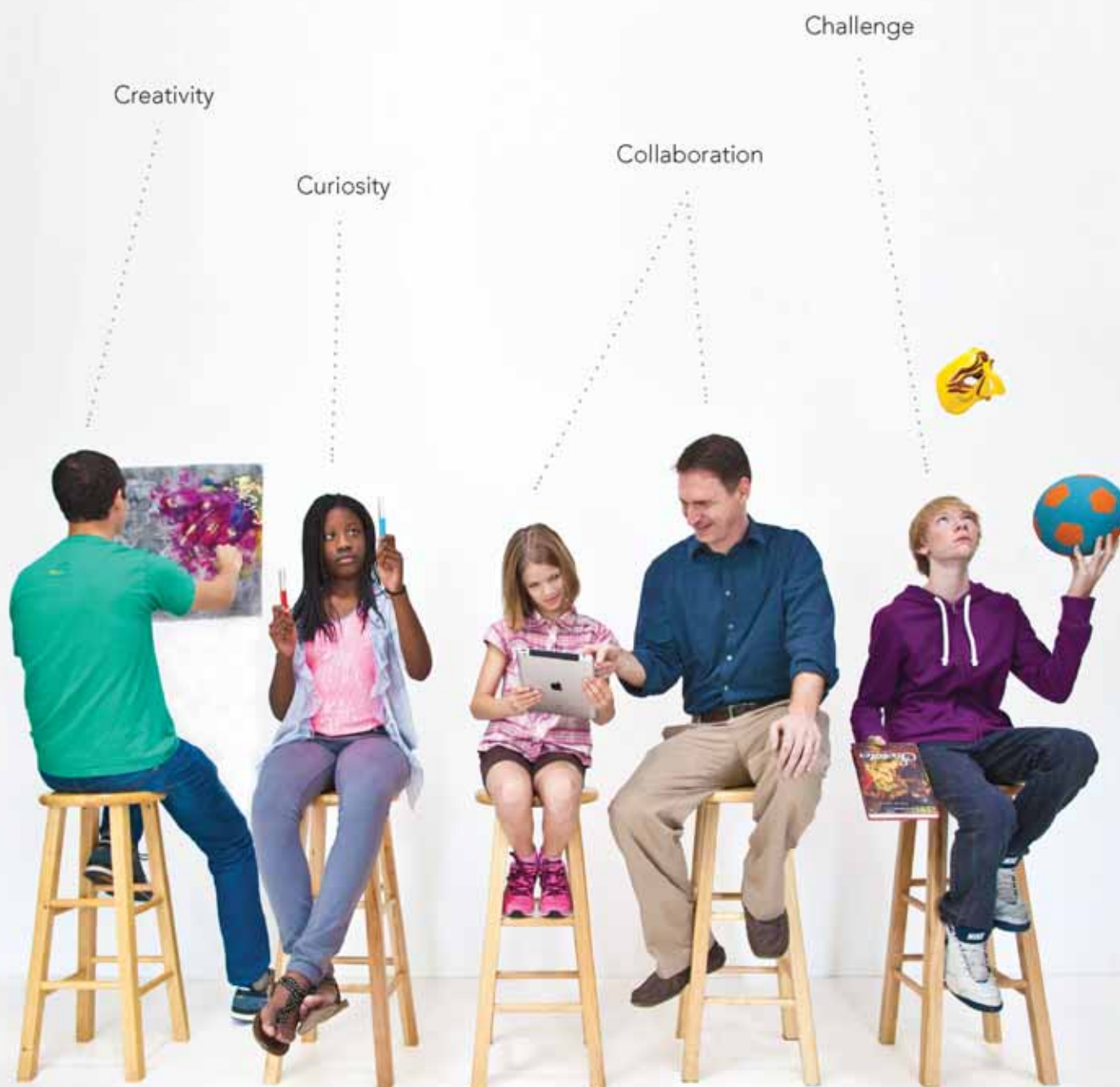
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For more information contact andygo.hall@fairfaxcounty.gov or check our website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/homeless.

NEWCOMERS

Election Guide

FROM PAGE 8

❖ For more information on the state legislature, go to virginiageneralassembly.gov.

❖ Voters with any questions about voting this Election Day can visit two comprehensive websites for answers: The Virginia State Board of Elections website at www.sbe.virginia.gov and The Fairfax County Office of Elections website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/voterinfo.

❖ If you don't find the information you need at the websites, call the Office of Elections at 703-222-0776.

❖ Fairfax now has a free smartphone mobile app to check your registration and other voting information. Download the free app by searching Fairfax County Government at the App Store (coming soon to Android Market) or go to <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news/mobile/>. Once you download the app, look for the "VOTE" icon.

Following are links to other sites election officials suggest voters check out before Election Day:

❖ Map Information: this site shows the 2011 adopted districts, precincts, boundary changes and polling place changes in Fairfax County. (Scroll down to find the maps.) <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb/1precinctchangesadopted7262011.pdf>.

❖ Voting Precincts: this site gives information on an individual's voting precincts on Fairfax County's website "My Neighborhood" pages at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gisapps/myneighborhood/>.

❖ Voter Information, Directions to Polling Places: this State Board of Elections website has information useful now and for future elections. <https://www.voterinfo.sbe.virginia.gov/PublicSite/Public/FT2/PublicLookup.aspx?Link=Registration>.

How to Register

Eligible voters in Fairfax County must be 18 years of age, current U.S. citizens and live within the county. Applications to register to vote by mail can be found at the Department of Motor Vehicles, public libraries, military recruitment offices, public assistance agency offices, government centers, Board of Supervisors offices, the citizen information desk at the Fairfax County Government Center lobby or at the Judicial Center information desk.

❖ To check if your registration is correct, go online at www.sbe.virginia.gov/register, or call the Office of Elections at 703-222-0776.

❖ If you are not registered, or need to update your registration, complete a Virginia Voter Registration Application, which you can download at <http://www.sbe.virginia.gov>, or call 703-222-0776.

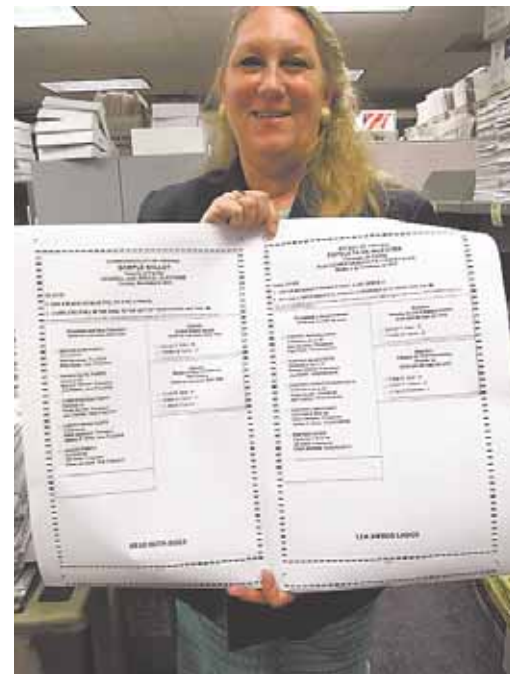


PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Cameron Quinn, Fairfax County's chief elections official, holds up a sample ballot in the county's office of elections.

Absentee Voting

Virginia does not have "no excuse" absentee voting. If you want to complete a Virginia Absentee Ballot Application, download from www.SBE.Virginia.gov, or call 703-222-0776. The application must be mailed or faxed to the Fairfax County General Registrar's Office. The office is located at 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 323, Fairfax. The registrar's fax number is 703-324-3725.

Virginia does offer in-person absentee voting. See www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb for details.

Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 5.

❖ Polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

❖ Voter Identification: When you arrive at your polling place, a voting official will verify that your name is on the registration list. Voters will be asked to present one valid form of identification. It can be any of the following:

- ❖ Virginia voter registration card
- ❖ Valid Virginia driver's license
- ❖ Military ID
- ❖ Any Federal, Virginia state or local government-issued ID
- ❖ Employer issued photo ID card
- ❖ Concealed handgun permit
- ❖ Valid student ID issued by any institution of higher education located in the Commonwealth of Virginia
- ❖ Current utility bill, bank statement, government check or paycheck indicating the name and address of the voter
- ❖ Social Security card (does not satisfy special federal ID requirements)

A voter who does not bring an acceptable ID to the polls will be offered a provisional ballot.

Important: Virginia's existing voter ID requirements will change in July, 2014. A law requiring photo identification at the polls was signed into law in May of 2013. This new photo identification requirement will not take effect until July 1, 2014. The current law allows for the acceptance of all identification documents listed above.

NEWCOMERS

Silver Line Brings New Opportunities

Metrorail line aims to connect Washington, D.C. with Dulles Airport by 2018.

BY ALEX McVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

When the first trains of Metro's Silver Line start carrying passengers, around February 2014, it will mark a new era for Northern Virginia, particularly the northern part of Fairfax County. By 2018, riders from Ashburn, Sterling, Herndon, Reston and McLean will have access to Dulles Airport and Washington, D.C. via the Silver Line.

In June 1996, the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation conducted a study that concluded that a rail located in the median of the Dulles International Airport Access Highway would provide the best opportunity to move people along the corridor and decrease traffic congestion.

The Dulles Transit Partners, a group of companies that would eventually serve as the design and build contractors for Phase One, was formed in October 2000.

In June 2004, the Department of Rail and Public Transportation signed the first comprehensive agreement with Dulles Transit Partners and construction broke ground in March 2009.

The Silver Line is being rolled out in two phases, the first of which is expected to be completed around February of next year.

THE 11.6-MILE PHASE ONE begins as an offshoot from the East Falls Church Orange Line Station and continues to Wiehle Avenue in Reston, with four Tysons Corner stations in between.

Construction on Phase One is 96 percent complete. Originally slated for a late 2013 opening, a delay was announced last month by MWAA.

"We are still anticipating a November construction completion date for Phase One. This is in line with the two-month delay previously announced," said Marcia McAllister, communications manager for Dulles Metrorail. "We are continuing to work with our Phase One contractor, Dulles Transit Partners, and with WMATA to complete this project as quickly as possible. However, we will not sacrifice safety and quality. All of us share the goal of providing the safest, highest quality project."

Once construction is complete, MWAA will hand the project over to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, who will perform additional testing and give a more concrete opening date.

The opening for passenger service is now estimated for February 2014.

As of May 31, total expenditures on Phase One has been \$2.454 billion, and the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority



Tracks weave through Tysons Corner along Route 123. Cranes are working on the office, residential and hotel buildings under construction at Tysons Corner Center.

PHOTOS BY CHUCK SAMUELSON/DULLES CORRIDOR METRORAIL PROJECT



Nighttime testing along the Silver Line: Eastbound train leaving the Wiehle-Reston East Metrorail Station.

estimates a total cost of \$2.905 billion at completion, a number that includes a contingency reserve.

Phase Two will take the Silver Line all the way to Ashburn, with stops at Reston Parkway, Herndon, Innovation Center in Sterling, Dulles International Airport and it will conclude with two stations in Ashburn, one at Route 606 (Old Ox Road) and one at Route 772 (Ashburn Road).

MWAA received five bids for Phase Two construction in April and awarded the contract to Capital Rail Constructors, a joint venture between Clark Construction Group and Kiewit Infrastructure South, who bid \$1.177 billion.

Pat Nowakowski, executive director of the Dulles Corridor Metrorail project, said he was "very encouraged" by the bid from Capital Rail Constructors.

"The winning proposal is well below our original estimates of \$1.4 billion to \$1.6 billion for this portion of the project, which hopefully will allow us to pass on additional

savings to users of the Dulles Toll Road," he said.

On July 9, MWAA issued an official Notice to Proceed to Capital Rail Constructors, which officially initiates the contract for the construction of the six stations, 11.4 miles of track, guide ways and other components.

MWAA President and CEO Jack Potter called the Notice to Proceed an important milestone.

"This means crews will soon be in the field surveying, performing site preparations and making geological assessments when they finalize permits and other design work," he said. "Actual construction using heavy equipment and cranes will likely begin in spring of 2014."

The project also includes construction of a new rail yard on Dulles Airport property, as well as improvements to the existing yard at the West Falls Church station.

According to MWAA, the notice sets a construction completion period of 60 months, meaning July 2018 is the target

completion date.

Both phases of the project were originally budgeted for a total cost of \$5.25 billion, current estimates put the cost at around \$5.6 billion.

According to the funding agreement, Fairfax County will contribute 16.1 percent of costs, Loudoun County will contribute 4.8 percent and MWAA will contribute 4.1 percent. Those amounts are fixed by percent of the total costs.

The remaining costs, save for additional funding from state and federal sources, will be paid for by users of the Dulles Toll Road.

WITH SUCH AN INVESTMENT of time and money, Fairfax County is hoping to reap economic rewards from the Silver Line for years to come. Gerald Gordon, president and CEO of the Fairfax Economic Development Authority, says the Silver Line will be a major business catalyst for the region.

"Companies want to be able to get from Washington, D.C. to Dulles Airport the easiest way possible, which is what the Silver Line allows. For example, Intelsat [which announced last December that they would move their headquarters to Tysons Corner in 2014] said they came specifically to take advantage of Metro opportunities," he said. "The companies we're attracting aren't manufacturers, they don't require access to things like raw materials, they need access to ideas, concepts and creativity, and those are the kinds of things that can have a snowball effect on a workforce."

Gordon said that the county currently has about a 17 percent vacancy rate when it comes to office space. Plenty of new office space is under construction in Tysons Corner, with further development to come along the Dulles Toll Road as Phase Two progresses.

"With that kind of rate, you usually wouldn't see a lot of speculative building, but we've got it, especially in Tysons," he said. "There is going to be a challenge to fill existing spaces, but that's where we'll see a ripple effect from the big companies moving into the new space, an effect that will hopefully lead to small businesses marketing federally acquired skills that want to build around, and moving into contracting and subcontracting."

With such an emphasis on technology in the county, particularly in Tysons and the Dulles Corridor, Gordon says he has high hopes for the future of the region's tech business.

"Our new buildings are in high demand from many businesses. We're going to see a lot of world-class technology, cyber IT and biomedical companies coming, they're the future of the economy in this area," Gordon said. "There's a real opportunity for this county and region to become a leader in things like personalized medicine and life sciences. Those kinds of businesses, which rely on a technological approach to medicine, are in the market for an IT workforce, which is an area that this county dominates."

NEWCOMERS

Great Falls Non-profits

FROM PAGE 14

Friends and Newcomers Of Great Falls

Newcomers of Great Falls helps new residents of Great Falls and its school district meet each other and assimilate into the community. The nonprofit organization offers more than 300 members a variety of activities and programs along with opportunities for leadership, community service and support to local charitable and civic organizations. The Newcomers provide financial support for such community charities as Camp Fraser, Lift Me Up and the Great Falls Volunteer Fire Department. 703-757-7962 or <http://www.gffnva.org/>.

The Turner Farm Team

A group of community volunteers who raise money and public support for a public park that was once a dairy farm at Georgetown Pike and Springvale Road. The Turner Farm team is a liaison with the Fairfax County Park Authority and supports community efforts to build a picnic pavilion, a tot lot, equestrian features and an astronomy observatory at The Turner Farm. 703-406-2487 or e-

mailmamacow@cox.net.

Traveling Players Ensemble

Traveling Players Ensemble is a not-for-profit professional theatre company in the Washington, D.C. area, dedicated to bringing great theatre into the great outdoors through a thriving summer camp and year-round acting classes and workshops. Volunteer opportunities include working in the office, assisting with costume and set construction and helping with special events. 703-987-1712 or <http://www.travelingplayers.org/about/mis-sion/>.

Great Falls Senior Center

Hosts monthly events for local seniors at churches and public buildings. 703-404-1117 or visit <http://www.gfseniors.org/>.

SHARE of McLean

SoM seeks donations of grocery gift cards and more. Checks and gift cards can be sent to: Holiday Celebration, Share, Inc. PO Box 210, McLean, VA 22101. 703-284-2179. www.SHAREofMcLean.org.

BULLETIN BOARD

To have community events listed in the Connection, send to mclean@connectionnewspapers.com. The deadline for submissions is the Friday prior to publication.

WEDNESDAY/AUG. 28

Music and Memory Program Fundraiser. 5-10 p.m. Merrifield Silver Diner, 8150 Porter Road, Falls Church. The Silver Diner will donate a portion of the night's proceeds to the center's effective program uses music to help those with Alzheimer's. www.alzheimersfdc.org.

THURSDAY/AUG. 29

American Red Cross Blood Drive. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Cordial Partners, 8229 Boone Blvd., Vienna. The organization's Greater Chesapeake and Potomac Blood Services Region is taking blood donations. Schedule a donation appointment at 1-800-733-2767 or redcrossblood.org.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 3

Life Line Screening. By appointment, at Sharon Masonic Lodge, Suite 327, 999 Balls Hill Road, McLean. Minimally Invasive Vascular Centers sponsors a screening for McLean area residents to reduce their risk of having a stroke or bone fracture; screenings take 60-90 minutes and are noninvasive and painless. \$159. 1-877-237-1287 or www.lifelinescreening.com.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 7

McLean Community Flea Market. 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 1420 Beverly Road, McLean. Recycle old items and purchase new ones. Vendor spaces are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis for \$45; register using the form on the inside back cover of the program guide or online at www.mcleancenter.org Sept. 5.

Household Hazardous Waste Disposal. 9 a.m.-2 p.m., McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. The Fairfax County HHW Program accepts and discards or recycles hazardous materials from Fairfax County residents according to all legal regulations. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/trash/disphhw.htm>.

Vienna Woman's Club Open House. 1-4 p.m., at Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. The service and civic organization supporting the Vienna community for more than 58 years holds a membership drive at the library to welcome newcomers. www.viennawomansclub.org.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 12

Public Meeting: Spring Hill RECenter. 7-9 p.m. Spring Hill Elementary School Cafeteria, 8201 Lewinsville Road, McLean. Supervisor John Foust and the Fairfax County Park Authority review plans to renovate and expand the RECenter. 703-356-0551 or Jane.Edmonson@FairfaxCounty.gov.

FAITH NOTES

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community. Send to vienna@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday.

St. Francis Episcopal Church, 9220 Georgetown Pike in Great Falls, offers musical, educational, outreach and fellowship ministries in addition to worship services, including a 7:45 a.m. worship service without music; 9 a.m. worship service, children's chapel and children's choirs; 10 a.m. Sunday school and adult forum; and 11 a.m. worship service with adult choir. 703-759-2082.

The summer worship service schedule July 14-Sept. 1 at **Redeemer Lutheran Church,** 1545 Chain Bridge Road, McLean is a 9 a.m. contemporary service and a 10:30 a.m. traditional worship service.

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax, 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton, offers the Religious Exploration (RE) program for all children, from pre-K toddlers through high school seniors, emphasizing exploration of all religious traditions while developing a personal spiritual path. The RE program offers classes on Saturday afternoons and Sunday mornings. 703-281-4230.

Trinity United Methodist Church, 1205 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean. Sunday worship services are at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for adults is at 9:30 a.m. and for children during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Youth Group for grades 7-12 meets Sundays at 6 p.m. A 20-minute service of Holy Communion is held each Wednesday at noon. 703-356-3312 or umtrinity.org.

The Jewish Social Services Agency (JSSA) offers a wide variety of support groups for those with emotional, social and physical challenges. www.jssa.org/growth-learning.

HAVEN of Northern Virginia offers a variety of free bereavement support groups, meeting on a weekly basis. 703-941-7000 or www.havenofnova.org.

McLean Bible Church Fitness Class at Body & Soul Fitness. Gain balance, energy and strength at 9:45 a.m. Mondays and Fridays. Free childcare for registered students. bodyandsoul@mcleanbible.org.

St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church, 1830 Kirby Road in McLean, holds a third Sunday service every month at 10:15 a.m. which allows children to play active roles in the music and as greeters and ushers. Traditional services are every Sunday at 8:15 and 10:15 a.m.

Vienna Christian Healing Rooms are open, every Saturday, 1-5 p.m., at 8200 Bell Lane. A team of Christians is available to anyone requesting prayer. Free and open to the public. 703-698-9779 or www.viennachristianhealingrooms.com.

Chesterbrook United Methodist Church is at 1711 Kirby Road, McLean. Worship service is at 11 a.m. Sunday school is at 9:30 a.m. for adults and children. 703-356-7100 or www.ChesterbrookUMC.org.

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Fellowship Baptist Church ... 703-385-8516
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The Light Mission Church ... 703-757-0877
Vienna Baptist Church ... 703-281-4400
New Union Baptist Church... 703-281-2556
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Oakton Church of the Brethren ... 703-281-4411
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Our Lady of Good Counsel ... 703-938-2828
St. Athanasius Catholic Church ... 703-759-4555
St. Mark's Catholic Church ... 703-281-9100
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New Song Church ... 703-698-9777
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Disciples of Christ
Antioch Christian Church ... 703-938-6753
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Church of the Holy Comforter ... 703-938-6521
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Jehovah's Witnesses ... 703-759-1579
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Emmanuel Lutheran Church ... 703-938-2119
Christ The King Lutheran Church ... 703-759-6068
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Congregation of Fairfax ... 703-281-4230
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From Weak to Week

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



Eight days and seven nights. Not exactly the vacation I was planning. Nevertheless, admitted to the hospital on Friday, August 2nd. Discharged on Friday, August 9th: that was my hospital "stay-cation." Though I definitely improved as the post-surgical week went on, the process itself – specifically, nearly four days in S.I.C.U. (Surgical Intensive Care) with round-the-clock monitoring, nursing and doctoring – was hardly restful. In fact, if you read the following prose, you'll presumably develop an understanding of the cons.

Sleep in the S.I.C.U. is not next to impossible, it is impossible. Though the room is private (there are no other patients sharing your space), the overall environment is public; as the nurse told me, they need to be able to see their patients at all times, just in case something bad (you'll note I didn't say unexpected) happens. In addition, the various overhead lighting remaining lit is hardly conducive to sleep, but it's very conducive to staff responsibilities, which ultimately is the point, I suppose.

Let me attempt to describe for you the difficulties and demands – and discomfort – I experienced during my post-op. treatment, designed no doubt to stabilize my vitals and return me to good health, whatever the cost or inconvenience. For certain it was all about me and all about getting me better – and presumably getting me healthy enough to be transferred to a non-intensive care floor and eventually being discharged from the hospital.

On my right arm, I had an I.V. inserted (connected to an I.V. pump) through which I received clear liquids and miscellaneous other medicines as their respective delivery systems mandated. On my right index finger a plastic clip was taped in place – also connected to a monitor, which measured my oxygen levels. Stuck on my chest were eight electrodes connected by wire to a heart-monitoring device – the size of a cell phone approximately – stuck in my hospital gown's lone chest pocket; the device itself was likewise connected, by wire, to a monitor adjacent to my hospital bed. Each calf, since I was bed-bound, was wrapped in Velcro, individually connected by wire to a pump hanging off the front of my bed. Every 30 seconds or so – alternating between each calf – the pump "pressured" air into the wraps, and wires inside inflated to stimulate the respective calves, the point of which is to prevent blood clots/pulmonary thrombosis. Not last, and certainly not least, between my legs, I was connected to a catheter (a "foley" as it was called), a necessary evil if ever there was one, itself connected by tube to a repository hanging off the side of my bed.

On my left arm, I was 24/7 connected and wrapped by a blood pressure cup. Every hour on the hour (I checked) I was "pressured" with my readings automatically transmitted to the nurse's station (one time I unwrapped the cuff and the nurse immediately came by to chastise me for doing so). On my face (in my nose, actually), with cords wrapped around my ears to secure its position, I wore a "nasal cannula," a plastic tube placed into my nostrils, which provided "high-flow" oxygen constantly. This cannula was likewise connected by tube/hose to a pump adjacent to my bed, about three feet away, like all of these connections. Lastly, and probably mostly, a post-surgical chest tube, 28 centimeters long, had been inserted under my left arm penetrating to my left lung to drain any residual fluid/"infiltrate" from it. This tube was part of a longer tube, maybe four feet in length or so, which deposited fluid draining from that lung into a collection box placed on the floor which enabled the staff to assess its contents. To say this tube and or its placement was painful, awkward and impossible to ignore, especially when attempting to sleep, is to do injustice to the words "painful," "awkward" and "impossible."

In summary, I was connected by wire/tube/hose to nine devices/monitors. Yet I persevered. The process wasn't pretty or planned, but I got out alive and was much improved from when I was admitted. Sleep-deprived for sure, but no longer oxygen-deprived. Obviously, I'm glad to be home, still mindful of the challenges ahead, however.

Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for The Potomac Almanac & The Connection Newspapers.

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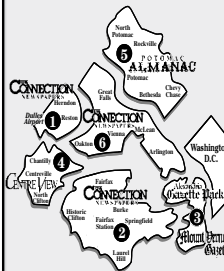
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NEWS

McLean High Student Wins Idol Competition

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION



Alexander Stone

Alexander Stone of McLean received top honors in the 2013 Signature Theatre Idol competition on Aug. 3 at the Tony Award-winning Signature Theatre's annual Open House held in Arlington. Stone is a rising junior at McLean High School. The annual Signature Idol competition searches for talented, undiscovered singers in the DC metropolitan area. It is held in conjunction with the Signature Theatre Open House. For his first competition entry, Stone presented "In These Skies," from the musical "Ace." Judges selected Stone to participate in the competition's final round where he presented "Prayer" from "The Scarlet Pimpernel." The competition judges were Signature Theatre Artistic Director Eric Schaeffer, Broadway's Tony Award nominee Carolee Carmello and WETA's Robert Aubry Davis. Sarah Ann Sillers of Potomac, Md. was the runner-up. "I was excited to be selected to participate in this competition and have a chance to perform. ... It was a special treat to hear encouragement and advice from the panel," said Stone. At the "Broadway on the Plaza" Grand Finale of the day-long Signature Open House, he performed "In These Skies." In his full summer of theater training, Stone attended the University of Michigan's in-residence, audition-based MPulse Performing Arts Vocal Arts Institute in July. "I was humbled to meet and hear that vocal quality of fellow students attending Mpulse ... it has helped my musical theater voice that much more."

Upon completing MPulse, Stone, along with fellow McLean High School students senior Nancy Pruett and junior Rachel Lawhead attended The Open Jar Institute in New York City. They were selected from nearly 1,200 teens from around the country who auditioned for the honor. The three McLean students each were selected to fill one of only 60 available spots for the intensive training. The Open Jar Institute seeks out students who have uncommon abilities and potential, as well as determination and passion. At Open Jar, one-on-one training was received from Broadway's finest performing artists and master classes conducted by the legendary composer and Tony Award recipient John Kander and Tony Award winning director and choreographer Susan Stroman. For his future, Stone added "I am excited about the possibility of pursuing theater as a career. I certainly know that the way is not easy. We will see how opportunities present themselves. As they arrive, I will work to be as prepared as possible."

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NEWCOMERS

Inspiring People, Projects From the Past

FROM PAGE 17

who purchased the farm in 1869 and built the existing farmhouse in 1892—purchased 163 acres from his grandfather in 1920. Mark played a vital role in the Great Falls community, serving as the first master of Great Falls Grange #738 and first master of Fairfax Pomona Grange #1. He was elected master of the Virginia State Grange in 1936 where he served for two terms, and then served on its executive board. The governor appointed Mark to the Virginia Milk Commission, where he served with two other members for 18 years, regulating the state's milk industry. He served on the Fairfax County School Board, and the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors for four years. In 1934, he became vice president of the Citizens National Bank of Herndon and its president in 1936. He was also chairman of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Commission of Fairfax County.

The 52-acre Turner Farm was purchased in a public/private partnership with 50 percent of the land cost being provided by the Great Falls community as a result of fund-raising. Fairfax County recently purchased the remaining 5 acres on which the farmhouse and other dairy farming structures are located. The community is in search of a resident curator who will commit to restoring the historic Queen Anne-style Victorian farmhouse to its original condition while proposing a functional reuse for the historic structure. A conceptual plan to use three acres of open land—not where the house is—for an art center has been proposed. One hundred and twenty-one years after the farmhouse was built, we are wondering who our curator will be and what functional reuse makes sense for some or all of the 5-acre property. Creating a vibrant community requires participation, dialogue, affection, imagination and a willingness to act and contribute.

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SPORTS

Area High Schools Sports Rivalry: McLean, Langley, Marshall

McLean High: Girls' and boys' basketball teams finished district runner-up.

School: McLean High School
Mascot: Highlanders
School Colors: Red and silver
Athletic director: Jim Patrick, 703-714-5700
❖ Football coach: Dennis Worek (second year)

The Highlanders dropped their final four games of the 2012 season and finished 4-6. McLean defeated Washington-Lee, Falls Church, Marshall and South Lakes.

- ❖ Field hockey coach: Summer Vanni
- ❖ Baseball coach: John Dowling
- ❖ Softball coach: Maurice Tawil
- ❖ Girls' soccer coach: Rob Bouchard
- ❖ Rival school: Langley

What Happened Last Year: The field hockey team reached the region quarterfinals. The boys' and girls' basketball teams finished district runner-up. The softball team went 20-6, finished district runner-up and reached the region semifinals. The girls' soccer team finished district runner-up and reached the region quarterfinals.

Famous graduate: Defensive end Eric Dorsey (1982 graduate) was a first-round choice of the New York Giants in the 1986 NFL Draft. He was a starter on the Giants' 1990-91 team that won Super Bowl XXV.

PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION



Maire Shine and the McLean girls' soccer team finished Liberty District runner-up in 2013.

He finished with seven sacks in seven seasons.

Quotable: "We couldn't be more proud of the way they had a short-term memory and they came out the next game ready to play. Their destiny is in their hands for how they can finish in the district. [Madison is] a very well coached team ... and to be coming out here and to do that performance against them tonight, I can't be more proud of such a young team."

—McLean girls' soccer coach Rob Bouchard following the Highlanders' 1-0 victory over Madison, which came two days after a 5-1 loss to Stone Bridge.

Langley High: Girls' Tennis Team Goes Undefeated in 2012

School: Langley High School
Mascot: Saxons
School Colors: Green and gold
Athletic director: Geoff Noto, 703-287-2750

❖ **Football coach:** John Howerton

The Saxons closed the 2012 regular season on a three-game winning streak and made the playoffs with a 6-4 record. Langley defeated Hayfield in the quarterfinals before falling to Stone Bridge in the semifinals.

- ❖ Field hockey coach: Jennifer Robb
- ❖ Volleyball coach: Susan Shifflett
- ❖ Boys' basketball coach: Scott Newman
- ❖ Girls' basketball coach: Amanda Bates
- ❖ Baseball coach: Kevin Healy
- ❖ Boys' lacrosse coach: Earl Brewer
- ❖ Girls' lacrosse coach: Richard DeSomma
- ❖ Rival school: McLean

What Happened Last Year: The volleyball team won the district title, finished region runner-up and advanced to the state semifinals. The baseball team finished district runner-up and lost to South County in 13 innings in the region quarterfinals. The boys' lacrosse team finished district runner-up and lost to Chantilly in the region semifinals, snapping the Saxons' streak of four consecutive state titles. The girls' lacrosse team finished district, region and state runner-up to Madison. The softball team reached the region semifinals, including a win over previously

PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION



The Langley volleyball team reached the state tournament in 2012.

unbeaten Hayfield in the opening round. The boys' soccer team finished district runner-up.

Famous graduate: Bruce Allen (1974 graduate) is the general manager of the Washington Redskins and son of former Redskins coach George Allen.

Quotable: "I feel like [the loss to South Lakes] was such a beneficial thing for us. Even though it was a loss on our record in a district game, we fought after that. ... We came into the season knowing that we were going to be pretty good and I feel that loss really put us in our place. We need to work. Talent doesn't get you anywhere unless you put it out there."

—Former Langley volleyball player Jenna Dean.

The Saxons lost their district opener but responded by winning the 2012 district title.



Riley Cummins and the Marshall baseball team overcame a 0-7 start to reach the region semifinals in 2013.

PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFFT/THE CONNECTION

Marshall High: Baseball Team Reached the Region Semifinals

School: George C. Marshall High School
Mascot: Statesmen
School colors: Scarlet and Columbia blue
Athletic director: Joe Swarm, 703-714-5409
❖ Football coach: Greg Sullivan (second year)

The Statesmen went 0-10 in 2012.

- ❖ Field hockey coach: Christina Carroll
- ❖ Boys' basketball coach: Dan Hale
- ❖ Girls' basketball coach: Chad Scott
- ❖ Baseball coach: Aaron Tarr
- ❖ Rival school: Madison.

What Happened Last Year: The field hockey team went 14-6 and finished district runner-up. The boys' basketball team won the district championship. The baseball team started 0-7 but bounced back to reach the region semifinals.

Famous graduate: Pete Schourek (1987 graduate) was a pitcher in the Majors Leagues. He was drafted by the New York Mets in the second round of the 1987 MLB Draft. He played 11

seasons in the Majors and finished second in the Cy Young voting in 1995, when as a member of the Cincinnati Reds he went 18-7 with a 3.22 ERA. He also played for the Toronto Blue Jays, Houston Astros, Boston Red Sox, Pittsburgh Pirates and Boston Red Sox. Defensive lineman Michael McCrary (1988 graduate) played collegiately at Wake Forest and was a seventh-round selection of the Seattle Seahawks in the 1993 NFL Draft. He played 10 seasons with the Seahawks and Baltimore Ravens, earning two trips to the Pro Bowl and one All-Pro selection. He won one Super Bowl (XXXV) with Baltimore. He finished with 71 career sacks.

Quotable: "... me and Mitch [Blackstone] are both going to come out next year, we're going to lead by example and mark my words, we're coming back strong. We're going to make another run. Believe it."

—Marshall pitcher Riley Cummins after the Statesmen reached the region semifinals despite a 0-7 start to the season.

THE COUNTY LINE

Board of Supervisors: What Do They Do?

FROM PAGE 11

various authorities and commissions that serve county residents and businesses.

One of the most important responsibilities of a district supervisor and his or her staff is constituent services. My staff and I assist Dranesville residents on issues that involve the county government, utilities and state government (especially VDOT). We regularly work with constituents on issues involving building and zoning code enforcement, traffic calming, storm water, human services, utility complaints, storm recovery and road and sidewalk maintenance.

Why is it important to vote in a county supervisor election? No level of government has more impact on our daily lives and the type of community we live in and will leave for our children. Residents should participate in the election process to ensure that they have a supervisor who shares their values, who will be effective on their behalf, and who actively solicits their input on major issues that affect their community."

SUPERVISOR MICHAEL FREY (R-SULLY)

"The Board of Supervisors doesn't do war and peace, but it's hard to argue that the Board of Supervisors is not responsible for most of the issues that people deal with every day. Whether the piece of property

next door is developed for houses or a shopping center or parkland falls under the direct authority of the board. School funding, police and fire protection are the direct responsibility of the board. The county provides a host of programs and services—libraries, parks and recreation, transportation and planning, and a wide range of human services. These are areas of life that we all deal with every day and that affect the quality of life. In many instances it is this range of services that attracted people to choose to live here in the first place. It is critical that people watch the board, get involved in their local governmental processes and help shape our community. At a minimum, people should vote! If you don't vote you can't complain!"

SUPERVISOR JOHN COOK (R-BRADDOCK)

"More than any other elected official at any level of government, a county supervisor has the greatest effect on your everyday lives.

First, I believe strong neighborhoods are the foundation of our strong county. I work with civic and homeowners' associations, community pools, recreational leagues, scout troops and other organizations to help them provide a foundation for our neighborhoods. The county's '50+' plan is looking for communities to volunteer to be 'vil-

lages' where our seniors help each other so they can stay in their homes in their later years. Second, the county government provides among the best police and fire and rescue departments in the country, and we are building a more robust emergency response network that connects citizens with county agencies. We have a world-class public school system, which receives priority in the county budget. Our human service system combines government programs with faith-based and non-profit programs to help people with disabilities and people in need of a 'pick up' to get themselves on track. Third, we are rebuilding our infrastructure, from stormwater management systems that protect the environment, to parks and trails for recreation, to a water and sewer system that is clean and efficient.

As your supervisor, I am here to help make your neighborhood the best place it can be.

SUPERVISOR PAT HERRITY (R-SPRINGFIELD)

"I have always agreed with Thomas Jefferson's notion that government closest to the people is best, and you cannot get much closer to the people than being a supervisor. Supervisors' jobs are multi-faceted; we're the ones you call when you have a problem with your taxes, neighborhood blight, roads, or if you have trouble with county or state agencies. Supervisors hire

the police chief and fund the police, fire department and health department. We're the ones who approve new commercial construction like in Tysons, or new Metro-rail and bus routes. In fact, I would go as far to say that about 80 percent of an individual's contact with government at any level is at our level. One of the most important jobs of the supervisor is constituent service. We work hard to address and resolve issues and problems for our residents, be they simple or complex. I also believe communication with constituents on issues that are important to them is a critical job of the supervisor—I hold town hall meetings, attend numerous events and community/HOA meetings and publish a newsletter—sign up at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/springfield/herrity-report-newsletter.htm>. I look forward to serving you.

LINDA SMYTH (D-PROVIDENCE)

"The Board of Supervisors collectively provides local government in Fairfax County. What does that mean? Supervisors set the local tax rates and approve the county budget, which provides funding for schools, parks, libraries, public safety and other public facilities and services. In other words, what we do touches our residents' everyday lives. And when residents have questions or problems, we are the ones they call for answers and solutions."


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David Cowdrill, a potter, at his studio, part of the Great Falls Studios Tour last year.



An audience watches artist William Tuthill create a Japanese wood block print during the Great Falls Studios Tour Sunday, Oct. 21, 2012.

A Community of Arts

Great Falls Studios (GFS) welcomes you to the neighborhood.

In 2003, Laura Nichols invited three local artists to a meeting in her kitchen to talk. As they say, “the rest is history!” In 2013, Great Falls Studios (GFS) is celebrating our 10th anniversary—a great opportunity for us to introduce ourselves to new neighbors. GFS includes 115 artists creating in a wide variety of media, in studio spaces scattered through out Great Falls. Close to 1.5 percent of the village households are represented by a working artist, creating in garages, barns, spare bedrooms or at kitchen tables. Some have designed home studios specifically outfitted for our craft. One artist works plein air, her easel perched on river rocks or on park paths. Three group studios dot our town: AHH! (Art Happens Here), Art Studio on the Green & Gallery and the Artists’ Atelier. The group strives through collaboration, to support the artistic endeavors and objectives of members and to make Great Falls a more artful place.

What a great year to meet us—it is our birthday and fun and fanfare are planned. Everyone is invited.

*Saturday, Oct. 5, at the Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, the community is invited to meet GFS artists, view some of their original work, enjoy hands-on activities and learn the stories of their studios. A 10th Anniversary book, “Creative Spaces: Inside the Artist’s Studio,” spotlighting 16 GFS members, our philosophy and workspaces is scheduled to be released that day. It promises to be a community occasion to celebrate creativity.

*Saturday, Oct. 19 and Sunday, Oct. 20, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. both days, join GFS on a self-guided driving adventure to art studios tucked along the scenic roads of Great Falls at the 10th Annual Great Falls Studios Art Tour: 60 member artists—painters, potters, sculptors, jewelry makers, photographers, digital artists, a weaver, a printmaker, a wood carver, three quilters, a knitter, a layered-paper artist and other talented folk will be opening the doors to their individual studios, the three group ateliers in town, and several shared venues created just for the weekend.

Artists will be demonstrating their crafts and techniques, engaging in inspiring conversation and some will offer visitors a chance to touch, dabble or scribble. All artists will be selling art “Made in Great Falls.”

In the words of Laura Nichols, potter and founder of Great Falls Studios, “Sometimes visitors leave with a piece of art they have chosen, but they always leave with a story.”

For the third year Sun Design Remodeling Specialists, Inc., an award winning architectural design-build firm, is a generous sponsor of Studios Art Tour. They will be exhibiting the craftsmanship that has earned them recognition as a home remodeler, at the house tour running concurrent with the art tour. They, too, are celebrating a milestone: 25 years of building, design and relationships in the community.

Throughout the weekend, the Great Falls Community Library will serve as “Studio Tour Headquarters.” Tour information will

be available and a photography exhibit in the large conference room will feature the portraits of the 16 GFS members and their studios featured in the 10th Anniversary book. Dean Souleles, co-editor and photographer, will be on hand to answer questions.

❖ Dec. 14 & 15, Great Falls Studios and Sun Design, Inc. will be at the Wolftrap Education Center, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna, for a Holiday Show & Sale. GFS member artists will be offering art “Made in Great Falls” for sale. Sun Design will have information and professionals available to discuss how to reinvent your home to enrich the way you live. In addition to original paintings, photographs, wall hangings and jewelry, there will also be high quality

prints, pots and dinnerware, purses, pillows and scarves, walking sticks, art cards and books. Something quite unique for individual collections or a perfect gift for a special friend, teacher or family member.

❖ Throughout the year, GFS manages several exhibit venues in our community: Katie’s at The Olde Brogue Irish Pub/760 Walker Road, Seneca Hill Animal Hospital Resort & Spa/11415 Georgetown Pike, and a new space featuring the work of local elementary school students at Starbucks at Great Falls Center/9862 Georgetown Pike.

❖ GFS artists are also regularly featured exhibitors in the Large Meeting Room and Small Conference Room at the Great Falls Community Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, and hang two all-media, all-member shows there each year. GFS donated to the library the art hanging system, used by all exhibitors.

Great Falls Studios manages a busy and always improving website with images of their member work, artists’ bios and links to individual artists’ websites. A monthly themed exhibit at the Virtual Gallery makes art as close as the click of a mouse.

GFS members have been juried into recognized shows and their art hangs in corporate and personal collections around the country and in small business, professional offices and not-for-profit art venues in the metropolitan area. Many teach children and/or adults in their home studios or in local art programs.

Great Falls Studios artists are good neighbors and friends; they look for opportunities to reach out to members of the community and are proud of a tradition of participating in local events, and collaborating with other community groups including Great Falls Foundation for the Arts (another arts group in Great Falls, with a different purpose), Great Falls Citizens Association and Celebrate Great Falls. In early July, three Great Falls photographers presented at all luncheons for members of the Great Falls Senior Center.

More information, including artist bios, and links to their websites at

<http://www.GreatFallsStudios.com/> and <http://www.SunDesignInc.com/about-us.html>.

And some of the GFS members meet for coffee on Thursday mornings at Katie’s. Drop in sometime.

Great Falls Studios Online Gallery Presents ‘Simply Summer’

The Great Falls Studios (GFS) artists have put to paper, molded in clay and caught on camera warm sunny days, summer vacations, beaches and boats, butterflies, flowers and abundant greenery. “Simply Summer” at the GFS Virtual Gallery is just a mouse click away: <http://www.greatfallsstudios.com/virtualgallery-new.php>.

Established in 2003, Great Falls Studios is a consortium of more than 100 artists living or working in Great Falls.

Some of the upcoming events include:

❖ Oct. 5—Great Falls Studios celebrates a decade of art at Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls;

❖ On Oct. 19 & 20—Tenth Annual Great Falls Studios Tour;

❖ Dec. 14 & 15—Great Falls Studios Holiday Show and Sale, Wolf Trap/Center for Education, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna.

Great Falls Studios also manages several exhibit venues in the community. The public is invited to enjoy often changing shows at Katie’s @ the Old Brogue Irish Pub/760 Walker Road, Great Falls, Seneca Hill Animal Hospi-



“Summer Garden,” a study by Ronni Jolles in layered paper and pastel. This garden blooms in France.

tal, Resort & Spa/11415 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls and a new space featuring the work of local elementary school students at Starbucks @ Great Falls Center/9862 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls.

PARKS

AN INSIDER'S GUIDE TO MAJOR PARKS IN FAIRFAX COUNTY

National Parks

GF Great Falls National Park

9200 Old Dominion Drive, McLean
www.nps.gov/grfa
Great Falls Park is open daily from 7 a.m. until dark. The Visitor Center and bookstore are open from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. daily, spring through fall seasons. Picnic, hike along the Potomac River. Swimming and wading in the Potomac are prohibited.

GW George Washington Memorial Parkway

www.nps.gov/gwmp
703-289-2500
The GW Parkway includes more than 25 sites, ranging from historic homes to wildlife preserves. Join a ranger for a free program or explore sites independently. Some park sites, including Turkey Run Park, Theodore Roosevelt Island, Great Falls Park, etc., close at dark. The Parkway itself remains open 24 hours a day to vehicle traffic.

WT Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts

1551 Trap Road, Vienna
www.nps.gov/wotr/
The only national park dedicated to presenting the performing arts. From May through September, multiple amphitheatres in the park present musicals, dance, opera, jazz, and popular and country music. Explore the park without the crowds from October - April. The Barns at Wolf Trap offer indoor entertainment through the winter months.

State Park

MN Mason Neck State Park

7301 High Point Rd. Lorton
www.dcr.virginia.gov/state_parks/mas.shtml#
703-339-2385 or 703-339-2380 (visitor center)
masonneck@dcr.virginia.gov.
The park's visitor center was expanded in 2010 to include a new exhibit room, gift shop and meeting room. There are several exhibits in the center, and with a view of Belmont Bay. Visitor center staff can answer questions and provide information on park trails, facilities and local points of interest. Pond study, bird watching, canoe trips, nature walks and talks, and GPS adventures are just a few of the exciting programs offered by park rangers.

FH Fountainhead Regional Park

7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station
www.nvrpa.org/park/fountainhead/
703-250-9124
The observation deck of the Marina Building at Fountainhead commands a spectacular view of the widest point of the Occoquan Reservoir. Summer activities include catfish tournaments, children's fishing tournament, paddleboat tours and more.

HO Hemlock Overlook Regional Park

13220 Yates Ford Road, Clifton
www.nvrpa.org/park/hemlock_overlook/
800-877-0954; 571-281-3556;
Hemlock Overlook Regional Park offers a variety of outdoor and environmental education.

Regional Parks

BR Bull Run Marina Regional Park

7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville
www.nvrpa.org/park/bull_run/
Main park open all year for picnicking, hiking and family camping. Bull Run Public Shooting Center open all year. Group Camping open daily Jan. 7 through Nov. 11. Mini and disc golf open April through October. Hours vary.

BR Atlantis Waterpark

(at Bull Run Marina Regional Park)
7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville
www.atlantisbullrun.com/
703-631-0552
Atlantis Waterpark features pools, a giant dumping bucket, waterslides, and fun-filled activities for all ages. Atlantis is open from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day, and is a member of the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority Family of Waterparks. Aantis also features picnic pavilions, a deck great for sunning and playing, as well as plenty of shade. Neptune Reef snack bar sells food, beverages and sweets.



Fountainhead Regional Park

MBG Meadowlark Botanical Gardens

9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna
www.nvrpa.org/park/meadowlark_botanical_gardens/
703-255-3631
This 95-acre complex of large ornamental display gardens and unique native plant collections is open year round and include walking trails, lakes, more than 20 varieties of cherry trees, irises, peonies, an extensive shade garden, native wildflowers, gazebos, birds, butterflies, seasonal blooms and foliage. The Atrium's indoor tropical garden setting is a popular meeting, reception, wedding and workshop location. Interpretive displays accompany a restored 18th-century cabin. A picnic area beside the Gardens is available to visitors. Meadowlark presents gardening and horticulture workshops, tours, field trips, concerts and volunteer programs.

OR Occoquan Regional Park

9751 Ox Road, Lorton
www.nvrpa.org/park/occoquan/
703-690-2121
This park offers 400 acres of recreational space and a touch of the past with its historic brick kilns and the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial. Park lands, trails and associated waters are part of the Fairfax Cross-County Trail. Kayak rentals. One hour Tour Boat Rides on the Occoquan River to Belmont Bay and back. Offered Saturdays noon-5 p.m., Sunday 1-8 p.m., April 2 through Nov. 27. \$10 adults, \$5 children 12 and under, under age 4 are free.

PB Pohick Bay Regional Park

6501 Pohick Bay Drive, Lorton
www.nvrpa.org/park/pohick_bay/
Pohick Bay is located on the Potomac River 25 miles south of the nation's capital. The boat launch facility is one of only three public access points to the Potomac River in northern Virginia. Pohick Bay offers canoes, kayaks, paddle boats and jon boats for rent on the weekends, as well as family and group camping, hiking, picnic areas and a large play area for children. For those interested in swimming, the park offers one of the largest, outdoor freeform pools on the east coast. Pohick Bay Regional Park, located on

Sources: National Park Service, Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, Virginia State Parks and Fairfax County Park Authority. Map courtesy of Fairfax County Park Authority. Designed & compiled by Jean Card and Laurence Foong. Photos by Craig Sterbutzel.

Mason Neck Penninsula is an ecologically fragile land that shelters an abundance of wildlife, including the bald eagle. Nature lovers can expect to see blue birds, osprey, heron, deer, beavers and rare sightings of river otters.

PB Pirates Cove Waterpark

(at Pohick Bay Regional Park)
6501 Pohick Bay Drive, Lorton
www.piratescovepohick.com
703-339-6102
Pirates Cove Waterpark is located at Pohick Bay Regional Park. Visitors can cool off under the 300-gallon dumping bucket, fire the water cannons and splash down the waterslide or search for buried treasure at Buccaneer Beach sand play area. Pirates Cove also features picnic pavilions, a deck for sunning and playing, as well as plenty of shade. Captain's Galley snack bar features food, beverages and sweets. Pirates Cove is open from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day.

PB Pohick Bay Golf Course

10301 Gunston Road, Lorton
www.nvrpa.org/park/pohick_bay_golf_course
703-339-8585
This scenic golf course is located on the Mason Neck Peninsula in Lorton. Pohick Bay's practice facility features a driving range with practice putting and chipping greens, and lessons from PGA pros. A full-service pro shop features an array of name-brand golf clubs, equipment and apparel. Other services include club making, custom club fitting, regripping, reshafting and tournament coordinating.

SR Sandy Run Regional Park

10450 Van Thompson Road, Fairfax Station
www.nvrpa.org/park/sandy_run/
703-690-4392
The park is open to the public for the purpose of education, training, practice, and racing for competitive and recreational sculling and rowing. Only shells and other boats authorized by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority may be launched from the docks or shoreline of Sandy Run. Sandy Run offers a facility for team training and competition for Olympic, college, high school and club canoe, kayak and crew athletes.

Arts Center

LAC Workhouse Arts Center

9601 Ox Road, Lorton
www.lortonarts.org
703-584-2900
The Workhouse Arts Center consists of seven studio buildings, the main galleries and the recently opened Youth Arts Center. Visitors are encouraged to interact with artists. In addition to visual arts, the Workhouse Arts Center is home to performing arts, including theater, film institute, musical and dance performances. The education department supports both the visual and performing arts, offering classes and workshops in a variety of disciplines. Future plans for the Workhouse include an event center, amphitheater, Workhouse Theatre, restaurants, apartments, music barn and garden/horticultural area. Other buildings on site, yet to be renovated, may provide for other activities such as a visitors center, a blacksmith shop, theatre scene shops and rehearsal space.



Frying Pan Farm Park, Herndon



The Claude Moore Colonial Farm at Turkey Run, McLean

Major Fairfax County Parks

BLP Burke Lake Park & Golf Course

7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station
volleyball, driving range, 18 hole, par 3, minigolf, trails, playground, campgrounds, fishing
883.4 acres, multiple resource park

CJP Clemyjontri Park

6317 Georgetown Pike, McLean
fitness, picnic areas and playgrounds
18.6 acres, special purpose park

ELP Ellanor C. Lawrence Park

5040 Walney Road, Chantilly
baseball, soccer/football (unlit), basketball (unlit), community center, nature center, amphitheater, trails
650 acres, multiple resource park

FPF Frying Pan Farm Park

2717 West Ox Road, Herndon
historic structure, biking/equestrian/hiking trails, open areas, playground
135.3 acres, multiple resource park

GSG Green Spring Gardens

4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria
Community Center, historic structure, biking/hiking trails, open areas, gardens
30.9 acres, special purpose park

HPP Hidden Pond Park

8511 Greeley Boulevard, Springfield
tennis (lit), nature center, amphitheater, hiking/nature trails, playground, fishing
25.6 acres, community park

HMP Huntley Meadows Park

3701 Lockheed Boulevard, Alexandria
nature center, historic structure, biking/hiking/nature trails, observation tower, boardwalk
1444.8 acres, natural resource park



W&OD Trail, Herndon

LAP Lake Accotink Park

7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield
basketball, volleyball, minigolf, trails, picnic
448.1 acres, multiple resource park

LFP Lake Fairfax Park

1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston
softball (lit), soccer/football (unlit), amphitheater, carousel, campground, tour boat, picnic shelters
479 acres, multiple resource park

FRA Lee District Park

6601 Telegraph Road, Franconia
softball, soccer/football, tennis, basketball, volleyball, trails, treehouse, sprayground, accessible playground
138 acres, district park

MDP Mason District Park

6621 Columbia Pike, Annandale
softball (lit), soccer/football (unlit/lit), basketball (lit), tennis (lit), shuffleboard, dog park, amphitheater, biking/hiking/fitness
121.2 acres, district park

NWP Nottoway Park

9537 Courthouse Road, Vienna
baseball (lit), soccer/football (lit), basketball (lit), tennis (lit), trails, picnic
90.9 acres, district park

RBP Riverbend Park

8700 Potomac Hill Street, Great Falls
nature center, historic structure, biking/equestrian/hiking trails, picnic areas, craft room
411.2 acres, multiple resource park

SRN Scotts Run Nature Preserve

7400 Georgetown Pike, McLean
historic structure, historic/hiking/nature trails, fishing
384.3 acres, natural resource park

SRD South Run District

7550 Reservation Drive, Springfield
baseball, soccer/football, basketball, tennis, recenter, equestrian, playground, swimming
196 acres, district park

WFP Wakefield Park & RECenter

8100 Braddock Road, Annandale
softball, soccer/football, basketball, tennis, recenter, biking, fitness trail, skate park
292.6 acres, multiple resource park

PARKS

A GUIDE TO FAIRFAX COUNTY PARKS IN THE GREAT FALLS, RESTON & HERNDON AREAS

Map Number Park Name

Address, City
Property Class

1 Hutchison ES

13209 Parcher Ave., Herndon
Community Park

2 Coppermine Crossing SS

2744 Cooper Creek Rd, Herndon
School Site

3 Arrowbrooke

2351 Field Point Road, Herndon
Community Park

4 Dulles Corner

2446 Dulles View Drive, Herndon
Community Park

5 Franklin Farm

13590 Franklin Farm Road, Herndon
Community Park

6 Reston Town Green

Cameron Glen Dr, Reston
Neighborhood Park

7 Shaker Woods

1225 Stuart Road, Reston
Community Park

8 Hickory Run SS

Sheshue St, Great Falls
School Site

15 Chandon

900 Palmer Drive, Herndon
Community Park

16 Fred Crabtree

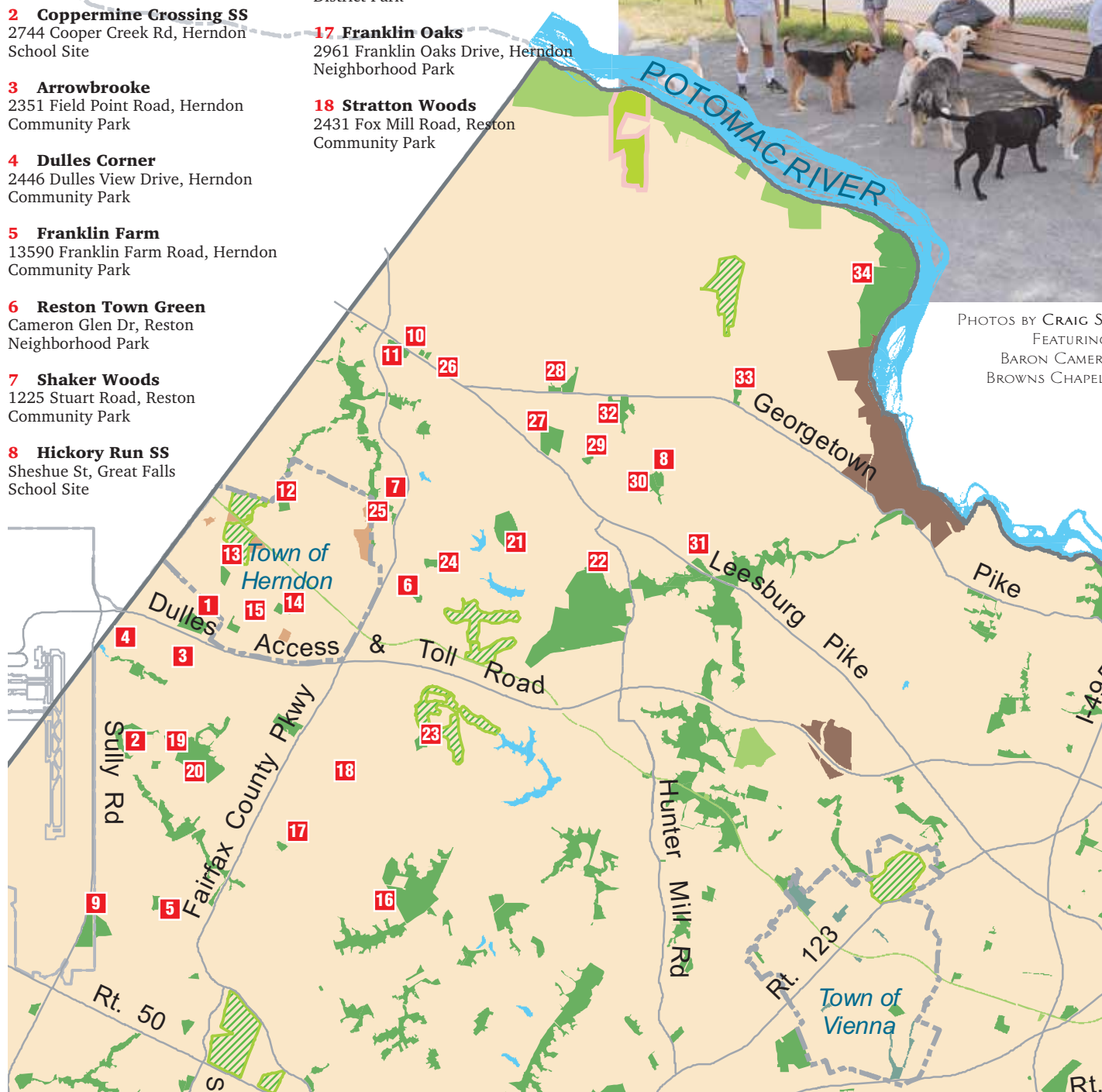
2801 Fox Mill Road, Herndon
District Park

17 Franklin Oaks

2961 Franklin Oaks Drive, Herndon
Neighborhood Park

18 Stratton Woods

2431 Fox Mill Road, Reston
Community Park



PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL
FEATURING
BARON CAMERON &
BROWNS CHAPEL PARKS



Hunter Mill District Parks

My favorite park in the Hunter Mill District? That's a hard question since our District is blessed with over 40 unique and beautiful sites. It's hard to equal the elegance of Meadowlark Gardens, or the quiet introspection you can find walking or biking on the W&OD Trail or the many stream valley parks. I love how Frying Pan Farm Park showcases our rural and agricultural heritage and reminds me of my childhood. Lake Fairfax Park teems with activity and has something for everyone from the camping, mountain biking, hiking trails and lake activities for the nature lovers, along with the new skatepark, first-class athletic fields, picnic areas and the Water Mine for everyone in the family to enjoy. And, Waters Field in Vienna is THE best place to enjoy a baseball game.

— CATHY HUDGINS
HUNTER MILL DISTRICT SUPERVISOR



9 Sully Historic

3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly
Cultural Resource Park

10 Dranesville Tavern

11919 Leesburg Pike, Herndon
Cultural Resource Park

11 Grand Hamptons

1081 Safa Street, Herndon
Neighborhood Park

12 Stanton

910 Third Street, Herndon
Community Park

13 Alabama Drive

1100 Alabama Drive, Herndon
Community Park

14 Bruin

415 Van Buren Street, Herndon
Community Park

19 Floris School Site

2621 Centreville Road, Herndon
Community Park

20 Frying Pan Farm

2717 West Ox Road, Herndon
Multiple Resource Park

21 Baron Cameron

11300 Baron Cameron Avenue, Reston
District Park

22 Lake Fairfax

1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston
Multiple Resource Park

23 South Lakes Drive

11851 South Lakes Drive, Reston
Community Park

24 Reston North

1635 Reston Parkway, Reston
Community Park

25 Stuart Road

12001 Lake Newport Road, Reston
Community Park

26 Holly Knolls

1010 Redberry Court, Great Falls
Neighborhood Park

27 Great Falls Nike

1089 Utterback Store Road, Great Falls
District Park

28 Windermere

11000 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls
Community Park

29 Lockmeade

1104 Riva Ridge Drive, Great Falls
Community Park

30 Lexington Estates

10401 Sheshue Street, Great Falls
Neighborhood Park

31 Colvin Run Mill Site

10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls
Cultural Resource Park

32 The Turner Farm

925 Springvale Road, Great Falls
Community Park

33 Great Falls Grange

9818 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls
Community Park

34 Riverbend

8700 Potomac Hill Street, Great Falls
Multiple Resource Park



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Director, Theresa D'Alessandro

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