

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Oak Hill ♦ Herndon
CONNECTION

Insiders
Edition
2013-2014

Looking Into Herndon's Future

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Obsessed With
Politics?
Fairfax County
Welcomes You!

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Stephanie Belle examines the new map of downtown Herndon that gives the name and locations of restaurants and other businesses. The map is part of several recent improvements designed to make the downtown more user-friendly.

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PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

AUGUST 28 - SEPTEMBER 3, 2013

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PHOTO BY ALEX MCVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

New picnic tables are just one of several improvements in downtown Herndon designed to make the area friendlier for cyclists and other visitors.

Looking Into Herndon's Future

Downtown, Metro development in store for Herndon.

BY ALEX MCVEIGH
THE CONNECTION

Long known as a destination for several of Herndon's signature restaurants, the historic downtown is beginning to shape up into a focal point for people of all kinds.

"Over the last few months, especially with the addition of Green Lizard [Cycling], Herndon's downtown has become a hotspot for bikers who are riding along the W&OD Trail," said Hollis Lippman of Reston, who rides the trail every day. "On any nice day, you can stop by the depot station for a break and a drink of water, and chat with cyclists who are there doing the exact same thing."

The downtown's latest addition, Green Lizard Cycling, has made an impression on cyclists and non-cyclists alike.

"I'm glad the spot where Green Lizard is is a place where people can sit and enjoy the scenery downtown. I'm not a biker, but I stop by a few times a week," said Ben Garrett of Herndon. "The bar by the front window is a great place to just sit for an hour and watch the day go by, watch how people go to and from downtown."

THE HERNDON DEPOT, maintained by the Herndon Historical Society, is located mere feet from the W&OD trail, making the benches and tables nearby a perfect resting spot.

"We recently installed new picnic tables next to the depot, and umbrellas for the tables are on their way, which is another step making downtown a place to stop and enjoy," said Mayor Lisa Merkel. "We also added a new map to the kiosk right there, one that includes the names and locations of all the businesses, and especially the restaurants downtown."

The signs have helped at least one customer find new places to eat downtown.

"I've been to Jimmy's, to O'Sullivan's and to the Ice House, mostly because they're right next to the town parking lot, but I hadn't really gone much beyond that before," said Kari Varpe of Centreville. "But the last time we stopped by the map and looked at all the different places that are within walking distance, and ended up going a little farther down the block

to Russia House."

Herndon recently launched www.dineonherndon.com, which allows users to browse for restaurants in the town by name, category, location, type and even places with free wi-fi.

"The new site is great when it comes to saving time before you go out," said Karl Sinclair of Herndon. "Before we had children, there was plenty of time to explore, but now it's all about having a game plan. So we look up the place we want, check out the menu, and go right there, it's perfect."

Merkel said the town is also exploring possibilities for downtown redevelopment.

"We're currently in the process of reaching out and marketing to developers to get offers for developments on town-owned property downtown," she said.

"We figured those would be the properties that can be developed most quickly if someone comes in with something we like."

THE PURPOSE of redeveloping the downtown is to maintain the small-town atmosphere that currently exists, which is meant to contrast with the high-density development that will occur in the 38 acres of land north of the proposed Herndon-Monroe Metrorail station.

The town approved a plan in February 2012 that would allow for higher density development near the metro station, with the idea of turning the business parks in the area into mixed-use areas with open space.

"The high-density development will provide a contrast from the small-town atmosphere of downtown, with high-rises and office, residential and retail being within walking distance of the station," Merkel said. "Our challenge is going to be making transportation between downtown and the metro easy so residents and visitors can experience the best of both worlds."

Various options, including a circulator bus along Herndon Parkway, are being discussed. Merkel said that the town is working with the county about possible options, and is open to working with businesses in the area about possible transportation options to and from the station.



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!

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.

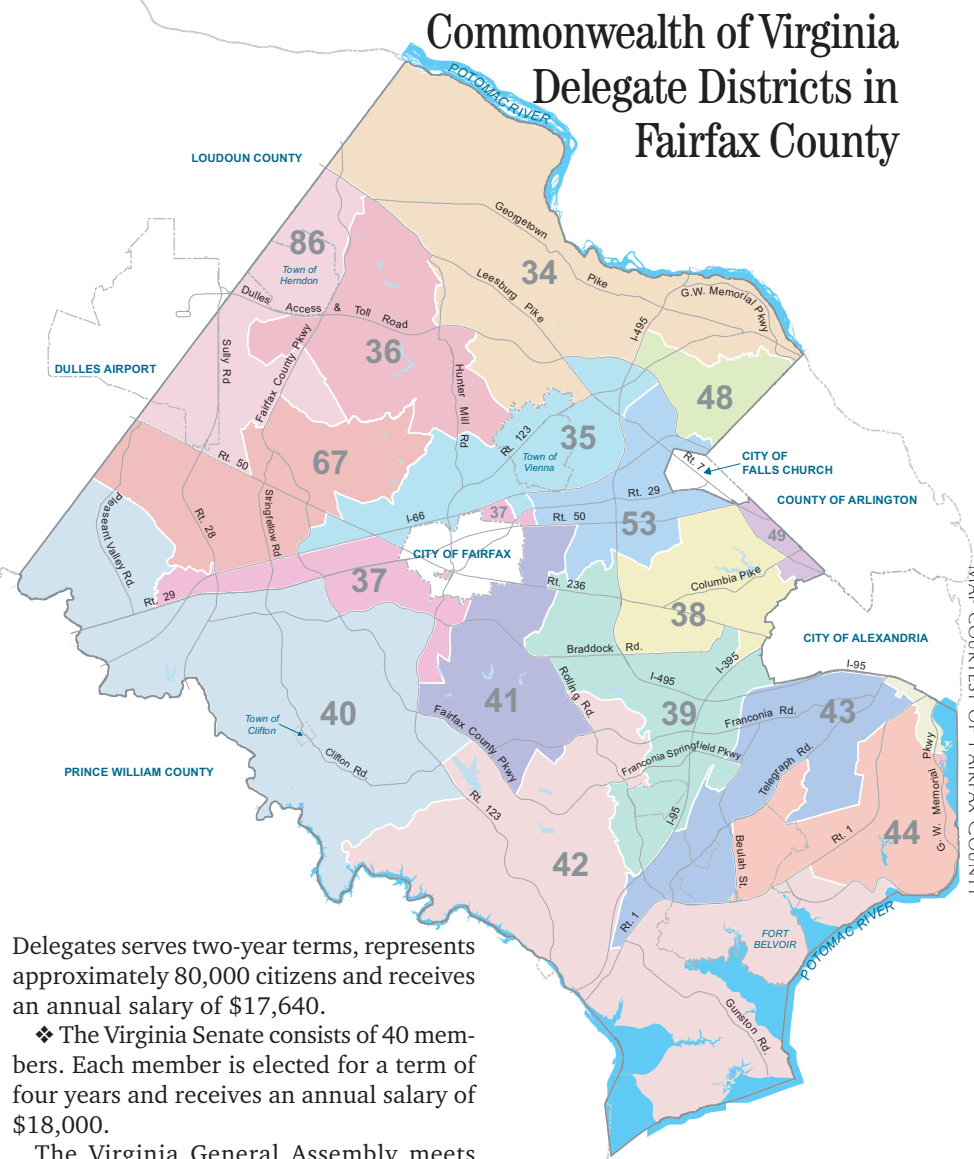
According to an official candidate list released last month by the Virginia State Board of Elections, 57 House seats will be contested this November—marking only the second time in the last decade where at least half of the 100 House seats will have more than one name on the ballot.

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 8

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

On the Ballot 2013

GOVERNOR

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

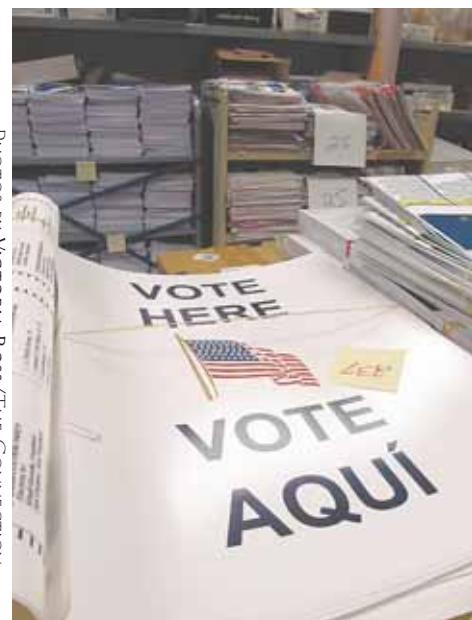
❖ The Virginia Senate consists of 40 members. Each member is elected for a term of four years and receives an annual salary of \$18,000.

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.

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

AREA CHAMBERS

Find a comprehensive online listing of county business resources at <http://www.fairfaxcountypedata.org/business-resources>.

Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce

Comprised of the Herndon and Chantilly/Centreville Chambers, it covers Herndon, Sterling, Centreville, Chantilly, South Riding and Dulles Airport.
www.dullesregionalchamber.org.

Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Northern Virginia

Located in Herndon, the organization serves businesses lead by and those that work with the Hispanic community in the area. <http://www.hccnva.org/>.

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 of Commerce

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 of Commerce

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

US Lebanese Chamber of Commerce

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

Afghan American Chamber of Commerce

AACC provides resources to members through business advice, conferences, seminars, networking events, publications and other avenues to stimulate U.S.-Afghanistan business and investment; also, sector-based Working Groups seek to reduce impediments to business and market progress for members. AACC also serves as a link between the private sector and government to encourage economic policies that result in increased business and investment between the U.S. and Afghanistan. 703-442-5005 or <http://www.a-acc.org/>.

Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce

The organization serves businesses in the Dulles Corridor. www.restonchamber.org.



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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>.

Contact Information

SHARON BULOVA, CHAIRMAN, ELECTED AT-LARGE
Government Center
12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 530
Phone: 703-324-2321, TTY 711
Fax: 703-324-3955
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/chairman
E-mail: chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov

JOHN C. COOK, BRADDOCK DISTRICT
Kings Park Library
9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke, VA 22015-1608
Phone: 703-425-9300, TTY 711
Fax: 703-503-9583
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/braddock
E-mail: braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov

JOHN W. FOUST, DRANESVILLE DISTRICT
McLean Governmental Center
6649-A Old Dominion Drive, McLean, VA 22101
Phone: 703-356-0551, TTY 711
Fax: 703-821-4275
Herndon Office
730 Elden St., Herndon, VA 20170-4637
Phone: 703-471-5076, TTY 711
Fax: 703-437-3210
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dranesville
E-mail: dranesville@fairfaxcounty.gov

CATHERINE M. HUDGINS, HUNTER MILL DISTRICT
North County Governmental Center
12000 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston, VA 20190-3307
Phone: 703-478-0283, TTY 711
Fax: 703-471-6847
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/huntermill
E-mail: hntermill@fairfaxcounty.gov

JEFFREY C. MCKAY, LEE DISTRICT
Franconia Governmental Center
6121 Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA 22310-2508
Phone: 703-971-6262, TTY 711
Fax: 703-971-3032
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/lee
E-mail: leedist@fairfaxcounty.gov

PENELOPE A. GROSS, VICE CHAIRMAN, MASON DISTRICT
Mason District Governmental Center
6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA 22003-2029
Phone: 703-256-7717, TTY 711
Fax: 703-354-8419
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mason
E-mail: mason@fairfaxcounty.gov

GERALD W. HYLAND, MOUNT VERNON DISTRICT
Mount Vernon Governmental Center
2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306-2799
Phone: 703-780-7518, TTY 711
Fax: 703-780-1491
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mountvernon
E-mail: mtvernon@fairfaxcounty.gov

LINDA Q. SMYTH, PROVIDENCE DISTRICT
8739 Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA 22031-2198
Phone: 703-560-6946, TTY 711
Fax: 703-207-3541
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/providence
E-mail: provdist@fairfaxcounty.gov

PAT HERRITY, SPRINGFIELD DISTRICT
West Springfield Governmental Center
6140 Rolling Road, Springfield, VA 22152-1579
Phone: 703-451-8873, TTY 711
Fax: 703-451-3047
Fairfax County Government Center
12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 233
Fairfax, VA 22035-0001
Phone: 703-324-2500, TTY 711
Fax: 703-324-3149
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/springfield
E-mail: springfield@fairfaxcounty.gov

MICHAEL R. FREY, SULLY DISTRICT
Sully District Governmental Center
4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly, VA 20151-3808
Phone: 703-814-7100, TTY 703-814-7109
Fax: 703-814-7110
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/sully
E-mail: sully@fairfaxcounty.gov

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 18



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Children helping children: More than 100 children and adults gathered Sunday at Floris UMC to package 1,200 weekend meals for students at Hutchison Elementary School, part of the Help Hungry Kids program. Pictured left to right: Maeleigh Moore, Anna Mutter, Ian Takacs, Josh Douglas and Ginny Horvath.

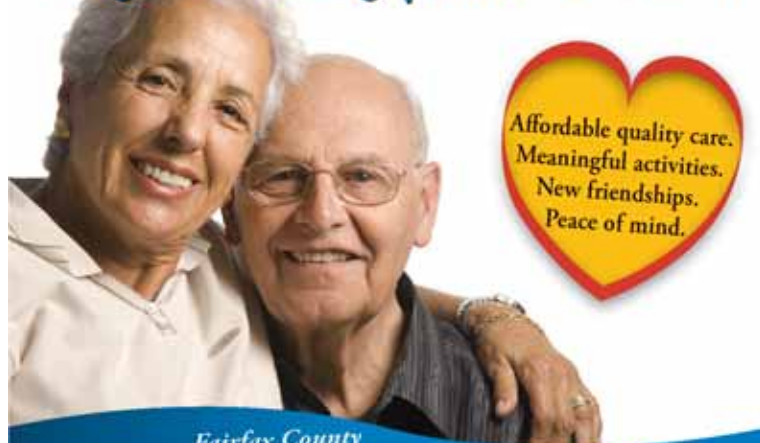
Helping Hungry Kids at Floris United Methodist Church

On Sunday, Aug. 25, members and friends of Floris United Methodist Church of Herndon packaged 1,200 weekend meals for students at Hutchison Elementary School. The two-hour event for the Help Hungry Kids program was for all ages, and more than 100 volunteers participated in assembling the bags. In addition to this annual event, Help Hungry Kids is sustained by individual volunteers and families that assemble and deliver packages to the church on the first Sunday

of each month. Last year, approximately 80 children received these bags weekly throughout the school year.

Floris UMC provided over 5,000 bags to Hutchison as well as other schools and organizations. Help Hungry Kids was developed to provide weekend supplemental food to children in need. The weekend meal bags contain 10 child-friendly items, such as single serving entrees, snack bars, fruit cups and juice.

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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.

Election Guide

FROM PAGE 4

❖ For more information on the state legislature, go to viriniageneralassembly.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/1precinctchanges_adopted7262011.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.

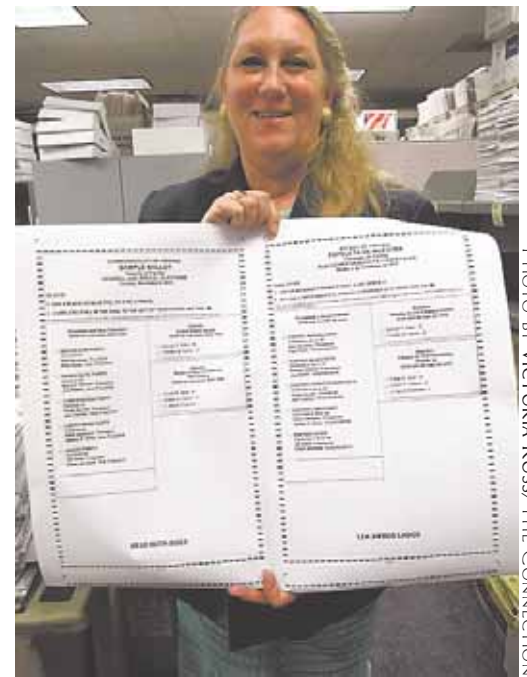


PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

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.

LETTERS

'Works Sunday 2013' Thanks the Community

To the Editor:

I am writing today on behalf of the 19 local faith communities participating in "Works Sunday 2013" to convey our sincere thanks to the people of Herndon, Oak Hill and Reston for their generous support. Although it seems hard to believe, it has been 18 years since the first "Works Sunday"—years during which their response to this unique day of charitable service and giving has only grown stronger. We on the "Works Sunday 2013" Steering Committee are profoundly grateful for their kindness and commitment, as are the many people who will benefit from their efforts and largesse.

As in years past, last weekend saw an outpouring of goodwill in our community, as dozens upon dozens of "Works Sunday" volunteers came out to offer a helping hand and a welcoming smile to our neighbors in need. The 21 projects of the "Works Sunday 2013" program, brought to life by their efforts, directly helped (or will help) the hungry, the homeless, and the hurting in our midst. For their selfless donation of time and energy in furtherance of this cause, we thank our wonderful volunteers most sincerely.

It must be said, however, that the impact of their efforts would have been far less, were it not for the record-setting generosity of the residents of Reston, Herndon and Oak Hill. It was you, our neighbors, who donated the food so badly needed by the Emergency Pantry of Cornerstones (formerly "Reston Interfaith") and those whom it serves. It was you, our neighbors, who gave hundreds of essential personal items for the residents of the Embury Rucker Shelter, and the children at the Laurel Learning Center. And it was you, our neighbors, who dropped off the coats and gloves and scarves and hats that will keep the guests of local hypothermia shelters warm this winter.

In short, it was you, our neighbors, who made "Works Sunday" a joyful, caring and compassionate event celebrating the common humanity and vibrant diversity of our communities. And so, we of the committee wish to publicly thank all those who gave so freely of their time, talent and treasure to make this year's "Works Sunday" the major success that it was.

To all of you—and to the many local merchants who allowed us to

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 15



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THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

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OPINION

About the Connection

Newcomers and Community Guide 2013-2014

As your local, weekly newspaper, the Oak Hill/Herndon 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 and the names of

EDITORIAL

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 Oak Hill/Herndon 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:

Email to editors@connectionnewspapers.com or submit online at <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/>.

www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/.

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— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM,
@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

INSIDER'S TIPS

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Teams of 25 will compete to see who can pull the plane 12 feet the fastest.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Dulles Day Festival, Plane Pull Returns Sept. 14

The event benefits Special Olympics Virginia.

Whether you're pulling the plane, cheering from the sidelines or racing down the runway in tennis shoes at this year's first-ever 5K, there's something for everyone at the Dulles Day Festival and Plane Pull, benefiting Special Olympics Virginia. Grab your family, friends and co-workers and put your muscles to the test Sept. 14 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Dulles International Airport.

New for 2013: the Dulles Day 5K on the Runway—runners, joggers and stroller-pushers alike will have the chance to run on the airport's center runway, which will be closed to aircraft during the run. Register online now. Registration is \$35 per participant until Sept. 11 (unless all spots are full beforehand). The top male and top female finisher will receive two round-trip tickets on United Airlines, good for any United destination in the continental United States.

After you warm up your running shoes, gather 24 of your friends and flex your athletic prowess against a 164,000-plus pound jet plane. Teams of 25 will compete to see who can pull the plane 12 feet the fastest. Teams must raise a minimum of \$1,250—that's just \$50 a person—to participate. Threatened by the possibility that a 164,000-plus pound machine will prevail? Have no fear! Prizes also will be awarded to the teams who raise the most money, teams who show the most enthusiasm, the lightest and the heaviest teams, and even the slowest team.

Not quite ready for the plane pull? The Kids Truck Pull provides a fun challenge for our youngest fans to test their strength.

Teams of eight will compete to see who can pull the big, red 123JUNK truck 12 feet the fastest. To participate, you must raise or donate a minimum of \$10/person. All participants will receive a Plane Pull T-shirt; a prize also will be awarded to the person who raises the most money.

Don't have the muscles to pull a plane or truck—that's OK. You can still join as a volunteer, an event sponsor, an event exhibitor or even as a "fan" of Special Olympics Virginia. The Dulles Day Festival and Plane Pull, presented by the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, Cisco and Triple Canopy, also will feature live music, a car show, aircraft displays, business exhibits and a special Kids Zone. There is no charge to enter the festival, although donations are appreciated. All attendees over 18 will receive a door prize ticket for the chance to win a "weighty" prize.

Since the first-ever Plane Pull was held in 1993 at Dulles International Airport, Special Olympics Virginia has raised more than \$1.5 million for athletes with intellectual disabilities throughout the state, and also started a worldwide plane-pulling phenomenon. Today, similar Plane Pulls are held throughout the year in Colorado, Maryland, Hawaii, Tennessee and Texas. The Plane Pull is a Law Enforcement Torch Run event; the Torch Run, sponsored by SunTrust and Enterprise, unites law enforcement across the commonwealth to raise funds and awareness for Special Olympics Virginia.

For more information, to register your team, sign up to run the 5K, exhibit or volunteer, or for sponsorship details, visit www.planepull.com or call 703-359-4301.

Where Outside is In!

Reston Town Center is the place for shopping, dining and outdoor fun in the D.C. Metropolitan area. Enjoy a charming stroll along brick-lined streets, take in a movie, make a wish by the fountain, and come to our acclaimed festivals - there's something here for everyone!

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- Chico's
- Cigar Town
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- Davella Clothiers for Him & Her
- 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
- Journeymen/Aveda
- L'Occitane
- Le Shoppe for Hair, Nails & Skin Care
- Market Cellars
- Mayflowers
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- Potomac River Running
- Pottery Barn
- PR at Partners
- Prime Cleaners
- South Moon Under
- Talbots & Talbots Petites
- Victoria's Secret
- Wells Fargo
- White House Black Market
- Williams-Sonoma

DINING

- American Tap Room
- Ben & Jerry's
- Big Bowl
- Busara Thai Restaurant
- Chipotle
- Clyde's of Reston
- Costi
- Edibles Incredible!
- Il Fornaio
- M&S Grill
- McCormick & Schmick's
- Obi Sushi
- Panera Bread
- Paolo's Ristorante
- Patbelly Sandwich Works
- Starbucks
- Sweetgreen
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- Ted's Bulletin Opening Fall 2013
- Uncle Julio's
- Rio Grande Café
- Yogiberry
- ...and much more!

Coming this Fall

...see more online at RestonTownCenter.com/events

Great Grapes! Wine, Arts & Food Festival
Saturday, September 7 & Sunday, September 8

Beer, Bourbon & BBQ Festival
Saturday, September 21

Light the Night Walk for Leukemia & Lymphoma
Saturday, October 5

Oktoberfest Reston & Carnival
Friday, October 11 – Sunday, October 13

Washington West Film Festival
Thursday, October 24 – Sunday, October 27

Reston Town Center Ice Skating Pavilion
Daily, from early November until March

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Friday, November 29

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ENTERTAINMENT

Send announcements to herndon@connectionnewspapers.com. The deadline is the Friday prior to the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged. For additional listings, visit <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2013/apr/11/fairfax-county-calendar/>.

THURSDAY/AUG. 29

Mama's Black Sheep. 7:30-8:30 p.m., at Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Mama's Black Sheep is the musical collaboration of singer-songwriters Ashland Miller (guitar/vocals) and Laura Cerulli (drums/vocals).

Drink Til We're Funny Comedy Tour. 9-11 p.m., at Kalypso's Sports Tavern, 1617 Washington Plaza N., Reston. The tour featuring acclaimed national comedians stops in Reston; ages 21-plus. kalypsosportstavern.com.

SATURDAY/AUG. 31

Porsche Club Car Show. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Reston Town Center Pavilion and Market Street, 11900 Market St., Reston. The Porsche Club of America, Founder's Region, showcases vintage Porsches. pcapotomac.org.

Cooking Class. Noon. 11990 Market St., Reston. Guests are invited to a cooking demonstration and a three-course lunch with wine. \$45.

Lake Anne Jazz & Blues Festival. 1-8 p.m., at Lake Anne Plaza, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. Unified Jazz Ensemble, Beverly Cosham, Peter Fraize, Mykle Lyons, Adrian Duke, Sam Gunderson and headliner Rashida Jolley perform at the popular late-summer jazz fest; refreshments available in the beer garden www.lakeanneplaza.com.

THROUGH SUNDAY/SEPT. 1

Duy Lam: Union of Color and Form at the Post Gallery, ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center St., Herndon. Visit the ArtSpace Gallery to view the works of Vietnamese painter and poet Duy Lam, impressionistic painter and abstract expressionist artist. 703-956-6590 or www.artspaceherndon.org.

MONDAY/SEPT. 2

25th Annual Herndon Labor Labor Day Festival. Noon-6 p.m., at 777 Lynn St., Downtown Herndon. An annual one-day outdoor street festival featuring a wide range of live music, 12 Virginia wineries, local microbreweries, a craft show, sponsorship gallery, culinary demonstrations and food vendors; no pets allowed. Partial proceeds go to scholarship programs. Admission with unlimited wine tasting and 2 beer tickets: \$20 (includes commemorative tasting glass); entrance only, no alcohol: \$10. 703-787-7300 or www.herndon-va.gov.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 7

Run With the Doctor. 7 a.m. 108 Elden St., Herndon. The Center for Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine offers its services in a convenient format to runners at this running event. Free. facebook.com/runwiththedoctor.

Reston Community Yard Sale. 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at Reston Association, 12001 Sunrise Valley Drive, Reston. Ninety-five families will be selling a variety of items so this event is a great opportunity to find things for a new home or a college dorm. Vendor space is sold

out. In case of rain in the forecast, call 703-435-6577 the morning of the event for a recorded message.

Tig Notaro. 8 p.m. Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. The comedian opens the Centerstage season with her comedy act after appearing on "Comedy Central Presents" and "The Sarah Silverman Show." \$15 Reston, \$30 Non-Reston. www.restoncommunitycenter.com.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 12

40 for 40: Celebrating 40 Decades of G.R.A.C.E. 6-9 p.m. Greater Reston Arts Center, 12001 Market St. #103, Reston. Forty artists affiliated with G.R.A.C.E. will showcase their work in celebration of the center's 40th anniversary.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 15

Green Lizard Bike-a-Thon. 9 a.m., at Green Lizard Cycling in Downtown Herndon. Proceeds from this ride will support Herndon High School's **The Pride of Herndon Marching Band** as they prepare for their upcoming appearance in the Pearl Harbor Memorial Parade in Waikiki, Hawaii on December 7. This half century ride follows the Washington & Old Dominion Trail from Herndon to Purcellville and back. Riders may also choose an abbreviated 25 mile ride which will turn around in Leesburg on the same W&OD Trail. 703-707-2453 or www.greenlizardcycling.com.

Left Bank Quartet. 3 p.m. Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck



The seventh annual Lake Anne Jazz & Blues Festival is Saturday, Aug. 31, 1-8 p.m., and features the likes of Beverly Cosham and Rashida Jolley.

Road, Reston. Four D.C.-based musicians perform a musical tapestry that has become a CenterStage Favorite. \$15 Reston, \$30 Non-Reston. www.restoncommunitycenter.com.

Red Molly and We're About 9. 8 p.m. Reston Community Center, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston.

Folk trio Red Molly performs their acclaimed music as part of the CenterStage Professional Touring Artist Series. \$15 Reston, \$30 Non-Reston. www.restoncommunitycenter.com.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 21

Run With the Doctor. 7 a.m. 108 Elden St., Herndon. The Center for Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine offers its services in a convenient format to runners at this running event. Free. facebook.com/runwiththedoctor.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 21-22

Rally for a Cause Tennis Tournament. 9 a.m., at Lake Newport Tennis Center, 11452 Baron Cameron Ave., Reston. Men's and women's singles and doubles, with brackets for all levels of players, to benefit USTA Serves, Heart and Cornerstones. \$30. www.restontennis.org or rally4cause@restontennis.org.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 28

2013 National Heritage Award Fellowships at the Reston Multicultural Festival. Reston Community Center Lake Anne, 1609 Washington Plaza N, Reston. Reston Community Center celebrates Seamus Connolly and Veronica Castillo, recipients of the nation's highest honor in folk and traditional arts. Free. www.restoncommunitycenter.com/

Dancing to Lift Spirits Gin Dance Company to perform in Reston.

BY DAVID SIEGEL
THE CONNECTION

“Dance is an amazing art form that you can deliver stories, ideas, meanings and emotions through body language. It's a very powerful thing,” said Shu-Chen Cuff, artistic director of the Fairfax County-based Gin Dance Company. The company will be performing in the coming weeks at Reston's CenterStage and then at the Reston Multicultural Festival.

Gin Dance Company's original works reflect Shu-Chen's Asian heritage melded with contemporary Western dance movement: a flowing fusion of Asian and Western cultural artistry. She was born in Taiwan and resides in Reston.

“Choreographing a dance is like making a cake. You have an idea or image in your head of how it should look and taste, then you start adding layers and decorations onto the cake to complete the product. As choreography, the movements, the music, the costume, and the props/sets are the layers and



Gin Dance Company dancers in “The Core.”

PHOTO BY
RUTH JUDSON
COURTESY OF GIN
DANCE COMPANY

decorations on the cake,” said Shu-Chen. “Inspirations come from everywhere.”

Sometimes listening to an interesting piece of music such as Arvo Part's classically inspired, minimalist piano work “Spiegel im Spiegel” can bring an idea for her work. Other times, she has a dance vision and then searches for the right music.

At the CenterStage performance,

the Gin Dance Company will perform original works such as “The Teller,” a work about fate and destiny.

It was created “to deliver an awakening message for people to take charge and tell your own story in life and not to let someone else do it for you. ... We are masters of our own destiny and we shape our own futures,” continued Shu-Chen.

The thought provoking “The

Core” was inspired by lights; their design and their impact on the mind. “I explore through dance the interconnectivity between all things in the universe. Our inner strength, emotion, and energy can affect the people around us.

We are not alone. ... We are all connected.” Another piece, “Dear Mr. Cooper,” is about giving one-self the “second chance” to express appreciation to someone special,

Where and When

“A Night with Gin Dance Company” at Reston Community Center CenterStage, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Hunters Woods, Reston. Performance, Saturday, Sept. 14, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$30. Call 703-476-4500 or visit: www.restoncommunitycenter.com or www.gindance.org. Note: Post show discussion moderated by local news reporter Surae Chinn, WUSA9

*Gin Dance Company at 2013 Reston Multicultural Festival, Global Stage, Lake Anne Village Center 1609 Washington Plaza N Reston. Performing, Sept. 28, 2013 at 3:15 p.m. Non-ticketed free community event.

when the first opportunity was missed, noted Shu-Chen.

Jane Rabinovitz, a Gin Dance troupe member and Fairfax County native, described Shu-Chen's choreography as telling a story. “Sometimes it is a specific story that she wants people to see or hear and other times it is a story offered up for interpretation by any and all audience members.”

Put away stress and worries and let the Gin Dance Company let you feel uplifted and moved.

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SPORTS

Hornets Ready for New Season

Parents and faculty discuss
new sports season at
Herndon High.

BY RYAN DUNN
THE CONNECTION

Coaches' Night was held on Aug. 19 at Herndon High School. The coaches of fall sports and athletics for Herndon High School students met with parents at the school cafeteria. "It is an informational session where you get and see who your coaches are and meet other parents," said Jonathan Frohm, director of Student Activities and Athletics.

Frohm spoke with the parents and other Herndon High coaches and faculty at the high school cafeteria. "We are in the people business, a bunch of individuals come together to make a team, but it does not just happen," said Frohm. "We have these informational sessions in the fall, spring and winter."

Fairfax County Public Schools go back into session on Sept. 3. The coaches who attended that night were for fall sports such as football, field hockey, cross country, volleyball and cheerleading.

Frohm is a 1989 graduate of Herndon High School and for four years was the assistant director of student activities at Herndon before taking over as the director.

The audience at the cafeteria consisted of more than 100 participants. Frohm shared a slideshow presentation with some general information. Athletic trainer Lisa Petruzzi also came up and spoke a few words. Petruzzi has been employed with Fairfax County Public Schools since January 2001. "The best treatment is rest and hydration," said Petruzzi. "Proper hydration is essential, and we want athletes to aim for a gallon of water a day."

Herndon High was recently recognized as one of the schools which had earned the Safe Sports School award from the National Athletic Trainers' Association.



Herndon High's Director of Student Activities Jonathan Frohm (left) standing with Assistant Director of Student Activities Greg Miller.

PHOTOS BY RYAN DUNN/THE CONNECTION



Parents listen to speakers at Herndon High Coaches' Night in the school cafeteria.

tion. The award recognizes schools that have taken steps to keep their student athletes free from injuries.

"It is a new award, it started last year, and Fairfax County applied," said Petruzzi. "We are excited about it, Herndon was one of the first schools in the country to receive this high level of national recognition for the safety we provide to our students."

To learn more about the sports programs at Herndon High School, visit the webpage at <http://www.herndonathletics.org>. To learn about the Safe Sports School award, visit the webpage at <http://www.nata.org/NR03292013>.

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FAITH

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community, including special holiday services. Send to herndon@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Thursday.

Trinity Presbyterian Church, 651 Dranesville Road, Herndon, has Sunday worship services at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Nursery and childcare are provided and youth and adult Sunday school classes are held prior. 703-437-5500 or www.trinityherndon.org.

Vajrayogini Buddhist Center, Unitarian Universalist Church, 1625 Wiehle Ave., Reston, holds monthly classes for the general public which use Buddhist teachings to practice meditation. 202-986-2257 or www.meditation-dc.org.

St. Anne's Episcopal Church, 1700 Wainwright Drive in Reston, holds Sunday services at 7:45 a.m., 9 a.m., 11:15 a.m. and contemporary service at 5 p.m. Nursery, Sunday school and adult education available. 703-437-6530 or www.stannes-herndon.org.

Adult Sunday school will be held 9:30 a.m. Sundays at the Washington Plaza Baptist Church at Lake Anne Village Center. The group is studying the Gospel of Mark. Services follow at 11 a.m.

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

The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington hosts educational events on: Jewish rituals, ethics and the creation of a Jewish home, regular meetings and group Shabbats and holidays. Participants include Sha'are Shalom, Congregation Beth Emeth, Temple Rodef Shalom and the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia. ShalomDC.org.

The Baha'i holds a weekly fireside, a meeting of discussion, devotion and fellowship, at 7500 Box Elder Court in McLean, at 8 p.m. every Friday. An opportunity to learn about the Baha'i faith. 703-556-3400.

Hope Fellowship Church will temporarily be meeting at Woody's Golf Range, 11801 Leesburg Pike, Herndon. Sunday worship services for the Southern Baptist church are at 10:45 a.m. The public is invited to join a Bible believing, multi-ethnic/multi-cultural congregation, with Bible-based sermons and uplifting music. 703-599-3527 or www.hopefellowshipchurchloudoun.org.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FROM PAGE 9

approach them via public events at their stores—the 2013 “Works Sunday” Committee is forever grateful. During the coming year, may we all continue to respond in like manner to the spiritual and material needs that we encounter day by day. And as we have said so often in the past—may we meet

once again at next year’s “Works Sunday” event!

Wishing God’s blessings upon all,

Christopher Wist

St. Thomas à Becket Catholic Church
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SPORTS

Getting to Know Herndon, South Lakes, Oakton High Sports

Herndon High: Boys' Basketball Team Won Concorde District Title

School: Herndon High School
Mascot: Hornets
School Colors: Red and black
Athletic director: Jonathan Frohm, 703-810-2275

❖Football coach: Brian Day (second year)

The Hornets finished the 2012 season with a 1-9 record, getting their lone victory against Washington-Lee.

❖Field hockey coach: Mary Miller

❖Volleyball coach: Rebecca Waters

❖Boys' basketball coach: Gary Hall

❖Girls' basketball coach: Cornelius Snead

❖Wrestling coach: Mike Gonzales

❖Baseball coach: Greg Miller

❖Boys' soccer coach: Trey Mesiah

Rival school: South Lakes



CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Head coach Gary Hall led the Herndon boys' basketball team to a Concorde District title during the 2012-13 season.

What Happened Last Year: The field hockey team finished 13-7 and won a game in the region tournament. The boys' basketball team posted an 18-7 record, won the district championship and advanced to the region quarterfinals. The boys' soccer team finished 9-3-3 and qualified for the region tournament. The softball team finished the regular season with a 15-5 record.

Famous graduates: Brandon Guyer (2004) was an outfielder/designated hitter for the University of Virginia and a fifth-round selection of the Chicago Cubs in the 2007 MLB Draft. He now plays for the Tampa Bay Rays. Scottie

Reynolds (2006) was a McDonald's All-American and three-time Northern Region Player of the Year for the boys' basketball team. He played collegiately at Villanova University.

Quotable: "Anytime, as a coach, you look for something that's going to give you some credibility. Although I've coached, and [Herndon players] know that, they don't care about what happened 15 years ago. We needed a signature win to give our program some credibility. Tonight is it."

—Herndon boys' basketball coach Gary Hall after the Hornets beat a Chantilly team that entered the contest with a 12-1 record.

South Lakes High: Boys' Soccer Team Won Liberty District Championship

School: South Lakes High School
Mascot: Seahawks
School colors: Royal blue and kelly green
Athletic director: Linda Jones, 703-715-4517
❖Football coach: Marvin Wooten (third year)

The Seahawks finished 3-7 in 2012, a two-game improvement from the 2011 season. South Lakes defeated Herndon, Louisa County and Marshall.

❖Field hockey coach: Jessica Salo

❖Volleyball coach: Cheri Hostetler

❖Boys' basketball coach: Andrew Duggan

❖Girls' basketball coach: Christy Winters Scott

❖Baseball coach: Galvin Morris

❖Boys' soccer coach: Marty Pfister

Rival school: Herndon

What Happened Last Year: The girls' basketball team posted a 23-6 record and finished region runner-up. The Seahawks won their first three region tournament games by a combined five points. The boys' soccer team finished 16-2, won a district championship and reached the region quarterfinals.

Famous graduates: Grant Hill (1990) has played 17 seasons in the NBA for the Detroit Pistons, Orlando Magic, Phoenix Suns and Los Angeles Clippers. The Pistons selected Hill with the third pick of the 1994 NBA Draft. Hill was the 1995 NBA co-Rookie of the year and is a seven-time All-Star. After being named a McDonald's All-American at South Lakes, Hill played collegiately at Duke University, where he won two national championships. In 1994, he was a first-team All-American and the ACC Player of the



CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Head coach Christy Winters Scott led the South Lakes girls' basketball team to the region semifinals during the 2012-13 season.

Year. Alan Webb (2001) is a professional track athlete who holds the American record in the mile. He's competed in the 2004 Olympic Games. Christy Winters-Scott (1986) played basketball for the University of Maryland and was inducted into the school's athletic hall of fame.

Quotable: "We didn't make it to the championship in our district, which is a very big disappointment. Advancing all the way to the regional championship shows how mentally tough we are and how we were able to come out of a loss from the district tournament strong and ready to keep competing."

—Former South Lakes girls' basketball player Gabrielle Schultz



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Running back Mike Wandey and the Oakton football team won the 2012 Northern Region championship.

Oakton: Football Team Won the Northern Region Championship

School: Oakton High School
Mascot: Cougars

School Colors: Burgundy and gold

Athletic director: Pat Full, 703-319-2760

❖Football coach: Jason Rowley (third year)

The Cougars won their first six games of the 2012 regular season, but closed with a four-game losing streak and entered the postseason as the No. 7 seed. Oakton responded by beating the region's top three seeds to capture the region championship.

❖Field hockey coach: Kaitlin Fleischmann

❖Volleyball coach: Dan Courain

❖Boys' basketball coach: Dave Brooks

❖Girls' basketball coach: Fred Priester

❖Baseball coach: Justin Janis

❖Boys' soccer coach: Todd Spitalny

❖Rival school: Madison

What Happened Last Year: The girls' cross country team finished state runner-up. The volleyball team won a district title. The field hockey team finished district runner-up and reached the region quarterfinals. The girls' basketball team went 22-5, finished district runner-up and reached the region semifinals. The boys' soccer team finished 18-1-2, winning district and region championships before falling in

the state semifinals. The baseball team posted a 21-6 record, won a district title and finished region runner-up. The softball team won a district title. The girls' lacrosse team finished district runner-up.

Famous graduates: Eugene Chung (1987 graduate) was an offensive lineman selected by the New England Patriots in the first round of the 1992 NFL Draft. He also played for the Jacksonville Jaguars and Indianapolis Colts during his five-year career.

He played collegiately at Virginia Tech. Cody Grimm (2005) is a safety for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. He played collegiately at Virginia Tech before the Buccaneers selected him in the seventh round of the 2010 NFL Draft.

Jasmine Thomas (2007) is a guard for the WNBA's Atlanta Dream. She played collegiately at Duke, where she was one of the program's top 10 scorers of all time.

The Seattle Storm selected Thomas in the first round of the 2011 WNBA Draft.

Quotable: "Just looking back on our season, it's amazing how we got here."

—Former Oakton quarterback Kyle Downer. The football team won its first six games, lost its next four and then beat the top three seeds in the region playoffs to win the region title.

NEWCOMERS

Silver Line Brings New Opportunities

Metrail 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 METRO RAIL 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 be 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."

THE COUNTY LINE

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



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Karen K. Garza

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 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



PHOTO BY ALEX McVEIGH/THE CONNECTION

From right, South Lakes seniors Jonathan Valenzuela, Olivia Nguyen and Chadia King at the school's graduation ceremony Friday, June 14. New Superintendent of Fairfax County Public Schools Karen K. Garza calls FCPS "a world-class school system."

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.

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.

Board of Supervisors: What Do They Do?

FROM PAGE 6

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."

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.



FH 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.

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.

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



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

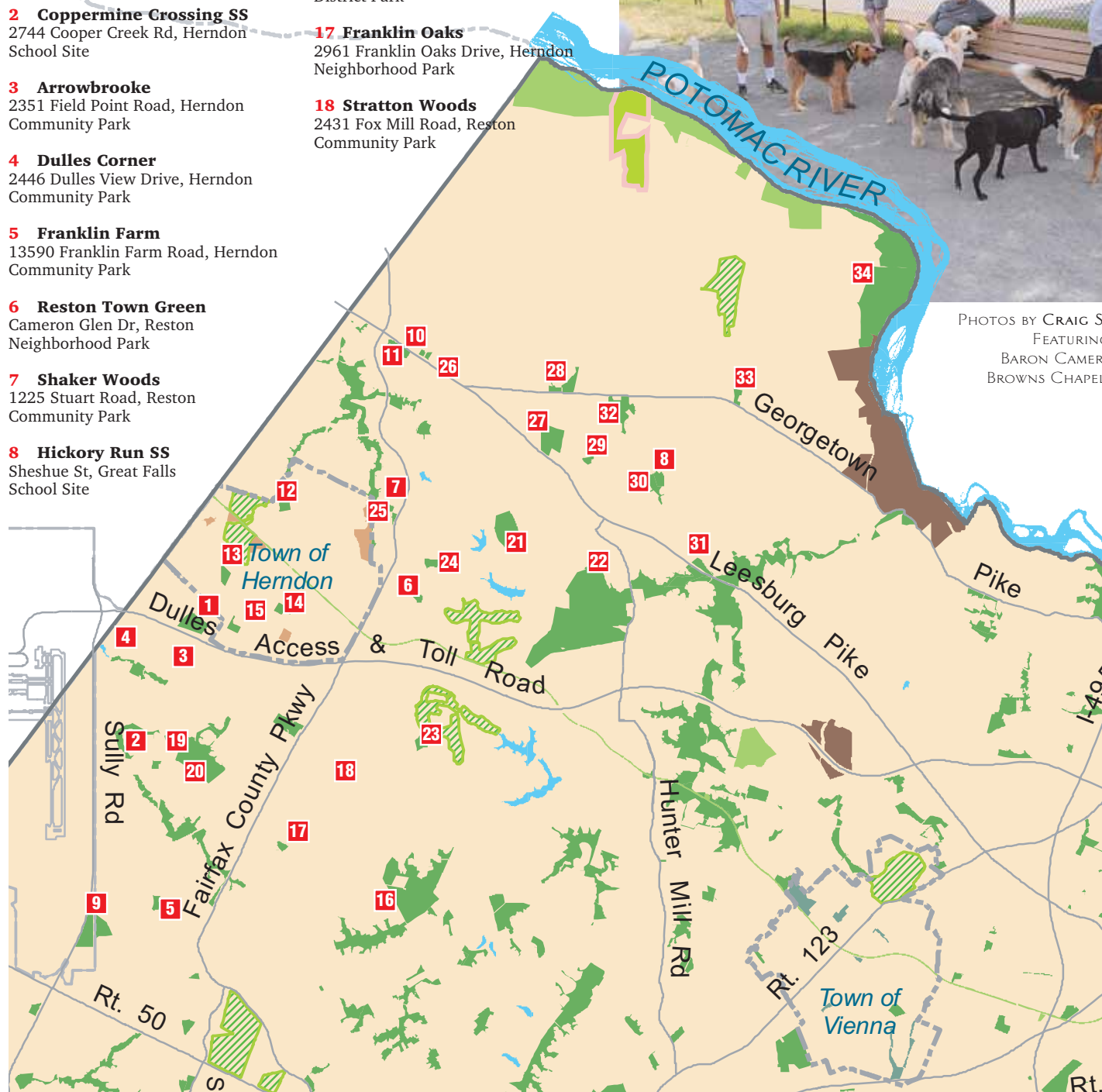
2961 Franklin Oaks Drive, Herndon
Neighborhood Park

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



Cornerstones (formerly Reston Interfaith)

Reston Interfaith helps those that are homeless and struggling in Northern Virginia to build more stable lives by connecting them to vital resources that meet their needs for housing, child care, food or financial assistance. Programs and services include the Embry Rucker Community Shelter, Emergency Food Pantry, Hypothermia Prevention Program and the Thanksgiving Food Drive. 571-323-9555 or www.cornerstonesva.org/.

Council for the Arts of Herndon

The Council for the Arts of Herndon is the Town of Herndon's officially designated local arts agency. CAH is a private, not-for-profit charitable organization supported by citizens, businesses and the public sector including the Town of Herndon and the Arts Council of Fairfax County. www.herndonarts.org.

Herndon-Reston FISH

FISH stands for "Friendly Immediate Sympathetic Help." The volunteer, non-sectarian non-profit is dedicated to helping local residents through short-term crises. Currently FISH is seeking general volunteers or monetary donations. <http://herndonrestonfish.org>.

Touching Heart

Touching Heart is an organization that encourages children to help others by creating a wishlist for a child in one of the orphanages or foster care center affiliated with the organization and asking friends and family to donate to the wish list. The children who receive the gift respond with a letter or sometimes a painting or handmade gift and the two learn about each other and the joy of sharing this way. Teenagers and children that volunteer and help run the organization participate in leadership programs. 703-901-7355 or <http://www.touchingheart.com/>.

The Jeanie Schmidt Free Clinic

Last year, 139 community volunteers, nurses, nurse practitioners and physician gave more than 1,300 hours of their time to see patients. jfreeclinic.org.

Shelter House

Shelter House was formed in 1981 when several ecumenical groups came together to better serve Fairfax County's low-income population; Shelter House follows the Housing First model, with the main priority to re-house every family that begins one of their six unique housing programs. Currently Shelter House is seeking monetary, item and time donations. <http://www.shelterhouse.org/>.

LINK: Link Against Hunger

LINK provides emergency food assistance by request on a daily basis and hosts Thanksgiving and Christmas programs. The organization is comprised of 14 member churches serving Herndon, Sterling and Ashburn. LINK needs contributions of food, coats and holiday toys for children, plus volunteers. More than 4,000 adults and children have signed up for help with Thanksgiving and Christmas meals. 703-437-1776 or www.linkagainsthunger.org.

Northern Virginia Technology Council

A not-for-profit that functions similarly to a chamber of commerce for tech companies, providing resources and networking opportunities for tech businesses; offices are in Herndon, Reston, Chantilly and Centreville. www.nvtc.org.

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 "staycation." 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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• HERNDON • LOUDOUN

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Weekdays 9-4

Assistant Marketing Director

Chick-fil-A Fair Oaks Mall
Seeking individual to coordinate community and special events, develop relationships with business, schools and churches. Work your own hours. Please email resume to cfaeventsfo@aol.com



PLUMBERS WANTED!!!

America's largest plumbing company is looking for experienced Plumbers to join our team in Northern Virginia. In this role, you will perform plumbing services to both residential and commercial customers. In return for your commitment to service excellence, we will provide you with a competitive salary, great benefits, and a great place to work!

Start earning what you're worth!
Call Jason at 703-856-9048 to learn more.



Nysmith School for the Gifted Herndon, VA

Computer Technology Co-teacher:

knowledge of all Microsoft Office & Adobe products, Lego Mindstorms, MSWLogo, Inventor Pro, RobotC, Storytelling Alice, XHTML, CSS, and JavaScript a plus

Substitute Teachers needed:

Music; Bachelor's degree in music education.

Lead and Assistant

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in the future, will petition the CIRCUIT COURT OF THE
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nection, Burke Connection, Fairfax Station/Laurel Hill Connection,
Great Falls Connection, Oak Hill/Herndon Connection, Reston
Connection, Springfield Connection, Vienna/Oakton Con-
nection, McLean Connection, Centre View/Southern Edition, Cen-
tre View/Northern Edition and Mount Vernon Gazette newspa-
pers, as newspapers of general circulation for Fairfax County
whereas the Fairfax Connection, Burke Connection,
Fairfax Station/Laurel Hill Connection, Great Falls Connection,
Oak Hill/Herndon Connection, Reston Connection, Springfield
Connection, Vienna/Oakton Connection, McLean Connection,
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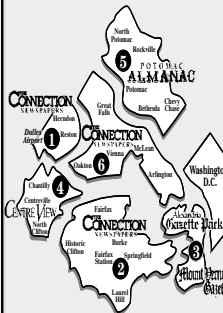
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