

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

2014-2015

The Du family came to Ellanor C. Lawrence Park for the Saturday morning children's concerts held throughout the summer. They stayed to explore the park, including this restored smoke house, which is the only original building still standing on the property.

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Road Changes Are on the Horizon

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

On the horizon for local residents are transportation projects, some school-boundary changes and several fun-filled, family events to enjoy.

Save These Dates

Area residents may attend a variety of upcoming, family-friendly events:

Monday, Sept. 1, Custom Cruisers of Northern Virginia 15th Annual Car Show, in the Town of Clifton. Event features classic, new and hot rod cars, motorcycles, food and music; proceeds go to charity.

Saturday, Sept. 13, Clifton KidFest, in the Town of Clifton. Children's games and vendors, plus food and fun.

Saturday, Oct. 11, Centreville Day, in the Centreville Historic District. Food, crafts, vendors, music.

Saturday, Oct. 11, Fairfax Fall Festival, downtown City of Fairfax. Crafts, food, vendors, music, rides.

Sunday, Oct. 12, Clifton Day, in the Town of Clifton. Crafts vendors, food, music and fun throughout the town.

Saturday, Oct. 25, Clifton Haunted Trail, 8-Acre Park, Town of Clifton.

School Boundary Changes

In May 2013, the Fairfax County School Board approved boundary changes to alleviate overcrowding at Fairfax High and Lanier Middle School. And this September, some of them will affect Chantilly students who attended those schools.

The changes move students in the Greenbriar West Elementary attendance area east of Stringfellow Road from Lanier Middle and Fairfax High to Rocky Run Middle and Chantilly High, eliminating the former split-feeder assignment for Greenbriar West.

The boundary changes are being phased in during the 2014-15 school year. This fall's rising eighth-grade students, juniors and seniors will be allowed to remain at their current schools.

In addition, students living in the Penderbrook and Fairfax Farms areas of the Waples Mill Elementary attendance area were reassigned last year from Lanier Middle to Franklin Middle. Starting in September, these students will also shift from Fairfax High to Oakton High.

Transportation Projects

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors in January approved \$1.4 billion to fund transportation projects for FY 2015 to FY 2020. As a result, many of these much-needed improvements will transition from



Melody Wilson of Ms. P's Concessions serves a funnel cake during Centreville Day 2013.

the planning stage to the construction phase over the next six years. Below are some of the local-area projects – some fully funded, some partially funded – that may now move forward:

❖ **I-66 and Route 28:** Portions of the existing interchange will be reconstructed, and four traffic signals on Route 28 will be removed to enhance safety and improve capacity. A VDOT study is underway. VDOT already has \$50 million programmed for this project. Cost estimate: \$322 million. Six-year funding recently approved by FCDOT: \$54 million.

The work also includes widening and reconstructing the westbound I-66 off ramp to northbound Route 28. Braddock/Walney roads will be realigned, and an overpass with ramp connection from northbound Route 28 to the new bridge will be constructed. New connections will go from Braddock to eastbound and westbound I-66, from Braddock to and from southbound Route 28, and from southbound Route 28 to eastbound I-66 (flyover).

This project extends Poplar Tree Road across Route 28 from Stonecroft Boulevard to Walney Road. It also involves construction of a new access road to E.C. Lawrence Park and reduces congestion on both I-66 and Route 28. Construction is expected to begin by 2017.

❖ **Route 29 from Union Mill Road to Buckley's Gate Drive:**

This project provides pedestrian facilities on the north side of Route 29 and widens Route 29 in this area from four to six lanes. It complements the VDOT bridge-replacement project at Little Rocky Run and completes the widening of Route 29 from Shirley Gate Road to Centreville.

It's currently the last segment of Route 29 between the City of Fairfax and Centreville that's not six lanes, so this work would eliminate the last remaining bottleneck. Cost estimate: \$32.7 million; approved: \$25 million.

❖ **Stone Road Overpass over I-66 from Route 29 to Route 28:**

This project provides an alternative to Route 28 that goes from Centreville to the Westfields Corporate Center. It received partial funding for an alignment study, environmental analysis and preliminary engi-



As Signora Bella, Jody Ellis juggles fire on a tightrope at last year's Centreville Day.

neering. Cost estimate: \$81.55 million; amount approved: \$5 million.

Construct a four-lane divided road between Stone Road at Route 29 and New Braddock Road. The work includes curb and gutter, a 5-foot-wide concrete sidewalk on the east side and a 10-foot-wide shared-use path on the west side of Stone Road.

Construct a bridge over I-66 and another bridge over Big Rocky Run. Re-stripe westbound New Braddock Road to provide two, through travel lanes. This overpass could reduce congestion at the I-66/Route 28 and I-66/Route 29 interchanges. In addition, a future Metrorail station near this site is listed on the county's Comprehensive Plan.

❖ **Widening Route 28** from Old Centreville Road to Prince William County line at Bull Run:

Widen this stretch of road from four to six lanes. The work includes intersection improvements, plus pedestrian and bicycle facilities. Cost estimate: \$47.35 million; approved: \$47.35 million.

It complements the I-66/Route 28 Interchange and, in conjunction with other road projects, would complete the Route 28 Corridor through the entire county. This



Traffic heads west on Route 50 through the work zone near Pleasant Valley Road, before the late-afternoon rush.



A drizzly morning couldn't keep the crowds away from last year's Clifton Day.

project includes intersection improvements, as well as pedestrian and bicycle facilities.

A large development just south of the county line is expected to exacerbate existing congestion. So this widening reduces significant congestion between Prince William and Centreville. And as a transportation corridor of regional significance, it would improve access to Dulles International Airport, Reston and Herndon.

Road Projects Already Underway Or Starting Soon

❖ **Walney Road Bridge and Widening:** The existing, Walney Road bridge over Flatlick Branch is disintegrating structurally and surpassed its life expectancy 17 years ago. So VDOT is replacing it with a wider, sturdier and safer bridge.

The new bridge will have a four-lane capacity with bike lanes. Walney Road will also be widened from two to four lanes from 250 feet south of Mariah Court to Willard Road.

SEE ROAD CHANGES, PAGE 6

Chantilly
CONNECTION
NEWCOMERS
& COMMUNITY GUIDE

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FOR MORE INFORMATION,

CALL 703-778-9431 OR EMAIL

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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE



Brookfield Head Start program



Deer Park mural



Welcome to Virginia Run

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Schools Prepare for Students' Arrival in September

BY KATHY L. SMITH
SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER

School will be starting next week and our teachers, principals and school staff are busy preparing for the students return. As the Sully District representative on the School Board I have highlights from some of the Region 5 schools serving Sully district students.

Westfield High School is excited to bring back We-STEP, a senior internship program for eligible seniors. More than 40 seniors took advantage of this unique opportunity in its debut at Westfield last year and the



Kathy Smith

feedback from students, staff, parents and internship hosts was very positive. Seniors who qualify for We-STEP have met grade, discipline, and attendance standards to utilize the two

weeks leading up to end-of-year senior activities to participate in real-life work experiences off campus. They hope to double the number of participants this year.

On Aug. 28, the Cub Run Elementary staff will meet students by dropping by each student's home for a brief "door visit" to welcome each family to the new school year. The purpose of the Welcome Walk is to further strengthen school, home and community relationships as well as support Responsive Classroom practices.

Virginia Run Elementary will also be hosting a Welcome Walk on Aug. 28. Students will meet their teachers for the new school year when the teacher drops by their house for a brief door visit.

Deer Park Elementary is excited to celebrate its 20th year and added a beautiful new mural to the school library.

The Chantilly High School pyramid will have its Fourth Annual Chantilly Pyramid College Day on Friday, April 24, 2015. College Day supports the pyramid-wide initiative to work collaboratively on the topic of college and career readiness in grades K-12. Survey data indicates that the Chantilly Pyramid continues to have a strong college going culture that is apparent at every level.

Fairfax County Public Schools was named a Center of Excellence for its emphasis on cyber security and development of the workforce of tomorrow. Chantilly High School's Governor's STEM Academy offers a robust program in information technology which includes a total of 28 dual enrolled credits in Cisco, Network Administration, and Oracle as well as Computer Systems Technology (A+). The academy has a 25-year partnership with Northrup Grumman.

The Rocky Run Middle School PTA is hosting a Back-to-School Fair for seventh (Aug. 26) and eighth (Aug. 27) grade students. The fair is a fun way for students and families to accomplish tasks related to the beginning of school and to explore Rocky Run

before the first day of school.

Brookfield Elementary is opening its second FECEP/Head Start class this school year. The staff believes in developing literacy and school readiness skills while strengthening partnerships with families and the community.

Greenbriar West Elementary will continue to provide strong, differentiated instruction to each of their students. Last year the school earned the prestigious Governor's Award for Academic Excellence for the fourth consecutive year. They also designed an effective outdoor science learning classroom space in the courtyard. The school will continue to expand the use of technology as an integral aspect of instructional practice.

Poplar Tree Elementary is starting a Local Level IV Advanced Academic program in grade 3 this year.

The school has many exciting events planned for the students, such as fourth grade Colonial Days and the fifth grade Medieval Fair.

Franklin Middle School looks forward to cultivating its community with 21st century learning for the 2014-2015 school year, with BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) practices and a celebrated local Level IV Advanced Academics Program, as it builds the students skills as communicators and collaborators.

Oak Hill Elementary will further integrate its Teaching Garden with all grade levels through the use of project-based learning utilizing FCPS Get2Green resources.

I urge you to get involved with your child's school and to sign up for Keep in Touch messages from the school board so that you will be aware of issues that the board will be voting on. I can be reached at klsmith1@fcps.edu.

KEY ORGANIZATIONS

WFCCA Meetings

The West Fairfax County Citizens Association (WFCCA) Land-Use Committee meets the third Tuesday of the month, at 7 p.m., in the Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., in Chantilly. Contact Jim Katcham at jimkcv@gmail.com.

Sully District Council

The Sully District Council of Citizens Associations and its Land-Use Committee meet the fourth Wednesday of the month, at 7 p.m., in the Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Blvd. in Chantilly. Call Jeff Parnes, evenings, at 703-904-0131.



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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Welcome to Fairfax County

BY SHARON BULOVA/CHAIRMAN
FAIRFAX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Welcome to Fairfax County, the best place in the country to live, work and play. Fairfax County is home to a fantastic public school system, top tier business and shopping opportunities, compassionate human services, and some of the best parks and open spaces in the D.C. Metropolitan region. This summer featured the long-awaited opening of the WMATA Silver Line, which connects the Reston and the Tysons areas of the county to the entire Metrorail system.

Last June, I cut the ribbon to open a new segment of our Fairfax County Cross County Trail, named after former Chairman (now Congressman) Gerry Connolly. It was his vision, while serving on our board, to build and connect trail sections to make it possible for someone to hike through all nine county magisterial districts. The northern end of the trail begins in Great Falls National Park at the breathtaking Potomac River and travels south to the historic Occoquan River.

The trail passes through stream valleys and meadows, then winds through fascinating Laurel Hill, site



Sharon Bulova

of the former Lorton Prison. In addition to parkland and a golf course, these grounds are now home to the Workhouse Arts Center where visitors can watch artists in action and enjoy plays, performances and community events such as Springfest every April.

Fairfax County has something for everyone. Northern Virginia Community College offers more than 160 degrees at the associate's level and numerous certificate programs. Its partnership with George Mason University provides families and students with a seamless, cost-effective path to a four-year degree.

George Mason University, recently named one of the top five "Up-and-Coming Universities" by U.S. News and World Report, is also recognized as one of America's Best College Buys by Forbes magazine. Under the presidency of Dr. Angel Cabrera, Mason is fast taking its place as a university for the world.

Fairfax County is known for its business-friendly

SEE WELCOME, PAGE 7

Fairfax County's Success Story

BY GERALD L. GORDON, PH.D.

If you are a newcomer to Fairfax County, allow me to welcome you to one of the most dynamic communities anywhere in the world to live and work. It was the vision of many people to create this kind of community, so please allow me to offer a quick history lesson.

The Capital Beltway was completed in 1964. The same year the iconic highway opened, the Virginia General Assembly passed a law that created what is now called the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority. In the last 50 years, creation and growth of a diversified business community and local economy transformed a sleepy bedroom community in the shadow of the nation's capital into what Time magazine has called "one of the great economic success stories of our time."

How much of a success story? Fairfax County was home to no Fortune 500 companies in 1964, and today 10 of those businesses are based here. That's more than 30 states. Today more than 400 foreign-



Gerald Gordon

owned businesses have a presence here, as do four companies on Black Enterprise magazine's list of the 100 largest African American-owned companies, three companies on HispanicBusiness.com's list of the 100 largest Hispanic-owned companies, and top companies that are Asian-, woman- and veteran-owned.

Today Fairfax County is the second-largest suburban office market in the United States. Almost no matter where you live, you can see how the county continues to evolve as a business location. The first phase of Metro's Silver Line rail service further enhances the attractiveness of Tysons Corner and Reston, while the second phase will link Herndon and Washington Dulles International Airport to the rest of the Washington region in 2018.

SEE FAIRFAX, PAGE 7

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The Church of the Ascension is a parish of the Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic States of the Anglican Catholic Church. Our mission is to bring the Word of God and the seven sacraments: Baptism, Holy Communion, Confirmation, Penance, Unction, Marriage and Holy Orders to our neighborhood and to offer the Gospel of the forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ. We are a Bible-believing local church that worships the Lord in the beauty of holiness using the King James (Authorized) Version of the Bible (with Apocrypha), the 1928 Book of Common Prayer, and the 1940 Hymnal. Our building, built in 1854, is also known as the Old Stone Church. It is a beautiful and historic place of worship that has served many throughout its eventful existence. If you would like more information, please visit <http://www.ascension-acc.org>

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE



Workmen across from Rocky Run Middle School create what will be an asphalt bicycle-and-pedestrian trail along Stringfellow Road.



Southbound motorists are directed onto the old section of Stringfellow Road, while northbound traffic drives beside the new portion not yet open.



Site plan of the park-and-ride expansion. The new parking spaces are in yellow.

PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Road Changes Are on the Horizon

FROM PAGE 3

In addition, the downhill curve on north-south Walney will be smoothed out significantly to make it descend gradually. The road will also be raised 10 feet higher in the area where it currently dips down as drivers leave the bridge, for better sight distance.

Utility relocation should begin in September or October, with construction slated to start in January 2015, in hopes of a December 2015 completion. Because of the work, the bridge will be closed from May 1, 2015 to Aug. 30, 2015. Estimated cost is \$15.5 million.



Drivers heading toward Centreville pass the construction site on Route 29 near Union Mill Road.

❖ Route 50 Widening

West of Chantilly: Construction began in fall 2011 to widen 3.7 miles of Route 50 from four to six lanes between Poland Road in Loudoun County and Route 28 in Chantilly.

Currently, Route 50 narrows from six lanes to four just west of Route 28 in Chantilly. But increased development and congestion in Loudoun County creates backups during much of the day on the existing four-lane segment, especially during morning and evening rush hours.

When completed, traffic-clogged Route 50 will have three lanes in each direction, improved turn lanes and traffic signals, curb and gutter on the outside lanes, crosswalks and pedestrian signals, widened and upgraded bridges, and pathways on both sides of the road. The road will also be more level and provide wider buffers between travel lanes and roadside hazards.

This \$100 million improvement project should have three lanes open in both directions by May 2015. All the construction work, including permanent traffic signals, should be finished in November 2015.

❖ **Stringfellow Road:** The part of Stringfellow between I-66 and Route 29 was four-laned in the 1990s by Fairfax County's Department of Transportation. Now, the

section from I-66/Fair Lakes Boulevard to Route 50 will also go from two to four lanes, providing a faster conduit between Route 50 in Chantilly and Route 29 in Clifton/Centreville. Planned are four travel lanes — two, 12 feet wide, and two, 14 feet wide; a 10-foot multipurpose trail, a 6-foot sidewalk and a raised, 16-foot, grass median. And bicyclists will not only share the trail with pedestrians, but also pedal side-by-side with cars, trucks and buses on each outer, 14-foot lane. Utility relocation has already been done and construction is now underway; it's expected to be done in mid-summer 2015. Estimated cost is \$63 million.

❖ Stringfellow Road Park and Ride Expansion:

Adjacent to I-66, the existing park-and-ride lot on Stringfellow Road has 378 parking spaces. A 2007 bond referendum funded an additional 300 spaces, plus a bus-transfer facility with a climate-controlled waiting room, benches, restrooms,

drinking fountain and bike racks.

The costs are \$4 million for the parking expansion and \$1.5 million for the bus-transfer building, and they've been combined into one project. The goal is to enhance bus ridership and promote carpooling and, ultimately, the use of Metrorail when it's someday extended to this area.

The county's Department of Transportation will construct and maintain the building, and VDOT — which owns the land — will maintain the parking spaces. Cars will enter and exit the lot from the Stringfellow/Fair Lakes

Boulevard intersection, and the existing entrance on Stringfellow will be for buses only. Construction begins this summer and should be completed in spring 2015.

❖ Route 29 Bridge Replacement:

VDOT is currently replacing the Route 29 bridge over the Little Rocky Run stream in Centreville. Besides improving the bridge, itself, the project will also result in a new sidewalk and shared-use path. The new

bridge will go from .2 miles east of Pickwick Road to Union Mill Road and will be just under a half-mile long.

It will be built six lanes wide to accommodate future traffic, but will initially be striped for four lanes. A 16-foot-wide, raised, grass, median strip will separate north- and southbound lanes. Each outer lane will be 15-foot wide, with the outermost three feet earmarked for bicycle riders. On the bridge's south side, a path will connect to existing trails. The north side will have a 5-foot-wide sidewalk connecting to the Faircrest community and existing sidewalks. Estimated cost is \$16.3 million and anticipated completion is October 2015.

❖ **Lee Road Widening/Culvert:** The box culvert there will be extended, and Lee Road will be widened over Schneider Branch. Construction began in March and should be finished in May 2015. Estimated cost is \$4.2 million.

❖ Roundabout at the Braddock/Pleasant Valley roads intersection:

In June, the Commonwealth Transportation Board greenlighted a VDOT-supported plan to build a controversial roundabout to improve traffic flow at the Braddock/Pleasant Valley roads intersection by Cox Farms in Centreville.

Although Loudoun County commuters are thrilled, many local residents are opposed to it. They say the steady stream of basically unimpeded Loudoun drivers flooding Braddock and Pleasant Valley roads will prevent them from leaving their neighborhoods.

They're also worried about safety and the environment. Just east of Braddock Road is the notorious S-curve, so improving that intersection could cause dangerous backups there, instead. In addition, three land quadrants surrounding the intersection contain sensitive parkland. Current estimated project cost is nearly \$6 million.



VDOT's diagram of the proposed roundabout at Braddock and Pleasant Valley roads in Centreville.

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Welcome to Fairfax County

FROM PAGE 5

climate. Time Magazine has described us as “the epicenter of the Washington region’s job boom” and “one of the great economic success stories of our time.” Although home to eight Fortune 500 company headquarters (corporate giants such as Northrop Grumman and Booz Allen Hamilton) about 97 percent of the companies in Fairfax County are small businesses with fewer than 100 employees. We are a great location for startups.

Of course, Fairfax County’s greatest asset is a population that is welcoming and engaged. People from all over the globe have made Fairfax County their

home, enriching our community with diverse cultures and entrepreneurship. Visit Fairfax County’s website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov to learn more about what Fairfax has to offer. As chairman of the Board of Supervisors, I am elected at-large by all registered voters. My office is here to serve you. If you have any questions or concerns, please email me at chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov or call me at 703-324-2321. I hope you will sign up to receive my monthly Bulova Byline newsletter that will keep you up-to-date on what is happening and how you can participate in all that Fairfax County has to offer you and your family.

Thanks for making Fairfax County your home.

Fairfax County’s Success Story

FROM PAGE 5

Southeastern Fairfax County (Springfield, Lorton and the Richmond Highway corridor) are becoming important office centers thanks to growth at Fort Belvoir. The Mosaic District in Merrifield is a popular destination, and the Springfield Town Center opening this fall promises to be a magnet for that area.

As I suggested earlier, this evolution of Fairfax County has been no accident. It has been a strategy driven by a consistent vision: A strong and consis-

tent economic development program that attracts companies and helps them stay and grow here creates job opportunities, builds a strong commercial tax base that holds down residential taxes, and allows the Board of Supervisors to provide high-quality public services that enhance the quality of life here.

Yes, Fairfax County has changed tremendously since 1964. But, even with all the progress that has happened, we believe even better times lay ahead.

Gerald L. Gordon, Ph.D., is president and CEO of the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority.

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lost (adj): 1. unable to find the way.
2. not appreciated or understood.
3. no longer owned or known



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Live, Online Broadcast: live.newlife4me.com

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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.

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY

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

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.



One of the beautiful features of the grounds at Meadowlark is the Korean Bell Tower and its surrounding garden.

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.

horticulture workshops, tours, field trips, concerts and volunteer programs.

OR Occoquan

Regional Park
9751 Ox Road, Lorton
www.nvrpa.org/park/occoquan/
703-690-2121

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

PB Pohick Bay Regional Park

6501 Pohick Bay Drive, Lorton
www.nvrpa.org/park/pohick_bay/
Pohick Bay is located on the Potomac River 25 miles south of the nation's capital. The boat launch facility is one of only three public access points to the Potomac River in northern Virginia.

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 Renée Ruggles.

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 Peninsula 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



A stunning spot to fish, found in the middle of Great Falls National Park.

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.

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



Charlotte, from Vienna, shares a sketch that she made of the bridge, across the pond from the Children's Garden at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens.

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

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, rec center, equestrian, playground, swimming
196 acres, district park

WFP Wakefield Park & RECenter

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



The Meredith family came to the Mason Neck State Park, from Arlington, to do some exploring and wildlife spotting.

PARKS

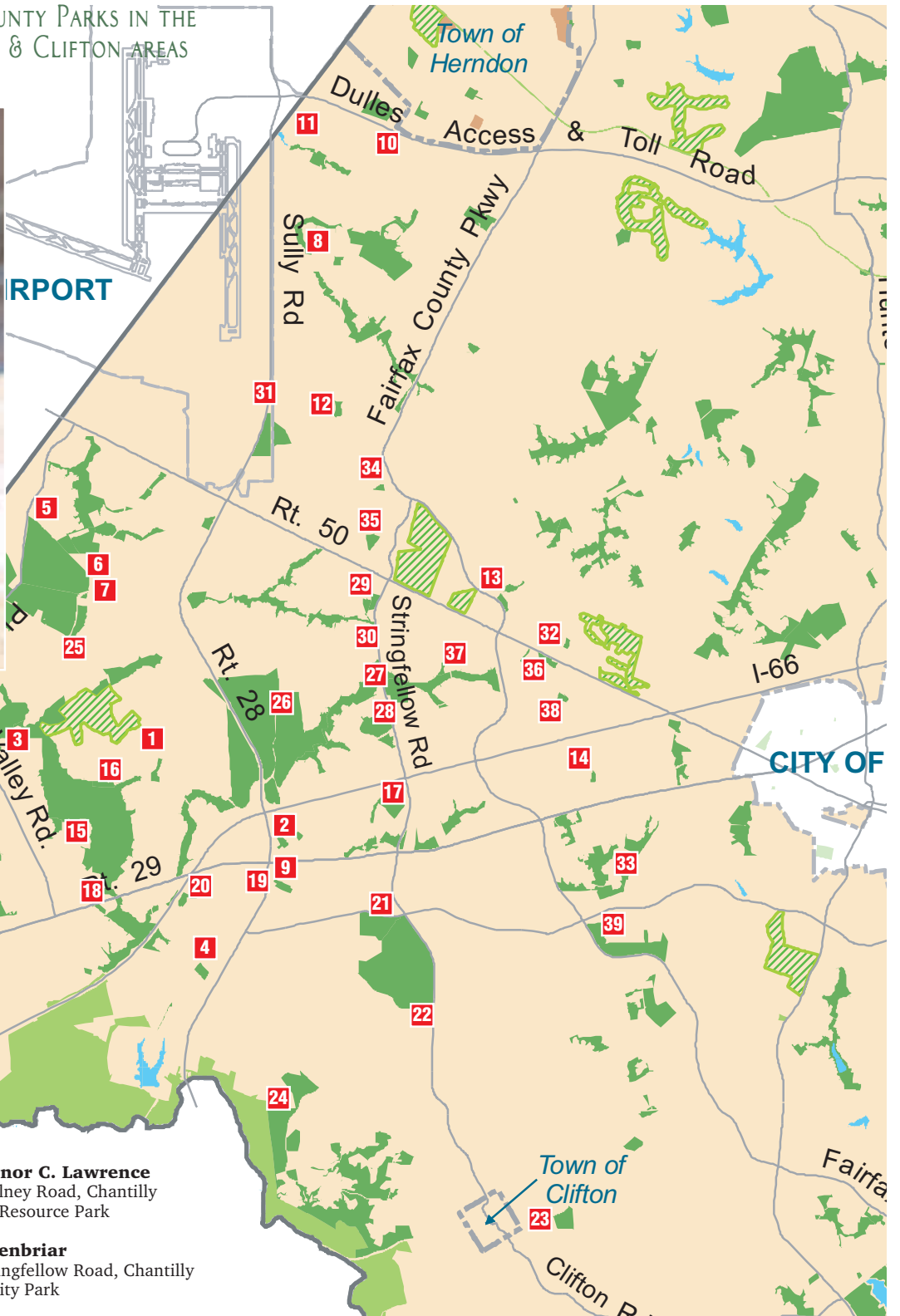
A GUIDE TO FAIRFAX COUNTY PARKS IN THE CENTREVILLE, CHANTILLY & CLIFTON AREAS

Map Number **Park Name**
Address, City
Property Class

- 1 Stone Crossing**
Sully Lake Drive, Centreville
Neighborhood Park
- 2 Historic Centreville**
5714 Mt Gilead Rd, Centreville
Cultural Resource Park
- 3 Ellick Preserve**
Access From Pleasant Valley Road,
Centreville
Multiple Resource Park
- 4 Centre Ridge**
14400 Old Mill Road, Centreville
- 5 Richard W Jones**
Pleasant Valley Road, Chantilly
Multiple Resource Park
- 6 Cub Run RECenter**
4630 Stonecroft Blvd, Chantilly
Special Purpose Park
- 7 Westfield SS**
4700 Stonecroft Blvd, Chantilly
School Site
- 8 Coppermine Crossing SS**
2744 Cooper Creek Road, Herndon
School Site
- 9 Lincoln Lewis Vannoy**
Braddock & Willow Springs School
Road, Centreville
- 10 Arrowbrooke**
2351 Field Point Road, Herndon
Community Park
- 11 Dulles Corner**
2446 Dulles View Drive, Herndon
Community Park
- 12 Franklin Farm**
13590 Franklin Farm Road, Herndon
Community Park
- 13 Fair Woods**
12601 Alder Woods Drive, Fairfax
Neighborhood Park
- 14 Flatlick**
4501 Brookfield Corp Dr, Centreville
Multi-Use
- 15 Pleasant Hill**
6305 Hidden Canyon Road,
Centreville
Community Park
- 16 Chalet Woods**
14912 Cranoke Street, Centreville
Community Park
- 17 Arrowhead**
5200 Arrowhead Park Drive,
Centreville
Neighborhood Park
- 18 Lane's Mill**
14901 Lee Highway,
Centreville
Cultural Resource Park
- 19 Old Centreville Road**
5885 Old Centreville Road,
Centreville
Neighborhood Park
- 20 Centre Ridge North**
Field Encampment Road And St.
Germain Drive, Centreville
Community Park
- 21 Braddock**
13451 Braddock Road, Clifton
Special Purpose Park
- 22 Twin Lakes Golf Course**
6100 Clifton Rd, Clifton
Special Purpose Park
- 23 Chapel Road**
12300 Chapel Road, Clifton
Community Park
- 24 Confederate Fortifications
Historic Site**
13772 Balmoral Greens Avenue,
Clifton
Cultural Resource Park
- 25 Rock Hill District**
15150 Old Lee Road, Chantilly
Community Park
- 26 Ellanor C. Lawrence**
5040 Walney Road, Chantilly
Multiple Resource Park
- 27 Greenbriar**
4601 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly
Community Park
- 28 Poplar Tree**
4718 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly
District Park
- 29 Chantilly**
13373 Brookfield Court, Chantilly
Neighborhood Park
- 30 Chantilly Library Site**
7000 Stringfellow Road, Chantilly
Community Park
- 31 Sully Historic**
3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly
Cultural Resource Park
- 32 Fair Oaks**
3901 Fair Ridge Drive, Fairfax
Neighborhood Park
- 33 Brentwood**
11903 Appling Valley Road, Fairfax
Neighborhood Park
- 34 Franklin Glen**
13395 Springhaven Drive, Fairfax
Community Park
- 35 Fox Valley**
13420 Hollinger Avenue, Fairfax
Community Park
- 36 Fair Ridge**
12300 Meadow Field Drive, Fairfax
Neighborhood Park
- 37 Greenbriar Commons**
4300 Middle Ridge Dr, Fairfax
Neighborhood Park
- 38 Ox Hill Battlefield**
4134 West Ox Road, Fairfax
Cultural Resource Park
- 39 Patriot**
12111 Braddock Road, Fairfax
District Park



Ella gently makes friends with a very young skink.



Veronica Syler, from Chantilly, came with her young pup, Lexie, to walk the trails and explore the creek.



Park visitors gather around volunteer, Thomas Lopez, to see the corn snake he is holding. He offered them information about the snake and the different types of turtles in the small, plastic pool.

What's on the Ballot; How to Vote

Election Day is Nov. 4, 2014, but you can vote as early as Sept. 19.

Every year is Election Year in Virginia. This year, every Virginia voter will choose one member of the U.S. Senate and their member of the U.S. House of Representatives. Two of Northern Virginia's three house seats are open seats with the retirement of two longstanding members, Jim Moran (D-8) and Frank Wolf (R-10).

This area has very high rates of voter registration, but voter turnout varies significantly from year to year. For example, two years ago in 2012, a presidential election year, 71.78 percent of Virginia registered voters turned out to vote. But in 2010, more comparable to this year, only 44.01 percent of Virginia registered voters turned out to vote.

In Fairfax County, with a population around 1,130,900, there are 713,025 registered voters as of July 1, 2014, up from 676,802 in 2012. (Population data from U.S. Census and voter data from Virginia Department of Elections.)

In Alexandria, with a population of about 148,900, there are 97,883 total registered voters as of July 1, 2014. That's down from 101,887 total registered voters as of July 2, 2012.

In Arlington, with a population of about 224,900, there are 162,100 total registered voters as of July 1, 2014, up from 157,236 on July 2, 2012.

REGISTER, CHANGE OF ADDRESS: In order to vote on Election Day, you must be registered at your current address no later than Oct. 13, 2014. You can check your registration status online by going to www.sbe.virginia.gov.

Voting Early, Absentee

Virtually every voter in Virginia is eligible to vote absentee, which includes voting in-person absentee at a variety of locations between Sept. 19 and Nov. 1.

For More Election Information

Fairfax County Board of Elections, 703-222-0776, www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb/
12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Suite 232, Fairfax, 22035; FAX 703-324-2205; email voting@fairfaxcounty.gov
City of Fairfax General Registrar, 703-385-7890, <http://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/general-registrar>

Map of Congressional districts serving Fairfax County.

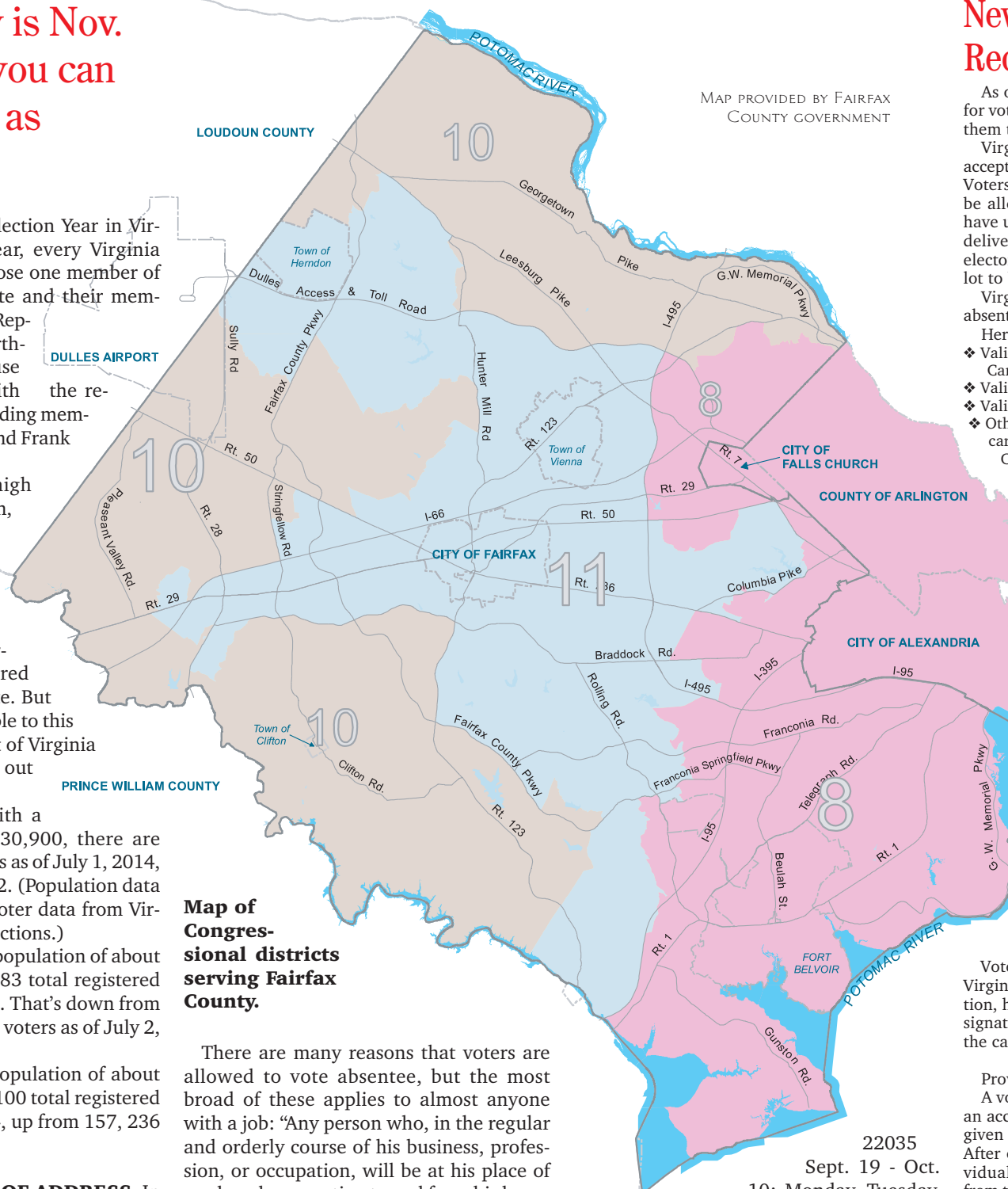
There are many reasons that voters are allowed to vote absentee, but the most broad of these applies to almost anyone with a job: "Any person who, in the regular and orderly course of his business, profession, or occupation, will be at his place of work and commuting to and from his home to his place of work for eleven or more hours of the thirteen that the polls are open (6 a.m. to 7 p.m.)."

You can download an absentee ballot and mail it to your local voter registration office, or you can vote "absentee in person."

In person absentee voting begins at Fairfax County Governmental Center beginning Sept. 19.

Office of Elections, 12000 Government Center Pkwy, Conf. Rooms 2/3, Fairfax,

10455 Armstrong Street, Sisson House, Fairfax, 22030; FAX 703-591-8364; email generalregistrar@fairfaxva.gov
State Board of Elections, 804 864-8901 Toll Free: 800 552-9745 FAX: 804 371-0194
email: info@sbe.virginia.gov
<http://www.sbe.virginia.gov>



MAP PROVIDED BY FAIRFAX COUNTY GOVERNMENT

New Voter Identification Requirements

As of this summer, there are new requirements for voter identification that voters must bring with them to the polling place.

Virginia law requires all voters to provide an acceptable form of photo identification at the polls. Voters arriving to the polls without photo ID will be allowed to vote a provisional ballot and will have until noon on the Friday after the election to deliver a copy of identification to their locality's electoral board in order for their provisional ballot to be counted.

Virginia's photo ID requirements also apply to absentee voters who vote in-person in all elections. Here are the "acceptable" forms of identification:

- ❖ Valid Virginia Driver's License or Identification Card
- ❖ Valid Virginia DMV issued Veteran's ID card
- ❖ Valid United States Passport
- ❖ Other government-issued photo identification cards (must be issued by US Government, the Commonwealth of Virginia, or a political subdivision of the Commonwealth)
- ❖ Valid college or university student photo identification card, must be from an institution of higher education located in Virginia.
- ❖ Employee identification card containing a photograph of the voter and issued by an employer of the voter in the ordinary course of the employer's business
- ❖ or a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card obtained through any local general registrar's office

"Valid" is defined as a genuine document, bearing the photograph of the voter, and is not expired for more than 12 months. A voter who does not bring an acceptable photo ID to the polls will be offered a provisional ballot.

Don't Have One of These?

Any registered voter who does not possess one of the above mentioned forms of photo ID, may apply for a free Virginia Voter Photo Identification from any general registrar's office in the Commonwealth. Voters applying for the Virginia Voter Photo ID Card will have to complete the Virginia Voter Photo Identification Card Application, have their picture taken, and sign the digital signature pad. Once the application is processed, the card will be mailed directly to the voter.

Provisional Ballot Process

A voter who arrives at the polling place without an acceptable form of photo identification will be given the opportunity to vote a provisional ballot. After completing the provisional ballot, the individual voting will be given written instructions from the election officials on how to submit a copy of his/her identification so that his/her vote can be counted.

A voter will have until noon on the Friday following the election to deliver a copy of the identification to the local electoral board. Voters may submit a copy of their ID via fax, email, in-person submission, or through USPS or commercial delivery service. Please note that the copy of the ID must be delivered to the electoral board by noon on Friday, or the provisional ballot cannot be counted. A Friday postmark will not be sufficient. Written notice given to the voter will provide the necessary information, including email, fax, and address of where the ID should be delivered.

If you vote a provisional ballot but don't have an "acceptable ID," you can appear in-person in the office of the general registrar in the locality in which the provisional ballot was cast by noon on Friday following the election and apply for a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card. At the completion of the application process, the voter may request a Temporary Identification Document. This document can be provided to the electoral board as acceptable identification and the voter's provisional ballot will be counted.

SOURCE: Virginia Department of Elections, www.sbe.virginia.gov

22035
Sept. 19 - Oct.
10: Monday, Tuesday,
Wednesday and Friday - 8
a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Thursdays: 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Oct. 14 - Oct. 31, Monday thru Friday - 8
a.m. - 7 p.m.
Saturdays, Sept. 27, Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25
and Nov. 1, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Closed Monday, Oct. 13 for Columbus
Day

Satellite Voting Locations Begin Friday
Oct. 14

❖ Franconia Governmental Center - 6121
Franconia Road, Alexandria, 22310

❖ Dolley Madison Library - 1244 Oak
Ridge Ave., McLean, 22101

❖ North County Human Services Bldg. -
1850 Cameron Glen Drive, Reston, 20190

❖ West Springfield Governmental Center
- 6140 Rolling Road, Springfield, 22152

SEE EVERY YEAR, PAGE 13

ENTERTAINMENT

August 2014

FRIDAY/AUG. 29

Dairy Days. 1, 2 or 3 p.m. at Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Make ice cream and butter the old-fashioned way. \$5 for in county, \$7 for out of county. Visit www.fairfax.gov/parks/sully..

September 2014

Experience Peru. Through Thursday, Sept. 18 at 11750 Fair Oaks Mall, Fairfax. If Machu Picchu, one of the New Seven Wonders of the World, is on your must-see list, take a side trip to Fair Oaks Mall for an interactive glimpse of Peru. The centerpiece of the interactive exhibit will feature a 20 x 30 foot exhibit of fabled Machu Picchu for shoppers to visit, photograph and enjoy. Free, open to the public during Fair Oaks business hours. Visit shopfairoaksmall.com.

MONDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 1-7

Annual Workhouse Clay National Ceramics Exhibition. Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. This exhibition represents the depth and breadth of contemporary functional and sculptural ceramic artworks being created throughout the country. Visit www.workhouseceramics.org/index.php?p=1_15_Clay-National-2014.

MONDAY/SEPT. 1

Herndon Labor Day Festival. 12-6 p.m. Herndon Town Green, 777 Lynn Street, Herndon. Downtown Herndon celebrates Labor Day with an annual festival - great music, a craft show, food, wineries, micro-brews and culinary demonstrations will all be there. Visit www.herndon-va.gov

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 6-7

THURSDAY/SEPT. 11-18

16th Annual Fall for the Book Festival. George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. A week-long, multiple-venue, regional festival that brings together people of all ages and interests. Visit www.fallforthebook.org.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 13

Lorton's Fall Festival. 11 a.m. Lorton Station Town Center, 8998 Lorton Station Blvd., Lorton. Enjoy a magic booth, pumpkin painting, photo booth, games, prizes and more. Visit www.lortonstationtowncenter.com/calendar-of-events.html for more.

18th Annual CCE Irish Folk Festival. Noon-8:30 p.m. Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax and The Auld Shebeen Irish Pub, 3971 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. All are invited to enjoy, free of charge, the beauty and depth of Irish music, dance, language and sport. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/about-us/special-events/fairfax-irish-folk-festival.

SATURDAY-WEDNESDAY/SEPT.13-24

Northern Virginia Senior Olympics. Online registration open. Various venues around Northern Virginia. Events include badminton, volleyball, cycling, a 5k road race, and many more. \$12 per person. Visit www.nvso.us for more.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 20

5K/10K Dulles Day on the Runway. 7:30 a.m. 14390 Air and Space Museum Pkwy., Chantilly. The full length of the runway will be closed off for runners to experience a flat, fast course and a unique look at the airport grounds. All race proceeds will benefit Special Olympics Virginia, the Committee for Dulles Community Outreach and the



Centreville Day volunteers from Stone Middle march in the 2013 parade.

Washington Airports Task Force. Visit <http://committeefordulles.org/5-10K.html>.

Dulles Day Plane Pull. 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Dulles International Airport. Teams of 25 are pitted against one another to see who can pull a 164,000+ pound Airbus 12 feet the fastest in Special Olympics Virginia's "heaviest" fundraiser. Visit www.planepull.com.

Paint Herndon Celebrate the Arts. 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. The annual Paint Herndon event is a celebration of the arts and the anniversary of the opening of ArtSpace Herndon, complete with a painting competition. Visit www.artspaceherndon.com/paint-herndon/.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 21

Herndon Kids Triathalon. 7:30 a.m. Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Avenue, Herndon. This kids triathlon gives youngsters an opportunity to compete in one of the fastest growing sports in the United States. The event is designed for any youth, ages 6-16, regardless of athletic ability or prior triathlon experience. Visit www.herndon-va.gov.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 28

NatureFest. 1-5 p.m. Runnymede Park, 195 Herndon Parkway, Herndon. Explore various nature stations throughout the park including butterflies, bees, life in the meadow, web of life and much more with live animal shows throughout the day. Visit www.herndon-va.gov.

October 2014

SUNDAY/OCT. 5

19th Annual Paws for a Cause 3K Walk. 12 p.m. Weber's Pet Supermarket, 11021 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Paws for a Cause benefits Fairfax Pets on Wheels, Inc., an all-volunteer organization dedicated to providing pet visitation to residents of nursing homes and hospitals since 1987. Visit www.fpow.org/event-685795.

SATURDAY/OCT. 11

Fall Festival in Old Town Historic Fairfax. 10209 Main Street, Fairfax. What started out as a small market for artisans has grown to a festival with over 400 arts, crafts and food vendors, children's activities and entertainment for all ages. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/about-us/special-events/fall-festival.

Centreville Day. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Historic Centreville Park in the

Centreville Historic District, 5714 Mt. Gilead Road. Food, crafters and other vendors, parade, entertainment and more. Visit www.centrevilleva.org.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 17-19

19th Annual Craftsmen's Fall Classic Art & Craft Festival. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Dulles Expo Center, 4320 Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly. Features original designs and work from hundreds of talented artists and craftspeople from across America. Visit www.gilmoreshows.com/craftsmens_classics_chantilly_fall.shtml.

SATURDAY/OCT. 18

Historic Hallows Eve. 4 p.m. Sully Historic Site, 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. Experience the traditions of Virginians in the 18th and 19th centuries by celebrating All Hallows Eve with storytelling, fortune telling, fall foods and family gatherings. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully-historic-site.

FRIDAY/OCT. 24

Spooktacular. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Ave., Herndon. Enjoy ghoulish games, a spooky craft and a children's show. Visit www.herndon-va.gov.

SATURDAY/OCT. 25

Clifton Haunted Trail. 7-10 p.m. Chapel Road, Clifton. A terrifying annual event that winds through Clifton's 8 Acre Park. Visit cliftonhauntedtrail.com.

Air and Scare. 2-7 p.m. Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center, 14390 Air and Space Museum Pkwy., Chantilly. See the spooky side of air and space at the annual Halloween event. Arrive in costume for safe indoor trick-or-treating, creepy crafts, spooky science experiments and other Halloween-themed activities. Visit <http://airandspace.si.edu/events/air-and-scare/>.

November 2014

SATURDAY/NOV. 1

The Robinson Marketplace. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. 5305 Sideburn Road, Fairfax. Shop at over 80 vendors at the Holiday Market, raffle and silent auction sponsored by the Robinson Secondary School PTSA. Visit www.robinsonptsa.org.

WEDNESDAY/NOV.19-SUNDAY/JAN.4

Lights Festival. 7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville. Almost two and a half miles of light displays and a Holiday Village to celebrate the season. Visit www.bullrunfestivaloflights.com.



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS

Bianca Aguirre, 5, of Chantilly's Rockland Village, shows the paint-stamped picture during the second annual Chantilly Day celebration in 2013.

December 2014

SATURDAY/DEC. 6

City of Fairfax Festival of Lights and Carols. Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Come enjoy live holiday music, hot cider, s'mores by the Yule log, petting farm, ferris wheel, caroling and lighting of the Christmas tree in the winter wonderland. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/about-us/special-events/festival-of-lights-and-carols for times and locations.

SUNDAY/DEC. 7

Holiday Arts and Crafts Show. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Avenue, Herndon. A variety of handcrafted items and fine art will be on sale including wreaths, quilts, jewelry, Christmas ornaments, decorations, original artwork, photography, stained glass and more. Visit www.herndon-va.gov.

January 2015

FRIDAY/JAN. 9 - SPRING

Live Music at Paradise Springs Winery. Clifton. Fridays 5-9 p.m. and Saturdays 2-6 p.m. Various live artists perform every Friday and Saturday. Visit www.paradisepspringswinery.com/winery-events.html.

February 2015

MID-FEBRUARY

Community Tax Assistance Day. Fairfax SkillSource Center, 7611 Little River Turnpike, Suite 300 West, Annandale. The IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program offers free assistance with 2015 Federal and state tax returns for households with a total income of \$52,000 or less. Visit www.volunteerfairfax.org/individuals/vita.php.

March 2015

Chantilly Egg Hunt. 26469 Ticonderoga Road, Chantilly. Join the Easter Bunny and search for candy and toy-filled eggs. Visit www.ticonderoga.com/about.

THIRD WEDNESDAY IN MARCH

Herndon Bluegrass Concert Series. Friday and Saturday evenings. Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1090 Sterling Road,

A SAMPLING OF ANNUAL COMMUNITY EVENTS.

Herndon. Listen to different bluegrass concerts every week. Visit www.holycrosslutheranchurch.net.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/MARCH 20-22

19th Annual Craftsmen's Spring Classic Art & Craft Festival. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Dulles Expo Center, 4320 Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly. Features original designs and work from hundreds of talented artists and craftspeople from across America. Visit www.gilmoreshows.com/craftsmens_classics_chantilly_spring.shtml.

April 2015

LATE APRIL - MID-MAY

Destination Fairfax: Annual Spotlight on the Arts Festival. Dedicated to showcasing the very best of the visual and performing arts in the City of Fairfax, Fairfax Spotlight on the Arts is an annual three-week festival comprising artists in and at local venues. Visit www.visitfairfax.com/2014/the-city-of-fairfax-spotlight-on-the-arts/.

THIRD SATURDAY IN APRIL

Herndon Easter Egg Hunt. Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Join the Easter Bunny and his helpers for an eggstraspical event including games, craft projects and egg hunts by age. Visit www.herndon-va.gov.

May 2015

THURSDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 28-31

Herndon Festival. Historic downtown Herndon, 777 Lynn St., Herndon. Four days of fun for the whole family. Visit herndonfestival.net.

June 2015

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 5-7

Celebrate Fairfax! Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway. Northern Virginia's largest annual three-day festival and community-wide celebration at the Fairfax County Government Center. Visit www.celebratefairfax.com.

FOURTH SATURDAY IN JUNE

Clifton Wine Festival. 7150 Main St., Clifton. Virginia vineyards and wineries come together for a day of wine, food, arts and crafts. Visit www.cliftonwine.com.

July 2015

SATURDAY/JULY 4

City of Fairfax Independence Day Celebration. Events at various locations around the city. A fun-filled Independence Day celebration in the City of Fairfax. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov.

August 2015

Drive-in Movie. Saturdays in August. Food and children's activities 6-8 p.m., movie begins at dark. Starlight Cinema, 5860 Trinity Parkway. "The Lego Movie" plays at the drive-in. Watch from your car or bring blankets to lounge on. Bring a radio to listen outdoors. Free. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances or call 703-324-8662.

FIRST WEEKEND IN AUGUST

Country 4-H and Frying Pan Park Park Show. Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. A weekend of 4-H competitions, farm animals and carnival rides. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/fryingpanpark/4-h-fair.htm.

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Every Year Is Election Year in Virginia

FROM PAGE 11

❖ Mason Governmental Center - 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale, 22003

❖ Mount Vernon Governmental Center - 2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria 22306

❖ Sully District Governmental Center - 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly 20151

Monday - Friday, Oct. 14 - 31, 3:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Saturdays, Sept. 27, Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25 and Nov. 1, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Closed Monday, Oct. 13 for Columbus Day

For more, call 703-222-0776 or visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/absentee.htm>

What's on the Ballot?

Every voter in Virginia will vote for U.S. senator and their member in the U.S. House of Representatives.

One constitutional question will appear on all Virginia ballots, Proposed Constitutional Amendment - Question: Shall the Constitution of Virginia be amended to allow the General Assembly to exempt from taxation the real property of the surviving spouse of any member of the armed forces of the United States who was killed in action, where the surviving spouse occupies the real property as his or her principal place of residence and has not remarried?

U.S. Senate

One-term incumbent Sen. Mark R. Warner (D) is challenged by Republican Ed W. Gillespie and Libertarian Robert C. Sarvis.

Republican Ed W. Gillespie, www.edforsenate.com

Democrat Mark R. Warner, www.markwarnerva.com

Libertarian Robert C. Sarvis, www.robertsarvis.com

The 8th District is an open seat because of the retirement of incumbent Rep. Jim Moran (D), who was elected in 1990. Democrat Donald S. Beyer Jr. will face Republican Micah K. Edmond plus three independent candidates. The 8th district includes all of Alexandria and Arlington, plus parts of Fairfax County including Mount Vernon, Lorton and parts of McLean, Tysons and Falls Church.

❖ Republican Micah K. Edmond, www.micahedmond.com

❖ Democrat Donald S. Beyer Jr., www.friendsofdonbeyer.com

❖ Libertarian Jeffrey S. Carson, jeffreycarson.com/

❖ Independent Green Gerard C. "Gerry" Blais III, www.votejoinrun.us

❖ Independent Gwendolyn J. Beck, www.gwendolynbeck.com

In the 10th District, an open seat was created by the retirement of Frank Wolf (R), who was elected to office in 1982.

Both major party candidates are elected officials from McLean, with Republican Barbara Comstock, a member of the Virginia House of Delegates, facing Democrat John Foust, a member of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

The 10th district sprawls from McLean to Winchester, and includes Great Falls, Chantilly, parts of Fairfax Station, the Town of Clifton, part of Burke and Springfield.

❖ Republican Barbara J. Comstock, www.barbaracomstockforcongress.com

❖ Democrat John W. Foust, www.foustforvirginia.com

❖ Libertarian William B. Redpath, billredpath.com

❖ Independent Green Dianne L. Blais, www.votejoinrun.us

❖ Independent Brad A. Eickholt, www.eickholt4congress.com/

In the 11th District, Gerry Connolly (D), former chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, elected to congress in 2008, will face Republican Suzanne K. Scholte and two independent candidates.

❖ Republican Suzanne K. Scholte, www.suzannescholteforcongress.com/

❖ Democrat Gerald E. "Gerry" Connolly, incumbent, www.gerryconnolly.com

❖ Green Joe F. Galdo www.joegaldo.com

❖ Libertarian Marc M. Harrold, www.marcharrold4congress.com

In Fairfax County, all voters will vote yes or no for more money for transportation projects.

Transportation Improvements Bond Question: Shall the Board of Supervisors contract a debt, borrow money and issue bonds of Fairfax County, Virginia, in addition to bonds previously authorized for transportation improvements and facilities, in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$100,000,000 for the purpose of providing funds to finance the cost of constructing, reconstructing, improving and acquiring transportation facilities, including improvements to primary and secondary State highways, improvements related to transit, improvements for pedestrians and bicycles, and ancillary related improvements and facilities?

In the City of Fairfax, voters will also vote on an advisory Referendum regarding length of term for Offices of Mayor, City Council and School Board, and whether the term of office should be increased from two years to four years.

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For membership information, contact our Director of Member Services, Lynn Richmond, at lynn@tbs-online.org or 703-764-2901



Local REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

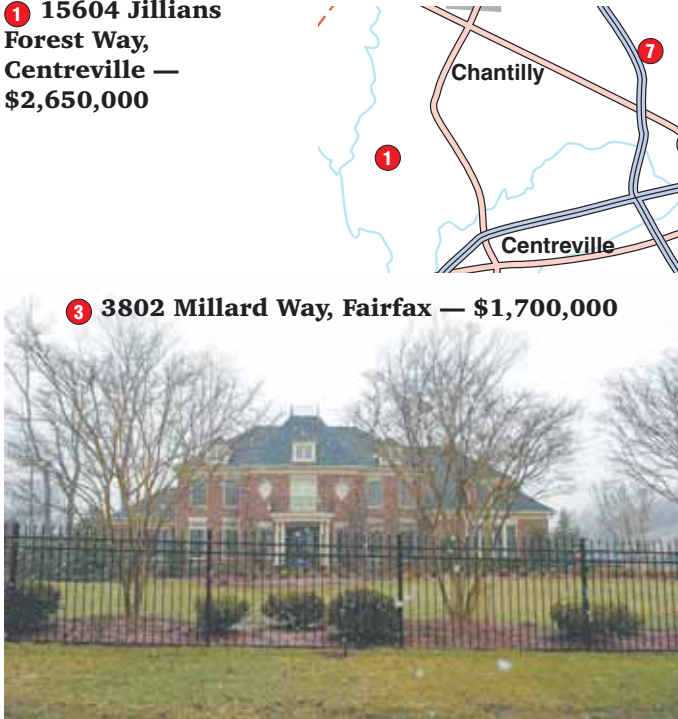
Top Sales, January~June, 2014



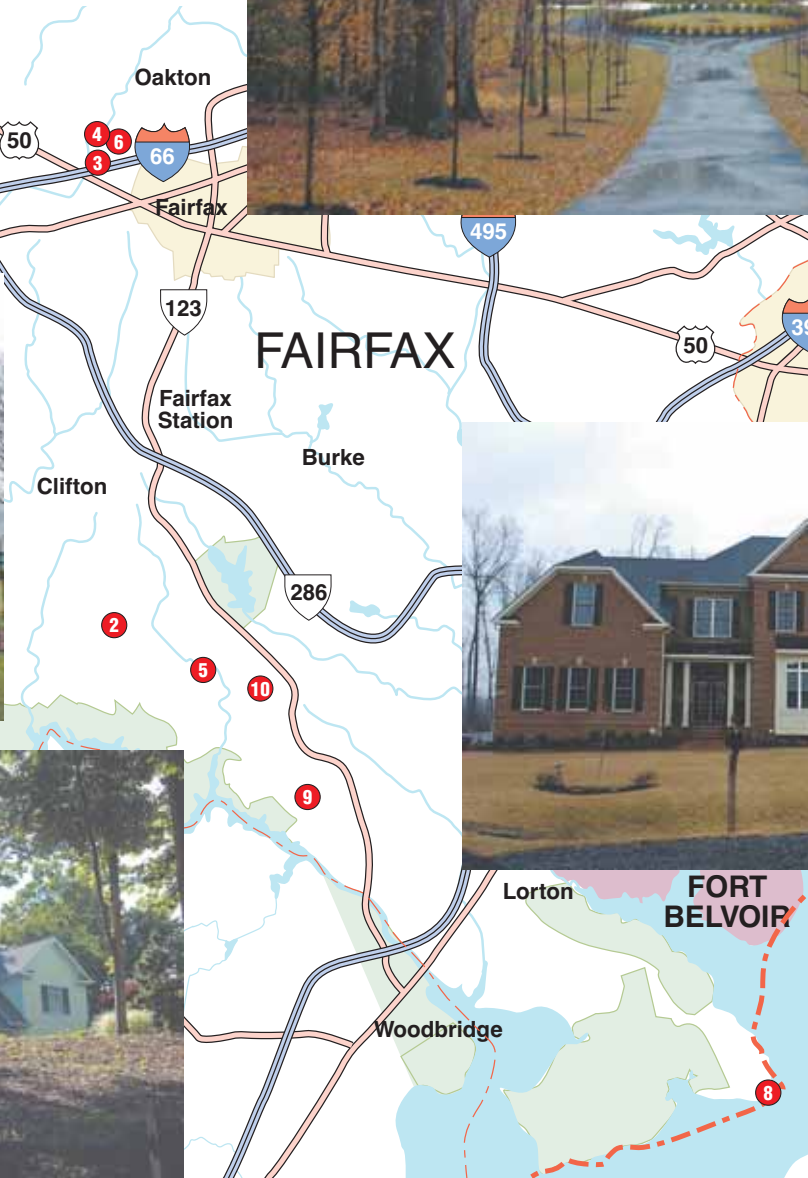
1 15604 Jillians Forest Way, Centreville — \$2,650,000



2 7540 Clifton Road, Fairfax Station — \$2,250,000

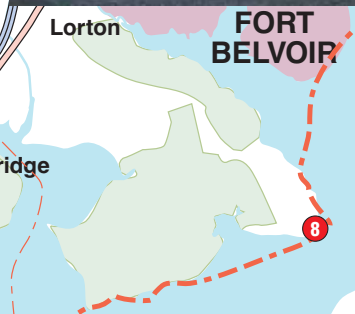


3 3802 Millard Way, Fairfax — \$1,700,000



4 11394 Amber Hills Court, Fairfax — \$1,423,061

5 7904 Oakshire Lane, Fairfax Station — \$1,495,000



7 3514 Rose Crest Lane, Fairfax — \$1,350,000

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	Postal Code	Subdivision	Date Sold
1 15604 JILLIANS FOREST WAY	6	..	..	CENTREVILLE	\$2,650,000	Detached	5.59	20120	CARDINAL FOREST	06/30/14
2 7540 CLIFTON RD	7	..	..	FAIRFAX STATION	\$2,250,000	Detached	4.82	22039	CRAFTOWN	01/02/14
3 3802 MILLARD WAY	5	..	..	FAIRFAX	\$1,700,000	Detached	1.21	22033	THE OAKS	02/18/14
4 11394 AMBER HILLS CT	5	..	..	FAIRFAX	\$1,626,036	Detached	1.08	22033	ESTATES AT FAIR OAKS	01/24/14
5 7904 OAKSHIRE LN	6	..	..	FAIRFAX STATION	\$1,495,000	Detached	5.00	22039	THE ENGLISH HILLS	04/30/14
6 11389 AMBER HILLS CT	5	..	..	FAIRFAX	\$1,423,061	Detached	0.83	22033	ESTATES AT FAIR OAKS	02/27/14
7 3514 ROSE CREST LN	5	..	..	FAIRFAX	\$1,350,000	Detached	0.83	22033	OAK HILL ESTATES	05/23/14
8 5813 RIVER DR	4	..	..	LORTON	\$1,340,000	Detached	0.86	22079	HALLOWING POINT RIVER	03/25/14
9 9680 ALEXANDRA NICOLE DR	5	..	..	LORTON	\$1,300,000	Detached	1.23	22079	OCOQUAN OVERLOOK	05/30/14
10 9752 THORN BUSH DR	5	FAIRFAX STATION	\$1,295,000	Detached	5.19	22039	ESTATES AT ROSELAND	06/04/14

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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

A County of 186,785 Students

BY KAREN K. GARZA
SUPERINTENDENT OF FAIRFAX COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Karen K. Garza

Welcome to the 2014-15 school year. The start of a new school year is always an exciting time for students, parents, and educators. Our dedicated staff has been working hard to prepare for another school year that builds on our tradition of excellence at Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS). Fairfax is a community that embraces its newest residents and the cultural diversity that makes our county such a desirable place to be. For many families and businesses, the decision to relocate to a new area is often dependent on the quality of the local public schools. FCPS has a well-deserved national reputation for excellence.

As we enter a new school year, we are projecting an enrollment of 186,785 making FCPS the nation's 10th largest school district. Fairfax County high schools are among the most academically rigorous in the U.S. and are cited every year as among the top high schools in the country. Our classrooms are led by teachers who inspire, motivate, and prepare students with the knowledge and skills they will need for the future.

Our dedicated teachers promote the success of every student and create a caring learning environment where every student is valued and recognized as an active learner.

Working closely with our school board, parents, teachers, and community stakeholders, we have made a number of positive and exciting changes for our system during my first year as superintendent. We developed the FCPS Portrait of a Graduate that will serve as a foundation on which to build a long-range strategic plan for the school system and will lessen the focus on standardized, high-stakes test-

ing and place greater emphasis on engaged students, project-based learning, and authentic assessments of student learning. The Portrait of a Graduate will ensure that our students are collaborators, communicators, creative and critical thinkers, global citizens, and goal-directed and resilient individuals when they leave FCPS.

Other significant changes that we have made include:

- ❖ The launch of full-day Mondays for all elementary students. The change will increase instructional time for students and dedicated planning time for teachers. The change to full day Mondays received overwhelming support in our community and will benefit students, teachers, and our families.

- ❖ A new standard school calendar that eliminates the need to make up inclement weather days at the end of the school year if fewer than 13 days are missed while providing two full weeks for winter break.

- ❖ The new Bailey's Upper Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences. A first of its kind for Fairfax County, this new school is being converted from a five-story office building at 6245 Leesburg Pike to provide enrollment relief for the overcrowded Bailey's Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences. The new campus will house grades 3-5, while the existing campus will house preschool to grade 2.

- ❖ A new CrisisLink text messaging tool for students and parents needing mental health support and resources. Crisis line staff respond to the text messages 24 hours a day. The text number is 703-997-5444.

The future remains very bright for FCPS families, students, and employees. I look forward to welcoming your children to our schools on Sept. 2 and making this year an exciting and rewarding year for all of our students.

Demographics by Zip Code

ZIP CODE: 20171

Population: 45,887

Race: White-26,558 (57.9%), Black/African American-3,506 (7.6%), American Indian and Alaska Native-104 (0.2%), Asian-13,029 (28.4%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-3,092 (6.7%)

Total housing units: 16,868

Owner-occupied housing units: 10,833 (66.6%)

Households with individuals under 18 years: 7,227 (44.5%)

Households with individuals 65 years and over: 1,723 (10.6%)

Median household income: 137,093

Mean family income: 177,564

Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home: 36.1%

ZIP CODE: 20151

Population: 21,374

Race: White-12,368 (57.9%), Black/African American-1,413 (6.6%), American Indian and Alaska Native-52 (0.2%), Asian-5,355 (25.1%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-3,395 (15.9%)

Total housing units: 6,717

Owner-occupied housing units: 5,456 (81.9%)

Households with individuals under 18 years: 3,209 (48.2%)

Households with individuals 65 years and over: 1,067 (16%)

Median household income: 122,000

Mean family income: 152,746

Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home: 39.7%

ZIP CODE: 22033

Population: 37,691

Race: White-23,548 (62.5%), Black/African American-2,661 (7.1%), American Indian and Alaska Native-78 (0.2%), Asian-8,645 (22.9%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-3,714 (9.9%)

Total housing units: 15,734

Owner-occupied housing units: 9,753 (63%)

Households with individuals under 18 years: 4,808 (31%)

Households with individuals 65 years and over: 2,150 (13.9%)

Median household income: 106,068

Mean family income: 140,094

Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home: 33.5%

Source: U.S. Census 2010; American Community Survey 2012





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SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

SEPTEMBER

Publishing

HomeLifeStyle.....9/10/14

A+ Camps & Schools.....9/17/14

Fall Fun & Arts Preview.....9/24/14

OCTOBER

Wellbeing.....10/1/14

HomeLifeStyle PULLOUT: Deadline is 9/25/14.....10/8/14

A+ Camps & Schools.....10/15/14

Election Preview I.....10/22/14

Election Preview II.....10/29/14

NOVEMBER

Election Day is Tuesday, November 4.

Wellbeing.....11/5/14

HomeLifeStyle.....11/12/14

Holiday Entertainment & Gift Guide I.....11/19/14

A+.....11/25/14

Thanksgiving is November 27.

DECEMBER

Wellbeing.....12/3/14

HomeLifeStyle: Home for the Holidays.....12/10/14

Hanukkah begins December 16.

Holiday Entertainment & Gift Guide II.....12/16/14

A+ Camps & Schools.....12/16/14

CHILDREN'S CONNECTION.....12/24/14

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- McLean Connection
- Mount Vernon Gazette
- Oak Hill/Herndon Connection
- Potomac Almanac
- Reston Connection
- Springfield Connection
- Vienna/Oakton Connection

SPORTS

Getting To Know ... Centreville Sports

Football team won 6A state title, finished undefeated.

School: Centreville High School.

Mascot: Wildcats.

School Colors: Columbia blue, black and silver.

Athletic Director: Jimmy Sanabria, 703-761-7228.

Football Coach: Chris Haddock (fifth year).

The Wildcats went 15-0, including a 35-6 victory over Oscar Smith in the 6A state championship game. After the win, USA TODAY ranked Centreville No. 15 in the nation.

Field Hockey Coach: Demby Banbury.

Boys' Basketball Coach: Patrick Hally.

Girls' Basketball Coach: Tom Watson.

Baseball Coach: Scott Findley.

Rival Schools: Chantilly, Westfield.

What Happened Last Year:

The girls' basketball team went 22-5, finished Conference 5 runner-up and reached the region semifinals. Then-junior wrestler Tyler Love won the 195-pound state title. The girls' soccer team finished state runner-up.

Quotable: "It's certainly the best team that I've ever been



CONNECTION FILE PHOTO

Centreville running back AJ Turner carries the ball during the Wildcats' 35-6 win over Oscar Smith in the 2013 6A state championship game.

around in 21 years of coaching high school football. ... We actually talked to our kids a lot about our place in history and setting a higher standard and that's some-

thing that the kids wanted to do. They wanted to make history. I don't know where you place us in the all-time teams, but we're certainly one of the best in Northern

Virginia and we're definitely the best at Centreville." — Football coach Chris Haddock after winning beating Oscar Smith in the state final.



PHOTO BY Ed Lull

The Chantilly boys' cross country team repeated as state champion in 2013.

... Chantilly Sports

Boys' cross country team repeated as state champion.

School: Chantilly High School.

Mascot: Chargers.

School Colors: Purple and white.

Athletic Director: Corey Bowerman, 703-222-8160.

Football Coach: Michael Lalli (10th year).

The Chargers lost their final three games of the 2013 season by a combined six points and finished with a 5-5 record.

Cross Country Coach: Matt Gilchrist.

Volleyball Coach: Charles Ezigbo.

Boys' Basketball Coach: Jim Smith.

Girls' Basketball Coach: Kurt Sporkmann.

Baseball Coach: Kevin Ford.

Boys' Lacrosse Coach: Kevin Broderick.

Girls' Soccer Coach: Melissa Bibbee.

Rival School: Centreville.

What Happened Last Year: The boys' cross country team repeated as state champion. The golf team won the 6A state title. The baseball team won the 6A North region championship and finished state runner-up. The boys' lacrosse team reached the region semifinals.

Quotable: "It was a lot different from last year, because going in to the 2012 race, we knew that we would win, as long as we didn't implode. This year, winning by only two points, and with only four points separating first from fourth, it was almost a feeling of disbelief that we actually pulled it off." — Cross country coach Matt Gilchrist, whose boys' team repeated as state champion.

... Westfield Sports

Field hockey and girls' lacrosse teams won 6A state championships.

School: Westfield High School.

Mascot: Bulldogs.

School Colors: Black, gold and white.

Athletic Director: Terri Towle, 703-488-6400.

Football Coach: Kyle Simmons (fourth year). The Bulldogs went 11-3 in 2013 and finished region runner-up for the third consecutive season.

Field Hockey Coach: Starr Karl.

Volleyball Coach: Jim Bour.

Boys' Basketball Coach: Doug Ewell.

Girls' Basketball Coach: Maggie Endler.

Wrestling Coach: Chuck Hoskins.

Girls' Lacrosse coach: Katie Ruch.

Rival Schools: Centreville, Chantilly.

What Happened Last Year: The field hockey team won the 6A state championship. Gymnast Katie Freix placed third at states in the all-around. The girls' lacrosse team won the state title. Wrestler Justin Yorkdale won the 126-pound championship.

Quotable: "When the whistle blew and the game was over it was a sense of pride for a group of young ladies that started off the season fragmented and little by little as the season progressed bought into 'TEAM.'" — Field hockey coach Starr Karl.



CONNECTION FILE PHOTO

The Westfield field hockey team celebrates winning the 2014 6A state title by soaking head coach Katie Ruch.