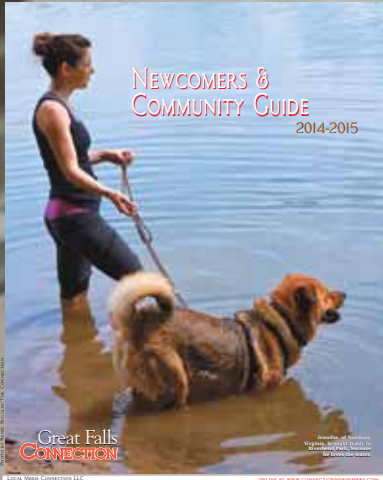


# Great Falls CONNECTION

Inside

Alina Bujnowski, 5, of Great Falls,  
has read more than 130 books  
this summer by herself.



NEWCOMERS  
& COMMUNITY GUIDE

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Forestville Elementary Principal Todd Franklin.



PHOTOS BY NEEKA EGHBALI / THE CONNECTION

Principal Ray Lonnett and Assistant Principal Barbara DeHart of Great Falls Elementary.

# Great Falls Schools Focus on Creative Thinking

Principals of Forestville, Great Falls and Colvin Run Elementary discuss priorities of the new school year.

BY NEEKA EGHBALI  
THE CONNECTION

**A**s a brand new academic year approaches, teeming with students, parents and teachers, elementary schools in the Great Falls are gearing up for significant changes while managing to maintain platforms already in place. Although each elementary school has the expected slight differences in various programs, Forestville, Great Falls and Colvin Run Elementary Schools are united in sustaining one particular program of 21st century education: Portrait of a Graduate.

The initiative, launched by FCPS Superintendent Dr. Karen Garza in 2013, aims to focus directly on cultivating the skills and knowledge students will need to be successful in their future endeavors. Since then, each of the three elementary schools has



Principal of Colvin Run Elementary Ken Junge.

implemented classes that stress critical and creative thinking to its students, one facet of Garza's initiative.

"[The critical and creative thinking class] is unique for us this year because it's new, but certainly there's all different types of offerings that many schools have. We're excited because it'll allow us to build different technology platforms for students as well as teach them problem-solving and social skills," Principal Todd Franklin of Forestville Elementary School said.

## CRITICAL AND CREATIVE THINKING

classes play an equally vital role in the development of students' minds at Colvin Run Elementary School, according to its principal, Ken Junge. "We will continue to focus on the importance of utilizing 21st century skills and critical and creative thinking strategies to help students become self-directed and responsible citizens in our global community," he said.

These lessons that instill a background for critical thinking are at the heart of the advanced academic programs at all three schools, a program centered at Colvin Run Elementary School.

With Portrait of a Graduate well underway, each of the schools' preexisting platforms are gradually molding to follow its established facets.

Portrait of a Graduate does not merely encourage critical and creative thinking. It also promotes four remaining components: becoming an effective communicator, a collaborator, a global citizen and a goal-directed/resilient individual. Each of the three schools already has in place the Character Education Program, one that focuses on one particular aspect of Garza's initiative. "The program has four character traits: respect, responsibility, caring and honesty. We always think that if our kids will show that as they work with others, they can be a better collaborator," said Principal Ray Lonnett of Great Falls Elementary School.

Furthermore, Great Falls, like the other elementary schools, is working to expand technology. "The devices will provide kids with technology where they can do research things and prepare presentations," he said.

**GREAT FALLS** will also be bringing in a new first grade, fifth grade and Japanese teacher to promote these ideals.

New teachers at any Fairfax County elementary school are required to attend Great Beginnings, an induction program that provides these new teachers with the opportunity to meet teachers with similar interests from other schools.

## WEEK IN GREAT FALLS

### Remembrance Ceremony to be Held on Sept. 11

On Thursday, Sept. 11, at 7 p.m., the Friends of the Great Falls Freedom Memorial will hold their annual September 11 Remembrance Ceremony at the site of the Freedom Memorial (behind the Great Falls Library at 9830 Georgetown Pike). The

event will include the Pledge of Allegiance led by Boy Scout Troop 55, patriotic songs, remarks by Richard R. Bowers, Jr., Chief of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, and a bell-ringing for each of the residents of Great Falls who perished on September 11. It has been said that Great Falls suffered the highest per-capita casualties on September 11 of any locale in the country. The proceedings will conclude with a wreath-laying by local dignitaries.

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

### Loebig Chiropractic to Host Blood Drive

Loebig Chiropractic & Rehab, in partnership with The American

Red Cross, will be hosting another community blood drive in Great Falls at the office of Dr. Glenn Loebig, 754 Walker Rd, Great Falls on Tuesday, Sept. 16 from 1 – 6 p.m.

"The turnout for our last blood drive was so amazing, we decided to host another event to assist with our local blood shortage," said Loebig.

The American Red Cross mentions that people can donate a pint of blood every 56 days and each

donation can help save up to three lives.

Prospective blood donors should bring a photo ID, weigh a minimum of 115 pounds and be at least 17 years of age. A 16-year old may donate blood with written parental consent. Many health conditions and medications do not prevent someone from donating blood, so all interested parties are encouraged to call 703-757-5817 with any questions.





PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

**Young Holy Transfiguration church members help out during the food festival held over Labor Day weekend for two days.**



PHOTO COURTESY OF HOLY TRANSFIGURATION MELKITE GREEK-CATHOLIC CHURCH, McLEAN

**Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic church volunteers sell sweets hand-made by church members. The festival will sell 12,000 pieces of sweets over the two-day festival on Labor Day weekend.**

# Middle Eastern Food Festival Returns for 22nd Year

**Festival hosted by Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic Church features, food and sweets, family activities and traditional culture.**

## 21st Annual Middle Eastern Food Festival

Labor Day weekend, Saturday, Aug. 30, 11a.m. to 11p.m.; Sunday, Aug. 31, noon to 6 p.m., Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic Church, 8501 Lewinsville Road, McLean. Middle Eastern dishes – from shawarma wraps to plated dinners - sweets, Arabic coffee, and activities for families and children. Lamb dinner Saturday at 6 p.m. and Sunday, all day, \$14.

For more information, go to [www.MiddleEasternFoodFestival.com](http://www.MiddleEasternFoodFestival.com) or call 703-734-9566. Free admission.

BY DONNA MANZ  
THE CONNECTION

**F**ood and festival-lovers alert! The annual Labor Day weekend Middle Eastern Food Festival is upon the McLean/Vienna area once again. And if you've wondered how a Northern Virginia foodfest can go through 200 pounds of lamb, 400 pounds of beef, 450 pounds of chicken, 180 pounds of butter and 12,000 pieces of sweets, this is your opportunity to find out.

On Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 30 - 31, Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic Church, on Lewinsville Road in McLean hosts its annual Labor Day weekend Middle Eastern Food Festival, featuring an abundance of meats, savories and sweets, folkloric music, and activities for children. The two-day festival is open to the public and no admission is charged. "This is our opportunity to share our foods and traditions with the community," said sweets chair, Samira Bailey.

Baking and food preparation began in June. The freezers in the church kitchen hold hundreds of cookies. "We use the best ingredients we can find," said Bailey. "We bring in our traditional foods, especially the holiday sweets. To us, holidays are very important and food and sweets are a part of family traditions." Many of the sweets are symbolic, Bailey said, and Grandma, Auntie, and Mama would remind the children why they were making what they were. Baklava, a favorite Arabic treat in America, would have been served at weddings and births. "When there is baklava, there's something to be happy about," Bailey said. And desserts are not served at funerals, only at "happy occasions."

**THE FESTIVAL'S MAIN ROLE** is to share the food traditions, culture and faith of Holy



PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

**Father Joseph Francavilla and Middle Eastern Food Festival "sweets" chair Samira Bailey, of Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic Church in McLean, are ready for the church's 21st Annual Middle Eastern Food Festival on Labor Day weekend.**

Transfiguration parishioners with others outside the church. Family and hospitality are treasured. "When you share a meal with someone, especially at their table, then there is a bond created, a bond of hospitality and friendship," said Holy Transfiguration pastor, Father Joseph Francavilla. "So, how can I be your enemy if I've broken bread with you?"

He said the food festival builds bridges of understanding between different cultures and different faiths.

The festival draws diverse ethnic groups, various faiths, from through the metro-D.C. area, who share communal dining tables.

In its 21st year, the festival has helped

raised funds for the church. In 2013, parishioners decided to donate 10 percent of the proceeds from the festival to children of refugees in the Middle East. They will be doing the same this year. "The children are the most vulnerable," said Father Francavilla. "They don't understand what is going on around them. They see the hardships, the bodies." Refugees, said the priest, come to churches for help because social assistance in the Middle East countries is poor. "Even the churches are being overwhelmed," he said. "We give assistance to anyone who asks, regardless of faith." Church and community response was generous last year. Along with the congrega-

tion, festival guests donated to the fund. Father Francavilla said the church took what it made and added to it, rounding off the figure to \$10,000 and sending the money to bishops in the dioceses of Egypt Syria, and Lebanon. In September, Patriarch of the Melkite Greek-Catholic Church, coming from Syria, will accept the contribution.

Father Francavilla said the festival has been voted the "best" Labor Day food festival by readers of Washingtonian magazine.

"You should come because it's a chance for you to have a wonderful time, eat delicious food, make new friends and learn about our faith and our folklore," said Bailey.

**ADMISSION** to the festival and parking are free. Sweets are sold by the piece – and keep in-mind that there are 12,000 pieces – and entrees and a la carte are sold by plates. Shawarma wraps (lamb, beef or chicken) and chicken shish kebab sell for about \$8 each. Mixed platters range from about \$7 to \$10, and the spit-roasted lamb dinner is priced at \$14. A la carte items range from \$3 to \$6 each. Sweets prices vary, and the baklava and the date or nut-filled maamoul are stand-outs.

Kids' activities include pony rides and a bounce house. Vendors sell Middle Eastern goods, and, on the back lawn, meats are grilled, carved and served.

For more information, go to [www.MiddleEasternFoodFestival.com](http://www.MiddleEasternFoodFestival.com) or call 703-734-9566.



# 100 Books of Summer

Great Falls 5-year-old is a super reader.

BY REENA SINGH  
THE CONNECTION

To say Alina Bujnowski loves to read is an understatement. With more than 130 books under her belt in the past three months, the 5-year-old super reader has out-read every other child during Great Falls Library's summer reading program.

"I don't know why I like to read," said Alina after a recent trip to the library. "The books make me laugh."

In the last few months, her interests in fiction have gone from simple picture books to chapter books, according to her mother Josie Bujnowski.

"We started her when she was young," she said. "My parents didn't encourage reading. They just wanted me to do well in school. I love the fact that she loves to read on her own."

Unlike many others her age, she reads chapter books up to a second grade reading level by herself. Recent favorite books have been a series on fairies with different hobbies and interests. Josie can tell her daughter understands what she is reading by the way she reacts to different scenes.

"The comprehension is absolutely there," she said. "I see her reading, and I know she understands it because she's laughing."

When Alina is not reading or at the library three to four times a week, she's playing outside with her friends or watching Star Wars - her new favorite



PHOTO BY REENA SINGH/THE CONNECTION

**Alina Bujnowski, 5, has read more than 130 books this summer by herself.**

movie series - with her dad Ben Bujnowski.

Dee Dee Vachon Lee was one of Alina's preschool teachers for two years at Village Green Day School. She said she has never seen a child so interested in books.

"She loves books more than any child I've ever known," she said. "She reads more than any child I know."

She said most other students her age are just beginning to master letter sounds or recognizing sight words.

"We started reading to her when she was a baby," said Josie. "We provide the environment, but if they're not interested, it's just not going to happen."

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# OPINION

## Back to School: Good Steps, Good Intentions

**T**he first day of school in Fairfax County is Tuesday, Sept. 2, but Monday, Sept. 8 is the beginning of something important.

For the first time in decades, elementary school students will have a full day of school on Mondays instead of being sent home hours early. This action makes so much sense in for families with children in elementary school. The ability of Superintendent Karen Garza to facilitate this change to go into effect right away is remarkable, and we hope a promise for more changes ahead.

Earlier this week, the American Academy of Pediatrics issued a policy statement calling for later start times — not earlier than 8:30 a.m. — for high school and middle school students. It's

not impossible although some school systems would have you believe that it can't be done. It's time to make that change in Fairfax County.

The science is undisputed. From the abstract: "A substantial body of research has now demonstrated that delaying school start times is an effective countermeasure to chronic sleep

### EDITORIAL

loss and has a wide range of potential benefits to students with regard to physical and mental health, safety, and academic achievement. The American

Academy of Pediatrics strongly supports the efforts of school districts to optimize sleep in students and urges high schools and middle schools to aim for start times that allow students the opportunity to achieve optimal levels of sleep (8.5–9.5 hours) and to improve physical (eg, reduced obesity risk) and mental

(eg, lower rates of depression) health, safety (eg, drowsy driving crashes), academic performance, and quality of life."

You can read the report here: <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/early/2014/08/19/peds.2014-1697.full.pdf>

Back to school nights begin this week and run into October. For parents and students, there is no more important event that to turn up at Back to School Nights for your children, introduce yourself to teachers and open the lines of communication. Here is a link to a daunting list of Back to School Nights in Fairfax County:

<http://www.fcps.edu/news/backtoschool/bts-chronological.shtml>

— MARY KIMM,

[MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](mailto:MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)

### VIEWPOINTS

## What Are Your Plans for Labor Day Weekend?

— REENA SINGH



**Kristen Parisot, Consultant, McLean**

"Maybe I'm going into labor. I'm planning to have a barbecue if I'm not going into the hospital."



**Zdenka Willis, Oceanographer, Great Falls**

"I don't have great plans for Labor Day. I have to be on a plane for a business trip to China."



**Lindsay Spanier, Financial Advisor, Great Falls**

"I'm going to Europe. We're going for a cruise for 12 days."



**Charley Mays, Projects Engineer, Great Falls**

"We're going to Virginia Beach for a music festival."



**Charlie Bish, Certified Public Accountant, Great Falls**

"We're headed to the beach. We've done that for that last few years."

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Well Deserved Endorsements

To the Editor:

The recent endorsement of Barbara Comstock by both the National Association Realtors and the Virginia Association of Realtors is not only well deserved, but speaks volumes as to the impact that both Barbara and Congressman Frank Wolf have played in helping further

both our local economy and that of the country. As a Virginia resident for nearly 30 years and a Realtor for nine years, I know firsthand what Barbara has meant to our community. Barbara received these endorsements because of her longstanding commitment to pro-growth economic policies and common sense legislation. I am confident that she will be a strong voice in furthering this approach once she is elected to the U.S. Congress.

Having met Barbara Comstock in 2009 when she was running her first campaign for state delegate, I have proudly endorsed her since then. I say proudly because she has yet to disappoint either myself, or our community, in what she has accomplished in Richmond. Whether it's stepping in to break deadlocks on roadway construction projects or ensuring that communities impacted by past storms received the appropriate attention, she has al-

ways been there. I have no idea how she manages to do so, but Barbara is always there for Memorial Day remembrances, Fourth of July parades or our local Military Appreciation Monday events.

I personally can't wait to see how she takes this same level of commitment, energy and unabashed patriotism to the Hill as our next Congresswoman!

**Bob Nelson**  
Great Falls

## Great Falls CONNECTION

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# SPORTS



PHOTOS BY JON ROETMAN

McLean will operate out of the spread offense under first-year head coach Shaun Blair and coordinator Chris Weiler.

## Blair Looks to Instill Winning Culture at McLean

Highlanders trying for first playoff berth since 2011.

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

Shaun Blair spent eight seasons as an assistant coach with two of the more successful high school football programs in Northern Virginia. Now a first-time head coach, Blair, 35, is in charge of transforming an average team into a winner.

Blair enters the 2014 season as the head coach of the McLean football team. He takes over a program that finished 15-16 over the last three seasons, including a trip to the playoffs in 2011. From 2007-2013, McLean posted a 31-42 record, including an 8-3 mark in 2010, with three playoff appearances, but no postseason victories.

Winning seasons and playoff victories were part of the culture at Blair's previous two coaching stops. From 2006-2010, he was an offensive assistant at Robinson under then-head coach Mark Bendorf, who led the Rams to state championships in 1997 and 2001. In Blair's last two seasons with Robinson, the Rams went 19-5 with a pair of playoff wins.

From 2011-2013, Blair was a defensive assistant at Lake Braddock under head coach Jim Poythress, who led the Bruins to the state playoffs in 2009 and 2010. In Blair's three seasons with Lake Braddock, the Bruins went 28-8 and reached the 2013 region semifinals.

"Bringing that kind of football culture from what the Burke area has been exposed to with Coach Bendorf and Coach Poythress [is a focal point]," Blair



Jordan Cole will be an impact player as receiver and safety for the McLean High football team.

said, "[along with] instilling values about school and your program and playing for more than yourself."

Offensively, Blair and coordinator Chris Weiler have implemented a spread attack led by senior quarterback Brian Maffei.

"He is one tough guy," Blair said. "... His development has been exponential from the kid we've seen on film."

Maffei's top receiving threat is senior Jordan Cole. Tight end Owen Pilewski will also figure into the passing game.

Leading the way on the ground will be running back Chris Merrill.

"He's elusive," Blair said. "The thing that sets him apart is he has phenomenal vision. He sees it all develop as he's carrying the football."

Jack Holland, Tom Shue and Pilewski could also receive carries.

Defensively, the Highlanders will operate out of a base 4-3

alignment. Cole and Shue will be the safeties. Senior Nelson Sera is an enforcer at middle linebacker.

"He gets [to the ball carrier]," Blair said, "with a pretty angry attitude."

Sam Higbee will be another difference maker at linebacker. Brandon Hill is a standout along the defensive line. Blair said one goal for the Highlanders is to improve by one game from last year's 5-5 record, giving McLean a winning season. Another goal is to get in the playoffs.

"They're a proud group of young men," Blair said, "and we want to get a game better than they've been before."

McLean will open the season on the road against Washington-Lee at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 5. The Highlanders' first home game is Sept. 19 against Falls Church.



PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Oakton sophomore Maddie Rouse, right, scored two goals during the Cougars' 5-1 victory over Osbourn Park on Monday.

## Oakton Field Hockey Bounces Back

The Oakton field hockey team trailed early in its contest against Osbourn Park on Monday as the Yellow Jackets scored in the opening minutes.

As it turned out, a little adversity was all the Cougars needed to get going.

Oakton responded with a pair of first-half goals and added three in the second half during a 5-1 victory over Osbourn Park at the Under the Lights tournament at Lee High School.

Sophomore Maddie Rouse and junior Makenzie Brooks each scored a pair of goals for Oakton, and senior Sydney Applegate had one.

"I think it was almost good for [Osbourn Park] to score because it woke [the Cougars] up and made them realize they need to be ready as soon as they're going into the game," first-year Oakton head coach Allison Ryneski said. "I think they responded very well as we

dominated pretty much the rest of the first half."

Rouse's goal with less than 19 minutes remaining in the first half tied the score at 1-all. Brooks scored with less than 15 minutes left in the opening half, giving the Cougars a lead they wouldn't relinquish.

"Definitely, that's what we needed," Oakton senior Jackie Toye said of Osbourn Park's early goal. "Sometimes it just takes that mistake in order for us to get going again. From that point on, we seemed a lot more with it, our passes were better and we just overall played a lot better."

Ryneski said Toye and senior Devon Thomas are two of Oakton's top players.

"They know the game," Ryneski said, "[and they] know where to put the ball."

Oakton will travel to face Madison at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 3.

— JON ROETMAN



Madeline Weaver and the Oakton field hockey team overcame an early Osbourn Park goal to beat the Yellow Jackets 5-1 on Monday.



# CALENDAR

Send announcements to [north@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:north@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged.

## THURSDAY/AUG. 28-FRIDAY/AUG. 29

### All-American Girl- Living Dolls

**Camp.** 9 a.m. Colvin Run Mill, 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Children bring their American Girl Dolls to camp and participate in activities with them. \$190-\$205. 703-759-2771.

## THURSDAY/AUG. 28

### Great Falls Rotary Club Weekly

**Speaker Series.** 7:30-8:30 a.m. River Bend Country Club, 375 Walker Road, Great Falls. Visit <http://www.rotarygreatfalls.org/> to join.

**Artists Meet for Coffee.** 8:30-10 a.m. Katie's Coffeehouse, Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Local Artists meet for Coffee; do drop in! 703-759-2759.

## FRIDAY/AUG. 29

### Great Falls Library Drop-In Chess.

1-5 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Drop-in and play chess. All skill levels and ages welcome. 703-757-8560.

### Look at the Stars! Observatory

**Open.** 7:30-10:30 p.m. Turner Farm Park, Springvale Road, Great Falls. Come to the observatory park for Friday Night viewings. [www.analemma.org](http://www.analemma.org).

**Play Date Cafe.** 10 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Cafe and play area for children. 703-757-8560.

## SATURDAY/AUG. 30

### 21st Annual Middle Eastern Food

**Festival.** 11 a.m. - 11 p.m. Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic Church, 8501 Lewinsville Road, McLean. Middle Eastern dishes - from shawarma wraps to plated dinners - sweets, Arabic coffee, and activities for families and children. Visit [www.MiddleEasternFoodFestival.com](http://www.MiddleEasternFoodFestival.com) or call 703-734-9566. Free admission.

**Cars & Coffee.** 7-9 a.m. Katie's Coffee House, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls. Early on Saturday mornings you'll find a gathering of cool cars - antique, custom, hotrods, exotic, sports cars, they're all here. 703-759-2759.

**Great Falls Farmers Market.** 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Great Falls Village, 778 Walker Road, Great Falls. Don't forget to bring your recyclable bag. [www.greatfallsfarmersmarket.org](http://www.greatfallsfarmersmarket.org).

## TUESDAY/SEPT. 2

### Colvin Run Tuesday Dance for

**Everyone.** 6:30-10 p.m. Colvin Run Community Hall, 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Come participate in weekly dance lessons ranging from 'Dance of the Month to General' with



PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

**Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic Church volunteers will sell traditional dishes and hand-made sweets at the 21st Annual Middle Eastern Food Festival on Labor Day weekend, Aug. 30 -31 at 8501 Lewinsville Road, McLean.**

Hustle, Shug, Latin and more. Admissions: \$12. 703-435-5620 or Ed Cottrell, [EdCottrell@MACP.org](mailto:EdCottrell@MACP.org).

### Great Falls Citizen's Association Environment, Parks & Trails

**Committee Meeting.** 7:30-9:30p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Monthly meeting.

## WEDNESDAY/SEPT.3

**Pokemon League,** 4:30-6 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Come play in Pokemon with friends, or meet new ones. For ages 5-15.

## THURSDAY/SEPT. 4

**Great Falls Rotary Club.** 7:30 a.m.-8:30 a.m. River Bend Country Club,

375 Walker Road, Great Falls. Weekly meeting and speaker series. If interested in joining, visit <http://www.rotarygreatfalls.org>.

**Artists Meet for Coffee.** 8:30 a.m.-10 a.m. Katie's Coffeehouse, Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Local artists get together for weekly coffee. Drop in!

## FRIDAY/SEPT. 5

**Drop-in Chess.** 4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Weekly drop-in chess games in the library meeting room. All ages welcome.

**Look at the Stars! Open Observatory.** 7:30-10:30 pm. Turner Farm Park, Springvale Road, Great Falls. Friday night viewings of the sky at the observatory park. Visit <http://www.analemma.org> for more

information.

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 6

**Cars & Coffee.** 7-9 a.m. Katie's Coffee House, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls. Every Saturday come find an assortment of antique, custom, exotic, sports cars and more! With coffee!

**Great Falls Farmers Market.** 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Great Falls Village, 778 Walker Road, Great Falls. Bring your recyclable bag and participate in the local movement. Farmers from around the area sell their vegetables, fruits, crepes, drinks and more.

**Ballroom Dance.** 8 - 9p.m. Waltz Lesson. 9 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. Colvin Run Dance Hall, 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Live music with Mike Surratt & the ECB playing favorite dance tunes from the 1930s to today. Attire is ballroom casual, everyone is welcome. \$20. 703-759-2685 or [www.colvinrun.org](http://www.colvinrun.org).

## SUNDAY/SEPT. 7

### Grinding Grain at Colvin Run Mill.

12-3 p.m. Colvin Run Mill, 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Come watch the miller grind grain; cornmeal, grits, whole wheat for sale in General Store. 703-759-2771.

## MONDAY/SEPT. 8

**Read to the Dog.** 4:30-5:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Beginning readers can practice reading to a furry friend. Call to sign-up. 703-757-8560.

## TUESDAY/SEPT. 9

### Colvin Run's Dance for Everyone.

6:30-10 p.m. Colvin Run Community Hall, 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Come participate in weekly dance lessons ranging from 'Dance of the Month to General' with Hustle, Shug, Latin and more. Admissions: \$12. 703-435-5620 or Ed Cottrell, [EdCottrell@MACP.org](mailto:EdCottrell@MACP.org).

## WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 10

**Pokemon League,** 4:30-6 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Come play in Pokemon with friends, or meet new ones. For ages 5-15.

## THURSDAY/SEPT. 11

**Great Falls Rotary Club.** 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. River Bend Country Club, 375 Walker Road, Great Falls. Weekly meeting and speaker series. If interested in joining, visit <http://www.rotarygreatfalls.org>.

**Artists Meet for Coffee.** 8:30 -10 a.m. Katie's Coffeehouse, Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Local artists get together for weekly coffee. Drop in!

**9/11 Ceremony.** 7-8:30 p.m. Great Falls Freedom Memorial (behind Great Falls Library), 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Ceremony to especially remember the six citizens who died on Flight 77. Ceremony open to all.

**Watercolor Pouring.** 7:30 p.m. Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant Street, NW, Vienna. Demonstration by artist Patricia Farrell. Free. 703-319-3971. [www.ViennaArtsSociety.org](http://www.ViennaArtsSociety.org).

## FRIDAY/SEPT. 12

**Drop-in Chess.** 4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Weekly drop-in chess games in the library meeting room. All ages welcome.

**Look at the Stars! Open Observatory.** 7:30-10:30 pm. Turner Farm Park, Springvale Road, Great Falls. Friday night viewings of the sky at the observatory park. Visit <http://www.analemma.org> for more information.

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 13

**Tyson's World Music Festival.** 12-10 p.m. Town Square at Tysons II, Tysons Boulevard, Tysons Corner. Experience a full day of performances, art and beverages. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to charity.

**McLean Fall Community Flea Market.** 9 a.m.-1 p.m. 1420 Beverly Road, McLean (behind the Giant Shopping Center). Almost 60 sellers! [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org) or 703-790-0123.

**Cars & Coffee.** 7-9 a.m. Katie's Coffee House, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls. Every Saturday come find an assortment of antique, custom, exotic, sports cars and more! With coffee!

**Great Falls Farmer's Market.** 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Great Falls Village, 778 Walker Road, Great Falls. Bring your recyclable bag and participate in the local movement. Farmers from around the area sell their vegetables, fruits, crepes, drinks and more.

**Dance for Everyone.** 6:30-11:30 p.m. Colvin Run Community hall, 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Come participate in dance lessons ranging from 'Dance of the Month to General' with Hustle, Shug, Latin and more. Hosted by Ed Cottrell. Admissions: \$12. 703-435-5620 or Ed Cottrell, [EdCottrell@MACP.org](mailto:EdCottrell@MACP.org).

## SUNDAY/SEPT. 14

**Concerts at The Alden.** 3 p.m. The Alden Theatre, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Co-sponsored by The Alden and the Music Friends of the Fairfax County Public Library. [www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org) or 703-790-0123.

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Celebrate Great Falls intern Mike Stys and director Erin Lobato at the information booth during the Concerts on the Green Sunday.



The Concerts on the Green is just one of the events Celebrate Great Falls organizes annually.

PHOTOS BY REENA SINGH/THE CONNECTION

## Many Hands Make Light Work

### Celebrate Great Falls searching for volunteers.

BY REENA SINGH  
THE CONNECTION

In an effort to drum up volunteers, Celebrate Great Falls is making some changes soon.

A more membership driven service and a new event under its wing - the Turner Farm Independence Day fireworks - it hopes to drive the number of people willing to donate their time to make CGF's events happen.

"We have seven major community events annually, and we're asking for them to operate just one so they can enjoy the other six," said CGF board member Mike Kearney.

He said that in the future, members can only join if they agree to sign up to volunteer for at least one event - even if just for a few hours.

"We're not looking for event chair people," he said. "We're looking for people who want to help."

**THE FOUNDATION** director, Erin Lobato, said there are 50 people in the community who get called whenever a position needs to be filled for an event. However, she said more - up to 300 - would be preferable so no one gets over-worked.

She said the foundation is a great way to learn more about the community and make new friends.

"We moved here in 2012, and I've been struck by how quickly all of us felt we were a part of a community," she said.

She was invited to a coffee social and volunteered for Spooktacular. Through the foundation, she made friends she regularly socializes with.

"While you're giving back, you

can meet someone you can really hit it off with," said Lobato. "In the 21st century, to maintain that sense of community, it's nice to be able to slow down and do something like that."

Great Falls is unique in that it is often touted as a small town just outside of the nation's capital. According to George Mason University Senior Research Associate at the Center for Regional Analysis David Versel, that may be part of the problem with CGF's volunteer shortage.

"In Great Falls, I would venture to say that if you like there, you have to go elsewhere to earn your paycheck," he said. "There are dozens of places in D.C. that have a small town feel. You have people who live in proximity of the business center - biking or walking distance - who are there every day of the week."

He said the only surefire way of a bedroom community to get the residents to become community minded is to give them an incentive.

"People are only going to volunteer if they feel it is worth their while," he said.

To create that small-town feeling, Lobato said the foundation is hoping to have five or six potluck dinners at local businesses so volunteers can meet their neighbors and make new friends.

She also said that when the Independence Day fireworks did not go off at Turner Farm this year, many residents learned it had nothing to do with a lack of funds - it was because the organization that was planning it did not have enough volunteers. Next year, the fireworks will be under CGF's wing to organize.

"The Fourth of July is a cautionary tale of what happens when people can't donate their time," said Lobato.

The group's current volunteers are looking forward to meeting people interested in joining the group.

"It's the best kept secret," said Barbara Morehouse. "If you only knew how much fun it is to go to a meeting at The Old Brogue and have a beer or glass of wine. And we get so much work done."

She said interested community members might worry about the group being cliquey or exclusive, but they are always looking for new people to help out.

**ANOTHER RESIDENT**, Reena Nagra, organized the Independence Day parade this year.

"The parade was my first volunteer experience with them," she said. "I was raised here so I got to go to a lot of the events Celebrate Great Falls put on."

She agreed with Lobato's statement that many residents just expect the events to happen and do not know how much volunteer hours each of the members have to put into it because of the small numbers.

"I think because it's been a lot of the same people every year so they just think these events will happen no matter what," she said. "Having those same people do it every year maybe made others complacent, but when they volunteer for an event, they get excited and want to volunteer for another right then."

For more information about Celebrate Great Falls or to sign up to volunteer, visit <http://celebrategreatfalls.org>.

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## And Another Thing I'm "Righting" On

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



Not only did last week's CT Scan indicate shrinkage, where necessary – and stability, where hoped for – it also accomplished these hoped-for goals after only two months of chemotherapy (still infused every three weeks) rather than the normal three months of chemotherapy. So depending on how the calendar/treatment schedule actually fell, I probably received two fewer infusions than usual, yet all the radiological indications – and interpretations – continue to be encouraging; after five and a half years, no less. I think I'm entitled to use the word amazing – and lucky, too.

Certainly I've made lifestyle changes, as you regular readers know, though I'm hardly the poster child for outliving-your-terminal-stage-IV-non-small-cell-lung-cancer-diagnosis. I haven't incorporated all the suggestions made to me, but I have listened – and learned, of course. Still, I'm proud of the path I've traveled, which wouldn't have happened without the help and guidance of friends and family who I trusted, and who I know had my best interests at heart. And I have survived, thrived almost, because of their persistence.

But change is not, and has not been easy for me. In fact, "change" might as well be a four-letter word, although I do use my share; never in print, and less frequently in public probably wouldn't kill me. But I'm also good at rationalizing my behavior – both good and bad, so doing/not doing and providing plausible, semi-defensible explanations (maybe even denials) has become one of my best mechanisms. Ultimately, my bottom line in all of these attempts at modifying my behavior is stress reduction – which equates to self-preservation, if you want to know the truth – and doing so in a way that is consistent with my personality, allowing me to maintain the effort. I don't suppose starting and stopping would solve much. It's sort of like a placebo effect. If I think something I'm doing is working, then maybe it is. The mind is a terrible thing to waste and I want to give it every opportunity to bring me back to "normal" health. For all I know, some new pill I've started, some new behavior I've assimilated, something (like sugar) I've reduced is all working together to make me whole again. And since I generally don't look for trouble – considering that trouble has already found me, I try to leave well enough alone until a little birdie tells me otherwise (anybody, anywhere; any source, anyhow; any medium, any way). Now I don't want to knee-jerk myself into a decision. I'll make a few inquiries, I'll do a little research, but overall, I won't make the pursuit my life's work.

In spite of it all, and in spite of me and my peculiarities, I approach this week's five-and-a-half-year, post-diagnosis anniversary with less fear and trepidation than perhaps I should. But as I've said many times previously, and again in this column: "What do I know?" Enough to keep me up and at 'em and alive and reasonably well, I suppose. And way more than I had a right to expect and almost too much to understand. I've never asked "why me?" but I've always thought "why not me?" And so it goes – and has gone; maybe my level of ignorance has been a sort of bliss. However, if I really understood what ails me, I might not be so glib about it.

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

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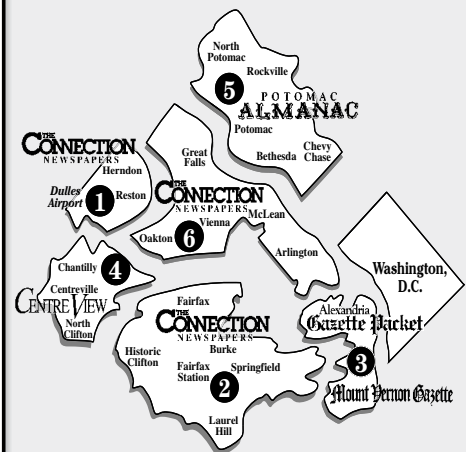
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To have community events listed in the Connection, send to north@connectionnewspapers.com. The deadline for submissions is the Friday prior to publication.

## THURSDAY/AUG. 28

**Computer-one-on-one.** 11 a.m. 10304  
Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Learn how to work with the Internet, Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. 703-242-4020.

## FRIDAY/AUG. 29

**Drop-In-Chess.** 1 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. All skill levels welcome. 703-757-8560.

**English Conversation Group.** 10 a.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Practice English conversational skills. 703-938-0405.

## TUESDAY/SEPT. 9

**American Red Cross Blood Donation.** 8 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Federal Highway Administration, 6300 Georgetown Pike, McLean. redcross.org or 1-800-RED-CROSS.

## MONDAY/SEPT. 15

**MCC Governing Board Work Session and Public Hearing on FY 2016 Budget.** 7:30 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Open to the public. www.mcleancenter.org or 703-790-0123.

## THURSDAY/SEPT. 18

**Chapter Meeting Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 227.** 7:30 p.m. Neighbor's Restaurant, 262D Cedar Lane, Vienna. Vietnam War veteran, journalist, and author Marc Leepson will discuss latest book, "What So Proudly We Hailed: Francis Scott Key, A Life." Free. Call Len Ignatowski, 703-255-0353 or www.vva227.org.

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 27

**McLean Child Safety Inspection.** 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Lewinsville Center, 1609 Great Falls Street, McLean. The McLean District Police Station holds child safety seat inspections once per month.

## SATURDAY/OCT. 25

**McLean Child Safety Inspection.** 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Lewinsville Center, 1609 Great Falls Street, McLean. The McLean District Police Station holds child safety seat inspections once per month.

## SATURDAY/NOV. 22

**McLean Child Safety Inspection.** 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Lewinsville Center, 1609 Great Falls Street, McLean. The McLean District Police Station holds child safety seat inspections once per month.

## ONGOING

**Vienna Toastmasters.** 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., at the Vienna Community Center on the 2nd floor room opposite the elevator, 120 Cherry St., S.E., Vienna. A friendly place to get comfortable with public speaking and impromptu speaking for new and experienced speakers. Open to the public.

**Run With the Doctor.** Every other Saturday at 7 a.m. 8230 Boone Blvd, Tysons Corner. The Center for Orthopedics and Sports Medicine offers its services in a convenient format to runners at this running event. Free. facebook.com/runwiththedoctor.

**Senior Fall Prevention Classes.** 1:30-2:30 p.m. and 2-3 p.m., The Woodlands Retirement Community, 4320 Forest Hill Drive, Fairfax. Classes are held in a heated indoor pool and are designed to work on balance and core muscles. \$10. 703-667-9800.

**Coffee/Tea Poetry Group.** Poets and poetry lovers seek to form a group to meet once a month at a local coffee/tea shop to enjoy each other's creations. 703-819-1690.

**Virginia Sheriff's Institute Scholarship Program.** Those enrolled in a Virginia college or university who are pursuing a degree in the field of criminal justice are eligible for the Virginia Sheriff's Institute Scholarship Program; recommendation letter needed. 703-246-3251, shf-pio@fairfaxcounty.gov or http://vasheriffsinstitute.org/scholarship/.

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# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

2014-2015

PHOTO BY RENÉE RUGGLES/THE CONNECTION

Great Falls  
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Jennifer, of Northern Virginia, brought Teddy to Riverbend Park, because he loves the water.





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## NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

# Welcome to Fairfax County

BY SHARON BULOVA/CHAIRMAN  
FAIRFAX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**W**elcome 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 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



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Thumbs up for Silver Line: The long-awaited opening of the WMATA Silver Line, which connects the Reston and the Tysons areas of the county to the Metrorail system.**

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 stu-

dents 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 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](http://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](mailto:chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov) or call me at 703-324-2321. I hope you will sign up to receive my monthly Bulova By-line 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.

## Hot Issues Facing Great Falls

BY REENA SINGH  
THE CONNECTION

**G**reat Falls, a unique village just outside of D.C., will be undergoing major changes in the next five years and beyond.

Great Falls Citizens Association and Fairfax County will be working on range of issues like deer management, land use, historical preservation and water purification, among others to create a better quality of life for citizens.

Great Falls Citizens Association is what board member Phil Pifer calls the "quasi-town council of Great Falls."

One of the most recent issues they've discussed at the monthly board meetings - usually held at The Grange - is how Turner Farm, a historic farmhouse, can be saved from its current shambled state.

"The Turner family owned it since the late 1800s and it has been essentially a dairy farm since then," said Pifer.

It was only four years ago, that the home, abandoned by family, was bought by the Fairfax County Park Authority.

GFCA is currently looking into having the master plan changed, because the current plan for Turner Farm park does

not include the farmhouse.

"There's a process you have to go through, and it will commence sometime next year," said GFCA Vice President Bill Canis.

If the house is turned over to a possible countywide resident curatorship program, the resident would have to be willing to invest \$150,000 into the current building. Both the Analemma Society and the equestrian clubs that use the park have been fighting to keep the area low-impact and unlit at night, which Pifer said is causing friction between organizations that hope to invest in it and some of the town's residents.

**ANOTHER RECENT ISSUE** the association has been tackling is deer management. A survey about residents' opinions on how to handle the deer population is being finished and may be released as soon as next month.

Canis explained why deer overpopulation has been an issue as of late.

"We're in a heavily forested area and the deer are eating all the new saplings," he said. "If we want to have forests here in 25 years, we have to start planning right now."

## Turner Farm, deer management, trails, roads among hot topics for village.



PHOTO BY REENA SINGH/THE CONNECTION

**The village is looking for the best way to preserve the Turner farmhouse.**

Canis said more than 700 people responded to the survey.

"There's strong support for action," he said.

What type of action? Pifer said that is still a question GFCA hopes to answer soon.

One of the options being explored are neighborhood archery clubs. In that case, all the neighbors in that area would have to come to an agreement about who can have their land hunted on and who do not want a deer to be collected from their property if a deer runs off and dies later.

Now that the Silver Line has started its service, many residents are hoping that system of trails throughout town can be improved and expanded.

"There's a high degree of support for an interconnected system of multi-use trails," said Pifer.

He said local landmarks like the Turner Farm, local parks and the library will be connected as well as bus stops that could take town residents to the Wiehle-Reston East metro sta-

SEE HOT ISSUES, PAGE 12



## Great Falls, Virginia: Landmarks of Local Aspirations

**Capturing and preserving the ever-evolving story of our the village.**

BY KATHLEEN J. MURPHY  
PRESIDENT/GREAT FALLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**T**here are certain old-timers in Great Falls whose families are filled with memories that span generations and even centuries in this area, connecting them deeply with the local story.

There are newcomers – some come for a five-year stint for work, with plans to remain in touch and return to their hometown; some immigrate from far away places, adopting our village as their new home; some come to sleep in Great Falls, only to work and play in other locations throughout the D.C. area. Some look at the land, enjoy the wide-open spaces, the pastoral setting, the peace and quiet, the critters running to and from and say that this place is sublimely beautiful. Others see the land and say that it can hold an immense house – it must be filled in with something hugely man-made to be assuredly prestigious.

**CERTAIN LANDMARKS**, great and small, serve as symbols of the unfolding story of local aspirations over the centuries...

❖ The Potowmack Canal at Great Falls Park - Concept, 1785, Operation, 1801-1830

A young, 16-year-old George Washington was asked to survey the land from the Shenandoah to Georgetown for Lord Fairfax, a large local landowner.

That careful survey awakened a vision of the potential of the Potomac River, and the possibility it held to move produce and cargo from the Ohio River and the Shenandoah to Georgetown, where it could be shipped to Europe. Washington purchased the land where the Colvin Run Mill now stands, realizing the potential of the Difficult Run stream to power a flour mill. His early vision later inspired the formation and early management of the Patowmack Company, where he gathered investors to build a series of locks along the Potomac River to facilitate boat travel up and down the river.

The meetings and negotiations he held among representatives of neighboring states, initially between Maryland and Virginia, and then others, effectively formed the basis of the first continental congress and opened the way for states to discuss and prepare a shared constitution. While the Patowmack Company ultimately was short of capital and went bankrupt, although recognized retroactively as accomplishing one of the great engineering feats of the 18th century, it accomplished a more enduring purpose – to unite disparate states into a nation with a common vision that



**Re-enactors pole through the Patowmack Canal at Seneca Falls, June 1987.**



PHOTO COURTESY OF GREAT FALLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**Brown Farm's Spring House on Colvin Run Road.**

**Great Falls Grange on Great Falls Day, May 5, 2014.**

PHOTO BY  
ARCHIE BROWN



PHOTO COURTESY OF GREAT FALLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**Brown's Chapel Congregation, 1950s.**

has endured through today.

❖ Brown Farm's Milk House at Colvin Run Road, 1851

The Brown Farm's Milk House stands at the west entrance to the Colvin Run Road. The plaque on the door notes that the milk house has been standing since 1851. The Brown family came to the Colvin Run area at that time, a minister, Jesse Brown and his father, Augustus, and their families, to set up a missionary church and to farm. They built Brown's Chapel, which has since been moved to the Reston area and can be found on Baron Cameron Road; there is a graveyard, Brown's Memorial Cemetery, with the various distinguished members of the Brown and Van Patten family just west of the milk house on Leesburg Pike, and there was a substantial farm at the site just behind the milk house.

The Brown family made an important contribution to the Colvin Run area. Arriving in the area a decade before the Civil War, they brought knowledge of better farming techniques, which they were able to share with their neighbors. Brown's Chapel served as a gathering place for local residents.

They are a testament to the contribution newcomers can make to a local community, sharing expertise in ways that make a substantial and enduring difference in the local culture and economy.

❖ Great Falls Grange, 1929

The Great Falls Grange was formed in 1920, just over 30 years after the formation of the National Grange. Local residents were encountering pricing pressures on their dairy products and needed to negotiate jointly, rather than individually, to be sufficiently effective. By 1929, the local Grange had raised and borrowed enough money to build the Grange building, still standing today. The Grange served to organize and unite a group of local families of mostly farmers into a structure and institution that served their mutual interest in a spirit of collegiality and cooperation.

**THE HALLMARK** of the Grange was the importance placed on character development, integrity, and shared values. Members were cultivated through a series of "degrees" or levels within the local Grange before participating at the Pomona (county), State, and National levels.

The Grange is noted for giving everyone an equal voice, nurturing skills and values through a structured development program for all members, regardless of age or sex. A landmark to neighborly collegiality and friendship, the Grange stands to call us to a higher level of community involvement and volunteerism.

It is the mission of the Great Falls Historical Society to capture the ever-evolving story of our village, to preserve it for all who come to live here, securing its accessibility for future generations to appreciate and enjoy.

GFHS has monthly programs and social events and is present weekly at the Great Falls Farmers Market. [www.gfhs.org](http://www.gfhs.org).



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## NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

# About the Connection

**A**s your local, weekly newspaper, the Connection's mission is to deliver the local news you need, to try to make sense of what is happening in your community, 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 achievements, milestones and events in the community and people's lives.

Here in our Newcomers and Community Guide, we've included an expanded and updated version of our award-winning Insider's Guide to 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 email 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 all the people who are in a photo. We also publish notes about news and events from local businesses. Notes about openings, new employees and 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

## Keep in Touch

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:** Email to [editors@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:editors@connectionnewspapers.com) or submit online at <http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/>

### CONTACT:

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Herndon Connection: [herndon@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:herndon@connectionnewspapers.com)

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Vienna and Oakton Connection: [@ViennaConnect](http://www.twitter.com/ViennaConnect)

two weeks ahead of the event, and we encourage photos.

Your community Connection newspaper 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, Best in Show for our Insiders Guide to the Parks, first place for our community guides, plus 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. We continue to publish 15 distinct papers

every week that serve their communities in distinct ways. We welcome contributing writers, with the caveat that our freelance pay is nominal; if you are interested in covering news or events in your community, email [editors@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:editors@connectionnewspapers.com). We offer summer and year-round educational internships with information at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/internships](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/internships).

In addition to our weekly coverage, we have monthly special focus pages on Wellbeing; Education, Learning, Fun, and HomeLifeStyle, plus other seasonal specials including Real Estate, Senior Living, Fall Fun, Food and Entertainment (also Winter, Spring and Summer), a twice a year Pet Connection, and others. If you have story ideas for these, email [editors@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:editors@connectionnewspapers.com); if are interested in marketing, email [sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com).

MARY KIMM,

[MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](mailto:MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM),

[@MARYKIMM](http://@MARYKIMM)

## CHAMBERS

Find a comprehensive online listing of county business resources at [www.fairfaxcountyped.org/business-resources](http://www.fairfaxcountyped.org/business-resources).

### Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce

The chamber covers all of McLean and the majority of Tysons Corner. [www.mcleanchamber.org](http://www.mcleanchamber.org).

### Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce

The chamber offers business-related programs and services to members in the region. [www.vtrcc.org/](http://www.vtrcc.org/).

### Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce

The chamber facilitates industry-focused councils, thought leadership groups, community partnerships and many other opportunities for its more than 600 member companies to expand their networks and raise their profiles in the highly competitive Northern Virginia market.

[www.fairfaxchamber.org/](http://www.fairfaxchamber.org/) or 703-479-9075.-0

### Asian American Chamber of Commerce

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

### U.S. Lebanese Chamber of Commerce

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

### Great Falls Business and Professional Association

Advances community welfare by encouraging high business and professional ethics and practices. Supports patronage of local retail and professional services. Supports Celebrate Great Falls Day, the Great Falls Freedom Memorial and other community developments and events. 703-759-3011, 703-759-4155 or [www.greatfallsbpa.com](http://www.greatfallsbpa.com).

## Great Falls CONNECTION NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

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## NONPROFITS

### FACETS

FACETS began as a meal distribution outreach effort in 1988, today is an established nonprofit organization with programs to provide shelter, food, and medical attention for those unable to provide for themselves. FACETS offers a multifaceted array of volunteer opportunities across all of our programs to include administrative and office opportunities at our main office in Fairfax City. Take a moment to learn more about available volunteer opportunities, then kindly sign up for an orientation where you will learn more about becoming a volunteer for FACETS as well as complete an application. 703-352-5090 or <http://facetscares.org/>

### Affordable Housing Corporation (AHC)

AHC, a nonprofit developer of affordable housing, operates in Vienna to provide quality homes for low- and moderate-income families. AHC also offers services for residents and homeownership opportunities. [www.ahcinc.org/index.html](http://www.ahcinc.org/index.html).

### Northern Virginia Family Service

NVFS addresses the needs of many communities in our region by providing services like foster care and multicultural human services. See extensive volunteer opportunities on their website. 703-385-3267 or [www.nvfs.org/](http://www.nvfs.org/).

### Committee for Helping Others (CHO)

CHO is a Vienna organization committed to providing simple, loving charity to those in need. CHO is currently seeking volunteer drivers for their furniture and transportation programs. Their 14th Annual Thanksgiving Interfaith Service is Tuesday, Nov. 20, 7:30 p.m. at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road. 703-281-7614 or [www.cho-va.com](http://www.cho-va.com).

### Family PASS

Family PASS strives to step in before families lose their housing by providing rental subsidies, extensive case management and other assistance including education, job training, child care, food, transportation, health care, help with children's issues and counseling. Volunteer opportunities include drivers, event hosts, food drive organizers and tutors. 703-242-6474 or <http://familypassfairfax.org/>.

### Kurdish Human Rights Watch

KHRW began in 1989 with the mission to enable Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), refugees, asylee newcomers and homeless individuals to achieve self-sufficiency and economic independence through direct assistance and capacity-building. Volunteers and advocates can adopt a refugee or refugee family, sponsor a critically ill child from Iraq to receive medical care, promote women and democracy in Iraq, promote human rights in Iran, and donate to the scholarship fund for refugee youth. 703-385-3806, [admin@khrw.org](mailto:admin@khrw.org), or [www.khrw.org](http://www.khrw.org).

### Shelter House

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. Formed in 1981, when several ecumenical groups came together to better serve Fairfax County's

SEE NONPROFITS, PAGE 9



# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

## High Schools Aiming High

### Recent news from Herndon, Langley and McLean High.

BY JANIE STRAUSS  
SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER/DRANESVILLE

**H**erndon, Langley and McLean High Schools offer a rich program of courses, extracurricular activities and events. Check their websites for detailed descriptions. [www.fcps.edu/HerndonHS](http://www.fcps.edu/HerndonHS), [www.fcps.edu/LangleyHS](http://www.fcps.edu/LangleyHS) and [www.fcps.edu/McLeanHS](http://www.fcps.edu/McLeanHS)

Concerts, plays and athletic events are open to the public and a great way to get to know a school community.

Here is a sampling of recent school news.

#### HERNDON HIGH SCHOOL

- ❖ HHS will complete the planning phase this year for their renovation. Construction will likely begin in 2016-17.
- ❖ The Step Team has won their second world championship and the marching band will perform at Disney World in April.
- ❖ The Virtual Business Enterprise class has represented Virginia three times in national competitions.
- ❖ HHS has the largest number of National Board Certified teachers in a single FCPS schools.
- ❖ Herndon continues to field a competitive robotics team and offers a Navy JROTC program.

❖ Herndon is a "kids at Hope" school with an expectation of success for all students.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

#### LANGLEY HIGH SCHOOL

\*Langley High School will begin their renovation in December of this year. Classes will continue with the help of 32 temporary classrooms in the new Quad Ville located in the parking lot. On campus parking will be reduced. With the auditorium under construction in the first phase this year, orchestra, band and drama performances will take place in other spaces. Please continue to come to events, but check for new locations.

\*Last year, the volleyball team won the state championship, the science Olympiad team was second in the state and the Saxon Stage's performance of "The Children's Hour" won a Cappie for the best play and Jamie Joeyen-Waldorf won for graduating critic.

- ❖ The All Langley Read is "The Adoration of Jenna Fox" by Mary Pearson.
- ❖ The Langley Leap, a senior internship program, will be offered again in June through Government classes.

#### MCLEAN HIGH SCHOOL

\*MHS, renovated some years ago and having experienced enrollment growth in the last few years, may see no uptick in enrollment this year.

- ❖ McLean's Critics team, Emma Paquette (rising critic) and Alex Stone (lead actor in a musical) won Cappies.
- ❖ Luke Ferris, a member of the USA Aquatics Special Olympics Team, has made the Team USA for the World Special Olympics.
- ❖ The Symphonic Band will perform at the National Concert Band Festival in Indianapolis.
- ❖ Dawn Allison, a MHS counselor, has been selected as the 2013-2014 FCPS Outstanding Career Center Specialist.
- ❖ McLean's principal, Ellen Reilly, has a special page on the school website called Reilly's Raves that highlights various student and staff accomplishments – like Catherine Overberg who graduated with perfect attendance from kindergarten through high schools. Check it out.

## Dermatology & Allergy

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Dr. Kathryn J. Sowerwine is a board certified Allergist and Immunologist with a special interest in dermatological diseases linked to allergy. She completed a residency in Internal Medicine at Georgetown University Hospital and her clinical and research fellowship in allergy and immunology at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, MD.

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# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

## What's the Best Part About Living in Great Falls?

### TIPS FOR NEWCOMERS

PHOTOS BY  
NIKKI CHESHIRE  
THE CONNECTION

#### Ava Nguyen, Resident for three years

"It's hard to explain. I think it's the sense of community; it's so large, but you can still make a difference. Everyone still knows everyone. I'm a part of the Great Falls Rotary Club, and we support local schools, and donate to various international charities. It's the first service club like it in Great Falls. There's great community events too, like the concerts!"



#### Andy & Ed Smith, Residents for 17 years

"For me, it's the elbow room, the space, the green. You have this almost rural feel, but are only 30 minutes from everything D.C. has to offer. Well, without traffic that is!"



#### Emma Mercer, Resident for 20 years

"The best part about living in Great Falls is being close to D.C. and still living in an open area. It's feeling close to a city without being in the city."



#### Irma McDonald & Lucy Slamon, Residents for 28 years and 18 years

"I love nature. It's so beautiful here. My brother lives in California, and it's nothing compared to this, to all the trees. The people are also very friendly."



#### Eric Guidi, Resident for 22 years

"It's definitely the community. There are parades, concerts, car shows, that kind of stuff. Just all the activities but still the small town feel."

— NIKKI CHESHIRE

## Friends & Neighbors to Host Kick-off Luncheon

**G**reat Falls Friends & Neighbors [GFFN] is a women's club designed to connect new with current residents of Great Falls and the surrounding communities. For all members young or old, it is a wonderful way to establish friendships and community contacts through the social, educational and cultural activities that GFFN provides. In addition, the club provides service, support, and donations to philanthropic and civic organizations, particularly in and close to the Great Falls community. GFFN is a nonprofit organization.

Our social interests are quite varied, there is something for everyone. Interests include restaurant dining, fitness/exercise groups, book club, bridge, gardening, wine tasting, theatre, dancing and much more. There are also special events that include family picnics, holiday parties and champagne brunches.

The civic focus of the club includes participation and sponsorship in local community events such as the annual Fourth of July Parade, the Poetry Contest for local school students and the Halloween Haunted House.

The philanthropic endeavors of GFFN highlight the talent, compassion, and dedication of its members. Club philanthropy works towards a variety of programs benefiting women and children.

Join GFFN at their kick-off luncheon on Friday, Sept. 19 at River Bend Country Club.

For more information visit <http://www.gffnva.org/> or email at [info@gffnva.org](mailto:info@gffnva.org).

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# NONPROFITS

FROM PAGE 6

low-income population. Volunteer opportunities vary by shelter; see website for details. 703-955-7876, info@shelterhouse.org, www.shelterhouse.org.

## Celebrate Great Falls

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

## Friends of the Great Falls Library

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

## Great Falls Optimist Club

A group of men and women committed to programs that educate youth and help them expand their horizons and avoid pitfalls as they mature. The Optimists sponsor the "Just Say No" program and an oratorical contest as well as the Adeler Jewelers Children's Festival. They sponsor boys and girls softball and baseball teams and Operation Smile. 703-938-5858.

## Great Falls Woman's Club

This diverse group makes things happen in the community and looks to residents to join in. For the last two years, the club has raised thousands of dollars with a Casino Night Gala and fundraiser to support construction of a new fire station for professional and volunteer firefighters and paramedics in Great Falls. While they perform community service, raise money and award women's scholarships, members of the Great Falls Woman's Club have programs that foster camaraderie within the club. Membership includes many former Great Falls Newcomers. 703-757-6234.

## Friends of Colvin Run Mill

Friends of Colvin Run Mill is dedicated to assisting the Fairfax County Park Authority in enhancing the Colvin Run Mill Historic Site and its educational programs. The restored Colvin Run Mill, a working example of 19th century water powered grist milling technology, serves as an educational focal point for visitors, children and families. 703-759-2771 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/crm/.

## Great Falls Ecumenical Council

The Great Falls Ecumenical Council

SEE NONPROFITS, PAGE 13

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## You do your best to keep your kids healthy and fit... But, what about YOU?

It's back-to-school season, and busy parents everywhere are running around, managing new routines, juggling schedules and shuffling the kiddos from one afterschool activity to the next. Gymnastics, sports practice, martial arts, dance – you make it a priority to ensure your kids get the physical activity they need to live a healthy, happy, well-balanced and FIT life from an early age. **But what about YOU?**

Are you among the group of parents sitting in the waiting room or on the sidelines while your kids are physically active? What are you doing to improve your health and the quality (and quantity) of your life?

There never seems to be enough time left in the day for Mom and Dad to take care of themselves. It's easy to say, "I'm too busy," and do another errand rather than hit the gym.

But when you make fitness a priority for the entire FAMILY – parents included – you are setting a healthy example and establishing a lifestyle that kids will have for life. Taking just 15-30 minutes for a workout is important for managing stress, looking and feeling great, and having more energy. **Bottom line: a fit parent is a happy parent. And happy, fit parents have happier, healthier kids.**

That's why I came to Koko FitClub. I am a busy dad, and my kids mean everything to me. I'm proud to be leading my team to serve this community to changes lives, setting a positive example for my children, and becoming a healthier dad in the process. Koko offers a fast, efficient workout – so you can get in and out before the kids are done with karate.

You CAN be that fit, strong person you've always wanted to be – for yourself and your family. Let us prove it to you. I feel so strongly about what we do at Koko FitClub, and believe it will truly change your life, that I invite you to try 30 days of Koko for just \$30 -- no obligation. Come in for a visit, meet my team, try our club for yourself, and see how easy it can be to fit fitness into your busy life. Don't just do it for you – do it for the kids!

Yours in good health,  
Scott Richardson and the Koko FitClub Team



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– Debbie & Paul Baker



"Turning 47, I have never been this physically fit in all my life - even before 3 children! Koko has been the easiest workout plan for me to stick with without getting bored, and it is by far the most efficient. The friendly and helpful Koko employees are like family. On a recent trip to Mexico people were saying that my 17 year old daughter and I look like sisters (OH YAH!) on the beach - PRICELESS!"  
– Linda Weber



"There is absolutely no way I would achieve what I do at this club ANYWHERE else. I've lost over 15 lbs, my blood pressure is lower, and I am looking and feeling better than I have in 10 years!"  
– Scott Kreitz



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## AREA DEMOGRAPHICS

### Great Falls

Zip code: **22066**

Population: **18,099**

Race: **White-14,428 (79.7%), Black/African American-370 (2%), American Indian and Alaska Native-29 (0.2%), Asian-2,548 (14.1%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-778 (4.3%)**

Total housing units: **6,153**

Owner-occupied housing units: **5,497 (94.3%)**

Households with individuals under 18 years: **2,678**

Households with individuals 65 years and over: **1,526**

Median household income: **207,949**

Mean family income: **305,426**

Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home: **24.8%**

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

### McLean

Zip code: **22102**

Population: **21,985**

Race: **White-14,668 (66.7%), Black/African American-14,688 (66.7%), American Indian and Alaska Native-43 (0.2%), Asian-5,175 (23.5%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-1,481 (6.7%)**

Total housing units: **10,471**

Owner-occupied housing units: **5,476 (56.2%)**

Households with individuals under 18 years: **2,626**

Households with individuals 65 years and over: **2,075**

Median household income: **117,885**

Mean family income: **261,962**

Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home: **41.3%**

Zip code: **22101**

Population: **29,887**

Race: **White-24,098 (80.6%), Black/African American-498 (1.7%), American Indian and Alaska Native-42 (0.1%), Asian-4,130 (13.8%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-1,549 (5.2%)**

Total housing units: **11,345**

Owner-occupied housing units: **9,034 (83.1%)**

Households with individuals under 18 years: **4,190 (38.5%)**

Households with individuals 65 years and over: **3,813 (35.1%)**

Median household income: **175,926**

Mean family income: **273,397**

Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home: **28.7%**

Zip code: **22043**

Population: **24,302**

Race: **White-15,725 (64.7%), Black/African American-1,095 (4.5%), American Indian and Alaska Native-107 (0.4%), Asian-4,732 (19.5%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-4,013 (16.5%)**

Total housing units: **9,735**

Owner-occupied housing units: **5,575 (59.5%)**

Households with individuals under 18 years: **2,985 (31.9%)**

Households with individuals 65 years and over: **1,847 (19.7%)**

Median household income: **102,057**

Mean family income: **141,315**

Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home: **39.6%**

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

### Vienna/Oakton

Zip code: **22182**

Population: **24,863**

Race: **White-18,425 (74.1%), Black/African American-695 (2.8%), American Indian and Alaska Native-22 (0.1%), Asian-4,594 (18.5%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-1,304 (5.2%)**

Total housing units: **9,020**

Owner-occupied housing units: **7,099 (82.5%)**

Households with individuals under 18 years: **3,530**

Households with individuals 65 years and over: **2,233**

Median household income: **164,388**

Mean family income: **217,756**

Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home: **29.8%**

Zip code: **22181**

Population: **14,879**

Race: **White-11,274 (75.8%), Black/African American-416 (2.8%), American Indian and Alaska Native-45 (0.3%), Asian-2,230 (15%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-1,197 (8%)**

Total housing units: **5,429**

Owner-occupied housing units: **4,234 (79%)**

Households with individuals under 18 years: **2,055 (38.3%)**

Households with individuals 65 years and over: **1,231 (23%)**

Median household income: **157,036**

Mean family income: **209,649**

Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home: **29.4%**

Zip code: **22180**

Population: **23,491**

Race: **White-16,854 (71.7%), Black/African American-768 (3.3%), American Indian and Alaska Native-74 (0.3%), Asian-3,907 (16.6%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-2,628 (11.2%)**

Total housing units: **8,386**

Owner-occupied housing units: **6,379 (75.2%)**

Households with individuals under 18 years: **3,172 (37.4%)**

Households with individuals 65 years and over: **2,093 (24.7%)**

Median household income: **125,905**

Mean family income: **168,627**

Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home: **34.7%**

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



## NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

# A County of 186,785 Students

BY KAREN K. GARZA  
SUPERINTENDENT OF FAIRFAX  
COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



**Karen K. Garza**

**W**elcome 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

### COMMENTARY

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 testing and place greater emphasis on engaged students, project-based learning, and authentic as-

sessments 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



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE CONNECTION

**Langley High graduates scan the balconies looking for family and friends at the graduation ceremony on Tuesday, June 17, 2014.**

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 re-

spond 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.

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PHOTO BY REENA SINGH/THE CONNECTION

The old Exxon station has been the site of issues.

## Hot Issues to Tackle

FROM PAGE 3

tion.

"It's going to be an incremental affair," he said. "Evolving."

Canis said the GFCA will host community discussions about the trails in the next year.

"Some of Great Falls trails are in the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan," he said. "If, for example, we wanted to change the path in front of the library to a hard surface, the county plan would have to be changed, because right now, it can only be made with stone dust."

In addition to trail work, the association will also be working on how to improve the roads - specifically Route 7 - in the upcoming years.

"Phase I is just being built right now," said Pifer. "It's going to take eight or nine years to build, the total expansion of it."

Canis and Pifer said the association played a roll in making sure the neighborhoods along Route 7 would be able to make left turns out into the road rather than taking a right and making a U-turn.

Until the expansion is finished, however, it could wreak havoc on the already traffic congested Georgetown Pike during morning and evening rush hour.

"All through the morning, traffic from Sterling backs in in Loudoun County resolves itself in two lane on the Reston Parkway," said Pifer. "It could just as easily flow onto Georgetown Pike."

**IN THE PAST**, left turn lanes have been added to the Pike to relieve traffic congestion. However, because Georgetown Pike is a historic byway, it cannot

be widened.

"The ability to drive freely on Route 7 will diminish the traffic on Georgetown Pike," said Canis.

An ongoing issue that will take several more years to tackle is the groundwater contamination under the old Exxon station at the corner of Walker Road and Georgetown Pike.

Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether, also known as MTBE, is a chemical used to boost octane in gasoline until it was banned by the Environmental Protection Agency several years ago.

Because Great Falls residents all use a system of septic tanks and well water, there was a fear that this well water would become polluted due to the gasoline leak.

"The good news is that there is no drinking well water in the area," said Pifer. "Now, we're just worrying about when the groundwater will be treated."

The treatment will be a multi-year process, he said.

Because of the unique water and sewage system the village uses, national experts were called in by the EPA to find a quick solution in order to keep drinking water from becoming contaminated.

Internally, GFCA is hoping to improve benefits and communication with their members.

"We're putting out a lot of energy to improving citizens' experiences," said Pifer.

Benefits could include discounts to local merchants and better prices for necessities like propane.

As a part of the new initiative, a monthly email newsletter was sent out this month. Pifer said other plans may also be in the works, but did not want to elaborate yet.

"Every element of how we communicate, we're looking at it," he said.

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**LOST DOG RESCUE FOUNDATION**



# NONPROFITS

FROM PAGE 9

has members from all the churches in Great Falls. The group supports Habitat for Humanity, Meals on Wheels, the Good Shepherd alliance housing for the homeless, Pedals for Progress in April, after-graduation parties for local high schools, Camp Fraser and a 5K walk/run and blood drive on July 4. It also sponsors blood drives throughout the year. The council hosts ecumenical worship services at Thanksgiving, on Good Friday, a sunrise service at Great Falls National Park on Easter Sunday and a January ecumenical service. 703-759-6068.

## Great Falls Rotary Club and Foundation

The newly founded organization has plans in the works to fund scholarships and currently is looking for volunteers to offer whatever combination of time, talent or resources works for them. [www.rotarygreatfalls.org/](http://www.rotarygreatfalls.org/).

## Great Falls Trailblazers

The Trailblazers support development and maintenance of trails, both stonedust and natural surface, in Great Falls. They monitor development to ensure compliance with the trails designated in Fairfax County's Comprehensive Plan trails map and actively work to complete trails on Georgetown Pike and Walker Road. They meet monthly at 7:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday, except August and December, at the Old Schoolhouse

in Great Falls. 703-759-2059 or [www.geocities.com/greatfallstrails/](http://www.geocities.com/greatfallstrails/).

## Friends and Newcomers of Great Falls

Newcomers of Great Falls helps new residents of Great Falls and its school district meet each other and assimilate into the community.

The nonprofit organization offers more than 300 members a variety of activities and programs along with opportunities for leadership, community service and support to local charitable and civic organizations. The Newcomers provide financial support for such community charities as Camp

Fraser, Lift Me Up and the Great Falls Volunteer Fire Department. 703-757-7962 or [www.gffnva.org/](http://www.gffnva.org/).

## The Turner Farm Team

A group of community volunteers who raise money and public support for a public park that was once a dairy farm at Georgetown Pike and Springvale Road.

The Turner Farm team is a liaison with the Fairfax County Park Authority and supports community efforts to build a picnic pavilion, a tot lot, equestrian features and an astronomy observatory at The Turner Farm. 703-406-2487 or e-mail [mamacow@cox.net](mailto:mamacow@cox.net).



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## NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE



**The Freedom Memorial:** Tucked away near a corner of the Great Falls Library, the Freedom Memorial stands as a solemn reminder of those lost defending our country. Inspired by a candlelight vigil on the first anniversary of 9/11, the memorial includes an Honor Roll (available in the library), which lists all Great Falls residents who have died while serving the nation.



PHOTOS BY  
NIKKI CHESHIRE/  
THE CONNECTION



**Great Falls Park:** A revered National Park, the Falls combine the beauty of nature with its remarkable power. Hiking trails and rocky cliffs surround the outskirts of the park, while flatter walking trails connect the overlooks. Kayakers often brave the falls, though only advanced participants are recommended to enter the water. Swimming is strictly prohibited, as even the calmer parts of the river can be dangerous. Parking is \$5 per car.



**Riverbend Park:** With both calm water and wooded trails to offer, Riverbend Park is the perfect place for those who love the outdoors. Kayaking, fishing, hiking and picnicking are only a few of the activities available at the park. Parking and admission is free, and the park is open during daylight hours.



**Colvin Run Mill:** On the corner of Route 7 and Colvin Run, the Mill is a historic landmark of Great Falls' past. Home to many seasonal events, the Mill includes a period blacksmith's workshop as well as a country store.



**Katie's Coffee:** A central hub in the Village Centre, Katie's Coffee serves as a meeting place for many local events. Pictured is Saturday morning's Cars and Coffee, where a weekly car show gathers car enthusiasts and owners alike from 7-9 a.m., April through October. From hosting social gatherings to organized events, it's likely that if something is happening in Great Falls, it's happening at Katie's.



— NIKKI CHESHIRE

**Forestville School:** This schoolhouse – located on the Grange in Great Falls Village – has been around since 1889. Since its construction, it's been used as a school, a residence, a bank, a library and even a post office. Now, it symbolizes and celebrates the rural history of Great Falls.



## NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

# The Great Falls Farmers Market Where Saturdays are Local

BY KATHLEEN MURPHY  
MARKET MANAGER

Please know that you have a standing invitation to join us every Saturday morning (9 a.m. to 1 p.m.) at the parking lot next to the Wells Fargo Bank for a spirited community event, the Great Falls Farmers Market – immediately following Cars & Coffee. Now in its seventh year, our local farmers market is a work in progress, defined by the freshness of our produce, the quality and uniqueness of our vendors, the delight of our musicians, the warmth of our visitors, the loyalty and dedication of our “devotees,” and the spirit of our local community as evidenced by local nonprofit presence, special guests and unique events.

»Fresh: We have a core of long-standing vendors who bring local and certified organic vegetables and fruits, meats, eggs, and baked goods – Penn Farm, Diaz Berries & Veggies, High View Farm, Tuscarora Organic Growers Coop, and Tyson Farms (new this winter), as well as Dimitri unfiltered extra-virgin Olive Oil and aged Balsamic Vinegars.

»New Great Falls Businesses: We are very proud of our delightful made-in-Great-Falls offerings such as Backyard Eden’s local honey, Jeff Rainey, Apiarist; Plain & Simple’s amazing muffins and quiches; and Amalthea Ridge Farm’s artisan goat-milk-based soaps and lotions. Tasteful Landscapes plants wonderful herb gardens, while State Gardens landscapes fruit orchards and more. Most amazing, 11-year-old Carolyn of Caro’s Creations crafts hand-made duct-tape wallets and more. Other nearby (i.e. Sterling & Herndon) local businesses include Little Corners Petit Fours, a master baker, and Puttering Mom, a maker of hand-crafted gift items and artistic cards.

»Dense Nutrition Options: Who would imagine when we started in the early days with all the wonderful gourmet items arranged by Robb Watters when he launched the initial farmers market that we would also have a thriving raw food vendor (Postmodern Foods), an amazing thoroughly gluten-free vendor (ViolAmi Cuisine), two fermented vendors (Number 1 Sons pickles, krauts and komchi, etc.; and Daisy’s Probiotics – fermented ginger ale and kombucha), a paleo (& more) baker (Bonn Boni)?

»Breakfast or Lunch at the Market: Need a quick bite? Happy Crepes prepares a custom European-style crepe for you while you wait. Del Sur offers Peruvian empanadas, warm and ready to eat. Baguette Republic offers all your favorite muffins, Danish, croissants, scones, and more – all baked the night before the good old-fashioned European way. Having a community farmers market where you can meet and greet your neighbors, learn about local non-profits, be a central point for information on our com-



**The Difficult Run String Band plays at the Great Falls Farmers Market as local residents enjoy the music.**



**Local families hang out on the hay bales as the Stewart Sisters play country music. Tuscarora Organic Growers Coop and the Great Falls Historical Society tents flaunt either side.**

munity and more, is the collective achievement of all who support local. Serving our community all year round through all seasons, our farmers market is a work in progress, growing through the influence of

your footsteps. What we become depends on those who come forth to incubate their fledgling businesses with us — bringing what they grow, cultivate, or make — and those who come by to encourage their very



**Denise Hicks, owner of Postmodern Foods, offers nutrient-dense raw juices, smoothies, salads, savorys and desserts made from raw ingredients.**



**Jo So, a local resident of Great Falls and owner of Plain & Simple Baked Goods, bakes the most amazing mini-quiches and muffins. She sells out every week.**

local efforts. For information on weekly events and specials, please visit [www.greatfallsfarmersmarket.org](http://www.greatfallsfarmersmarket.org) or visit us at [www.facebook.com/GreatFallsCommunityFarmersMarket](https://www.facebook.com/GreatFallsCommunityFarmersMarket)



# Year-round Festivals

A list of annual events in the area.

LIST COMPILED BY EMMA HARRIS

## August 2014

### SATURDAY/AUG. 30

**Lake Anne Jazz & Blues Festival.** 1 p.m. Lake Anne Plaza (Waterfront), 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. Showcasing a variety of talented local emerging artists and national jazz performers. Visit [lakeanneplaza.com/event/8th-annual-jazz-blues-festival/30](http://lakeanneplaza.com/event/8th-annual-jazz-blues-festival/30).

### SATURDAY-SUNDAY/AUG. 30-31

**War of 1812 Signature Event.** Noon-5 p.m. Alexandria Waterfront, 3 Cameron Street, Alexandria. Visitors are invited to delight in interactive historical exhibits, boating activities and food trucks. Features a tug-of-war, cricket match and yacht race as well. 703-746-4242. Free. Visit [www.visitAlexandriaVA.com/1812](http://www.visitAlexandriaVA.com/1812)

## September 2014

### MONDAY/SEPT. 1 - SUNDAY/SEPT. 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 [http://www.workhouseceramics.org/index.php?p=1\\_15\\_Clay-National-2014](http://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](http://www.herndon-va.gov)

### SATURDAY/SEPT. 6

**Virginia Indian Festival.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills Street, Great Falls. Tribal dancing, songs and drumming make history come alive each September at the Virginia Indian Festival at Riverbend Park. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes/quicktakes/#FA14QT7](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes/quicktakes/#FA14QT7).

### SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 6-7

**37th Annual Burke Centre Festival.** 9:30 a.m.-10 p.m. 6060 Burke Centre Parkway, Burke. Burke Centre's signature event, which celebrates the spirit of the community each year with rides, activities and live entertainment for all ages to enjoy. Visit [http://www.burkecentreweb.com/sub\\_category\\_list.asp?category=37&title=Annual+Festival](http://www.burkecentreweb.com/sub_category_list.asp?category=37&title=Annual+Festival).

### SUNDAY/SEPT. 7

**Reston Triathlon.** 7 a.m. Lake Audubon, Twin Branches Road, Reston. Swim, bike and run in the "Reston World Championships." Visit [www.restontriathlon.org/tri](http://www.restontriathlon.org/tri).

### 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](http://www.fallforthebook.org).

### SATURDAY/SEPT. 13

**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 "pure drop" - the beauty and depth of Irish music, dance, language and sport as it has taken root and come into full flower in our community. Visit <http://www.fairfaxva.gov/about-us/special-events/fairfax-irish-folk-festival>

**Silver Live Music and Food Truck Festival.**



**Great Falls citizens of all ages were encouraged to take part in the parade and participate in the July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration this year.**

12-10 p.m. 1800 Tysons Blvd., McLean. Listen to performances from renowned local and national acts and find displays of fine arts and a variety of refreshments to benefit the Spirit of Hope Children's Foundation. Visit <http://tysonspartnership.org/event-calendar/tysons-world-music-festival/>.

**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](http://www.lortonstationtowncenter.com/calendar-of-events.html)

### SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 13-14

**King Street Art Festival.** 10 a.m.-7p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday. Old Town, King Street, Alexandria. At this community festival, art enthusiasts can discover spectacular paintings, life-size sculptures, jewelry, photography, ceramics and more. Visit [www.artfestival.com/Festivals/Alexandria\\_Festival\\_of\\_the\\_Arts\\_Alexandria\\_Virginia\\_September.aspx](http://www.artfestival.com/Festivals/Alexandria_Festival_of_the_Arts_Alexandria_Virginia_September.aspx)

### 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 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 <http://www.planepull.com>.

**Beer, Bourbon & BBQ Fest.** 12-6 p.m. 8025 Galleria Drive, McLean. Attend for a day of beer sippin', bourbon tastin', music listenin', cigar smokin' and barbecue eatin'. Your admission buys a sampling glass so you can enjoy all you care to taste while attending seminars in the tasting theater and enjoying live music all day. Visit [www.tysonspartnership.org/event-calendar/tysons-bbq-bourbon-and-beer-festival](http://www.tysonspartnership.org/event-calendar/tysons-bbq-bourbon-and-beer-festival).

**Mount Vernon Colonial Market and Fair.** 9 a.m.-5 p.m. 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. Fifty colonial-attired artisans demonstrate 18th-century crafts and sell traditional wares such as baskets, woodcarvings, tin and ironwork, leatherworkings, weavings, furniture and much more. Visit <http://www.mountvernon.org/plan-your-visit/calendar/events/colonial-market-fair/>

**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/](http://www.artspaceherndon.com/paint-herndon/).

### SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 20-21

#### 2nd Annual Arlington Festival of the Arts.

10 a.m.-5 p.m. Highland Street in the Clarendon District, Arlington. More than 100 artists will showcase their work including paintings, jewelry, pottery, glass, and much more. Visit [artfestival.com](http://artfestival.com) for more.

### SUNDAY/SEPT. 21

**Herndon Kids Triathlon.** 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](http://www.herndon-va.gov).

### SATURDAY/SEPT. 27

**Clarendon Day.** 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Near Clarendon Metro station, 3100 Wilson Blvd., Arlington. A celebration of the Clarendon neighborhood and a showcase for the people who make the neighborhood great with activities, live entertainment and food. Visit [www.clarendon.org/clarendon-day](http://www.clarendon.org/clarendon-day).

**Reston Multicultural Festival.** 11 a.m.-6 p.m. 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. A celebration of the diversity and community spirit that is found in Reston, this annual event brings together the people of Reston to celebrate the rich medley of cultures. Visit <http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com/MulticulturalFestival.shtml>.

### SUNDAY/SEPT. 28

**Walk to End Alzheimer's.** 3 p.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Walk and fundraise to further the care, support and research efforts of the Alzheimer's Association. Visit <http://act.alz.org/site/TR/Walk/Group?informationId=581&type=information&id=18124>

**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](http://www.herndon-va.gov).

## October 2014

### THURSDAY/OCT. 2

**3rd Annual Reston Town Center Help the Homeless Walk.** 12 p.m. Reston Town Center, 11959 Market St, Reston. Walk from Mayflowers

Floral Design Studio on The Promenade to the Embury Rucker Community Shelter and back. Funds will enable Cornerstones to provide essential resources and services for individuals and families in the community who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Visit [http://www.cornerstonesva.org/events\\_list/hth](http://www.cornerstonesva.org/events_list/hth).

### FRIDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 3-5

**Fall Wine Festival and Sunset Tour.** 6-9 p.m. Mount Vernon Estate, 3200 George Washington Memorial Pkwy., Mount Vernon. Enjoy live blues and spectacular views of the Potomac River while sampling wine from 16 Virginia wineries. Visitors learn about the successes and failures of our Founding Father's wine endeavors, enjoy live blues music, and meet "George and Martha Washington" on the Mansion's piazza. Visit [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org).

### SATURDAY/OCT. 4

**Art on the Avenue.** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. 2301 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria. A multicultural arts festival celebrating the community's diversity through the arts in the Del Ray neighborhood in Alexandria, Virginia. Visit [www.artontheavenue.org](http://www.artontheavenue.org).

**Oktoberfest Vienna.** 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Historic Church Street, Vienna. Enjoy beer, wine, food, music, kids activities and more. Visit <http://viennaoktoberfest.org/>

### SUNDAY/OCT. 5

**McLean Project for the Arts ArtFest.** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. McLean Central Park, 468 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean. The park is transformed into a lively landscape of mini art galleries showcasing and offering for sale the work of a diverse group of 50 juried artists. Visit [www.mpaart.org](http://www.mpaart.org).

**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](http://www.fpow.org/event-685795).

### SATURDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 11-12

**Oktober Fest Reston.** Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Enjoy food, wine, beer, live entertainment, a carnival and the Anthem Great Pumpkin 5K at Northern Virginia's largest fall festival. Visit <http://www.oktoberfestreston.com>.

### 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 <http://www.fairfaxva.gov/about-us/special-events/fall-festival>.

### THURSDAY-SATURDAY/OCT. 16-NOV. 1

**Great Pumpkin Gathering.** 6-10 p.m. 1800 Tysons Blvd., McLean. Artisan pumpkin carvers showcase a dazzling display of pumpkin art beyond your wildest imagining. Visit [www.tysonspartnership.org](http://www.tysonspartnership.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 [http://www.gilmoreshows.com/craftsmens\\_classics\\_chantilly\\_fall.shtml](http://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

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 18



# MIDDLE EASTERN FOOD FESTIVAL

Labor Day Weekend

Saturday, Aug. 30, 11:00 am–11:00 pm

Sunday, Aug. 31, 12:00 noon–6:00 pm

Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic Church  
8501 Lewinsville Road, McLean, Virginia (near Spring Hill Road)

703-734-9566 • [www.holytransfiguration.org](http://www.holytransfiguration.org)

## Free Admission!

**Middle Eastern Food**      **Live Music & Folk Dancing**

**Kabobs**

**Moon Bounce**

**Gyros**

**Kids' Games**

**Grape Leaves**

**Vendors**

**Falafel**

**Backgammon & Chess**

**Fattoush**

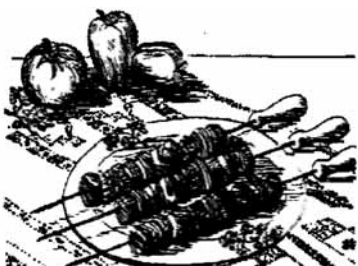
**50-50 Raffle**

**Baklava &**

**Church Tours**

**Other Favorites!**

**Icon Shop**



*Special Feature!*

**Roast Lamb Dinner**

Sat., Aug. 30, 6-9 p.m.

Sun., Aug. 31, All Day

# ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 17  
storytelling, fortune telling, fall foods  
and family gatherings. Visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully-historic-site>.

## SATURDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 18-19

**Claude Moore Colonial Farm 1771 Market Fair.** 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. 6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Warm yourself by the fires and enjoy the splendor of autumn with crisp local apples, warm savory meat pies and hearty breads, or let Market Fair entertainers, tradesmen and the militia amuse and educate you. Visit [www.1771.org](http://www.1771.org).

**Tyson's Harvest Festival.** 12-6 p.m. 1800 Tysons Blvd., McLean. Stroll through the arts and crafts booths and taste some of the fun flavors of fall. Visit <http://tysonspartnership.org/event-calendar/tysons-harvest-festival>.

## SUNDAY/OCT. 19

**Neighbors Feeding Neighbors 5K.** 9 a.m. 7925 Jones Branch Dr., McLean. Even though Northern Virginia is considered one of the wealthiest jurisdictions in the country, we still face a poverty rate of about 5 percent - more than 90,000 people are living in poverty and 30 percent are children. Come run or walk to help feed our neighbors. Visit <https://runsignup.com/Race/VA/McLean/NeighborsFeedingNeighbors5K>.

## FRIDAY/OCT. 24

**Spooktacular.** 6:30-8:30 p.m. Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Avenue, Herndon. Enjoy ghoulish games, a spooky craft and a children's show. Visit [www.herndon-va.gov](http://www.herndon-va.gov).

va.gov.

## SATURDAY/OCT. 25

**Volunteer Fest 2014.** A region-wide day of community service that mobilizes hundreds of volunteers to help nonprofits accomplish tasks that they would not have the time or resources to do on their own. Visit <http://www.volunteerfairfax.org/non-profits/volunteerfest.php> for times and locations.

**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](http://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/>.

## WEDNESDAY/OCT. 29

**68th Annual Vienna Halloween Parade.** 7 p.m. Maple Avenue, Vienna. With the theme of "Celebrating the Tradition of Vienna Girls Sports," come in costume to celebrate Halloween. Visit [www.viennava.gov](http://www.viennava.gov).

## 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](http://www.robinsonptsa.org).

## TUESDAY/NOV. 4

**Election Day.** General Election. Visit [www.sbe.virginia.gov/](http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/) and [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming.htm)

## TUESDAY/NOV. 11

**Arlington National Cemetery Veterans Day Ceremony.** Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington. About 5,000 visitors attend the annual remembrance ceremonies in the Memorial Amphitheater. Visit [www.arlingtoncemetery.mil](http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil).

## SATURDAY/NOV. 22

**Turkey Trot 5K Race.** 4 p.m. Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Avenue, Herndon. The course takes you through Herndon Centennial Golf Course grass and paved paths, parts of the W&OD paved trail and vehicular paved road. All canned food will be donated to LINK. Visit [www.herndon-va.gov](http://www.herndon-va.gov)

## 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](http://www.bullrunfestivaloflights.com).

## FRIDAY/NOV. 28

**Alexandria Tree Lighting.** 7-9 p.m. Market Square, 301 King St., Alexandria. Annual event featuring lighting the City tree, performances

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 19



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Online shopping at [www.wholepetcentral.com](http://www.wholepetcentral.com)



# ENTERTAINMENT

FROM PAGE 18  
and a visit from Santa to open the  
Christmas season. Visit  
[www.alexandriava.gov/Calendar](http://www.alexandriava.gov/Calendar).

## FRIDAY/NOV. 28 -TUESDAY/JAN. 6

**Christmas in Mount Vernon.** 9 a.m.  
- 4 p.m. 3200 Mount Vernon  
Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon.  
Mount Vernon decks the halls with  
themed Christmas trees on the estate  
and festive greenery in the Mansion.  
Visit [www.mountvernon.org/christmas](http://www.mountvernon.org/christmas).

## December 2014

### MONDAY/DEC. 1

**Church Street Holiday Stroll.** 6-9  
p.m. Freeman House and Store, 131  
Church St. N.E., Vienna. Enjoy fun  
family-friendly activities including a  
visit from Santa, petting zoo, free hot  
chocolate and roasting marshmallows  
at supervised bonfires. Visit  
[www.viennava.gov](http://www.viennava.gov).

### 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](http://www.fairfaxva.gov/about-us/special-events/festival-of-lights-and-carols)  
for times and locations.

**Great Falls Celebration of Lights.**  
5:30-8 p.m. Great Falls Village  
Centre Hill. Watch Santa and Mrs.  
Claus arrive to light the Great Falls  
Tree, drink hot chocolate and cider  
and listen to beautiful holiday music.

Visit [www.celebrategreatfalls.org/Christmas.html](http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org/Christmas.html).

### 44th Annual Campagna Center

**Scottish Walk Parade.** 11 a.m.  
Old Town Alexandria, parade begins  
at St. Asaph and Wolfe Streets. More  
than 100 Scottish Clans, pipe and  
drum bands, Scottish dancers, re-  
enactment groups, Scottie dogs,  
dignitaries and, of course, Santa  
Claus will march through the streets  
of Old Town. Visit  
[www.campagnacenter.org/events/  
scottish-christmas-walk-weekend](http://www.campagnacenter.org/events/scottish-christmas-walk-weekend) or  
[www.visitalexandriava.com/events/  
44th-Annual-Campagna-Center-  
Scottish-Walk-Parade/983/](http://www.visitalexandriava.com/events/44th-Annual-Campagna-Center-Scottish-Walk-Parade/983/).

### 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](http://www.herndon-va.gov).

### SATURDAY-SUNDAY/DEC. 13-14

**Great Falls Studios Holiday Show  
and Sale.** Wolf Trap Center for  
Education, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna.  
This annual show includes paintings,  
pottery, traditional and digital  
photographs, jewelry, drawings, art  
quilts and hand pulled lithographic  
prints, plus artful gifts and cards. All  
of the artwork is created by Great  
Falls artists, most of whom work out  
of their home studios. Visit  
[www.greatfallsstudios.com](http://www.greatfallsstudios.com).

## January 2015

### FRIDAY/JAN. 9 - SPRING

### Live Music at Paradise Springs

**Winery.** Fridays 5-9 p.m. and  
Saturdays 2-6 p.m. Various live  
artists perform every Friday and  
Saturday. Visit  
[www.paradisep Springswinery.com/  
winery-events.html](http://www.paradisep Springswinery.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](http://www.volunteerfairfax.org/individuals/vita.php).

## March 2015

### SECOND TUESDAY IN MARCH

#### Clarendon Mardi Gras Parade.

Annual parade to celebrating Fat  
Tuesday. Visit [www.clarendon.org/  
mardi-gras/](http://www.clarendon.org/mardi-gras/).

### SECOND SUNDAY IN MARCH

#### Chantilly Egg Hunt.

Saturdays and  
Sundays. 26469 Ticonderoga Road,  
Chantilly. Join the Easter Bunny and  
search for candy and toy-filled eggs.  
Visit [www.ticonderoga.com/about](http://www.ticonderoga.com/about).

### THIRD WEDNESDAY IN MARCH

#### Herndon Bluegrass Concert

**Series.** Friday and Saturday  
evenings. Holy Cross Lutheran  
Church, 1090 Sterling Road,  
Herndon. Listen to different  
bluegrass concerts every week. Visit  
[www.holycrosslutheranchurch.net](http://www.holycrosslutheranchurch.net).

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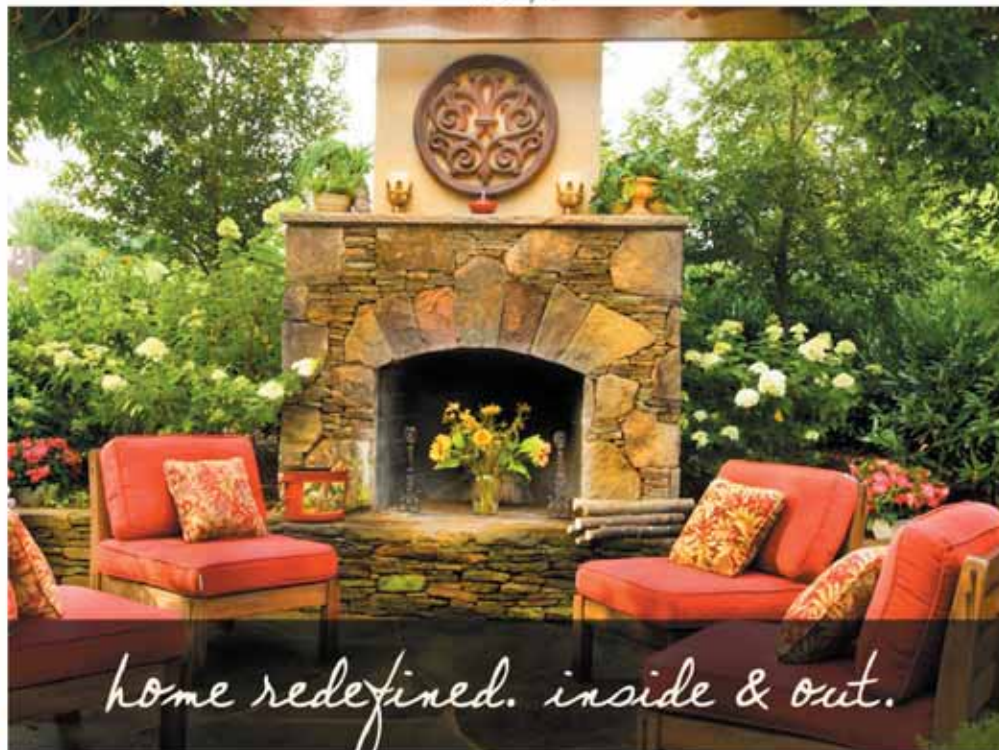
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# PARKS

## 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 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

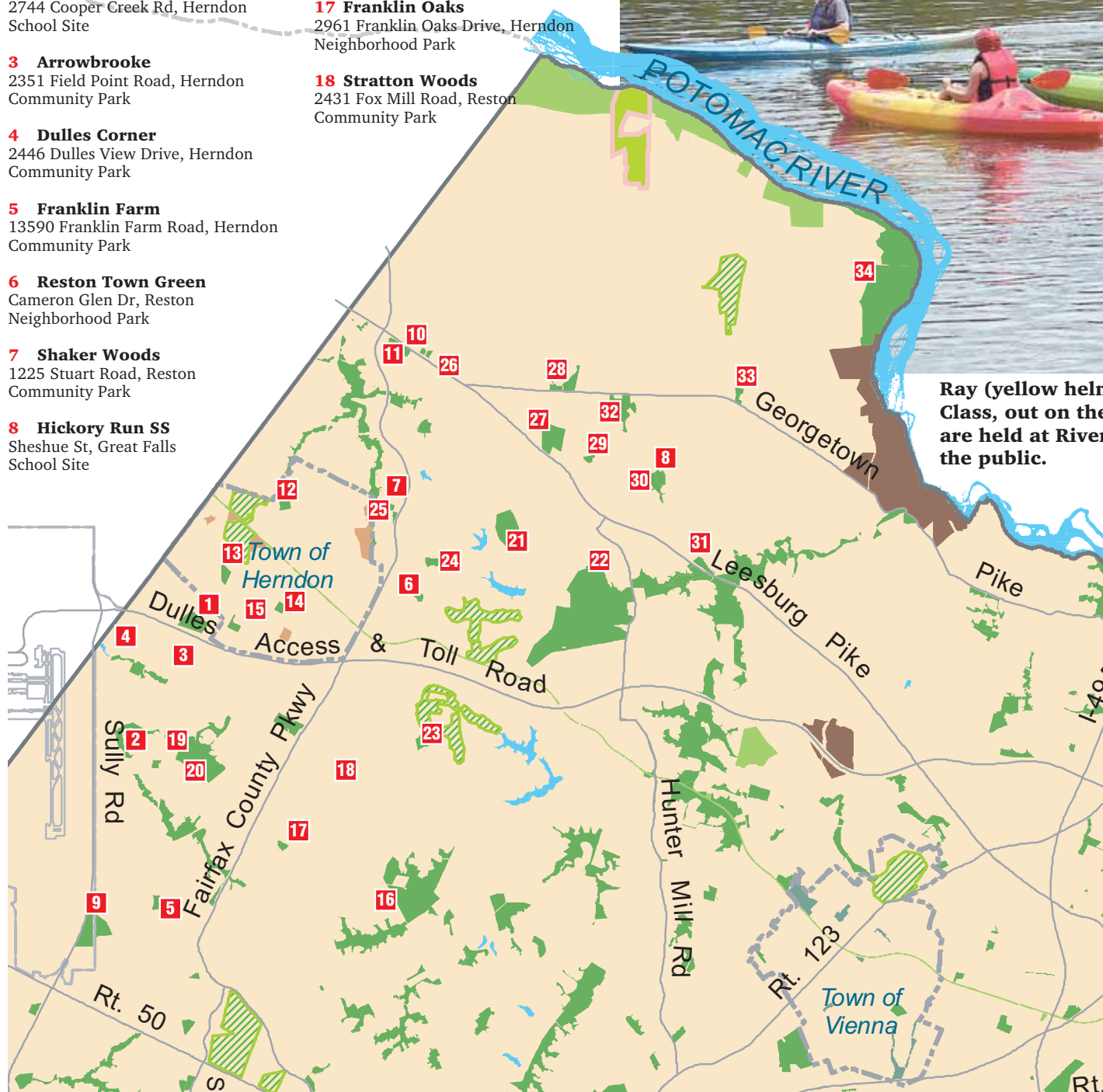
2961 Franklin Oaks Drive, Herndon  
Neighborhood Park

#### 18 Stratton Woods

2431 Fox Mill Road, Reston  
Community Park



Ray (yellow helmet) instructs his beginning Kayaking Class, out on the water. Several Park Authority courses are held at Riverbend Park, which also rents boats to the public.



#### 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 Saffa 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



Kaitlyn (left, from Manassas) and Madeleine (from Great Falls) came with their moms to ride scooters and enjoy the river view.

PHOTOS BY RENÉE RUGGLES  
FEATURING RIVERBEND PARK





## Great Falls Optimists' Planned Activities

**P**lanned activities for the Great Falls Optimist Club that provide opportunity for all ages to learn, serve, lead and to help youth who influence the future. More info at [gfoptimist@greatfallsoptimist.org](mailto:gfoptimist@greatfallsoptimist.org) and [optimist.org](http://optimist.org)

We welcome your support & participation. there are Other youth and family programs available.

❖ Oct. 31, 2014 - Halloween

Great Falls Optimist Club joins Celebrate Great Falls Foundation to provide family portraits at the Gazebo on the Green. [www.celebrategreatfalls.org](http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org) [gfoptimist@greatfallsoptimist.org](mailto:gfoptimist@greatfallsoptimist.org)

❖ Nov. 2014 - Great Falls Optimist Club, partnering with

Generosity Feeds, will provide holiday meals for families and students including regular Thanksgiving meals plus up to 4,000 pre-packaged individual meals on Nov. 23, at Dominion

High School. [generosityfeeds.org](http://generosityfeeds.org). [gfoptimist@greatfallsoptimist.org](mailto:gfoptimist@greatfallsoptimist.org)

❖ Dec. 2014 - Package and de-

liver holiday meals and gifts. Happy holidays and thanks to our volunteers, business and non-business partners, friends, educators and reporters.

[gfoptimist@greatfallsoptimist.org](mailto:gfoptimist@greatfallsoptimist.org) [trcookphoto@aol.com](mailto:trcookphoto@aol.com); 703-938-1609.

❖ Feb 2015 - Great Falls Optimist Club Essay Contest

How to Enter: Interested students must contact the Great Falls Optimist Club or the programs/activities teacher at your middle school (Pyramid Schools to Langley and Dominion High Schools). They need to submit an essay on the pre-assigned topic. Topic: "Optimism Should be a Priority." All Club-level contests are held by early February. Student submissions will not be accepted after the Club-level contests have closed.

❖ March 2015 - Great Falls Optimist Oratorical Contest

Topic: "How My Optimism Will Help Me Press On To Greater Achievements of the Future."

The Optimist Oratorical Contest gives youngsters the chance to

speak to the world. More than \$150,000 in college scholarships funded by the Optimist International Foundations are awarded annually from this program.

How To Enter: Interested students must contact the Great Falls Optimist Club or the programs/activities at your middle school. (Pyramid Schools to Langley and Dominion High Schools).

❖ March 29, 2015 - Great Falls Optimist Club/

Adeler Jewelers 31st annual children's spring festival. (Family Fun Day - Great Falls Green). Over 20,000 children plus parents have enjoyed a fun day together with rides, games, food and the gathering of Easter eggs and gems.

❖ April 2015 - Great Falls Optimist Club helping hands volunteer recognition award. One sixth grade student from each elementary school will be honored for outstanding volunteer service. Student is selected by school searchers and principals in elementary schools in the Langley and Dominion High School Pyramids.

❖ April 2015 - Partners in Education awards to outstanding Career Center Specialists who serve in our local high schools who are recognized for their dedicated service over the years in preparing our high school students as they transition to college and prepare to pursue lifelong careers. In addition, these educators will have partnered with the Optimist Club of Great Falls to help us identify students worthy of recognition and honor for their academic achievements and contributions to the community.

❖ May 2015 - Great Falls Optimist Youth Award of Excellence;

Outstanding junior students are recognized in six categories of excellence. Nominees are selected by teachers and judged by experts in selected categories.

Nominee Categories:

Academics Nominees  
Citizenship Nominees  
Fine Arts Nominees  
Science Nominees  
Sports Nominees  
Technology Nominees

## Fairfax County Animal Shelter

**T**he Fairfax County Animal Shelter (FCAS) estimates that between 4,000 and 5,000 small animals come through its doors each year, according to its website. The shelter deals primarily with dogs and cats, but also other small animals like rabbits and birds. A foster program is available through FCAS for the care of dogs and cats, and families who wish to be part of the foster program must go through a training session before taking animals into their homes.

Other volunteer opportunities with the shelter range from telephone assistant to pet groomer and bather to cat socializer. Potential volunteers may submit an online application at [fairfaxcounty.gov/animalshelter](http://fairfaxcounty.gov/animalshelter), and must attend a volunteer orientation. For more information on volunteering or adopting a pet, visit the shelter's website, or call 703-830-1100.

## ADMISSION OPEN HOUSE



Allow us to introduce you to Madeira's academic programs and school community at one of our fall open house events. Meet teachers, take a campus tour, and experience the magic of Madeira.

**Sunday, October 5 • 1:00 pm**  
**Sunday, November 9 • 1:00 pm**  
or by appointment throughout the year

For more information call  
**703-556-8273**

or begin your journey online at  
**[www.madeira.org](http://www.madeira.org)**

Now offering transportation from D.C., Alexandria, and Tysons Metro.

**The Madeira School • 8328 Georgetown Pike • McLean, VA 22102**



# 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](http://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.

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, 2014.

Office of Elections, 12000 Government Center Pkwy, Conf. Rooms 2/3, Fairfax, 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 Rd., Alexandria, 22310
  - Dolley Madison Library - 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean, 22101
  - North County Human Services Bldg. - 1850 Cameron Glen Dr, Reston, 20190
  - West Springfield Governmental Center - 6140 Rolling Rd., Springfield, 22152
  - Mason Governmental Center - 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale, 22003
  - Mount Vernon Governmental Center - 2511 Parkers Ln., Alexandria 22306
  - Sully District Governmental Center - 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly 20151
- Monday - Friday, Oct. 14 - 31, 3:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.

MAP PROVIDED BY FAIRFAX COUNTY GOVERNMENT

## Map of Congressional districts serving Fairfax County.

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](http://www.edforsenate.com)

• Democrat Mark R. Warner, [www.markwarnerva.com](http://www.markwarnerva.com)

• Libertarian Robert C. Sarvis, [www.robertsarvis.com](http://www.robertsarvis.com)

SEE EVERY YEAR. PAGE 25



## NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

# Every Year is Election Year in Virginia

FROM PAGE 24

**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](http://www.micahedmond.com)

• Democrat Donald S. Beyer Jr., [www.friendsofdonbeyer.com](http://www.friendsofdonbeyer.com)

• Libertarian Jeffrey S. Carson, [jeffreycarson.com/](http://jeffreycarson.com/)

• Independent Green Gerard C. "Gerry" Blais III, [www.votejoinrun.us](http://www.votejoinrun.us)

• Independent Gwendolyn J. Beck, [www.gwendolynbeck.com](http://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](http://www.barbaracomstockforcongress.com)

• Democrat John W. Foust, [www.foustforvirginia.com](http://www.foustforvirginia.com)

• Libertarian William B. Redpath, [billredpath.com](http://billredpath.com)

• Independent Green Dianne L. Blais, [www.votejoinrun.us](http://www.votejoinrun.us)

• Independent Brad A. Eickholt, [www.eickholt4congress.com/](http://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/](http://www.suzannescholteforcongress.com/)

• Democrat Gerald E. "Gerry" Connolly, incumbent, [www.gerryconnolly.com](http://www.gerryconnolly.com)

• Green Joe F. Galdo [www.joegaldo.com](http://www.joegaldo.com)

• Libertarian Marc M. Harrold, [www.marcharrold4congress.com](http://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.

## 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. Writ-

ten 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](http://www.sbe.virginia.gov)

## For More Election Information:

Fairfax County Board of Elections, 703-222-0776, [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb/)  
12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Suite 232, Fairfax, 22035; FAX 703-324-2205; email [voting@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:voting@fairfaxcounty.gov)

City of Fairfax General Registrar, 703-385-7890, <http://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/general-registrar>

10455 Armstrong Street, Sisson House, Fairfax, 22030; FAX 703-591-8364; email [generalregistrar@fairfaxva.gov](mailto:generalregistrar@fairfaxva.gov)

State Board of Elections, 804 864-8901 Toll Free: 800 552-9745 FAX: 804 371-0194

email: [info@sbe.virginia.gov](mailto:info@sbe.virginia.gov)  
<http://www.sbe.virginia.gov>

# Fairfax's Success Story

## 50 Years in the Making

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-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.

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 consistent 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.



# Getting to Know Langley Sports

**Volleyball team won the 6A state championship.**

## Langley High School

Mascot: Saxons.

School Colors: Green and gold.

Athletic Director: Geoff Noto, 703-287-2750.

Football Coach: John Howerton.

The Saxons finished the 2013 season with a 9-3 record and reached the 6A North region quarterfinals. Along the way, Langley turned in the most prolific scoring season in program history, producing 481 points, an average of 40 per contest.

Field Hockey Coach: Jennifer Robb.

Volleyball Coach: Susan Shifflett.

Boys' Basketball Coach: Scott Newman.

Baseball Coach: Kevin Healy.

Boys' Lacrosse Coach: Earl Brewer.

Rival School: McLean.

What Happened Last Year: The volleyball team won region and state championships. The boys' lacrosse team finished region and state runner-up. The softball team reached the region semifinals. The baseball team finished Conference 6 runner-up and reached the region quarterfinals.

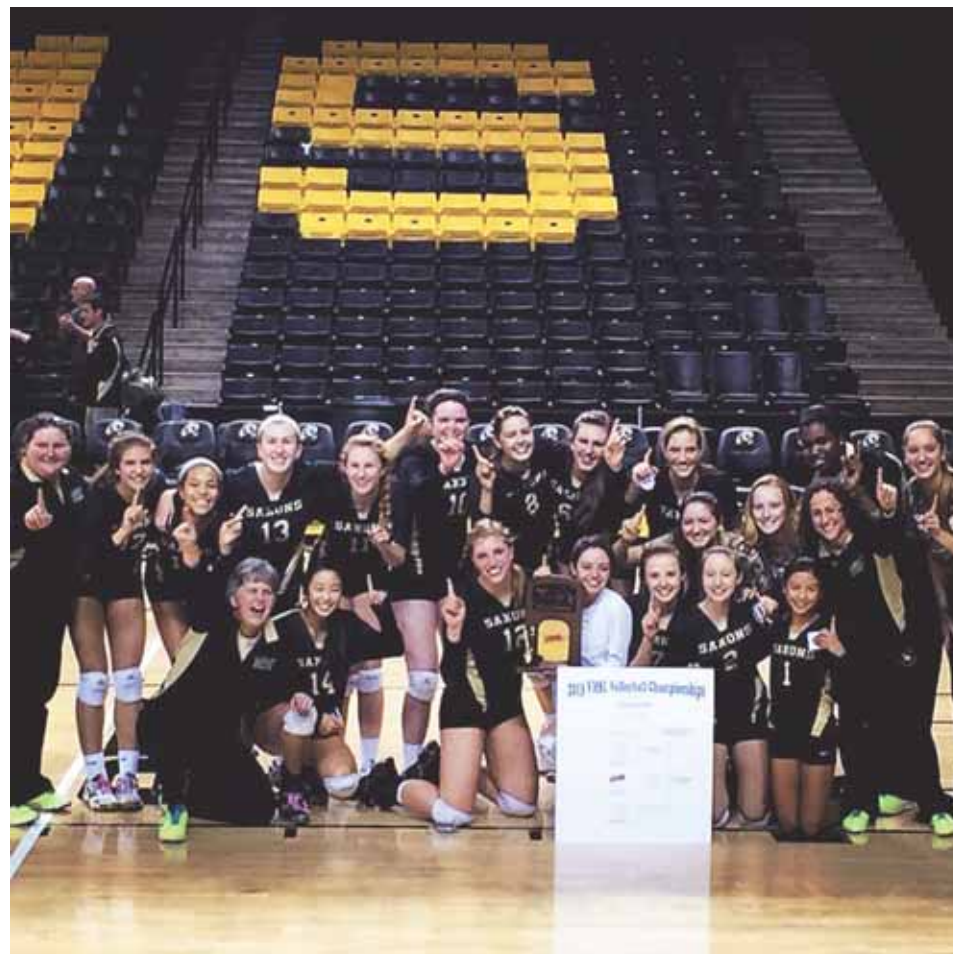
From The Connection's Top 100 Athletes: *v*74. Taline Tahmassian, a 2001 graduate, was a soccer star for the Saxons, finishing her high school career with 96 goals. She won a national championship at Santa Clara before transferring to William & Mary.

From BJ Koubaroulis' 2006 profile for The Connection's Top 100 Athletes: "She was the best forward to go through Langley," said [then-Langley] coach Melissa Bibbee, who recently secured her place in Langley's storied soccer history by recording her 100th career coaching victory. "She was our go-to player. She was a sophomore my first year [at Langley]. For three years, my game-plan, as a coach, was just pass the ball to Taline. That was not only because I was 24 years old, but when you have a player of that caliber [that's what you do]."

"...Tahmassian spent her freshman year of college at Santa Clara University, where she helped the Broncos win an NCAA title. She played in 25 games, scored eight goals [50 shots], recorded 5 assists [21 points], and had two game-winning goals. She was the team's fourth-leading scorer in points and goals in 2001 — SCU's championship season. Despite reports of feuding with coaches, Tahmassian maintains that she transferred to William and Mary to be closer to family, but acknowledged that soccer was part of the decision.

"I kind of realized after winning a national championship, I just realized that there was more things out there," said Tahmassian, who will graduate in December. "Yeah, the soccer aspect [at Santa Clara] was amazing, but I felt that there was a little more than that." She admits that playing time was an issue at Santa Clara, but that it was not the only reason she left the West Coast.

At William and Mary, she led the Tribe with 15 goals in 16 games in her junior season leading the team to the Colonial Athletic Association conference title and into the NCAA tournament. For all four years of



**The Langley volleyball team won the 2013 6A state championship.**

college Tahmassian totaled 40 goals in 83 games (60 starts) on 224 shots with 21 assists."

*v*84. Lindsey Ertter, a 2001 graduate, was a state-champion swimmer for the Saxons.

From Koubaroulis' 2006 profile for The Connection's Top 100 Athletes: "By the age of 12, she had made her first Olympic trials while swimming at the Senior Nationals tournament in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

"When I made the Olympic trials, I had no idea what I had done," said Ertter, who said she had to wait four more years before she could compete in those trials (2000) because she swam her fastest time during an Olympic year.

Ertter, who competed in the 100-meter breaststroke, took 11th place in the 2000 trials after considering herself a long shot. She went back four years later and took fifth place in 2004 trials in Long Beach.

"...Even without pressure, Ertter won six state championships and set records in all three of her years at the AAA state tournament. She won three gold medals in the 200 individual medley and three gold medals

in the 100 breaststroke from 1999-2001. She also helped the Saxons to four team AAA state championships from 1998-2001. She was simply dominant at the high school

level, but like most year-round competitive swimmers, high school was a chance for her to relax. ... Ertter, who went on to become an All-American in 2003 and 2004 at the University of Georgia, re-

turned home for a while after graduating and retiring from swimming in December. While at Georgia, Ertter was a team captain and made a trip to the NCAA Championships in all of her four years. She finished third in the 100-yard breast with a personal best time of 1:01.07 in 2005 and led her team to a second place finish in the SEC tournament. Ertter credits her upbringing in the pools of Northern Virginia for her success."

*v*89. Robbie Maclay, a 2006 graduate, was a versatile athlete for the Saxons, whose primary sport was lacrosse.

From Koubaroulis' 2006 profile for The Connection's Top 100 Athletes: "Langley 2006 graduate Robbie Maclay's impact is still fresh in the minds of lacrosse fans, play-



**The Langley volleyball team won the 2013 6A state championship.**

## Langley High School

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School Colors: Green and gold.

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Boys' Basketball Coach: Scott Newman.

Baseball Coach: Kevin Healy.

Boys' Lacrosse Coach: Earl Brewer.

Rival School: McLean.

ers and coaches in the Northern Region. Maclay just graduated from Langley after having competed in 12 seasons of sports and after becoming the first athlete to do so in 10 years at the McLean-based high school. He also shattered records while with the Saxons lacrosse team.

Maclay, who will continue his lacrosse career at Div. I University of Vermont next year, was selected as a US Lacrosse All-American this past season after leading the Saxons to the consolation round of the Northern Region tournament. ... Maclay was named Langley's Most Valuable Player and he was also recently named Langley's Most Outstanding Male Athlete of the Year. Maclay was also selected, as one of only five players from Virginia and 300 players throughout the country, as a High School All-American by US Lacrosse. ... Maclay lettered nine times while at Langley. He was a utility player for the Saxons 4-6 football team and spent time with both the track and wrestling teams. Maclay was the first athlete at Langley in 10 years to play 12 seasons of sports."

*v*97. Jimmy Sbarra, a 1999 graduate, was a lacrosse standout who went on to play at the University of Maryland.

From Koubaroulis' 2006 profile for The Connection's Top 100 Athletes: "After playing four years at Langley High School in which he recorded 120 points, Jimmy, who helped Langley to three Liberty District lacrosse titles en route to all-district selections in his junior and senior seasons, followed in his father's footsteps and played his college lacrosse at Maryland."



# Local REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

## January~June, 2014 Top Sales in Great Falls and McLean



**1** 904 Chinquapin Road, McLean — \$6,500,000



**2** 8112 Spring Hill Farm Drive, McLean — \$4,000,000



**3** 828 Mackall Avenue, McLean — \$3,875,000



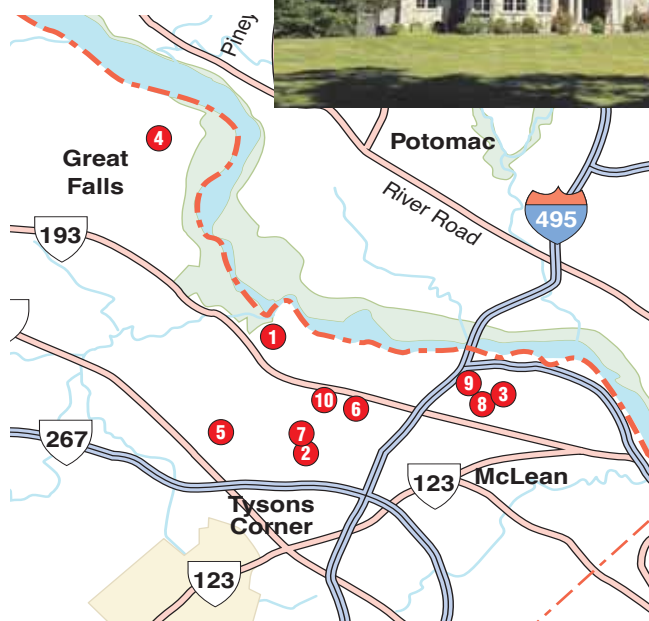
**4** 211 Clarks Run Road, Great Falls — \$3,675,000



**5** 1239 Daleview Drive, McLean — \$3,600,000



**6** 888 Alvermar Ridge Drive, McLean — \$3,460,000



Address .....	BR	FB	HB	...	Postal	City	...	Sold Price	...	Type	...	Lot AC	PostalCode	...	Subdivision	...	Date Sold
<b>1</b> 904 CHINQUAPIN RD .....	7	..	7	..	4	.....	MCLEAN	\$6,500,000	....	Detached	....	3.80	.....	22102	.....	CHINQUAPIN	06/20/14
<b>2</b> 8112 SPRING HILL FARM DR ...	5	..	5	..	3	.....	MCLEAN	\$4,000,000	....	Detached	....	0.88	.....	22102	.....	SPRING HILL FARM	05/09/14
<b>3</b> 828 MACKALL AVE .....	6	..	7	..	2	.....	MCLEAN	\$3,875,000	....	Detached	....	1.19	.....	22101	.....	LANGLEY FOREST	06/27/14
<b>4</b> 211 CLARKS RUN RD .....	5	..	5	..	3	...	GREAT FALLS	\$3,675,000	....	Detached	....	6.83	.....	22066	.....	BRANDES ESTATES	04/01/14
<b>5</b> 1239 DALEVIEW DR .....	5	..	7	..	3	.....	MCLEAN	\$3,600,000	....	Detached	....	1.53	.....	22102	.....	WOODSIDE ESTATES	05/15/14
<b>6</b> 888 ALVERMAR RIDGE DR .....	6	..	6	..	2	.....	MCLEAN	\$3,460,000	....	Detached	....	0.83	.....	22102	.....	THE RESERVE	06/05/14
<b>7</b> 8103 SPRING HILL FARM DR ...	5	..	5	..	2	.....	MCLEAN	\$3,450,000	....	Detached	....	1.01	.....	22102	.....	SPRING HILL FARM	06/06/14
<b>8</b> 6718 BENJAMIN ST .....	7	..	7	..	2	.....	MCLEAN	\$3,400,000	....	Detached	....	0.94	.....	22101	.....	LANGLEY FOREST	04/30/14
<b>9</b> 6810 WEMBERLY WAY .....	6	..	5	..	2	.....	MCLEAN	\$3,337,667	....	Detached	....	0.58	.....	22101	.....	LANGLEY FOREST	05/09/14
<b>10</b> 906 GEORGETOWN RIDGE CT	5	..	5	..	1	.....	MCLEAN	\$3,295,000	....	Detached	....	0.83	.....	22102	.....	GEORGETOWN RIDGE	06/30/14

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# Celebrate Great Falls

Your Community Organization



## Upcoming Events

### Halloween Spooktacular



Friday, October 31, 2014

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

Be sure to visit the Haunted House!



### Celebration of Lights

Saturday, December 6, 2014

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

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

### WINTER WINE TASTING

Saturday, February 21, 2015



Get out of the cold and enjoy great wines, hors d'oeuvres, cheese & good company.

River Bend Country Club



Celebrate  
Great Falls

## Annual Events



### Cars & Coffee

Saturday Mornings from 7am to 9am

Come grab a coffee and enjoy the many cars on show. Antique, classic and new . . . they can all be found here outside of Katie's Coffee House

### Concerts on the Green

Sunday Evenings from 6pm to 8pm

Sunday Evenings during the Summer on the Village Centre Green at the Gazebo.

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

### Annual Golf Tournament

The 1st Monday in June

Join us in support of our local, community Elementary Schools!



Hidden Creek Country Club



### July 4th Hometown Celebration & Parade

July 4th ~ 8am to Dark

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

Fireworks complete the day starting at dusk.

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

## A Special Thank You to our 2014-2015 Sponsors

### Preferred Partner



### Presenting Partners

Great Falls Auto Service  
Keller Williams Realty, Great Falls/McLean  
Roz Drayer, TTR Sotheby's International Realty  
Dr. Donna Greco, Great Falls Family & Cosmetic Dentistry  
Old Brogue Restaurant & Katie's Coffee House

### John Nugent & Sons

The Simmons Team, George Mason Mortgage  
Capital One Bank, Great Falls  
Loebig Chiropractic and Rehabilitation  
Glynis Canto & Kevin Canto, Realtors  
Bic DeCaro, Westgate Realty Group, Inc.

Volunteer at [www.CelebrateGreatFalls.org](http://www.CelebrateGreatFalls.org)