

Abby, who lives in Mount Vernon, looks out at her dad, while she enjoys Grist Mill Park's spiral slide.

# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

2014-2015

**Mount Vernon Gazette**

PHOTO BY RENÉE RUGGLES/THE GAZETTE

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# About the Gazette

**A**s your local, weekly newspaper, the Gazette'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 two weeks ahead of the event, and we encourage photos.

The Gazette 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 Connection Newspapers 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 [gazette@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:gazette@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 Gazette, 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  
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## NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE



**"I've lived here for 13 years. I'm a Civil War buff, and Virginia is the biggest state for Civil War stuff. But I also like that I have access to D.C." — Don Macnair**



**"I grew up here. I enjoy the proximity to the city, and I like to go running on the parkway a lot." — Nathan Parker**



**"I can walk to work and back. Everything is pretty much close to everything else." — Janette Dunder**

## What do you like about living in the Mount Vernon area?

PHOTOS BY  
KARA COLEMAN  
THE GAZETTE



**"I enjoy being close to Old Town. My wife and I go to D.C. a lot too, either by driving or taking the metro. Our friends are in the city, but we don't want to be. We wanted something a little more suburban." — Ben Montaquila**



**"I graduated from Mount Vernon High School, and I've lived here for 18 years. I like how my little brother can play outside here without being scared." — Brianna Hartless**

## Issues Confronting Mount Vernon

BY SCOTT A. SUROVELL  
STATE DELEGATE (D-44)

**T**here are many issues facing the communities between the Potomac River, Huntley Meadows Park, Fort Belvoir and the City of Alexandria. The top three are U.S. 1, the future of our local schools, and a burgeoning uninsured population.

First, our quality of life revolves U.S. 1. The future of U.S. 1 not only functions as the spine of our mobility, but it drives housing, retail choices, property values, schools, environmental quality, crime levels and tax revenue. A year ago, state Sen. Toddy Puller and I secured \$2 million to fund the U.S. 1 Multimodal Study and determine the optimal transit, road, pedestrian, cycling, and accompanying land configuration for the U.S. 1 Corridor. That study will come to a conclusion in the next few months.

The study is effectively coming down to two choices. One is a dedicated bus rapid transit (BRT) system from Huntington Metro to Fort Belvoir. The second choice is a two-stop extension of the Yellow Line with a bus rapid transit system to Woodbridge — this two-pronged solution is being called the "Hybrid Option."

Once the study issues a recommendation, the



Fairfax County Board of Supervisors will need to take a vote to agree upon the Locally Preferred Option ("LPA"). Once the LPA is set, additional planning can commence. Achieving this will not only require the Board of Supervisors to agree upon making the redevelopment of U.S. 1 a priority — it will require a consensus here in our community between residents,

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### Mount Vernon Gazette

### NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

IS PRODUCED BY  
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LOCAL MEDIA CONNECTION LLC

Community Guide content compiled by Abby Aldridge, Kara Coleman, Ashley Dietz, Neeka Eghbali, Emma Harris, Taylor Horner, Alexis Hosticka and Elizabeth Schneider

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# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

## What do you like most about Mount Vernon?



**Joe A. Nay:** Currently living in Delaware, but lived in the Mount Vernon area for about 20 years and returns to visit his brother. What he likes most about the area is “Right where we are (Huntley Meadows). It’s different every time you come.” Nay has come to the nature preserve during every season, to observe the changes that occur.



**Aneega Tajammal (left) and Namra Shahbaz** live in the Mount Vernon area and were with family, enjoying the park at Belle Haven Marina. What they like most: “You know how everything is close together? This is a quiet place that you can come to read, walk, and have a family barbecue.”



**Liz Killebrew** lives in the Mount Vernon area. What she likes the most: “The access to the water and a great community.”



**William Lee** lives in D.C., but works in the Mount Vernon area, at the river, repairing boats. What he likes most: “Great access to the river and a place to relax, away from downtown.”

PHOTOS BY RENÉE RUCCLES/THE GAZETTE

## Restoring a Natural Jewel — Dyke Marsh

BY GLENDA C. BOOTH  
PRESIDENT, FRIENDS OF DYKE MARSH

**T**housands of people zoom through Dyke Marsh in their vehicles every day on the Mount Vernon Parkway, where twice-daily tides slosh the wetland’s waters in and out under the road. Few probably realize that Dyke Marsh is disappearing. The marsh could be gone in 20-30 years, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) has predicted.

Dyke Marsh is a 480-acre freshwater tidal ecosystem that Congress added to the national park system in 1959 “so that fish and wildlife development and their preservation as wetland wildlife habitat shall be paramount.” Today, the marsh has over 300 known species of plants, 6,000 arthropods, 38 fish, 16 reptiles, 14 amphibians and over 230 birds. Georgetown University entomologist Dr. Edd Barrows says that counting bacteria, there may be 18,000 organisms in Dyke Marsh. A wetland is a rich “biological supermarket,” maintains Dr. Kirk Havens, Virginia Institute for Marine Science. “In an area roughly the size of an average desktop, there can be as many as 8,300 animals.”

Why care that Dyke Marsh is vanishing? Wetlands can attenuate wave energy and stem flooding. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says that a one-acre wetland can store about one million gallons of water. Wetlands are natural defenses against storm surges and flooding for many communities. Wetlands filter out pollutants and are fish nurseries.

Dredging that hauled away much of the marsh between 1940 and 1972 fundamentally undermined the ecosystem’s delicate equilibrium, subjecting Dyke Marsh to severe erosion from storms, erosion that now



**Many walkers, runners, bikers and drivers pass through the cattails, wild rice and buttonbush of the Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve daily on the Mount Vernon trail.**

PHOTO BY GLENDA BOOTH

claims 1.5 to two acres a year and is accelerating, confirmed USGS. Fortunately, this fall, the National Park Service will release a restoration plan, many years in the making. Last October, U.S. Department of Interior Secretary Sally Jewell came to Dyke Marsh and announced funding to stabilize over two miles of shoreline and rebuild 150 acres, a historic and welcome step.

Naturalist Louis Halle in 1947 wrote that Dyke Marsh is “the nearest thing to primeval wilderness in the immediate vicinity of the city.” Mount Vernon resident and former U. S. Sen. John Warner called the wetland “a magnificent little oasis.”

Newcomers and long-termers alike recognize that a restored Dyke Marsh can strengthen ecological services, enhance the historic landscape for the George Washington Memorial Parkway and enhance opportunities for scientific research, education and enjoyment in our area.

To learn more, visit [www.fodm.org](http://www.fodm.org), <http://www.nps.gov/gwmp/dyke-marsh.htm>, <http://biodiversity.georgetown.edu/> and the Friends of Dyke Marsh on Facebook.

### SERVING THE COMMUNITY

#### Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Washington Fairfax Area

Aims to help youth become confident, civic-minded, responsible adults through programs focused on education/career development, health and life skills, leadership, the arts, sports and recreation, and mentoring. [www.bgcgw.org/fairfax/](http://www.bgcgw.org/fairfax/).

#### Mount Vernon Recreation Center

A fitness center with a 25-meter heated indoor pool with poolside spa, a beach area with play features, locker rooms with showers and sauna, Fitness Center with Cybex VR2 equipment, pro shop items for sale, dance room, multi-purpose rooms and a year-round 200 foot by 85 foot indoor ice arena. 703-768-3224 or [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec/mvrec.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec/mvrec.htm).

#### United Community Ministries

Founded in 1969 as a grassroots movement to assist low-income families and individuals living along the Route One Corridor, UCM provides four different housing programs as well as a Workforce Development Center to help prepare people for moving forward with their jobs. 703-768-7106 or [www.ucmagency.org/](http://www.ucmagency.org/).

#### New Hope Housing

In 1978, New Hope opened the first homeless shelter in Fairfax County. New Hope Housing is the oldest and largest provider of shelter to the homeless of Northern Virginia.

Its mission is to provide both shelter and the tools to build a better life.

SEE SERVICING THE COMMUNITY. PAGE 15



# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

## Demographic Snapshot of Mount Vernon

### ZIP CODE: 22309

**Population:** 33,220

**Race:** White-15,865 (47.8%), Black/African American-8,585 (25.8%), American Indian and Alaska Native-222 (0.7%), Asian-2,503 (7.5%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-9,260 (27.9%)

**Total housing units:** 12,006

**Owner-occupied housing units:** 7,487 (64.5%)

**Households with individuals under 18 years:** 4,507 (38.8%)

**Households with individuals 65 years and over:** 2,349 (20.2%)

**Median household income:** 83,092

**Mean family income:** 121,989

**Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home:** 41.6%

### ZIP CODE: 22306

**Population:** 32,326

**Race:** White-14,594 (45.1%), Black/African American-8,811 (27.3%), American Indian and Alaska Native-159 (0.5%), Asian-2,760 (8.5%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-9,508

**Total housing units:** 12,295

**Owner-occupied housing units:** 5,562 (47.4%)

**Households with individuals under 18 years:** 4,640 (39.5%)

**Households with individuals 65 years and over:** 2,056 (17.5%)

**Median household income:** 59,243

**Mean family income:** 96,773

**Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home:** 41.8%

### ZIP CODE: 22307

**Population:** 9,581

**Race:** White-8,012 (83.6%), Black/African American-588 (6.1%), American Indian and Alaska Native-31 (0.3%), Asian-334 (3.5%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-990 (10.3%)

**Total housing units:** 4,823

**Owner-occupied housing units:** 3,391 (76.8%)

**Households with individuals under 18 years:** 1,084

(24.5%)

**Households with individuals 65 years and over:** 1,222 (27.7%)

**Median household income:** 103,026

**Mean family income:** 191,979

**Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home:** 13.5%

### ZIP CODE: 22308

**Population:** 12,737

**Race:** White-11,716 (92%), Black/African American-274 (2.2%), American Indian and Alaska Native-21 (0.2%), Asian-329 (2.6%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-521 (4.1%)

**Total housing units:** 4,816

**Owner-occupied housing units:** 4,239 (92%)

**Households with individuals under 18 years:** 1,893 (41.1%)

**Households with individuals 65 years and over:** 1,444 (31.3%)

**Median household income:** 161,953

**Mean family income:** 202,299

**Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home:** 9.9%

### ZIP CODE: 22303

**Population:** 12,601

**Race:** White-7,754 (61.5%), Black/African American-1,611 (12.8%), American Indian and Alaska Native-65 (0.5%), Asian-1,219 (9.7%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-2,940 (23.3%)

**Total housing units:** 7,108

**Owner-occupied housing units:** 2,880 (46.2%)

**Households with individuals under 18 years:** 1,095 (17.6%)

**Households with individuals 65 years and over:** 1,092 (17.5%)

**Median household income:** 76,950

**Mean family income:** 98,342

**Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home:** 39.2%

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

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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 Springfest every April.

Fairfax County has something for everyone. Northern Virginia Community College offers more than 160 degrees at the associate's level and numerous certificate programs.

Its partnership with George Mason University provides families and students with a seamless, cost-effective path to a four-year degree.

George Mason University, recently named one of the top five "Up-and-Coming Uni-



**Sharon Bulova**

versities" 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 Byline newsletter that will keep you up-to-date on what is happening and how you can participate in all that Fairfax County has to offer you and your family.

Thanks for making Fairfax County your home.

## Fairfax County's Success Story

### Economic Success: 50 Years in the Making

BY GERALD L. GORDON, PH.D.



**Gerald Gordon**

**I**f 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.*

## A County of 186,785 Students

BY KAREN K. GARZA  
SUPERINTENDENT OF FAIRFAX COUNTY  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**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 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 mak-



**Karen K. Garza**

ing 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 posi-

tive 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 assessments of student learning. The Portrait of a Graduate will ensure that our students are collaborators, communicators, creative and critical thinkers, global citizens, and goal-directed and resilient individuals when they leave FCPS.

Other significant changes include:

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

- ❖ A new standard school calendar that

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

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

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

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



## NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

# Issues Confronting Mount Vernon

FROM PAGE 3

property owners, businesses, and other stakeholders.

The BRT option and Hybrid Option present two starkly different choices. Due to the land use choices necessary to support it, the Hybrid Option will bring the maximum benefit to the area. A two-stop Yellow Line extension will bring significant redevelopment to U.S. 1 from Huntington to Hybla Valley and beyond and is what our community needs. Enhanced bus-only transit will not bring the significant redevelopment that will maximize quality of life in this area.

Second, the quality of our public schools also depends upon adequate funding. Average Fairfax County teacher pay is \$13,000 less than Washington, D.C., \$10,000 under Arlington, \$8,000 under Alexandria, and only \$4,000 more than Prince William. Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) is facing a \$2 billion capital backlog. There are trailers at nearly every school in our community.

Last year, 13 schools in Fairfax County failed accreditation – six were in the 44<sup>th</sup> District although we only have about 7 percent of the county's population. Universal preschool is the long-term key to solving this problem.

Additionally, five schools failed accreditation due to new computer-based science Standards of Learning (SOL) Tests. Closing the Digital Divide is recognized as having significant short-term benefit and is urgently needed.

Virginia's other largest jurisdictions are already deploying computers to every child. Henrico County

has provided computers to every child since 2001. This week, Chesterfield County issues their first 15,000 Chromebooks. FCPS currently spends \$13,472 to educate each child. Computers for every child would cost about \$50 million or only \$265 per student.

There is no question that state funding of secondary education in Fairfax County is lagging. Thanks to the "Sequester," Virginia's economy continues to underperform the nation and state revenue is flat, and raging against funding formulas is a futile exercise without fundamental political change in Richmond, so in the medium-term, funding solutions will need to be local. Supervisor Gerry Hyland has been a strong voice for local education funding for nearly three decades. He will need all of our support.

Finally, our growing uninsured population is a long-term unsolved problem. Nearly 13,000 residents in the 44<sup>th</sup> District receive healthcare from Medicaid – this includes 9,300 children or 1 in 3 people under age 18 in this community. Each of those 9,300 kids has a parent without health insurance. The 22306 and 22309 zip codes lead Fairfax County in non-serious emergency room visits.

Uninsured healthcare expenses drive up premiums for everyone, but no person should have to worry that an unexpected illness will mean they can't pay their rent. Closing the uninsured gap by expanding Medicaid or any other solution is a critical need in this community.

If you disagree with my analysis or priorities, let me know at [scottsuovell@gmail.com](mailto:scottsuovell@gmail.com). It is an honor to serve as your state delegate.



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# 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.

## 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>

## Map of Congressional districts serving Fairfax County.

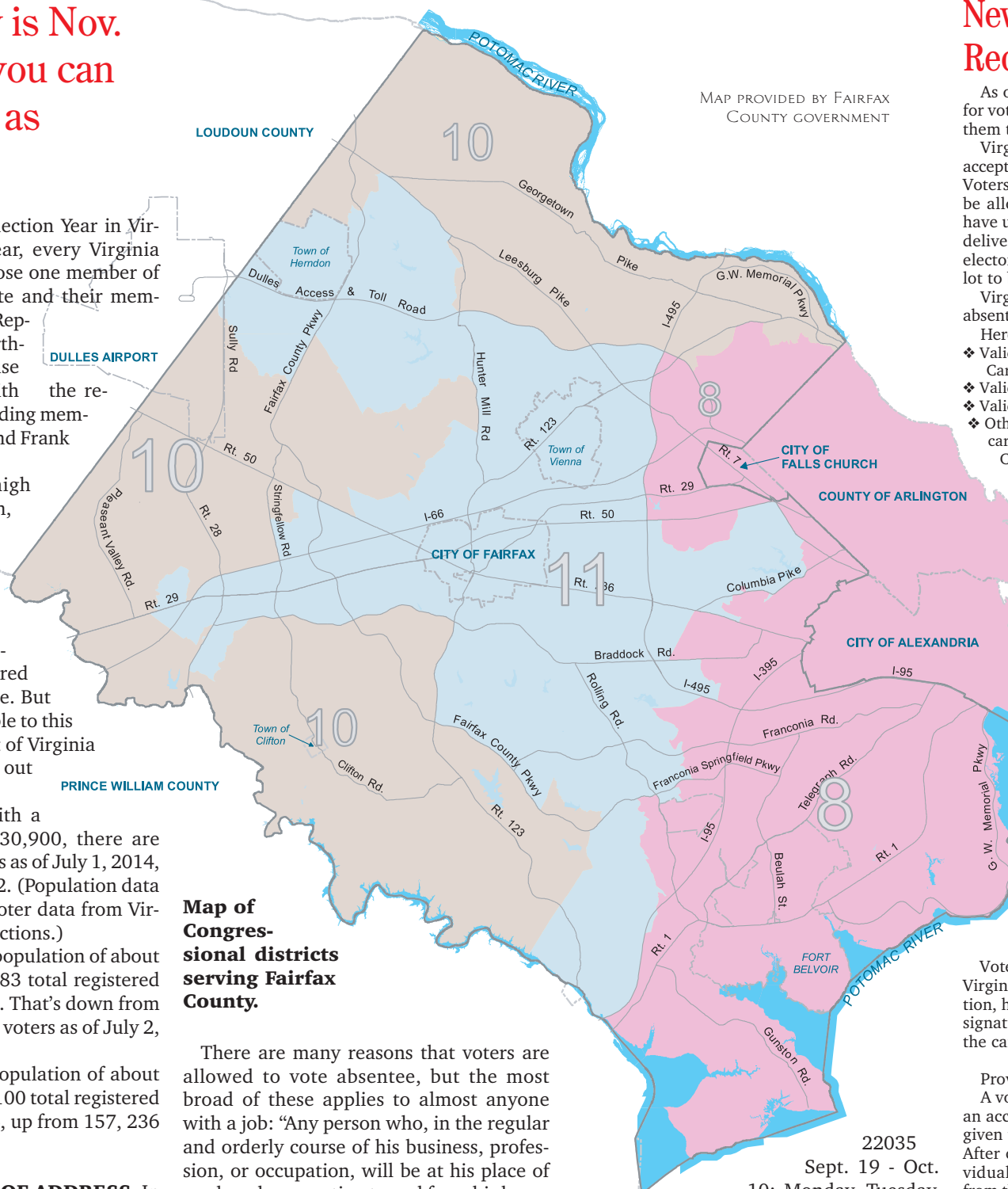
There are many reasons that voters are allowed to vote absentee, but the most broad of these applies to almost anyone with a job: "Any person who, in the regular and orderly course of his business, profession, or occupation, will be at his place of work and commuting to and from his home to his place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

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

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

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

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



MAP PROVIDED BY FAIRFAX COUNTY GOVERNMENT

## New Voter Identification Requirements

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

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

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

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

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

## Don't Have One of These?

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

## Provisional Ballot Process

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

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

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

SOURCE: Virginia Department of Elections, [www.sbe.virginia.gov](http://www.sbe.virginia.gov)

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

Satellite Voting Locations Begin Friday  
Oct. 14

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

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

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

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

SEE EVERY YEAR, PAGE 14



## NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE



Rotary club past president Ellie Turner, and Past Rotary District Governor Andy Turner flank their Texas grandchildren, Ian and Katie, following their induction as Paul Harris Fellows of the Rotary Foundation.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED



### Join the Rotary Club

Echoing other chapters throughout the world, the Mount Vernon Rotary Club meets weekly on Wednesday for dinner (6:45 p.m.) at the Cedar Knoll Inn (703-799-1501) on the George Washington Parkway. New Rotarian arrivals to the area are welcome to join in fellowship.

The Mount Vernon Rotary Club

supports a variety of community projects: educational (scholarships), environmental, scouting and senior citizens. Business men and women interested in learning more about Rotary International and joining to help support the local community may contact Kevin Farquhar at 703-317-6030 or kfarquhar@hga.com.

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# PARKS

## AN INSIDER'S GUIDE TO MAJOR PARKS IN FAIRFAX COUNTY

### National Parks

#### GF Great Falls National Park

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

#### GW George Washington Memorial Parkway

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

#### WT Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts

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

### State Park

#### MN Mason Neck State Park

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

#### PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY

#### FH Fountainhead

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

#### HO Hemlock Overlook Regional Park

13220 Yates Ford Road, Clifton  
www.nvrpa.org/park/hemlock\_overlook/  
800-877-0954; 571-281-3556;  
Hemlock

### Regional Parks

#### BR Bull Run Marina Regional Park

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

#### BR Atlantis Waterpark

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



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

#### MBG Meadowlark Botanical Gardens

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

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

#### OR Occoquan

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

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

#### PB Pohick Bay Regional Park

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

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



Pohick Bay offers canoes, kayaks, paddle boats and jon boats for rent on the weekends, as well as family and group camping, hiking, picnic areas and a large play area for children. For those interested in swimming, the park offers one of the largest, outdoor freeform pools on the east coast. Pohick Bay Regional Park, located on Mason Neck Peninsula is an ecologically fragile land that shelters an abundance of wildlife, including the bald eagle. Nature lovers can expect to see blue birds, osprey, heron, deer, beavers and rare sightings of river otters.

**PB Pirates Cove Waterpark**

(at Pohick Bay Regional Park)  
6501 Pohick Bay Drive, Lorton  
www.piratescovepohick.com  
703-339-6102

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

**PB Pohick Bay Golf Course**

10301 Gunston Road, Lorton  
www.nvrpa.org/park/pohick\_bay\_golf\_course  
703-339-8585

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

**SR Sandy Run Regional Park**

10450 Van Thompson Road, Fairfax Station  
www.nvrpa.org/park/sandy\_run/  
703-690-4392

The park is open to the public for the purpose of education, training, practice, and racing for competitive and recreational sculling and rowing. Only shells and other boats authorized by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority may be launched from the docks or shoreline of Sandy Run. Sandy Run offers a facility for team training and competition for Olympic, college, high school and club canoe, kayak and crew athletes.

**Arts Center**

**LAC Workhouse Arts Center**

9601 Ox Road, Lorton  
www.lortonarts.org  
703-584-2900

The Workhouse Arts Center consists of seven studio buildings, the main galleries and the recently opened Youth Arts Center. Visitors are encouraged to interact with artists. In addition to visual arts, the Workhouse Arts Center is home to performing arts, including theater, film



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

institute, musical and dance performances. The education department supports both the visual and performing arts, offering classes and workshops in a variety of disciplines. Future plans for the Workhouse include an event center, amphitheater, Workhouse Theatre, restaurants, apartments, music barn and garden/horticultural area. Other buildings on site, yet to be renovated, may provide for other activities such as a visitors center, a blacksmith shop, theatre scene shops and rehearsal space.

**Major Fairfax County Parks**

**BLP Burke Lake Park & Golf Course**

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

**CJP Clemyjontri Park**

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

**ELP Ellanor C. Lawrence Park**

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



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

**FPF Frying Pan Farm Park**

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

**GSG Green Spring Gardens**

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

**HPP Hidden Pond Park**

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

**HMP Huntley Meadows Park**

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

**LAP Lake Accotink Park**

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

**LFP Lake Fairfax Park**

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

**FRA Lee District Park**

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

**MDP Mason District Park**

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

**NWP Nottoway Park**

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

**RBP Riverbend Park**

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

**SRN Scotts Run Nature Preserve**

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

**SRD South Run District**

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

**WFP Wakefield Park & RECenter**

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



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



# PARKS

A GUIDE TO FAIRFAX COUNTY PARKS IN THE  
SPRINGFIELD & MOUNT VERNON AREAS



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

- 1 Lorton**  
9518 Richmond Highway, Alexandria  
Neighborhood Park
- 2 Springfield Forest**  
6400 Kalmia Street, Springfield  
Neighborhood Park
- 3 Franconia**  
6432 Bowie Drive, Springfield  
Community Park
- 4 Lee High**  
6501 Deepford Street, Springfield  
Community Park
- 5 Monticello Woods**  
6444 Northanna Drive, Springfield  
Community Park
- 6 Trailside**  
6000 Trailside Drive, Springfield  
Community Park
- 7 Loisdale**  
7419 Loisdale Road, Springfield  
Neighborhood Park
- 8 Lynbrook**  
6005 Augusta Drive, Springfield  
Neighborhood Park
- 9 Hooes Road**  
7233 Hooes Road, Springfield  
Community Park



**Grist Mill Park offers a very large piece of playground equipment, with lots of options for active kids.**

- 10 Springvale**  
6508 Spring Road, Springfield  
Community Park
- 11 Lake Accotink**  
7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield  
Multiple Resource Park
- 12 Brookfield**  
7417 Floyd Avenue, Springfield  
Community Park
- 13 Byron Avenue**  
6500 Byron Avenue, Springfield  
Community Park

- 14 Hooes Road School Site**  
7336 Hooes Road, Springfield  
Community Park
- 15 Kings Park**  
8717 Trafalgar Ct., Springfield  
Community Park

- 16 Flag Run**  
7620 Elgar Street, Springfield  
Neighborhood Park
- 17 Leewood**  
7111 Woodland Drive, Springfield  
Neighborhood Park
- 18 Deerlick**  
6821 Braddock Road, Springfield  
Community Park
- 19 Edsall**  
6845 Edsall Road, Springfield  
Community Park
- 20 North Springfield**  
7025 Leesville Boulevard, Springfield  
Neighborhood Park
- 21 Royal Ridge**  
7417 Floyd Avenue, Springfield  
Community Park
- 22 Carrleigh Parkway**  
8020 Carrleigh Prkwy, Springfield  
Neighborhood Park
- 23 Cardinal Forest**  
6121 Roxbury Avenue, Springfield  
Community Park
- 24 Hunter Village**  
7700 Jansen Drive, Springfield  
Community Park
- 25 Hidden Pond**  
8511 Greeley Boulevard, Springfield





Grist Mill Park is home to the Gunston Soccer Club. The “Gunston Elite 97,” a team of high school aged girls, practices hard on the park’s large field.



Grist Mill’s Dog Park offers a large space for dogs, and their owners, to socialize and play.



Fairfax Park Authority has garden plots for rent in several of their parks, including Grist Mill.

- Community Park  
**26 West Springfield**  
6805 Caneel Street, Springfield  
Neighborhood Park
- 27 West Springfield Village**  
6910 Loudoun Lane, Springfield  
Neighborhood Park
- 28 Rolling Forest**  
7019 Flax Street, Springfield  
Neighborhood Park
- 29 Cherry Run**  
7001 Cottontail Court, Springfield  
Neighborhood Park
- 30 South Run District**  
7550 Reservation Drive, Springfield  
District Park
- 31 Huntsman**  
9150 Dorothy Lane, Springfield  
Community Park
- 32 Rolling Wood School Site**  
7511 Chancellor Way, Springfield  
Community Park
- 33 Chapel Acres**  
7900 Giles Street, Springfield  
Neighborhood Park
- 34 Saratoga**  
8121 North Umlerland Rd, Springfield

- Community Park  
**35 Loftridge**  
5549 Janelle Street, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 36 Burgundy**  
5516 Norton Road, Alexandria  
Neighborhood Park
- 37 Heritage Hill**  
5744 Telegraph Road, Alexandria  
Neighborhood Park
- 38 Jefferson Manor**  
2909 Farmington Drive, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 39 Huntington**  
2121 Fairfax Terrace, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 40 Farrington Avenue**  
2213 Farrington Avenue, Alexandria  
Neighborhood Park
- 41 Mt. Eagle**  
5919 North Kings Highway, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 42 South Kings Forest**  
4505 Lantern Place, Alexandria  
Neighborhood Park
- 43 Stoneybrooke**  
3900 Stoneybrooke Drive, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 44 Groveton Heights**  
3429 Clayborne Avenue, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 45 Huntley Historic**  
6918 Harrison Lane, Alexandria  
Natural Resource Park
- 46 Lenclair**  
6625 Lenclair Street, Alexandria  
Neighborhood Park
- 47 Bucknell Manor**  
2223 Beacon Hill Road, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 48 Hybla Valley**  
3431 Lockheed Boulevard, Alexandria  
Neighborhood Park
- 49 Huntley Meadows**  
3701 Lockheed Boulevard, Alexandria  
Natural Resource Park
- 50 Hollin Meadows**  
7603 Elba Road, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 51 Martin Luther King Jr**  
8115 Fordson Road, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 52 Stephen S. Foster Intermediate School Site**  
2500 Parkers Lane, Alexandria

- Community Park  
**53 Belle Haven**  
6036 Grove Drive, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 54 Fort Willard Circle**  
6625 Fort Willard Circle, Alexandria  
Neighborhood Park
- 55 Mount Vernon District**  
2017 Belle View Boulevard, Alexandria  
Multiple Resource Park
- 56 Westgrove**  
6801 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 57 White Oaks**  
7100 Devonshire Road, Alexandria  
Neighborhood Park
- 58 Gilbert S. McCutcheon**  
7509 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 59 Hollin Hall School Site**  
1500 Shenandoah Road, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 60 Kirk**  
2206 Collingwood Road, Alexandria  
Neighborhood Park
- 61 Williamsburg Manor**  
2213 Collingwood Road, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 62 Collingwood**  
8200 West Boulevard Drive, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 63 Carl Sandburg School Site**  
8428 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 64 Stratford Landing**  
2301 Stirrup Lane, Alexandria  
Neighborhood Park
- 65 Fort Hunt**  
8822 Linton Lane, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 66 Muddy Hole Farm**  
7941 Kidd Street, Alexandria



- Community Park  
**67 Mount Vernon Woods**  
4014 Fielding Street, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 68 George Washington**  
8426 Old Mount Vernon Road, Alexandria  
Special Purpose Park
- 69 Walt Whitman School Site**  
8333 Richmond Highway, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 70 Mount Zephyr**  
8601 Richmond Avenue, Alexandria  
Neighborhood Park
- 71 Washington Mill**  
4341 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy,  
Alexandria  
Community Park
- 72 Grist Mill**  
4710 Mount Vernon Memorial Hwy,  
Alexandria  
District Park
- 73 Vernon Heights**  
8225 Central Avenue, Alexandria  
Neighborhood Park
- 74 Bush Hill**  
5417a Waycross Drive, Alexandria  
Neighborhood Park
- 75 Mark Twain**  
5920 Larpin Lane, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 76 Clermont School Site**  
4100 Franconia Road, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 77 Franconia Forest**  
6013 Bitternut Road, Alexandria  
Neighborhood Park
- 78 Ridgeview**  
4111 Duvawn Street, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 79 Wilton Woods School Site**  
3701 Franconia Road, Alexandria

- Neighborhood Park  
**80 Tara Village**  
6417 Joyce Road, Alexandria  
Neighborhood Park
- 81 Virginia Hills School Site**  
6520 Diana Lane, Alexandria  
Neighborhood Park
- 82 Manchester Lakes**  
6775 Beulah Street, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 83 Greendale Golf Course**  
6700 Telegraph Road, Alexandria  
Special Purpose Park
- 84 Lee District**  
6601 Telegraph Road, Franconia  
District Park
- 85 Dowden Terrace**  
5616 Bradley Boulevard, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 86 Glasgow**  
3935 Arcadia Road, Alexandria  
Neighborhood Park
- 87 Parklawn**  
6454 Lincolnia Road, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 88 Glen Hills**  
6090 Larstan Drive, Alexandria  
Neighborhood Park
- 89 Heywood Glen**  
6210 Larstan Drive, Alexandria  
Neighborhood Park
- 90 Pinecrest Golf Course**  
6600 Little River Turnpike, Alexandria  
Special Purpose Park
- 91 Green Spring Gardens**  
4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria  
Special Purpose Park
- 92 Bren Mar**  
6324 Edsall Road, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 93 Backlick Run**  
5590 First Statesman Lane, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 94 Beulah**  
7119 Beulah Street, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 95 Amberleigh**  
7516 Beulah Street, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 96 Hayfield**  
7611 Hayfield Road, Alexandria  
Community Park
- 97 Wickford**  
7331a Wickford Drive, Alexandria  
Neighborhood Park



## NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

# Every Year Is Election Year in Virginia

FROM PAGE 8

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

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

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

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

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

Closed Monday, Oct. 13 for Columbus Day

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

What's on the Ballot?

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

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

### U.S. Senate

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

Republican Ed W. Gillespie, [www.edforsenate.com](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)

**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.

**Hurry! Personal Loan Special Expires September 30!**

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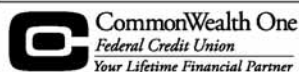
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4875 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22304



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# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

## SERVING THE COMMUNITY

FROM PAGE 4

[www.newhopehousing.org/](http://www.newhopehousing.org/).

### Good Shepherd Housing and Family Services

The goal of Good Shepherd, created in 1974, is to help bring an end to homelessness while promoting the self-sufficiency of homeless individuals with programs in counseling, grant services and housing location assistance. [www.goodhousing.org/](http://www.goodhousing.org/).

### Christian Relief Services

Incorporated in 1985, in Virginia, through part-

nership with 14 agencies, Christian Relief Services offers up to 24 months of transitional housing, case management and supportive services for homeless people.

Around the country, operates the affordable housing units. [www.christianrelief.org/](http://www.christianrelief.org/).

### Progreso Literacy and Citizenship Center

Progreso is a community development and advocacy nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that seeks to serve and empower immigrants to improve the quality of their lives and of their communities through education, immigration services, and lead-

ership development.. <http://progreso-hispano.org/>

### Mount Vernon Rotary Club

The club works to provide educational scholarships, educate the next generation to motivate them to pursue world peace, and to simply care about human needs and be willing to take steps to help meet them.

<http://localrotaryclub.com/MountVernonVirginiarotaryclub>.

### Mount Vernon At Home

Looking for a way to make a difference in the

Mount Vernon community? Consider Mount Vernon At Home, a non-profit organization that relies on volunteer time and talent as it assists older adults to age in place in their homes. Its volunteers provide that extra help that make aging in place easier for seniors in their own neighborhood.

Volunteers are needed for local transportation to medical and personal appointments, errands, and grocery store trips; light handyman chores and home technology to name just a few. No minimum number of volunteer hours are required.

Call Mount Vernon At Home at 703-303-4060 or email [info@mountvernonathome.org](mailto:info@mountvernonathome.org) to learn more. [www.mountvernonathome.org](http://www.mountvernonathome.org).



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[Sentara.com/NorthernVirginia](http://Sentara.com/NorthernVirginia)



## SPORTS

# Getting To Know ... Mount Vernon Sports

## Girls' basketball team reached the 5A state tournament.

**School:** Mount Vernon High School.

**Mascot:** Majors.

**School Colors:** Maroon, gray and white.

**Athletic Director:** Bob Maxey, 703-619-3141.

**Football Coach:** Barry Wells (fifth year).

The Majors qualified for the 2013 5A North region playoffs despite a 3-7 record, and lost to Tuscarora in the opening round.

**Field Hockey Coach:** Jessica Edwards.

**Boys' Basketball Coach:** John Wiley.

**Girls' Basketball Coach:** Courtney Coffey.

**Boys' Soccer Coach:** Tony Garza

**Rival School:** West Potomac

**What happened last year:** The girls' basketball team reached the state playoffs, finishing runner-up in Conference 13 and the 5A North region. The softball team went 19-5 and finished runner-up in Conference 13.

**Quotable:** "I think [there has] been a huge difference from this team and my teams in the past. My teams in the past have generally started strong and we've tended to fizzle out. We've reached our peak too early. This team is [the opposite]." — Girls' basketball coach Courtney Coffey.

**Then-senior DJ Jeanpierre and the Mount Vernon girls' basketball team advanced to the 5A state tournament in 2014.**



GAZETTE FILE PHOTO

## ... West Potomac Sports

## Boys' soccer team fell a win shy of qualifying for states.

**School:** West Potomac High School.

**Mascot:** Wolverines.

**School Colors:** Royal blue and silver.

**Athletic Director:** Aaron Helmick, 703-718-2561.

**Football Coach:** Jeremiah Ross (first year).

After dropping four of their first five games in 2013, the Wolverines battled back into playoff contention, but missed the postseason with a 4-6 record.

**Cross Country Coach:** Jenn Dietz.

**Volleyball Coach:** Bob Lombardi.

**Boys' Basketball Coach:** David Houston III.

Baseball coach: Jim Sullivan.

Boys' soccer coach: Andrew Peck

**Rival Schools:** Mount Vernon, T.C. Williams.

**What happened last year:** Then-senior Katie Genuario earned all-state cross country honors. The boys' basketball team qualified for the region tournament. The boys' soccer team reached the region semifinals. The baseball team finished Conference 7 runner-up and reached the region quarterfinals. The softball team reached the region quarterfinals.

**Quotable:** "We played three of the best teams in Northern Virginia [during the region tournament] and knocked two of the three out.

We gave these guys a run for their money, it just came to the very end and they put the ball in the back of the net and we couldn't. We had some chances, but they pulled it out, made it happen." — Boys' soccer coach Andrew Peck after the Wolverines lost to Washington-Lee in the region semifinals.



**Daniel Damiani and the West Potomac boys' soccer team defeated Oakton in the region quarterfinals.**

## ... St. Stephen's & St. Agnes Sports

**School:** St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School.

**Mascot:** Saints.

**School Colors:** Red, white, green and gold.

**Athletic Director:** Stephanie Koroma (girls), 703-212-2776; Andrew Taibl (boys) 703-212-2775.

**Football Coach:** Bernard Joseph (fourth year).

The Saints failed to win a game in 2013, finishing 0-9.

**Field Hockey Coach:** Alicia Grater.

**Boys' Basketball Coach:** Ron Ginyard.

**Girls' Basketball Coach:** Calvin Crenshaw.

**Boys' Lacrosse Coach:** Andrew Taibl.

**Girls' Lacrosse Coach:** Kathy Jenkins.

**Rival School:** Episcopal.

**What happened last year:** The boys' soccer team won IAC and state championships. The field hockey team beat Holton-Arms to win the ISL tournament title. The boys' lacrosse team defeated St.



**The St. Stephen's & St. Agnes boys' soccer team won the 2013 VISAA state championship.**

Christopher's to win the state title. The girls' lacrosse team finished 29-2, winning the ISL championship and finishing state runner-up.

**Quotable:** "Until we get past that hump, I'm feeling like Marv Levy and the Buffalo Bills." — Boys' soccer coach Bo Amato, whose teams had reached the state semifinals four years in row but failed to a win a title prior to the 2013 season.

## ... Bishop Ireton Sports

**School:** Bishop Ireton High School.

**Mascot:** Cardinals.

**School Colors:** Burgundy and gold.

**Athletic Director:** Bill Simmons, 703-212-5169.

**Football Coach:** Tony Verducci (eighth year).

The Cardinals won two of their first three games in 2013, lost their next five and ended the year with victories over Potomac School and Pope John Paul the Great to finish the season with a 4-6 record.

**Boys' Basketball Coach:** Neil Berkman.

**Girls' Basketball Coach:** Derek Campbell.

**Girls' Lacrosse Coach:** Rick Sofield.

**Baseball Coach:** Rex Thomas.

**Rival School:** Bishop O'Connell.

**What happened last year:** The girls' lacrosse team won WCAC and VISAA state championships. The boys' basketball team posted a winning record and defeated



**Kelly Larkin, left, and the Bishop Ireton girls' lacrosse team won a pair of championships in 2014.**

Bishop O'Connell in the WCAC tournament quarterfinals.

**Quotable:** "It was so surreal. It was amazing. We've been working for 11 months, so we deserved it. It was the greatest feeling in the world." — Charlotte Sofield on winning the WCAC girls' lacrosse championship.



# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE



Exterior shot of Eleanor U. Kennedy Shelter located at 9155 Richmond Highway.



New Hope Housing Executive Director Pam Michell and others visit a homeless camp during the 100,000 Homes outreach week in 2013.



Exterior shot of Mondloch Place, a housing program for 20 chronically homeless adults, located at 3516 Lockheed Blvd.

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

## Ending Homelessness in Mount Vernon and All of the County

**T**ucked away in the Potomac Square center on Route 1 is the administration office for New Hope Housing, a nearly 40-year-old nonprofit that has been working to help and house the most vulnerable neighbors across Northern Virginia.

Founded in 1977 as Route One Corridor Housing, New Hope Housing opened the first homeless shelter in Fairfax County, Mondloch House, in 1978. This shelter provided a safe and clean place for eight adults. Since those beginnings, New Hope Housing has expanded programs providing housing and shelter for both adults and families with children. Today it operates programs in Fairfax County, Falls Church, Alexandria

City, and Arlington County, that house or shelter more than 300 homeless children, women.

"We are here to serve our community and to end homelessness. Different people come to us with different needs, and we want to be sure that we can help anyone who comes through our doors," said Pamela L. Michell, New Hope Housing's executive director for 24 years. "Our goal for everyone is the same: a home and bright future for every man, woman, and child in our community."

Here in Mount Vernon, New Hope Housing operates the Eleanor U. Kennedy Homeless Shelter for Adults; Next Steps shelter program for families; Mondloch House shelter for adults; Mondloch Place, a building

with 20 efficiency apartments for chronically homeless adults; Mobile Medical Outreach, and partners with Ventures in Community (VIC) and Rising Hope United Methodist Mission Church to provide a hypothermia shelter during the winter months.

Residents at each of the shelter programs get things you would expect: food, clothing, and a clean bed. But they also receive intensive case management and are expected to work with case managers on individual plans to achieve employment and housing. "Housing our homeless neighbors is possible and the best possible thing we can do for our community. It's better for them and less expensive for the community to house everyone," said Michell.

New Hope Housing is one of several organizations working to end homelessness in Fairfax County. Partners include FACETS, Northern Virginia Family Services, Good Shepherd Housing, Cornerstones and the Fairfax County Office to Prevent and End Homelessness. The annual count of homeless persons in Fairfax County took place the night of Jan. 29, 2014: 1,225 people were counted as literally homeless on that day alone. This is a declining number in the county, but there's more work to do. To get involved contact New Hope Housing's volunteer coordinator, Nicole Allen, at [nallen@newhopehousing.org](mailto:nallen@newhopehousing.org) or 703-799-2293 ext 22. Learn more at [www.newhopehousing.org](http://www.newhopehousing.org).

### CIVIC ORGANIZATIONS

#### Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce

The chamber serves over 425 businesses in the Mount Vernon and Lee districts. [www.mtvernon-leechamber.org/](http://www.mtvernon-leechamber.org/).

#### Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation

SFDC is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the redevelopment and revitalization of Richmond Highway/U.S. Route 1 from I-495 to Fort Belvoir. In the past 32 years, SFDC has helped direct nearly \$2 billion of private investment to the Richmond Highway corridor. [www.sfdc.org](http://www.sfdc.org).

#### 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/).

#### Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Association

MVCCA is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization of citizens' associations in the Mount Vernon Magisterial District of Fairfax County which represents and promote the interests of its member associations with eight standing committees including Budget and Finance, Consumer Affairs, Education, Environment and Recreation, Health and Human Services, Planning and Zoning, Public Safety and Transportation. [mvcca.org/about.html](http://mvcca.org/about.html).

#### Pakistan American Business Association Inc.

PABA is a non-profit, bilateral trade association that promotes business opportunities

between Pakistan and the United States of America, and nurtures leadership skills within the Pakistani American business community. 703-627-1500 or [www.pabausa.org/](http://www.pabausa.org/).

#### Northern Virginia Black Chamber of Commerce

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

#### Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Northern Virginia

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

#### Afghan American Chamber of Commerce

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

### OUT & ABOUT

#### Mount Vernon Community Theatre

1900 Elkin St., Alexandria. MVCCT's programs are twofold: each year three to four productions are presented, directed by professionals and featuring children in all roles. Additionally MVCCT, a nonprofit, has an active education program which includes after-school programs in Fairfax County Public Schools (both PTA sponsored and outreach/grant based), as well as a spring break and summer camp. 703-360-0686 or <http://mvcct.org/>.

#### FRIDAY/NOV. 14

**Oliver!** Bryant Alternative High School, 2709 Popkins Lane, Alexandria. Come watch "Oliver!" based on the novel Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens. The show also runs in the evening on the 15, 21 and 22. Matinee performances are on

the 16 and 23. Check back at <http://www.mvcct.org/> for more info.

#### SATURDAY/FEB. 7, 2015

**The Beverly Hillbillies.** Heritage Presbyterian Church, 8503 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria. Come watch "The Beverly Hillbillies" in the evening on the 7, 13 and 14. Matinee performances are on the 16 and 23. Check back at <http://www.mvcct.org/> for more info.

#### Mount Vernon Inn at George Washington's Mount Vernon

Mount Vernon Inn at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. Listen to live music while enjoying a meal on the grounds of the first president's home.

### SERVING ANIMALS

#### Fairfax County Animal Shelter

The 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 bath 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.

#### Humane Society of Fairfax County

The Humane Society of Fairfax County (HSFC) has a main office in Fairfax and a farm in Centreville. The farm is home to horses as well as nearly 30 dogs, according to HSFC Corresponding

Secretary Marlene Hammer. A full-time manager lives at the farm to take care of the animals there.

The HSFC's main office is also home to the cats that are available for adoption through the group. Rather than being housed in crates, the cats are allowed to roam around in rooms at the shelter.

The Humane Society operates almost entirely on a volunteer basis. Aside from sheltering animals, they offer a pet food pantry as a service to the community and operate a thrift shop next door to the Fairfax location. For more information, visit [hsfc.org](http://hsfc.org), or call 703-385-7387.

#### Animal Welfare League of Alexandria

The Animal Welfare League of Alexandria (AWLA) is responsible for animal services in the City of Alexandria, and also trains dogs, operates an animal shelter and provides humane education classes for children. AWLA cares for wild as well as domestic animals, from deer to possums to raccoons. Opportunities to foster puppies and kittens are also available through AWLA. For more information or to learn how to volunteer with AWLA, visit [alexandrianimals.org](http://alexandrianimals.org), or call 703-838-4774.



# ENTERTAINMENT

A SAMPLING OF ANNUAL  
COMMUNITY EVENTS.

## August 2014

### FRIDAY/AUG. 29

**Big Chalk Draw.** 8-10 a.m. at Art at the Center, 2804 Sherwood Hall Lane, Mount Vernon. This is a free community art event. Once again school supplies and back packs will be collected to benefit children in need in the area. Call 703-201-1250 or visit [www.artatthecenter.org](http://www.artatthecenter.org).

## September 2014

**Wine in the Water Park.** 6-10 p.m. Crystal City Water Park, 1750 Crystal Drive. Combines sips and sounds to create an outdoor event featuring interesting wine varietals and music in the neighborhood's signature Crystal City Water Park. Every Friday in September. Visit [crystalcity.org](http://crystalcity.org).

### MONDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 1-7

**Annual Workhouse Clay National Ceramics Exhibition.** Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. This exhibition represents the depth and breadth of contemporary functional and sculptural ceramic artworks being created throughout the country. Visit [www.workhouseceramics.org/index.php?p=1\\_15\\_Clay-National-2014](http://www.workhouseceramics.org/index.php?p=1_15_Clay-National-2014).

### SATURDAY/SEPT. 6

**24th Annual Rosslyn Jazz Festival.** 1-7 p.m. Gateway Park, 1300 Lee Highway, Arlington. Artists to headline the festival include Corey Wallace DUBtet (1 p.m.), Ghost Train Orchestra (2:15 p.m.), Brooklyn eight-piece band Red Baraat (3:45 p.m.) and New Orleans Grammy winners Rebirth Brass Band (5:30 p.m.). Free to the public. Visit [www.rosslynva.org/jazz](http://www.rosslynva.org/jazz) for more.

**Memorial 5K.** 6 p.m. in Crystal City, Arlington. Honors the victims, firefighters, and public safety who responded on Sept. 11, 2001. \$35-40 entry fee. [Arlington911race.com](http://Arlington911race.com).

### SATURDAY/SEPT. 13

**Craft and Family Fun Fair.** 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 8009 Fort Hunt Road, Mount Vernon. Connect with old friends and neighbors. Cold drinks and luncheon items from the St. Luke's grill will be available, along with a gourmet bake sale featuring cakes, pies, cookies and brownies made by St. Luke's finest cooks. There also will be fresh produce from a nearby farm. Entertainment will be provided by a guest guitarist and two local pianists. For children, there will be a moon-bounce, face-painting and games. Visit [www.saintlukeschurch.net](http://www.saintlukeschurch.net) or call 703-765-4342 for more.

**Alexandria Art Market.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in Colasanto Park, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Local artists will perform. Browse artwork by local artists and more. Visit [www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/ArtMarket](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/ArtMarket) for more.

### SATURDAY-WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 13-24

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

### 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



**Annual Alexandria Community Nutcracker performances are held in the Springbank Auditorium at West Potomac High School during the first weekend in December. Hope Sawyer, playing a mouse, watches the unfolding of the scene with her fellow mice during a dress rehearsal for the 2013 show.**

festival, art enthusiasts can discover spectacular paintings, life-size sculptures, jewelry, photography, ceramics and more. Visit [www.artfestival.com](http://www.artfestival.com) for more.

### SUNDAY/SEPT. 14

**Vintage Crystal: Sip and Salsa.** 2-6 p.m. 220 20th St. Sip and Salsa brings wines from Spain, Portugal and Argentina together with tastes from restaurants in Crystal City and the region. Live Latin jazz and salsa dancing and lessons round out the action for an afternoon outdoors. Tickets cost \$20 and include wine and food tastes. \$10 designated driver tickets include food tastes. Visit [crystalcity.org](http://crystalcity.org) for more.

### SATURDAY/SEPT. 20

**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 [www.mountvernon.org/plan-your-visit/calendar/events/colonial-market-fair/](http://www.mountvernon.org/plan-your-visit/calendar/events/colonial-market-fair/)

### 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).

**Mount Vernon Marketplace.** 9 a.m.-5 p.m. 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. Visit a recreation of an early American marketplace with crafts, entertainment and more. Try your hand at 18th century cricket and enjoy evening programs. Children \$9, adults \$18. Call 703-780-2000 or visit [www.MountVernon.org](http://www.MountVernon.org).

### SUNDAY/SEPT. 21

**Pups and Pilsners.** 2-6 p.m. 1400 Crystal Drive, Arlington. Fly solo or



**Cheyenne McQuinn skates to Santa Claus Is Coming to Town in the 2013 Holiday Ice Show at the Mount Vernon RECenter.**

bring Fido to the Pups and Pilsners outdoor beer festival. This dog-friendly festival features a beer garden with multiple stations. Visit [www.crystalcity.org/do](http://www.crystalcity.org/do) for more.

### 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).

### WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 24

**Blues and Brews.** 5-8 p.m. 2121 Crystal Drive. Come to Blues & Brews and enjoy beverages from the Beer Garden, not to mention drinks hand-selected by experts at Crystal City's Washington Wine Academy and Crystal City Wine Shop. Visit [crystalcity.org](http://crystalcity.org) for more.

## October 2014

**Clarendon Truck Rally.** 6:30-9 p.m. 3140 N. Washington Blvd., Arlington. The Clarendon Truck Rally will be offering sampling of some of the area food trucks Thursdays in October. Each week will feature a few meal trucks, a sweet dessert truck along with a boutique truck. Visit [www.facebook.com/LinkLocale/](http://www.facebook.com/LinkLocale/) events.

### 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 Ave., Alexandria. A multicultural arts festival celebrating the community's diversity through the arts in the Del Ray neighborhood in Alexandria,



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE GAZETTE

**Asher Ager, Henry Wild and Quinn Bloom smooth out the piles of mulch just added to the front garden at Hollin Meadows as the school celebrates Earth Day.**

Virginia. Visit [www.artontheavenue.org](http://www.artontheavenue.org) for more.

**15th Annual Mid-Atlantic Oktoberfest.** Noon-7 p.m. at The Village at Shirlington, 4001 Campbell Ave., Arlington. More than 60 breweries giving out 4 ounce samples, local food vendors, an authentic German band and authentic Oktoberfest food. \$30 for those who sample beer, includes a tasting glass and 10 tickets; free to others. Additional tickets will be sold for \$1 each. Oktoberfest 2014 will be held rain or shine. Visit [www.capcitybrew.com/oktoberfest14.php](http://www.capcitybrew.com/oktoberfest14.php) for more.

### SUNDAY/OCT. 5

**Woodrow Wilson Bridge Marathon.** 7 a.m. Starts at Washington's Mount Vernon Estate, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway and ends at National Harbor, Md. Packet pick up Oct. 3, 4-8:30 p.m. and Oct. 4, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the U.S. Patents and Trade Office, 600 Dulany St. Minimum age is 13. Half marathon: \$105, for military: \$95. 6K: \$45, For police, fire and EMTs: \$40. After Aug. 31, prices will increase by \$10. Visit [register.wilsonbridgehalf.com](http://register.wilsonbridgehalf.com).

### SATURDAY/OCT. 11

**Alexandria Art Market.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. in Colasanto Park, 2704 Mount Vernon Ave. Local artists will perform. Browse artwork by local artists and more. Visit [www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/ArtMarket](http://www.TheDelRayArtisans.org/ArtMarket) for more.

### FRIDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 17-19

**Freedomwalk Festival.** The US FreedomWalk Festival is a weekend long, non-competitive, social walking challenge bringing participants of all ages and abilities together for fun, fitness, and international friendship. Different trails will be offered each day, and a variety of distances ranging from 3-27 miles (5-43 kilometers) starting at the Holiday Inn Rosslyn, 1900 N Fort Myer Drive. Visit [www.rosslynva.org/do](http://www.rosslynva.org/do) for more.

### THURSDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 23-26

**Marine Corps Marathon.** Arlington. Various times and locations through the weekend. A weekend of events leading up to the race. Visit [www.marinemarathon.com/](http://www.marinemarathon.com/) to register and for more.

### 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 [www.volunteerfairfax.org/non-profits/volunteerfest.php](http://www.volunteerfairfax.org/non-profits/volunteerfest.php).

### SATURDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 25-26

**Fall Harvest Family Days.** 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at George Washington's Mount Vernon, 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. Enjoy autumn activities including wagon rides, wheat treating, 18th-century dancing demonstration, and straw bale maze, and more. Included in estate admission. Visit [www.mountvernon.org/](http://www.mountvernon.org/) for more.

## November 2014

### 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).

**Veterans Day Memorial Service.** 11 a.m. at the Rocky Versace Memorial at Mount Vernon Community Center, 2701 Commonwealth Ave, Alexandria.

### FRIDAY/NOV. 28

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

### SATURDAY/DEC. 6

**44th Annual Campagna Center**

[WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)





PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/THE GAZETTE

**Celebrating the holidays at the Mount Vernon Estate. Dr. James Craik (Tom Plott) introduces visitors to Aladdin the Christmas camel.**

**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, reenactment groups, Scottie dogs, dignitaries and, of course, Santa Claus will march through the streets of Old Town. Visit [www.campaigncenter.org/events/scottish-christmas-walk-weekend](http://www.campaigncenter.org/events/scottish-christmas-walk-weekend) or [www.visitalexandriava.com/events/44th-Annual-Campaigna-Center-Scottish-Walk-Parade/983/](http://www.visitalexandriava.com/events/44th-Annual-Campaigna-Center-Scottish-Walk-Parade/983/).

#### WEDNESDAY/DEC. 31

**First Night Alexandria.** Events take place through out the day at numerous venues around the City of Alexandria. Visit [www.firstnightalexandria.org](http://www.firstnightalexandria.org) for more.

## 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/).

## April 2015

#### SATURDAY/APRIL 18-25

**Historic Garden Week.** This eight-day statewide event provides visitors a unique opportunity to see gardens, as well as houses with over 2,000 flower arrangements created by Garden Club of Virginia members. Visit [www.vagardenweek.org](http://www.vagardenweek.org).

## May 2015

#### SUNDAY/MAY 17

**Taste of Arlington.** A festival showcasing Arlington's food scene and benefitting the Arlington Food Assistance Center. More than 50 restaurants participate in this community event, outside the Ballston Mall on Wilson Blvd. Rain or shine. Visit [www.ballstonbid.com/taste](http://www.ballstonbid.com/taste) for more.

#### MONDAY/MAY 25

**Memorial Day Jazz Concert.** 1-6

p.m. at Waterfront Park, Alexandria. A variety of jazz performances take place throughout the concert. Waterfront Park features lawn seating and the attendees may bring lawn chairs and blankets. Food, such as barbeque, fried chicken, hot dogs, hamburgers, snow cones and funnel cakes are available for purchase, but everyone is welcome to pack a picnic lunch. Pets should be left at home. Admission is free. Visit [www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation](http://www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation).

## June 2015

#### FRIDAYS IN JUNE

**Vintage Crystal: Wine in the Water Park.** 10 p.m. Crystal City Water Park, 1750 Crystal Drive, Arlington. Live music and wine-sipping every Friday in June. Visit [www.crystalcity.org/do/wine-in-the-water-park21](http://www.crystalcity.org/do/wine-in-the-water-park21).

## July 2015

#### SECOND SATURDAY IN JULY

**USA and Alexandria Birthday Celebration.** Oronoco Bay Park, 100 Madison Street, Alexandria. Celebrate Alexandria's 265th birthday along the Potomac waterfront with fireworks, cake and live music. Visit [www.visitalexandriava.com/events/USA-Alexandria-Birthday-Celebration/6607](http://www.visitalexandriava.com/events/USA-Alexandria-Birthday-Celebration/6607).

## August 2015

**Summer Restaurant Week.** Mid-August, in neighborhoods throughout Alexandria, including Old Town, Del Ray, Carlyle and West End. Menu options vary by location. Visit [www.AlexandriaRestaurantWeek.com](http://www.AlexandriaRestaurantWeek.com) or call 703-746-3301 for more.

**Ice Cream Making.** Saturdays in August. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at 3200 Mt. Vernon Highway, Mount Vernon. Cool down with 18th century ice cream making demonstrations. Admission: Adults, \$18; Children, \$9; Under 5, free. Visit [www.mountvernon.org/](http://www.mountvernon.org/) for more.

#### TUESDAY/AUG. 4

**National Night Out.** A celebration across America to heighten police awareness and enhance community relations. Visit [www.natw.org](http://www.natw.org) for local events.

#### WEDNESDAY-SUNDAY/AUG. 5-9

**Arlington County Fair.** Thomas Jefferson Community Center, 3501 Second St. S., Arlington. One of the largest free events on the East Coast with competitive exhibits, midway rides and games, entertainment, vendors and more. Visit [arlingtoncountyfair.us](http://arlingtoncountyfair.us).

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## SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

### SEPTEMBER

HomeLifeStyle.....	Publishing 9/10/14
A+ Camps & Schools.....	9/17/14
Fall Fun & Arts Preview.....	9/24/14

### OCTOBER

Wellbeing.....	10/1/14
HomeLifeStyle PULLOUT: Deadline is 9/25/14.....	10/8/14
A+ Camps & Schools.....	10/15/14
Election Preview I .....	10/22/14
Election Preview II .....	10/29/14

### NOVEMBER

Election Day is Tuesday, November 4.

Wellbeing.....	11/5/14
HomeLifeStyle.....	11/12/14
Holiday Entertainment & Gift Guide I.....	11/19/14
A+ .....	11/25/14

Thanksgiving is November 27.

### DECEMBER

Wellbeing.....	12/3/14
HomeLifeStyle: Home for the Holidays.....	12/10/14

Hanukkah begins December 16.

Holiday Entertainment & Gift Guide II.....	12/16/14
A+ Camps & Schools.....	12/16/14
CHILDREN'S CONNECTION .....	12/24/14

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