

# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

2014-2015

While his family took a ride on the Lake Accotink carousel, Dennis McNeil, of Alexandria, had a great time playing a round of miniature golf.

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PHOTO BY RENEE RUGGLES/THE CONNECTION

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## NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

# Welcome to Fairfax County

BY SHARON BULOVA/CHAIRMAN  
FAIRFAX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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

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

The trail passes through stream valleys and meadows, then winds through fascinating Laurel Hill, site of the former Lorton Prison. In addition to parkland and a golf course, these grounds are now home to the Workhouse Arts Center where visitors can watch artists in action and enjoy plays, performances and community events such as



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

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

Springfest every April.

Fairfax County has something for everyone. Northern Virginia Community College offers more than 160 degrees at the associate's level and numerous certificate programs. Its partnership with George Mason University provides families and stu-

dents with a seamless, cost-effective path to a four-year degree.

George Mason University, recently named one of the top five "Up-and-Coming Universities" by U.S. News and World Report, is also recognized as one of America's Best College Buys by Forbes magazine. Under the

presidency of Dr. Angel Cabrera, Mason is fast taking its place as a university for the world.

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

Of course, Fairfax County's greatest asset is a population that is welcoming and engaged. People from all over the globe have made Fairfax County their home, enriching our community with diverse cultures and entrepreneurship. Visit Fairfax County's website at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov) to learn more about what Fairfax has to offer.

As chairman of the Board of Supervisors, I am elected at-large by all registered voters. My office is here to serve you. If you have any questions or concerns, please email me at [chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov) or call me at 703-324-2321. I hope you will sign up to receive my monthly Bulova 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.

## 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 making FCPS the nation's 10th largest school district. Fairfax County high schools are among the most academically rigorous in the U.S. and are cited every year as among the top high schools in the country. Our classrooms are led by teachers who inspire, motivate, and prepare students with the knowledge and

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

Working closely with our school board, parents, teachers, and community stakeholders, we have made a number of positive and exciting changes for our system during my first year as superintendent. We developed the FCPS Portrait of a Graduate that will serve as a foundation on which to build a long-range strategic plan for the school system and will lessen the focus on standardized, high-stakes testing and place greater emphasis on engaged students, project-based learning, and authentic assessments of student learning. The Portrait of a Graduate will ensure that our students are collaborators, communicators, creative and critical thinkers, global citizens, and goal-directed and resilient individuals when they leave FCPS.

Other significant changes that we have



Karen K. Garza

COURTESY OF FCPS



PHOTO BY LOUISE KRAFT/CONNECTION

**Vincent Michael Sica proceeds to the stage platform after being named the 2014 Lake Braddock Faculty Award recipient for academic excellence, community service, extra-curricular activities, good citizenship and leadership.**

made include:

❖ The launch of full-day Mondays for all elementary students. The change will increase instructional time for students and

dedicated planning time for teachers. The change to full day Mondays received overwhelming support in our community and will benefit students, teachers, and our families.

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

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

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

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

# About the Connection

**A**s your local, weekly newspaper, the Connection's mission is to deliver the local news you need, to try to make sense of what is happening in your community, to gather information about the best things in and near your community, to advocate for community good, to provide a forum for dialogue on local concerns, and to celebrate and record achievements, milestones and events in the community and people's lives.

Here in our Newcomers and Community Guide, we've included an expanded and updated version of our award-winning Insider's Guide to the Parks, plus details of how to vote in the upcoming elections, information on local government, nonprofits and business organizations, plus tips and tidbits from the community.

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

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

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

Your community Connection newspaper is one of 15 papers published by the independent, locally owned Local Media Connection LLC, serving the suburbs of Metropolitan Washington in Northern Virginia and Potomac, Md.

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

The Connection Newspapers have won hundreds of press awards in just the past few years, including the Virginia Press Association Award for Journalistic Integrity and Community Service, Best in Show for our Insiders Guide to the Parks, first place for our community guides, plus awards in news, art, business, special projects, sports, entertainment, design, photography and much more. We have staff and contributors here at the Connection with remarkable talent and experience, far greater than one might expect. We continue to publish 15 distinct papers every week that serve their communities in distinct ways. We welcome contributing writers, with the caveat that our freelance pay is nominal; if you are interested in covering news or events in your community, email editors@connectionnewspapers.com. We offer summer and year-round educational

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

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*Community Guide content compiled by  
 Abby Aldridge, Kara Coleman, Ashley Dietz,  
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## Fairfax County's Success Story

**Economic success: 50 years in the making.**

BY GERALD L. GORDON, PH.D.

**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 larg-



**Gerald Gordon.**

**COMMENTARY**

est 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.

# Top Issues to Follow in the Area

According to Supervisor Pat Herry (R-Springfield).

## Transportation

First up is getting a long-term fix to I-66 underway in 2017. "I66 congestion impacts Braddock Road," said Supervisor Pat Herry (R-Springfield), "and it impacts congestion on 29 as people look to avoid and get around 66." Then there is a quarter improvement study on the Fairfax County Parkway "so we can get the interchanges and widening that we need." A final major transportation issue is getting secondary roads paved, such as Rolling Road.



Herry

schools," Herry said. "That's the key — it's always been the key to Fairfax County — is having involved parents, involved at home in education, and involved at the school."

## Taxes and Regulation

To help with economic recovery, job growth and development, Herry cites the need to "open Fairfax County to business again. Our tax rates crept up, our homeowners taxes are higher than they've been — we need to get our taxes under control. But we also need to make sure that we are welcoming to business. We've got some work to do in that area as well."

## Aging Community

According to Herry, the population of his district aged 50 and older is on track to increase by 55 percent by 2030, and those 70 and older could shoot up as much as 88 percent in the same period. "That's a huge

increase and we've got to be ready for it," said Herry. And though the Supervisor thinks his district is "pretty far ahead in terms of being age-friendly," there is still a lot to do in terms of preparing to meet the challenges of this growing population. Namely facilitating people who want to stay at home and be near their support structure, and provide activities, mental health support and transportation. "I think a good needs assessment needs to be done," Herry said.

## Affordable Housing

"We need to do it right," said Herry. For him, that means not following in the footsteps of the Tyson's Corner area, which is going the way of having 20 percent of housing be rent-controlled. "We take an awful lot of developer contributions and put it into affordable housing for the wrong kind of housing. We need to get away from that," Herry said. "And focus instead on the people that really need it: the disabled, the people in the woods, the people who can't help themselves."

— TIM PETERSON

## CHAMBERS

### Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce

The chamber facilitates industry-focused councils, thought leadership groups, community partnerships and many other opportunities for its more than 600 member companies to expand their networks and raise their profiles in the highly competitive Northern Virginia market. [www.fairfaxchamber.org/](http://www.fairfaxchamber.org/) or 703-479-9075.-0

### Greater Springfield Chamber

The Chamber works with businesses within and those with ties to the Springfield community. [www.springfieldchamber.org/](http://www.springfieldchamber.org/).

### Central Fairfax Chamber of Commerce

The chamber provides information and programs to businesses throughout Fairfax and was previously known as the City of Fairfax Chamber of Commerce. [www.cfcc.org/](http://www.cfcc.org/).

### South Fairfax Chamber of Commerce

SFCC is the first chamber of commerce exclusively for businesses, non-profit organizations, and individuals with interests in the southern part of Fairfax County. SFCC is bringing to

SEE CHAMBERS, PAGE 7

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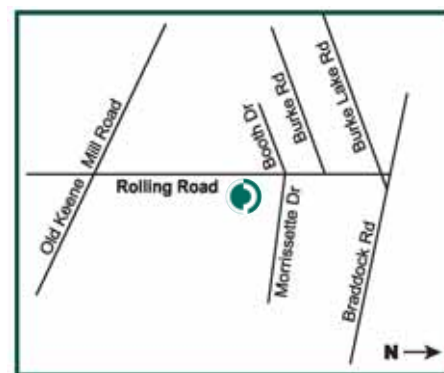
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**NONPROFITS**

**GIVE**

GIVE (Growth and Inspiration through Volunteering and Education) is a non-profit organization founded and operated by high school students, which works towards promoting leadership of youth through volunteering time for a free tutoring program for children.

Last year, GIVE ran 11 centers in both libraries and community centers, and is looking forward to expanding further this year with more support.

The GIVE center at Richard Byrd Library, which has served over 1,000 students, has over 100 students and 60 tutors that meet every Saturday from 1-3 p.m. www.giveyouth.org.

**Ecumenical  
Community Helping  
Others (ECHO)**

Open to receive donations at 7205 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield.

Provides food and financial assistance to those in short-term emergencies, and provides clothing and household goods to low

income families. ECHO is constantly seeking donations and volunteers. 703-569-9160 or www.echo-inc.org.

**FACETS**

FACETS helps parents, their children and individuals who suffer the effects of poverty in the Fairfax area. FACETS is always in need of volunteers, and offers a variety of one-time and ongoing opportunities, including a monthly Youth Volunteer Night. 703-865-4251 or http://facetscares.org/.

**Food for Others**

The non-profit provides a safety net for people who suddenly face unforeseen emergencies such as a family illness or the loss of a job or a spouse. 703-207-9173 or www.foodforothers.com.

**Our Daily Bread**

The Holiday Program helps those in need with food for the holidays and gifts for their children, making last year's holiday season brighter for approximately 3,000 families. For more information on their holiday programs, including how to sponsor a fam-

ily, go to www.odbfairfax.com/holiday.

**Office to End and Prevent Homelessness (OPEH)**

OPEH supports the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness which engages nonprofits, businesses, faith-based communities and county agencies in its efforts to implement the 10-Year plan, which focuses on rapid re-housing and prevention by increasing the availability of permanent affordable housing. www.ziphomelessness.com

**South County Cares**

South County Church congregation members and south county area community members work together on local and international projects like National Night Out, Operation Christmas Child, and local and international aid efforts. www.southcountycares.org.

SEE NONPROFITS, PAGE 9

**IMMANUEL AT 50**  
1964-2014

*This September, Immanuel Bible Church celebrates 50 years in our community. Come visit and be a part of our future!*

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# CHAMBERS

FROM PAGE 5

gether diverse business and civic leaders in Lorton, Laurel Hill, Newington, Ft. Belvoir, South Springfield, Burke, Fairfax Station and Clifton to become part of a new voice in the South Fairfax region, one of the fastest growing business communities in Northern Virginia. [www.southfairfaxchamber.org](http://www.southfairfaxchamber.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/).

## Small Business Development Center

The SBDC helps aspiring entrepreneurs start new businesses and helps existing businesses to remain competitive in the economy. [www.asbdc-us.org/](http://www.asbdc-us.org/).

## Pakistan American Business Association Inc.

PABA is a non-profit, bilateral trade association that promotes business opportunities between Pakistan and the United States of America, and nurtures leadership skills within the Pakistani American business community. 703-627-1500 or [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/).

## 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/).

## US Lebanese Chamber of Commerce

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

## Latvian Chamber of Commerce in the Americas

The Fairfax-based organization provides resources to Latvian-lead businesses, as well as American businesses hoping to expand into Latvia. [www.latchamamericas.org](http://www.latchamamericas.org).

## Small Business Commission

As part of the commonwealth's Division of Legislative Services, the Commission provides resources and support to the businesses. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpsm/osb/sbc/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpsm/osb/sbc/).



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## NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

# Running in the Area

## Routes and trails in our neighborhood.

BY ABIGAIL CONSTANTINO  
THE CONNECTION

**R**unners in Burke have quick access to Burke Lake Park and Lake Accotink Park, as well as the Gerry Connolly Cross Country Trail after a short drive.

Gabe Roxas, of Burke, runs 20-30 miles a week. His regular run is at Burke Lake Park in Fairfax Station, which goes a little over five miles.

For Brian Waite, of Burke, Lake Accotink Park in Springfield, is his go-to loop. He usually runs 20-35 miles a week.

Jeremy Lynch, of Springfield, is lucky enough not to have to drive to hit the trails. From his house, he takes the Lake Accotink Trail which connects to the Cross Country Trail. It's "absolutely fantastic," he said.

But for those who want to pound the sidewalks and pavements of Burke, Potomac River Running Store of Burke's Hump Day Dash is a way to run, socialize and explore the neighborhood. The weekly run meets in the store on Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

Different types of runners participate in the run - from Boston marathoners to collegiate athletes to complete beginners. Lynch, who has been coming to these runs for almost two years, said that the event

### RESOURCES FOR RUNNERS

**Fairfax County Trail Buddy**  
<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/trails/>

**Gerry Connolly Cross County Trail**  
<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/cct/>

**Burke Lake Park**  
<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/burkelakepark/>

**Lake Accotink Park**  
<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-accotink/>

**Potomac River Running Store**  
<https://potomacriverrunning.com/location/burke/>

**See Mommy Run (Burke)**  
<http://www.seemommyrun.com/va/groupsbycity/Burke>

attracts "different types of runners at different places in their running."

Although the group is diverse, Maera Busa, a Potomac River Running Store employee, said that there is no pressure. Runners can go at their own pace.

The run is usually no more than 50 minutes, and goes from the store to the nearby trails and sidewalks in the vicinity.

"There are nice loops with lots of hills to challenge yourself. One twenty-three is good because it's flat. And, if you want to push yourself, you can go all the way on 123," said Busa.

After the run, participants can hang out, chat, and enjoy free snacks and beverages. The Potomac River Running Store in Burke is located at 5715 Burke Centre Parkway.



PHOTOS BY ABIGAIL CONSTANTINO/THE CONNECTION

**Hump Day Dash runners meet at the Potomac River Running Store in Burke on Wednesdays at 7 p.m.**



**The trail at Burke Lake Park in Fairfax Station is popular with runners in Burke.**

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DR. DIANE NICHOLS • DR. KATHLEEN PHILLIPS**



## NONPROFITS

FROM PAGE 6

### National Capital Food Bank

A group of food banks serving all of Northern Virginia seek monetary donations and general volunteers. 703-541-3063 or [www.capitalareafoodbank.org](http://www.capitalareafoodbank.org).

### Assistance League of Northern Virginia

An all-volunteer organization that clothes, feeds, educates and nurtures those in need. Working through six elementary schools and Inova Fairfax Hospital, Assistance League touches the lives of some of the most

needy in Northern Virginia. The schools involved include Dogwood Elementary in Reston, Lynbrook Elementary and Garfield Elementary in Springfield, Cora Kelly Elementary in Alexandria and Pine Spring Elementary in Falls Church. Volunteers and donors are always needed. Contact [ALNorthernVA@yahoo.com](mailto:ALNorthernVA@yahoo.com) or [www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org](http://www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org)

### Northern Virginia Family Services

Offers employments and job training, health care, housing, mental health, foster care and home visitations to new parents. 703-385-3267 or [www.nvfs.org](http://www.nvfs.org).

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# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE



This sign sits outside the Franconia Governmental Center and provides information about “Franconia Farm,” which was located on 191 acres of land purchased by a wealthy businessman named William Fowle. The land is located across the street from Springfield Mall.



PHOTOS BY MARISSA BEALE/THE CONNECTION

Some of the artifacts featured at the Franconia Museum. The goals of the museum are to preserve the rich history of Franconia as well as to promote the heritage of the Franconia area.

## A Photo Tour of Springfield Landmarks

### Local history in words and pictures.

BY MARISSA BEALE

There is history in our own backyard. While Washington, D.C. is only a few metro stops away, the Franconia Museum in Springfield, though small, offers a taste of local history that visitors are sure to remember. The Museum is just one of a few places recommended if you are looking to discover and learn more about the history of Springfield. For a few more history hot-spots, read on.

### Franconia Museum

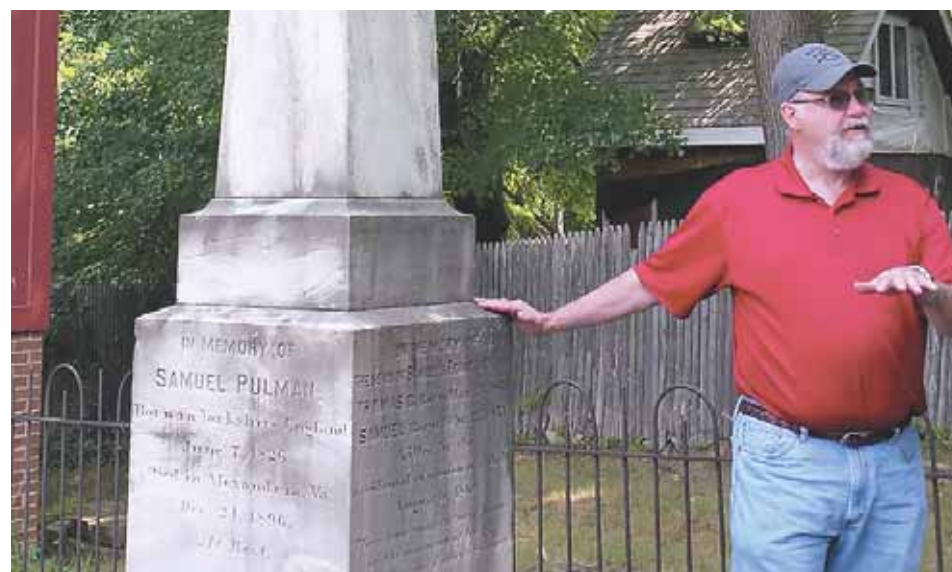
If you are new to Springfield and looking for a way to find out more about rich local history, a great place to start is the Franconia Museum. The Franconia Museum is located at 6121 Franconia Road and is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Saturday from 10

a.m. to 2 p.m., and by appointment. The goals of the Museum are to preserve the rich history of Franconia as well as to promote the heritage of the Franconia area. It is full of pictures, artifacts and stories detailing the past and present of Franconia. In addition, they sponsor historical bus tours, which you can find out more about via their website, at [www.fairy-](http://www.fairy-)

### Ashland House

The Ashland House is the oldest home in Franconia, Virginia and the former residence of legendary southern belle, Miss Mary Triplett of Virginia. Located on Walhaven Drive, the house dates back to 1820 when it was used as a Civil War Hospital. Because it is a private residence, visitors will only be able to view it from the outside. However the home serves as an “outstanding example of private restoration” according to Don Hakenson, founder and member on the board of directors for the Franconia Museum. The Ashland House

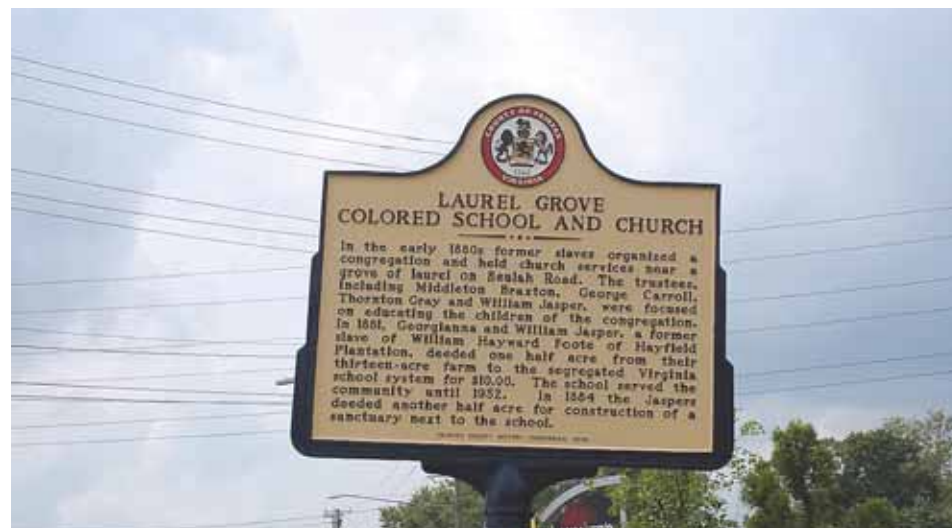
SEE LANDMARKS, PAGE 18



Don Hakenson, tour guide for the Franconia Bus Tour, explains the history and significance of many of the headstones in the cemetery behind the Sharon Chapel. This memorial commemorates the deaths of two young boys who were killed in a grenade explosion. The boys, aged 10 and 6 at the time of their deaths, were the sons of Samuel and Frances Pulman. The Pulman Family, a very famous family, owned a store on Telegraph Road called the Pulman Store.



The front of the Ashland House. Standing in front are guides, Jumana Qamruddin and Nazir Bhagat. Bhagat, who owns the house, purchased it in the 1980s and has done extensive research on the history of the house. The house is complicated in structure, featuring several add-ons. Guests reported that going through the house felt like walking through a maze. The front and back stairs of the house are reminiscent of Greek Revival Style, according to Bhagat.



The historical marker for the Laurel Grove Colored School and Church, located on Beulah Street. It reads, “Thornton Gray and William Jasper were focused on educating the children of the congregation. In 1881, Georgiana and William Jasper, a former slave deeded one half acre from their thirteen-acre farm to the segregated Virginia school system for \$10.00. The school served the community until 1932.”

## SPRINGFIELD DEMOGRAPHICS

**Zip code:** 22153  
**Population:** 31,285  
**Race:** White-21,039 (67.2%), Black/African American-3,311 (10.6%), American Indian and Alaska Native-94 (0.3%), Asian-4,309 (13.8%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-3,517 (11.2%)  
**Total housing units:** 10,849  
**Owner-occupied housing units:** 8,951 (85.5%)  
**Households with individuals under 18 years:** 4,403 (42.1%)  
**Households with individuals 65 years and over:** 1,904 (18.2%)  
**Median household income:** 136,561  
**Mean family income:** 157,918  
**Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home:** 28.9%

**Zip code:** 22152  
**Population:** 28,500  
**Race:** White-19,323 (67.7%), Black/African American-2,252 (7.9%), American Indian and Alaska Native-105 (0.4%), Asian-4,548 (15.9%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-3,778 (13.2%)  
**Total housing units:** 10,503  
**Owner-occupied housing units:** 8,535 (82.1%)  
**Households with individuals under 18 years:** 3,879 (37.3%)  
**Households with individuals 65 years and over:** 2,347 (22.6%)  
**Median household income:** 113,135  
**Mean family income:** 142,586  
**Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home:** 28.6%

**Zip code:** 22150  
**Population:** 27,105  
**Race:** White-13,166 (48.6%), Black/African American-2,463 (9.1%), American Indian and Alaska Native-191 (0.7%), Asian-6,415 (23.7%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-7,181 (26.5%)  
**Total housing units:** 9,525  
**Owner-occupied housing units:** 5,444 (59.9%)  
**Households with individuals under 18 years:** 3,186 (35%)  
**Households with individuals 65 years and over:** 3,097 (34.1%)  
**Median household income:** 86,480  
**Mean family income:** 114,018  
**Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home:** 54.8%

**Zip code:** 22151

**Population:** 17,456  
**Race:** White-10,512 (60.2%), Black/African American-973 (5.6%), American Indian and Alaska Native-82 (0.5%), Asian-3,777 (21.6%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-3,529 (20.2%)  
**Total housing units:** 6,033  
**Owner-occupied housing units:** 4,648 (80.6%)  
**Households with individuals under 18 years:** 2,246 (38.9%)  
**Households with individuals 65 years and over:** 1,625 (28.2%)  
**Median household income:** 98,779  
**Mean family income:** 118,938  
**Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home:** 45.3%

**Zip code:** 22315  
**Population:** 26,202  
**Race:** White-16,870 (64.4%), Black/African American-4,217 (16.1%), American Indian and Alaska Native-89 (0.3%), Asian-3,180 (12.1%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-2,494 (9.5%)  
**Total housing units:** 10,978  
**Owner-occupied housing units:** 7,650 (72%)  
**Households with individuals under 18 years:** 3,614 (34%)  
**Households with individuals 65 years and over:** 1,487 (14%)  
**Median household income:** 120,517  
**Mean family income:** 149,932  
**Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home:** 28.4%

**Zip code:** 22310  
**Population:** 29,609  
**Race:** White-19,121 (64.6%), Black/African American-3,991 (13.5%), American Indian and Alaska Native-94 (0.3%), Asian-3,517 (11.9%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-4,678 (15.8%)  
**Total housing units:** 12,048  
**Owner-occupied housing units:** 8,679 (76%)  
**Households with individuals under 18 years:** 3,654 (32%)  
**Households with individuals 65 years and over:** 2,214 (19.4%)  
**Median household income:** 105,515  
**Mean family income:** 137,805  
**Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home:** 34.5%

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

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# SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

## SEPTEMBER

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

## OCTOBER

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



## NOVEMBER

Election Day is Tuesday, November 4.  
Wellbeing.....11/5/14

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

# What's on the Ballot; How to Vote

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

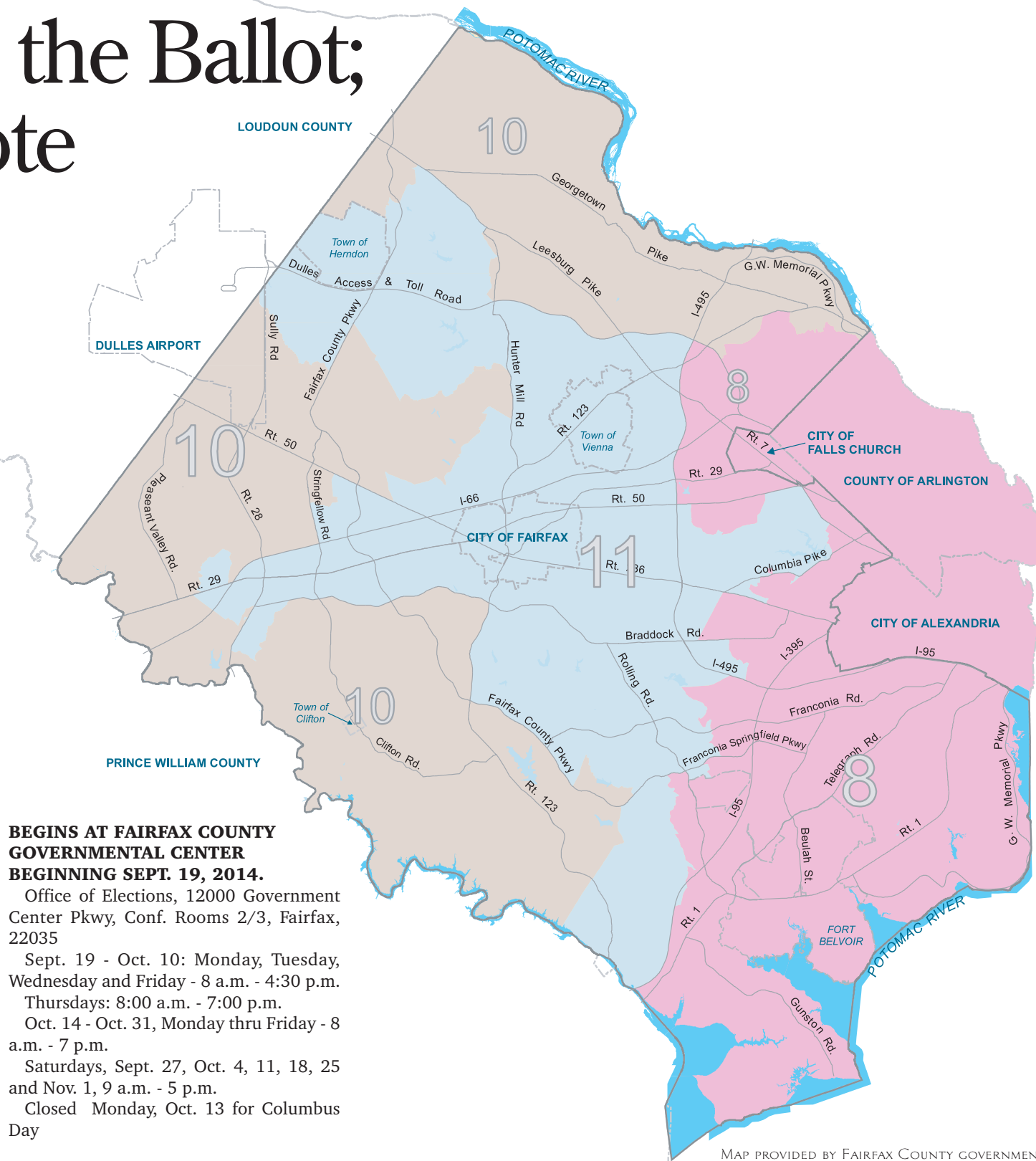
## VOTING EARLY, ABSENTEE

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

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

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

## IN PERSON ABSENTEE VOTING



MAP PROVIDED BY FAIRFAX COUNTY GOVERNMENT

## BEGINS AT FAIRFAX COUNTY GOVERNMENTAL CENTER BEGINNING SEPT. 19, 2014.

Office of Elections, 12000 Government Center Pkwy, Conf. Rooms 2/3, Fairfax, 22035

Sept. 19 - Oct. 10: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday - 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Thursdays: 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Oct. 14 - Oct. 31, Monday thru Friday - 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

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

Closed Monday, Oct. 13 for Columbus Day

## SATELLITE VOTING LOCATIONS BEGIN FRIDAY OCT. 14

❖ Franconia Governmental Center - 6121 Franconia Rd., Alexandria, 22310

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

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

❖ West Springfield Governmental Center - 6140 Rolling Rd., Springfield, 22152

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

❖ Mount Vernon Governmental Center - 2511 Parkers Ln., Alexandria 22306

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

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

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

## Map of Congressional districts serving Fairfax County.

<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

SEE EVERY YEAR, PAGE 13

## NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

# Every Year is Election Year in Virginia

FROM PAGE 12

and Falls Church.

- ❖ Republican Micah K. Edmond, [www.micahedmond.com](http://www.micahedmond.com)
- ❖ Democrat Donald S. Beyer Jr., [www.friendsofdonbeyer.com](http://www.friendsofdonbeyer.com)
- ❖ Libertarian Jeffrey S. Carson, [jeffreycarson.com/](http://jeffreycarson.com/)
- ❖ Independent Green Gerard C. "Gerry" Blais III, [www.votejoinrun.us](http://www.votejoinrun.us)
- ❖ Independent Gwendolyn J. Beck, [www.gwendolynbeck.com](http://www.gwendolynbeck.com)

**IN THE 10TH DISTRICT**, an open seat was created by the retirement of Frank Wolf (R), who was elected to office in 1982. Both major party candidates are elected officials from McLean, with Republican Barbara Comstock, a member of the Virginia House of Delegates, facing Democrat John Foust, a member of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. The 10th district sprawls from McLean to Winchester, and includes Great Falls, Chantilly, parts of Fairfax Station, the Town of Clifton, part of Burke and Springfield.

- ❖ Republican Barbara J. Comstock, [www.barbaracomstockforcongress.com](http://www.barbaracomstockforcongress.com)
- ❖ Democrat John W. Foust, [www.foustforvirginia.com](http://www.foustforvirginia.com)
- ❖ Libertarian William B. Redpath, [billredpath.com](http://billredpath.com)
- ❖ Independent Green Dianne L. Blais, [www.votejoinrun.us](http://www.votejoinrun.us)
- ❖ Independent Brad A. Eickholt, [www.eickholt4congress.com/](http://www.eickholt4congress.com/)

**IN THE 11TH DISTRICT**, Gerry Connolly (D), former chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, elected to congress in 2008, will face Republican Suzanne K. Scholte and two independent candidates.

- ❖ Republican Suzanne K. Scholte, [www.suzannescholteforcongress.com/](http://www.suzannescholteforcongress.com/)
- ❖ Democrat Gerald E. "Gerry" Connolly, incumbent, [www.gerryconnolly.com](http://www.gerryconnolly.com)
- ❖ Green Joe F. Galdo [www.joegaldo.com](http://www.joegaldo.com)
- ❖ Libertarian Marc M. Harrold, [www.marcharrold4congress.com](http://www.marcharrold4congress.com)

**IN FAIRFAX COUNTY**, all voters will vote yes or no for more money for transportation projects. **Transportation Improvements Bond Question:** Shall the Board of Supervisors contract a debt, borrow money and issue bonds of Fairfax County, Virginia, in addition to bonds previously authorized for transportation improvements and facilities, in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$100,000,000 for the purpose of providing funds to finance the cost of constructing, reconstructing, improving and acquiring transportation facilities, including improvements to primary and secondary State highways, improvements related to transit, improvements for pedestrians and bicycles, and ancillary related improvements and facilities?

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

## New Voter Identification Requirements

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

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

Virginia's photo ID requirements also apply to absentee voters who vote in-person in all elections.

Here are the "acceptable" forms of identification:

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

of the voter, and is not expired for more than 12 months.

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

### DON'T HAVE ONE OF THESE?

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

### PROVISIONAL BALLOT PROCESS

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

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

For More Election Information:  
Fairfax County Board of Elections,  
7 0 3 - 2 2 2 - 0 7 7 6 ,  
[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb/)  
12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Suite 232, Fairfax, 22035; FAX 703-324-2205; email [voting@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:voting@fairfaxcounty.gov)  
City of Fairfax General Registrar,  
703-385-7890, <http://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/general-registrar>  
10455 Armstrong Street, Sisson House, Fairfax, 22030; FAX 703-591-8364; email [generalregistrar@fairfaxva.gov](mailto:generalregistrar@fairfaxva.gov)  
State Board of Elections, 804 864-8901 Toll Free: 800 552-9745 FAX: 804 371-0194  
email: [info@sbe.virginia.gov](mailto:info@sbe.virginia.gov)  
<http://www.sbe.virginia.gov>



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[www.burkenursery.com](http://www.burkenursery.com)

# PARKS

AN INSIDER'S GUIDE TO MAJOR PARKS IN FAIRFAX COUNTY

## National Parks

### GF Great Falls National Park

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

### GW George Washington Memorial Parkway

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

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

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

## State Park

### MN Mason Neck State Park

7301 High Point Rd. Lorton  
www.dcr.virginia.gov/state\_parks/mas.shtml#  
703-339-2385 or 703-339-2380 (visitor center)  
masonneck@dcr.virginia.gov

The park's visitor center was expanded in 2010 to include a new exhibit room, gift shop and meeting room. There are several exhibits in the center, and with a view of Belmont Bay. Visitor center staff can answer questions and provide information on park trails, facilities and local points of interest. Pond study, bird watching, canoe trips, nature walks and talks, and GPS adventures are just a few of the exciting programs offered by park rangers.

### FH Fountainhead Regional Park

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

### HO Hemlock Overlook Regional Park

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

## 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. Atlantis 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.**

**FPP 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**

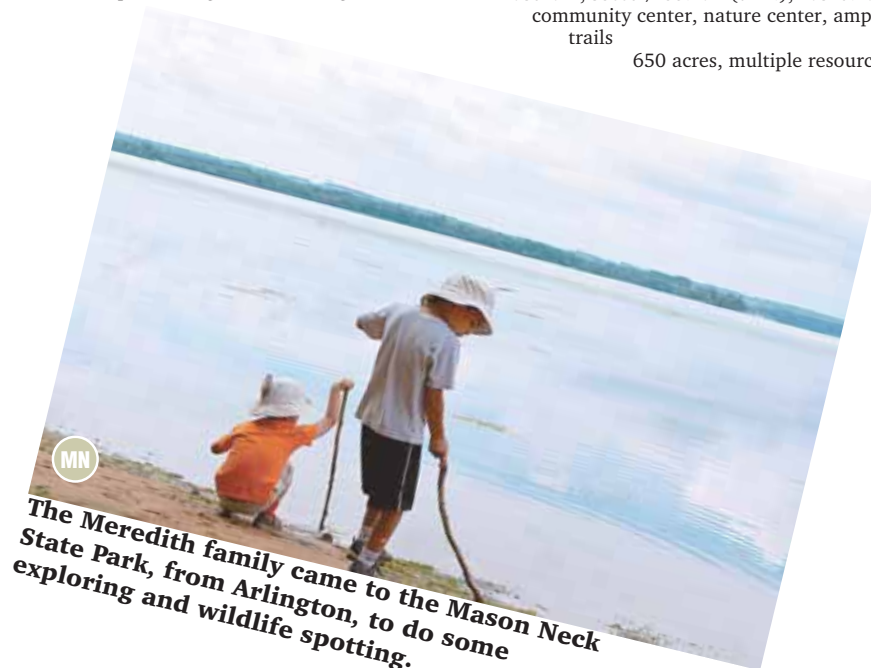
7400 Georgetown Pike, McLean  
historic structure, historic/hiking/nature trails, fishing  
384.3 acres, natural resource park

**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

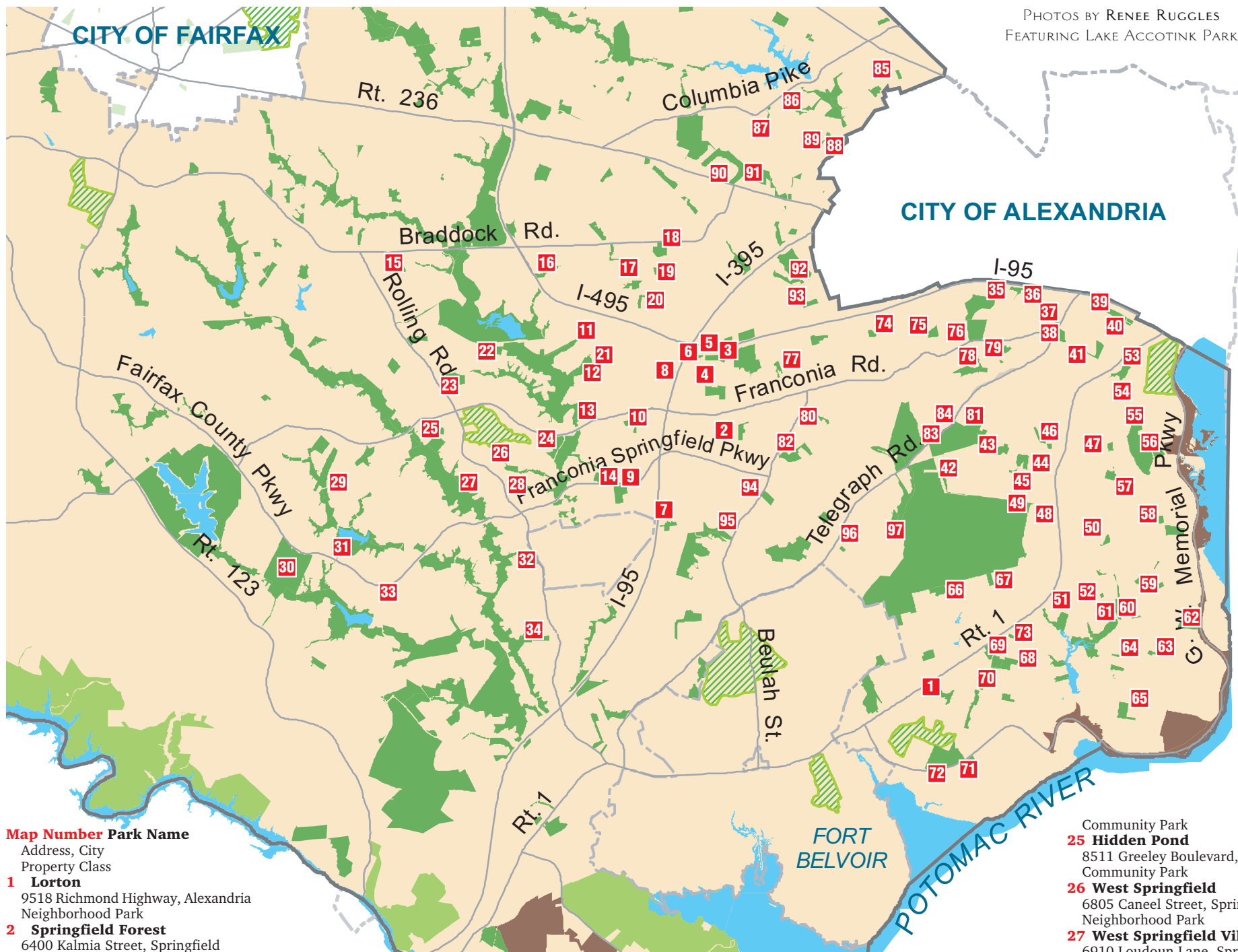


**The Meredith family came to the Mason Neck State Park, from Arlington, to do some exploring and wildlife spotting.**

# PARKS

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

PHOTOS BY RENEE RUGGLES  
FEATURING LAKE ACCOTINK PARK



**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 Hoos Road**  
7233 Hoos Road, Springfield  
Community Park
- 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 Hoos Road School Site**  
7336 Hoos Road, Springfield



The active train trestle is an interesting feature of Lake Accotink Park.

- 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, Spring-  
field  
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  
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 Umland Rd, Spring-  
field  
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





**Liz Anderson, of Fairfax, explored the lake by kayak. The park also offers paddle boat rentals and boat tours.**

- 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  
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



**Nhi and Lan Tran came to enjoy a family barbecue in one of Lake Accotink's reservable picnic shelters.**



**Cecil shows his sister Elzbieta how to skip rocks, while they explore a stream at Lake Accotink. They came with their mom, from Centreville, to meet with other homeschool families and enjoy the park.**



**Sarah Mejia took her little boy Lorenzo for a fun ride on Lake Accotink's antique carousel.**

# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE



PHOTO BY MARISSA BEALE/THE CONNECTION

**The Nalls are the fourth generation of people to live off the land on Nalls Farm. Nalls Produce Farm is open to the public, and visitors can also purchase fresh produce here.**

## Springfield Landmarks

FROM PAGE 10

is on the historic register and has had several sections added to the house at different times. “It is a 300-year-old house, but I have seen no ghosts,” joked Rosie Sebastian, a resident of the house for nine years. This house is one of great history that has been wonderfully preserved. It will be a part of next year’s Franconia Bus Tour.

### Sharon Chapel

The Sharon Chapel was originally the Sharon Meeting House, and was built around 1847 and 1848 on land that belonged to the Frobel Family. The church was used for the Christian education of people in the area. In 1864, Union Troops accidentally burned the Chapel. The Chapel was rebuilt in 1903 until it was replaced. Behind the Chapel are headstones of several famous families in the area, including the Pulman, Dove, and Struder Families. Presently, it is known as All-Saints Episcopal Church – Sharon Chapel.

### Nall’s Produce Farm

Nall’s Produce Farm is open Monday thru

Saturday 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., and on Sundays 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. It is run by Cary Nalls, who started the farm 51 years ago.

This is a great place to bring children, as there is a lot to see, do, and learn. Every Monday until Sept. 1, produce at the Farm is ten percent off. Events listed on their calendar are open to the public. Definitely worth a stop!

### Laurel Grove Colored School

It is easy to pass if you are not looking for it, but right here in Springfield is the Laurel Grove Colored School. From the early 1880s to 1932 the school functioned as the only school for African American students in Lee District. The school was built on a one-half acre of land that belonged to a freed slave, William Jasper, and his wife, Georgiana. Jasper joined several other freed blacks “to address an urgent need – the education of their children,” according to the Laurel Grove School Museum. This one-room schoolhouse is open to the public every Saturday during Black History Month in February, as well as by appointment.

## A Year of the Arts

A selection of upcoming theatre, music and arts in the area.

### Springfield Art Guild

Springfield Art Guild, Richard Byrd Library, 7250 Commerce Street, Springfield. SAG is a non-profit group founded in 1969 and serves the community’s interest in fine arts, fine crafts and photography that holds monthly meetings on the second Wednesday of each month. [www.springfieldartguild.org](http://www.springfieldartguild.org).

### Empire

Empire Nightclub and the Alchemy Room, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. Empire fills the metal genre niche in Springfield and also hosts musicians of other various styles and children’s programs during the daytime. [www.empirenova.com/](http://www.empirenova.com/) or 703-569-5940.

#### THURSDAY/SEPT. 4

**The Icarus Account.** 5:30-10 p.m. The Alchemy Room, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. Listen to an alternative genre group, The Icarus Account, perform live. For all ages. Admissions \$10. Call 703-569-5940 for more info.

#### FRIDAY/SEPT. 5

**Mic Check!** 7-11 p.m. Main Room, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. Listen to Mic Check Showcase! Korrupt Concept Young Dilinger and more. Genre is DJ Hip Hop. For all ages. Admissions \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door. Call 703-569-5940 for more info.

#### THURSDAY/SEPT. 11

**Overkill.** 6 p.m.-12 a.m. Main Room, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. Listen to Metal

SEE ARTS, PAGE 19

## Insiders to Newcomers: The Best Things About Living in Springfield

PHOTOS BY MARISSA BEALE/THE CONNECTION

### John Thodos, works at Springfield Butcher, lived in Springfield for 27 years

“People in Springfield are kind and helpful. The schools are awesome and there are always things going on in the community. There are firework shows at the Country Club around the Fourth of July and [music-synched] Christmas lights at Shell Gas Station [on Old Keene Mill Road]. There’s a good amount of stores here as well.”



### Luke Hartman, works at Trader Joe’s, lived in Springfield for 21 years

“I went to Lee High School and have lived here in Springfield my entire life, which is just about 21 years. Springfield is the perfect mixture of urban and suburban. You’re right in the center and equidistant to everything.”



### Carol Essen, works at Richard Byrd Library, lived in Springfield for 31 years

“The shopping is convenient here. The renovation of Springfield Mall is expected to be completed in October, which is very exciting. Springfield’s great because it is close to the Beltway, allowing for easy access to things. We’re, generally, pretty quiet.”



### Phyllis Ford, director of the Laurel Grove School Museum, lived in Springfield for over 30 years

“Growing up in the 1950s, my favorite thing was the friendliness of the families. I went to school in Gum Springs, when the Laurel Grove School closed. I returned to Springfield in 1999, but my family has always lived here.”



### Don Hakensen, founder and a member on the board of directors for the Franconia Museum, lived in Springfield for over 30 years

“I wanted my kids to go to the same schools I did and to experience the same things. I grew up running around in the woods. My parents said be back at 5 p.m. when we left the house at 8:30 in the morning, and they had no idea where we went. My kids played in the same gravel pits I did. Growing up, Springfield was a place where a boy could be a little boy. I always considered Franconia a small town, but we’re becoming more of a metropolis.”



COURTESY OF DON HAKENSEN

— MARISSA BEALE

# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

FROM PAGE 18

bands perform live, including The Angels, Vice Blunt and more. For all ages. Admissions \$25. Call 703-569-5940 for more info.

## FRIDAY/SEPT. 12

**Skeletonwitch.** 8 p.m.-2 a.m. Main Room, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. Listen to Death Metal bands perform live, including Skeletonwitch, Ghoul and Black Anvil. For all ages. Admissions \$15. Call 703-569-5940 for more info.

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 13

**Bloodfeast & Deceased.** 7 p.m.-12 a.m. Main Room, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield. Listen to the metal band Bloodfeast & Deceased perform live. For all ages. Admissions \$15. Call 703-569-5940 for more info.

## Kate's Irish Pub

Kate's Irish Pub, 6131 Backlick Road, Springfield. Kate's Irish Pub in Springfield offers everything from traditional Irish music, to open mic night and alternative bands (all accompanied by Irish libations). 703-866-0860 or [www.katesirishpub.com/](http://www.katesirishpub.com/).

## Fairfax Symphony Orchestra

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra, 3905 Railroad Avenue, Suite 202 N, Fairfax. One of the finest regional, professional orchestras in the country. 703-563-1990 or [www.fairfaxsymphony.org](http://www.fairfaxsymphony.org).

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 20

**Fairfax Symphony.** 8 p.m. Fairfax Symphony, 3905 Railroad Ave, Fairfax. Listen to Brahms: Symphony

No. 2, Grieg: Piano Concerto and Glinka: Overture Ruslan and Ludmilla with pianist Alexander Schimpf and conductor Christopher Zimmerman. Call 703-563-1990 for more info.

## THURSDAY/OCT 25-FRIDAY/OCT 26

**Fairfax Symphony.** 8 p.m. Fairfax Symphony, 3905 Railroad Ave, Fairfax. Listen to Copland: Quiet City, Stravinsky: Sumbarton Oaks and Concerto, Copland: Appalachian Spring and Stravinsky: Suites 1 and 2 with Christopher Zimmerman. Call 703-563-1990 for more info.

## George Mason University Patriot Center

GMU Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. Located on the campus of George Mason University, the Patriot Center is a 10,000-seat arena that hosts Mason basketball games, concerts, family shows and commencement ceremonies.

703-993-3000 or [www.patriotcenter.monumentalnetwork.com](http://www.patriotcenter.monumentalnetwork.com).

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 6

**DC Brawlers vs. New York Rhinos.** 7 p.m. Patriot Center, 4400 University Dr, Fairfax. Watch the DC Brawlers battle the New York Rhinos in Grid, the world's first true co-ed spectator sport. Doors open at 6 p.m. Call 703-993-3000 for more info.

## FRIDAY/SEPT. 12

**Marvel Universe Live!** 7 p.m. Patriot Center, 4400 University Dr, Fairfax.

Watch your favorite Marvel characters in one production. Doors open at 6 p.m. Call 703-993-3000 for more info.

## FRIDAY/OCT. 10

**Marc Anthony.** 8 p.m. Patriot Center, 4400 University Dr, Fairfax. Listen to singer Marc Anthony perform on his Cambio de Piel Tour. Doors open at 7 p.m. Call 703-993-3000 for more info.

## WEDNESDAY/OCT. 22

**Frozen: Disney on Ice.** 7 p.m. Patriot Center, 4400 University Dr, Fairfax. Enter a fantastical winter wonderland at *Disney On Ice presents Frozen!* The Academy Award winning movie is LIVE with special effects, skating and inspiring songs like "Let It Go." Doors open at 6 p.m. Call 703-993-3000 for more info.

## Fairfax Art League Gallery

Fairfax Art League Gallery, Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. The Fairfax Art League Gallery, operated by the Fairfax Art League, a members' cooperative gallery representing over 100 local artists, houses monthly exhibits with special shows held twice a year. 703-352-2787.

## Fairfax Museum

Fairfax Museum, 10209 Main Street, Fairfax. The museum produces special exhibitions on city history, provides educational outreach to school and youth groups and offers walking tours of Old Town Fairfax and the city's historic buildings in the spring and fall. 703-385-8414.

## The Center for Ballet Arts, Inc.



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



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### BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS AGES SIX-ELEVEN YEARS GRADES 1-6

Transportation provided to Terra Centre, Fairview, White Oaks, and Cherry Run Elementary Schools. Emphasis on special events, sports, time for homework, and student's choice of activities.

### KINDERGARTEN

Registrations are now being accepted for the 2014-2015 School Year. Two Virginia certified teachers per classroom. Program emphasizes language arts, math, computer literacy, science, social studies, social development, art, music and physical development.



### KIDDIE COUNTRY I

Burke Centre  
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Burke, Virginia 22015  
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Fairfax Station (Lorton)  
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Burke, Virginia 22015  
703-644-0066

[www.kiddiecountry.com](http://www.kiddiecountry.com)

## NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

# Year-round Festivals

LIST COMPILED BY EMMA HARRIS

A list of annual community events in the area.

### August 2014

#### SATURDAY/AUG. 30

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

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

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

### September 2014

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

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

#### MONDAY/SEPT. 1

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

#### SATURDAY/SEPT. 6

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

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

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

#### SUNDAY/SEPT. 7

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

#### THURSDAY/SEPT. 11-18

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

#### SATURDAY/SEPT. 13

**18th Annual CCE Irish Folk Festival.** Noon-



The Sandstorm Ride is a hit at last year's Burke Centre Festival. This year's festival will take place Sept. 6 - 7.

8:30 p.m. Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax and The Auld Shebeen Irish Pub, 3971 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax.

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

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

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

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

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

#### SATURDAY/SEPT. 20

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

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

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

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

#### SATURDAY/SEPT. 27

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

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

#### SUNDAY/SEPT. 28

**Walk to End Alzheimer's.** 3 p.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Walk and fundraise to further the care, support and research efforts of the Alzheimer's Association. Visit <http://act.alz.org/site/TR/Walk/GeneralInformation?it=5817&type=f&fromid=18124>

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

### October 2014

#### THURSDAY/OCT. 2

**3rd Annual Reston Town Center Help the Homeless Walk.** 12 p.m. Reston Town Center, 11959 Market St, Reston. Walk from Mayflowers Floral Design Studio on The Promenade to the Embry Rucker Community Shelter and back. Funds will enable Cornerstones to provide essential resources and services for individuals and families in the community who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Visit [http://www.cornerstonesva.org/events\\_list/hth](http://www.cornerstonesva.org/events_list/hth).

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

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

#### SATURDAY/OCT. 4

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

#### SUNDAY/OCT. 5

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

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



Patriot Beach Ball Balloons at the City of Fairfax's 47th annual Independence Day last year.

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

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

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

**2nd Annual Arlington Festival of the Arts.** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Highland Street in the Clarendon District, Arlington. More than 100 artists will showcase their work including paintings, jewelry, pottery, glass, and much more. Visit [artfestival.com](http://artfestival.com) for more.

#### SUNDAY/SEPT. 21

PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

SEE EVENTS, PAGE 21

# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

## Events

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hospitals since 1987.  
Visit [www.fpow.org/event-685795](http://www.fpow.org/event-685795).

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

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

### SATURDAY/OCT. 11

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

### THURSDAYSATURDAY/OCT 16-NOV 1

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

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

**19th Annual Craftsmen's Fall Classic Art & Craft Festival.** 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Dulles Expo Center, 4320 Chantilly Shopping Center, Chantilly. Features original designs and work from hundreds of talented artists and craftspeople from across America. Visit [http://www.gilmoreshows.com/craftsmens\\_classics\\_chantilly\\_fall.shtml](http://www.gilmoreshows.com/craftsmens_classics_chantilly_fall.shtml).

### SATURDAY/OCT. 18

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

### SATURDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 18-19

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

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

### SUNDAY/OCT. 19

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

### FRIDAY/OCT. 24

**Spooktacular.** 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
[www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM](http://www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM)



PHOTO BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

**Daniela Sykes, 29, makes a flower balloon for Daniela Berrios, 3, of Lorton, at last year's 4th of July celebration in Lorton.**

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

[upcoming.htm](#)

### TUESDAY/NOV. 11

**Arlington National Cemetery Veterans Day Ceremony.** Arlington National Cemetery,

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

### SATURDAY/NOV. 22

### SATURDAY/OCT. 25

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

**Clifton Haunted Trail.** 7-10 p.m. Chapel Road, Clifton. A terrifying annual event that winds through Clifton's 8 Acre Park. Visit [cliftonhauntedtrail.com](http://cliftonhauntedtrail.com).

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

### WEDNESDAY/OCT. 29

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

## November 2014

### SATURDAY/NOV. 1

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

### TUESDAY/NOV. 4

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

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- Cybex Weight Equipment
- Zumba and Aqua Zumba
- Cardiovascular Equipment
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#### CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

- Holiday/Spring/Teacher Workday Camps
- Interactive Xergym & Sport Climbing Wall
- Kidfit\*
- Birthday and Team Parties\* (using our climbing wall, XERGYM, and/or pool)
- Kids Nite Out\* (4 hours of fun & play give Mom and Dad a "date night")
- KidZone\*

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[www.burkeclub.com](http://www.burkeclub.com)

# Getting to know Edison, Lee High Sports

## Edison: Girls' basketball team repeated as region champions.

**W**hat Happened Last Year: Then-senior Louis Colson won the 5A boys' cross country state championship. The girls' basketball team repeated as region champions. The boys' lacrosse team won the Conference 13 title.

From The Connection's Top 100 Athletes: 17. Pat Toomay, a 1966 graduate, was a three-sport star for Edison. He went on to play college football and basketball at Vanderbilt and had a 10-year NFL career as a defensive end.

From Mirza Kurspahic's 2006 profile for The Connection's Top 100 Athletes: "Although he considered himself a basketball player in high school, Pat Toomay went on to have an amazing NFL career. He was a Super Bowl champion with Dallas, a member of a winless team with Tampa Bay and was coached by John Madden while in Oakland.

'I went from a penthouse to a doghouse and back to a penthouse,' said Toomay of his career in the National Football League.

A 1966 Edison graduate, Toomay was an all-state athlete in football, basketball and baseball. His athleticism - perhaps inherited from his father who played professional basketball - still sticks out in the minds of coaches and administrators from the 1960's.

'As a three-sport star, Toomay achieved as much as any athlete in Northern Virginia,' said former Hammond High School baseball coach - later the football coach at T.C. Williams - Glenn Furman. 'Here I am 40 years later, and I am still remembering him as being that formidable.' Furman recalled the day Toomay pitched a no-hitter against Hammond in a 1-0 playoff win.

'...At Vanderbilt, basketball was a different game, according to Toomay. While at Edison he could play the role of a big man at 6-foot-5. In college he could not, as most guards were close to that size. He said he did not move like a guard, but like a big man, and therefore football was a better choice for him.

Competing in the SEC, Vanderbilt was a private university of 5,000 students playing against the likes of the University of Kentucky and the University of Alabama. Being a private university, every student had to go through a rigorous academic program.

However, Vanderbilt held its own in football. Toomay said his best year was his junior year, when the team went 5-4-1 and beat Alabama. He said it was a tumultuous time to be a college student in the South, as race relations were taking a turning point, exemplified by his friend Perry Wallace. Wallace pioneered the presence of black varsity athletes in SEC schools, enrolling at Vanderbilt on a basketball scholarship.

Coming out of college, Toomay was drafted by the Dallas Cowboys in the sixth round of the NFL Draft. He said he was tall

## School: Thomas A. Edison High School

**Mascot:** Eagles.

**School Colors:** Red, white and navy blue.

**Athletic Director:** Berk Stoy, 703-924-8090.

**Football Coach:** Scott Woodlief (first season).

The Eagles finished the 2013 regular season with a 3-7 record, but qualified for the 5A North region playoffs, losing in the first round.

**Boys' Basketball Coach:** Terry Henderson.

**Girls' Basketball Coach:** Dianne Lewis.

**Baseball Coach:** John Lam.

**Boys' Lacrosse Coach:** Jason Jeffries.

and fast, but questions were asked whether he could gain enough weight to play as a defensive end.

'I was at about 220, and needed to be 250, and I did the work and got a few breaks,' said Toomay. From 1970 to 1974, Toomay played with the Dallas Cowboys under coach Tom Landry. During his five years there, the Cowboys went to two Super Bowls, losing 16-13 to the Baltimore Colts in January of 1971, and winning 24-3 over Miami the following year.

After five years with the Cowboys, Toomay went to Buffalo in 1975. After only a year in Buffalo, he was snatched by an NFL expansion team, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

The Bucs went 0-14 in their inaugural season.

'That was a memorable year,' said Toomay. 'I played every down. [The defense] was out there 90 plays a game, it was like playing two seasons in one.' Toomay added that most weeks the defensive players could not recover well enough from Sunday to Sunday, because their bodies would be beaten from the previous week's game.

After a year in Tampa Bay, Toomay found his way back to the top of the NFL. In 1977 he was picked up by the defending Super Bowl champions, the Oakland Raiders.

'That was the highlight of my career,' said Toomay. 'I played the best ball I ever played for John Madden. He was the kind of coach I had been looking for since high school.' Toomay said that it was not only Madden's coaching that made his time with the Raiders such a highlight, but also the characters of his teammates."

37. Pete DeHaven, a 1970 graduate, was a basketball standout for the Eagles.

87. Michelle Pearson, a 2000 graduate, was a state-champion gymnast for the Eagles.

## Lee High: Baseball team qualified for regionals in 2014.

**W**hat Happened Last Year: The baseball team qualified for the region tournament.

From The Connection's

Top 100 Athletes: 56. Val Brown, a 1999 graduate, was a basketball standout for the Lancers, who played collegiately at George Washington.

From Mirza Kurspahic's 2006 profile for The Connection's Top 100 Athletes: "Brown graduated from Lee in 1999, the year he led the team to the Virginia AAA state semi-finals. During that year he averaged 27 points, five assists and three steals per game. He was named to the Associated Press All-State team.

'He was very explosive, and he could get a shot off against anyone,' said [long-time Northern Region basketball coach Brian] Metress. However, Brown was not just a player who scored a lot of points. Metress said Brown was a top defensive guard and an excellent passer of the ball. 'He wreaked havoc defensively,' said Metress.

'... Brown's scoring reputation went beyond what an average basketball fan could imagine when he began his college career at George Washington University. He chose George Washington over top national programs such as Kentucky and UCLA because he wanted to play for coach Tom Penders. Penders built the program around the freshman, giving him the freedom to take a lot of shots. Brown barely missed on becoming the first freshman ever to lead the nation in scoring, averaging 24.6 points per game in the 1999-2000 season. He came in second to Courtney Alexander of Fresno State, who averaged 24.8 points per game.

During that first year at George Washington, Brown broke the school's 31-year scoring record. He scored 738 points and recorded the Smith Center single-game scoring record on Dec. 11, 1999, scoring 42 points against Siena.

He was not as prolific a scorer his sophomore year, averaging 17.3 points per game, as he was his freshman year. Brown still managed to record 20 or more points on 12 occasions, including 50-point games against Maryland and St. John's.

After his sophomore season at George Washington, Brown entered the 2001 NBA Draft, but missed out on being selected. He then joined a One World All-Stars touring team that played exhibition games on college campuses around the country. Brown

## Robert E. Lee High School

**Mascot:** Lancers.

**School Colors:** Blue and gold.

**Athletic Director:** Lori Barb, 703-924-8352.

**Football Coach:** Clarence Martin (fourth year).

The Lancers qualified for the 5A North playoffs in 2013, despite a 2-8 regular-season record. Lee lost to Stone Bridge in the opening round.

**Field Hockey Coach:** Lindsey Conrad.

**Volleyball Coach:** Adam Greenberg.

also bounced around the U.S. Basketball League, seeing some time in Pennsylvania, and the NBA Development League, playing in Roanoke for the Dazzle."

62. Mary Yarrison, a 2003 graduate, was a state-champion diver for the Lancers.

She competed collegiately for the University of Arizona and the University of Texas.

From Kurspahic's 2006 profile for The Connection's Top 100 Athletes: "When she won her third diving state championship in 2002, Mary Yarrison walked away from the meet with a hint of anger. She may have won three state championships in three years, she was only a junior, but she didn't have the record yet.

'I had a really good meet except for two dives,' said Yarrison to the Connection after the 2002 state championship meet. Her coach, Jeff Firman, said: 'She wants the record really badly.'

#That record was held by Amber O'Reilly of Hayfield, who won the first three Virginia High School League AAA diving titles, 1997-1999. She earned 481.00 points her senior year to set it. Four years later, in 2003, Yarrison would have her day, earning 483.30 points and a state title sweep, winning it for the fourth time in four years.

'I thought about [the record] too much my junior year,' said Yarrison. "Senior year I decided to go out there and have a good time.'

On the international scene, Yarrison represented the United States in a number of competitions. She was the gold medalist in both 1 and 3 meter events in the 16-18 age group at the 2003 Junior Pan American Diving Championships in Brazil. She also earned the Diver of the Meet honor at the tournament."

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# Getting to Know West Springfield Sports

**Girls' basketball team won Conference 7 title, finished region runner-up.**

**W**hat Happened Last Year: Then-senior Caroline Alcorta won the girls' 6A individual cross country state championship and set the Great Meadow course record with a time of 17:13. The girls' basketball team won the Conference 7 championship, finished region runner-up and qualified for the state tournament. The baseball team won the conference title and advanced to the region semifinals.

From The Connection's Top 100 Athletes: \*2. Kara Lawson, a 1999 graduate, is the leading scorer in the history of the West Springfield girls' basketball program. She played collegiately at the University of Tennessee, where she helped the Volunteers win four SEC championships and reach a pair of national championship games. She has played 12 seasons in the WNBA for the Sacramento Monarchs, Connecticut Sun and the Washington Mystics.

From Mirza Kurspahic's 2006 profile for The Connection's Top 100 Athletes: "Long before Lawson would step on the court for the Volunteers, she was wearing another kind of orange, playing for West Springfield. Lawson came to West Springfield as the subject of much controversy and debate. She had quit the basketball team at Sidwell Friends, a private school in Washington, D.C., and her family had to go through a number of steps before the school board approved her attending West Springfield. In December of 1996, Lawson took to the court for the first time as a Spartan. ... A regional semifinalist the year before, the Spartans went on to post a 30-0 record and win the Virginia state title in 1997, the program's first ever. Although the Spartans were already a formidable regional force, Gibson said Lawson helped transform a 25-3 team to a 30-0 team.

"... The Spartans repeated their 1997 state title in 1999, Lawson's senior year, posting another 30-0 record. Lawson was named the Naismith High School Player of the Year, the Virginia Player of the Year and was a WBCA, USA Today and Parade Magazine All-American in 1999.

As a Tennessee Volunteer, Lawson helped the team to a 126-17 record and four SEC titles. However, she did not succeed in her bid to win an NCAA Division I title with Tennessee. The Volunteers played in two NCAA championship games, but lost both of them. ... Even though she failed to se-



**Caroline Alcorta, a 2014 West Springfield graduate, won the 2013 6A girls' cross country state championship.**

PHOTO BY ED LULL

**"I was just hoping to win. I didn't expect to get the course record."**

**— Then-senior Caroline Alcorta, after her record-breaking time at the 6A state cross country meet at Great Meadow.**

cure a national title at Tennessee, Lawson stayed on course with her academic commitment and received the 2003 Woody Hayes National Scholar Athlete award, presented to a select few college students who demonstrate excellence in both academics and athletics.

After four years at Tennessee, Lawson was drafted into the WNBA. The Detroit Shock drafted her as the No. 5 pick in 2003, but then immediately traded her away to the Sacramento Monarchs. In 2005, Lawson won her first WNBA title with the Monarchs, contributing with eight points per game in

## West Springfield High School

**Mascot:** Spartans.

**School Colors:** Blue and orange.

**Athletic Director:** Andy Muir, 703-913-3861.

**Football Coach:** Jason Eldredge (second season).

The Spartans finished the 2013 season with a 3-7 record.

**Cross Country Coach:** Chris Pellegrini.

**Volleyball Coach:** Stephanie Noriega.

**Girls' Basketball Coach:** Bill Gibson.

**Baseball Coach:** Jason Olms.

the regular season. Lawson raised her average to 11.2 points per game during the playoffs."

\*32. Sharif Karie, a 1997 graduate, was a state-champion runner for the Spartans.

From Kurspahic's 2006 profile for The Connection's Top 100 Athletes: "Twelve individual state titles, three team titles and two relay titles start to explain just how good of a runner Sharif Karie was. Add to that the fact that he didn't spend his entire high school career in Virginia, and he gets a little better.

\*34. Dave Koesters, a 1974 graduate, was a basketball star for the Spartans, who played collegiately at the University of Virginia.

From Kurspahic's 2006 profile for The Connection's Top 100 Athletes: "Over the three years that Dave Koesters spent playing basketball at West Springfield, the Spartans went 72-6. The 1974 graduate led the team to three straight region titles and two state championship games before heading to the University of Virginia.

Those who remember Koesters on the court talk about his shooting ability with reverence. 'He was an assassin shooting the ball,' said Red Jenkins, a coach of almost 40 years at Woodson and Paul VI. He said Woodson usually found a way to defeat the Spartans, but that changed with Koesters' arrival at West Springfield. 'We couldn't beat them to save our soul,' said Jenkins."

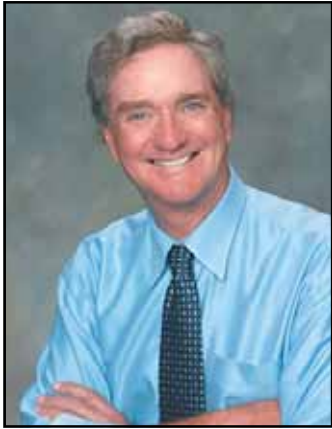
\*39. Damone Boone, a 1995 graduate, was a standout running back for the West Springfield football team.

From Kurspahic's 2006 profile for The Connection's Top 100 Athletes: "During his time at West Springfield, Boone set many rushing records. Perhaps the most impressive is the state of Virginia's rushing record for a single game. On Nov. 10, 1995, Boone rushed for 500 yards on 32 carries in a 48-6 win over Annandale. Incidentally, the game was Boone's last of the career. He broke the previous record, 467 yards, set in Group A of the VHSL, on a 19-yard run with a minute left to play."

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Dr. Melanie Wilson Hartman

## Dear Neighbors,

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to Dr. Mary Speicher who is joining our practice as an associate. Dr. Speicher is originally from Northeastern Pennsylvania. She graduated from the University of Scranton with a BS in Biophysics in 1985 and continued her studies at Temple University School of Dentistry, receiving her DMD in 1989. Dr. Speicher has been in private practice for 26 years.

She is dedicated to continuing education, having furthered her education to include sedation dentistry, implants, invisalign, periodontal laser therapy, bone grafting and periodontal surgery. Dr. Speicher's training and personal dedication will complement and enhance our office.

She embraces our core dedication to providing the highest quality dental care, utilizing the most advanced techniques and materials, and striving to provide a patient-centered environment characterized by education, comfort and trust. Dr. Speicher will be a participating dentist for Delta Dental and United Concordia.

We are excited to have Dr. Speicher with us and are confident that she will have a bright future with our office. Thank you for the many referrals of your family and friends and for the continued support.

With warm regards,  
Drs. James L. Gyuricza and  
Melanie W. Hartman and Staff



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# John C. Cook

Braddock District Supervisor



## Braddock Neighbors:

One of my most important jobs as your County Supervisor is to keep you informed of county issues and important neighborhood events.

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Every one of us has the exciting opportunity to shape our neighborhoods and make Fairfax County an even better place to work and live. That's why, here in Braddock, I continually encourage folks to become active participants in their community and their local government. So come on out, step up and become an involved Braddock District resident.

Remember, I am here to serve you. Please keep in touch and let me know what more I can do for you.

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