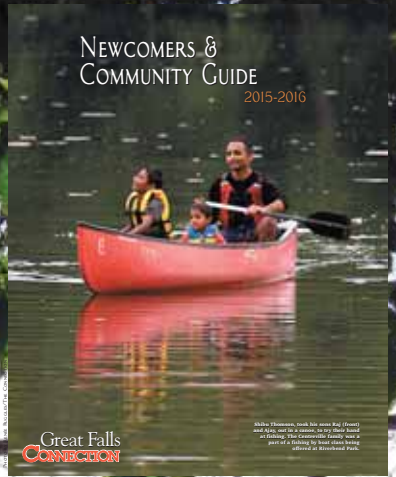


# Great Falls CONNECTION

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NEWCOMERS &  
COMMUNITY GUIDE  
2015-2016



NEWCOMERS  
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The former Exxon Station in the heart of Great Falls continues to be an eyesore while chemical leaks are cleaned up.

PHOTO BY KEN MOORE/THE CONNECTION

AUGUST 26 - SEPTEMBER 1, 2015

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

# NEWS

Members of the United States scout delegation crossing a bridge just before beginning a community service project in Japan.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

## Great Falls Scouts Return from Japan

A troop of 36 Boy Scouts and four adult leaders, including from Great Falls Troops 673 and 55, returned home happily after joining 30,000 scouts from 161 countries in Yamaguchi, in southern Japan, for the highly successful three-week 23rd World Scout Jamboree. The Scouts traveled from Tokyo to Yamaguchi on the bullet train. They visited Hiroshima's Peace Memorial Park on the 70th anniversary of the events of 1945. Camping on a vast open plain of former rice paddies and irrigation ditches, they cooked their own meals and took classes and relaxed with scouts

from throughout the world. To relieve the extreme heat, some of the scouts took advantage of a beach about a half hour's walk away. But most of them preferred the camp's cold showers. The boys traded neckerchiefs, shirts, patches and anything else they could lay their hands on for similar items from scouts from other countries. Great Falls was ably represented by Greg Gersony of Troop 673 (who calls it "the experience of a lifetime"), and by Troop 55's Peter and Matthew Ongman and their dad, John Ongman, who served as assistant scout master for the trip.

### WEEK IN GREAT FALLS

## Great Falls Senior Center to Host International Photographer

The Great Falls Senior Center (GFSC) event for Sept. 1 features Kenneth Garrett, international photographer. His topic will be Journey Through Hallowed Ground; Birthplace of the American Ideal. His photography reflects his creativity in covering major archaeological sites of the Mayas, Aztecs, Olmecs and ancient Egyptians and the important discoveries in the evolutionary history of humanity. Garrett is an independent photographer and his articles for National Geographic include "Square-rigger: Voyage from Baltic to Bicentennial"; other notable articles include The Iceman (Ice Age Human Body), Dawn of Humans: Tracking the First of Our Kind, Valley of the King's (Egypt), Journey to the Ice Age Humans, Dawn of Humans: Hunt for the First Americans, Death on The Nile and many more. He has also photographed for National Geographic Traveler and for such magazines as Smithsonian, Fortune, Time, Life, Forbes, Audubon, Archaeology and Natural history. His extensive book credits include El Templo Mayor: The Great Temple of the Aztecs in Mexico; Floaters and Stickups; Egypt of Pharaohs; Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of Pharaohs. Garrett's work has been exhibited at the Smithsonian, the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology & Anthropology, and in Egypt, Cuba and Japan.

The Sept. 1 event will be held at St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church, 1020 Springvale Road, Great Falls 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m and includes lunch. The event sponsor is Lozo Dentistry, Great Falls. Reservations are a must; to reserve email Polly Fitzgerald at pollyfitz1@verizon.net or call 703-759-4345.

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PHOTOS BY KEN MOORE/THE CONNECTION

The former Exxon Station in the heart of Great Falls continues to be an eyesore while chemical leaks are cleaned up.



Pumping and treatment will probably need to continue for another year. A drive through TD Bank will eventually replace the former station on Georgetown Pike.

## Groundwater Cleanup Continues

GFCFA responds to latest figures from gas additive spill; eyesore continues to plague Great Falls.

BY KEN MOORE  
THE CONNECTION

In the last three months, about 27 pounds of Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether (MTBE) have been removed from the groundwater as a result of the leak from the former Exxon Station at 9901 Georgetown Pike. Concentrations of the chemical remain more than 10 times the target level in at least one spot.

Approximately 256 pounds of MTBE have been removed since pumping and treatment began in August 2014, according to the Great Falls Citizens Association.

"We will keep being vigilant until the problem goes away," said Glen Sjoblom, chair of the Great Falls Citizens Association's special committee on groundwater contamination.

The special committee of the Citizens Association reviewed the groundwater monitoring report issued for second quarter 2015 by Fairfax Petroleum and its environmental engineering contractor, Kleinfelder East. The report was received from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality.

GFCFA and Sjoblom predict that pumping will need to continue for another four quarters.

"After the end points are reached, monitoring will continue for another two years to verify no contamination will ever reach private groundwater wells in the vicinity of the commercial center of Great Falls," ac-

ording to the Great Falls Citizens Association.

**LOW LEVELS OF MTBE** can make groundwater undrinkable due to its offensive taste and odor, according to U.S. EPA documents.

"It doesn't take a very big leak to cause a very big problem if you have an area that has private wells," said Sjoblom.

**"We will keep being vigilant until the problem goes away."**

— Glen Sjoblom, Great Falls Citizens Association

**"My goal is to get it down as soon as possible."**

— Supervisor John W. Foust

EPA issued a Drinking Water Advisory that states concentrations of MTBE in the range of 20 to 40 ppb (parts per billion) or below will probably not cause unpleasant taste and odor for most people.

Keeping concentrations below that range would also address health concerns, since the EPA reported that data support the conclusion that MTBE is a potential human carcinogen at high doses.

In Great Falls, concentrations at key deep wells remain at 4700 parts per billion (ppb) at point RW-1, at 630 ppb at point MW-16D, 1400 ppb at point PW-1, and 940 ppb at point 20-D, which are still multiples higher than

the so called "deep end point" of 343 ppb.

The end point was specified by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality as a target concentration unlikely to result in detectable levels of 1 ppb, in any private wells.

Therefore, remaining deep concentrations at some locations must be reduced by a factor of approximately 10 before treatment can be considered complete.

**WHILE CLEANUP CONTINUES**, the former gas station bought by Fairfax Petroleum continues to be fenced off.

"An eyesore in the middle of Great Falls," said Sjoblom.

"I drove past it the other day and that was my reaction," said Supervisor John W. Foust. "My goal is to get it down as soon as possible."

Foust said The Board of Supervisors approved a special permit for a drive thru TD bank to replace the former gas station.

**LEAKS WERE DETECTED** from the va-

por recovery units at the gas station in 2009, said Sjoblom.

MTBE was the gasoline additive used under direction of the EPA prior to 2006, and a leak released the chemical from the former Exxon Service station into groundwater.

The groundwater has been treated by pumping it out for air stripping and by charcoal filtration in a special treatment trailer, and the treated water is released below discharge limits to the storm drain.

Pumping and treatment of groundwater from wells on the original site began in August 2014 in accordance with the Department of Environmental Quality Corrective Action Plan.

The cleanup has "significantly reduced" the concentration of Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether (MTBE) in groundwater, according to GFCFA.

"The numbers have been coming down quite a bit but we are still concerned about the area across Walker," said Sjoblom.

The Great Falls Citizens Association wants concentrations at all wells to be reduced to the lower end point, approximately 10 times. The citizens association believes "another recovery well, across Walker Road from the original site, is needed to accomplish treatment of the entire contamination plume," according to Great Falls Citizens Association documents. "Fairfax Petroleum committed to this in applying for the Special Permit for the TD Bank."

Pumping continues to proceed at approximately 5-8 gallons per minute, for a total of 2.7 million gallons.

"The goal should be, when in doubt, to overcorrect," said Foust.

## Schools Need Support at All Levels

TAMARA DERENAK KAUFAX  
LEE DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE  
FAIRFAX COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

### COMMENTARY

It is encouraging to read in a recent Connection commentary by Jim Corcoran, president and CEO Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce (“Now Is Time to Unite for Education”), that the chamber is taking seriously the funding crisis facing Fairfax County Public Schools. Mr. Corcoran is absolutely right that K-12 spending at the state level has not kept pace with rising enrollments and costs. In fact, Virginia now ranks in the top 10 nationally in measures of wealth, but in the bottom 10 in support for public schools. Virginia ranks 41st out of 50 states in K-12 funding.

After eight years of painful budget cuts, the deep deficit FCPS faces for FY 2017 — perhaps in the range of \$100 million — is certainly due in part to chronic underfunding of public schools at the state level. However, the relative share of state and county contributions to the FCPS operating budget has not changed

in that time. The annual transfer from the Fairfax County government to the schools has also not kept pace with growing enrollments and costs. FCPS is spending \$1,000 less per child, in real dollars, than in 2008 - the state and county governments share this responsibility.

Mr. Corcoran correctly points out that FCPS has received increased funding from the county over the years. It is important to note that during the last eight years, however, enrollment growth and rising costs have outpaced increased revenue by \$500 million. In FY 2015, for example, the county increased the transfer to the school system by 3 percent resulting in an increase in revenue of \$51.5 million. In that same year, FCPS experienced unavoidable cost increases totaling \$78 million: a required increase to the Virginia Retirement System of \$38.9 million; health rate increases of \$19.9 million; and enrollment growth of \$19.5 mil-

lion.

To balance the cumulative effects of inadequate budgets since 2008, FCPS has had to raise class size three times and forego regular teacher step increases four times, budget choices that are simply not sustainable. In that time the relative share of county and state funding has not changed, so both funding bodies are responsible for the very challenging position FCPS finds itself in today.

It is past time for school systems, local governments, PTAs, employee associations and businesses throughout Virginia to join forces and hold the General Assembly accountable for its responsibility to fully fund K-12 education in every corner of the Commonwealth. The Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce has an opportunity to lead the business community in that fight.

I hope the chamber also takes a leading role in local advocacy for full funding of FCPS for FY 2017 and beyond. As Mr. Corcoran has often said, great public schools are the smartest investment we can make in our local economy. We are stronger together.

## Some Recommendations To Improve Law Enforcement

BY CLAIRE GUTHRIE GASTAÑAGA  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
ACLU OF VIRGINIA

### COMMENTARY

The following open letter was addressed to Michael Hershman, chair of the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission.

We commend the members of the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission for their work to ensure that the Fairfax County Police Department encourages a culture of public trust in law enforcement. As you know, this trust is key to ensuring a safe community.

Ensuring public trust in the FCPD will require a shift in its culture and mindset and the reassertion of civilian authority over the policies that guide policing in the county. At the foundation of this shift are the concepts and values of constitutional policing and respect for the sanctity of human life — concepts and values that should be in the DNA of all law enforcement personnel. As such, these concepts and values should provide the foundation for the Commission’s recommendations and should guide all policies and procedures adopted and implemented by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and the FCPD.

We believe the following recommendations, if implemented, will help achieve the needed shift in the FCPD’s culture and mindset. These recommendations, many of which outline policies that the supervisors should adopt as elected officials responsible to the residents they serve, include:

❖ Understanding Policing in a Democratic Society – Law enforcement are the guardians of the U.S. Constitution, thus the FCPD should initiate department-wide training to ensure its personnel understand the mission and role of police in protecting constitutional rights and

the sanctity of human life, prioritizing de-escalation, and ensuring a duty to intervene if another officer uses excessive force.

❖ Emphasizing Mental Health Training – Embracing the sanctity of human life requires law enforcement to differentiate between a person who needs mental health care and a criminal offender who poses a serious threat. Training FCPD officers to distinguish between criminal offenders and individuals in need of mental health services will also better ensure that the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center does not also serve as a mental health facility.

❖ Establishing a Civilian Review Board – The establishment of a civilian review board with investigatory and discipline authority can be an effective tool for enhancing trust between the FCPD and Fairfax residents. It does so by making the FCPD more transparent and accountable to the people.

❖ Funding and Mandating Police Body Worn Cameras – If, and only if, proper policies and procedures are in place for their use, body cams can be a win-win. They can both protect the public from police misconduct and protect the police from false allegations of abuse.

❖ Ending the War on Drugs - Drug use is a public health issue, and the Commonwealth, the County Board, and FCPD should implement policies and procedures to deal with it as such. Drug policies must be evidence-based and incorporate prevention, treatment, and public safety elements. The end of the war on drugs should begin with a policing policy that deprioritizes enforcement of marijuana possession and includes supervisors’ advocacy for decriminalization of possession by the Commonwealth.

❖ Mandating Data Collection – To ensure that the FCPD is not engaged in racially biased policing, the supervisors should adopt a policy requiring the FCPD to collect, analyze, and publish an annual statistical report covering all FCPD stops, frisks, citations, arrests, and use-of-force incidents.

❖ Restricting the Use of SWAT – The supervisors should adopt a policy limiting use of SWAT to scenarios in which there is a likelihood that the situation for which the FCPD deploys a SWAT team presents an imminent threat to the lives of civilians and/or police personnel.

❖ Reforming Civil Asset Forfeiture – Policing should be based on public safety, not supplementing the FCPD’s budget. The supervisors should determine as a matter of policy that the FCPD should use asset forfeiture only when: 1) a person has been found guilty of a crime; 2) the convicted person is the owner of the property; and 3) the government has proved by clear and convincing evidence that the owner/offender either used the property in the commission of the crime or received the property as a result of the crime.

❖ Enhancing Existing Policies, Practices, and Laws Regarding Police-involved Incidents – Law enforcement should focus on de-escalation techniques and ensure that any use of force tool used is the least severe for the situation at hand, including a recognition that some less-lethal force options are less severe than others are.

While there is no silver bullet to ensuring a safe and effective police force, with restoration of effective civilian oversight the recommendations we have made will help restore public trust by making the FCPD a model for what policing in a democratic society should look like. We urge their adoption.

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# NEWS

## Langley Girls Win Liberty Cup

On Aug. 18, the Langley HS Girls' Golf Team won the Liberty Cup for the fourth year in a row. This year, in a five-team field, Langley prevailed by a 126 to 145 score over the nearest competitor, South Lakes. The low 4 of the 6 scores counted for each team. Langley sophomore Mallory Langpaul was tournament medalist with a 39. The team is coached by Bob Hayne.



PHOTO BY JOHN MCGRANAHAN

**Langley HS Girls Golf team hoists the Liberty Cup. From left: Kaitlin Bonacci, Emily McGranahan, Kendall Deese, Mallory Langpaul, and Maria McQuade. Not pictured: Anna Sampson.**

### BULLETIN BOARD

#### WEDNESDAY/AUG. 26

##### EBook/EReader Instruction.

10:30 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Learn about library ebooks and audiobooks and how to access them with your PC or compatible device. Adults.

#### THURSDAY/AUG. 27

##### English Conversation One-On-One.

1:30 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. English practice for a non-native speaker with a library volunteer. Call for appointment. Adults.

#### SATURDAY/AUG. 29

##### Plant Clinic.

10 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Master gardeners answer your gardening questions. Adults.

#### MONDAY/AUG. 31

##### English Conversation.

10:30 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. English practice for non-native speakers. Adults.

#### FRIDAY/SEPT. 11

##### A Day to Remember, Patriot Day Community Commemoration.

9 a.m. Freeman House Lawn 131 Church Street, NE, Vienna. Special Guest: Dan Dellinger, Immediate Past National Commander of the American Legion.

##### Remembrance Ceremony.

7 p.m. Remembrance ceremony at the Great Falls Freedom Memorial, behind the Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike. Great Falls lost six residents to the attacks on Sept. 11, thought to be the highest casualty rate in America. The ceremony will honor them, and all who sacrificed on that day and its aftermath. The event will include a Marine Corps color guard, patriotic songs, remarks by Congresswoman Barbara Comstock, and a bell-ringing and candle-lighting for each of the Sept. 11 victims from Great Falls.

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

#### THURSDAY/SEPT. 17

##### Adventures in Learning Registration and Open House.

10 a.m.-noon. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax (UUCF), 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton; An eight-week session offering current topics of interest, tai chi, bridge, yoga, current affairs, etc. Attend as often as you wish, Thursdays Sept. 24-Nov. 12. If you are unable to attend the open house, please call the Shepherd's Center of Oakton Vienna Office (SCOV) office to register 703-281-0538. Cost is \$40.

#### SUNDAY/SEPT. 20

**Lunch 'n Life Series.** Noon. Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, Desales Hall, 8601 Wolf Trap Road, Vienna. Come enjoy lunch and entertainment as The Cameo Jewels will be performing with their wonderful variety of talents. These ladies have all been in beauty pageants including Mrs. Senior America pageant. You are in for a rollicking good time with other seniors. \$10 for lunch. Also, free blood pressure testing at 11 a.m. Call the Shepherd's Center office to make your reservation 703-281-0538.

#### ONGOING

##### The Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna

has an urgent need for volunteer drivers to take area seniors to medical appointments and other activities. Opportunities to volunteer for other services are also available. No long-term commitment and hours are flexible to fit your schedule. Visit [www.scov.org](http://www.scov.org) or contact the Volunteer Coordinator at 703-281-5086 or email [volunteer@scov.org](mailto:volunteer@scov.org).

##### Food Addicts in Recovery.

Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at The Vine Church, 2501 Gallows Road, Dunn Loring. Are you having trouble controlling the way you eat? Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous (FA) is a free twelve step recovery program for anyone suffering from food obsession, overeating, under-eating or bulimia. For more information or a list of additional

meetings throughout the U.S. and the world, call 781-932-6300 or [www.foodaddicts.org](http://www.foodaddicts.org).

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

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

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

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

##### Virginia Sheriff's Institute Scholarship Program.

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

**Everest College Free GED Test Preparation.** Tysons Corner, Vienna. Free GED test preparation and credential completion program, GED Advantage, open to the public. 1-888-201-6547.

**Weekly TIPS Lunch.** 12:15-1:30 p.m., at Shula's, 8028 Leesburg Pike, Vienna. Tyson's Regional Chamber of Commerce does lunch. 703-862-4895.

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Students from McLean, Langley, Madison and South Lakes high schools attended the Old Firehouse Teen Center's Annual Block Party on Saturday.



McLean High School's cheer team participated in the fun and performed stunts, spreading publicity for both "Wheels to Africa" as well as their own cheer team.

# Teen Center Hosts Block Party in McLean

## Old Firehouse Teen Center's annual event features Bands for Bikes.

BY CAROLINE WATKINS  
THE CONNECTION

**T**his past Saturday, Langley High School students Jack Lichtenstein and Morgan Poirier hosted the second annual Bands for Bikes benefit at the Old Firehouse Teen Center's Annual Block Party from 4-8 p.m. Their goal was to beat the 2014 event that reaped 250 bikes and \$1,500 for the non-profit organization Wheels to Africa.

Wheels-to-Africa was founded by 10-year-old Winston Duncan after vacationing in Africa in 2005. During his stay, Duncan realized how difficult it is for Africans in remote villages to obtain vital resources without having bikes to reach them. Inspired to help those in need, Winston and his friends began hosting annual drives to collect used bikes across three states. Thus far, the organization has collected over 5,000 bikes.

Throughout the day, the teens acquired a large collection of bikes while residents participated in a plethora of activities for the Old Firehouse Teen Center's Annual Block Party. Adults and teens took refuge in the shade

and enjoyed musical performances by local Bach to Rock bands (Out of Line, The Unexpected, Katie & Anna, Cymbalize and Code Fracture). Throughout the evening, bands played music ranging from classic rock to indie, satisfying everyone's musical cravings. Younger children enjoyed activities such as airbrush tattoos, rock climbing and carnival games. Little ones were especially excited to receive cotton candy and snow cones from the McLean High School football players. Many FCPS students attended the event, some as volunteers for Wheels to Africa specifically and others with school sports teams supporting the event. The McLean High football and cheerleading teams were enthused to be there, spreading awareness for a good cause while simultaneously promoting their own organizations. Varsity cheerleader Alicia Draper of McLean said, "I enjoyed seeing a bunch of local, talented artists that kept the crowd entertained. They were actually really good and I especially enjoyed listening to the songs they covered!"

Missed the event and want to get involved? Visit [www.wheels-to-africa.org](http://www.wheels-to-africa.org) for more details.



Morgan Poirier, Thomas Eberhardt and Jack Lichtenstein along with other FCPS students worked at the bicycle booth throughout the evening.



Football players Matt Livingston, Patrick Dolan, and David Kagan manned the cotton candy machine.

PHOTOS BY CAROLINE WATKINS/THE CONNECTION



McLean High's football team made snow cones and cotton candy while cheerleaders entertained visitors with stunts.



Bach to Rock's band called "Out of Line" (Left to Right): McLean High School's Sam Roomain (lead guitarist), Connor Zeya (drummer and vocalist) and Potomac School's Claudia Swoope (keyboard and vocals).

# CALENDAR

Send announcements to north@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged.

## ONGOING

**Summer Reading Program.** Friday-Sunday, through Sept. 5. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike Great Falls. Attend summer events and check out books. All ages. Visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/gf/>.

**Great Falls Concerts on the Green.** Sundays, through Sept. 6. 6-8 p.m. at Great Falls Village Centre Green. Come out on Sundays and listen to some live music. Visit <http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org/concerts-on-the-green/>.

**"Gold Rush."** Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. through Sept. 26. at Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW, Vienna. Artwork with "gold" as the theme. This can be interpreted in many ways, gold colors, gold coins, golden hair, gold leaf and more. The show is open to the public, and visitors can also view small items of original art, scarves, jewelry, notecards etc. All hand made by VAS artists - great for gifts.

**Vienna's Summer on the Green Concert Series.** Fridays-Sundays, through Sept. 27. 6:30 p.m. at Vienna Town Green, 144 Maple Avenue E, Vienna. Come out on the weekend and listen to some good music. Visit <http://www.viennava.gov/DocumentCenter/View/2640>

## WEDNESDAY/AUG. 26

**Pokemon League.** 4:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Drop-in and play Pokemon with your friends. School ages.

**Luke Wade.** 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Avenue E, Vienna. Texas pop/soul singer Luke Wade from Season 7 of NBC's Emmy Award-winning music competition, "The Voice," just launched the third leg of his multi-city summer tour. Tickets: \$15-22.

**Little Big Town: The Painkiller Tour;**



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Texas pop singer Luke Wade from Season 7 of NBC's Emmy Award-winning music competition, "The Voice," will perform at Jammin' Java on Aug. 26.**

**Charlie Worsham, Cassadee Pope.** 7 p.m. Wolf Trap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Enjoy free-wheeling, harmony driven songs from these Grammy-winning country rockers, as they perform fan favorites and songs for their boldest album yet. Tickets: \$35-\$55.

## THURSDAY/AUG. 27

**ArtJamz Paint Class & Wine Tasting.** 6:30 p.m. The Vineyard, 1145 Laughlin Avenue, McLean. Tuscan-themed ArtJamz at The Vineyard in McLean will transport you overseas as you paint beautiful Tuscan Vineyards and taste Italian wines. Tickets are only \$40 for a mini 8x10 canvas and \$45 for a small 12x16 canvas and include an hour and a half of studio time and wine tasting.

**Ice Cream Social.** 3 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Come join us for our end of the Summer Reading ice cream social. Ages 4-17.

**Patrick Henry Book Club.** 1 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Sideways on a Scooter by Miranda Kennedy.

**Not Just for Teens Adult Book Club.** 7 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Are you an adult who loves YA lit? If so, join us for discussion, fun and dessert. August's title will be Popular: Vintage Wisdom for a Modern Geek by Maya Van Wagenen. Adults.

## FRIDAY/AUG. 28

**Playdate Cafe.** 10 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Children enjoy

toys and a play space, while adults enjoy coffee and conversation. Ages birth-5.

**Family Game Time.** 3:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Drop-in and play assorted board games. All skill levels and ages welcome.

**McLean Farmers Market.** 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Fridays, May 1-Nov. 20. 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/mcleanmkt.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/mcleanmkt.htm)

**Kristin Chenoweth.** 8 p.m. Wolf Trap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. This Tony and Emmy-winning star takes center stage performing theater and pop standards as well as songs off her 2014 album. Tickets: \$25-\$60.

## SATURDAY/AUG. 29

**Women Unplugged.** 8 a.m. Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills Street, Great Falls. Unplug and spend the weekend outdoors with kayaking, a dinner and bonfire Saturday night, camping under the stars, and archery lessons on Sunday. The program ends at 2 p.m. on Sunday. For women only. The cost is \$214. Call 703-759-9018.

**Kayak Mini Float Trip.** 11 a.m. Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills Street, Great Falls. A scenic wagon ride from the Riverbend Park Visitors Center. Then enjoy a 1.5-mile instructor-led float trip down the river through riffles and flat water.

**Oakton Farmers Market.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Year round. Unity of Fairfax Church, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. [www.smartmarkets.org/](http://www.smartmarkets.org/)

**Great Falls Farmers Market.** 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Year round. Great Falls Village Centre, 778 Walker Road, Great Falls. [www.celebrategreatfalls.org/FarmersMarket.html](http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org/FarmersMarket.html).

**Vienna Farmers Market.** 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Faith Baptist Church Parking Lot, 301 Center Street South, Vienna. [www.viennafarmersmarket.com](http://www.viennafarmersmarket.com).

**Afro-Cuban Drumming Class.** 4:30 p.m. Wolf Trap, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Your chance to see/learn the hot Havana beats to Afro-Cuban drumming. Tickets: \$15.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 9

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# Defensive-Minded Langley Searching for Offense

**Coach Robb: Injured goal-scorer Duenkel "unlikely" to play.**

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

**L**angley field hockey coach Jennifer Robb expects defense to be the team's strength in 2015.

What remains to be seen is how the Saxons will generate offense.

Senior forward Halle Duenkel, Langley's leading scorer last season with 19 goals, suffered a torn ACL in May while playing lacrosse and won't be cleared to run until September. While Robb said she's hopeful Duenkel, who is committed to play lacrosse at JMU, can return by the regional tournament in late October, the 16th-year Langley head coach said it's "unlikely" Duenkel will play this season.

"Halle provided a lot of our offensive punch last year and having her on the sideline this year as opposed to on the field makes a big difference for us," Robb said, "but I know that we've got kids out there that are going to put it in the back [of the cage]. ... It's really going to be a question of whether we can make up for her goals. I've got a good defense — several of them are returning — my midfield is mostly se-



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Morgan Kuligowski, seen during the 2014 season, is expected to be one of the Langley field hockey team's top offensive threats in 2015.**

niors, so we are strong across all parts."

Senior Morgan Kuligowski, Langley's second-leading scorer last season, is one player who will be asked to pick up the scoring slack.

"She has a powerful drive, she's our hitter on corners, she just hasn't had to be the

one that the ball had to go to," Robb said. "Now she's going to have to step into that role. She is one of the strongest players on the team, she has the hardest hit. She's also a lacrosse player — she knows how to find the back of the net."

Junior midfielder Jackie Kotoriy, and se-

nior defenders Kaylea von Seggern and MacKenzie Regan are also expected to be standouts, Robb said. Senior Sammy Russell and junior Marina Carlucci are strong defensive players. Sophomore goalkeeper Caroline Britt made her first career start in last season's 6A North region tournament.

Langley finished 9-10 last year, earning a regional berth by defeating rival McLean 2-0 in the opening round of the Conference 6 tournament. The Saxons lost to eventual region champion Fairfax 1-0 in the conference semifinals, and fell 2-0 to a strong Herndon team in the opening round of regionals.

Langley has had competitive teams in the past, including a 19-2 season in 2007, but hasn't won a conference/district championship since 2000, and hasn't captured a region title since 1980.

Langley was scheduled to open the season Monday against Herndon, but the game was postponed due to inclement weather. The Saxons will host Lake Braddock at 7:30 p.m. on Aug. 31.

"We showed last year that we are capable of playing with anyone," Robb said. "We played tough against some of the most challenging people in the region. This year, we're going to get back to that regional tournament and I think we can do some damage. I think a lot of it is going to be those players stepping up offensively, because defensively, I have no doubt we can hold up."

**Warhawks finished state runner-up in 2014.**

BY BONNIE SCHIPPER  
THE CONNECTION

**A** little less than one year ago, Madison High School's volleyball team was one set away from completing an undefeated season and winning the school's first 6A state championship.

They lost.

"I'm still super touchy about the subject of [our loss in the state final]. I can't even talk about it," senior outside hitter Natale Zanellato said. "[Making it to the state finals] motivates us. It's like a legacy. Even though we didn't win, we have to uphold that sense of quality volleyball in this area. Everyone expects us to do well."

Even after graduating several seniors in 2015, including the region's player of the year and another all-state selection, the Warhawks have a number of players returning to the team. Offensively, the outside hitter positions will be filled by Zanellato, Jayne Carter and Kelsey Smith.

"We are working on serve-receiving and defense, because that's mostly what we lost with our seniors [in 2015]," Zanellato said. "The seniors really have to step up and be loud and direct things on the court, and figure out how to work together like a machine. We are just figuring it out and getting used to the group this year."



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

**Madison outside hitter Natale Zanellato, seen during the 2014 state tournament, returns for her senior season after helping the Warhawks finish 6A state runner-up.**

Avery Torres and Maddie Blake will lead the Warhawks defensively.

Senior setter Kendal Hall also returns. "Since we made it so far last year, there's a lot of pressure on me to succeed," Torres said. "I'm just trying to relax and help my team win."

With less-experienced players stepping into leading roles this year, coach Carrie

Hall, in her 16th year at Madison, wants the Warhawks to focus on their fundamentals in order to maintain the team's fast style of play.

"We are focusing on things we can control this season. We are going back to the basics and trying to improve ourselves each day," Hall said. "This team is a new team and we have a different feel than last year's

team. This team wants to do well and they are figuring out their own way for succeeding."

The Warhawks have several traditions and routines that they "go through before each game, including team 'goal circles' and cheers," Zanellato said. Though they feel pressure from the community to excel on the court, the players still emphasize the importance of having fun on and off the court.

"We are a really happy team, and we're goofy and funny," Zanellato said. "Our chemistry is what's going to get us really far this season. We're always dancing and having a good old time. Even though we lost [some seniors], our relationship as a team is something other schools don't have."

Madison hopes that the new team will be able to achieve another conference or regional title this year.

"We like to try new things and be different," four-year varsity starter Carter said. "We have such a close bond on and off the court that we really are able to focus on our shared goals."

The team will begin their season at Potomac Falls on Sept. 1.

"The 6A North region has great volleyball teams and we will have to battle it out every night we have a match," Hall said.







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# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

2015-2016



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Great Falls  
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Shibu Thomson, took his sons Raj (front) and Ajay, out in a canoe, to try their hand at fishing. The Centreville family was a part of a fishing by boat class being offered at Riverbend Park.

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# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

GREAT FALLS CONNECTION EDITOR KEMAL KURSPAHC  
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## The Best of Dranesville

BY SUPERVISOR JOHN W.  
FOUST  
(D-DRANESVILLE DISTRICT)



**D**ranesville residents love their parks. We are fortunate to have many wonderful parks, as well as historical sites and community events to enjoy. The following are some of my favorites.

❖ **Clemyjontri Park:** Since opening in 2006, more than 200,000 visitors have enjoyed this unique playground where children of all abilities can play side-by-side. Equipment allows children who have physical, sensory or developmental disabilities to have a parallel playground experience of fun and exploration. The park also includes a carousel and picnic pavilion. Located at 6317 Georgetown Pike, McLean.

❖ **Riverbend Park:** The Park offers over 400 acres of forest, meadows and ponds. Trails include a 2.5 mile portion of the Potomac Heritage Trail that links national and regional parkland. Kayaking, canoeing and fishing are all available on the Potomac River. The nature center and picnic shelter are available for rent. Located at 8700 Potomac Hills, Great Falls.

❖ **Colvin Run Mill Historic Park:** Colvin Run Mill offers visitors a chance to step back in time. There are tours of the restored mill built around 1811. A general store offers stone ground cornmeal, wheat flour, grits, "penny candy" and snacks and drinks. Trails are available for quiet walks. Live music, craft demonstrations, ice cream making and seasonal activities are available from February through December. Located at 10017 Colvin Run, Great Falls.

❖ **Turner Farm:** Originally the site of a dairy farm, the 52-acre park offers a unique mix of educational and recreational facilities. The Analemma Society offers astronomy programs in partnership with the Park Authority at the park's observatory. Equestrians can enjoy a cross country course and a large multi-purpose arena with stadium jumps and dressage makers. Small children can enjoy a new tot lot. Located at 925 Springvale Road, Great Falls.

❖ **Runnymede Park:** The Town of Herndon is located in the Dranesville District. The town owns and maintains this 58-acre park. It is the site for many community nature-related events such as the an-

nual Nature Fest. Situated near the Sugarland Run Stream, the park attracts over 100 species of birds, deer, fox and other wildlife. Two park shelters are available for rental. Located at 196 Herndon Parkway, Herndon.

❖ **Scott's Run Nature Preserve:** One of the few nature preserves in the County. The 336-acre preserve, formerly known as

the Burling Tract, had at one time been slated for development. Scott's Run offers wonderful hiking trails of varying difficulty, some of them leading to the bluffs of the Potomac River. Visitors flock to the area every year to witness the spring wildflowers which carpet the forest floor. Located at 7400 Georgetown Pike, McLean.

❖ **Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts:** Known simply as Wolf Trap. The 117-acre park is home to the beautiful Filene Center, The Barnes and the Children's Theatre-in-the-Woods. Each summer there are over 100 performance across all genres. There are also year-round recreational opportunities, including hiking trails, picnic areas, and sledding. Located at 1635 Trap Road, Vienna.

❖ **Spring Hill Recreation Center:** Recently the RECenter underwent a major renovation and expansion. In addition to an awesome indoor swimming facility, users can now enjoy a 2-story fitness center and a gymnasium with an elevated running track. The gym features a single high school-sized basketball court with two overlay basketball courts and a volleyball overlay court. Locker rooms and showers have been upgraded and five new family cabanas are now available. Located at 1239 Spring Hill Road, McLean.

❖ **MPAartfest:** Every October, the McLean Project for the Arts converts McLean Central Park into a free, one-day festival of the arts. Thousands of area residents attend. Vendor tents display the works of numerous juried artists, which are complemented by the exhibitions of children's' and seniors' artwork, an Open Studio demonstration, and performances by local musicians. McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean.

❖ **Great Falls Freedom Memorial:** Dedicated in 2004, the memorial plaza on the library grounds honors local military personnel, firefighters, police officers, the six Great Falls residents who died in the

**Supervisor Foust recommends places to see in his district.**



**Clemyjontri Park: Since opening in 2006, more than 200,000 visitors have enjoyed this unique playground where children of all abilities can play side-by-side.**

Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, and others who have made the ultimate sacrifice to defend our liberty and freedom. The service on 9/11 is extremely moving. Located at 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls (behind the library)

❖ **McLean Day:** Sponsored by the McLean Community Center, McLean Day is held on the third Saturday in May. The festival features performances, carnival rides, exhibitions and delicious foods for visitors of all ages. There is a wonderful line-up of live entertainment throughout the day or-

ganized by the Alden Theatre. There are booths where artisans, local businesses, civic organizations, nonprofit groups, and local officials showcase their wares. Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean

❖ **Great Falls National Park:** Consists of 800 acres along the banks of the Potomac River. The park is a wonderful place to hike, picnic and simply view the majestic falls and rapids, often navigated by kayakers. Entrance is at the intersection of Georgetown Pike and Old Dominion Drive, Great Falls.

# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE



PHOTOS BY KEN MOORE/THE CONNECTION

**Great Falls Citizens Association wants to save the house on Turner Farm through the residential curatorship program.**



**Idyllic but controversial. More than 1,400 residents oppose proposals to develop Brooks Farm off Springvale Road into 20 cluster houses. Planning and Zoning is expected to hear the proposal in a public hearing in June.**

## What's Coming?

BY KEN MOORE  
THE CONNECTION

*Several times a year, the Connection will map coming land use issues; to let us know about projects we've missing, email [kmoore@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:kmoore@connectionnewspapers.com)*

### ❖ Brooks Farm, near Springvale Road/Parkerhouse Drive

RZ 2014-DR-022

Basheer/Edgemoore-Brooks continues to fine tune its proposal to rezone a 51.9 acre property from the R-A zoning district to R-E Cluster (Residential Estate), at a density of about one dwelling unit for two acres. The applicant now proposes to build 20 single family detached homes. Great Falls Citizens Association has held numerous meetings on the proposal, touching on environmental questions including septic, well, stormwater and tree canopy. In May, GFCA voted for a resolution to oppose the redevelopment plan.

"The GFCA believes the property should be developed as a five-acre subdivision, perhaps in the Residential-Conservation "RC" Zoning Category," according to the resolution.

Planning and Zoning is currently scheduled to issue its staff report in the beginning of November and the Planning Commission has scheduled a hearing on Nov. 19, 2015.

See <http://ldsnet.fairfaxcounty.gov/ldsnet/ZAPSMain.aspx?cde=RZ&seq=4194460>.

### ❖ Langley High School Renovation

6520 Georgetown Pike, McLean, Va.

Langley High School continues to give updates on renovation progress on its website at [fcps.edu/LangleyHS](http://fcps.edu/LangleyHS). "If you have

driven by Langley High School since school let out, you will notice a lot of work has been done, according to an update from June 24. "When school resumes in September, we will have the same parking lot footprint and the Kiss and Ride and bus loop will remain the same. As always, we appreciate your flexibility and patience as we progress through this renovation project."

Three more years of construction at Langley High School will completely modernize the McLean/Great Falls school that was originally built in the 1960s. Fairfax County voters approved the \$68 million project in a 2013 bond referendum.

### ❖ Trinity Land, SE 2014-DR-052

Woody's Golf

11801 Leesburg Pike, Herndon, VA 20170

Woody's Golf range is scheduled to be closed by November. The Board of Supervisors approved Trinity Land's application for a special exception to build 30 single family units using a cluster development configuration on the 28.9 acre property. The Planning Commission approved the application in March. See <http://ldsnet.fairfaxcounty.gov/ldsnet/ZAPSMain.aspx?cde=SE&seq=4192058>.

### ❖ Turner Farm

925 Springvale Road, Great Falls, 22066

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors approved an ordinance that permits a Residential Curator Program. The program calls for unused, publicly-owned historic properties to be leased to individuals or groups for little or no rent, which provides the opportunity to preserve historic properties at a minimum cost to taxpayers and can put the property to practical use as residential, office or commercial space. Curators would be required to rehabilitate and maintain the

### In the pipeline for Great Falls ...



**Mapping the changes: 1 Brooks Farm, near Springvale Road/Parkerhouse Drive, 2 Langley High School Renovation, 3 Trinity Land, 4 Turner Farm, 5 Mamota Farm, 6 Route 7 Widening, 7 Gulick Group.**

properties at their own expense.

Great Falls Citizens Association urged that the Turner Farmhouse be selected as the County's pilot project to demonstrate how the Residential Curator Program works, and called for a public hearing so other community groups and residents could comment on the plan.

The Resident Curator Project Team will meet for its inaugural meeting on Monday, Aug. 24, 2015 in the Government Center located at 12000 Government Center Parkway to work on the charter, work plan, existing enabling legislation, the county ordinance as it applies to this program, as well as a status report on staff efforts to date.

Turner Farm was saved from development by a public private partnership started in 1994 to "Save the Farm."

John Turner (1808-1892) bought the

original farm in 1869 and his grandson Mark Turner (1889-1959) purchased the 163 acres from his grandfather. Mark Turner was the first Master of the Great Falls Grange, member of the Virginia Milk Commission and Fairfax County School Board Member and Board of Supervisor.

The Observatory Park on the land off Springvale Drive is open which provides four permanently mounted telescopes. The Analemma Society partnered with the Park Authority to develop recreational and educational astronomy programs at Turner Farm, including Friday night star-gazing with summer viewing hours are sunset to 10:30 p.m.

Equestrian facilities are also available at Turner Park for general riding. Use of the

SEE OUTLOOK, PAGE 21



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# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

## Who Runs Great Falls?

Great Falls Citizens Association is one-stop shopping for citizen activism.

### Great Falls Citizens Association

See [www.gfca.org](http://www.gfca.org)

Since 1968, the Great Falls Citizens Association has worked on behalf of the citizens of Great Falls to protect, defend and improve the quality of life in the Great Falls community.

According to Great Falls Citizens Association:

“Since Great Falls is not legally a city, we lack a town government to represent our local interests. GFCA acts in an unofficial capacity to represent the voices of the citizens of Great Falls. On Great Falls issues, no other organization has GFCA’s influence with elected leaders at the County and State level, or is as respected by them.

“Our goal is to preserve the semi-rural character of our community while addressing practical concerns such as traffic, zoning, retail, schools, parks and the environment — where problems arise and solutions must be found.”

Committees include: land use and zoning; environment, parks and trails; long range planning and development; communication and outreach; transportation; membership; nominations; trails; and groundwater contamination.

President: Eric Knudsen,  
[president@gfca.org](mailto:president@gfca.org)

Vice President: Bill Canis,



PHOTOS BY KEN MOORE/THE CONNECTION

**More than 100 people attended Great Falls Citizens Association meeting on Brooks Farm Tuesday, May 12. GFCA members voted to oppose the Brooks Farm development proposal.**

[vicepresident@gfca.org](mailto:vicepresident@gfca.org)

### Celebrate Great Falls

See <http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org/>

Celebrate Great Falls Foundation started nearly 20 years ago and sustains long-time community traditions such as the July 4th parade, Summer Concerts on the Green and the annual tree lighting in December.

Celebrate Great Falls has donated more than \$500,000 to local schools and community projects such as the Freedom Memorial and Turner Farm Park. The traditions continue to grow with the annual Winter Wine Tasting in February and the addition of the 4th of July Fireworks.

“Celebrate Great Falls is committed to keeping the spirit and traditions alive that

make Great Falls such a special place to live,” according to the website.

Celebrate Great Falls Foundation  
P.O. Box 295  
Great Falls, VA 22066  
571-293-0474

### Board of Supervisors

Great Falls is governed by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

See [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/board/about-the-board-of-supervisors.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/board/about-the-board-of-supervisors.htm)

Great Falls is in the Dranesville District.

Great Falls residents are represented on the Board of Supervisors by Dranesville Supervisor John W. Foust and Chairman, At-large member Sharon Bulova.

Dranesville Supervisor, John W. Foust  
McLean Governmental Center  
1437 Balls Hill Road  
McLean, VA 22101

703-356-0551, TTY 711

Email: [Dranesville@FairfaxCounty.gov](mailto:Dranesville@FairfaxCounty.gov)  
<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dranesville/>

### Fairfax County School Board

The Fairfax County School Board has

SEE WHO RUNS GREAT FALLS. PAGE 7



# Great Falls Lacrosse Fall Programs



### Beginner Lacrosse Clinics

Has your son or daughter been interested in lacrosse but hasn't given it a try yet?

Lacrosse is a fast paced, fun team sport for both boys and girls. This fall is a great time to try!

**WHEN:** Saturday Sept 5<sup>th</sup> or Sunday Sept 6<sup>th</sup>  
10am – 11:30am

**FREE!**

**WHERE:** Leo Santaballa Park (behind GF Library)

**WHO:** anyone 5-15 who has never played lacrosse but would like to give it a try

*(Boys & Girls are separate but at the same time and location)*

### Fall Clinics

Brush up your skills and develop your level of play!

**WHEN:** Saturdays (starting 9/12 – times may adjust)

9:00-10:30 for Little Lax, U7 and U9

- (will split into age/ability specific stations)

10:30 -12:00 for U11, U13 and U15

**WHERE:** Leo Santaballa Field or Village Field

**WHO:** Both experienced and new players, boys and girls

### Fall League Play

**WHAT:** Sunday games (combination of box and field lacrosse) and optional Wednesday practices

**WHEN:** Games start 9/12 and run for 7 weeks

**WHERE:** Nike 4 and Mclean High School

**WHO:** Boys & Girls 7-15 with at least one year experience



**TO REGISTER: [www.greatfallslacrosse.com](http://www.greatfallslacrosse.com)**

# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

## Who Runs Great Falls?

FROM PAGE 6

members, elected for four-year terms; one member represents each of the County's nine magisterial districts, and three members serve at large. All 12 seats on the Fairfax County School Board are on the ballot on Nov. 3.

Great Falls is represented by Dranesville School Board member Janie Strauss plus the three at-large members, Ryan L. McElveen, Ilryong Moon and Theodore J. "Ted" Velkoff.

Jane K. "Janie" Strauss  
571-423-1087  
Email: Jane.Strauss@fcps.edu  
<http://www.fcps.edu/schlbd/members/dranesville.shtml>

### Virginia House of Delegates

Great Falls is in House of Delegates District 34, represented by Va. Del. Kathleen Murphy (D-34).

<http://viriniageneralassembly.gov/house/members/members.php?id=H0271>  
804-698-1334  
DelKMurphy@house.virginia.gov

### Virginia Senate

Great Falls is in Virginia State Senate District 31, represented by Va. Sen. Barbara Favola (D-31)

Sen. Barbara Favola (D-31)  
General Assembly Building

P.O. Box 396  
Richmond, Va. 23219  
804-698-7531  
district31@senate.virginia.gov

### U.S. House of Representatives

Great Falls is located in U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock's (R-10) legislative district.

U.S. Rep. Barbara Comstock  
Washington, DC Office  
226 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515  
Phone: (202) 225-5136  
<https://comstock.house.gov>

## Candidates Debate

The Great Falls Citizens Association is scheduled to host a candidate debate on Sept. 29, 2015 to hear directly from the candidates running for the Dranesville seat on the Board of Supervisors, Chairman to the Board of Supervisors and state representative offices.

Sept. 29, 2015  
Great Falls Grange  
9818 Georgetown Pike  
7:30 to 9 p.m.

## Gliding Discs: Exercise Without Picking up Your Legs

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- Diplomate of American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology

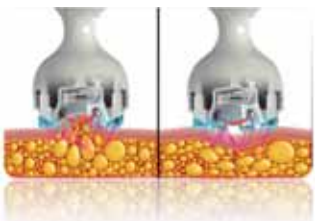
- Clinical professor of OBGYN at George Washington University & Virginia Commonwealth University

- Fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

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## INSIDER TIPS FOR NEWCOMERS

Where to take your friends in Great Falls? — MADDY WEINGAST

**Riley Cutler, student, of Great Falls:**

"My favorite place to take visitors is Great Falls Park. I can come here to hike with friends and take in the falls or lots of people come as a family and have a picnic. They have great space for that with all the grills and tables right near the waterfall overlooks."



**Bella Linden, Great Falls Creamery employee, of Great Falls:**

"I take visitors to the Great Falls Park. Anytime family comes in town it's something they like to see and hike."

**Margaret Hoffinger, Great Falls Creamery employee, of Great Falls:**

"Usually we go to the Brogue. A lot of my friends eat there and it's a good way to get to know Great Falls."



**Mitch Cochran, student, of Great Falls:**

"I take visitors to Great Falls Park to see the waterfalls and hike the trails because it's fun and scenic."



**Karen Lee, of Great Falls:**

"We take visitors to Katie's Cars and Coffee on Sunday mornings. It's a great gathering place and a chance to see some history."



GREAT FALLS NAILS AND SPA  
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### CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY

Come Join Us, Saturday August 29th From 5pm to 8:30pm  
for a Fun Filled Evening of Live Music & Food!

Wrap up the summer & join Great Falls Nails & Spa and The Saddlery for an evening under the stars as an expression of our appreciation for being an important part of our business.

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Activities Include the Following:

- 5 pm to 7:30 pm Barbeque with all the fixings
- 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm Live classic rock, funk & blues music from local band, Cahoots
- 6 pm to 8:30 pm Pony Rides

Bring the whole family and enjoy an evening under the stars!  
All Activities are free.

B.Y.O.C. (Bring Your Own Chairs)

Arrive Early, First 50 Guests Will Receive Free Gifts!

Food Provided by Triny's Tex-Mex Grill



#### Great Falls Nails & Spa

731 Walker Road, #H1  
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# NONPROFITS

## Great Falls Freedom Memorial

The Friends of the Great Falls Freedom Memorial was formed in 2002 with the mission to build a memorial site in Great Falls dedicated to the residents who have given their lives for our freedom. The Friends support this mission with maintenance and annual ceremonial events at the Great Falls Freedom Memorial (behind the library) on Memorial Day, Sept. 11, and Veterans Day. The Friends welcome any who wish to contribute to their efforts. Meetings are held at the Great Falls Library. Contact: Andy Wilson, President, andy.wilson740@gmail.com.

## Celebrate Great Falls

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

## Great Falls Rotary Club and Foundation

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

## Friends of Colvin Run Mill

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

## Friends of the Great Falls Library

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

## Great Falls Ecumenical Council

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

### DEMOGRAPHICS

**Great Falls**  
**Zip code:** 22066  
**Population:** 18,099  
**Race:** White-14,428 (79.7%), Black/African American-370 (2%), American Indian and Alaska Native-29 (0.2%), Asian-2,548 (14.1%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-778 (4.3%)  
**Total housing units:** 6,153  
**Owner-occupied housing units:** 5,497 (94.3%)  
**Households with individuals under 18 years:** 2,678  
**Households with individuals 65 years and over:** 1,526  
**Median household income:** 207,949  
**Mean family income:** 305,426  
**Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home:** 24.8%

SOURCE: U.S. CENSUS 2010; AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY 2012

National Park on Easter Sunday and a January ecumenical service. 703-759-6068.

## Great Falls Optimist Club

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

## Great Falls Trailblazers

The Trailblazers support development and maintenance of trails, both stonedust and natural surface, in Great Falls. They monitor development to ensure compliance with the trails designated in Fairfax County's Comprehensive Plan trails map and actively work to complete trails on Georgetown Pike and Walker Road. They meet monthly at 7:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday, except August and December, at the Old Schoolhouse in Great Falls. 703-759-2059 or www.geocities.com/greatfallstrails/.

## Great Falls Friends & Neighbors

Great Falls Friends & Neighbors is a vibrant club for women based in Great Falls. As one of their 200-plus members, you'll meet engaging and energetic women through a myriad of activities such as speakers, tours, special interest groups, philanthropies, and community-wide events. www.gffnva.org/.

## Great Falls Historical Society

The Great Falls Historical Society was organized in 1977 to promote community spirit by bringing the past into the present. We do this through monthly programs on local history and people, by local people who shaped history elsewhere, preservation efforts, publication of historical essays, collection of artifacts and photographs, oral history interviews, genealogical research, and tours and dinner at historic sites. We

hope you will join in our activities and in supporting these efforts with your membership.

## The Turner Farm Team

A group of community volunteers who raise money and public support for a public park that was once a dairy farm at Georgetown Pike and Springvale Road. The Turner Farm team is a liaison with the Fairfax County Park Authority and supports community efforts to build a picnic pavilion, a tot lot, equestrian features and an astronomy observatory at The Turner Farm. 703-406-2487 or e-mail mamacow@cox.net.

## Great Falls Farmers Market

The Great Falls Community Farmers Market was formed in 2007 in response to the wishes of our community for a vibrant semi-rural village center. Most vendors have started their very own business just to bring what they have grown, cultivated, produced or made to our Great Falls community. Each vendor has an earnest commitment to creating products following the best practices possible. This is a community — rather than county — market. As such, the intention is to contribute to building a sense of community in Great Falls. As a general rule, only vendors who grow, make, produce, or cultivate their own products may sell at our market.

## Traveling Players Ensemble

Traveling Players Ensemble is a not-for-profit professional theatre company in the Washington, D.C. area, dedicated to bringing great theatre into the great outdoors through a thriving summer camp and year-round acting classes and workshops. Volunteer opportunities include working in the office, assisting with costume and set construction and helping with special events. 703-987-1712 or www.travelingplayers.org/about/mission/.

## Great Falls Senior Center

Hosts monthly events for local seniors at churches and public buildings. 703-404-1117 or visit www.gfseniors.org/.



## ADMISSION OPEN HOUSE

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[www.madeira.org/openhouse](http://www.madeira.org/openhouse)

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

## SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

### SEPTEMBER

Labor Day is Sept. 7

9/9/2015..HomeLifeStyle Pullout – Real Estate & New Homes

9/16/2015.....A+ Camps & Schools Back to School, Open Houses

9/23/2015.....Fall Fun, Food, Arts & Entertainment

9/30/2015.....Professional Profiles & Your Business in the Community

### OCTOBER

10/7/2015.....Wellbeing Senior Living Pullout

10/14/2015.....HomeLifeStyle

10/21/2015.....A+ Camps & Schools

Halloween is October 31

10/28/2015.....Election Preview

### NOVEMBER

11/4/2015.....Wellbeing

11/11/2015.....HomeLifeStyle

11/18/2015.....A+ Camps & Schools

E-mail [sales@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:sales@connectionnewspapers.com) for more information.



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

# Great Falls, Virginia – Inspiring Greatness

BY KATHLEEN J. MURPHY  
PRESIDENT, GREAT FALLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**W**e move to Great Falls, Virginia with a sense of urgency: We are so busy with work. We hope to provide our children with a great education. We search for a home of beauty. We seek a significant community. We find a safe habitat in which to raise our young...and possibly grow old ourselves.

It is only after we settle in to village life that the history of our village begins to sink in. There is history all around us – historic buildings and houses, historic landmarks of earlier economic life – milling, farming, dairy farming, transporting goods along the Potomac... It is only after you sit with things a bit that the cultural message comes forth. Here are just a few examples...

The Colvin Run Community Hall on Colvin Run Road – the white schoolhouse turned dance hall – served as an anchor and glue of vibrant community life during the late 1800s to early 1900s. All the local families who lived nearby had a part in the numerous community fairs, events, performances, celebrations and game nights. Whether the Millard's, the Cockrill's, the Oliver's, the Money's, the Brown's, the Wynkoop's and others, everyone had a part to play in coordinating local events to create a context of belonging for their children. What was a platform of creative community "play" – and all the drama that suggests – has evolved into a vibrant dance hall that is still being enjoyed today.

As new residents become accustomed to Great Falls, they are frequently amazed that George Washington had a connection to this area. George's early teenage years were marked by his surveying of Lord Fairfax's thousands of acres of land that included Great Falls. The vast perspective set in his mind during his teen years served him well throughout his life. As a general in the Revolutionary army, he knew the lay of the land, how it rolled and twisted, allowing him to defeat the British with a very small army. He envisioned a path from the Shenandoah to Georgetown and formed the Patowmach Company after his tenure as first President

of our nation, to build a canal and lock system to enable navigation of a river with an 80' drop. Although this entrepreneurial endeavor ultimately failed, the negotiations among the various states ultimately led to the forming of the constitutional convention and the formation of our nation of many states.

It also takes a while to get to know the Great Falls Grange – a cooperative of adult farmers who decided to join together during economically hard times in the early 1920s to negotiate prices jointly, and to share good farming practices. From the cultural lore regarding membership in the Grange, we come to realize that becoming a good citizen and a leader is a task that we grow into through our entire adult life. Grange members were admitted into the group through initiations tied to the seasons. The first initiation honors spring – having faith that the unseen will manifest at its appointed time. The second initiation honors summer – keeping a spirit of hope, regardless of challenges that may arise, marks a person of character. The third initiation honors autumn – working from a spirit of love and acceptance, not judging, will result in the most full and complete harvest. The fourth initiation honors winter. When things look empty and dark, it does not mean that all is lost, but things are happening out of sight. Being loyal as the field rests and things look barren shows character. The fifth and sixth initiations connect the granger with the state and national level. The virtue of faith, connected with the seventh initiation, is symbolized by a bunch of wheat, which does not bend but grows straight up to the heavens. This is the message of stewardship – growing straight as the wheat, not being swayed by fads or contaminated by flashy promises, the farmer, uniquely deserving of being steward of the earth, is called to participate in creating a connection with the earth that is sustainable.

From childhood in the Colvin Run community, to adolescence as shines forth from George Washington's vision, to adulthood as manifest in the growing initiation of mature character as found among the Grangers, Great Falls is a place sure to inspire greatness!



**The historic Great Falls Grange re-opened March 7 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.**

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

# Celebrate Great Falls

## Upcoming Events

**Halloween Spooktacular**  
Saturday, October 31, 2015

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



## Celebration of Lights

Saturday, December 5, 2015

Celebrate the beginning of the season with the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting. The petting zoo and pony rides will keep your kids busy until Mr. & Mrs. Claus arrive by fire truck.



## WINTER WINE TASTING

February 20, 2016

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



## Annual Events



### Cars & Coffee

Saturday Mornings from 7am to 9am

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

### Concerts on the Green

Sunday Evenings during the Summer

Sunday Evenings from 6pm to 8pm, on the Village Centre Green at the Gazebo.

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

### Annual Golf Tournament

First Monday in June

Join us in support of our local, community Elementary Schools! Morning and afternoon shotguns.

### July 4th Hometown Celebration & Parade

Saturday, July 4th – 8am to Dark

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

Fireworks complete the day at Turner Farm Park.

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

#### Presenting Partners

Great Falls Auto Service  
Keller Williams Realty, Great Falls/McLean  
Roz Drayer, TTR Sotheby's International Realty  
Costa Family & Cosmetic Dentistry  
The Canto Group, REALTORS, Glynis Canto & Kevin Canto  
Old Brogue Restaurant & Katie's Coffee House  
John Nugent & Sons, Plumbing & Heating  
The Simmons Team, George Mason Mortgage  
Capital One Bank, Great Falls  
KoKo FitClub  
Bic DeCaro, Westgate Realty Group, Inc.  
AV Architects + Builders  
Rossen Landscape

#### Preferred Partner



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



# Koko FitClub

## YOUR LAST EXCUSE IS GETTING ON THE BUS!

The kids are back in school and those lazy days of summer are over. No more excuses, Moms & Dads: now is the time to focus on yourself and truly get back in shape.

Koko FitClub has exactly what you need to lose weight and sculpt a strong, lean body.

Try 30 days of coaching and complete fitness at Koko FitClub for just \$30. No risk. No obligation. Just great results!

You can change your life – and your body -- this fall. Let us prove it to you. Call, click or stop in for a visit today.

Yours in good health,  
**Nick Konarski, Area Manager**

**30 Days for \$30**  
No obligation

"We Koko because fitness is a family affair!"  
— DEBBIE & PAUL BAKER



To get started with your trial membership, simply call or stop by a location below. Live healthy, live the Koko lifestyle.

**Koko FitClub of Great Falls** | 561-612-2333  
greatfalls.kokofitclub.com/30for30

**Koko FitClub of Herndon** | 571-612-2331  
herndon.kokofitclub.com/30for30

**Koko FitClub of Reston** | 571-612-2333  
reston.kokofitclub.com/30for30

# NEWCOMERS

## Meet the Candidates for County Board

All politics is local, in Fairfax County, too:  
Who runs for Board of Supervisors in November?

You may be surprised – or dismayed – to learn that the 10 men and women who occupy Fairfax County Board of Supervisors wield enormous power and influence over your everyday lives. They set your tax rate, fund the public school system, and determine priorities and policies for issues ranging from affordable housing, homelessness and human services to economic development, traffic calming and the environment. They manage a \$7 billion budget, larger than the budgets of four states, and rule over a county with a diverse, well-educated population of more than a million people. Their decisions can propel our community forward – or cost us our first-rate status in education, livability and culture. If you happen to meet them this election season, thank them for the long-awaited Silver Line expan-

sion, a success that directly benefits you and your property values. Or, you may want to chide them for the extra \$185 you will pay in property taxes this year, or the generous \$20,000 pay raise they gave themselves after increasing your property taxes. They do want to hear from you. What they don't want to hear are complaints about potholes on your road. Not because they don't care, but because they can't do anything about it. In the Commonwealth of Virginia, the state builds, maintains and operates local roads. Transportation funding, you will quickly learn, is a perennial hot topic in the Virginia General Assembly. So is redistricting, also known as gerrymandering, which has kept the Commonwealth in another form of gridlock as Republicans and Democrats struggle ceaselessly for control of the legislature.

Another perennial problem is the socioeconomic divide between affluent Northern Virginia (NOVA) – where you now reside – and the Rest of Virginia (ROVA) – where a chunk of your tax dollars disappear. NOVA gets less back from Richmond than we send down there, and so Northern Virginians have the privilege of paying extra taxes (and tolls) to fund the badly-needed improvements to our transportation infrastructure. It drives us a little crazy. As a newcomer, you may wonder why we still call ourselves a "Commonwealth," instead of just an ordinary state. Good question. Virginia retained this nomenclature – as did Kentucky, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania – when we adopted our first constitution in 1776, most likely to emphasize the fact that our new government was based upon the sovereignty of the people united for the common good. If we're re-

ally honest, we are also very proud of the ruckus we kicked up with the British Monarchy when we declared our independence. There's a reason our state motto is "Sic Semper Tyrannis," Latin for "thus always to tyrants." So, dear newcomer: Wherever you are from, you are here now. In the Old Dominion, the Mother of Presidents. Let that sink in for a moment. We hope you will appreciate the fact that you are here, reading this guide, during an important election season. We assume you will join the ranks of Fairfax County's prolific electorate, where nearly 43 percent of residents cast their ballots last year, and vote on Nov. 3. To make it a little easier for you, and give you the opportunity to feel like "political insiders," we asked each of the 19 BOS candidates to give you their answers to questions specifically geared toward newcomers. Their responses are unedited and enlightening. We hope.

—VICTORIA ROSS



PHOTO COURTESY OF FAIRFAX COUNTY

**Current Board of Supervisors.** From left: Catherine M. Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill District), Michael R. Frey (R-Sully District), John C. Cook (R-Braddock District), Gerald W. Hyland (D-Mount Vernon District), Sharon Bulova (Chairman, At-Large), Penelope A. Gross (D-Mason District, Vice Chairman), John W. Foust (D-Dranesville District), Jeffrey C. McKay (D-Lee District), Pat Herrity (Springfield District) and Linda Q. Smyth (D-Providence District).

### Questions

- 1) What should newcomers know about the impact the Board of Supervisors has on their daily lives? In other words - what do you do at the county level that's important enough to compel newcomers to vote in this election?
- 2) To make newcomers feel at home, what's a "must-see" place or event you recommend they check out in Fairfax County or your district?
- 3) What's your favorite sports team?
- 4) Fairfax County gained national and global Twitter prominence earlier this year when outraged FCPS students started the Twitter hashtag #closeFCPS after school officials did not call a snow day when it actually snowed. What Twitter or Instagram hashtag would you like to see trending in the coming year about Fairfax County or your district?

### Money: How much have they raised?

We've compiled the most recent financial filings for candidates in the 2015 race for Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. The figures represent the reports candidates filed on July 15 for the period from Jan. 1, 2012 through June 30, 2015. The next financial report will be filed in September. For more details on candidates' financial filings, go to [www.VPAPorg/localities/Fairfax-county-va/elections/tracked/](http://www.VPAPorg/localities/Fairfax-county-va/elections/tracked/)

—VICTORIA ROSS

### Race: Chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors (At Large)

**Incumbent:**  
**Sharon S. Bulova (D)**  
Home: Fairfax Station  
Email Address: [sharonbulova@gmail.com](mailto:sharonbulova@gmail.com)  
Phone: 703-267-9996  
Twitter: @sharonbulova  
Web: [sharonbulova.com](http://sharonbulova.com)



Sharon Bulova

**Challenger:**  
**Arthur G. Purves (R)**  
Home: Vienna  
Email Address: [arthur@votepurves.org](mailto:arthur@votepurves.org)  
Phone: 703-938-0242  
Web: [Votepurves.org](http://Votepurves.org)  
Twitter: @agpurves



Arthur Purves

**Challenger:**  
**Glenda Gail Parker (Independent Green)**  
Home: Alexandria  
Email Address: [ggailparker@cox.net](mailto:ggailparker@cox.net)  
Phone: 703-960-5602  
Twitter: @ggailparker  
Web: [gailparker.us](http://gailparker.us)



Glenda Parker

They won a gold medal at the Games and presented me with an autographed ball. 4) Trending: #FairfaxCounty/#model/EngagedCommunity "I'd like to see #FairfaxModel become a trend for what we are doing in the area of mental health. I want others to look to us the way we are looking to Memphis and Bexar County for examples of how to adequately train public safety to deal with people suffering from mental illness and diverting those individuals from jail into treatment." **ANSWERS: PARKER** 1) Your commute depends on politics, More Trains, Less Traffic! Trains as fast as planes. Nationwide and local rail feeder systems. We need light rail to serve tourists and

VRE service throughout the day and on weekends. The BOS can pressure the Virginia General Assembly and Virginia Congressional delegation to remove the barrier that prevents building rail mass transit and to encourage renewable energy – solar, wind, geothermal. Rail built anywhere in America benefits ALL of America. 2) Check out Channel 10's Green TV on Cox, Verizon or Fios. Visit us on YouTube: search for Independent Greens of Virginia or GailforRailParker YouTube channel. 3) My hometown girls' basketball team, the Kingston Princesses! 4) This is easy: #HHR4FXCounty/#MoreTrainsLessTraffic/#GailforRailParker YouTube channel. #www.GailParker.us \*Candidate Arthur Purves did not respond to the questionnaire.

### Race: Dranesville District Supervisor

**Incumbent:**  
**John W. Foust (D)**  
Home: McLean  
Email Address: [supervisorfoust@gmail.com](mailto:supervisorfoust@gmail.com)  
Phone: 703-790-1311  
Twitter: @Johnfoustva  
Website: [Foustforsupervisor.com](http://Foustforsupervisor.com)



John Foust

**Challenger:**  
**Jennifer C. Chronis (R)**  
Home: McLean  
Email Address: [info@jenniferchronis.com](mailto:info@jenniferchronis.com)  
Phone: 703-938-3742  
Twitter: @jenniferchronis  
Website: [jenniferchronis.com](http://jenniferchronis.com)



Jennifer Chronis

**ANSWERS: FOUST** 1) The Board of Supervisors is the governing body for Fairfax County. No level of government has more impact on our daily lives. We set policies and approve programs for transportation, public safety, the environment, land use, housing and human services, economic development, and many other services. We adopt the County's \$7 billion budget, fund the schools, establish local tax rates, approve or reject land use proposals, and provide constituent services on a host of issues.

**ANSWERS: CHRONIS** 1) The Board of Supervisors influences nearly every aspect of your day to day life. Paying real estate taxes? The Board of Supervisors sets the rate. Taking your kids to school? The Board of Supervisors funds the schools. Going to a park on the weekend? The Board of Supervisors manages the park system. Every one of the County's 1.1 million residents is impacted by decisions made by the 10-person Board of Supervisors. 2) One of my favorite places to visit in Dranesville is Great Falls Park. From nature trails to gorgeous views, the park is a must-see! 3) Washington Nationals (Go Nats!) 4) #EndHumanTrafficking

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### Race: Providence District Supervisor

**Incumbent:** Linda Q. Smyth (D) \*Running Unopposed  
Home: Fairfax  
Email Address: [linda.smyth@gmail.com](mailto:linda.smyth@gmail.com)  
Phone: 703-280-2627  
Web: [Lindasmyth.com](http://Lindasmyth.com)



Linda Smyth

**ANSWERS: SMYTH** 1) The Board of Supervisors collectively provides local government in Fairfax County. What does that mean? Supervisors set the local tax rates and approve the county budget, which provides funding for schools, parks, libraries, public safety, and other public facilities and services. In other words, what we do touches our residents' everyday lives. And when residents have questions or problems, we are the ones they call for answers and solutions. 2) The Merrifield Fall Festival is a great event. Coming October 17 at the Mosaic District, it features food, entertainment, children's activities, and fun for everyone. 3) My favorite sports team is the St. Louis Cardinals (I grew up in St. Louis).

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**Braddock Supervisor**  
John Cook, Incumbent, (R)  
Money Raised: \$178,744  
Money Spent: \$83,468  
Balance: \$83,468  
Janet Oleszek (D)  
Money Raised: \$41,909  
Money Spent: \$37,072  
Balance: \$4,854  
Carey Campbell (I)  
Money Raised: \$0  
Money Spent: \$0  
Balance: \$0  
**Dranesville Supervisor**  
Jennifer Chronis (R)  
Money Raised: \$143,732  
Money Spent: \$51,302  
Balance: \$92,427  
John Foust (D) Incumbent  
Money Raised: \$164,364  
Money Spent: \$112,824  
Balance: \$52,559  
**Hunter Mill Supervisor**  
Catherine Hudgins (D) Incumbent  
Money Raised: \$9,226  
Money Spent: \$22,894  
Balance: \$20,867  
**Lee Supervisor**  
Jeffrey McKay (D) Incumbent  
Money Raised: \$91,563  
Money Spent: \$54,378  
Balance: \$92,147  
**Mason Supervisor**  
Penny Gross (D) Incumbent  
Money Raised: \$185,26  
Money Spent: \$152,808  
Balance: \$118,311  
Mollie Loeffler (I)  
Money Raised: \$18,557  
Money Spent: \$5,708  
Balance: \$12,848  
SOURCE: VIRGINIA PUBLIC ACCESS PROJECT

**Mount Vernon Supervisor**  
Jane Gandee (R)  
Money Raised: \$52,988  
Money Spent: \$32,201  
Balance: \$20,786  
Daniel Storck (D)  
Money Raised: \$115,079  
Money Spent: \$109,153  
Balance: \$5,924  
**Providence Supervisor**  
Linda Smyth (D)  
Money Raised: \$112,210  
Money Spent: \$108,020  
Balance: \$22,499  
**Springfield Supervisor**  
Pat Herrity (R) Incumbent  
Money Raised: \$409,995  
Money Spent: \$309,925  
Balance: \$102,129  
Corazon Foley (I)  
Money Raised: \$0  
Money Spent: \$0  
Balance: \$0  
Sully Supervisor  
John Guevara  
Money Raised: \$71,697  
Money Spent: \$58,333  
Balance: \$13,362  
Kathy Smith (D)  
Money Raised: \$45,214  
Money Spent: \$20,135  
Balance: \$25,079  
**Chairman, Board of Supervisors (At Large)**  
Arthur Purves (R)  
Money Raised: \$12,223  
Money Spent: \$5,384  
Balance: \$6,837  
Sharon Bulova (D) Incumbent  
Money Raised: \$167,871  
Money Spent: \$96,446  
Balance: \$78,878  
Glenda Parker (I) Money Raised: \$0  
Money Spent: \$0  
Balance: \$0

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790 Walker Road, Great Falls, Virginia  
www.vgdsva.com  
703-759-4049



# PARKS

AN INSIDER'S GUIDE TO MAJOR PARKS IN THE AREA

## 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.

## Regional Parks

### BR Bull Run Marina Regional Park & Atlantis Waterpark

7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville  
www.nvrpa.org/park/bull\_run/  
www.atlantisbullrun.com/  
703-631-0552  
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. 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. Neptune Reef snack bar sells food, beverages and sweets.

### CR Cameron Run Regional Park/Great Waves Waterpark

4001 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria  
www.nvrpa.org/park/cameron\_run/  
www.greatwaveswaterpark.com/  
703-960-0767  
Cameron Run Regional Park offers a variety of recreation facilities in an urban area, including Great Waves Water Park. Catch a wave in the wave pool, twist and turn down four-story water slides, take a plunge down speed slides, play with friends in the shallow waters of the play

pool. The park also features a deluxe miniature golf course, a nine-station batting cage, picnic shelters, and a special events pavilion.

### CH Carlyle House Historic Park

121 N. Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA 22314  
www.nvrpa.org/park/carlyle\_house\_historic\_park/  
703-549-2997  
The historic Carlyle House was completed in 1753 by British merchant John Carlyle for his bride, Sarah Fairfax of Belvoir, member of one of the most prestigious families in colonial Virginia. Their home quickly became a center of social and political life in Alexandria and gained a foothold in history when British General Braddock made the mansion his headquarters in 1755. On the National Register of Historic Places, Carlyle House is architecturally unique in Alexandria as the only stone, 18th-century Palladian-style house. Daily tours of the house, programs for schoolchildren, special events, exhibits and lectures explore the life and times of John Carlyle in pre-Revolutionary Alexandria. The site may be rented in the evenings for private functions and weddings.

### FH Fountainhead Regional Park

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

### HO Hemlock Overlook Regional Park

13220 Yates Ford Road, Clifton  
www.nvrpa.org/park/hemlock\_overlook/  
800-877-0954; 571-281-3556;  
Hemlock Overlook Regional Park offers a variety of outdoor and environmental education. Programs at Hemlock Overlook are open to the public and groups by reservation. Only the hiking and horse

trails may be used without prior arrangement.

### 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.

### 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.

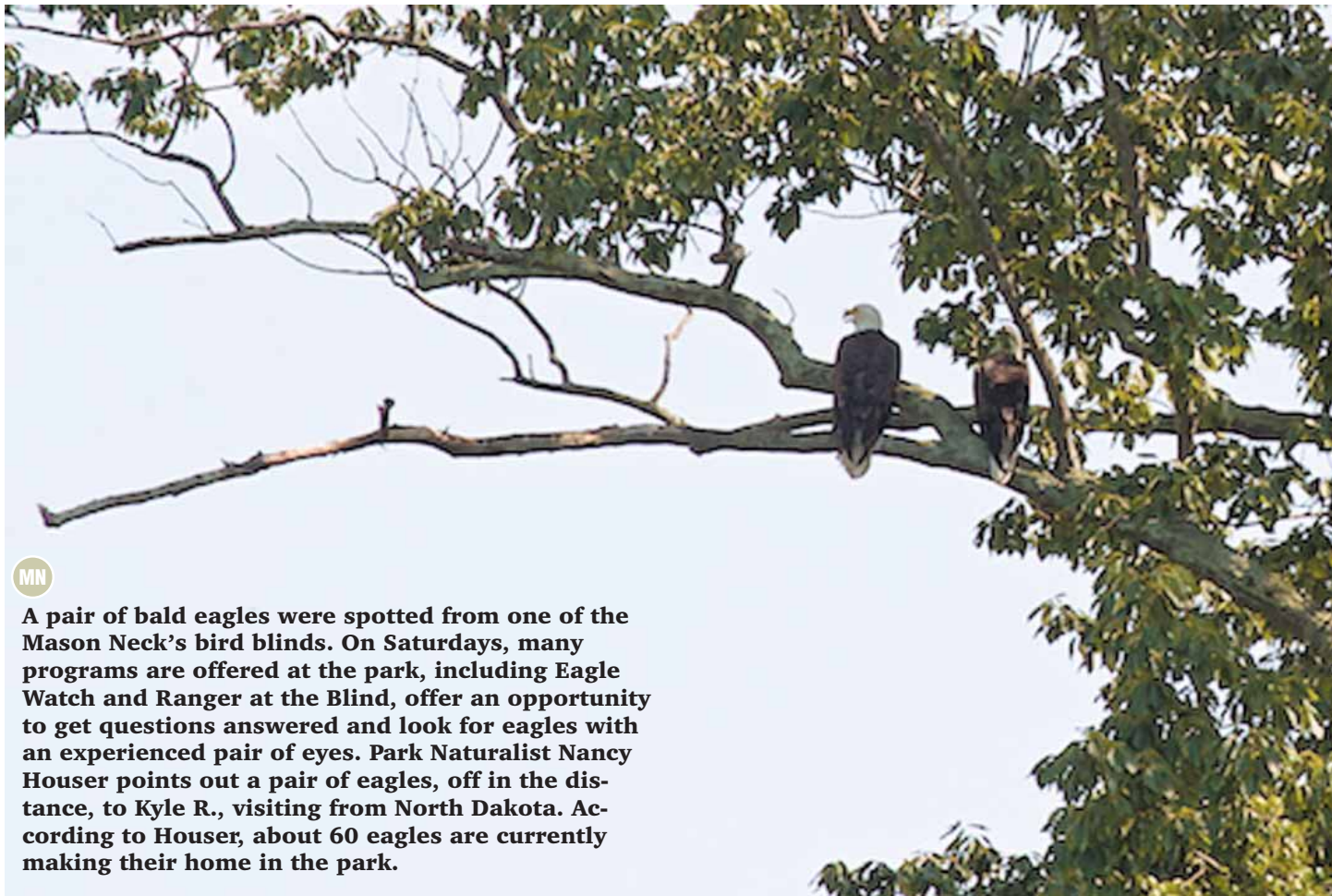
### PB Pohick Bay Regional Park & Pirates Cove Waterpark

6501 Pohick Bay Drive, Lorton  
www.nvrpa.org/park/pohick\_bay/  
www.piratescovepohick.com  
703-339-6102

Pohick Bay is located on the Potomac River, 25 miles south of the nation's capital. The boat launch facility is one of only three public access points to the Potomac River in northern Virginia. Pohick Bay offers canoes, kayaks, paddle boats and jon boats for rent on the weekends, as well as family and group camping, hiking, picnic areas and a large play area for children. 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. 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

**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.





MN

**A pair of bald eagles were spotted from one of the Mason Neck's bird blinds. On Saturdays, many programs are offered at the park, including Eagle Watch and Ranger at the Blind, offer an opportunity to get questions answered and look for eagles with an experienced pair of eyes. Park Naturalist Nancy Houser points out a pair of eagles, off in the distance, to Kyle R., visiting from North Dakota. According to Houser, about 60 eagles are currently making their home in the park.**

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.

PO

**Potomac Overlook Regional Park & Nature Center**  
2845 Marcey Road, Arlington, VA 22207  
www.nvrpa.org/park/potomac\_overlook/  
703-528-5406

On the Potomac Palisades in north Arlington, Potomac Overlook offers 70 acres of peaceful woodland, trails, educational gardens, a small picnic area and a Nature Center. The Nature Center features brand new exhibits called the "Energerium," offering visitors a fun and accessible way to learn energy basics and ways they can help create sustainable energy solutions. The Nature Center also houses live animals and natural history exhibits.

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.

UH

**Upton Hill Regional Park & Ocean Dunes Waterpark**  
6060 Wilson Blvd., Arlington  
www.nvrpa.org/park/upton\_hill/  
www.oceanduneswaterpark.com/  
703-534-3437 or UptonHill@nvrpa.org

Upton Hill Regional Park offers visitors a wooded oasis in the heart of the most densely populated area of Northern Virginia. A large outdoor water-park complex is a sparkling attraction in

this wooded, urban park, which straddles the boundary line between Arlington and Fairfax counties. The deluxe miniature golf course boasts one of the longest mini golf holes in the world; the batting cages include nine baseball and softball cages. The park is open every day for hiking, picnicking, playing on the playground and enjoying the outdoors. Located within Upton Hill Regional Park, Ocean Dunes is loaded with fun features for adults and children.

## Arts Center

**LAC Workhouse Arts Center**

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

The Workhouse Arts Center consists of seven studio buildings, the main galleries and the recently opened Youth Arts Center. Visitors are encouraged to interact with artists. In addition to visual arts, the Workhouse Arts Center is home to performing arts, including theater, film institute, musical and dance performances. The education department supports both the visual and performing arts, offering classes and workshops in a variety of disciplines. Future plans for the Workhouse include an event center, amphitheater, Workhouse Theatre, restaurants, apartments, music barn and garden/horticultural area. Other buildings on site, yet to be renovated, may provide for other activities such as a visitors center, a blacksmith shop, theatre scene shops and rehearsal space.



**The Ratcliffs, of Rockville, came out to enjoy a family bike ride. Cycling is a popular activity along the parkway.**

## Major Fairfax County Parks

**BLP Burke Lake Park & Golf Course**

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

**CJP Clemyjontri Park**

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

**ELP Ellanor C. Lawrence Park**

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

**FPF Fryng 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, center, equestrian, playground, swimming  
196 acres, district park

**WFP Wakefield Park & RECenter**

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



**On Sunday evenings, the community gathers in the pavilion, to enjoy a summer concert series, sponsored by the Friends of Fort Hunt Park.**

# PARKS

A GUIDE TO FAIRFAX COUNTY PARKS IN THE GREAT FALLS, RESTON & HERNDON AREAS

**Map Number Park Name**

Address, City  
Property Class

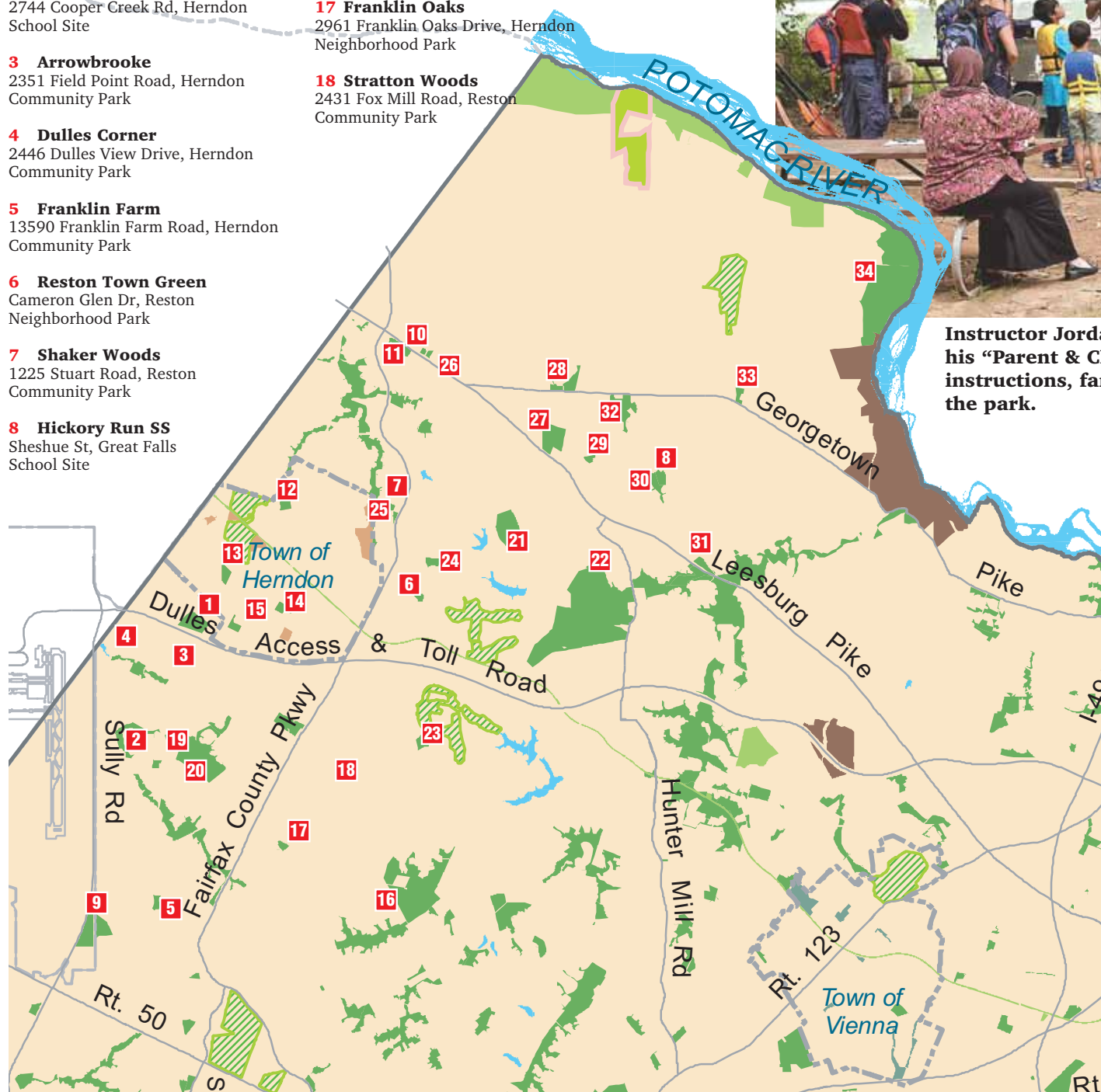
- 1 Hutchison ES**  
13209 Parcher Ave., Herndon  
Community Park
- 2 Coppermine Crossing SS**  
2744 Cooper Creek Rd, Herndon  
School Site
- 3 Arrowbrooke**  
2351 Field Point Road, Herndon  
Community Park
- 4 Dulles Corner**  
2446 Dulles View Drive, Herndon  
Community Park
- 5 Franklin Farm**  
13590 Franklin Farm Road, Herndon  
Community Park
- 6 Reston Town Green**  
Cameron Glen Dr, Reston  
Neighborhood Park
- 7 Shaker Woods**  
1225 Stuart Road, Reston  
Community Park
- 8 Hickory Run SS**  
Sheshue St, Great Falls  
School Site

- 15 Chandon**  
900 Palmer Drive, Herndon  
Community Park
- 16 Fred Crabtree**  
2801 Fox Mill Road, Herndon  
District Park
- 17 Franklin Oaks**  
2961 Franklin Oaks Drive, Herndon  
Neighborhood Park
- 18 Stratton Woods**  
2431 Fox Mill Road, Reston  
Community Park

PHOTOS BY  
RENÉE RUGGLES  
FEATURING  
RIVERBEND PARK



**Instructor Jordan Libria gives directions to members of his “Parent & Child Fishing by Boat” course. After the instructions, families are sent out in boats provided by the park.**



**The Native American Long House is the setting for some of the park’s cultural history activities. The park hosts classes for children of all ages, as well as day camps and merit badge opportunities.**



**Cousins Fozi (right) and Dariush Darakhshan, of Tysons Corner and Falls Church, feel that the park has one of the best cycling trails around. One of Riverbend’s trails is a 2.5-mile segment of the Potomac Heritage trail, which connects regional and national parklands.**

- 9 Sully Historic**  
3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly  
Cultural Resource Park
- 10 Dranesville Tavern**  
11919 Leesburg Pike, Herndon  
Cultural Resource Park
- 11 Grand Hamptons**  
1081 Safa Street, Herndon  
Neighborhood Park
- 12 Stanton**  
910 Third Street, Herndon  
Community Park
- 13 Alabama Drive**  
1100 Alabama Drive, Herndon  
Community Park
- 14 Bruin**  
415 Van Buren Street, Herndon  
Community Park

- 19 Floris School Site**  
2621 Centreville Road, Herndon  
Community Park
- 20 Frying Pan Farm**  
2717 West Ox Road, Herndon  
Multiple Resource Park
- 21 Baron Cameron**  
11300 Baron Cameron Avenue, Reston  
District Park
- 22 Lake Fairfax**  
1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston  
Multiple Resource Park
- 23 South Lakes Drive**  
11851 South Lakes Drive, Reston  
Community Park
- 24 Reston North**  
1635 Reston Parkway, Reston  
Community Park

- 25 Stuart Road**  
12001 Lake Newport Road, Reston  
Community Park
- 26 Holly Knolls**  
1010 Redberry Court, Great Falls  
Neighborhood Park
- 27 Great Falls Nike**  
1089 Utterback Store Road, Great Falls  
District Park
- 28 Windermere**  
11000 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls  
Community Park
- 29 Lockmeade**  
1104 Riva Ridge Drive, Great Falls  
Community Park
- 30 Lexington Estates**  
10401 Sheshue Street, Great Falls  
Neighborhood Park

- 31 Colvin Run Mill Site**  
10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls  
Cultural Resource Park
- 32 The Turner Farm**  
925 Springvale Road, Great Falls  
Community Park
- 33 Great Falls Grange**  
9818 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls  
Community Park
- 34 Riverbend**  
8700 Potomac Hill Street, Great Falls  
Multiple Resource Park



**Riverbend Park, located in Great Falls, spans 400 acres around the Potomac River. The park offers ponds, trails, and meadows to explore. The Visitor Center offers a store, as well as nature and cultural exhibits.**

Be a part of our **Wellbeing** pages, the first week of every month.

Delight in our **HomeLifeStyle** sections, the second week of every month. Peek at the top real estate sales, glimpse over-the-top remodeling projects, get practical suggestions for your home.

Celebrate students, camps, schools, enrichment programs, colleges and more in our **A-plus: Education, Learning, Fun** pages, the third week of every month.

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**Great Falls**  
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Great Falls, VA 22066  
703-281-4868

# YEAR-ROUND ENTERTAINMENT



CONNECTION FILE PHOTO

The Celebrate Great Falls float makes its way down Columbine Street during the annual Great Falls Fourth of July parade.

LIST COMPILED BY ABIGAIL CONSTANTINO  
A LIST OF ANNUAL COMMUNITY EVENTS IN THE AREA.

## August 2015

### SUNDAY/AUG. 30

**29th Annual Pakistan Independence Day Festival USA.** Noon. Bull Run Regional Park, 7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville. The Pakistan Independence Day Festival includes musical performances, rides and games. Visit [www.pakistanfestivalusa.com](http://www.pakistanfestivalusa.com).

### SATURDAY/AUG. 1-SUNDAY/SEPT 13

**Annual Workhouse Clay National Ceramics Exhibition.** Workhouse Arts Center, W-16 Vulcan Gallery, 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.workhousearts.org/events/visual-arts/workhouse-clay-national-2015>.

## September 2015

### SATURDAY/SEPT. 5

**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 <http://lakeanneplaza.com/event/9th-annual-lake-anne-jazz-festival/>.

### MONDAY/SEPT. 7

**16th Annual Labor Day Car Show.** 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Historic Clifton. Antiques, classics, foreign, customs, motorcycles and more. [www.labordaycarshow.com](http://www.labordaycarshow.com). All proceeds benefit local charities.

**Herndon Labor Day Festival.** 11 a.m. - 5 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 <http://www.herndon-va.gov/>.

### FRIDAY-SATURDAY/SEPT. 11-12

**ChalkFest.** Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Free for spectators, participants register for a

fee which includes supplies. Rain or shine. Information: [publicartreston.org](http://publicartreston.org).

### SATURDAY/SEPT. 12

**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) for more.

**Great Tastes of Tysons.** 1-6 p.m. Lerner Town Square Tysons II, 8025 Galleria Drive, Tysons Corner. Over 100 international different wines, beers, and spirits in an all-you-care-to-taste affair. Enjoy the best of D.C. chefs in hands-on grilling demonstrations in the drink. Eat. Relax. <http://www.tastetysons.com/>.

### SUNDAY/SEPT. 13

**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).

### SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 12-13

**38th Annual Burke Centre Festival.** Saturday, 9:30 a.m.- 5 p.m. Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 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 [www.burkecentreweb.com](http://www.burkecentreweb.com) and click on Festival.

### SATURDAY/SEPT. 19

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

**Beer, Bourbon & BBQ Festival.** 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 <http://www.beerandbourbon.com/tysons/show-info>.

### SUNDAY/SEPT. 20

**Herndon Kids Triathlon.** 8 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).

**Food for Others Tysons 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 <http://runsignup.com/Race/VA/McLean/NeighborsFeedingNeighbors5K>.

### SATURDAY/SEPT 26-TUESDAY/NOV 3

**Cox Farms Fall Festival.** Daily. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Cox Farms, 15621 Braddock Road, Centreville. <http://www.coxfarms.com/fallfestival.aspx>.

### SATURDAY/SEPT. 26

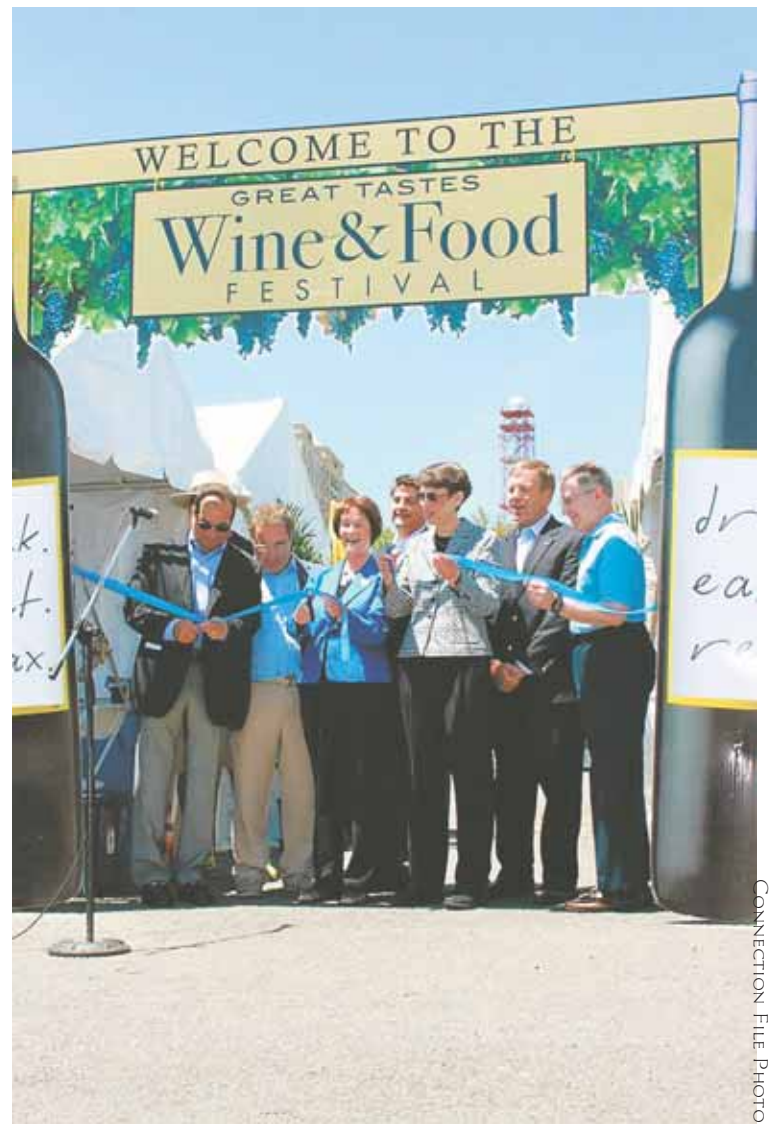
**Walk to End Alzheimer's.** 10 a.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Walk and fundraise to further the care, support and research efforts of the Alzheimer's Association. Visit [http://act.alz.org/site/TR?fr\\_id=7382&pg=entry](http://act.alz.org/site/TR?fr_id=7382&pg=entry).

**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. [www.restoncommunitycenter.com/MulticulturalFestival.shtml](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com/MulticulturalFestival.shtml).

**20th Annual CCE Irish Folk Festival.** Noon-7:30 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>.

### SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 26-27

**Workhouse Fall Arts Festival 2015.** Saturday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Sunday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Over 100 of the nation's best artists will exhibit their original fine art and crafts. The two-day outdoor festival will include work by artists



CONNECTION FILE PHOTO

The Great Tastes of Tysons will be held on Sept. 12 at Lerner Town Square Tysons where you can enjoy over 100 international different wines, beers and more.

from across the Mid-Atlantic region, showcasing paintings, photography, ceramics, sculpture, jewelry, handcrafted furniture and much more.

### SUNDAY/SEPT 27-SATURDAY/OCT 3

**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. Featured authors are National Book Award winner Tim O'Brien and "Outlander" author Diana Gabaldon. Visit [www.fallforthebook.org](http://www.fallforthebook.org).

### SUNDAY/SEPT. 27

**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 2015

### THURSDAY/OCT. 1

**4th Annual Reston Town Center Help the Homeless Walk.** 11:30 a.m. Reston Town Center, 11959 Market St, Reston. Walk from Mayflowers Floral Design Studio on The Promenade to the Embury Rucker Community Shelter and back. Funds will enable Cornerstones to provide essential resources and services for individuals and families in the community who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Visit [www.cornerstonesva.org/events\\_list/hth](http://www.cornerstonesva.org/events_list/hth).

### SATURDAY/OCT. 3

**Oktoberfest Vienna.** 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Historic Church Street, Vienna. Enjoy beer, wine, food, music, kids

activities and more. Visit <http://www.viennava.gov/index.aspx?NID=670> for more.

**Art in the Courtyard.** 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Lorton Station Town Center, 8998 Lorton Station Blvd., Lorton. Artists will be featuring their works including paintings, jewelry, sculpture, photography, blown glass, pottery, wood work, and even digital artwork.

### SUNDAY/OCT. 4

**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 juried artists. Visit [www.mpaart.org](http://www.mpaart.org).

**HerndOG Bark Bash.** 12-3 p.m. Bready Park, 814 Ferndale Ave., Herndon. HerndOG Bark Bash is a free event for dog lovers with three hours of four-legged fun. The event will feature agility demonstrations, owner and dog team contests, adoptions, an off leash area and wide variety of dog themed vendors.

### SATURDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 10-11

**Oktoberfest Reston.** Saturday, 12-11 p.m. Sunday, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Enjoy food and drinks, live entertainment, a carnival and a chili cook-off at Northern Virginia's largest fall festival. Visit [www.oktoberfestreston.com](http://www.oktoberfestreston.com).

### SATURDAY/OCT. 10

**Fall Festival in Old Town Historic Fairfax.** 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 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

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 19

# CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 18

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

## SUNDAY/OCT. 11

**Clifton Day.** 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Town of Clifton, corner of Main Street and Chapel Road. The town's annual arts and crafts fair.

## FRIDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 16-18

**Annual Craftsmen's Fall Classic Art & Craft Festival.** Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 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-SUNDAY/OCT. 17-18

**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.** 12-5 p.m. Lerner Town Square, 8025 Galleria Drive, Tysons. Stroll through the arts and crafts booths and taste some of the fun flavors of fall. Visit [www.tysonsharvest.com](http://www.tysonsharvest.com).

## FRIDAY/OCT. 23

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

## SATURDAY/OCT. 24

**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).

## WEDNESDAY/OCT. 28

**69th Annual Vienna Halloween Parade.** 7 p.m. Maple Avenue, Vienna. With the theme of "Celebrating 125 Years of the Town of Vienna" come in costume to celebrate Halloween. Visit [www.viennava.gov](http://www.viennava.gov).

## November 2015

### SATURDAY/NOV. 14

**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).

### SATURDAY/NOV. 21

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

### FRIDAY/NOV. 27

**Reston Holiday Parade.** Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Reston Holiday Parade on Market Street, tree lighting at Fountain Square, and much more through the day of charity and cheer. Rain or shine.

### SATURDAY/NOV. 28-WEDNESDAY/JAN. 6

**Christmas in Mount Vernon.** 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. Mount Vernon decks the halls with themed Christmas trees



PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

**Vienna's Oktoberfest takes place on Oct. 3. Enjoy beer, wine, food, music, kids activities and more.**

on the estate and festive greenery in the Mansion. Visit [www.mountvernon.org/christmas](http://www.mountvernon.org/christmas).

### MONDAY/NOV. 30

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

## December 2015

### SATURDAY/DEC. 5

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

### SUNDAY/DEC. 6

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

### THURSDAY/DEC. 31

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

## January 2016

### FRIDAY/JAN. 8 - SPRING

**Live Music at Paradise Springs**

**Winery.** Fridays 5-9 p.m. and Saturdays 2-6 p.m. 13219 Yates Ford Road, Clifton. Various live artists perform every Friday and Saturday. Visit [www.paradisepingswinery.com/winery-events.html](http://www.paradisepingswinery.com/winery-events.html).

## March 2016

### THIRD WEDNESDAY IN MARCH

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

## April 2016

### SECOND WEEK OF APRIL

**24th Annual Best of Reston Gala.** An event to honor outstanding individuals, organizations and businesses for their distinctive service in making the Reston/Herndon community a better place in which to live, play and work. Visit [www.cornerstonesva.org/events\\_list/best-of-reston](http://www.cornerstonesva.org/events_list/best-of-reston).

### SATURDAY/APRIL 23-30

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

### FRIDAY/APRIL 15-MAY 15

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

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# MEGA ADOPTORAMA

## 2015

### LABOR DAY WEEKEND

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**September 6 & 7 • 12-3 p.m.**

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More info: [www.lostdogrescue.org](http://www.lostdogrescue.org)

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## NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

# Getting to Know McLean Sports

## Gymnastics team won state championship.

**School: McLean High School**

Mascot: Highlanders.

School Colors: Red and silver.

Athletic Director: Jim Patrick, 703-714-5700.

Football Coach: Shaun Blair (second year).

The Highlanders lost four of their final six games, finished 5-5 and missed the playoffs.

Field Hockey Coaches: Kieran Sweeney and Brooke Edwards.

Boys' Basketball Coach: Mike O'Brien.

Girls' Basketball Coach: Jen Sobota.

Gymnastics Coach: Courtney Lesson.

Baseball Coach: John Dowling.

Softball Coach: Maurice Tawil.

Girls' Soccer Coach: Rob Bouchard.

Rival School: Langley.

**What happened last year:** The gymnastics team won the 6A state championship. The wrestling team won the Conference 6 title. Connor Grammes won the 152-pound state championship. Gavin Legg finished state runner-up at 160 pounds. The girls' soccer team finished 15-1-2, won the conference title and reached the region quarterfinals. The boys' lacrosse team finished 15-4, lost to rival Langley in the conference championship game and reached the region quarterfinals. The girls' lacrosse team earned a regional berth for the first time in at least 10 years.



PHOTO BY MIKE GALLAGHER

**The McLean gymnastics team won the 2015 6A state championship.**

**Notable:** The McLean gymnastics team in 2015 became the first Fairfax County program to win a state gymnastics championship since Langley took home the title in 2004. The Highlanders, who finished state runner-up in 2014, also won the 6A North region title in 2015, and their fourth straight Conference 6/Liberty District championship.

# Getting to Know Langley Sports

## Boys' soccer team won its first state title.

**School: Langley High School**

Mascot: Saxons.

School Colors: Green and gold.

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

Football Coach: John Howerton (13th season).

The Saxons closed the 2014 regular season with four straight victories and made the postseason with a 6-4 record. Langley lost to eventual region runner-up Westfield in the opening round of the playoffs. The Saxons have qualified for the postseason each of the last five seasons.

Field Hockey Coach: Jennifer Robb.

Volleyball Coach: Susan Shifflett.

Boys' Basketball Coach: Scott Newman.

Girls' Basketball Coach: Amanda Baker.

Baseball Coach: Kevin Healy.

Rival School: McLean.

**What happened last year:** The boys' soccer team won its first state championship, along with 6A North region and Conference 6 titles. The boys' lacrosse team beat rival McLean to win the conference championship and reached the state semifinals. The girls' lacrosse team finished conference runner-up and reached the region quarterfinals. The girls' basketball team went 21-5, finished conference runner-up and reached the region quarterfinals. The volleyball team reached the region quarterfinals. The field hockey team beat rival McLean to earn a spot



PHOTO BY JON ROETMAN/THE CONNECTION

**The Langley boys' soccer team won the 2015 6A state championship.**

in the regional tournament. The girls' soccer team qualified for regionals.

**Notable:** The boys' lacrosse program has reached the state championship game five times in the 10 seasons lacrosse has been recognized as a VHSL sport. The Saxons won four consecutive titles from 2009 to 2012. The Langley volleyball program won a state championship in 2013, becoming the only Fairfax County team to win a big-school volleyball title in two decades.

**Quotable:** "Langley's never won a state championship and I wanted to help them get it. I wanted the school to have it, [and for people to] always be able to look at the front of the building [and] look at the state championship." — Then-sophomore striker Jacob Labovitz after the Langley boys' soccer team won the 2015 6A state title.



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

**Then-senior Mitch Blackstone and the Marshall baseball team finished 5A state runner-up in 2014.**

# Getting to Know Marshall Sports

## Baseball team reached 2015 5A state championship game.

**School: George C. Marshall High School**

Mascot: Statesmen.

School Colors: Scarlet and Columbia blue.

Athletic Director: Joe Swarm, 703-714-5409.

Football Coach: George Masten (second year).

The Statesmen lost their final four games and finished the 2014 season with a 2-8 record. Marshall is 2-28 the last three seasons.

Field Hockey Coach: Christina Carroll

Boys' Basketball Coach: Dan Hale.

Girls' Basketball Coach: Mike Trivisonno.

Baseball Coach: Aaron Tarr.

Softball Coach: Melissa Whittington.

Boys' Lacrosse Coach: Kevin Curtin.

Rival School: Madison.

**What happened last year:** The baseball team went 21-7, finished 5A state and 5A North region runner-up, and repeated as Conference 13 champion. The field hockey team finished region runner-up and won the conference title. The volleyball, softball, boys' lacrosse, girls' lacrosse, boys' soccer, and girls' soccer teams also won conference championships.

**Notable:** The Marshall baseball program in 2015 made its first appearance in a state championship game since 1987. The Statesmen finished state runner-up in 2015, 1987, 1986 and 1975.

**Quotable:** "You see Marshall about 10 years in the past and everyone wanted to play them on their senior night because they weren't that good. Now it's like, 'Damn, we've got Marshall on Friday and it's going to be a big game.' That's just music to my ears because I remember watching my brother (Kent Blackstone, a 2012 Marshall graduate and junior on the George Mason University baseball team) play and the other dugout was just chirping when it was up 10-0 and I was like, 'You know, that's just not the way to do it. When we get here, we're going to change things up, we're going to do it better and we're going to win ...'" — Then-senior Marshall catcher Mitch Blackstone.

## NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

# Outlook: New in Great Falls

FROM PAGE 4

facilities is free and reservations are not required, but riders do need to bring their own horses.

### ❖ Mamota Farm

Georgetown Pike and Innsbruck Avenue, Great Falls

Marmota Farm, at the northeast corner of Georgetown Pike and Innsbruck Avenue, used to be a dairy farm. A community group calling itself 'Save Marmota Farm' held its first meeting in July. See GFCFA.org.

### ❖ Route 7 Widening

From Reston Avenue to Jarrett Valley Drive

VDOT is scheduled to hold meetings this fall with the GFCFA and HOAs regarding the ongoing project to widen Route 7 from Reston to Tysons Corner. The project will widen Route 7 from four to six lanes from the intersection with Georgetown Pike to the Dulles Access Road, continuing the widening that is ongoing northwest of Georgetown Pike now. Since February 2012, a working group has met ten times and discussed topics including environmental impacts, land development along the corridor, bicycle and pedestrian needs, innovative intersection designs, high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane feasibility, mass transit and bus service, and preliminary stormwater management needs. Acquisition of rights-of-way is scheduled for 2017, and construction is scheduled to begin in 2021. See <http://www.virginiadot.org/>

projects/northernvirginia/route\_7\_widening\_-\_reston\_ave\_to\_dtr.asp

### ❖ Gulick Group

10500 Leesburg Pike

The Gulick Group submitted a pending application to rezone 10500 Leesburg Pike (portion of the Hills Nursery) to 10 lots on 11 acres that have been zoned R-A since 1991. The property is located in an area east of Springvale Road and at the terminus of Challedon Road. The property is surrounded by the Lexington Estates and contains a significant environmentally sensitive area.

### ❖ Long Range Planning

The Great Falls Citizens Association's Long Range Planning Committee is scheduled to meet Aug. 27 at 7:30 p.m. at the Great Falls Library to discuss: sewerage/wastewater improvement options for central Great Falls business area, with or without sewer; community center replacement in about 10 years or an expansion of the existing Grange complex; resident curatorship potential in Great Falls area, including Turner Farm House, Dranesville, Tavern, etc.; solicitation of new businesses for Great Falls that currently do not exist nor duplicate existing ones; safer vehicle entry to Library/Buck's Lane/Grange complex and/or crosswalk, bridge, tunnel or traffic light between the Grange complex and B.F. Saul shopping center on other side of Georgetown Pike; and, potential other long range project for Great Falls between 2026 and 2040. See [gfcfa.org](http://gfcfa.org).

## MIDDLE EASTERN FOOD FESTIVAL

Labor Day Weekend

Saturday, Sept. 5, 11:00 am–11:00 pm

Sunday, Sept. 6, 12:00 noon–6:00 pm

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

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**Live Music & Folk Dancing**

**Moon Bounce**

**Kids' Games**

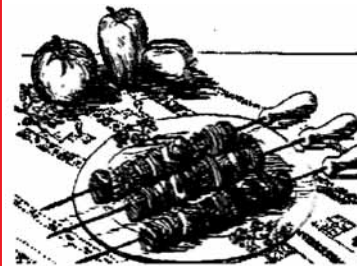
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## NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

# About the Connection

## Keep in Touch

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

As 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 around 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 Con-

nection 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 internships with information at www.connectionnewspapers.com/internships.

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

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**CONTACT:**  
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NEWCOMERS  
& COMMUNITY GUIDE

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Abigail Constantino and Dominique Escalera  
compiled content for this year's Community Guide.

FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
CALL 703-778-9431 OR EMAIL  
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## The Great Falls Farmers Market: An Evolving Community Place

BY KATHLEEN MURPHY  
MARKET MANAGER

Every Saturday, lovely families pass through the farmers market, journeying from sports game to breakfast to shopping, to excursion. Friends gather, greeting each other warmly. It is a place to pass through, enjoying the tastes and smells, the delightful music, and all the striking colors of summer.

We are so fortunate to enjoy amazing

dedication and creativity among our vendors. Whether Luke Wahlgren, owner of World Eats, delights with different empanadas from a different countries every Saturday, to Cassidy Jones perfectly crafted pastries made of four textures of chocolate, or olive oil and balsamic vinegar in place of sugar and butter, or Jo So, innovative muffin, quiche and specialty baker, we are blessed to be able to enjoy such creativity and willingness to experiment.

We have seen incredible talent pass

through the market – to visit regularly for a period of time, then move on to a larger market or to the retail store circuit.

We search for ways to create the best platform for emerging talent. Some children have expressed an interest in becoming a vendor. We are preparing to launch a Great Falls Kids' Collective to make this possible. Some businesses that do not qualify as vendor materials have wished to set up at the market. We are working on an information booth when businesses can leave coupons,

etc. (Information to follow shortly.) Some vendors get stuck at a certain level – perhaps because of lack of business experience or financial capital. We will be inviting business teams to compete to find out which vendor can make the most business progress between Sept. 1 and Thanksgiving weekend in November.

We look forward to making the Great Falls Farmers Market the very best launching pad for our food-related local fledgling businesses.

# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Public Schools	Fairfax County	Montgomery County, MD	Arlington County	Alexandria City
FY 2015 Cost Per Pupil	\$13,519	\$15,351	\$19,040	\$17,041
Average Teacher Salary	\$66,782	\$75,452	\$76,892	\$73,612
<b>2014 ACTUAL ENROLLMENT</b>				
Total Enrollment	183,895	151,289	23,421	13,563
Percent ESOL Enrollment	17.0%	13.2%	17.4%	25.5%
Percent Free/Reduced Price Meal Eligible	27.5%	34.3%	31.8%	59.7%
Percent Special Education Enrollment	13.8%	11.7%	14.7%	12.6%
<b>2015 APPROVED ENROLLMENT</b>				
Number Increase/Decrease from 2014 Actual	2,890	2,889	792	548
Percent Increase/Decrease from 2014 Actual	1.6%	1.9%	3.4%	4.0%
<b>SCHOOLS</b>				
Elementary	139	133	22	12
Middle	23	38	5	2
Traditional (K-8)	0	0	0	1
Secondary and High Schools	25	26	5	1
Special Education	7	5	2	0
Alternative	2	0	3	2
<b>SOURCES OF REVENUE</b>				
Local	69.6%	66.6%	83.0%	79.3%
State	23.3%	27.9%	12.5%	14.9%
Other	7.2%	5.5%	4.6%	5.8%
<b>AUTHORIZED POSITIONS</b>				
School-Based	93.2%	91.2%	90.9%	89.7%
Nonschool-Based	6.8%	8.8%	9.1%	10.3%

SOURCE: 2015 WASHINGTON AREA BOARDS OF EDUCATION GUIDE



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## RESTON

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