

# Great Falls CONNECTION

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PHOTO BY KEN MOORE/THE CONNECTION

## Handing Over the Key?

NEWS, PAGE 12

### Murphy vs. Parisot, Double Sequel

NEWS, PAGE 3

### Meet the Candidates

NEWS, PAGES 16-19

The Grange was built in 1929 to be the social center of Great Falls. Now that it is accessible to all, after long-needed ADA renovations, the community hopes it will become a hub of community activity once again.

OCTOBER 28 - NOVEMBER 3, 2015

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



— REAL STORIES FROM THE EXPRESS LANES —

*"With my second child on the way and having to juggle doctor appointments and my son's school activities, you can't put a monetary amount on saving time."*

- Yvette M.  
Dumfries, VA

At eight months pregnant, Yvette has to juggle doctor appointments, work meetings and spending time with her son. Yvette works in Reston and lives in Woodbridge so she relies on the 495 and 95 Express Lanes getting to and from work. Yvette also loves that she's never late to pick her son up from school. Now she has more time for her family—and for herself. Her stress has decreased and she's able to enjoy a healthy pregnancy and being a mom while maintaining her career.

**See more real stories from the Lanes at [ExpressLanes.com](http://ExpressLanes.com)**



Yvette's story was one of our winning entries in our "Express Lanes Love Story" promotion.

## Murphy vs. Parisot, Double Sequel

**34th District has history of close elections.**

BY KEN MOORE  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he 34th-District House of Delegates race between Kathleen Murphy (D) and Craig Parisot (R) is a rematch of the special election triggered last November when Barbara Comstock (R) was elected to the U.S. Congress.

Murphy received 51.23 percent of the vote, and defeated Parisot who received 48.63 percent in the low-turnout special election.

Murphy received 6,419 votes to Parisot's 6,093 votes.

"I was elected in January in a special election on a very cold snowy day," said Murphy at the Great Falls Grange debate with Parisot in late September. "I was elected on a Tuesday, sworn in on a Thursday, and went to work immediately. My first session in the the General Assembly, I demonstrated commitment to working across party lines, to listening, to advocating on behalf of this community. My priorities have been and continue to be growing our economy, supporting our public schools, addressing our infrastructure needs and keeping our families and children safe."

She and Parisot debated again at the McLean Community Center on Sunday, Oct. 18, a forum hosted by the McLean Citizens Association.

"I am proud and very honored and I can tell you when I took the oath of office it was overwhelming," she said. "I take this very seriously. I look at this job as a commitment to this community to represent you in the strongest way I can."

Craig Parisot also gave voice to the importance of public service.

"It has a long tradition in my family. I have lived my own version of the American Dream, starting life with little and building successful companies. I'm grateful for these opportunities that I had, and I want to make sure this and future generations have the same," he said. "My entire professional career has involved identifying trends, determining strategy and devising solutions. Virginia can and should be number one for business, number one for jobs, and number one for quality of life."

**THE 34TH DISTRICT** has a history of close elections.

In 2013, Murphy lost to Barbara Comstock 50.64 percent to 49.21 percent. Murphy received 14,540 votes to Comstock's 14,962.

In 2012, Barack Obama and Mitt Romney literally tied in the district, each receiving



**Del. Kathleen Murphy (D-34) at the Oct. 18 debate in McLean.**

**"When I took the oath of office it was overwhelming. I look at this job as a commitment to this community."**

— Kathleen Murphy (D-34)

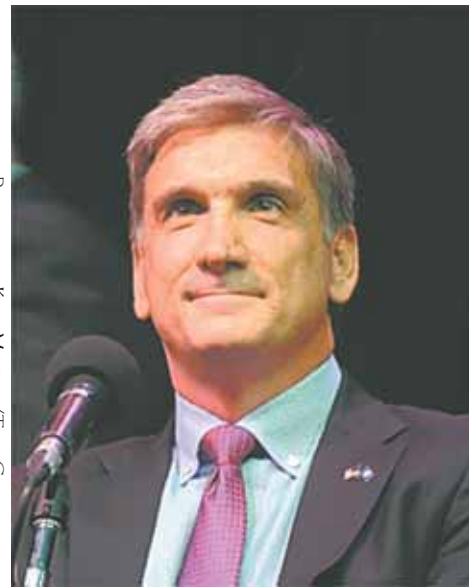
ing 18,688 votes, according to according to Virginia Public Access Project.

The 34th district is made up of 69 percent Fairfax County and 31 percent Loudoun County. U.S. Sen. Mark Warner carried the district by a little more than 1,000 votes in 2014. The 34th district is Gov. Terry McAuliffe's home district, and he carried the district over Republican Ken Cuccinelli 51.86 percent to 42.28 percent in his 2013 race for Governor.

**"I'M A BUSINESS LEADER.** Having built two advanced technology companies in highly competitive start up environments, I deployed life-saving technologies for our soldiers and first responders, promoted women into key executive leadership roles, and provided salaries and health benefits for hundreds of families," said Parisot. "I have first hand experience in big data, cloud computing, analytics and cybersecurity, all technologies central to the Northern Virginia innovation economy and essential to our future."

Parisot has received \$273,697 in cash contributions of more than \$100 each, and \$13,199 in contributions of \$100 or less for his 2015 campaign, according to Virginia Public Access Project vpap.org.

Top donors for Parisot in 2015 include \$22,500 from T. Christopher Roth of McLean; \$20,000 from the House Republican Campaign Committee; \$15,700 from Lorna J. Gladstone of McLean; \$12,500



**Craig Parisot, Republican challenger for Delegate in the 34th District, at the Oct. 18 debate.**

**"Virginia can and should be number one for business, number one for jobs, and number one for quality of life."**

— Craig Parisot (R)

from Dominion Leadership Trust set up by House Speaker Bill Howell (R); \$10,000 from himself; \$10,000 from the Republican State Leadership Committee (which also gave \$50,000 to Delegate candidate Danny Vargas running for the 86 district seat vacated by Tom Rust).

**"ONE OF** the things I love the best about this community, is all the people who sit here. We are not all here because we agree, we all sit here because we care," said Murphy at the McLean debate Sunday.

"I have been your neighbor for over 25 years. I have lived here, worked here, raised my children here and my children have attended your public schools, our public schools."

Murphy has received \$304,117 in cash contributions of more than \$100 each, and \$42,683 in cash contributions of \$100 or less for her 2015 campaign.

Murphy's top donors in 2015 include \$25,000 from Karen Schaufeld, a Leesburg attorney; \$18,000 from Suzann W. Matthews of McLean; \$12,500 from Edward Hart Rice of Vienna; \$10,000 from Muslim Lakhani of D.C.

Murphy and Parisot each added just over \$100,000 in cash contributions during the month of September. Murphy showed \$233,143 cash on hand, and Parisot had \$66,512 cash on hand as of Sept. 30, according to VPAP.

**THE RACE SEEMED FRIENDLY** at the Grange even when Parisot said his opponent supports the tolling of I-66 when seconds before she said she did not.

Her words:

"Public private partnerships have been the answer in some instances but not when they get away from us like they did on the Greenway. The Greenway turned into a nightmare for everybody because nobody could afford it. ... We can't let that happen again," she said. "I know that there is a movement here to repair, rehab I-66. ... People sure don't have another way to go if you slam on another \$7 toll and no I wouldn't support that."

After Parisot made his claims, Murphy said, calmly, "I didn't say that I supported it. I didn't come here to slam Craig. He's a nice guy. We're opponents and we're not enemies and this should be a friendly debate."

Parisot countered, "I believe this is absolutely a friendly debate but we're here focused on the issues, demonstrating the contrast between myself and my opponent so you can be clear that there is a real choice," he said.

At the McLean debate on Sunday, there was more edge when the two candidates were asked what they would do about the gun store located next to Franklin Sherman Elementary School property.

"My brother was murdered. ... I don't think a gun store has any place next to a school," said Murphy. "We're working every day trying to move him to another location so he can move and parents can take a deep breath again."

**PARISOT SAID** he would handle the gun store issue differently.

"The big difference is how do we solve problems. I do it quietly. I meet with people," he said. "If we are going to do something, let's do something meaningful, let's not just wave our arms and get everybody all excited."

Parisot said, "I have three primary goals: Grow and diversify Virginia's economy, invest in education, and reduce commute times by alleviating transportation bottlenecks," he said.

He asked voters to look at his seven step economic growth plan to move Northern Virginia forward.

"We all know someone who is unemployed, underemployed, been struggling to find work or who has had their privacy compromised, and that's why it is imperative we act now," he said.

But he has the uphill battle.

"I have a deep commitment to this community and a first hand understanding of what it takes and what the issues are that are so important to our families and our businesses here in Northern Virginia," Murphy said.

"I am Kathleen Murphy and I am your delegate," said the incumbent.

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# Conservation Begins at Home

Three spots open to four running for key environmental and conservation board.

BY KEN MOORE  
THE CONNECTION

Three of four candidates will be elected as directors to the Soil and Water Conservation District on Nov. 3.

Three of the four candidates, Scott Cameron and incumbents George Lamb IV and Gerald O. "Jerry" Peters Jr., debated at the Great Falls Grange on Monday, Oct. 19.

The Great Falls Citizens Association hosted and ran the candidate's forum at the recently renovated Grange, which is now ADA accessible.

"Real conservation, the important work in conservation happens on the ground, happens locally," said Cameron.

Peters, of Great Falls, is an incumbent on the Soil and Conser-

vation District Board. "I want to increase the sense of personal stewardship that people who own the land have for the land," he said.

Lamb has been the chairman the last four years. He thanked GFCA for hosting the forum and giving candidates in his race, usually overshadowed by races for supervisor, House of Delegates, state senator and the sheriff, among others, an opportunity to inform citizens of the board's work. Education efforts are top priority of the Soil and Water Conservation Board, he said.

Stephen L. Pushor, who is on the ballot, did not attend.

The three were asked questions about fertilizers, deer management, and the responsibility and partnership between urban, suburban and rural districts in Virginia.



Gerald O. "Jerry" Peters, Great Falls



Scott Cameron, Mount Vernon



George Lamb IV

PHOTOS BY KEN MOORE/THE CONNECTION

## Why This Matters

The Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District was founded in 1945 by citizens concerned about conserving natural resources. They were established to develop programs to conserve soil resources, control and prevent soil erosion, prevent floods and conserve, develop, utilize and dispose of water. The group collaborates with Fairfax County and other partners to provide conservation information, technical services, educational programs and volunteer opportunities to residents on many aspects of water quality, nonpoint source pollution and stream health.

See [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/)

**FOUNDED IN 1945** by citizens concerned about conserving natural resources, the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District is one of 47 conservation districts in Virginia and approximately 3,000 nationwide. "Soil

and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) were established in the 1930s to develop comprehensive programs to conserve soil resources, control and prevent soil erosion, prevent floods and conserve, develop, utilize and dispose

of water," according to its website.

Although not a regulatory agency, the group collaborates with Fairfax County and other partners to provide conservation information, technical services, educational programs and volunteer opportunities to residents on many aspects of water quality, nonpoint source pollution and stream health.

They help connect residents with environmental initiatives and opportunities through the Watershed Calendar, Green Breakfast

SEE CONSERVATION, PAGE 11

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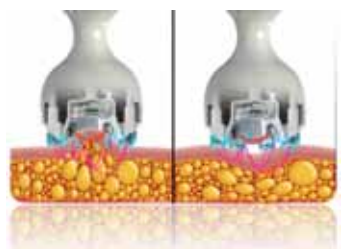
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## WEEK IN GREAT FALLS

### Spooktacular Returns to Great Falls

Halloween Spooktacular will be held at Great Falls Village Green and Great Falls Center on Saturday, Oct. 31, 5 — 7 p.m., with Pet Parade at 4 p.m.

The Spooktacular was launched more than 20 years ago to provide younger children (12 and under) with a central, convenient place in Great Falls to have fun trick and treating.

- ❖ Boy Scout Troop 55 will create some spooky fun for everyone in the Haunted House;

- ❖ Linda Waitkus of Great Dogs of Great Falls is leading the Pet Parade starting at the Gazebo;

- ❖ Look out for the Great Falls Volunteer Firefighters in the Safeway parking lot.

All pets must vacate the Village Green by 5 p.m.

### Remembrance Ceremony to Be Held Nov. 11

On Wednesday, Nov. 11, at 11 a.m., the annual Veterans Day Remembrance Ceremony will be held at the Great Falls Freedom Memorial. The ceremony will honor all who have served the United States in the armed forces. The event will include a Marine Corps color guard, patriotic songs, and remarks by the Judge Advocate General of the U.S. Army, Lt. Gen. Flora D. Darpino, the first woman to hold that position.

The Freedom Memorial is located behind the Great Falls Library at 9830 Georgetown Pike. The ceremony is open to all. Ample parking is available in the library parking lot. In case of rain, the ceremony will be held in the library meeting room.

### Judith St. Ledger-Roty to Speak at the Senior Center Event

The Great Falls Senior Center has announced Judith St. Ledger-Roty as guest speaker for the Nov. 3 event. She will discuss art, artifacts and architecture, which has

SEE WEEK, PAGE 8

**Delegate Kathleen Murphy is working hard for us!**

**ENDORSED BY:**  
Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce's NOVA BizPAC  
Virginia's Teachers

**Kathleen Murphy is working with Democrats and Republicans to get things done.**

- ✓ To give every child a world-class education.
- ✓ To grow our economy.
- ✓ To keep our community safe from gun violence.

**Re-elect Delegate Kathleen Murphy. Vote Tuesday, November 3rd**

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Endorsed by Planned Parenthood and NARAL and chairs the Sexual Assault Advisory Committee
- HEALTH CARE**  
A fierce advocate for Medicaid Expansion and passed several consumer protection bills
- EDUCATION**  
Endorsed by the Virginia Education Association
- INCOME DISPARITY**  
Sponsored legislation to allow localities to raise the minimum wage
- ENVIRONMENT**  
Endorsed by the Sierra Club and the Virginia League of Conservation Voters
- GUN SAFETY**  
Fought to take guns away from those convicted of certain domestic violence crimes. Working to prohibit gun shops near schools
- LGBTQ EQUALITY**  
Sponsored legislation to report LGBT-related hate crimes. Endorsed by Equality Virginia

**vote TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD POLLS ARE OPEN 6AM-7PM**

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- Received recognition as a Virginia Leader in the Law (2015)
- Received a Freedom of Information Award the Virginia Coalition For Open Government (2013)
- Received recognition as the Public Official of the Year (2006)

**Vote Tuesday, November 3rd**

PAID FOR AND AUTHORIZED BY FRIENDS OF JOHN FREY

**WEEK IN GREAT FALLS**

FROM PAGE 7

been stolen or destroyed during wars or civil unrest.

Ledger-Roty is a lawyer practicing for more than 25 years before turning to studying art destruction in World War II and other areas of artistic endeavor. She will talk about some of the laws or policies which have evolved to protect these works and artifacts. She will be showing photos of artifacts stolen or destroyed; discussing art from multiple centuries ranging from the 13th to the 21st centuries and, discussing people such as Napoleon, Hitler and Assad in Syria. In June 2015 she graduated with a Diploma of Fine Arts from Studio Incamminati, an artist atelier in Philadelphia.

The Nov. 3 event will be held at The Grange, 9818 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. and includes lunch. The event sponsor is Seneca Hill Animal Hospital, Resort and Spa located at 11415 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Reservations are a must. To reserve email Polly Fitzgerald at [pollyfitz1@verizon.net](mailto:pollyfitz1@verizon.net) or call 703-759-4345.

The Great Falls Senior Center is partnered with the Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood and

Community Services in all ventures and events.

**Soon at Brightview in Great Falls**

Brightview Great Falls is announcing the following upcoming events:

❖ Appraisal Roadshow — Saturday, Nov. 7, 10-11:30 a.m.

Join Paradigm Experts for a fun and educational morning looking at “what you have, what it’s worth, and what you can do with it.” RSVP early to be get on the list of the 25 items to be appraised.

❖ Successful Transitions — Tuesday, Dec. 1, 8:30-10 a.m.

Join Gerontologist and Well-spring Village Director, Mikki Fioro, for an interactive discussion on understanding the fundamental aspects of dementia as well as signs, stages and supports. RSVP early.

❖ Holiday Open House — Saturday, Dec. 5, 1-4 p.m.

Join the Brightview Great Falls community in ringing in the Winter Season. Enjoy the decorations, music, refreshments and good cheer.



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*Great Falls Swim and Tennis offers its members a family-friendly environment for swimming, tennis and social programs.*

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT**

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The Kildonan School  
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The Lab School  
Landmark School  
The Leelanau School  
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NOVEMBER  
3RD

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The Washington Post

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# OPINION

## Vote Nov. 3 **Read Election coverage at** **www.ConnectionNewspapers.com.**

If you live in a district with a hotly contested race, you definitely know from the contents of your mailbox that there is an Election coming up. Don't miss your chance to vote.

Many races in Northern Virginia offer very distinct choices between candidates with strikingly different views on topics that matter, like school funding, guns, social safety net, taxes and more.

You can find coverage of many races, plus short biographies and questionnaires completed by the candidates themselves on our website.

You'll find many interesting ideas in the candidate questionnaire responses, from incumbents and challengers including third party candidates.

Go to [www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com) and click on Elections on the horizontal navigation bar.

### EDITORIAL

If you need information on how to vote, contact your electoral board.

For More Election Information

**State Board of Elections**, 804 864-8901  
Toll Free: 800 552-9745 FAX: 804 371-0194  
email: [info@sbe.virginia.gov](mailto:info@sbe.virginia.gov)  
<http://www.sbe.virginia.gov>

**Fairfax County Board of Elections**, 703-222-0776, <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming.htm>

12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Suite 232, Fairfax, 22035; FAX 703-324-2205; [emailvoting@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:emailvoting@fairfaxcounty.gov)

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

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

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Vote Yes on School Bond Referendum

To the Editor:

I urge all Fairfax County citizens to vote Yes for the Fairfax County school bond referendum on Nov. 3.

Nearly \$300 million is needed for infrastructure improvements and new build-out for Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS). Voting Yes on the school bond referendum will allow the county to maintain the "world class education system" that FCPS provides,

which is a driving force behind our region's economic success.

FCPS is the largest public school system in the Commonwealth and the 10th largest school system in the nation.

Since the 2008-2009 school year, enrollment has increased by more than 22,000 students and continued strong growth is anticipated.

Existing classrooms are in dire need of renovations to assure stu-

dent safety.

Bonds are the means by which we provide the necessary funding. The use of bonds avoids diverting funds that are critically needed for classroom instruction. They also spread the financing of required school construction over the improvement's usable life, diversifying the contribution throughout several years.

It is important to note that the use of bonds will not increase

county taxes, nor will they affect the county's coveted bond rating.

Together, we can pass the 2015 School Bond to make the necessary investments for a brighter future for our students and our county.

To learn more visit: [www.fairfaxschoolbond.com](http://www.fairfaxschoolbond.com).

**Len Forkas**

Chairman, Fairfax Citizens for Better Schools

## Kurzenhauser for School Board

To the Editor:

Being involved with FCPS as a mother of five (with four in three different schools), I feel that the school board has lost sight of its priorities. Do you wonder if they even listen to what we are saying?

The school board's importance stretches beyond the obvious, and a competent school board not only helps our children become successful members of society, but it affects all aspects of our locale – our local economy, our business climate, and our community.

Pete Kurzenhauser, a fellow member of our local community, will listen to us.

He has earned the endorsement of the parents' group, "Class Size Counts" for his support over the years for smaller class sizes and for making it a central issue of his campaign. I personally have seen the problems of large class sizes with my five children in the local schools.

Pete is just as invested in the success of our schools – his two children have grown up in the

FCPS school system, and he is a proud graduate of FCPS as well. And like all of us, he is tired of hearing how FCPS pays for trips to Orlando, Fla., for senior staff and other extravagances, or the school board giving itself a 60 percent pay raise, while always asking for more money.

He realizes that we have to focus our resources on students and teachers in the classroom instead of various programs that have little or no measures of success, and he is pushing to get these programs

audited. He is the person who made everyone aware that FCPS has \$158 million in surplus cash leftover from the 2015 budget, which is enough to cover the "budget gap" in 2017 and beyond.

Once we get our finances and priorities in order, we can pay our teachers comparable salaries as surrounding counties, decrease class sizes, and plan our future budgets more appropriately.

**Karen T. Barker**

Great Falls

## Conflict of Interest Timeline

To the Editor:

Do we want a County supervisor steeped in the integrity of the Army values, or one described by the following timeline?

2003: Candidate John Foust: "My opponent claims not to see the conflict of interest in serving in a position of public trust as Dranesville's Planning Commissioner while working for a land use lobbyist that represents developers and other special interests. I will avoid such conflicts and bring the highest standard of integrity to the job of supervisor. . . . I believe that only individuals (not

corporations and other business entities) should be permitted to contribute to Supervisor campaigns." ([bit.ly/1MP4Uup](http://bit.ly/1MP4Uup))

2010: Supervisor Foust shepherds through the Board of Supervisors an amendment to the zoning ordinance and several additional measures on behalf of a Delaware corporation, Madison Building Associates LLC. ([1.usa.gov/1PDax7U](http://1.usa.gov/1PDax7U))

2011: The next year, an election year, Supervisor Foust takes over \$19,000 in donations from that same corporation, by far his largest campaign donor after the

Democratic Party itself. ([bit.ly/1gW6HPM](http://bit.ly/1gW6HPM))

2014: Congressional candidate Foust excoriates opponent Barbara Comstock for "a potential conflict of interest." (<http://bit.ly/1PxPuv4>) Did John Foust sell his vote in a quid pro quo? We can never know. Did he create his own "potential conflict of interest"? You decide. Did he create the appearance of a conflict of interest? Indubitably. Can we believe his lofty campaign rhetoric? No.

**Griselda Farthing**

Great Falls

## Re-elect Foust

To the Editor:

John Foust should be re-elected as Dranesville Supervisor. I have worked with many elected officials on local, state and national public policy issues for more than forty years.

Foust is among the best I have encountered.

His dedication to public service and to representation of his constituents is simply outstanding. He does his homework, is approachable, responsive, effective, and sincerely cares about finding solu-

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 21

## Great Falls CONNECTION

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

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.

Published by  
**Local Media Connection LLC**

1606 King Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to [connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe](http://connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe)

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# NEWS

## Conservation Begins at Home

FROM PAGE 5

and Conservation Currents news updates.

**PETERS WAS APPOINTED** by the Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board in March 2015 to be a director; he has been an associate director since 2009 and has represented NVSWCD on the Fairfax County Tree Commission since 2012.

Peters is retired after a 30-year

career as an environmental scientist and engineer, including being the first full-time employee of the Occoquan Watershed Monitoring Laboratory in 1972.

In retirement, he has focused on natural resource stewardship, he said. Peters is a Certified Master Naturalist and member of the Basic Training Committee of the Fairfax Chapter of the Virginia Master Naturalist program.

"I am also a Tree Commissioner," he said.

**LAMB HAS SERVED** on the board since January 2009 and is currently the vice chairman and treasurer.

Lamb, of Falls Church, serves as an at-large appointee on the Fairfax County Environmental Quality Advisory Council (EQAC) and is the lead author on the Interrelationship between Land Use and Transportation chapter of the EQAC annual report. He was a co-founder of the Fairfax League of Conservation Voters, and represented the environmental commu-

nity on the Tysons Corner Land Use Task Force. He serves as the chairman of the IT Committee for the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

**CAMERON, A BIOLOGIST** who also has a M.B.A., has worked 36 years in environmental policy, including 20 years of federal service in natural resources programs at the Department of the Interior, Office of Management and Budget, Congress, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Cameron, of Mount Vernon, founded his own organi-

zation, Reduce Risks from Invasive Species Coalition. He is an environmental policy advisor to the governor of California, director of Conservation Policy for the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and serves on the board of advisors to the Wildlife Alliance.

"We have 30 watersheds in Fairfax County, about a third are in good shape, a third are in really bad shape," he said, with the others in between.

"I've always wanted to get involved where it counts, locally," he said.

## FAITH NOTES

*Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community. Send to [vienna@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:vienna@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday.*

Requiem will be offered at **St. John's McLean** on Sunday, Nov. 1, during the 5:30 pm service of Holy Eucharist. The St. John's Choir will be joined by choristers from St. Dunstan's Church in McLean and St. Peter's in the Woods, Fairfax Station. The Choir will be accompanied by flute, harp, oboe, timpani, and organ. Featuring Requiem by John Rutter.

Location: St. John's Episcopal Church, 6715 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Free. All welcome. For more information, please call 703-356-4902, or visit [www.stjohnsmclean.org](http://www.stjohnsmclean.org).

**Emmanuel Lutheran Church**, 2589 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna, is holding Sunday evening worship service in a less formal atmosphere and more intimate setting to help you get ready for the week ahead. Sundays, 6 p.m. Communion offered. No childcare. 703-938-2119 or [www.elcvienna.org](http://www.elcvienna.org).

**St. Francis Episcopal Church**, 9220 Georgetown Pike in Great Falls, offers musical, educational, outreach and fellowship ministries in addition to worship services, including a 7:45 a.m. worship service without music; 9 a.m. worship service, children's chapel and children's choirs; 10 a.m. Sunday school and adult forum; and 11 a.m. worship service with adult choir. 703-759-2082.

**The Antioch Christian Church** offers a time of Prayer and Healing on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. for anyone wanting encouragement and healing through prayers. People are available to pray with you or for you. Antioch Christian Church is located at 1860 Beulah Road in Vienna. [www.antiochdoc.org](http://www.antiochdoc.org)

**The Jewish Social Services Agency (JSSA)** offers a wide variety of support groups for those with emotional, social, and physical challenges. [www.jssa.org/growth-learning](http://www.jssa.org/growth-learning).

**HAVEN of Northern Virginia** offers a variety of free bereavement support groups, meeting on a weekly basis. 703-941-7000 or [www.havenofnova.org](http://www.havenofnova.org).

**McLean Bible Church** Fitness Class at Body & Soul Fitness. Gain balance, energy and strength at 9:45 a.m. Mondays and Fridays. Free childcare for registered students. [bodyandsoul@mcleanbible.org](mailto:bodyandsoul@mcleanbible.org).

**St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church**, 1830 Kirby Road in McLean, holds a third Sunday service every month at 10:15 a.m. which allows children to play active roles in the music and as greeters and ushers. Traditional services are every Sunday at 8:15 and 10:15 a.m.



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## NEWS

# Great Falls Bridge to Empowering Women

### Bridge tournament on Nov. 14 enables Great Falls Friends and Neighbors to give scholarships to adult women academics.

BY KEN MOORE  
THE CONNECTION

**G**reat Falls Friends and Neighbors gave its members a glimpse of the power of their efforts.

"We are a women's organization. Everyone benefits," said Ricky Harvey, the organization's Scholarship Club President. "When you educate a woman, you really help children, then you help families, then you help communities."

Great Falls Friends and Neighbors women's club presented Martina Atabong, 35, with a scholarship at Riverbend Golf and Country Club in Great Falls in September.

"I'm so excited, I'm so happy, deeply touched," said Atabong, a single mother originally from Cameroon, who is on the Dean's list at George Mason University. She received her associate of science degree from Northern Virginia Community College and plans to graduate with a nursing degree in 2016. She is the first in her family to attend college. "I'll use this opportunity," she said during the luncheon on Friday.

**A BRIDGE JAMBOREE** is one way the group raises money to give the scholarships.

The Great Falls Friends and Neighbors (GFFN) 12th Annual Bridge Jamboree is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 14 at Christ the King Church, 10550 Georgetown Pike in Great Falls.

"It's a little different from running a marathon," said Holly Kuga, of the social and enjoyable fundraiser. "We play bridge for a philanthropic purpose."

"I find it relaxing and challenging and no matter how much I've played bridge and think I've seen all the permutations and combinations, the very next turn I get, I say, 'Hmmm, how do I play this?'" said Kuga.

"It's an all-day event," she said. See <http://gffnva.org>

**GREAT FALLS FRIENDS** and Neighbors gave Kelly Hogan, of Woodbridge, a dance scholarship named for Bette Carter, one of the founders of the Great Falls women's club.

"It's encouraging that people are supporting the arts," she said. "It's helping me, who I am as an artist and as a dancer."

And they also honored Lea Lines, who grew up in Springfield. Lines holds a 4.0 grade point average



**Dance scholarship honoree Kelly Hogan with scholarship fund president Ricki Harvey. The dance scholarship was named for Bette Carter, one of the founders of the women's club.**



**Lea Lines**



**Great Falls Friends and Neighbors Scholarship Fund Board members and scholarship recipients: front row: Scholarship Fund President Ricki Harvey, (recipients Lea Lines, Kelly Hogan and Martina Atabong) Anne McVey, Jan Lane; back row: Allison Granstedt, Kristen Trimble, Annette Kerlin and Laura Bumpus.**

## Why Play Bridge?

Great Falls Friends and Neighbors 12th Annual Bridge Jamboree Saturday, Nov. 14 Christ the King Church, 10550 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls The Great Falls Friends and Neighbors (GFFN) 12th Annual Bridge Jamboree is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 14 at Christ the King Church, 10550 Georgetown Pike in Great Falls.

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at George Mason University and hopes to become a neonatal intensive care, pediatric intensive care or labor and delivery nurse. Lines re-entered academia after her youngest child enrolled in elementary school.

"My family comes first," she said.

She is a member of two honors societies and volunteers for her nursing major and in the community. "There are so many costs associated with my major; lab coats, equipment and everything," she said. "This is going to make a big difference," she said.

About 125 members of Great Falls Friends and Neighbors attended the luncheon.

"We love putting a face to the story," said Harvey. "We love helping the next generation."

**THE WOMEN'S CLUB** has more than 200 active members.

Great Falls Friends and Neighbors has existed for 35 years, and is a result of a 2011 merger of two local clubs, the Great Falls Woman's Club and Newcomers of Great Falls.

Another fundraiser, a cooking demonstration at LAuberger Chez Francois, is planned for January 2016 to benefit the charity, Kids R First.

# Handing Over the Key?

### Community consortium networking to consider community control of the Grange.

BY KEN MOORE  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he process already proves Jorge Adeler's vision.

"Nothing matches an eye-to-eye conversation, nothing matches a hug, a laugh, a handshake. Those are certain things that a community should never give up," said Adeler.

Representatives from a dozen Great Falls organizations met last Thursday, Oct. 22, to rejuvenate commitment of making the Great Falls Grange the centerpiece of the community, as founding Great Falls farmers envisioned almost a century ago.

"It's possibly one of the biggest transformative events in the community the last 10 years," said Adeler.

After learning that the Park Authority is willing to give the key to the Grange for the community to use, Adeler held the meeting Thursday to see if a consortium of community groups is ready to assume responsibility for managing the building for community use.

"The potential is extraordinary," he said. The possible activities for community use, for youth, senior citizens, adults, artists, musicians, non-profits and the entire community are "endless."

**THE SAME REPRESENTATIVES** met a few years ago and pitched their vision of making the Grange and the Old Schoolhouse a campus for the community to use.

"A really impressive group of community organizations got together and signed a letter to me basically asking for more access to these facilities," Dranesville Supervisor John W. Foust said during debates this election season. "The proposal was that I would get the Grange made ADA accessible and they would come forward with a proposal that community groups would take responsibility for these two buildings."

"And eventually if the community groups come together the way I think they might and the way it was initially proposed, I see something more grand here with the Grange and the Schoolhouse as a community facility,"

he said. "It is a magnificent building full of history in the heart of the community," Adeler said last Thursday. "It was intended to be the heart of the farming community."



PHOTO BY KEN MOORE/THE CONNECTION

**The Grange was built in 1929 to be the social center of Great Falls. Now that it is accessible to all, after long-needed ADA renovations, the community hopes it will become a hub of community activity once again.**

## Did You Know?

The School Trustees of the Dranesville District purchased the lot that Forestville School would be built on for \$50 on Oct. 7, 1889.

Forestville School was opened in 1890 as a one-room schoolhouse. The school year began in late September and finished in early May in time for children to help with farm work. Older boys often didn't start school in the fall until the harvest was complete.

The school became a two-room school in 1911 when the Floris Elementary School building was moved and added to the west side of the schoolhouse.

"Through the collective efforts of many individuals and organizations in Great Falls, the 'Old Schoolhouse' was rescued from destruction and sold to the Fairfax County Park Authority. On April 28, 1984, the 'Old Schoolhouse' was officially dedicated and thus preserved as a lasting reminder of earlier times in Great Falls."

SOURCE: GREAT FALLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

he said.

"It is a magnificent building full of history in the heart of the community," Adeler said last Thursday. "It was intended to be the heart of the farming community."

**FOUST FULFILLED** his promise. On Saturday morning last March 7, about 75 members of the community gathered to celebrate the renovations to the 1929 building and grounds that now make it accessible to all of Great Falls.

"For far too long, it was not accessible to our residents with disabilities and to our senior citizens," said Foust, who helped secure \$350,000 for the \$503,000 project from County carry-over funds in 2013. The Fairfax County Park Authority funded the balance of the project.

"Great Falls has many assets, but one thing it does not have is an official community center," Foust said at the celebration. "The

Grange is our de facto community center."

The Great Falls Grange Hall was the first grange hall built in Virginia and one of five granges built in Fairfax County, said Great Falls Historical Society President Kathleen Murphy.

Last spring, Murphy and Cindy Jordan brewed hot apple cider; the Difficult Run String Band filled the hall with banjo, bass, guitar and fiddle music; vendors with the Great Falls Community Farmers Market filled the hall with produce; and many of the patrons gathered and talked before and after the day's event.

"It is time to begin to have conversations to bring our community center to life," Murphy said that day. She is also president of the Great Falls Community Farmers Market.

"Now that the Grange has been brought up to code, the question is what are we going to do with it?" said Jorge Adeler. "I hope the effort won't stop here."

"We can do a lot more to bring the community together. Come join us," said Eric Knudsen, president of the Great Falls Citizens Association.

### "They want to give us the key. Do we take it or not?"

— Jorge Adeler, Great Falls

**A SMALL GROUP BRAINSTORMED** last Thursday, with Adeler chairing the conversation and asking the group "if the community has the stomach, the desire, the dedication to take it on to sustain and maintain the place."

Groups represented included the Optimists Club, the Great Falls Business and Professional Association, the Great Falls Friends and Neighbors, Great Falls Studios, Amadeus Orchestra, Great Falls Citizens Association, Great Falls Historical Society, Great Falls Farmers Market and others.

"If we could convince the community organizations and work as a team," he said, "we can sustain the use of the Grange and the School House and, with our own efforts, we have a united front to present to our county supervisor."

Adeler told the group that the Park Authority is willing to give the key to the group to manage the building.

"They want to give us the key. Do we take it or not?" said Adeler.

"If I give you the key to two wonderful buildings along a road that 20,000 people pass each day, and tell you you don't have to pay anything, you would have people jumping in the window," said Adeler.

**THE DEVIL** is in the details, of course, and the group worked hard to concentrate its discussion Thursday on interest, tabling details such as property management, insurance, schedule planning, liability and finances for rentals and other details for future meetings.

"Then the real work will start, where every single detail will have to be addressed," said Adeler.

"The Park Authority is willing for us to manage it. The question is, 'What does that mean?'" said Knudsen.

"None of us is strong enough to run the place seven days a week, but as a group maybe it is a different circumstance," said Adeler. "This type of effort cannot happen unless every organization is involved."

"Are we interested?" said Adeler.

Based on initial response, the representative group affirmed the vision of their historical predecessors eight and a half decades ago.

"If we build it, they will come," said Ralph Lazaro, of the Great Falls Business and Professional Association.



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# CALENDAR

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

## ONGOING WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY

**Weekly Storytime.** 11 a.m. Barnes & Noble, 7851 L Tysons Corner Center, McLean. Themes and Titles vary. Free admission.

## 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).

**Great Falls Historical Society Photo Review & History Gathering.** 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Great Falls Library Meeting Room. Review archive of digitized photos to gather history and local memories. All are welcome. [www.gfhs.org](http://www.gfhs.org)

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

## THURSDAY-SATURDAY/OCT. 29-31

**"The Cherry Orchard."** Thursday-Friday, 7:30 p.m. Saturday, 1 p.m. Madeira Chapel Auditorium, 8328 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Anton Chekhov's play on the rich tapestry of human emotion, ambition and desire in a small-town Russian community coming to grips with the reality of changing times. \$5, \$10. Purchase tickets at <https://www.madeira.org/arts/performing-arts/drama-theatre/buy-tickets/>.



PHOTO BY JACK LOONEY

**Ellis Paul comes to Jammin Java in Vienna Friday, Oct. 30, as part of his Chasing Beauty Tour. His songs have been featured in Hollywood films and television shows.**

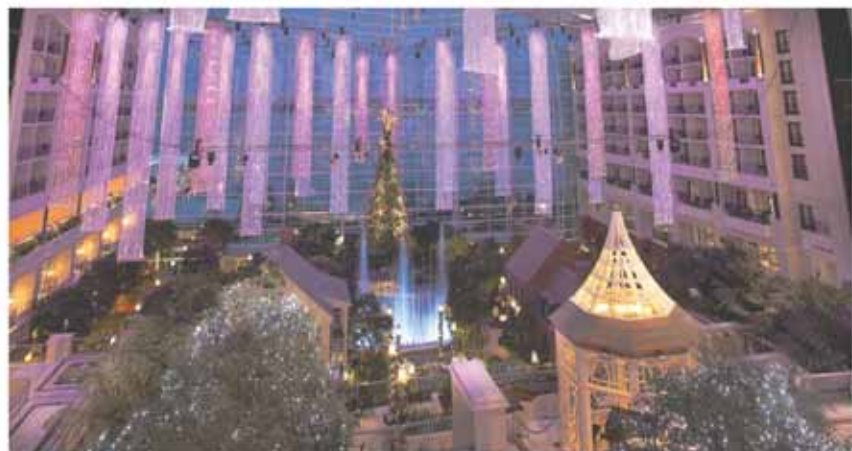
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## THURSDAY/OCT. 29

**Reading Buddies.** 4:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Teen Volunteers available to read to or with beginning readers. Ages 3-9.

## FRIDAY/OCT. 30

**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.

**2015 Arts Awards.** Noon-2 p.m. Fairview Park Marriott, 3111 Fairview Park Drive, Falls Church. Jim Vance of NBC 4 will emcee the event honoring four awardees, Earle C. Williams, Rebecca Kamen, Vienna Jammers, Richard Hausler. Great Falls sculptor Jonathan Fisher designed custom awards, commissioned by the Arts Council. For tickets and information, <http://artsfairfax.org/artsawards>.

## SATURDAY/OCT. 31

**"The Man Who Laughs."** 2 p.m. The Alden, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Based on a Victor Hugo novel, this sad, horrific and swashbuckling film is a great way to start off Halloween celebrations. \$12, \$8. [www.aldentheatre.org](http://www.aldentheatre.org).

**Craft Kids Hour.** 1 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Create awesome crafts to take home. Age 5-12.

**Halloween Spooktacular in Great Falls.** 4 p.m., pet parade. 5-7 p.m. Great Falls Village Green and Great Falls Center. Children (recommended up to age 12) are encouraged to wear a costume, experience the Haunted House and enjoy trick or treating in the heart of the town at both the Village Green and Great Falls Center.

**Halloween! at the Great Falls Farmers Market.** 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Great Falls Village Centre. Trick or Treat the vendors. Costume competition. Healthy Snack Contest - 8 - 18 year old contestants. Chef's Pumpkin Challenge. Kid's Pumpkin Painting & more. The Higher Ground String Band. 778 Walker Road. Great Falls. [www.greatfallsfarmersmarket.org](http://www.greatfallsfarmersmarket.org) for details.

**Vienna Train Show.** 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, 400 Center St. S,

## Halloween Calendar

Halloween events in the area

### 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).

### SATURDAY/OCT. 31

**Halloween Spooktacular in Great Falls.** 4 p.m., pet parade. 5-7 p.m. Great Falls Village Green and Great Falls Center. Children (recommended up to age 12) are encouraged to wear a costume, experience the Haunted House and enjoy trick or treating in the heart of the town at both the Village Green and Great Falls Center.

### FRIDAY-SATURDAY/OCT. 30-31

**Water Pumpkin Patch.** Friday, 5-7 p.m. Saturday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Tysons YWCA, 8101 Wolftrap Road, Vienna. Come ready to have fun, swim in the pool with the pumpkins and pick one to go. \$6 per person, \$20 per family. [karen@neptune-aquatics.com](mailto:karen@neptune-aquatics.com).

### SATURDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 31-NOV. 1

**Reston Zoo's Zoo Boo.** 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Reston Zoo, 1228 Hunter Mill Road, Vienna. Designed for a younger audience, Zoo Boo offers four days of scare-free fun. Join the safe zoo neighborhood of Halloween entertainment, with kid-friendly fun around every corner.

Vienna. Over 50 tables of trains for sale. All kinds: Lionel, American Flyer, HO, train accessories and plastic buildings. And, train repair and parts dealers, Train Doctor, door prizes, free train appraisals. \$5, Free to children under 12, military and Scouts in uniform. <http://www.wba-tca-eastern.org/>.

**Katie's Cars and Coffee.** 6 a.m. Katie's Coffee

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 15

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

# CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 14  
House, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls.  
Join hundreds of local Maryland,  
Virginia, and DC area car enthusiasts  
at Great Falls. 703-759-3309.

## FRIDAY-SATURDAY/OCT. 30-31

**Water Pumpkin Patch.** Friday, 5-7 p.m. Saturday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Tysons YWCA, 8101 Wolftrap Road, Vienna. Come ready to have fun, swim in the pool with the pumpkins and pick one to go. \$6 per person, \$20 per family. karen@neptune-aquatics.com.

## SATURDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 31-NOV. 1

**Reston Zoo's Zooboo.** 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Reston Zoo, 1228 Hunter Mill Road, Vienna. Designed for a younger audience, Zoo Boo offers four days of scare-free fun. Join the safe zoo neighborhood of Halloween entertainment, with kid-friendly fun around every corner.

## SUNDAY/NOV. 1

**Playing by Air.** 2 p.m. The Alden, McLean Community Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. Music, juggling and circus acts in which traditional theatricality meets absurd comedy. The award-winning performers share their sense of playfulness and perform breathtaking feats in a production enjoyed equally by adults and children. \$20, \$15. www.aldentheatre.org. 703-790-0123.

## WEDNESDAY/NOV. 4

**"The Legacy of Faith: Great Falls Churches - 1850s-1940s," Great Falls Historical Society Program.** Great Falls Library Meeting Room at 7 p.m. The history of eight of the oldest churches in Great Falls will be presented by a member of each church. www.gfhs.org.

## THURSDAY/NOV. 5

**Sister Sparrow and the Dirty Birds.** 8 p.m. The Barns, Wolf Trap, 1645 Trap Road Vienna. Sister Sparrow delivers high-energy anthems with her Dirty Birds. The band is currently touring behind its new release, *The Weather Below* (2015). Tickets: \$20 advance; \$25 day of. For more information, visit <http://www.wolftrap.org/> or call 703-255-1900.

## SATURDAY/NOV. 7

**Bruce Vilanch and Judy Gold.** 9 p.m. The Alden, McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. "An Evening with Bruce Vilanch and Judy Gold," the comedians pair up for separate stand-up sets united by their gay, Jewish identities and raunchy, sidesplitting observations. Mature audiences. \$20/\$35. www.aldentheatre.org. 703-790-0123.

**Appraisal Roadshow.** 10-11:30 a.m. Brightview, 10200 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Join Paradigm Experts for a fun and educational morning looking at "what you have, what it's worth, and what you can do with it". RSVP early to be one of the 25 items to be appraised. www.BrightviewGreatFalls.com. 703-759-2513.

## SUNDAY/NOV. 8

**Filene Center Backstage Tour.** 2 p.m. Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. Stand on a world-class stage, learn how a theater runs, and get a sneak peek at where the stars get ready. Tours are limited to 30 participants. 703-255-1827 to RSVP or for additional information.



McLean  
Community  
Center  
*The Center of It All*



## Here's What's Happening at MCC

### The Alden Silent Film Series "The Man Who Laughs"

Saturday, Oct. 31, 2 p.m.  
\$12/\$8 MCC district residents

### Onstage @The Alden Playing By Air

Sunday, Nov. 1, 2 p.m.  
\$20/\$15 MCC district residents

### Old Firehouse Teen Center Teacher Workday Trips Massanutten Waterpark

Monday, Nov. 2, 9:30 a.m.-7 p.m.  
\$65/\$55 MCC district residents

### Players Fun Zone

Tuesday, Nov. 3, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.  
\$55/\$45 MCC district residents

## CHILDREN'S FLEA MARKET

Children's Flea Market  
Saturday, Nov. 7, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Free admission

### Onstage @ The Alden "Big and Tall: Bruce Vilanch and Judy Gold"

Saturday, Nov. 7, 9 p.m.  
\$35/\$20 MCC district residents

### Onstage @ The Alden Elska: "Middle of Nowhere"

Sunday, Nov. 8, 2 p.m.  
\$15/\$10 MCC district residents

McLean Antiques Show & Sale  
Sat.-Sun., Nov. 14-15  
\$10, price good for both days

The McLean Community Center  
[www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org)  
Home of the Alden Theatre  
[www.aldentheatre.org](http://www.aldentheatre.org)



1234 Ingleside Ave.  
McLean, VA 22101  
703-790-0123, TTY: 711



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## Alexandria Film Festival 2015

November 5-8



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Join us to celebrate the art of independent film.

More than 60 films from 17 countries. Meet the filmmakers.

Awards ceremony Nov. 8. Vote for your favorite!

For schedule and ticket information, visit: [AlexandriaFilm.org](http://AlexandriaFilm.org)

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NEWSPAPERS

# Candidates for State Delegate in 34th District

## Kathleen Murphy (D-34)\*

*Incumbent*

**Town of residence:** McLean

**Family:** My husband Bill Sudow and I are parents to six children

**Education:** BA Graduated Magna Cum Laude from American University

**Offices held, dates:** Delegate, 34th District (January 2015 - Present)

**Occupation and relevant**

**experience:** I am currently President of Johnson Murphy & Associates where I build legislative strategies for companies and nonprofits. I served as Associate Staff on Appropriations for Congressman Charlie Wilson and handled Defense and Foreign Affairs, served as Congressional Liaison for United States Agency for International Development, and was appointed Senior Advisor at the International Trade Administration in the US Department of Commerce.

**Community involvement:** I am a member of the McLean Citizens Association, the McLean Community Foundation, and serve on the fundraising board for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. I served on the Human Services Council for Fairfax County and on the Fairfax County Health Care Task Force. I am the Democratic Party Precinct Co-Captain for Langley precinct.

**Website:** www.murphyfordelegate.com

**Email address:** info@murphyfordelegate.com

**Twitter handle:** @kmmurphyva

**Name three favorite endorsements:** Fairfax Chamber's NOVABizPAC, Virginia Education Association, Northern Virginia Association of Realtors



**differences there?**

I have successfully worked across party lines and my legislative record demonstrates that. This past session I cosponsored, and voted for, important legislation introduced by Republicans and Democrats and didn't let partisanship get in the way of doing what was right for our district.

**4. In order, list your top 5 specific legislative**

**priorities.**

1. Reforming the funding formulas for our schools
2. Fighting for Northern Virginia's fair share of transportation funding
3. Ensuring we are business friendly and help small business have access to capital
4. Protecting our children and families from gun violence
5. Promoting renewable energy and other innovative technologies

**5. How has your district changed in the last 10 years? What caused those changes?**

The population of Northern Virginia has increased significantly over the last 10 years. New residents are drawn, to our district specifically, by our quality of life and excellent school system. The extension of the Silver Line and the growth of the Tysons Corner business community are also contributing factors. Simply, the 34th is a great place to live and we need to work to ensure we provide the quality services are growing community deserves.

**6. Will you support legislation restricting high interest lending including car title loans?**

Yes. With more than 460 car-title loan operations in Virginia and interest rates reaching as high as 300%, this abusive high-interest lending must be addressed.

**7. Will you support funding for Fostering Connections which would result in an influx of federal funding for foster children aging out of foster care?**

Yes. I am very supportive of measures that protect and support our most vulnerable children who are aging out of foster care. Virginia has already made great strides in educational stability for children in foster care but there is more work to be done.

**8. Do you support expansion of Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, and if so, what would you do to make that happen?**

Yes. I support Medicaid expansion because it is morally right and fiscally responsible. I will vote for expansion and I will continue to advocate for it in Richmond and in the 34th district.

## Craig A. Parisot (R)

*Challenger, House of Delegates  
District 34*

**Town of residence:** McLean

**Age:** 41

**Family:** Wife Kristin, Son Jackson

**Education:** Bachelor of Arts from the University of South Carolina, MBA from California State Polytechnic University and post-graduate work at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Mr. Parisot is the President and Chief Executive Officer of his third start up. He previously held executive leadership roles in two technology start ups, successfully growing and selling both, and was a founder and the Executive Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer of Altamira Technologies Corporation

**Community involvement:** Mr. Parisot served in the United States Air Force in a combination of active duty and reserve roles from 1996 to 2005 working on science and technology programs, eventually separating at the rank of Captain. Craig is a current board member of Volunteer Fairfax and its most recent past President. Volunteer Fairfax focuses on developing leaders and promoting volunteerism in the region, and mobilizes Fairfax County's volunteer resources in the face of a natural disaster or other crisis. Craig is also on the Board of Directors of the World Police and Fire Games, which created an \$83 million positive economic impact for the region. He also sits on the boards of other for-profit and not-for-profit organizations.

**Website:** www.craigparisot.com

**Email address:** craig@craigparisot.com

**Twitter handle:** @craigparisot

**Name three favorite endorsements:** National Federation of Independent Business, Fairfax Chamber of Commerce NOVA BizPac, and Police Benevolent Association



**bridge the intense partisan differences there?**

I have always been one to run towards hard problems, both as an Air Force Officer and as a business executive. I have always been goal oriented. In business, you can't just walk away from the table. You must find solutions. We need a Delegate in Richmond with the experience and capacity to act. As a member of the majority, I have the ability to get things done — not as a partisan, but on the merits of the proposed solutions to our most urgent problems.

The Virginia way has always been one where elected officials and leaders across the state work together to get things done. This will be one of many things you will gain by sending me to Richmond.

**4. In order, list your top 5 specific legislative priorities.**

Invest in Public Education; Reduce commute times; Fight tolls on I-66 inside the beltway; Improve Virginia's business climate; Pursue growth opportunities in the high technology sector

**5. How has your district changed in the last 10 years? What caused those changes?**

Our area is a very attractive place for people to live. Although, due to our proximity to the federal government, sequestration has had a devastating impact to our economy. Our cost of living continues to rise while traffic worsens. We must grow and diversify our economy, make the necessary investments in public education and solve the region's transportation problems. These are economic and quality of life issues. I am concerned about great people leaving our region because we have failed to address these issues in a meaningful way.

**6. Will you support legislation restricting high interest lending including car title loans?**

Virginia has made some progress in this area, but the question is have we done enough. I believe in finding the right balance between free market principles and providing accessibility to financing alternatives.

**7. Will you support funding for Fostering Connections which would result in an influx of federal funding for foster children aging out of foster care?**

I fully support ensuring that foster children are not forgotten about when they become young adults. We need to make sure those that truly need our help receive it. While I would not be opposed to federal funding, we must find ways to reduce our dependence on Washington.

**8. Do you support expansion of Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, and if so, what would you do to make that happen?**

We should focus on providing for people's healthcare needs exploring the array of alternatives available. The only responsible conversation about a solution incorporates the long term impact to the Virginia taxpayer and reducing our reliance on the federal government. Medicaid currently represents 21% of Virginia's budget and is our fastest growing line item. Simply expanding a broken system is not a long term solution. I have concerns about both the quality and cost of care and we must tackle the matter of reimbursement rates and fraud, waste and abuse. Virginia makes a significant investment annually in the healthcare safety net to ensure everyone receives the help they need and we should continue taking this approach while pursuing necessary reforms.

**QUESTIONS:**

**1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?**

Service before self is a deeply held value of great importance to me and as a third generation veteran, service has a long tradition in my family. I believe in the idea of the citizen legislator. That if we, as ordinary citizens, have something to offer our state or country in a time of need that it is our civic responsibility to offer ourselves in service to our neighbors. I think deeply about the challenges we face and, working together, will figure out ways to make meaningful progress to make our community stronger and safer.

**2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?**

This race for Delegate is one of stark contrast. I'm a Business Leader, having built two advanced technology companies, I deployed lifesaving technologies for our soldiers and first responders, promoted women into key executive leadership roles, and have provided salaries and health benefits for hundreds of families. I have first-hand experience in the technologies central to the Northern Virginia innovation economy, and essential to our future.

**3. Given the political makeup of the state legislature, what examples from your own experience suggests you can successfully**

# Vote Nov. 3

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[www.ConnectionNewspapers.com](http://www.ConnectionNewspapers.com)  
Click on Elections on the navigation bar.

## In-Person Absentee Voting: Vote Early

**In-Person Absentee Voting Fairfax County Government Center**

• **Fairfax County Governmental Center Location**, Conference Room 2/3, 12000 Government Center Pkwy., Fairfax, VA 22035  
Through Oct. 30: extended hours: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 31: 9 - 5.

• **In-Person Absentee Satellite Voting** Through Oct. 30 - Weekdays: Monday - Friday, 3:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 31: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**Satellite Locations:**

• **McLean Governmental Center** - 1437 Balls Hill Road, Community Room, McLean, 22101  
• **North County Governmental Center** - 1801 Cameron Glen Drive, Community Rooms, Reston, 20190

# Candidates for State Senate in District 31

## Barbara Favola (D)

*Senate District 31 Incumbent*  
**Town of residence:** Arlington  
**Age:** 60  
**Family:** Married to Doug Weik with one son, Donald Patrick  
**Education:** BS, Saint Joseph College in West Hartford, CT 1977; MPA, New York University, New York, NY 1980  
**Offices held, dates:** Arlington County Board Member 1997 through 2011; VA State Senator 2011 to 2015  
**Occupation and relevant experience:** Government Relations and Community Outreach Consultant  
**Community involvement:** Board Member of: Child & Family Network Centers, Arlington YMCA, Culpepper Garden, Fairfax Court Appointed Special Advocate Program and the Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind  
**Website:** BarbaraFavola.org  
**Email:** District31@senate.virginia.gov  
**Twitter handle:** @BarbaraFavola  
**Name three favorite endorsements:** Virginia Education Association; League of Conservation Voters and NARAL



**3. Given the political makeup of the state legislature, what examples from your own experience suggest you can successfully bridge the intense partisan differences there?**

The fact that I successfully passed important pieces of legislation is an indication that I can effectively work across party lines.

**4. In order, list your top 5 specific legislative priorities.**

Improving K-12 Education, Investing in Pre-School, Participating in Medicaid Expansion, Improving Workforce Training and better funding Higher Education.

**5. How has your district changed in the last 10 years? What caused those changes?**

My district has become increasingly diverse and the public school systems in Arlington, Fairfax and Loudoun are struggling to ensure that high school graduation rates remain high and that higher education options are available to everyone.

**6. Will you support legislation restricting high interest lending including car title loans?**

Yes.

**7. Will you support funding for Fostering Connections which would result in an influx of federal funding for foster children aging out of foster care?**

Yes. I have introduced this legislation for the past three years. In 2014, the General Assembly passed authorizing legislation to permit Virginia's participation. However, State funding was not made available. I am working with Governor McAuliffe to include this program in his budget.

**8. Do you support expansion of Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, and if so, what would you do to make that happen?**

Absolutely! I have been working to make Medicaid Expansion a reality in the Commonwealth for the past three years. I will work to build a strong coalition of support that includes Republican leaning organizations.

## George V. Forakis (R)

*Challenger, Senate District 31*  
**Town of residence:** Arlington  
**Age:** 26  
**Education:** University of Maryland; Robert H. Smith School of Business, B.S. Finance & Accounting  
**Occupation and relevant experience:** Financial / National Security Consulting  
**Community involvement:** Board of Directors – local environmental non-profit  
**Website:** www.forakisforsenate.com  
**Email address:** george@forakisforsenate.com  
**Twitter handle:** @GeorgeForakis



ing agendas. While I hold true to many of my party's values, I am not afraid to share my perspective as a member of the next generation of leaders. My issue agenda reflects a conservative approach with a willingness to consider an evolving landscape, both in our state and in our country. I am committed to representing the people of this district and am prepared to bring common-sense leadership to

the legislature.  
**4. In order, list your top 5 specific legislative priorities.**

❖ Creating jobs through economic development initiatives ❖ Reduce the tax burden on the middle class by cutting waste and prioritizing spending ❖ Improving infrastructure to alleviate traffic/congestion, allowing for a better quality of life and positive secondary economic effects ❖ Invest in all levels of education, including higher education and high-quality vocational programs for students who do not want to, or are unable to attend four-year programs. ❖ Alternative energy sources and clean nuclear power

**5. How has your district changed in the last 10 years? What caused those changes?**

Until "sequestration" in 2013, the population in this district (and Northern Virginia in general) was growing at an incredible rate. The federal budget cuts and subsequent slow in growth that occurred two years ago, however, illuminated that fact that we are too heavily reliant on D.C.'s fiscal policy and are in desperate need of our own economy. Indeed, we will always be home to defense contractors and IT professionals — but we must ensure that we create an environment that encourages all types of businesses to participate in the economy.

**6. Will you support legislation restricting high interest lending including car title loans?**

Yes. Part of our job as legislators is to protect the people that we represent and we are obligated to prevent businesses from taking advantage of Virginia families, even if it means putting common-sense limitations on the free market.

**7. Will you support funding for Fostering Connections which would result in an influx of federal funding for foster children aging out of foster care?**

Yes. Assistance to these families, especially considering that they may be considering/already enrolled in higher education at the time of aging out, is critical in shaping the futures of our foster children.

**8. Do you support expansion of Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, and if so, what would you do to make that happen?**

Instead of Medicaid expansion, I support solutions that give Virginia citizens options and will work to support proactively-focused and less costly preventative care.

### QUESTIONS:

**1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?**

Virginia, and more specifically Northern Virginia, faces the increasing challenge of providing a steady source of jobs that are not reliant on the federal government. This includes attracting both new and expanding businesses — in Northern Virginia, the evidence of this challenge is clear — vacant office space and a continued reliance on federal spending are issues that must be addressed as we move forward. This issue defines my call to serve the people of Virginia's 31<sup>st</sup> district; for too long, our representatives have avoided tackling the difficult issues that affect a majority of our population. These economic challenges can be addressed with a variety of approaches, including lower taxes, decreased regulation, investment in infrastructure, and cultivating an overall business-friendly environment. The advantages of this approach are widespread and include lower individual taxes across all levels of income, and improved infrastructure, such as roads and communications systems, that will benefit everyone.

**2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?**

I have not spent my professional career in an elected position, and as such, my commitments are simple and unwavering — I will make sure that the people of the Northern Virginia are represented the way that they want to be represented, not the way that special interests groups and politicians would like them to be. To the people of this district: I promise to listen to you (yes, all of you — regardless of whether you are in the heart of Arlington or the neighborhoods of Fairfax and Loudoun Counties).

**3. Given the political makeup of the state legislature, what examples from your own experience suggests you can successfully bridge the intense partisan differences there?**

The state legislature, much like Congress and the rest of Washington, faces challenges stemming from partisan differences and stubborn, self-serv-

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• **McLean Governmental Center** - 1437 Balls Hill Road, Community Room, McLean, 22101

• **North County Governmental Center** - 1801 Cameron Glen Drive, Community Rooms, Reston, 20190

## Information on Voting

Virginia Law allows voters to vote absentee if they could be "working and commuting for 11 or more hours between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Election Day."

You're allowed to count your worst possible commute in estimating how many hours you might be working and commuting on Election Day. If you qualify, you can vote early in-person, see sidebar above.

On Election Day, Nov. 3, polls are open from 6 a.m. - 7 p.m.

You can check your registration status online by going to [www.sbe.virginia.gov](http://www.sbe.virginia.gov).

Each voter in Fairfax County can make choices in one State Senate district, one

House of Delegates district, Clerk of the Court, Commonwealth's Attorney, Sheriff, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, District member of the Board of Supervisors, Fairfax County School Board at Large (vote for 3); District School Board member; Soil and Water Conservation Board (vote for 3); School Bond for \$310 million, Public Safety Bond for \$151 million. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming.htm>

It's also worth noting that new, more restrictive voter identification regulations took effect last year. Voters arriving to the polls without required photo ID will be al-

lowed to vote a provisional ballot and will have until noon on the Friday after the election to deliver a copy of identification to their locality's electoral board in order for their provisional ballot to be counted. Photo ID requirements also apply to absentee voters who vote in-person in all elections.

Here are the "acceptable" forms of identification: Valid Virginia Driver's License or Identification Card; valid Virginia DMV issued Veteran's ID card; valid U.S. Passport; Other government-issued photo identification cards (U.S. government or Virginia); valid Virginia college or university student photo identification card; employee identification card containing a photograph of the voter; Virginia Voter Photo ID Card obtained through any local general registrar's office.

"Valid" is defined as a genuine document, bearing the photograph of the voter, and is not expired for more than 12 months.

Any registered voter may apply for a free Virginia Voter Photo Identification from any general registrar's office in the Commonwealth. Voters applying for the Virginia Voter Photo ID Card will have to complete the Virginia Voter Photo Identification Card Application, have their picture taken, and sign the digital signature pad.

**For More Election Information**  
**Fairfax County Board of Elections**, 703-222-0776, <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming.htm>

12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Suite 232, Fairfax, 22035; FAX 703-324-2205; email [voting@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:voting@fairfaxcounty.gov)



# School Board Candidates At-Large

## Dr. R. E. "Bob" Copeland

**Town of residence:** Vienna

**Age:** 68  
**Family:** Sharol: Wife of 44 years; McLean H.S. graduate, two children, Both Marshall H.S. and JMU graduates. Seven grandchildren, all living in Fairfax County.

**Education:** Bachelor of Science Pharmacy, Doctor of Dental Surgery, General Practice Residency VA Hospital Washington DC.

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Dentist: I meet with the general public daily, diagnose their problems, and then solve them. Small Business Owner 1978 to present.

**Community involvement:** Falls Church Little League, Vienna Civic Association, Citizen Advisory Committee for Fairfax County Police Dept.

**Website:** [www.BobForSchoolBoard.com](http://www.BobForSchoolBoard.com)

**Email address:** [dobobdds@aol.com](mailto:dobobdds@aol.com)

**Name three favorite endorsements:** FCRC, Elizabeth Schultz, Carly Fiorina

### QUESTIONS:

#### 1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

We have one of the best school systems in the country. The present School Board has little interest in budget management and is leading us in a way that is unsustainable. Despite an increase in the budget of 107% and enrollment growth of 22% over the past 15 years, we are falling behind in many major categories. Class sizes are up. Teacher salaries are flat and so is the achievement gap. Seven schools are in danger of losing their accreditation just in one district. It is past time for an outside, transparent and meaningful audit so programs can be evaluated, fluff eliminated and core educational achievement can be maximized.

#### 2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?

The School Board and Administration need to take responsibility for their failure to prioritize programs, eliminate waste and manage the budget.

I would not design an online budget tool whose purpose is to shield the administration and school board from criticism by creating cuts by popular demand. A real budget tool would engage parents by asking them what they would like to save. If cuts were actually needed, informed leaders would have to make the adjustment.

#### 3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?

FCPS should use merit based instruction, with a focus on providing a quality education for all our students. The schools cannot change the economic conditions of families. All they can do is assure that every student has an educational opportunity that will allow each individual to succeed.

#### 4. How to address the achievement gap?

The achievement gap is largely between English and non-English speaking children. It is a tragedy that non-English speaking children are kept in ESOL programs for years without progress. I would advocate for summer school for ESOL students to speed mainstreaming. Since the federal government has opened the door to illegal immigration, they should pay for the added costs.

#### 5. Budget Question

I am confident that 2.3% of savings could be found in the present \$3 billion budget. One of my frustrations as a concerned citizen is the lack of transparency of the cost and effectiveness of programs. As presently structured, the number one item for elimination is athletics. Athletics is an \$11 million line item in a \$3 billion budget. What is missing in the analysis is athletics bring in an excess of \$100 million in non-taxpayer money to the School System. The take home lesson is: Never Never Never end athletics.



## Omar Fateh

**Town of residence:** Annandale

**Age:** 25  
**Education:** MPA from George Mason University

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Former Campaign Finance Analyst at FEC, Former Academic Advisor/Assistant Instructor at Northern Virginia Community College

**Community involvement:** Co-organize youth basketball league, Assist in developing tutoring programs at local mosques

**Website:** [www.fatehforschoolboard.com](http://www.fatehforschoolboard.com)

**Email address:** [fateh4sb@gmail.com](mailto:fateh4sb@gmail.com)

**Twitter handle:** Fateh4sb

**Name favorite endorsements:** Fairfax Education Association

### QUESTIONS:

#### 1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

The achievement gap. Our minority and economically disadvantaged students continually score 20-30 points below their peers on standardized tests. The dropout rate among economically disadvantaged students has nearly doubled in the last four years. First, standardized test scores should not be the main indicator of student progress or potential. Second, rather than having teachers teach to the tests, it is important for the School Board to give teachers the freedom to identify their students' strengths and interests. Finally, we must get parents involved, and to place responsibility on the students to succeed as well.

#### 2. Why should voters choose you?

The qualities that separate me most from the other candidates for School Board include the perspective I bring as a member of some of the County's many underrepresented communities (including the Somali and Muslim communities), as a former Fairfax County Public Schools student, and also as a former advisor to countless area students at Northern Virginia Community College.

#### 3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?

Many parents in Fairfax County must work multiple jobs, and are not able to provide the full support needed by their children, such as attending school meetings and checking their children's work. It is critical for us to get parents as involved as we can, in part by meeting them on their terms and as much as possible. I will ensure that I am easily accessible to the entire community. Having worked with my local mosque to develop a tutoring program for our County's youth, many people within our community are willing to donate their time and efforts to help both academically, and in developing them as professionals.

Increased funding is necessary to meet the needs of an ever-expanding student body.

#### 4. How to address the achievement gap?

To begin addressing the issue in earnest, the School Board first needs compassionate representatives willing to understand and serve the needs of the full range of County students with new energy and ability.

#### 5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the school system with a budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What steps would you take to manage the gap? What are the top priorities and what could be cut?

Board members must also better engage their fellow elected officials to seek additional funding. The majority of the Board of Supervisors wants to fully fund our schools, but the dollars simply are not coming in from Richmond. We need to work with state representatives to bring back our tax dollars. We must work first and foremost to provide additional funding. We must get both Boards on the same page, and put education—in other words, our children—first in Fairfax County.



## Jeanette Hough

**Town of residence:** Fairfax

**Age:** 36  
**Family:** Husband, Charlie (Oakton graduate '97); Ryan (4th grade), Keri (2nd grade), Ethan (Kindergarten), Vader (rescue puppy)

**Education:** B.A. in Economics; University of Virginia, Masters in Physical Therapy; University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Physical Therapist (Senior Therapist – mentor and leader role)

**Community involvement:** Volunteer in children's elementary school, local homeless shelter, church, and with meals and holiday gifts through Our Daily Bread, volunteer with kid's sports and activities, Manna Meal coordinator, PTA member

**Website:** [jeanetteforschoolboard.com](http://jeanetteforschoolboard.com)

**Email address:** [jeanetteforschoolboard@gmail.com](mailto:jeanetteforschoolboard@gmail.com)

**Name three favorite endorsements:** Class Size Counts, Former Congressman Tom Davis, Congresswoman Barbara Comstock

### QUESTIONS:

#### 1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

Responsibility to the community defines my call to serve. That responsibility comes with engaging the community members, being fiscally responsible and setting clear priorities. Authentic engagement includes holding office hours and citizen town halls throughout the year, not just showing up to ribbon cuttings and planned events. Our community deserves more transparency with FCPS' \$2.7 billion operating fund. I will prioritize reducing large class sizes, not with one-time fixes the way my opponents have, but with long-term planning. I will prioritize competitive teacher salaries. Our teachers' salaries have fallen behind compared to surrounding counties. Instead of making it a real priority, the Board raised their own salary by 60%.

#### 2. What distinguishes you from your opponents, why should voters choose you?

My opponents either do not have children or have not had children in FCPS for a long time. As the mother of children in graduating classes of 2023, 2025, 2027, I bring a unique insight into our school system. I bring an Economics degree when we face a shortfall of over \$70 million for FY17 due to failing to enact budgeting best practices.

#### 3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?

Part of the growing divide comes from parallel decisions made by the Board of Supervisors. It is imperative to have a new School Board that can build trust with the Board of Supervisors. With a better relationship, the two Boards can work together for our community and all of our children.

#### 4. How to address the achievement gap?

Under current leadership, the achievement gap continues to be substantial. We cannot keep electing the same people and expect a different result. We need to provide a rigorous curriculum to all students and allocate resources for objective gains. We need to work with the community to provide wraparound services and empower parents to help their children at home.

#### 5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the school system with a budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What are the top priorities and what could be cut?

FCPS' projected shortfall is 2.5% of the operating budget. The current School Board took five years to hire an auditor general and has refused to do a line of business review. My top priority is to ensure clear metrics and objectivity so we base cuts on educational impact and effectiveness, not on bias and popularity. We also need to look at FCPS' contract procurement practices. I will bring leadership to the Board so we cut waste and inefficiency, not proven programs.



## Manar Jean-Jacques

**Town of residence:** Fairfax

**Age:** 31  
**Family:** My family is originally from Egypt and my wonderful husband, Thierry, is from Haiti. We have been married for 7 years and we have two children, Thomas is 2 and Mary is 8 months.

**Education:** I hold a B.A. in Sociology from George Mason University

**Occupation and relevant experience:** I work at the Refugee Processing Center as a contractor for the Department of State.

**Community involvement:** I participate in local volunteer opportunities though my church, I spent time on the ground in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina assisting in disaster relief efforts and I spent time helping at an orphanage in my husband's hometown of Port-au-Prince, Haiti after the devastating earthquake in 2010.

**Website:** [www.ManarForFairfax.com](http://www.ManarForFairfax.com)

**Email address:** [Manar@manarforfairfax.com](mailto:Manar@manarforfairfax.com)

**Twitter handle:** @Manar4FFX

**Name favorite endorsements:** GOP and Arab Community Radio.

### QUESTIONS:

#### 1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?

As a first generation American, I cherish the importance of a government that listens to its people. I feel called to serve in my local government because the current school board is unresponsive to its constituents. I plan on involving the community in all board-related matters through regular town halls, PTA meetings, setting special time aside to meet with teachers and making myself readily available to the residents of Fairfax County via office hours, email and phone.

**2. Why should voters choose you?** As a mom of two future FCPS students, my priority is ensuring the highest quality education for FCPS students so that our children have the best opportunities to thrive and be successful. I understand the frustration parents have with class size disparity, the need for more rigor in the classroom and the need for parents of this next generation to be respected and recognized as the primary educators of their children.

#### 3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?

It is important to keep rigor, class size disparity and staffing formulas at the heart of the conversation with the community. Working together, we can create solutions that address our county's challenges and needs. It is the responsibility of FCPS to educate all students in the county and shape them into productive members of the community.

#### 4. How to address the achievement gap?

Coming from an immigrant family and working daily to bring refugees to the U.S., I understand what education means for those seeking a better future for themselves and their families in the U.S. I am very concerned that the needle hasn't moved on closing the minority achievement gap in years, despite \$65 million being poured into projects targeting the issue. I would begin addressing the achievement gap by engaging teachers in the conversation and seeking their expertise.

#### 5. Budget Question:

If elected, I would like to put a motion before the board to vote on giving back the 60% raise they voted themselves in the midst of this budget gap. I would also like to look at outsourcing FCPS jobs that do not directly impact the education of children inside the classroom. Outsourcing gives businesses in the community an opportunity to thrive and frees up money that we would have been paying into pensions to now be redirected back into the classroom.



# School Board Candidates At-Large

## Ryan McElveen

**INCUMBENT**

**Town of residence:** McLean

**Age:** 29

**Family:** Married

**Education:** M.A. in International Affairs, Columbia University; B.A. in Anthropology and East Asian Studies, The University of Virginia

**Offices held, dates:** School Board Member, At-Large, January 2012-Present

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Assistant Director, John L. Thornton China Center, The Brookings Institution

**Website:** www.ryanfordschoolboard.com

**Email address:** voteryanmc@gmail.com

**Twitter handle:** @RyanLMcElveen

**Name three endorsements:** Fairfax County Federation of Teachers, Fairfax Education Association, Fairfax County Democratic Committee

**QUESTIONS:**

**1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?**

I will remain a voice for the voiceless who don't know how to best resolve their concerns with the school system. One of my first actions on the Board was to push for the creation of a system to allow community members to submit YouTube video testimonies to be shown at our meetings. I will continue engaging with the community in a transparent manner and with an open mind while working to improve our communications.

**2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?**

I have a track record of bringing significant and positive change to the school system in a short amount of time. I have focused on three major initiatives: improving school food, the internationalization working group, and the alumni networking action group which has helped us map a path to create FCPS alumni association.

**3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?**

FCPS is a tale of two counties, and this unquestionably has emerged as one of our biggest challenges. To address this divide, the School Board must maintain its long-standing practice of targeting these communities with needs-based funding. Co-location of school and human services facilities, as has been piloted in Mount Vernon, is another way to tackle this community issue without spending significant additional county resources.

**4. How to address the achievement gap?**

Our Board has remained steadfast in our support of needy students and those who speak other languages at home by directing budget resources to these at-risk populations. We have made expanding early childhood opportunities one of our priorities, because we know that investments in the education of students at an early age pay dividends later in their educational careers (thus saving our system money). We must continue working with the county to creatively fund and house these programs.

**5. Budget Question**

FCPS cannot remain the system it is today at current levels of funding, and we won't realize that we've hit the breaking point until it's too late. It is well past time to diversify local revenue streams.

Beyond Fairfax, the School Board must take advocacy to the next level by coalition building with similar, like-minded districts and umbrella organizations throughout the state to push for a change to our state funding mechanisms. Additionally, both Boards need to continue exploring legal recourse to obtain the education funding guaranteed by the Virginia constitution.



## Ilryong Moon

**INCUMBENT**

**Town of residence:** Fairfax

**Age:** 58

**Family:** Father of 2 FCPS graduates

**Education:** Harvard, B.A.; William and Mary Law School, J.D.

**Offices held, dates:** At-Large School Board Member, 07/1995-12/1995 & 2004-present; Braddock District School Board Member 1996-1999; At-Large Planning Commissioner 2000-2003.

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Attorney since 1984; Member, Board of Directors, American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras, 2000-2010; Member, Board of Directors, Montessori School of Northern Virginia, 1994-1995

**Community involvement:** Youth soccer coaching, Fairfax-Falls Church Regional Council of the United Way, Police Chief's Diversity Council.

**Website:** www.moon4schools.com

**Email address:** moon@moon4schools.com

**Twitter handle:** @Moon4Schools

**Name three favorite endorsements:** My family, Fairfax County Federation of Teachers, and Democratic Party

**QUESTIONS:**

**1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?**

We should prepare our students for global competition. They will not only lead our country in the future, but must be able to compete with the students from the other nations. I want Fairfax County to be the best place to live, work, and raise children. We need good teachers and must support them. We should challenge our students to do their best, meet their individual needs, and provide them with a broad curriculum, including in STEM and foreign language education.

**2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s); why should voters choose you?**

Experience and unique perspectives. I have served on the school board for 16 years, including 3 years as chairman and 2 years as vice chairman, and also chaired budget, governance, personnel, and policy committees. Furthermore, I bring unique perspectives as an immigrant grown up in poverty, an English language learner, an attorney, and a small business owner.

**3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?**

All students should have resources per their needs. We should work more closely with the parents to help their children succeed. For the parents with language, cultural, or employment barriers, we should reach out to them more proactively. All students should have adequate access to digital devices and internet capability. We must also work with the County Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission on housing issues not to concentrate high poverty students on certain areas.

**4. How to address the achievement gap?**

Adequate resources, closer work with families, and high expectations for all students are needed. I support needs-based staffing. Resources should follow students' needs whether in opportunities, special education, or learning English as a second language. We need to equip, train, and educate parents to help their children succeed. Also, everyone should have high expectations for all students. We should expand early childhood education opportunities, working with the County, State, private sector, and community organizations.

**5. Budget Question**

A community consensus on the school funding level should be built. I support the superintendent's work with the budget task force to gather community input. Both the School Board and the Board of Supervisors need to know where the community stands. We should also review our programs, practices, and operations to find savings. My priorities are to increase teacher salaries, lower class sizes, and challenge all students to do their best and pre



## Burnette G. Scarboro

**Town of residence:** Alexandria (Fairfax County)

**Age:** Over 21

**Family:** Luther, husband; Children – Syreeta, Seneca and Stefanie

**Education:** Johnson C. Smith University, Charlotte, NC; NOVA Community College; and George Mason University, Fairfax, VA.

**Offices held, dates:** No elected office held

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Fairfax County Public Schools – Family Engagement Representative; African Heritage Early Literacy Project Leader. Co-founder South County Youth Network a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Member, Lt. Governor's Commonwealth Council for Childhood Success

**Community involvement:** Northern VA District PTA Director; Member, VA State PTA Board; Member, Chairman Bulova's Ad Hoc Police Review Committee; Coordinator, West Potomac-Mount Vernon School-Community Coalition

**Website:** www.burnette4schoolboard.com

**Email address:** friendsofburnette@gmail.com

**Twitter handle:**

**Name three favorite endorsements:** Dr. Larry Bussey; The Faith Community; and Mattie Palmore, Community Activist

**QUESTIONS:**

**1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?**

My desire to have equitable education for all students drives me to run, along with character education in all school pyramids.

**2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?**

Voters should choose me because I am embedded in the school system as an employee; family oriented and believe that students and families should not be judged by their geographical location.

**3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?**

First, we need to address the increase in families placing their children in private schools or homeschooling; second, the economic divide is a direct correlation of the type of businesses in a community, i.e., fast food establishments vs. Fortune 500; and, third – work on changing the mindset of judging others by zip codes.

**4. How will you address the achievement gap?**

The achievement gap should not exist. The history of public education clearly shows that that public education was not designed for people of color. The achievement gap came on the scene when schools were integrated. I can only address the problem when all stakeholders understand why the problem exists.

**5. More than half of the county budget is devoted to the local school system with a significant budget gap looming, both for FCPS and Fairfax County. What steps would you take to manage the gap and to fund the needs of the school system? What are the top priorities and what could be cut?**

FCPS and the BOS must work together to develop strategies to bring more businesses into the area and reduce the reliance on real estate taxes. Teachers know where cuts can be made and that is the group that I would begin my inquiries.

**6. What value does FCPS add for taxpayers who do not have children in the schools?**

A school system with a stellar reputation is sought by businesses and former school graduates to return and give back to the community. Taxpayers want to see "more bang for their bucks." Elect me to the school board and you'll see the plan in action!



## Theodore J. "Ted" Velkoff

**INCUMBENT**

**Town of Residence:** Chantilly

**Age:** 61

**Family:** Wife, Dr. Patricia Velkoff; Daughters Catherine (South Lakes H.S. 2007), Elizabeth (Chantilly H.S. 2009)

**Offices held, dates:** At-Large member of the Fairfax County School Board, January 2012 to present. Have served as Vice Chairman of the Board, Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Budget Committee.

**Occupation and relevant experience:** Senior Software Architect at Integrity One Partners, Reston VA; previously with Lockheed Martin and IBM in Manassas, VA. M.A., Computer Science, Indiana University; M. Music, Conducting, Indiana University; B. Music, Composition, University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music.

**Community involvement:** PTSA President, Chantilly H.S.; PTA Treasurer, Chantilly H.S., Rocky Run M.S., Poplar Tree E.S.; Treasurer, Pleasant Valley Preschool, Girl Scout Troup 2829. Volunteer, stage manager and occasional human prop, Fairfax Ballet.

**Website:** http://www.tv4sb.org

**Email address:** ted@tv4sb.org

**Twitter handle:** @TedVelkoff

**Name three favorite endorsements:** Supervisor John Foust, Senator Chap Petersen, Delegate Ken Plum.

**QUESTIONS:**

**1. What is one issue that defines your call to serve, why does it matter, and how will you tackle it?**

Eliminate high stakes testing and replace with authentic assessments. We must restore joy of teaching and learning that comes from projects, inquiry and communication. Recently inaugurated Portrait of a Graduate defines success not in terms of what students know, but what they can do with what they know.

**2. What distinguishes you from your opponent(s) and why should voters choose you?**

I am proud of the work accomplished. We hired a visionary and transformational leader in Dr. Karen Garza. We made much-needed changes to student discipline practices; solved the high school start time problem; and instituted full-day instruction in elementary schools on Mondays. My opponents have seldom, if ever, attended school board meetings or work sessions, and appear to have been motivated solely by disagreement with one action of the board last May.

**3. How will you address the growing economic divide in county schools?**

We must insist on rigorous instruction for all children in all schools, whether wealthy or poor, gifted or disadvantaged. I am deeply opposed to the punitive accountability measures imposed by the state and federal government, which are counterproductive. I am just as deeply committed to the principle that we in FCPS must do everything we can to meet the needs of all children.

**4. How to address the achievement gap?**

The most important thing we can do is to achieve universal pre-school in Fairfax County. Nobel Prize economist James Heckman has demonstrated that high quality pre-school yields a 7 to 1 return on investment in less remediation and discipline issues over the career of a student.

**5. Budget Question**

The County Executive has told FCPS to "live within its means." In accordance with that budget guidance, the Superintendent will have to cut \$72M from the operating budget. The School Board has closed similar gaps by increasing class size and limiting employee compensation. This year I will not support a budget that is balanced on the backs of our employees.



# SPORTS

## Young Helps Wakefield Fend Off Improving Marshall

Statesmen fall to 4-4 overall, 3-1 in Conference 13.

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

As members of the Wakefield and Marshall football teams passed one another in the postgame handshake line, Wakefield senior running back Leon Young offered words of encouragement to the opposing Statesmen.

"They fight hard every single play," Young said. "That's what I told all of the guys during the handshake: 'It's going to get rough. Just keep your heads up and keep on pushing and things will turn around for you.'"

On Friday night in Arlington, Wakefield-versus-Marshall was a matchup of a perennial loser-turned-playoff team and a long-time doormat on the rise. While Marshall might one day reach Wakefield's level of improvement, there were still elements separating the two teams.

Mainly, Young plays for the Warriors.

Young amassed 279 yards of offense and scored four touchdowns, leading Wakefield to a 33-19 victory over Marshall on Oct. 23 at Wakefield High School. The Warriors extended their win streak to six games and took over sole possession of first place in Conference 13 after each team entered Friday's contest with a 3-0 conference record.

"We knew that [Marshall] was a good team," Wakefield head coach Wayne Hogwood said. "We've seen them develop. I've watched [head coach] George [Masten] turn this program around slowly each year."

In 2014, just his second season as Wakefield head coach, Hogwood led a program with 30 consecutive non-winning seasons to its best record since 1972. The Warriors finished 8-4 and earned the first playoff victory in program history. This season, the Warriors dropped their first two games but entered Friday having won five straight.

**IN THE FIVE SEASONS** before Masten took over as Marshall head coach in 2014, the Statesmen compiled a record of 4-46, including back-to-back winless seasons in 2012 and 2013. Marshall finished 2-8 in Masten's first year, but is much improved this season, entering Friday's game with a 4-3 record.

Marshall has not had a winning season since 2007.

Masten has helped point Marshall in the right direction, but the Statesmen played Friday's second half without their head coach, who was ejected with 4:01 remaining in the second quarter after arguing with an official.

"I'm going to do whatever I can to protect my guys," Masten said. "I love my guys. These kids are special to me and if I can blatantly see that somebody's going after one of my players and it's not going to get called, then I'm going to go after that offi-



Marshall running back Jelani Murray produced the Statesmen's lone offensive touchdown against Wakefield on Friday, scoring on a 40-yard run.

PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

cial and I'm going to let them know that that's not acceptable, 100 percent. I don't care what happens. If they're going to go after [my player] and [the officials are] not going to do anything about it, I'm going to let them know about it."

While Marshall has struggled in recent seasons, Hogwood said the Warriors did not take the Statesmen lightly.

"We knew," Hogwood said. "We talked about it last year. We saw this program that Marshall has developing last year. They do things the right way, their lower levels are good and they've got a couple kids that our kids know. The ... quarterback (Markel Harrison) is a great athlete. The fullback (Joshua Hurlburt) ... is one of the toughest kids we've ever played against. We didn't sleep on them at all. We knew this was going to be one of the toughest games of the year and I think that helped us and we practiced that way this week."

Marshall junior Elijah Weske returned the second-half kickoff 74 yards for a touchdown, giving the Statesmen a 16-13 lead early in the third quarter. Wakefield didn't panic, however, regaining the lead on its following possession. The Warriors used 7 minutes, 2 seconds to march 90 yards in 11 plays, taking a 20-16 lead on a 5-yard touchdown pass from sophomore quarterback Colton Poythress to Young.

A roughing the punter penalty against Marshall kept the drive alive.

Wakefield extended the lead to 26-16 on its next drive, when Poythress connected with Young for a 63-yard touchdown with 10:32 remaining in the fourth quarter.

Young carried 30 times for 187 yards and two touchdowns, and caught five passes for 92 yards and two scores.

"He can do everything," Hogwood said. "He can catch, he can throw — although we don't want him to — he can run and he wants the ball. In a game situation like this, he'll come over, all I've got to do is ask him which way he wants to go."

It was the second straight week Young scored four touchdowns in a game. He ran

for 208 yards and four scores during a 49-0 win against Stuart on Oct. 16.

"He's doing what I've been expecting him to do, to be honest with you," Hogwood said. "He's been my guy since he was a sophomore. I came in, he came up from the freshman [team], that offensive line came up, we played all of those guys as sophomores and they took their lumps and they didn't quit on us. They kept learning, they kept listening, they kept taking the criticism we were giving them and they've gotten better every year and every game and this is where we expected them to be."

Young and Hogwood each praised the Wakefield offensive line.

Poythress, who took over as Wakefield's starting quarterback after the team lost its first two games, also had a big night for the Warriors, completing 8 of 10 passes for 127 yards and three touchdowns. His 24-yard touchdown pass to Chris Robertson gave Wakefield a 33-16 lead with 7:12 remaining in the fourth quarter.

"We still are looking for him to mature a little bit more and get a little bit more confident in himself," Hogwood said about sophomore Poythress, "but he's done ... the most important thing, I think, as a quarterback — he doesn't make mistakes."

**MARSHALL QUARTERBACK** Harrison completed 8 of 15 passes for 93 yards, and was intercepted once. Running back Jelani Murray carried five times for 63 yards and a touchdown, and Hurlburt carried 14 times for 46 yards.

Marshall kicker Robert Guenther made field goals of 29 and 36 yards.

"We came to play," Masten said. "I don't think we have the [same amount of] size as people that we play across the board. I think we play extremely hard up front for the guys we have. I think we played really hard, so I'm very proud of my guys."

Wakefield (6-2, 4-0) will travel to face Thomas Jefferson at 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 30. Marshall (4-4, 3-1) will travel to face Stuart.



Jessica Donaldson and the Langley volleyball team are nearing the end of the regular season.

PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

## Langley, McLean Competing for Top Seed in Conference 6

The Langley and McLean volleyball team are competing for the top seed in the Conference 6 tournament as the regular season comes to a close.

Langley faced defending state runner-up Madison on Tuesday, after The Connection's deadline. The Saxons entered the match with a 5-0 conference record, while the Warhawks were 4-1. Langley will conclude the regular season with a home match against rival McLean at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 29.

McLean faced Yorktown on Tuesday. The Highlanders entered the match with a 4-1 conference record after beating Madison in five sets on Oct. 21.

## Langley Football Falls to 1-7

The Langley football team lost to South Lakes 48-42 on Oct. 23, dropping its record to 1-7 overall and 1-4 in Conference 6.

It was the Saxons' third defeat by seven points or less.

Langley will host Yorktown at 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 30.

## McLean Football Searching for First Win

The McLean football team fell to 0-8 with a 28-0 home loss to Washington-Lee on Oct. 23.

The Highlanders will travel to face Fairfax at 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 30 and will conclude the regular season with a home game against rival Langley at 7 p.m. on Nov. 6.

# LETTERS

FROM PAGE 10

tions that work. And, I'm a Republican.

**Richard Bliss**  
Great Falls

## Time for Change

To the Editor:

I have been a resident of Great Falls since I moved to Virginia in 1974. When I bought my house the house payments were about \$450 a month, which include taxes and loan insurance on my VA loan. Being the frugal person that I am, my plan was to pay off my house so as to ensure that I would have a comfortable place to live after retirement if I decided to stay in the area. Forty one plus years later my Fairfax county taxes alone are \$5640.49 or about \$470 per month, more than my original house payments. For those taxes I do not have sewer, water, sidewalks or streetlights - none of which I want as limited development ensures low crime and less traffic. Gerry Connolly, now Democrat in the House of Representatives for the 11th Virginia district, gave us 12 years of increased county taxes when he was Fairfax county supervisor before his now secure position in Congress as D/11th district. The bottom line is now we have John Foust who continues pushing for increasing the county taxes as he votes a huge increase in pay for himself, never mind his earlier run trying to get elected to the Virginia house of delegates in Richmond. I know the Fairfax pay increase does not apply during this present term but will only take effect for the next term in which I am sure he is hoping to be serving. Like Connolly, Foust can hope that the voters' memory is short and limited as to substance. It really is time for a change, and Jennifer Chronis is the change that the Dranesville district needs now more than ever.

**Dudley Losselyong**  
Great Falls

## Proven Leader

To the Editor:

I have read with interest the accounts of the recent debates among the candidates for Dranesville Supervisor. Much of the challenger's time has been spent on how her business experience prepares her for the job of supervisor. However, I can't imagine that whatever her experience in the corporate was, would be better preparation than what John Foust has had as the successful Supervisor over the past eight years. His command of the fiscal and budgetary process at the county level make him a tremendous asset for keeping our government running efficiently. That is why he has the endorsements of teachers, firefighters, and the Northern Virginia BizPac, which represents the broad range of businesses in our community.

Foust even has the endorsement of the Chairman of the School Board, Pat Hynes and 10 members of the School Board. I personally feel comfortable that these endorsing organizations know what is best for Fairfax County.

I see no reason to take a risk on a novice when we have a proven leader in John Foust. Vote for the proven leader, John Foust.

**Sue Boucher**  
Falls Church

## Murphy Opposes Tolls on I-66

To the Editor:

Delegate Kathleen Murphy opposes tolls on I-66. She made an unequivocal statement at the McLean Community Center debate on Oct. 18 that she is opposed to tolls on I-66—and has always been opposed to such tolls. However, in the race for the 34th District in the House of Delegates, Challenger Craig Parisot claims that Murphy stated otherwise. Parisot is either

very confused or decided to misrepresent his opponent's position. Parisot's fabrication is typical of a trailing and tired candidate.

To make matters worse, I received a robo-call on Oct. 20 from Parisot that hyped his false toll claim using deceptive language to rouse the emotions of voters. Quite frankly, I know of no one who supports \$7 tolls or any tolls on I-66. Mr. Parisot knows this yet he continues to make false statements. Someone who makes such false statements should not be entrusted by voters to represent us in Richmond. I will vote for Delegate Kathleen Murphy.

**Nancy Hopkins**  
Vienna

## Spreading False Information

To the Editor:

It is unfortunate that Graig Parisot, a newcomer to Fairfax County politics is reaching out to new lows of credibility in making false statements about Delegate Kathleen Murphy's position on I-66 tolls.

The toll proposals have become a hot issue since some state officials mentioned the possibility of using tolls on I-66 inside the beltway as a way to finance adding new lanes.

Delegate Murphy, the incumbent in the 34th District in the House has opposed such tolls. She has stated her position on tolls at the McLean Community Center debate on Oct. 18. Nevertheless, Parisot has launched robo-calls falsely implying that Murphy is supporting such tolls.

This is a total falsehood. Parisot should stop such unethical behavior. Perhaps he is doing this to distract voters from his record which is an extreme Tea Party agenda.

**J. Jay Volkert, PhD**  
Vienna



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## A Situation Continuing to Fester

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



Nine days since my PET Scan, and no word, electronically or otherwise, from my oncologist. Not having had a PET Scan in six and a half years, I'm not sure what its results would indicate, currently or comparatively (it was requested that I bring a copy of my previous scan). I mean, I know I have cancer. Do I have more cancer? In more places? Nevertheless, I'm all ears and/or eyes waiting to see or hear something. Not that I'm obsessing about it, but I am thinking/wondering/hoping/praying for news with which I can continue to live.

Now this isn't the first time/interval when scan results have not been communicated quickly enough – for our sake/benefit. Obviously, good news/results we want to receive immediately, if not sooner. Bad news/results we don't want to receive at all (if you know what I mean), but in not receiving good news – within our preferred timeline – we then presume the news is bad. My oncologist has said previously that he'd rather wait and see us in person – which typically we do within a week's time or so, so that he can discuss/explain/strategize – as the case may be, in the event the radiologist's report requires some simplification and clarification. Having given us inaccurate/incomplete information once before – which in that one instance was bad news, he'd rather wait, thereby allowing him/the radiologist sufficient time to interpret the data and provide Team Lourie a correct assessment.

More often than not, however, when the news has been good, my oncologist has e-mailed advising us of the encouraging (I didn't say surprising) news. On the few occasions when the news has been bad (I'd rather call it discouraging), he has been inconsistent: sometimes he has e-mailed us, sometimes not; never a phone call though, regardless. This inconsistency has created an expectation that says good news we get, bad news not much, literally. And generally speaking, inconsistency in the flow of information between doctor and patient, especially between oncologist and cancer patient, needs to be consistent. If not, the byproduct is stress; the absolute last side effect a cancer patient needs – or rather never needs.

I understand, after addressing this communication breakdown with my oncologist, that he's happy to e-mail us results if we'd like, but when the news/results are bad, he seems to be a victim of his circumstances or the constraints of the system: he has no time to see us. His preference remains a face-to-face appointment – to minimize any misunderstanding on our part and perhaps to plan a new present/future for me – so waiting seems the only alternative. The problem is, as it is now, as it has been for over six and a half years: we're sort of receiving mixed messages – consistently. As a result, we never know if no news is good news; no news is bad news; or no news is simply no news (not to be interpreted in any way). After years of this back-and-forth/forth-and-back, my oncologist is very cognizant of our anxiety/potential misinterpretation of facts not yet in evidence. At this juncture, he must know that this cancer patient – who was originally diagnosed with non-small cell lung cancer, stage IV and who he gave a "13-month to two-year" prognosis, needs to be coddled a little bit (make that a lot) and maybe even accommodated (no "maybes" about it). To leave us (or any other diagnosed-as-terminal cancer patient) in the lurch is not exactly cruel and unusual punishment, but it doesn't make me long for "Addams Family" reruns either. But there is a similarity in our respective circumstances: it is "mysterious and spooky" and "all together ooky." Neither of which is helpful in the least.

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

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

**DEADLINE SATURDAY/OCT.31**

**Poetry Contest** Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Arts and Letters Committee is sponsoring a poetry contest for Fairfax County Public Middle School students. The poetry title is: Silhouette of a Woman: An Influential Female in My Life. The submissions will be reviewed for awards of \$125 for first place, \$75 for second place, and \$50 for third place. www.fcacdst.org. Poetry Contest deadline for submission is October 30th. Email entries and inquiries can be sent to: artsandletters@fcacdst.org. Mailed entries must be postmarked by October 30th and sent to: Fairfax County Alumnae Chapter - Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. P.O. Box 221224 Chantilly, VA 20153-1224.

**WEDNESDAY/NOV. 4**

**McLean Newcomers and Neighbors Monthly Coffee.** 11 a.m.-noon. Take 5 Boutique, 2905 District Ave., McLean. Non-members are invited to come meet the club members and to hear about their various activities. For further information contact: Elaine Varner, emvarner@verizon.net.

**SATURDAY/NOV. 7**

**CPR/First Aid Certification.** 11:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. St. Francis Church Hall, 9220 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. The class will be taught by American Red Cross certified trainers and will cover CPR and First Aid for both children and adults. \$75. www.celebrategreatfalls.org.

**TUESDAY/NOV. 10**

**Red Cross Blood Donation.** 8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Long and Foster Realtors, 1355 Beverly Road, McLean. McLean is holding a blood drive. Please sign up today at www.redcrossblood.org and search by Sponsor Code: LONGANDFOSTERMCLEAN or call 1-800-REDCROSS to schedule your appointment.

**Fire Station Open House.** 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Great Falls Volunteer Fire Station, 9916 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Firefighter demonstrations, station tours and fun instructional activities will be available for children and adults alike. Come learn about fire safety and why it's so important.

**NARFE Meeting.** 1 p.m. American Legion Post 180, 330 North Center St., Vienna. National Active & Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) Meeting. Guest speakers, Leonard Ignatowski and Jay Kalner - members of VVA Chapter 227. Come and hear from two Army Veterans who served our country in Vietnam. Free. Members and guests are welcome. Refreshments will be served. For info, call Ralph Dantine at 703-938-9757.

**THURSDAY/NOV. 12**

**Tech Thursday - Technology to Support Executive Functioning.** 10 a.m.-noon. Dunn Loring Center for Parent Services, 2334 Gallows Road, Dunn Loring. Many students struggle with planning, organizing and managing tasks, which impacts their academic achievement. This workshop will focus on strategies and technology tools that can help support students with executive function deficits. Presented by the Office of Special Education Instruction, Assistive Technology Services. Free. Register at http://www.fcps.edu/dss/osp/prc/index.shtml.

**FRIDAY/NOV. 13**

**Strategies to Support Elementary Students with Dyslexia.** 10 a.m.-noon. Dunn Loring Center for Parent Services, 2334 Gallows Road, Dunn Loring. Specialists from the FCPS Office of Special Education Instruction will present this workshop specifically designed for parents of elementary students with dyslexia. Attend this workshop to learn strategies to support reading, writing and math at home; ways to promote effective study skills; and strategies to promote self-advocacy skills. Free. Register at http://www.fcps.edu/dss/osp/prc/index.shtml.

**SATURDAY/NOV. 14**

**Future Quest 2015.** 8 a.m.-3 p.m. George Mason University, Johnson Center, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Future Quest features more than 70 workshops and everyone will learn from the amazing keynote speaker - Justin Graves. Attend the Resource Fair with over 40 organizations focused on helping students achieve a successful life after high school. You will also get to spend an entire day on the George Mason University campus in Fairfax. Free. Register at http://www.fcps.edu/dss/osp/prc/index.shtml.

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