

Great Falls Village Centre



Shops, Offices and Restaurants

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

2018-2019

The Village Green and its iconic gazebo are the heart of Great Falls, both geographically and sentimentally. This lawn hosts a variety of community celebrations including concerts, parades, farmer's markets, trick or treating, and art festivals.

Great Falls
CONNECTION



ROTARY CLUB GREAT FALLS VIRGINIA

The Rotary Club of Great Falls, Virginia, founded in 2011, is part of a global network of 1.2 million Rotarians in 30,400 clubs in over 190 countries. Rotary's global mission of "Service Above Self" is reflected in major international initiatives such as leading the effort to eradicate polio worldwide and providing scholarships for students to study abroad. Rotary is also recognized by local projects in communities around the world. Its global network allows Rotarians to support each other's local service needs directly, club-to-club.

The Club sponsors a teen-led Interact Club that is part of a global network of over 10,000 Interact Clubs. Comprised of 12-18 year olds, these "Interactors" elect their own officers, select a local and international service project each year, and manage the budget, fundraising

and execution of those projects. In 2013 the Club also established a 501 (c)(3) Rotary Club of Great Falls, Virginia Foundation to support its fundraising efforts, enhancing its ability to sponsor service activities and offer scholarships for education.

Everyone is welcome to attend the club's weekly meetings held Thursday mornings, 7:30-8:30 AM at River Bend Country Club. Our guest speakers include leaders from business, government, health care, non-profits, think-tanks and other sectors. We also organize happy hours and special occasion dinners to foster fellowship.

On July 1st of this year Great Falls Rotary Club president Vishal Chawla passed the mantle to Kevin Crabtree who will lead the club into its 8th year.

We are pleased to present some of the many service projects the club has accomplished in its first 7 years.

Below are some of the service projects supported by the Club since its inception in June, 2011

- Riverbend Park cleanup
- Great Falls Book Fair (collecting books for charity)
- Great Falls Elementary School Early Readers Program (1-on-1 Rotarians reading weekly with kindergartners)
- Annual Bocce Tournament (raised money for Stop Soldier Suicide and Honduras school service projects)
- Granted Multiple Citizen of the Year awards
- Sponsored publication of a children's book on diabetes used throughout Northern Virginia
- Great Falls Senior Center (contributions made annually)
- 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament (raised money for local and international causes)
- Donated to Alternative House in Vienna
- Cooperated with Bailey's Crossroads Rotary for winter coat drive and personal hygiene packets
- Adopted-a-Highway and manage cleanup on Georgetown Pike
- Sponsor an annual High School Speech Contest and Award
- Obtained matching grant from Rotary International for computers in India school
- Supported disaster relief for Japan Tsunami victims
- Supported Strategic Water Alliance for Zambia with other Rotary Clubs
- Supported "Rotary Exchange Program" that brought law enforcement officers from Australia to the US for benchmarking
- Texas Flood disaster relief (sent money and materials for reconstruction)
- Donated computers to Nepal
- Supported the Nepal disaster relief following the earthquake
- Supported for the USO and the Wounded Warrior project
- Supported an orphanage in Ukraine with purchase of a bus
- Provided annual support to Interactors annual fundraising activities including building infrastructure for schoolchildren in Tela, Honduras and 3 annual projects for Habitat for Humanity in Lynchburg, VA
- Raised funds for and helped organized Stop Hunger Now drive at Colvin Run Elementary School
- Contribute annually to the Polio Plus Program to eradicate polio worldwide
- Provide Annual support for Cars for the Cure - Drive to end Diabetes

Here's to a great 2018-2019 year for the Rotary Club of Great Falls!
For more information please visit rotarygreatfallsva.org



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Outdoor Education Classroom/Picnic Shelter will support the Riverbend Park's educational mission.



Renderings of the McLean Community Center renovation.

The Year Ahead in the Dranesville District

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



Riverbend Park in Great Falls, the only Fairfax County park located along the Potomac River, is known for its natural, educational, and cultural features. Many County school children visit the park annually to learn from naturalists who make science and history fun and engaging.

In accordance with the Riverbend Park Master Plan, the Park Authority is constructing an Outdoor Education Classroom/Picnic Shelter to support the park's educational mission. The new facility will enhance the programs Riverbend currently offers, which range from bird watching to canoeing. Construction is underway and the project will be completed this fall.

Making Herndon Metrorail Stations More Accessible

Understanding the importance of the County's investment in the Metrorail Silver Line, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors directed Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) staff to initiate the Herndon Metrorail Stations Access Management Study (HMSAMS) in 2012. The purpose of the study was to engage the public to identify and prioritize necessary bicycle and pedestrian facility projects to improve access to the future Herndon and Innovation Center Metrorail Stations.

The County's current six-year transportation program includes approximately \$21 million dedicated to HMSAMS projects. Approximately half of that money has been programmed to bicycle and pedestrian projects. Currently in design is a project that will construct approximately 300 feet of sidewalk from Innovation Station to Dulles Green Boulevard. Another project that is under design will install almost 650 feet of sidewalk from the Arrowbrook Centre to Sunrise Valley Drive. Construction on both of these projects is expected to begin in fall 2019 and be completed in spring 2020. I look forward to continue working with the Town of Herndon and FCDOT staff on these



Rendering of the independent living facility.

and other HMSAMS projects.

Revitalizing Downtown McLean

The area designated as the McLean Community Business Center (CBC) is more commonly known as "downtown McLean." The CBC has long been planned to include a mix of residential and community-serving commercial uses and to serve as a focal point and gathering place for McLean area residents.

While there has been significant support for revitalizing downtown McLean, provisions of the current Comprehensive Plan for the CBC have not helped stimulate those revitalization efforts. That is why I asked the Board of Supervisors to direct County staff to initiate a community-led review of the Comprehensive Plan for the McLean CBC. That effort began earlier this year and has included three well-attended, consultant-led community workshops. The consultant is currently analyzing the input received at those workshops and will convert that data into a draft vision statement for further consideration by the community.

There will be two community meetings held in the fall to help finalize the vision statement. Once consensus is reached on the community's vision for the CBC, a task force composed of representatives from the McLean Citizens Association, McLean Revitalization Corporation, McLean Planning Committee and the McLean Chamber of Commerce as well as several other McLean area residents will work with County staff to translate the community's vision into recommendations for a revised Comprehensive

Plan for the CBC. The plan they recommend will then go through another community vetting process that will include public hearings at the Planning Commission and before the Board of Supervisors. We anticipate that, ultimately, the Board will adopt a revised Comprehensive Plan for downtown McLean that will help stimulate the revitalization that has long been desired.

Welcoming Lewinsville Senior Center

This year, we will see the grand opening of the first of two buildings in the Lewinsville Redevelopment Project in McLean. That building will consist of 80 independent affordable living apartments for low-income seniors. The second building, which is also under construction, will house an expanded senior center, an adult day care center and two children's day care centers, and is expected to open in early 2019. The Lewinsville Project is a private-public partnership between the County and Wesley-Hamel Lewinsville LLC.

McLean Community Center Expands

Early next year, residents will be welcomed back to a renovated and expanded McLean Community Center. The project involves renovating approximately 33,000 existing square feet and adding 7,700 square feet to the facility. The project includes two additional multi-purpose rooms, an enclosed

outdoor courtyard with seating and landscaping, refurbished meeting rooms, and a more modern look with new wall, ceiling, and floor treatments. The renovation will also upgrade the technology throughout the building and improve and enhance the storm water management system while bringing the MCC into compliance with current ADA and building code regulations. The parking lot will be regraded and resurfaced; additional parking spaces will be added, and walkway lighting will be improved. The \$8 million renovation project is fully funded through the MCC's capital reserves. The MCC building has been closed since April 2017; however, programs and special events have continued to be held in various locations around town.

Transportation Projects

Several pedestrian and road projects are scheduled to start or be completed in 2018, including the following:

❖ **Route 7 Widening** – A design-build contract was awarded to the team of Shirley Contracting Company LLC and Dewberry Engineers Inc. to complete the Route 7 Corridor Improvements Project, which includes widening and improving of Route 7 from four to six lanes between Reston Avenue and Jarrett Valley Drive. The improvements will decrease congestion, increase capacity, improve safety, and expand mobility for cyclists and pedestrians - all in conformity with Fairfax County's Comprehensive Plan. Delivering the project using a design-build team is expected to condense the project timeline and save two years over conventional project delivery. Construction is expected to commence as early as mid-2019 in some parts of the corridor and to be completed in late 2025.

❖ **McLean Streetscape** – This project includes installation of brick pavers, lights and landscaping along the south side of Chain Bridge Road from Redmond Drive to Old Dominion Drive to Center Street, and along both sides of Chain Bridge Road from Laughlin Street to Curran Street. This project is expected to be completed in late 2018.

❖ **Baron Road Walkway** – Approximately 430 linear feet of sidewalk including curb

SEE THE YEAR AHEAD, PAGE 5

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

About the Connection

As your local, weekly newspaper, the Connection's mission is to deliver the local news you need, to help make sense of what is happening in your community, to advocate for community good, to provide a forum for dialogue on local concerns, and to record achievements, milestones and events in the community and people's lives.

Here in our Newcomers and Community Guide, we report on the character of your community, we include details of how to vote in the upcoming elections, information on local government, nonprofits and business organizations, plus tips and tidbits from the community.

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

We want to know if someone in your family or your community published a book, started a business, became an Eagle Scout, raised money for a good cause, accomplished some feat like running a marathon, supporting a cause or having art included in an art show. We publish photos and notes about personal milestones and community events, including births, engagements, wed-

dings, anniversaries, awards and obituaries.

We are also interested in events at your church, mosque, synagogue, community center, pool, school, club, etc. Email us a note about the event, being sure to include when and where the photo was taken and the names of all the people who are in a photo.

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

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

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

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— MARY KIMM

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Great Falls Village Centre
778 Walker Road

Saturdays
9:00 AM to 1:00PM

www.GreatFallsFarmersMarket.org

www.Facebook/GreatFallsCommunityFarmersMarket

NEWCOMERS

The Year Ahead

FROM PAGE 3

and gutter will be installed along Baron Road connecting the Dead Run Park trail to Douglas Drive. This project is expected to be completed before the end of the year.

❖ Jones Branch Connector - Work on the Jones Branch Connector is well underway. This project, being completed by the Virginia Department of Transportation in cooperation with Fairfax County, will provide an important new link to Route 123 over the Capital Beltway (I-495) for commuters and visitors to Tysons. The link will improve local traffic and access for drivers, as well as provide a vital option for area bicyclists and pedestrians. By providing an alternate route across the Beltway and linking the Tysons East and Central areas, the Connector is expected to relieve traffic along Route 123, at the I-495 interchange, and at other congested intersections. One lane in each direction is expected to be open to traffic in early 2019, and the project is expected to be completed in fall 2019.

❖ North West Street - Construction on an important missing link of sidewalk on the border of Fairfax County and the City of Falls Church will begin this year and is expected to be completed in early 2019. Approximately 300 feet of sidewalk will be built on the north side of North West Street to connect to existing sidewalk in Falls Church. Handicap ramps and crosswalks will also be installed at the intersection of North West and Great Falls Streets. This sidewalk will connect to a future Fairfax County project that will construct sidewalk along Great Falls Street.

McLean Regional Traffic Mitigation Efforts

During the past year and a half, I have worked with other elected officials and staff from VDOT and Fairfax County to address resident concerns regarding congestion and cut-through traffic caused by the lack of sufficient capacity on the American Legion Bridge and the Beltway on the Maryland side of that bridge. On the north side of Georgetown Pike between Balls Hill Road and the Beltway ramp, VDOT constructed a pull-off area so that the police can safely enforce traffic violations in the area. Recently, two streetlights were installed to provide lighting for police enforcement. In addition, I formed a community group, the McLean Traffic Advisory Group, to consider traffic concerns in the area, make recommendations, and share updates with their neighbors. This group has met several times since the beginning of the year and is tasked with reviewing options through a regional lens.

Recently, VDOT proposed a pilot project to close the northbound entrance to the Beltway from Georgetown Pike from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. on weekdays. A community meeting was held in early August and another will be held this fall. VDOT is seeking input from the community to determine if the pilot project will be implemented. I look forward to continuing to work with the community to address these very serious traffic concerns.

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NEWCOMERS

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



Ribbon cutting for new trackless train and picnic shelter at Clemjontri Park.



The Orientation Room is an instructional space for educational programs. The observatory features a retractable roof that rolls over the top of the fixed roof that covers the Orientation Room.

Places I Would Take a Newcomer in Dranesville District

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

We are fortunate to have many wonderful parks, historical features, and community events in the Dranesville District. The following are some of my favorites.

Clemjontri Park: Since opening in 2006, more than 200,000 visitors have enjoyed this playground where children of all abilities can play side-by-side. Equipment allows children who have physical, sensory or developmental disabilities to have a parallel playground experience of fun and exploration. The park also includes a carousel, picnic pavilion, and new trackless train. The parking lot is currently being expanded so more visitors can enjoy the park.

6317 Georgetown Pike, McLean

Riverbend Park: This park offers over 400 acres of forests, meadows and ponds. Trails include a 2.5 mile portion of the Potomac Heritage Trail that links national and regional parkland. Kayaking, canoeing and fishing are all available on the Potomac River. The nature center and picnic shelter are available for rent. Through a grant received this year, new canoes will be purchased for the park.

8700 Potomac Hills, Great Falls

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

10017 Colvin Run, Great Falls

Turner Farm: Originally the site of a dairy farm, the 52-acre park offers a unique mix of educational and recreational facilities. In 2016, a new roll-top observatory opened in Observatory Park at Turner Farm. The observatory offers the public a chance

to see the night sky from one of Fairfax County's darkest spots through permanently mounted telescopes. The Analemma Society partners with the Park Authority to provide astronomy programs at the observatory. Equestrians can enjoy a cross country course and a large multi-purpose arena with stadium jumps and dressage makers. Small children can enjoy a tot lot.

925 Springvale Road, Great Falls

Runnymede Park: The Town of Herndon is located in the Dranesville District. The Town owns and maintains this 58-acre park. It is the site for many community nature-related events such as the annual Nature Fest. Situated near the Sugarland Run Stream, the park attracts over 100 species of birds, plus deer, fox and other wildlife. Two park shelters are available for rental.

196 Herndon Parkway, Herndon

Scotts Run Nature Preserve: One of the few nature preserves in the County. The 336-acre preserve, formerly known as the Burling Tract, had at one time been slated for development. Scotts Run offers wonderful hiking trails of varying difficulty, some of them leading to the bluffs of the Potomac River.

7400 Georgetown Pike, McLean

Spring Hill Recreation Center: Visitors can take advantage of the indoor swimming pool, a 2-story fitness center and a gymnasium with an elevated running track. The gym features a single high school-sized basketball court with two overlay basketball courts and a volleyball overlay court.

1239 Spring Hill Road, McLean

MPAartfest: Every October, the McLean Project for the Arts converts McLean Central Park into a free, one-day festival of the arts. Thousands of area residents attend. Vendor tents display the works of numer-



Supervisor Foust with Town of Herndon Mayor Lisa Merkel, Town Council Members Grace Wolf Cunningham and Bill McKenna, and Redevelopment and Housing Authority Board Member Melissa Jonas at Friday Night Live! in June 2018.

ous juried artists, which are complemented by the exhibitions of children's' and seniors' artwork, an Open Studio demonstration, and performances by local musicians.

McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean

McLean Day: Sponsored by the McLean Community Center, McLean Day is held on the third Saturday in May. The festival features live entertainment, carnival rides, exhibitions and delicious foods for visitors of all ages. The event also includes booths where artisans, local businesses, civic organizations, nonprofit groups, and local officials showcase their wares.

Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean

Herndon Festival: Held in early June, the Herndon Festival offers something for the whole family. The festival features three entertainment stages, 10K and 5K races, a Kid's Alley with hands-on arts, food vendors, fireworks, and more. Enjoy four days of fun-filled activities and entertainment.

777 Lynn Street, Herndon

Claude Moore Colonial Farm: Visit Claude Moore Colonial Farm at Turkey Run to experience life on a small farm just prior to the Revolutionary War. Claude Moore Colonial Farm is a living history museum dedicated to providing visitors with an authentic look at life in Virginia in 1771. Throughout the year, Claude Moore Colonial Farm hosts several events, typical of those a farm family would have experienced and enjoyed, such as the 18th century Market Fair held in May and cutting of tobacco and hanging it to dry in August.

6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean

Great Falls Freedom Memorial: The Great Falls Freedom Memorial was created in 2004 to honor all who have served our country. The Freedom Memorial hosts three annual ceremonies, on Memorial Day, September 11, and Veterans' Day, as well as a 5K race on July 4. It is a special place to pay respects to and remember those who have served and sacrificed for our country.

9830 Georgetown Pike in Great Falls (Behind the Great Falls Library)

Herndon Friday Night Live!: Friday nights during the summer, Friday Night Live! concerts are held on the Herndon Town Green. Concerts are free and feature popular local and regional acts. Most featured bands play rock and roll covers from classic to modern rock but country and original music are also included for good measure.

Herndon Town Green, 777 Lynn Street, Herndon

NEWCOMERS

New President To Lead Northern Virginia Chamber

Julie Coons, CAE will serve as the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce's next president and CEO effective Sept. 10.

Coons currently serves as chief operating officer of the Council of Better Business Bureaus based in Arlington. She brings to the Northern Virginia Chamber diverse experience leading regionally-focused business organizations, guiding financial and brand transformations, and successfully advocating for business in local, state, national and international arenas. Among her leadership roles, she served previously as president and CEO of the Electronic Retailing Association and, prior to that role, as president and CEO of the Maryland Tech Council.

The selection of Coons as the chamber's next president and CEO comes after a national search facilitated by The McCormick Group, a national executive search consulting firm, and led by the chamber's Search Committee, chaired by Kathy Albarado, CEO of Helios HR.

"After a comprehensive search process, we are pleased to have identified the best individual to lead the Chamber into its next season of growth, innovation, and member service," said Jennifer Siciliano, chief communications and external affairs officer, Inova, and chair of the Northern Virginia Chamber Board of Directors.

"The Northern Virginia Chamber has an outstanding reputation serving and representing Northern Virginia's robust business community," said Coons. "This is an exciting time for Northern Virginia and



Julie Coons

Greater Washington, and the chamber is well positioned to develop new and exciting opportunities for businesses from across our region to engage, interact, and lead."

The Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce, the "Voice of Business in Northern Virginia," represents over 650 local employers with more than 500,000 regional employees. For 90-plus years, the Northern Virginia Chamber has been working hand-in-hand with companies

in the region to build a strong business community. To learn more about visit <http://www.novachamber.org> and follow the Northern Virginia Chamber on Twitter: @NOVACHamber

UPCOMING NOVA CHAMBER EVENTS

- ❖ Northern Virginia Regional Elected Leaders Summit, Aug. 29, at 8 – 10 a.m., Waddell Theater, Join the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce, Alexandria Chamber of Commerce, Arlington Chamber of Commerce, Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce, Prince William Chamber of Commerce, and the Northern Virginia Regional Commission for a roundtable featuring the mayor of the City of Alexandria, chairs of Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William counties, as well as the vice chair of Arlington County.
- ❖ Capital Region Business Forum, Sept. 6, at 7:30 – 9:30 a.m., Hilton McLean Tysons Corner, Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam, Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan and D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser will discuss their plans to work cooperatively to bolster the regional economy.
- ❖ 2018 Virginia Senatorial Debate, Sept. 26, at 5 – 8 p.m., Capital One Bank, between U.S. Sen. Tim Kaine (D) and **Chairman** at-large of the Prince William Board of County Supervisors Corey Stewart (R). Chuck Todd of NBC's Meet The Press, will moderate, to be televised live on NBC4.

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The Arts of Great Falls



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- Adult and Children's Art Classes
 - Winter, Spring, & Fall Sessions
 - Summer Art Camps for Kids
- View schedule online each session at www.greatfallsart.org/school-of-art

For Artists

- Studio Space to Rent in Great Falls Village Centre
- Open Studio Fridays: Draw and Paint from a model
- Annual Plein Air Competition



For the Community: FREE Art Events

- Art Walks in the Village: First Fridays Monthly
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COMMUNITY GUIDE VIEWPOINTS

What's the Greatest Part of Living in Great Falls?

— MAIA SPOTO

PHOTOS BY MAIA SPOTO/THE CONNECTION

Kari Lervick, volunteer, 14 years in Great Falls

"Fourteen years ago, I had thought we were moving to this big, metropolitan area. When we chose to live in Great Falls I didn't realize what a small town it was. Over the years, with all the things that your kids get involved in, and all the opportunities to volunteer, you can't help but get to know people in the community. It's just so fun to go wherever you go, whether it's Great Falls Village, or the elementary schools, or the softball field, and just know people. No matter where you go, you run into people."



Heidi Toloczko, director of King's Kids Preschool, 23 years in Great Falls

"The small-town feel, and the way that it is a real hometown. My girls have grown up here, and my husband and I have enjoyed living here and really feel like it's a special place."



Nancy Miner, employed at Cooper Middle School, nearly 18 years in Great Falls

"The parks! The Riverbend Park and Great Falls Park are great. They're right here, easy access, and you feel like you've gone away for a day, walking through the parks. I like that a lot. I saw the bluebells of Virginia for the first time this year. I like having access to that."



Thomas Miner, Langley High School senior, nearly 18 years in Great Falls

"I would say the community in general around here is so nice. They smile at you when you just walk outside and walk around the neighborhood, you get some nice smiles. It's a great community all around. Again, I like the parks— I just went on a walk at Riverbend Park and it was great. It's a beautiful area to be around, and to live in."



Steve Wilson, manager in construction services company, 19 years in Great Falls

"Many things come to mind: The beauty of Georgetown Pike and our two lane roads only a few miles from DC which never cease to amaze me. Riverbend Park, Difficult Run, and a run along the river. Always seeing a neighbor and a friendly face on quick trip to pick up something in "the Village." Inviting out-of-town friends to the Brogue. Nike Park and Great Falls Little League. The quality of our schools and teachers. Our church, Christ the King Lutheran. And most of all the many great people who also call Great Falls home."



NEWCOMERS

PHOTOS BY MAIA SPOTO/THE CONNECTION

Postcards from Great Falls

Family establishments in Great Falls, the Old Brogue and Katie's Coffee House have served the Village for many decades. Whether you're planning to grab victory muffins after a soccer game or you're craving relaxation and shepherd's pie, you'll find that these restaurants offer something for all ages.



Neighboring the Great Falls Library, the Grange playground is an exciting destination for young families. The playground features a merry-go-round, a tire swing, slides, climbing structures, and sports fields.



Bitia Motescharrei MD, FACOG

- » Fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
- » Diplomate of American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology
- » Clinical professor of OBGYN at George Washington University School of Medicine

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HONEYBAKED HAM.

\$7.99

SKU 720091

Lunch Combo: Sandwich, Chips & Drink



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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE



Sunday Evening Concert on the Green



Village Centre Bandstand at Night

Must See Places in Great Falls

PHOTOS BY WALT LAWRENCE

BY WALT LAWRENCE/PHOTOGRAPHER

I have lived in Great Falls for nearly forty years and feel very grateful that I can call this place home. Whenever my wife and I have house guests we always try to take them to see some of the local sights before we head off into the city with its endless museums or further out into the country with a myriad of historical locations to visit. We do have a few places where snapshots of our history can be seen. So if you are a new-comer to Great Falls looking for a place to explore or you have visitors that you would like to introduce to the area I would urge you to consider some of my favorites.

Great Falls Village Centre

The Village Centre was built just about the time I moved to Great Falls and was modeled after the Old Sturbridge Village in Massachusetts. The original plan was to have artists and craftsmen occupy the different buildings where they would be able to create and sell their work while interacting with

the public. Well, that plan never fully materialized and morphed into a mix of retail stores, restaurants and professional offices. However, the Village Centre has become the heart of our village and all manner of community activities take place on the site. Weekends bring a variety of events such as Cars and Coffee, the Farmers' Market, outdoor movies on Saturday summer evenings and outdoor concerts on Sunday summer evenings. During the year special holiday events are held for Easter, Fourth of July and Christmas and I'm sure there are a few I have missed. And as for the artists, like the swallows, they are returning to the Village Centre as at least three different group studios have opened in the past few years. I maintain my photographic studio at the Artists' Atelier located in the Centre just two doors down from the Old Brogue.

Riverbend Park

This park is probably the best kept secret in all of Great Falls. The park is part of the Fairfax County Park Authority and offers a variety of activities that embrace the water and the woods. You can rent kayaks, canoes

and boats, you can fish, you can hike, you can bird watch, you can nature watch, you can bring a picnic or you can just spread out a blanket and take a nap. I have found that this area of the Potomac has a special place in my heart because not only is it close to home but it gives me the opportunity to go out on the water and explore the islands in search of birds and wildlife with my camera. The park also hosts an annual Bluebell Festival in the spring and a Virginia Indian Festival in early September.

The Great Falls Grange and The Forestville Schoolhouse Area

According to the Great Falls Grange website the Grange, "is the last standing unaltered grange hall in Virginia and is listed on the Fairfax County Inventory of Historic Sites, with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and on the National Register of Historic Places." Unfortunately neither

the Grange nor The Old Schoolhouse, now called the Forestville Schoolhouse, are open to the public on any scheduled basis. The places are typically rented for special events such as art shows, weddings etc. So if you see activity in and around the buildings try to stop and see if you can get a peek inside. Both of these buildings represent another era when Great Falls was a rural predominately dairy farming community. The Old Schoolhouse building has served many purposes in the past to include a real estate office and when I moved here it was our Post Office. For families with young children there is a terrific playground right behind the Grange Hall.

Colvin Run Area

In the Colvin Run area you will find the iconic Colvin Run Mill at the intersection of Route 7 and Colvin Run Road and the Old Colvin Run Schoolhouse near the intersection of Colvin Run and Walker Roads. The tour guides do a wonderful job of explaining how the mill works and on certain days

SEE MUST SEE PLACES. PAGE 16



Bluebells at Riverbend



Great Falls Grange at Night



Bald Eagle at Riverbend



The Old Schoolhouse



Colvin Run Mill

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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement in Fairfax County

Office of the Independent Police Auditor, Civilian Review Panel now reviewing cases.

The Fairfax County Civilian Review Panel and the Independent Police Auditor were established by the Board of Supervisors as recommended by the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission, formed after the police shooting death of John Geer. The panel and the auditor are independent from the Police Department and report directly to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

The nine-member Police Civilian Review Panel's mission is to enhance police legitimacy and to build and maintain trust between the citizens of Fairfax County, the Board of Supervisors, and the Fairfax County Police Department. The panel reviews police investigations resulting from public complaints about officers of the Fairfax County Police Department. The panel has nine members who are Fairfax County residents.

The panel reviews investigations involving police misconduct, including rudeness, threats, verbal abuse, harassment, racial profil-



FILE PHOTO BY MARY KIMM

The nine members of the Civilian Review Panel marked with *: Gerarda Culipher, Deputy Clerk of the Circuit Court; Randy Sayles, * Oak Hill; Rhonda VanLowe, * Reston; Kathleen Davis-Siudut, * Springfield; Adrian Steel, * McLean; Sharon Bulova, chairman of the Board of Supervisors; Judge William Webster, former director of FBI and CIA; Supervisor John Cook, chairman of Public Safety Committee; Jean Senseman, * Lorton; Douglas Kay, * Fairfax; Hollye Doane, * Oakton; Steve Descano, * Springfield; and Hansel Aguilar, * Fairfax.

ing, and discrimination.

Current panel members are: Rhonda VanLowe, Chair; Doug Kay, Vice-Chair; Hansel Aguilar; Kathleen Davis-Siudut; Steve Descano; Hollye Doane; Anna Northcutt; Randy Sayles; Adrian Steel.

The panel generally meets in

open session on the first Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. The public is welcome to attend.

Check www.fairfaxcounty.gov/calendar/ShowCalendar.aspx

The Independent Police Auditor's mission is to bolster trust between the citizens of Fairfax County and the Fairfax County

Police Department by providing accountability, fairness, transparency and trust in the complaint system and investigative process. The Independent Police Auditor also provides an accessible, safe, impartial, and responsive intake venue for complaints about the Fairfax County Police Department

and its employees.

The Office of the Independent Police Auditor (OIPA) reviews police investigations involving use of force and serves as an independent intake venue for complaints.

SEE CIVILIAN OVERSIGHT,
PAGE 13

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NEWCOMERS

Civilian Oversight

FROM PAGE 12

Both the panel and the auditor determine whether the police investigation was thorough, accurate and impartial.

HOW TO FILE A COMPLAINT

If you feel you have experienced or observed misconduct by a Fairfax County police officer, you are encouraged to file a complaint. You will not be penalized by the police or any county official for filing a complaint.

FILL OUT A COMPLAINT FORM

❖ You may use a printed copy of the online form.

❖ You may also complete a complaint form online.

Go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/policeauditor

❖ You may file your completed form by mailing it to: Office of the Independent Police Auditor; 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 233A; Fairfax, VA 22035

❖ You may file online. Instructions are provided at the website.

❖ You may deliver a completed complaint form to the Auditor's Office at the above address or to any Fairfax County Police Station.

If you need help completing the form, call 703-324-3459 or email PoliceCivilianReviewPanel@fairfaxcounty.gov

HOW IT WORKS

❖ When a complaint is received, it is sent to the Police Department for investigation.

❖ Investigators interview the person who filed the complaint and witnesses.

❖ Police examine the evidence and write a report outlining the findings.

❖ The person who filed the complaint receives a letter summarizing findings of the investigation.

❖ If the person does not agree with the outcome of the investigation, he or she asks for a review.

❖ If a review is requested, either the Civilian Review Panel or the Independent Police Auditor reviews the investigation and issues a public report.

MORE ABOUT THE INDEPENDENT POLICE AUDITOR

The Board of Supervisors appointed Richard G. Schott, a 27-year Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) veteran, as Fairfax County's first independent police auditor. Schott reports directly to the board, which approved the creation of the position as a follow up to one of the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission. Among his

roles, Schott will be responsible for:

❖ Monitoring and reviewing internal investigations of Police Department officer-involved shootings, in-custody deaths and use-of-force cases in which an individual is killed or seriously injured.

❖ Requesting further investigations if he determines that an internal investigation was deficient or conclusions were not supported by the evidence.

❖ Issuing public reports for each

reviewed internal investigation.

❖ Reviewing all resident complaint investigations of alleged excessive or unnecessary force by officers.

❖ Producing annual reports that analyze trends and recommend improvements.

Schott has spent his entire 27-year FBI career as a special agent working with local law enforcement officers, and for the past 16 years has provided training to members of state and local law enforcement agencies, including

legal issues associated with police officers' use of force and deadly force.

He has experience with Color of Law violations, including reviewing police reports and citizen complaints, recommending to U.S. Department of Justice attorneys whether or not to proceed with investigations and conducting the ensuing investigations.

Schott is also an instructor at the FBI Academy in Quantico, where he has taught thousands of new agents on basic constitutional

criminal procedure and the legal ramifications involved when an agent uses force.

He supervised the division's forfeiture program. As a special agent for the Birmingham Division, he orchestrated security for the 1996 Summer Olympic Games' soccer events in the area.

Schott received a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of New Orleans and his juris doctorate from the Loyola University School of Law in New Orleans.



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Photos by Walt Lawrence

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Aquarian LLC	703-438-8838
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Arts of Great Falls.....	703-232-1575
Capital Realty Services.....	703-759-4900
Dent Asset Management.....	703-286-7555
Dr. C. Ayers.....	703-757-6445
Executive Suites at Great Falls.....	703-865-2500
Georgetown Learning Centers.....	703-759-3624
Great Falls Creamery.....	703-272-7609
Great Falls Cycle Studio.....	703-585-5631
Great Falls Family Dentistry.....	703-759-4707
Greenheart Juice Shop.....	703-759-2126
H2O Pools	703-250-5585
Jinny Beyer Studio.....	703-759-0250
John Nugent and Son	
Plumbing & Heating.....	703-291-1926
Katie's Coffee House.....	703-759-2759
Loebig Chiropractic.....	703-757-5817
New Paradigm Capital Mgmt.....	703-757-4802
Old Brogue Irish Pub.....	703-759-3309
Pilates Place, LLC.....	703-405-3371
Pio Pio Restaurant	703-865-7700
River Nail and Spa	703-746-8886
Robert Mobley, AIA Architect.....	703-759-1927
School of Theatrical Dance.....	703-759-5652
Spectrum Property Management....	703-307-2965
Village Centre Mgmt Office	703-759-2485
Village Retreat/Massage Therapy....	703-638-4852
Wells Fargo Bank.....	703-757-1040
Wild Ginger Restaurant	703-759-5040



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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE



Andrea Mattich of Liberty Hill Farm



Eva Kronenberg of EC Pastries

Great Falls Farmers Market: Triumph of Purpose

BY KATHLEEN MURPHY
MARKET MANAGER

Since 2007, our community farmers market has been an integral part of the Saturday morning buzz at the Great Falls Village Centre throughout the spring, summer and autumn, and the Great Falls Grange throughout the winter. Customers who recently shopped three farmers market before venturing upon our market said that our local market had the best quality offerings and the most friendly and neighborly atmosphere. They now return every Saturday.

What makes the Great Falls market so special? The answer lies in the vendors, who bring a sense of purpose and a commitment to excellence.

Some vendors have been professionals in major corporations before realizing that their heart lies in agriculture.

Jerry of Jerry's Gourmet Berries was an aerospace executive responsible for building missiles before he desired to promote people's health through growing organic berries, heirloom tomatoes and fermented vegetables. He wrote a book, "Eater's Guide to Berries," which conveys that what you eat determines how healthy you are.

Ken Mattich of Liberty Hill Farm was a telecom engineer and sales executive before reading Jeffrey Smith's "Seeds of Deception." He and his wife, Andrea, wanted authentically healthy food but learned that there was a gap in how animals were fed. They began raising their own meat, as no one was doing organic feed or fully pasturing grass-fed animals. They began to raise a little more animals as meat for their friends. Then they were invited to sell at the Purcellville market. Over the last 12-14 years, they have built a business they are proud of that includes grass-fed beef,



Booyah Gourmet

pastured pork, organic-fed chickens and eggs, as well as raw milk, yogurt, kefir, butter and more through animal shares.

Babette Lamarre, owner of Booyah Gourmet, is a Board-Certified Nutritional Therapy Practitioner who realizes that healthy foods don't always taste good. She offers delicious chocolate balls of various flavors, helping people cope with giving up sugar, dairy and gluten through her amazing recipe. She believes that food is joyful and that there is added joy when we eat healthy as well. She offers nutritional counseling, and cooks for people in their homes.

Our newest vendor, **Stephanie Plunkett, owner of Lemonade Caf**, left corporate life after receiving her college degree to open her own virtual coffee shop. Her coffee, fresh squeezed lemonade, orange juice, and hand-made pretzels are unique and amazing. She seeks to create



Craig and Karen Hageman of High View Farm

an ambiance in which her customers find a reflective and quiet moment in their day, finding nourishment in her space.

Each vendor has their story, whether **Luke Wahlgren, owner of World Eats**, who sees his business as making people happy through his exotic empanada recipes from around the world; **Elaine, owner of Tyme Foods**, brings Zaatar, sharing a Middle Eastern herbal snack that her children love, bring the freshest and most nutritious offering available; **Eva Kronenberg, owner of EC Pastries**, is a master pastry chef who delights our community with her creations; **Tony, owner of OMG Micro Greens**, began growing microgreens to offer non-GMO nutrients that are free of chemicals to his family and friends; **Asiya Sen, owner of Sen Catering**, began cooking Turkish specialties for friends and neighbors before starting a catering business; **John Hobson of Our**

Mom Eugenia brings Greek savory and sweet delicacies made by his wife for the company owned by his sons, Alex and Phil; **Craig Hageman, owner of High View Farm**, began raising cattle when his wife was diagnosed with cancer and her wanted to be around her to offer support. **His new wife, Karen**, also had her first husband die of cancer. She told him she wanted to farm. He told her that that will have to be with your next husband. Sure enough, Craig and Karen, old high school friends, met and they got the farming going full swing, as well as silver jewelry making.

There are more stories to tell – **Baguette Republic**, **Healing Gems**, **the Great Falls Historical Society**, **Diez Berries & Veggies**, **Tuscarora Organic Growers Coop**, and more. And we are ready to tell them. Stop by on a Saturday morning, enjoy the music, and chat with your neighbors and our dedicated vendors.

NEWCOMERS GUIDE

Volunteering Makes a Better Place for All

Volunteer Fairfax engages thousands of volunteers of all ages annually and supports more than 600 member nonprofits and agencies striving to make Northern Virginia a better place for all.

Volunteer Fairfax's offerings include Volunteers For Change, a program that makes volunteering accessible and fun for busy adults; Alternative Community Service, a program that places a range of court-ordered clients in community service positions and RSVP Northern Virginia, a program sponsored by Volunteer Fairfax in partnership with Volunteer Arlington and Volunteer Alexandria, that matches those 55 and better with meaningful and fun volunteer opportunities.

Volunteer Fairfax also offers an array of training programs that help nonprofits and volunteer groups run more efficiently. For corporations looking to engage their employees in the community, Volunteer

Fairfax's BusinessLink program offers customized employee volunteer engagement at sites in Northern Virginia and throughout the DC Metro Area.

Volunteer Fairfax also runs three signature programs to promote and recognize community involvement. They include VolunteerFest presented by AT&T, powered by Volunteer Fairfax, Saturday, Oct. 27, a regional day of volunteerism featuring project sites across the region; Give Together: A Family Volunteer Day on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, a large family-friendly event where children of all ages engage in volunteering and The Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards, a breakfast held each April to honor volunteers who have given outstanding service to the community.

For more information on any of Volunteer Fairfax's programs or to find volunteer opportunities, visit volunteerfairfax.org or call 703-246-3460.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Submit new volunteer announcements at www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar.

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is looking to expand its team of volunteers for the upcoming tax season. Tax-Aide, now in its 51st year, offers free in-person preparation and assistance to anyone, especially those 50 and older, who can't afford a tax preparation service. Volunteers make a difference in their communities by assisting many older, lower-income taxpayers,

and their families, who might otherwise miss out on the tax credits and deductions they've earned. To learn about volunteer opportunities, visit aarpfoundation.org/taxaide or call 1-888-OUR-AARP (1-888-687-2277).

Assistance League of Northern Virginia, a volunteer nonprofit, invites community members to join the organization to participate in its Reading Express program. Volunteers provide one-on-one tutoring to first grade

SEE VOLUNTEER, PAGE 19



CAREGIVER CONNECT

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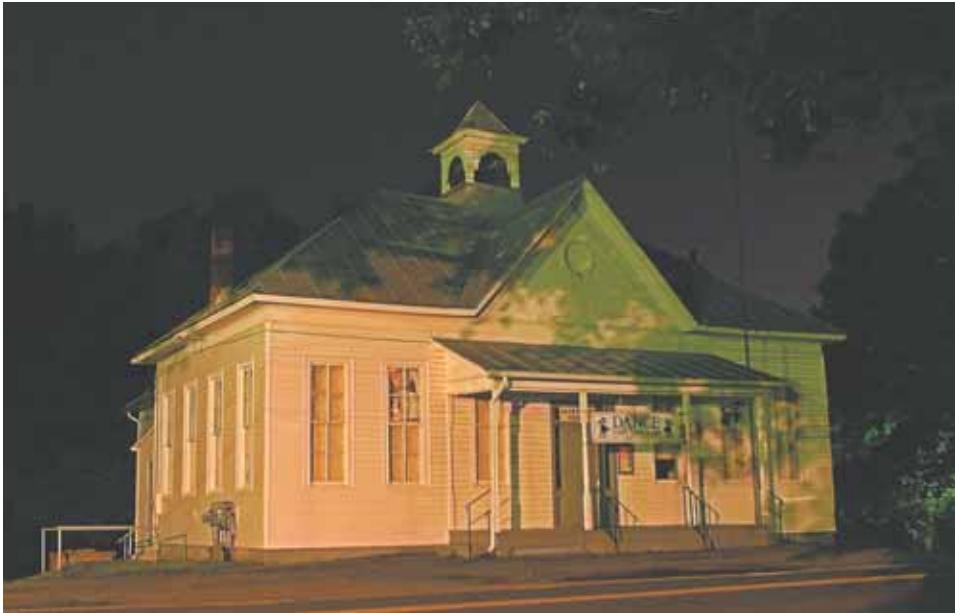


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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE



Colvin Run Schoolhouse



Great Falls in Early Spring

Must See Places in Great Falls

PHOTOS BY WALT LAWRENCE

FROM PAGE 10

they even operate the mill so you can see the final product. I took a tour and learned that George Washington once owned the land and originally considered building a gristmill. He later changed his plans and built a mill much closer to his home at Mount Vernon. There is a gift store on the site where you will find books, pictures and actual mill-produced products for sale.

The Colvin Run Schoolhouse was converted many years ago into a dance hall where dances are held on Saturday evenings. Whether you dance or not I would urge you to try to take a look at the inside of the place as it contains a treasure trove of historical artifacts and newspaper clippings of the past. Great Falls Studios used to hold art shows in the place until it just outgrew the capacity of the building.

Great Falls Park

This is a must see for every resident of Great Falls regardless of whether you are a newbie or an old timer like myself. I would urge anyone to go down to the park at dawn or dusk and just watch the scene unfold as the sun does its thing lighting up sections of the falls and casting shadows on other



Great Blue Heron

sections. It's also really cool to see the falls under moon light although the Park Service Rangers clear the place out around sunset. Depending upon the time of year the birdlife may be teaming or nonexistent. Perhaps one of the more interesting aspects of the falls is the roaring sound of the water as it passes over the falls and through this narrow cut in the river. After a major

storm the sound can be deafening. When the fish are running in May and June the Great Blue Herons fight over the best fishing spots close to the water and the cormorants are ever present. Try to get to know the park by hiking the trails and reading the information boards. Mather Gorge is a terrific sight to behold as the river has cut through the rock formations as it flows to

the east towards D.C. George Washington spent time in this area working to build the Patomack Canal as the locks of the canal parallel the falls. He was so taken by the beauty of the Potomac that he purchased paintings of the Potomac River and of Great Falls that are still hanging in his home at Mount Vernon.

The Turner Farm Park

This location on Springvale Road is the most unique of all our parks because it is so eclectic, it really is two parks in a single location. There are 40 plus acres for horseback riding where individual riders can trailer in their mounts and ride on their own and there are horse show competitions that are very exciting to watch. There is also the Observatory Park where every Friday evening you can bring your lawn chairs, blankets and telescopes and watch the sky to see what might be happening in our galaxy. The park also has a few telescopes that can be used to observe the sky. I have been to the park and seen the space station go over a couple of times and have even observed a meteor or two streak across the sky.



Turner Farm Park



Setting Sun at Observatory Park



Great Falls

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FAIRS & FESTIVALS

A sampling of the many fun and family-friendly events taking place around Fairfax County much of the year.

September 2018

MONDAY/SEPT. 3

Herndon Labor Day Festival. 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. at Herndon Town Green, 777 Lynn St., Herndon. Great music, a craft show, food, 12 wineries and micro-brews and culinary demonstrations. Visit herndon-va.gov/recreation/special-events/labor-day-festival for more.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 8-9

Burke Centre Festival. 9:30 am-5 pm at Burke Centre Community Festival, 6060 Burke Centre Parkway Burke. Festival includes an Arts & Craft Fair, festival food vendors, amusement rides, pony rides, musical entertainment provided by local and nationally recognized performers, nature shows, after-hours Wine Garden. Visit www.virginia.org/Listings/Exhibits/BurkeCentreFestival for more.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 15

Dulles Day Plane Pull. At Dulles International Airport, Dulles. The 2014 Dulles Day Family Festival & Plane Pull is a full day of excitement with airplane and auto exhibits, the children's zone and bus pull, varied displays and activities, vendors, food and entertainment. Visit www.planepull.com for more.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 22

Reston Multicultural Festival. 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Lake Anne Plaza, Reston. The Reston Multicultural Festival celebrates all the entertainment, dress, food, and cultural treasures from all over the world that are all here in Reston. Rain or shine. Free. Visit www.restoncommunitycenter.com/attend-shows-events-exhibits/reston-multicultural-festival for more.

October 2018

WEDNESDAY-SATURDAY/OCT 10-13

Fairfax's Fall for the Book Festival. 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Enjoy literature and hear authors give readings at the Fall for the Book Festival. Visit www.fallforthebook.org for more.

SATURDAY/OCT. 13

Taste of Annandale. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Tom Davis Drive in central Annandale, between Columbia Pike and John Marr Drive. The fourth annual Taste of Annandale will showcase local restaurants during a daylong family-friendly celebration aimed at building community spirit, engaging young people, and promoting local businesses. Other activities include a 5K; multicultural music, dance, and other live entertainment; a chili cook-off; and much more.

May 2019

Great Falls Artfest on the Green.

On the Great Falls Village Green. Great Falls Studios Spring Art Show and Sale under the big tent and a few little tents, too. A plein air competition and quick draw. With prizes and a reception, Sponsored by Arts of Great Falls. Then, a grand finale "Blues Explosion" to close the weekend and start the always popular season of Concerts on the Green by Celebrate Great Falls. For complete schedule and updates visit www.greatfallsart.org/artfest/



FILE PHOTO BY MARK MOGILE

Celebrate Fairfax!

Attendees enjoy live entertainment, rides, games and food trucks as part of the 2018 Celebrate Fairfax! festival June 8-10 at the Fairfax Government Center. The annual festival attracts tens of thousands of visitors each year.

MONDAY/MAY 13

Great Falls Annual Charity Golf Tournament. Hidden Creek Country Club. 1711 Club House Road, Reston. Join for a morning or afternoon round of golf and support our three Great Falls elementary schools while you are at it. Opportunities for sponsorships and volunteering are available! For more information: www.celebrategreatfalls.org.

THURSDAYSUNDAY/MAY 30-JUNE 2

Herndon Festival 2019. Thursday: 6-10 p.m. Friday 5-11 p.m. Saturday: 10 a.m. - 11 p.m. Sunday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Northwest Federal Credit Union, 200 Spring St., Herndon. Four day outdoor festival with three entertainment stages, two fireworks displays, Kid's Alley with children's art area, arts and craft show and more! All ages. Visit www.herndonfestival.net for more information.

THURSDAYS/MAY-AUGUST

Take a Break Concert Series. 7-9 p.m. Lake Anne Plaza, 11404 Washington Plaza W, Reston. On Thursdays, take a break with this outdoor concert series. Visit www.restoncommunitycenter.com/take-a-break for a weekly lineup.

FRIDAYS/MAY-AUGUST

Herndon Friday Night Live! 6:30 p.m. 777 Lynn St., Herndon. Listen to great music on Friday nights during the summer. Visit herndonrocks.com/schedule.php for more.

June 2019

Springfield Days. South Run Park, 7550 Reservation Drive, Springfield. Springfield Days is a community wide celebration that includes a 5K run, "Pet Fest" and car show. Visit www.springfielddays.com for more.

Cardboard Regatta. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield. Featured during Springfield Days, witness the cardboard boat creations race along Lake Accotink's shoreline at 2 p.m. \$4 vehicle fee. Call 703-569-0285 or email julie.tahan@fairfaxcounty.gov. Visit www.springfielddays.com for more.

Vintage Virginia Wine and Food Festival. 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Bull Run Regional Park, 7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville. A fun-filled day with food, musical entertainment and more. Visit www.vintagevirginia.com for more.

Lake Anne Chalk on the Water Festival. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Lake Anne Plaza, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. Chalk on the Water is a two-day street-painting festival where participants will create amazing street art. Festival goers can purchase a "plot" of brick space on the plaza and paint to their hearts delight whatever flows from their imagination. Cost for spaces are \$5 for children, \$10 for adults, and \$15 for professional artist. Individuals can register at www.chalkonthewater.com. Only 100 spaces/plots are available for this event. Participants have a chance to win cash prizes for various categories, awarded by notable community judges. The festival will also include food, a live DJ, a wine garden.

Taste of Reston. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Carnival games and rides with a family fun zone. Visit www.restontaste.com for more.

JUNE-AUGUST

Reston Concerts on the Town. Fridays, 7:30-10 p.m. Reston Town Center Pavilion. Bring lawn chairs or picnic blankets and enjoy live music in the Pavilion Saturday nights. Free. Rain or shine. Presented by Reston Town Center, Boston Properties, and Reston Town Center Association. Alcohol permitted at restaurants



only. 11900 Market Street, Reston. Concert information: www.restontowncenter.com/concerts.

Great Falls Concerts on the Green. Sundays, 6-8 p.m. Great Falls Village Centre Green. Come out with your picnic baskets and chairs for an entertaining evening of free, live music! 776 Walker Rd, Great Falls. Full schedule list: www.celebrategreatfalls.org/concerts-on-the-green/.

Lake Anne Summer Film Festival. Select Sundays, 8 p.m. Lake Anne Plaza, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. Grab a date, the family or a group of friends, bring the lawn chairs and a picnic and enjoy the free flicks under the stars.

Arts in the Parks. Wednesdays & Saturdays, 10 a.m. Performance venues include Burke Lake Park Amphitheater, E.C. Lawrence Park Amphitheater, Mason District Park Amphitheater, and Frying Pan Farm Park Visitor Center. Entertain children, teach them the importance of protecting our natural resources, introduce them to live entertainment in an informal kid-friendly atmosphere, and forge a connection between kids and parks. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/arts-in-the-parks for more.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 7-9

Celebrate Fairfax! Festival. Friday: 6 p.m.-midnight; Saturday: 10 a.m.-midnight; and Sunday: 11 a.m.-7p.m. Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Musical performances, rides, games and food. Call 703-324-3247 or visit www.celebratefairfax.com/.

SUNDAY/JUNE 14

Love Your Body Yoga Festival. Yoga studios and wellness centers of Northern Virginia will be offering classes, services, and information on ways to care for your body, along with live entertainment and activities

for children. Donations to participate in classes benefit Cornerstones. Presented by Beloved Yoga. www.belovedyoga.com.

July 2019

Herndon 4th of July Celebration.

Bready Park at the Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Ave., Herndon. A family-fun event featuring games, arts and craft activities, bingo, food face painting, balloon artists, and fireworks. Visit www.herndon-va.gov/recreation/special-events/4th-of-july for more.

Great Falls 4th of July Celebration & Parade.

5K Walk Run, Blood Drive, Little Patriot Parade, and floats, horses, antique cars and pets making a loop in the Main Parade. Fireworks start after dusk. www.celebrategreatfalls.org/4th-of-july-celebration-parade/

Vienna 4th of July Festival and

Fireworks Show. Live musical entertainment, arts and crafts for kids, antique and classic car show and fireworks. Visit www.viennava.gov for more.

Fairfax's Independence Day

Celebration. In the Downtown Fairfax Historic District. Independence day parade, historical tours, games, entertainment and fireworks. Visit www.fairfaxva.gov/about-us/special-events/independence-day-celebration

Obon Festival. Highlighting Japanese culture at Ekoji Buddhist Temple, 6500 Lakehaven Lane, Fairfax Station. Visit www.ekoji.org for more.

Clifton Film Festival.

7 p.m. Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Enjoy live music, food and original films under the stars. During the event there will be two awards ceremonies, student's awards will be given during intermission and the 19+ category at the closing of the festival. For more information, please visit cliftonfilmfest.com

Claude Moore Colonial Farm 1771

Market Fair. 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at 6310 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Sit in the shade and savor roast chicken and spicy sausages, enjoy dancing and singing with the fiddler, test your water color and writing skills with Mr. Andrews at the Stationer. Visit 1771.org for more.

JULY-AUGUST

Braddock Nights Concert Series.

Fridays, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Lake Accotink Park, 7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield or Royal Lake Park, 5344 Gainsborough Drive, Fairfax. Listen to musical performances in the great outdoors. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/sites/parks/files/assets/documents/performances/sesflyers18-braddocknights.pdf for location and schedule.

August 2019

Fairfax County 4-H Fair and

Carnival. At Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. Enjoy old-fashioned family fun with carnival games, rides and tempting foods. Stop by the 4-H Fair throughout the weekend as exhibitors display their winning entries and get their farm animals ready to show. Try a turn at farm chores, watch stage entertainment and enjoy horse and livestock shows. Thursday and Friday – free parking and discount tickets for unlimited rides. Admission to the 4-H Fair and Carnival is free; \$10 per car parking fee on Saturday and Sunday. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/frying-pan-park/4-h-fair for details.

NEWCOMERS GUIDE



PHOTO BY MAA SPOTO/THE CONNECTION

Postcard from Great Falls

Both adventurous and historic, the Great Falls park features the town's namesake waterfalls as well as hiking trails through the remains of the Patowmack Canal. The park's cliff-top views are picture-perfect and groups can picnic on the grounds.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

FROM PAGE 15

students during the school year. To learn more contact VP Membership Mary Gronlund at gronbiz@aol.com or Program Coordinator Lynn Barron at lynnieb517@verizon.net.

STEM Professionals Needed. Help assist K-12 STEM teachers as part of the American Association for the Advancement of Science's STEM Volunteer Program, stemvolunteers.org. Contact Don Rea at 571-551-2488, or donaldrea@aol.com.

Volunteer Adult Mentors Needed. Help assist the Department of Family Services' BeFriendA-Child mentoring program. The mentors provide opportunities for companionship, guidance and support to children who have been abused and neglected, or who are at risk of abuse and neglect. Contact Ibrahim Khalil at Ibrahim.khalil@fairfaxcounty.gov or 703-324-4547.

RSVP, a volunteer network for seniors seeking service opportunities in and around Fairfax County, Arlington County and the City of Alexandria, offers a wide array of opportunities for volunteers 55 and older. RSVP volunteers enjoy flexible schedules, free accident and liability insurance while serving, optional mileage and meal reimbursement and are invited to volunteer group projects and social gatherings. To sign up for an upcoming orientation, email Carly Hubicki at chubicki@volunteerfairfax.org or call RSVP at 703-403- 5360. To learn more about RSVP, visit www.rsvpnova.org.

Shepherd's Center of McLean-Arlington-Falls Church, 1205

Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean continues to have an urgent need for new volunteers to help area senior citizens get to and from their medical and therapy appointments. To find out more about the Shepherd's Center and how you can volunteer to provide transportation and other services, call the Center at 703-506-2199 or e-mail the Center at info@scmafc.org. The Center's website is www.scmafc.org.

Master Gardener Training. The Fairfax County Master Gardener Association offers plant clinics, home turf training or speakers for homeowner's meetings. Fees vary. Visit fairfaxgardening.org or call MG Help Desk at 703-324-8556 for more.

The **Northern Virginia Long Term Care Ombudsman Program** needs volunteer advocates for residents in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Contact Lisa Callahan at 703-324-5861, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/olderadultservices/ltcombudsman/.

Fairfax County needs volunteers to **drive older adults to medical appointments and wellness programs**. For these and other volunteer opportunities, call 703-324-5406, TTY 711 or visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/olderadults and click on Volunteer Solutions.

Respite Care volunteers give family caregivers of a frail older adult a well-deserved break so they can go shopping, attend a doctor's appointment or just have coffee with a friend. Volunteers visit and oversee the safety of the older adult for a few hours each month. Support and training are provided. Contact 703-324-7577, TTY 711, or Kristin.Martin@fairfaxcounty.gov.

CALENDAR

			1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31		

Let us know about an upcoming event

connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar

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