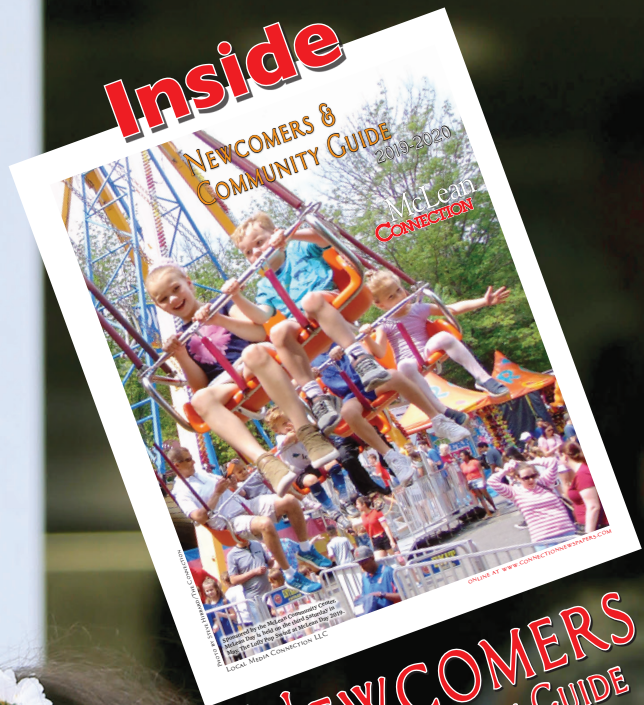


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# McLean CONNECTION



**NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE**

Sybil Winkey and her daughter, second grader Leilani Winkey, on the first day of school at Spring Hill Elementary.



## Happy Day at Spring Hill

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Children Shop With the Sheriff

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Rich Heritage and Strong Sense of Community

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE, PAGE 3

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## Shopping Spree for Children in Homeless Shelters

Pride and positive interaction with law enforcement as students get needed gear.

BY MERCIA HOBSON  
THE CONNECTION

The first day of school is a critical time in the lives of children. An opportunity to shop and choose new back-to-school clothes and shoes excited Yuri Duncan, 7, and Malachi Nealy, 10. On Wednesday, Aug. 21, the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office took Yuri, Malachi and thirty-eight other children shopping for back-to-school items, but not before a complimentary pizza lunch by Paisano's Pizza.

These children live right now at the Katherine K. Hanley and Patrick Henry family shelters operated by Shelter House, and the Next Steps family shelter run by Facets.

Now in its 28th year, the 2019 Shop with the Sheriff Program allowed local shelter children the opportunity to select and purchase clothing they liked, suited to their individual personalities, while interacting in a positive experience with law enforcement. "Together, we truly are changing lives," said Joe Myer Executive Director and CEO of Shelter House.

"I'd like some Jojo shoes because I wear dresses," said Yuri Duncan as she and Sheriff's Deputy J. M. Smith, Field Training Officer, ate their pizza and got to know each other.

**FOR MALACHI NEALY**, it was all about being cool. "I'm looking for stylish, cool clothes in teal and light blue." Shiah Allen, 8, who sat with Sheriff's Deputy L. R. Favetti said he wanted a hoodie with a 100 on it, and Noah Mathews, 10, knew exactly what clothing and shoes he wanted to get to dominate the game on the school courts. "I'd like themed t-shirts, shorts, and new Nike James LeBron shoes."

"I love the interaction between our kids and our Sheriff's deputies," said Fairfax County Sheriff Stacey A. Kincaid. "These children are living in family shelters. Helping them prepare for the start of the school year with new clothes is something we can see and appreciate. Less obvious, but just as important, is the relationship building. We are law enforcement officers ... we are regular people who can tell jokes and stories. We want the children to engage with us today and in the future."

According to Sheriff Kincaid, since the program was not county-funded, the Office relied on contributions from individuals and corporate donations such as Target, Paisano's Pizza and new partner this year, Oracle in Reston.

"Each child is paired up with a Deputy Sheriff or civilian staff member and given \$250 gift cards so they can purchase items such as clothing, accessories, things that they need...on the first day and beyond, so they are able to walk in with a sense of pride and can focus on their studies."



Reservist, K. R. Gulich and Margo Reimers-Ray, Management Analyst II of Fairfax County Sheriff's Office assist a youth during the 2019 Shop with the Sheriff Program at Target in Burke.



Shiah Allen, 8, gets to know his shopping partner, Fairfax County Sheriff's Deputy L. R. Favetti before they head out to Target in Burke for the 2019 Shop with the Sheriff Program.

For many of the deputies, the event was a repeat performance. "I love helping out ... This is my third or fourth time," said Deputy Sheriff J.M. Smith as she sat coloring with Yuri Duncan and eating pizza. For Deputy L. R. Favetti, it was his first time volunteering, which momentarily concerned his shopping partner, Shiah Allen, 8. That is until Favetti added: "I have lots of nieces and nephews, so I know how to shop."

Sharon Bulova, Chairman Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and Supervisor John W. Cook (R-Braddock District) waited at Target for the children, Kincaid and the deputies to arrive. Before the children came,

Bulova said, "This is one of my favorite events of the year. It's heartwarming to see the interaction between the Sheriff's deputies and these children. It changes the children's opinion of law enforcement."

When the children arrived, Cook spoke to the group. "You just show our deputies what you need, and they will be happy to get it for you. ... School is really important. ... We want you ready to learn and have fun with your fellow classmates."

**IN A FILMED INTERVIEW**, Kincaid explained while Shop with the Sheriff pro-

PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION



Checkout time is show and tell for Yuri Duncan, 7. She holds up one of her back-to-school-purchases that Sheriff's Deputy J. M. Smith helped her choose during the 2019 Shop with the Sheriff Program.



Two cool dudes, Sergeant C. M. Loftis, Public Information Officer for Fairfax County Sheriff's Office and Christian Gatling don their shades as they go back to school shopping together at Target in Burke during the 2019 Shop with the Sheriff Program.

vided the tangible benefit of new clothes and shoes, it also provided intangible benefits. The experience gave the children a sense of control as they selected and excitedly tried on the clothing they picked out. The new clothes also gave the children a sense of pride, which would allow them to focus on their education. It also allowed positive interaction between deputies and the children.

"This is a great program, and I wish we could have it every single day. We love to interact and be the role models for the children," said Kincaid.





PHOTOS BY NADEZHDA SHULGA/THE CONNECTION

**Sara Aiello, Principal of Spring Hill Elementary School, believes it was ‘a perfect first day of school.’**



**Spring Hill moms Kristin Magur, Stephanie Short, Jennifer McCarthy, and Julie DeLong happy to see each other during PTA welcome meeting.**

# A Happy Day at Spring Hill Elementary

The first day of school was ‘amazing’ for the students.

BY NADEZHDA SHULGA  
THE CONNECTION

**H**appy kids, excited parents, and smiling teachers are crowded at the school entrance on Monday, Aug. 26. Principal Sarah Aiello and administrative staff greet everyone at the doorway. Counselor Dona Sasala helps children to get to their classes. The festive atmosphere is everywhere.

“Emma, sweetie, let’s do it one more time,” mom asks her 7-year-old daughter to smile to the camera. Emma is smiling hastily; her friends are already waiting for her in the hallway. The girl gives a hug to her mom and runs off.

Fizzah Gocke is happy to be here with her daughter Gigi. Gigi is in sixth grade, her final year in elementary school. Gocke shares that Spring Hill Elementary School holds a special place in her and Gigi’s hearts.

“Spring Hill has been a wonderful Elementary School for all three of my children,” Gocke said. “The faculty and staff are just so dedicated to the students. The kids have such a great multicultural environment, and they have friends from all kinds of backgrounds. They get immersed and make great friendships, and I can probably believe that happens in a lot of schools. However, Spring Hill has been distinct from their academic rigor, from the dedication of their staff and the children’s and real bond to the school.”

For sixth-graders, the school day begins with a music class. The kids are all ears enjoying the talk about the musical instruments. Ruth Donahue, a music teacher, is preparing a school string orchestra for



**Kamila Lickunas, fifth grader, is going back to school.**

a performance. Violinist Jolie Korfonta and cellist Daniel Kim will open the school year with a strings concert.

At the cafeteria, the PTA organizes welcoming coffee and donuts for parents. They truly enjoy



**Ruth Donahue, music teacher, with her students including violinist Jolie Korfonta and cellist Daniel Kim.**

meeting each other while the kids are in the classrooms. Four moms with cups of coffee are discussing something. They look like four main characters from the famous



**Daniela Silva with her daughter Julia, now a second grader, on their way to Spring Hill Elementary School.**

TV Show Big Little Lies.

“I think Spring Hill Elementary is more than a school. It’s a community,” Jennifer McCarthy, mom of third-grader, says, “It is good friendships, not just for the kids, but the families that get involved and support this school. My daughter studies here from kindergarten. This is her network, her community, and her friends.”

Everything is getting quiet and slowing down. The staff greets the kids from the last school bus.

“Our morning was amazing,” Principal Sarah Aiello beams. “Our teachers are excited, kids came in with smiling faces, our families look happy. They were ready for school. Everything was organized. Kids got to class in a timely manner. It was great.”

Spring Hill Elementary School is one of the largest in the area with about a thousand students enrolled this year.

“We are a large school, but we have a very small school family feel,” Principal Aiello smiles. “That’s really important to us”.



**Sixth grader Gigi and fourth grader Jacob participate in many school activities. Their mom Fizzah Gocke is happy about that.**





# CALENDAR AND ENTERTAINMENT

Submit entertainment announcements at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar/). The deadline is noon on Friday. Photos/artwork encouraged.

## ONGOING

**Registration Open: NVSO.** The Northern Virginia Senior Olympics features more than 60 events that challenge the mind as well as the body. New games this year: jigsaw puzzle and line-dancing. The games run Sept. 14-28. There will be no on-site registration. Online registrations must be completed by Aug. 31 at [www.nvso.us](http://www.nvso.us).

**Art Exhibit: Vienna Arts Society Reception.** Through Aug. 31, 3-5 p.m. at Vienna Art Center, Windover Building, 243 Church St. NW, Vienna. The Vienna Arts Society invites the public to a reception celebrating two exhibitions. The "Healing Wall" is created by troops on the mend at Fort Belvoir Hospital. "The Open Door" features a judged photography exhibition. Free and open to the public. Visit [www.ViennaArtsSociety.org](http://www.ViennaArtsSociety.org) or call 703-319-3971.

**Oak Marr Farmers' Market.** 8 a.m.-noon at Oak Marr RECenter, 3200 Jermantown Road, Oakton. Every Wednesday through Nov. 13, rain or shine. Vendors include produce, meats, eggs, cheeses, pies, cured and smoked meats, popsicles, sorbet, bread, croissants, falafel sandwiches, humus, and pesto. Call 703-281-6501 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/oak-marr](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/oak-marr) for more.

**McLean Farmers Market.** Fridays, through Nov. 15, 8 a.m.-noon at Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Sixteen local farmers and producers will sell fresh produce and fruits; meats; breads and pastries; jams; dairy products and eggs; herbs; flowers, coffee, and more. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/mclean](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/mclean).

**Great Falls Farmers Market.** Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 778 Walker Road, Great Falls. Music, vendors, fresh produce, fresh prepared food, delightful bakery, spices from around the world, wild-caught fish, grass-fed, free-range meats, organic-fed poultry and eggs. Email [kathleen@greatfallsfarmersmarket.org](mailto:kathleen@greatfallsfarmersmarket.org) for more.

**Oakton Farmers Market.** Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax Church, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Year-round weekly farmers market in Oakton. Local produce, meats/eggs, dairy, baked goods, and more. Admission is free. Visit [community-foodworks.org](http://community-foodworks.org).

## SATURDAY/AUG. 31

**Woodstock 50th Party.** 7-11 p.m. at Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. Woodstock 50th and Rock 'n Roll heaven with The Rockits, Randoll (Elvis) Rivers and guests. Sixty songs from the '60s. Dine, drink, and dance. \$10 advance. Call 703-281-4679 or visit [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com).

## SATURDAY/AUG. 31-SUNDAY/SEPT. 1

**Middle Eastern Food Festival.** Saturday, 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sunday, noon-6 p.m. at Holy Transfiguration Church, 8501 Lewinsville Road, McLean. The Festival features authentic Middle Eastern food (including many choices for vegetarians), pastries, music and dancing, as well as vendors, church tours, and activities for both children and adults. Highlights include a roast lamb dinner at 6 p.m. Saturday evening and all day on Sunday; a 12-foot sweets table; and even a petting zoo. Free admission. Call 703-734-9566 or visit [www.MiddleEasternFoodFestival.com](http://www.MiddleEasternFoodFestival.com).

## SUNDAY/SEPT. 1

**Get Fired Up.** 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Colvin Run Mill, 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. The mill's blacksmith will be firing up his forge – watch as he works with hammer and tongs to make iron tools and utensils. Free, no reservations are required. No reservations are required. Call 703-759-2771 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvin-run-mill](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvin-run-mill).

**Escape the Daily Grind.** Noon-3 p.m. at Colvin Run Mill, 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. See and hear 19th century technology at work at the historic mill. Grinding demonstrations will be taking place, if conditions permit. Call the site to confirm. \$8 for adults; \$7 for students age 16 and older with ID; and \$6 for children and seniors. No reservations are required. Call 703-759-2771 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvin-run-mill](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvin-run-mill).



Parishioners from Holy Transfiguration Church dance the "Debke," a traditional Middle Eastern dance. Festival goers will be invited to participate in the dancing.

## Middle Eastern Food Festival.

The Festival features authentic Middle Eastern food (including many choices for vegetarians), pastries, music and dancing, as well as vendors, church tours, and activities for both children and adults. Highlights include a roast lamb dinner at 6 p.m. Saturday evening and all day on Sunday; a 12-foot sweets table; and even a petting zoo. Saturday, Aug. 31, 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sunday, Sept. 1, noon-6 p.m. at Holy Transfiguration Church, 8501 Lewinsville Road, McLean. Free admission. Call 703-734-9566 or visit [www.MiddleEasternFoodFestival.com](http://www.MiddleEasternFoodFestival.com).



The Bentwood Rockers (from left: Dave Goldman, Alan Cohen, Ken Tackett, Pat Markham, and Stafford Markham).

## Live Music: Bentwood Rockers

The Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna (SCOV) hosts a benefit performance with the Bentwood Rockers. Enjoy some fabulous foot-stomping Bluegrass music. Friday, Sept. 6, 6:30 p.m. (doors open 5:30) at Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$20-\$25 at [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com). To volunteer, donate or learn more, visit [www.scov.org](http://www.scov.org).

**Gardening With Kids Fall Harvest.** 1-4 p.m. at the Freeman Store, 131 Church St. NE, Vienna. Join the Ayr Hill Garden Club for the fall harvest featuring a picnic of harvested vegetables plus a craft project using natural dyes from the garden. Free. RSVP to [monica.anschel@hotmail.com](mailto:monica.anschel@hotmail.com) to ensure enough supplies.

## TUESDAY/SEPT. 3

**Great Falls Historical Society Program.** 7 p.m. in the Conference Room in the Great Falls Library. Karen Washburn will talk on the history of the Old Dominion Trolley and Great Falls Park. The trolley opened for business in 1906 and ran until 1934. It provided transportation for city workers, school children, farmers going to market, and more. The trolley company built and opened Great Falls Park. All are welcome. Refreshments will be provided. Free. Visit [www.gfhs.org](http://www.gfhs.org) or call 540-656-0648.

## THURSDAY/SEPT. 5

**Caregivers Treat Event.** 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road, Vienna. The 2019 Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna's Caregivers Treat event is free and is open to caregivers of adult family

members with dementia. The event offers a half day of relaxation, socialization, and a sharing of experiences. Activities include massages, exchange of ideas, breakfast and lunch, speakers. Guests are invited to sign in from. Register at 703-281-0538 or [office@scov.org](mailto:office@scov.org) by Thursday, Aug. 29.

## FRIDAY/SEPT. 6

**Live Music: Bentwood Rockers.** 6:30 p.m. (doors open 5:30) at Jammin Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. The Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna (SCOV) hosts a benefit performance with the Bentwood Rockers. Enjoy some fabulous foot-stomping Bluegrass music. \$20-\$25 at [www.jamminjava.com](http://www.jamminjava.com). To volunteer, donate or learn more, visit [www.scov.org](http://www.scov.org).

## FRIDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 6-8

**Library Book Sale.** Friday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sunday, 1-4 p.m. at Tysons Pimmit Regional Library, 7584 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church. Large selection of books and media for all ages and interests. Sunday is half price and \$10 per bag sales. Free admission. Email [tysonslibraryfriends@gmail.com](mailto:tysonslibraryfriends@gmail.com) or call 703-790-4031 or 703-338-3307.

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 7

**Dog Daze.** 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at The Water Mine at Lake Fairfax Park, 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston. The Water Mine is going to close out the swimming season. The water park is open for canine-only swimming. Stop by the Canine Resource Fair and visit with a host of dog-centric vendors. Take advantage of the low-cost rabies clinic from noon-2 p.m. Suggested donation is \$10 per dog. Proceeds benefit the Fairfax County Animal Shelter and the Fairfax County Park Foundation. Dog food donations will be collected. Call 703-471-5415 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-fairfax/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-fairfax/).

**Virginia Native American Festival.** 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills St., Great Falls. Learn about the culture of Virginia's first residents when the Virginia Native American Festival returns to Riverbend Park. The festival includes eight American Indian tribes from Virginia including the Rappahannock dancers and drummers. Enjoy hands on activities and live demonstrations including American Indian storytelling, shooting bow and arrows, throwing spears and making stone tools. Also, assist in building a dugout canoe and visit our marketplace of American Indian crafts, pottery and jewelry. \$8 in advance; \$10 at the gate. Visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend/native-american-festival/090719](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/riverbend/native-american-festival/090719).

## SEPT. 7-OCT. 12

**Countles Shades of Black.** Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at The Frame Factory Gallery, 212 Dominion Road N.E., Vienna. Countless Shades of Black features local artist Alfredo Milian and Discovery Graphics. An artist reception is planned for Saturday, Sept. 7, 5-8 p.m. Free. Visit [www.theframefactory1.com](http://www.theframefactory1.com) for a slide show.

## SUNDAY/SEPT. 8

**Get Fired Up.** 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Colvin Run Mill, 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. The mill's blacksmith will be firing up his forge – watch as he works with hammer and tongs to make iron tools and utensils. Free, no reservations are required. No reservations are required. Call 703-759-2771 or visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvin-run-mill](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/colvin-run-mill).

## TUESDAY/SEPT. 10

**McLean Historical Society Program.** 7:30-9:30 p.m. at McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean. The speaker will be Merrily Pierce who will present the "History of the McLean Citizen's Association." Everyone is welcome. Free. Contact Carole Herrick at 703-356-8223.

## SEPT. 10-JAN. 15

**Mah Jongg Cards.** Order cards Sept. 10, 2019-Jan. 15, 2020 from Temple Rodef Shalom, 2100 Westmoreland St. 2020 Mah Jongg cards are \$8 for small cards and \$9 for large cards. Official cards and will be sent directly from the National Mah Jongg League in late March/early April 2020. Go to [bit.ly/mahjonggcards2020](http://bit.ly/mahjonggcards2020) or email [iva.gresko@gmail.com](mailto:iva.gresko@gmail.com) to order.

## WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 11

**9/11 Remembrance Ceremony.** 7-8 p.m. at the Great Falls Freedom Memorial, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. The annual Sept. 11 Remembrance Ceremony at the Great Falls Freedom Memorial (behind the library) will honor the six residents lost to the attacks and all who sacrificed on that day and in its aftermath with a color guard, patriotic songs, candle lighting, and remarks by former CNN Washington bureau chief Frank Sesno. The ceremony is open to all. Attendees are encouraged to bring chairs. Free. Visit [www.gffreedom.org](http://www.gffreedom.org) for more.

## SEPT. 13-NOV. 3

**Pop-Up Selfie Museum.** Select dates and times at Tysons Corner Center, Lower Level near Lord & Taylor. The American Scream Selfie Museum will feature interactive exhibits that will make visitors laugh and scream and the star of eye-popping selfies. The museum will feature an array of custom-built Halloween themed sets individuals can interact with: sit on the Iron Throne and rule the Seven Kingdoms, stand in an ancient Egyptian tomb and face the Mummy; visit a gruesome morgue; and more. \$15-\$18. Visit [www.american-scream.com](http://www.american-scream.com) for timed tickets and schedule.



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**NEWS**



**Franklin Sherman Elementary students enjoy first run on a newly-opened track.**

PHOTOS BY NADEZHDA SHULGA/  
THE CONNECTION

**Running for Health and Fun**

**The new track at Franklin Sherman Elementary is now open to students and the community.**

BY NADEZHDA SHULGA  
THE CONNECTION

**“R**eady!” A group of children is lined up ready to race next to the teacher Matthew Nielsen. “Set! Go!” Children shot off the starting line running neck-to-neck. It was a great honor for all of them to open the track together with school and FCPS officials.

Not every elementary school has a track. “When we do renovations in our schools, a track is always part of the project,” said Supervisor John Foust (D-Dranesville). “Only one-quarter of FCPS elementary schools currently have walking paths or tracks.”

The track for Franklin Sherman Elementary School was funded by JBG Smith, developer of The Signet condominiums in downtown McLean. Both the school and business understand that even the smallest change targeted at health, safety, and well-being of the children does matter.

“When we were working on cardiovascular fitness with our kids, they would run around the perimeter of the field, but it was uneven and is a little bit dangerous because if there’s a hole or something they could hurt themselves,” Principal Kathleen Quigley said. “The new track has a level surface. Also, we are now able to measure their runs and mark their progress.”

Indeed, running on the soft surface is definitely easier on the feet than running on concrete; for kids, it is also safer than running on grass.



**Kathleen Quigley, Principal of Franklin Sherman Elementary School, walked a lap around the field together with her students.**

The track is especially important when it comes to competitive play. There are two running clubs in the school, “Panda racers” and “Girls on the run.” Having a good track is a must to encourage boys and girls to start enjoying running as an exercise and a healthy habit.

Residents from the area are welcome to take advantage of the track outside school time.



**Supervisor John Foust (on the left) officially opened the track.**



# BULLETIN

Submit civic/community announcements at [ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar](http://ConnectionNewspapers.com/Calendar). Photos and artwork welcome. Deadline is Thursday at noon, at least two weeks before event.

## DONATIONS NEEDED

**School Supply and Backpack Drive.** 8 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Parent Resource Center, 2334 Gallows Road, Room 105, Dunn Loring. For the nearly 56,000 students in Fairfax County Public Schools living at the poverty line, obtaining school supplies can be difficult. FCPS is partnering with roughly 20 nonprofits and businesses to ensure that students will have the supplies they need this fall for its "Collect for Kids" campaign. A \$25 donation will fill a backpack with FCPS approved supplies for a student. Organize a collection drive of new backpacks in your community and bring to one of the Collect for Kids drop off locations. Visit [www.collectforkids.org/get-involved](http://www.collectforkids.org/get-involved) or call 703-204-3941.

## THURSDAY/AUG. 29

**Beyond #MeToo: Strategies for Preventing & Responding to Harassment.** 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Fairfax County EDA, 8300 Boone Boulevard, Ste. 450 Tysons. Presented by the Multicultural Chambers Alliance (Asian-American CC, NVBCC, The Virginia Hispanic Chamber). Free. Visit [www.vahcc.com](http://www.vahcc.com) or call 703-790-0303 to register.

## SUNDAY/SEPT. 1

**22 Proven Processes.** 1-3 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. This hands-on experiential class will explore proven processes that have been found to enhance individual spiritual growth and help individuals who struggle with debt, relationships, and other life challenges. Based on the Law of Attraction principles found in "Ask and It Is Given—Learning to Manifest Your Desires," written by Esther and Hicks. Donation. Call 703-281-1767 or visit [22-proven-processes.eventbrite.com](http://22-proven-processes.eventbrite.com).

## FRIDAY/SEPT. 6

**Application Deadline: Youth Leadership Scholarship.** The Great Falls Rotary is offering grants to high school juniors or seniors for a leadership camp taking place Oct. 4-6 in Prince William Forest Park, Virginia. Free to scholarship winners. Call 703-759-3858 or visit [www.rotarygreatfallsva.org/Ryla](http://www.rotarygreatfallsva.org/Ryla) for more.

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 7

**Open House.** 10 a.m.-noon at the Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. The Vienna branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) will hold an informational Open House. AAUW is the nation's leading voice promoting equity and education for women and girls. Membership dues discount for those who join at this event. Refreshments. Free. Visit [vienna-va.aauw.net/](http://vienna-va.aauw.net/) for more.

**Mindful 365 Meditation.** 10 a.m.-noon at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. Most people find that meditating in community strengthens their practice. If the idea of being part of a meditation sangha is appealing, whether currently practicing or not, consider joining the 365 Mindful meditation sitting group. \$10. Email [becky.bruner@gmail.com](mailto:becky.bruner@gmail.com) or visit [sittinggroup-2019.eventbrite.com/](http://sittinggroup-2019.eventbrite.com/) for more.

## SUNDAY/SEPT. 8

**Welcoming Sunday.** 11 a.m.-3 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 6715 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Join in the Welcoming Sunday festivities. Meet the new rector and clergy and see what the St. John's community is all about. The celebration begins immediately following the 10 a.m. worship service and includes a picnic lunch, petting zoo, and the opportunity for fellowship after a busy summer. Free, and parking available. Visit [www.stjohnsmclean.org](http://www.stjohnsmclean.org)

**Living Quantum Consciousness.** 1-3 p.m. at Unity of Fairfax, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. A look at the intersection of science and spirituality. Join Jackie Woodside to learn techniques to break free from emotional loops and spirals, and get out of chaos. \$20. Email [kdickman@gmu.edu](mailto:kdickman@gmu.edu) for more.

## MONDAY/SEPT. 9

**GFCA Environment and Parks (EP) Committee Meeting.** 7:30 p.m. at Great Falls Library, large meeting room. Erica Carter, Fairfax County's Recycling Coordinator, will speak regarding all the local confusion about trash pickup and the reality and changing recycling policies and markets. Visit [gfca.org](http://gfca.org) for complete agenda.

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## Side-Splitting But Not Very Funny



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

The most recent near-having-to-think-about-death experience I wrote about last week ("Barbosoul") was quite a shock to my system.

In spite of all the ups and downs and all-arounds I've experienced over the past 10 and a half not-filled cancer years, I had never gone emotionally to the place I went to last week. Certainly I've thought about death and dying before: heck, I'm a cancer patient having been given a "terminal" diagnosis.

Nevertheless, I had never really put two and two together to equal four. It had always equaled three and a half, if you know what I mean? (Maybe you don't. Sometimes I'm not sure what I mean.) But last week's column was different. I went there.

It's not as if I haven't experienced pain before. I have. Most notably in the area of my lungs (the mediastinum) where my non-small-cell-lung-cancer-stage-IV tumors take up primary residence. Sometimes, the pain I felt was that of the tumors growing. Other times, the pain was that of scar tissue which had grown over tumors.

Any of which I would never know until my oncologist discussed with Team Lourie the radiologist's report from the preceding CT scan. Moreover, these assessments were never given with any kind of arithmetical-type certainty. Still, if it could have been worse, I was happy and if it could have been better, I was hopeful. Never too high and never too low.

As you regular readers know, I roll with the punches, wherever they land.

For the past week, those punches (pain) were in the identical (so far as I knew) place where my non-small cell lung cancer, stage IV symptoms first manifested in late December 2008. As such, I was rolling like I had never rolled before – and without any kind of mat to soften the fall.

Aside from experiencing headaches/pain in my head (which I haven't), which might indicate progression (in 30 percent of lung cancer patients the cancer moves to the brain), a recurrence in the same area as 10 and a half years ago likewise scares out the daylight living inside of me.

And, just like when a little knowledge in the wrong hands can be a dangerous thing, so too does zero knowledge in the right hands (mine) become a dangerous thing. Why else would I be experiencing pain in my left side by my rib cage if it wasn't the cancer, only worse? But that wasn't the case.

As those of you who read to the end of last week's column know, I have survived to fight another day, or I should say, fight another two months because that's when my next CT scan is scheduled. At present, that's my cycle: bi-weekly immunotherapy followed by bi-monthly scans of my neck down to my lower abdomen, followed by an office visit with my oncologist to discuss the findings and plan for the immediate future.

Might that be palliative care? Apparently, if the inference/suggestion made by my oncologist in our last face-to-face meeting had any basis in fact? I suppose that's the problem with inferences/suggestions made in the medical "whirlwind."

I'm sure there are facts and figures and years of research supporting recommendations upon which one's treatments/protocols are based. Moreover, they're unlikely "made up of whole cloth," to quote the late Washington Redskins' owner Jack Kent Cooke commenting on some football rumor I can't remember.

Nevertheless, it's not exactly a straight line from the oncologist's mouth to the patient's estate planner. It's more like a roller coaster – without the safety bar (I wish it were more like the merry-go-round, but it's not). Often times, it's more like whack-a-mole.

Now that the pain and discomfort has subsided, I feel like I've dodged a bullet. It reminds me of my elementary school gym classes when we played a game called "Bombardment" where dodge balls were thrown across the gym from one half of the class at the other. As random as it was, it was only a matter of time until you couldn't dodge any more, and then you were out.

I realize that was only a game and this is life, but cancer has a way of intertwining fact and fiction with the past, present and future whether you like it or not.

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





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# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

2019-2020

McLean  
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PHOTO BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

Sponsored by the McLean Community Center, McLean Day is held on the third Saturday in May. The Lolly Pop Swing at McLean Day 2019.

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# NEWCOMERS

## Where to Give Locally: List of Nonprofits in Fairfax County

- ❖ **Cornerstones**, 11150 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 210, Reston, serving Reston and Herndon. 571-323-9555, [www.cornerstonesva.org](http://www.cornerstonesva.org). Nonprofit providing support and advocacy for those in need of food, shelter, affordable housing, quality childcare, and other human services. Programs and services include the Embry Rucker Community Shelter, Emergency Food Pantry, Hypothermia Prevention Program, Thanksgiving Food Drive, Gifts for Kids and annual Coat Drive. Alacia Earley at 571-323-9568 or [alacia.earley@cornerstonesva.org](mailto:alacia.earley@cornerstonesva.org).
- ❖ **SHARE** of McLean operates a food pantry; provides assistance to families to avoid eviction, keep utilities on and meet other needs in a crisis. Share of McLean will provide holiday assistance to more than 250 needy families (630-plus people) this year. Help us help our

neighbors in need by donating Walmart, Target, Giant, or Safeway gift cards. Contact [ShareWishes@gmail.com](mailto:ShareWishes@gmail.com) for more information. Visit [www.shareofmclean.org](http://www.shareofmclean.org)

- ❖ **Herndon-Reston FISH** (Friendly Instant Sympathetic Help), 336 Victory Drive, Herndon, 703-391-0105 [herndonrestonfish.org](http://herndonrestonfish.org) Herndon-Reston FISH has assisted local residents in short term crises by since 1969. FISH provides Friendly Instant Sympathetic Help by responding to emergency requests for rent, transportation, utilities, medical prescriptions and other needs. FISH operates The Bargain Loft, a thrift store, which needs donations of good quality saleable items, accepting and selling art, furniture, jewelry, household linens, dishes, pots and pans, books, women's designer clothing (clean and on hangers), puzzles, games,

collectibles, small electronics and much more. If you have store questions, call 703-437-0600. Herndon-Reston FISH also provides Holiday Food & Gift Baskets during the November and December season.

- ❖ **LINK**, serving Herndon, Chantilly, Loudoun and more. Every year the goal is to provide each family with a week's worth of non-perishable food in November and again in December. When funds allow, grocery gift cards are also included. In November, clients also receive a voucher for coats and warm clothing. In December, children 16 and under receive gifts. [holiday@linkagainsthunger.org](mailto:holiday@linkagainsthunger.org). 703-437-1776 [www.linkagainsthunger.org](http://www.linkagainsthunger.org).
- ❖ **Committee for Helping Others** (CHO), Vienna, organized in 1969 by a group of churches and individuals in the Dunn Loring,

Merrifield, Oakton, Vienna community to provide simple, loving charity to those in need. Last year 450 children had a special Christmas through the annual Christmas Store. 703-281-7614, [www.cho-va.com](http://www.cho-va.com)

- ❖ **Northern Virginia Family Service**. Just \$50 provides a complete holiday meal to a family of four. Donate at [give.nvfs.org/holidaydonation](http://give.nvfs.org/holidaydonation) or via check payable to "NVFS" with "Operation Turkey" on the memo line, or send grocery store gift cards. Northern Virginia Family Service, attn: Holiday Initiatives, 10455 White Granite Drive, Suite 100, Oakton, VA 22124.
- ❖ **Second Story** — Abused and Homeless Children's Refuge, 2100 Gallows Road, Vienna, VA 22182, 703-506-9191. Second Story (formerly Alternative House) provides shelter

SEE GIVE LOCALLY, PAGE 7



## JOIN THE FIGHT FOR ALZHEIMER'S FIRST SURVIVOR.

At the Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's®, people carry flowers representing their connection to Alzheimer's — a disease that currently has no cure. But what if one day there was a flower for Alzheimer's first survivor? What if there were millions of them? Help make that beautiful day happen by joining us for the world's largest fundraiser to fight the disease. Register today at [alz.org/walk](http://alz.org/walk).

**Walk to End Alzheimer's**  
**Sept. 29** • Reston Town Center  
**Oct. 12** • National Mall

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 Find one near you at [alz.org/walk](http://alz.org/walk)  
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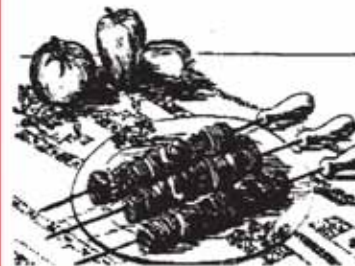
Sunday, Sept. 1, 12:00 noon–6:00 pm

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# NEWCOMERS

## My Last Welcome Letter For Connection Newcomers

BY SHARON BULOVA,  
CHAIRMAN  
FAIRFAX COUNTY BOARD OF  
SUPERVISORS



**W**hen I was first elected to the Board of Supervisors in 1987 the Braddock District was called Annandale. Fairfax County's population (now 1.15 million) was approximately 746,600. There was no VRE (Virginia Railway Express Commuter Rail System) nor was there a Springfield Franconia Metro Station or a Fairfax County Parkway. When I took office as a freshman Supervisor in January 1988, Fairfax County was, for the most part, a rapidly growing suburban bedroom community. Tysons was still just a shopping mall.

I will be retiring at the end of December, after serving 31 years on the Fairfax County

Board of Supervisors — 11 years as Chairman and 20 years before that as the Braddock District Supervisor. What I have come to understand over these many years is that the one thing you can be certain of is that things will change. Indeed, a lot has changed over that span of time.

During the past decade while I have had the honor to serve you as Chairman, Fairfax County has:

- ❖ Navigated the financial crises caused by the Great Recession with the County's coveted triple A bond rating by all three rating agencies still intact;

- ❖ Welcomed Metro's Silver Line to Tysons and Reston, with a station at Dulles Airport to open next year;

- ❖ Ushered in new land use plans for Tysons and other aging commercial and industrial areas of the County in need of revitalization;

- ❖ Reengineered our police policies to include more transparency and de-escalation tactics with a focus on the sanctity of life;

- ❖ Created Diversion First, a program for people with mental illness or developmental disabilities, experiencing an encounter with law enforcement to receive treatment instead of incarceration;

- ❖ Updated the County's Environmental Vision to include a new focus on Energy Efficiency and Climate;

- ❖ Strengthened collaboration between the Board of Supervisors and the School Board in the areas of budget development, land use planning and joint environmental initiatives;

- ❖ Reduced homelessness by nearly 50% employing a Housing First strategy to put a roof over homeless individuals' heads and connecting them to resources needed to help them get back on their feet;

- ❖ Lastly, and most importantly, our Board,

in partnership with the School Board, established One Fairfax, a social and racial equity compact, to ensure that ALL residents of Fairfax County have access to equitable opportunities for success.

I have been deeply honored to serve the residents of Fairfax County for these many years. I will really miss this job! Jurisdictions throughout the country look to Fairfax County as a leader and innovator, and I am proud, working with my colleagues on the Board and our excellent County staff, to have led our county to where it is today. Fairfax County is an awesome place, with a culture of engagement, acceptance of different cultures and backgrounds and a willingness to work together to resolve conflicts.

Fairfax County is poised for many exciting opportunities ahead. I am confident the next Board of Supervisors, in partnership with members of the community, will continue the positive momentum we are known for.

## Rich Heritage and Strong Sense of Community

### Supervisor welcomes newcomers to Dranesville District.

BY SUPERVISOR JOHN W. FOUST  
DRANESVILLE DISTRICT

**T**he Dranesville District includes McLean, Great Falls, Herndon and some areas of Vienna and Falls Church and has about 125,000 residents. It runs from the Arlington County border to the Loudoun County border along the beautiful Potomac River. Herndon is a quintessential small American town with a rich heritage and strong sense of community. It also has a vibrant transit area developing around a new Metro station that will open soon.

McLean is an active community with some of the most beautiful neighborhoods in the Metropolitan region. Only a few miles from Tysons and the Dulles Corridor, Great Falls is a semi-rural community where residents actively participate in preserving its history and protecting its environment.

Dranesville includes some of the best County and National parks in the region including Riverbend Park, Great Falls Park, and Scotts Run Nature Preserve. The District is also home to numerous excellent public schools including the high achieving and highly regarded Langley, McLean, and Herndon High Schools. Throughout the District, there are excellent libraries and active arts communities. All three communities have outdoor summer concert series and old-fashioned farmers' markets. The introduction of Metro's Silver Line has provided an alternative to the automobile for Dranesville residents. Expansion of the Silver Line to Dulles Airport and into Loudoun, scheduled to open in 2020, will make trav-



PHOTO BY ANNA KARL/THE CONNECTION

**Dranesville District is home to numerous excellent public schools including Langley, McLean, and Herndon High Schools: Students toss their caps into the air to celebrate McLean High School's 2019 commencement ceremony.**

eling that much easier. The excellent schools, parks and libraries, lovely neighborhoods, active youth sports and arts programs, and its active, interesting, and friendly residents make Dranesville an excellent place to live, raise a family, and do business.

Fairfax County, and especially Tysons and the Dulles Corridor, continue to grow and

provide excellent business and employment opportunities for Dranesville residents. Our challenge in the coming years is to ensure that the growth is balanced with expanded public facilities and public services so that future generations will be able to enjoy living in Dranesville as much as the past and current residents have enjoyed making their homes here.

Welcome to the Dranesville District. It has been my honor to represent Dranesville residents on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors for the past 12 years. I look forward to continuing to serve you in the future.

### Major Projects Underway

There are many projects, studies, and programs underway throughout the Dranesville District. Below, I have highlighted a few that are nearing completion or that will be getting started next year.

- ❖ **Balls Hill/Georgetown Pike Intersection**

Work is well underway on a project to improve the intersection of Georgetown Pike and Balls Hill Road in McLean, one of the most congested areas in the Dranesville District. Following requests from community members, and advocacy from local and state elected officials, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) began work this summer on a project that will add a much-needed left-turn lane to northbound Balls Hill Road at its intersection with

SEE DRANESVILLE CHALLENGE.  
PAGE 4



# Dranesville Challenge: Balanced Growth

FROM PAGE 3

Georgetown Pike. Adding the left-turn lane will allow residents traveling north across Georgetown Pike to do so in their own through lane.

Although not expected to resolve all congestion at this intersection, the project will give residents to the north and east of the intersection a way to their homes without mixing with the Beltway-bound traffic turning left at the intersection.

This project includes pavement widening and minor signal, striping, drainage, and signage changes. Work on this project will be completed before school begins this fall.

## ❖ Georgetown Pike Trail and Dolley Madison Sidewalk

Several important sidewalk and trail connections are underway or have been completed in the last year.

In Great Falls, two projects will add asphalt trail along Georgetown Pike, between Falls Chase Court and Seneca Road. With the completion of these segments later this year, pedestrians and bicyclists will be able to walk/ride safely along Georgetown Pike from the Village Centre to Route 7.

Proximity to the Metro is an important benefit of living in McLean. However, it is not always easy or safe to walk to a station. Fairfax County is helping to address this challenge with a project to construct a sidewalk along Rt. 123/Dolley Madison Blvd. from the Great Falls Street/Lewinsville Road intersection to the McLean Metro station. The project is expected to be completed in spring 2020.

## ❖ Jones Branch Connector

The Jones Branch Connector is being completed by VDOT in cooperation with Fairfax County. It will provide an important new link from Route 123, over the Capital Beltway (I-495), to Jones Branch Drive in Tysons. The new connection will improve local traffic and access for drivers, in addition to offering a great 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 travel lane in each direction opened last December. The project is expected to be fully completed in fall 2019. It will include two travel lanes and on-street bike lanes in each direction, 8- to 12-foot-wide lighted sidewalks, landscaping and other streetscape amenities, and a wide, raised median to accommodate future transit options, such as a circulator-bus route.

## ❖ Hutchison Elementary Crosswalk and Pedestrian Refuge

Following conversations with community members, Hutchison Elementary school staff, and neighbors, and advocacy from Supervisor's office, the Fairfax County De-



PHOTO COURTESY OF VDOT

Aerial view of progress on the Jones Branch Connector as of July 2019.



Fairfax County Park Authority representatives, and community members celebrated the opening of the Outdoor Education Classroom/Picnic Shelter at Riverbend Park.

partment of Transportation will relocate and improve the crosswalk on Parcher Avenue near Hutchison Elementary School's entrance. The crosswalk will be moved to the other side of the driveway where visibility is better and a pedestrian refuge median will be added. The project will be completed this fall.

## ❖ Revitalization of McLean Community Business Center (CBC)

Downtown McLean has seen some revitalization in recent years (the undergrounding of utilities, landscape and streetscape improvements, construction of a few development projects). However, the last significant review of the Comprehensive Plan recommendations for the area occurred over 20 years ago. In 2018, the

County initiated a study of the CBC to look at revitalization opportunities, gather community input, and review recommendations for future land uses, development intensities, transportation, public facilities, and urban design within the Community Business Center.



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

As part of this process, the County and its consultant hosted several community workshops and open houses during the second half of 2018 to better define the vision for a revitalized downtown area based in economic realities and community priorities. Last December, a final vision plan was presented to the community.

Since then, Supervisor Foust formed a task force comprising McLean area residents and civic group representatives. It has been working with County staff to translate community input into recommendations for changes to the Comprehensive Plan. The task force has been meeting monthly to discuss a variety of topics, including transportation, environment, and public facilities. Recommendations will be based on the community's vision and will consider the submitted suggestions for land use changes. All Task Force meetings are open to the public.

These recommendations will be presented to the community at a meeting later this year or in early 2020. Conversations with residents and stakeholders will continue as the planning effort proceeds. Within the next year, the recommendations will be fully vetted by the community and then go to the Board of Supervisors for approval.

**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.**



## NEWCOMERS

# Must-see Places in Dranesville District

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

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

*6317 Georgetown Pike, McLean*

**Riverbend Park:** This park offers more than 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. Another reason to visit Riverbend Park is to take advantage of the recently completed Outdoor Education Classroom/Picnic Shelter that opened this spring.

*8700 Potomac Hills, Great Falls*

**Colvin Run Mill Historic Site:** 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,” snacks, and drinks. Trails are available for quiet walks. Live music, craft demonstrations, ice cream making, and seasonal activities are offered 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. Observatory Park 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 markers. Small children can enjoy a tot lot. Under the Park Authority’s Resident Curator Program, the historic Turner Farmhouse has been restored and is now occupied by the Turner Farmhouse Foundation, under the direction of Sarah Kirk.

*925 Springvale Road, Great Falls*

**Runnymede Park:** The Town of Herndon owns and maintains this 58-acre park. It is the site for many community nature-related events such as the annual



**Aerial view of Clemyjontri Park with parking addition.**



**Turner Farm Park**



**Friday Night Live! is about families, music, fun and food.**

NatureFest, the Spring Native Plant Sale, and the Fall Native Plant Sale. Situated near the Sugarland Run Stream, the park attracts more than 100 species of bird, deer, fox, and other wildlife. Guided walks are offered to highlight the wildlife on the trails. Two park shelters are available for rent.

*196 Herndon Parkway, Herndon*

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

*McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean*

**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 late May, the Herndon Festival offers something for the whole family. The festival features two entertainment stages, 10K and 5K races, carnival rides, hands-on arts and activities, food vendors, fireworks, and more. Enjoy four days of fun-filled activities and entertainment.

*200 Spring Street, Herndon*

**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 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*

—SUPERVISOR JOHN FOUST



# About the Connection

**A**s 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 include details of how to vote in the upcoming elections, information on local and regional fairs and festivals, 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, weddings, anniversaries, awards and obituaries.

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

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

of the event, and we encourage photos.

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

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

— MARY KIMM

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

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- ❖ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Email to [editors@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:editors@connectionnewspapers.com) or submit online at [www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/](http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/)
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# NEWCOMERS

## Where to Give Locally

FROM PAGE 2

- and services for homeless, runaway or abused teenagers, unaccompanied youth, and young mothers and their children. Requests for food and clothing are up more than 50 percent. [second-story.org](http://second-story.org).
- ❖ **Shepherd's Center of Oakton Vienna** providing services, personal enrichment, volunteer opportunities for adults 50 and over. Currently serving 3,000+ mature adults in the region. 703-281-0538, [www.scov.org](http://www.scov.org)
- ❖ **Touching Heart** in Herndon is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to educate children to have giving hearts. [www.touchingheart.com](http://www.touchingheart.com), 703-901-7355.
- ❖ **FACETS** helps parents, their children and individuals who suffer the effects of poverty in the Fairfax area, a partner in efforts to end homelessness in Fairfax County. FACETS is always in need of volunteers, and offers a variety of one-time and ongoing opportunities. 703-865-4251 or [volunteer@facetscares.org](mailto:volunteer@facetscares.org). [www.facetscares.org](http://www.facetscares.org). 10640 Page Ave., Suite 300, Fairfax VA 22030
- ❖ **Britepaths**, Guiding families to a brighter future. For 35 years, Britepaths, formerly Our Daily Bread, has been developing sustainable solutions to stabilize low-income working families, build resilience through financial literacy and mentoring, and provide seasonal supports. "Give Instead Gala" is Sept. 26. 3959 Pender Drive, Suite 200, Fairfax, VA 22030; 703-273-8829 Email [info@britepaths.org](mailto:info@britepaths.org)
- ❖ **Lamb Center**, [www.thelambcenter.org](http://www.thelambcenter.org), day center for homeless, Fairfax 703-691-3178.
- ❖ **Food for Others** provides a safety net for people who suddenly face unforeseen emergencies such as a family illness or the loss of a job or a spouse. Located at 2938 Prosperity Ave., Fairfax, VA 22031, 703-207-9173. 2938 Prosperity Ave. [info@foodforothers.org](mailto:info@foodforothers.org) Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. [www.foodforothers.org](http://www.foodforothers.org)
- ❖ **Shelter House** provides crisis intervention, safe housing and supportive services to promote self-sufficiency for homeless families and victims of

- domestic violence in Fairfax County. [www.shelterhouse.org/get-involved/](http://www.shelterhouse.org/get-involved/)
- ❖ **Lorton Community Action Center (LCAC)** will provide Thanksgiving and Holiday assistance to more than 450 families this year. Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets along with fulfilling gift wishes for more than 1,000 children and teens will help low-income families. More information at [lortonaction.org/seasonal-assistance/](http://lortonaction.org/seasonal-assistance/). Volunteers are needed for these events as well. Register online at [lortonaction.org](http://lortonaction.org) or call 703/339-5161, ext. 140.
- ❖ **Assistance League of Northern Virginia** is an all-volunteer nonprofit organization that feeds, clothes and educates children in need. Assistance League's philanthropic programs touch the lives of thousands of children at 11 Title I schools in Northern Virginia, serving children most in need at selected schools in Fairfax and Prince William counties and the City of Alexandria. To learn more about volunteer and sponsorship opportunities, contact [alnorthernva@gmail.com](mailto:alnorthernva@gmail.com) or visit [www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org](http://www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org)
- ❖ **United Community**, Mount Vernon, 703-768-7106, 7511 Fordson Road, Alexandria, VA 22306 assists low-income families and individuals living along the Route 1 Corridor, United Community provides housing programs as well as a Workforce Development Center to help prepare people for moving forward with their jobs. [www.ucmagency.org](http://www.ucmagency.org) Donations of cash/checks and gift cards are also welcome.
- ❖ **Homestretch** is the largest provider of transitional housing in Fairfax County and offers a services to help the homeless better their lives through education. Email: [jhenderson@homestretchva.org](mailto:jhenderson@homestretchva.org); 703-237-2035 x125; [homestretchva.org/volunteer/](http://homestretchva.org/volunteer/)
- ❖ **Pathway Homes** focuses on providing housing and support services to individuals with serious mental illnesses, with the mission to help these individuals reach their full potential and lead stable lives. They offer both in-home programs, semi-independent houses and assisted living facilities. 10201 Fairfax Boulevard, Suite 200, Fairfax, VA 22030. 703-876-0390 [www.pathwayhomes.org](http://www.pathwayhomes.org)
- ❖ **Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Washington Fairfax Area** operates clubs in two of the neediest areas of the county, Culmore and Mount Vernon/ Route 1 corridor, focusing on character and academic success. [www.bcgw.org/fairfax](http://www.bcgw.org/fairfax)



### For Students: *Fine Art Classes and Workshops*

- 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](http://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



Look for  
**NEWCOMERS DISCOUNTS**  
at  
[www.GreatFallsArt.org](http://www.GreatFallsArt.org)  
or call 703-232-1575

### For the Community:

- FREE Art Events**
- Art Walks in the Village:  
*First Fridays Monthly*
- Art Lectures
- Art Shows & Sales



A Community supported, non-profit art foundation providing an Art School, Gallery, Working Artists' Studios and Art Events & Activities in the always artful Great Falls.

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## NEWCOMERS AND COMMUNITY GUIDE

# Dates and Deadlines for Election Day

- ❖ On or About Sept. 20: Absentee Voting begins at the Office of Elections, 12000 Government Center Pkwy., Conference Rooms 2/3, Fairfax
- ❖ Oct. 15: Voter Registration Deadline. In-person: 5 p.m., online: 11:59 p.m.
- ❖ Oct. 29: Deadline to request an absentee ballot by mail, 5 p.m.
- ❖ Nov. 2 Final day to vote absentee in-person, 5 p.m.
- ❖ Nov. 5: Deadline to return your ballot to the Office of Elections, 7 p.m.
- ❖ Nov. 5: Election Day, Polling Places open 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Fairfax County Office of Elections,  
Hours: Monday-Wednesday, Friday 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Thursday, 8 a.m.-7 p.m.  
12000 Government Center Parkway Suite 323  
Fairfax, VA 22035  
703-222-0776 TTY 711  
voting@fairfaxcounty.gov  
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/

When you register to vote in Virginia, you DO NOT register to vote by party. Virginia is an Open Primary state which means that any registered voter in Virginia can vote in either a Democratic or Republican primary. When both parties are holding a primary election, you will be asked which primary you want to vote in when you check in to vote with your photo ID. Note, you may only vote in one primary.

## Voter ID Requirements:

Per Virginia law effective July 1, 2014, all residents must provide valid photo identification when they vote in-person. Please consult the VA Department of Elections for the most up to date information regarding acceptable forms of voter photo ID.

Many types of photo ID are acceptable for voting in Virginia. You only need to show ONE acceptable photo ID to vote. Photo IDs can be used to vote up to one year after the ID has expired. Acceptable forms of valid identification: Virginia driver's license, Virginia DMV-issued photo ID, United States passport, Employer-issued photo ID, Student photo ID issued by a school, college, or university located in Virginia, Other U.S. or Virginia government-issued photo ID, Tribal enrollment or other tribal photo ID, Virginia Voter Photo ID card

If you get to your polling place without acceptable photo ID, you can vote a provisional ballot. You will be given instructions on what to do so your vote can count.

## OFFICES ON THE BALLOT, Fairfax County

- ❖ Member Virginia Senate, vote for one in your district
- ❖ Member House of Delegates, vote for one in your district
- ❖ Commonwealth's Attorney, vote for one
- ❖ Sheriff, vote for one
- ❖ Chairman Board of Supervisors, vote for one
- ❖ Member School Board at Large
- ❖ Member Board of Supervisors. vote for one in your district



## Nov. 2 Final day to vote absentee in-person, 5 p.m.

- ❖ Member School Board. vote for one in your district
- ❖ Soil and Water Conservation Director Northern Virginia District
- ❖ School Bonds Referenda

## Voter Registration and Voter Photo ID Opportunities

The Office of Elections is open during normal business hours to provide residents the opportunity to register to vote or obtain a free voter photo ID if needed. The Office of Elections also provides residents opportunities to attend offsite events throughout the year.

## Upcoming Voter Photo ID Events

- ❖ Sept. 7 and Oct. 5, 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306
- ❖ Aug. 27, 3 p.m. until 5:30 p.m., Burke Lake Gardens, Thursday, 9608 Old Keene Mill Rd., Burke, VA 22015
- ❖ Sept. 10, 1 p.m. until 4 p.m., Leewood Healthcare Center, Tuesday, 7120 Braddock Rd., Annandale, VA 22003
- ❖ Sept. 11, 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., Arleigh Burke Pavilion, Wednesday, 1739 Kirby Rd., McLean, VA 22101
- ❖ Sept. 16, 10:30 a.m. until 2 p.m., Chesterbrook Residences, Monday, 2030 Westmoreland St., Falls Church, VA 22043
- ❖ Sept. 20, 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., The Virginian, Friday, 9229 Arlington Blvd., Fairfax, VA 22031
- ❖ Sept. 23, 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads, Monday, 3440 South Jefferson St., Falls Church, VA 22041
- ❖ Sept. 24, 10 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., Sunrise at Reston Town Center, Tuesday, Sept. 24, 10 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., 1778 Fountain Dr., Reston, VA 20190
- ❖ Sept. 24, 2:30 p.m. until 5 p.m., Hunters Woods at Trails Edge, Tuesday, 2222 Colt Necks Rd., Reston, VA 20191
- ❖ Sept. 25, 1 p.m. until 4 p.m., Tall Oaks Assisted Living, Wednesday, 12052 North Shore Dr., Reston, VA 20192
- ❖ Sept. 26, 11 a.m. until 1 p.m., The Crossings at Chantilly, Thursday, 2980 Centreville Rd., Herndon, VA 20171
- ❖ Sept. 28, Noon until 4 p.m., Reston Multicultural Festival - Lake Anne Plaza, Saturday, 2310 Colt Necks Rd., Reston, VA 20191
- ❖ Oct. 1, 10 a.m. until 1 p.m., The Woodlands Retirement Community, Tuesday, 4320 Forest Hill Dr., Fairfax, VA 22030
- ❖ Oct. 5, 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., 2019 First Baptist Church of Merrifield Harvest Festival, Saturday, 8122 Ransell Rd., Falls Church, VA 22042
- ❖ Oct. 5, 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306
- ❖ Oct. 7, 10:30 a.m. until Noon, Heatherwood/Burke Health Care, Monday, 9642 Burke Lake Rd., Burke, VA 22015

—SEE MORE ON ELECTIONS. PAGE 13

## Candidates, Fairfax County

### Chairman, Board of Supervisors

Jeffrey C. McKay (D)  
Joseph F. Galdo (R)

### Commonwealth's Attorney

Steve T. Descano (D)  
Jonathan L. Fahey (I)

### Sheriff

Stacey Ann Kincaid (D)  
Christopher F. De Carlo (I)

### Board of Supervisors, District Representatives

Braddock District  
James R. Walkinshaw (D)  
S. Jason Remer (R)  
Carey Chet Campbell (I)

### Dranesville District

John W. Foust (D) incumbent  
Ed. R. Martin (R)

### Hunter Mill District

Walter L. Acorn (D) unopposed

### Lee District

Rodney L. Lusk (D) unopposed

### Mason District

Penelope A. "Penny" Gross (D) incumbent  
Gary N. Aiken (R)

### Mount Vernon District

Daniel G. "Dan" Storck (D) incumbent, unopposed

### Providence District

Dalia A. Palchik (D)

### Springfield District

Linda D. Sperling (D)  
Patrick S. "Pat" Herryty (R) incumbent

### Sully District

Kathy L. Smith (D), incumbent  
Srilekha R. Palle (R)

## School Board

### School Board At-Large (vote for three)

Abrar E. Omeish  
Cheryl A. Buford  
Priscilla M. DeStefano  
Rachna Sizemore Heizer  
Vinson Palathingal  
Ilryong Moon, incumbent  
Karen A. Keys-Gamarra, incumbent

### Braddock District, School Board

Zia Tompkins  
Megan O. McLaughlin, incumbent

### Dranesville District, School Board

Anastasia S. Karloutsos  
Ardavan Mobasheri  
Elaine V. Tholen

### Hunter Mill District, School Board

Laura Ramirez Drain  
Melanie K. Meren

### Lee District, School Board

Tamara J. Derenak Kaufax, incumbent

### Mason District, School Board

Ricardy J. Anderson  
Tom L. Pafford

### Mount Vernon District, School Board

Pamela C. Ononiwu  
Steven D. Mosley  
Karen L. Corbett Sanders, incumbent

### Providence District, School Board

Andrea L. "Andi" Bayer  
Jung Byun  
Karl V. Frisch

### Springfield District, School Board

Laura Jane H. Cohen  
R. Kyle McDaniel  
Elizabeth L. Schultz, incumbent

### Sully District, School Board

Stella G. Pekarsky  
Tom A. Wilson, incumbent

### Soil and Water Conservation Director Northern Virginia District

Vote for Three  
C. Jane Dudik  
Chris E. Koerner  
Christopher A. Bowen  
Edward F. McGovern  
Jonah E. "Jet" Thomas  
Monica A. Billger  
Gerald Owen "Jerry" Peters Jr., incumbent

## School Bond Ballot Question

This is the text of the public school bond question that will be on the Nov. 5, 2019, general election ballot: Shall Fairfax County, Virginia, contract a debt, borrow money, and issue capital improvement bonds in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$360,000,000 for the purposes of providing funds, in addition to funds from school bonds previously authorized, to finance, including reimbursement to the County for temporary financing for, the costs of school improvements, including acquiring, building, expanding and renovating properties, including new sites, new buildings or additions, renovations and improvements to existing buildings, and furnishing and equipment, for the Fairfax County public school system?



# NEWCOMERS AND COMMUNITY GUIDE

## Candidates, General Assembly, Nov. 5, 2019

To check what is on your ballot and the status of your voter registration, visit [elections.virginia.gov/registration/view-your-info](http://elections.virginia.gov/registration/view-your-info)

### House of Delegates

- District 34  
Kathleen J. Murphy (D), incumbent,  
Gary G. Pan (R)
  
- District 35  
Mark L. Keam (D), incumbent, unopposed
  
- District 36  
Kenneth R. "Ken" Plum, incumbent, unopposed
  
- District 37  
David L. Bulova (D), incumbent, unopposed
  
- District 38  
L. Kaye Kory (D), incumbent, unopposed
  
- District 39  
Nick O. Bell (R)  
Vivian E. Watts (D), incumbent
  
- District 40  
Dan I. Helmer (D)  
Timothy D. "Tim" Hugo (R), incumbent
  
- District 41  
Eileen Filler-Corn (D), incumbent  
John M. Wolfe (I)  
Rachel D. Mace (L)
  
- District 42  
Kathy K. L. Tran (D), incumbent  
Steve P. Adragna (R)
  
- District 43  
Mark D. Sickles (D), incumbent  
Richard T. Hayden (R)
  
- District 44  
Paul E. Krizek (D), incumbent,  
Richard T. Hayden (R)
  
- District 45  
Mark H. Levine (D), incumbent, unopposed
  
- District 46  
Charniele L. Herring (D), incumbent, unopposed
  
- District 47  
Patrick A. Hope (D), incumbent, unopposed
  
- District 48  
Richard C. "Rip" Sullivan (D), incumbent, unopposed
  
- District 49  
Alfonso H. Lopez (D), incumbent  
Terry W. Modglin (I)
  
- District 53  
Marcus B. Simon (D), incumbent, unopposed
  
- District 67  
Karrie K. Delaney (D), incumbent, unopposed



ARCHIVE PHOTO

**Nov. 5: Election Day, Polling Places open 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.**

- District 86  
Ibraheem S. Samirah (D), incumbent, unopposed

### Virginia State Senate

- District 30  
Adam P. Ebbin (D), incumbent, unopposed
  
- District 31  
Barbara A. Favola (D), incumbent, unopposed
  
- District 32  
Janet D. Howell (D), incumbent  
Arthur G. Purves (R)
  
- District 33  
Jennifer B. Boysko (D), incumbent  
Suzanne D. Fox (R)
  
- District 34  
J. C. "Chap" Petersen (D), incumbent, unopposed
  
- District 35  
Richard L. "Dick" Saslaw (D), incumbent, unopposed
  
- District 36  
Scott A. Surovell (D), incumbent, unopposed
  
- District 37  
Dave W. Marsden (D), incumbent, unopposed
  
- District 39  
George L. Barker (D), incumbent  
S. W. "Dutch" Hillenburg (R)

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*The Thompson Team*

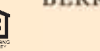
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# NEWCOMERS

## VIEWPOINTS

### What Is the Best Part About Living in McLean?

—NADEZHDA SHULGA

#### Community of Friendly and Open People

Chuck Pruitt, 20 years in McLean, director, and co-founder McLean Youth Volleyball:

“My wife and I have lived in McLean for almost 20 years. Both of our children were raised in McLean and now they have moved on to college.

We have always found McLean to be a welcoming place. What we liked the most is its proximity to the D.C. as well as to the major travel arteries. You can go on the Beltway up North or South, you can go on the toll road, East-West, you can get on the metro, go into the city very easily. Restaurants and other things make it a nice area to explore and discover all the good things that are gastronomically available.

What we love the most is a good strong local community full of friendly and open people. I have been involved with youth activities for probably a dozen



PHOTOS BY NADEZHDA SHULGA/THE CONNECTION

**Jane Severn and Chuck Pruitt**

years. Most of that time I have been running McLean Youth Volleyball. This spring more than 170 coaches volunteered their time to the teams. Being really busy with high-pressure jobs, they are willing to carve out the time to work with the kids. Not just their child but coach a team with other children. These amazing people keep the whole thing running. It’s very refreshing to see people who are eager to get involved.”

#### Small Town with International Flavor

Margie Weiss, almost 20 years in McLean, personal trainer, owner and director of Body By Weiss, mother of Olympic figure skater Michael Weiss:

“We moved to McLean when Michael was an international competitor and then a professional skater. He was traveling a lot. Our first home in McLean was two blocks off of Route 7 right at the Toll road. We could pick him up at Dulles airport even in the middle of the night. It was perfect.

After finishing his sports career Michael started a home construction business. He has always known how to build because his dad and I built our first two homes by hand. We didn’t have any money then. Michael helped us. I like the variety of houses there. In terms of how much they cost, they look differently: modern, old fashion, colonial...

As a former gymnast and mother of a figure skater, I’m happy to see how well sports and recreation facilities are developed in McLean. While I was working as a personal trainer, I met a lot of neat people. I



**Margie Weiss**

ended up friends with a lot of them. I’ve known some of them for 15 years.

I like the people in our area. We are so international here. I think it is good for the kids because when they grow up, they see different cultures.”

#### A Home of Top-rated Schools

Dan Simmon, 30 years in the area (4 years in McLean), finance professional:

“My daughter graduated from McLean High School this year. McLean is known for its top-rated schools. Personally, I like a very active community here. Whatever my interests are, I can find somebody else who wants to do the same. Now I am taking Spanish classes. I’ve met some friends who are trying to learn Spanish. Now we get together and have a good time because those classes are great. They are usually in the evening when I’m not working. In McLean I can learn, I can pick up everything. I can take cooking classes. I can bike easily because a bike path is in a mile and a half from my home.”



**Dan Simmon**



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

**Heather Young and Bill Buckley with their newly planted redbud tree.**

## Native Trees for McLean Neighborhoods

### McLean Trees Foundation helps homeowners beautify their gardens, neighborhoods.

Fall is the perfect time to beautify your home and neighborhood by planting a native tree in your front yard with the help of the McLean Trees Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to maintaining the green canopy in the McLean community.

“Trees are an essential part of our community, improving our health and environment, reducing heating and cooling costs for homeowners, and increasing property values,” said Brenda Frank, Chairman of the McLean Trees Foundation. “But the most important benefit is that trees make you happy.”

For only \$50, McLean Trees Foundation will help you select a tree and then will deliver it, helping you plant it and then teaching your how to care for it. For Fall planting, applications can be found on the McLean Trees Foundation website, [mcleantreesfoundation.org](http://mcleantreesfoundation.org). After your application is received,

McLean Trees Foundation volunteers will visit with you to discuss the program, review the property, and help you select a tree that will beautify your garden for years to come.

The Neighborhood Tree Program was developed by McLean Trees Foundation in 2014 and is the first program in Fairfax County to help homeowners plant trees. The goal of the program is to educate homeowners about the importance of trees for their home, their community and the environment. Since the program’s inception, participating McLean homeowners have planted over 60 trees on their properties.

“It’s a bargain for all concerned,” said Chairman Frank. “Plant some happiness this fall so that you can experience your tree’s beauty in the spring!”

More information can be found on McLean Trees Foundation’s website: [www.mcleantreesfoundation.org](http://www.mcleantreesfoundation.org).



# FAIRS & FESTIVALS

## September 2019

### MONDAY/SEPT. 2

**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](http://herndon-va.gov/recreation/special-events/labor-day-festival) for more.

### SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 7-8

**Burke Centre Festival.** 9:30 am-5 pm at Burke Centre Conservancy  
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.burkecentreweb.com/sub\\_category\\_list.asp?category=19&title=Burke+Centre+Festival](http://www.burkecentreweb.com/sub_category_list.asp?category=19&title=Burke+Centre+Festival) for more.

### SATURDAY/SEPT. 14

**Dulles Day Plane Pull.** At Dulles International Airport, Dulles. The 2019 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](http://www.planepull.com) for more.

### SATURDAY/SEPT. 28

**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](http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com/attend-shows-events-exhibits/reston-multicultural-festival) for more.

## October 2019

### THURSDAY-SATURDAY/OCT. 10-12

**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](http://www.fallforthebook.org) for more.

### SATURDAY/OCT. 5

**Taste of Annandale.** 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Tom Davis Drive in central Annandale, between Columbia Pike and John Marr Drive. The fifth 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. Visit [tasteofannandale.com](http://tasteofannandale.com) for more

### THURSDAY-MONDAY/OCT. 24-28

**Washington West Film Festival.** Screening events in Reston, Arlington and other local areas. For tickets and schedule visit [wwfilmfest.com](http://wwfilmfest.com).

## November 2019

### FRIDAY/NOV. 29

**Reston Holiday Parade** at Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St. Reston. Holiday parade with tree lighting, sing along, and more. Visit [www.fxva.com/event/reston-holiday-parade-tree-lighting-sing-along-%26-more/22348/](http://www.fxva.com/event/reston-holiday-parade-tree-lighting-sing-along-%26-more/22348/) for more.

## December 2019

### SUNDAY/DEC. 1

**Great Falls Celebration of Lights** at Village Field. 3:45-6:30 p.m. Celebrate the beginning of the season with a Christmas Tree Lighting. Enjoy hot chocolate and seasonal music. Visit [celebrategreatfalls.org/event/celebration-of-lights/](http://celebrategreatfalls.org/event/celebration-of-lights/) for more info.



PHOTO BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION

**The whirl and twirl of rides by Cole Shows Amusement Company attracted crowds during the Fairfax County 71st 4-H Fair and Carnival held at Frying Pan Park in Herndon.**

## Fairfax County 4-H Fair and Carnival

Enjoy old-fashioned family fun with carnival games, rides and tempting foods. Friday features the free Big Truck Night event from 5-7:30 p.m. "No Horn" hour is from 5-6 p.m. Tractor Pull at 4 p.m. on Saturday. 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. In August at Frying Pan Farm Park, 2709 West Ox Road, Herndon. 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](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/frying-pan-park/4-h-fair) for details.

### SATURDAY/DEC. 7

**Living Saviour's Holiday Bazaar** at 5500 Ox Road Fairfax Station. Event is 9: a.m-3 p.m. This is a family event with free admission. Shop a variety of vendors including small business and homemade arts and crafts. There will also be a Silent Auction with proceeds benefiting local hypothermia shelters this winter. Visit [www.eventbrite.com/e/living-saviors-third-annual-holiday-bazaar-tickets-64259195985?aff=ebdssbdestsearch](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/living-saviors-third-annual-holiday-bazaar-tickets-64259195985?aff=ebdssbdestsearch) for more.

## April 2020

### APRIL 18-25

**Historic Garden Week.** This eight-day statewide event provides visitors with a unique opportunity to see elaborate gardens with more than 2,000 flower arrangements created by the Garden Club of Virginia Members. Visit [www.va.gardenweek.org](http://www.va.gardenweek.org) for more.

## May 2020

**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. This annual event is a show and sale highlighting Great Falls Studios members both at Great Falls Grange & Schoolhouse and in the working studios in Great Falls Village Centre. Visit [www.greatfallsart.org/artfest/](http://www.greatfallsart.org/artfest/)

**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 three Great Falls elementary schools. Opportunities for sponsorships and volunteering are available. Visit [www.celebrategreatfalls.org](http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org).

### THURSDAY-SUNDAY/MAY 28-31

**Herndon Festival 2020.** Thursday, 6-10 p.m.; Friday, 5-11 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-11 p.m.; and Sunday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. at 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](http://www.herndonfestival.net) for more.

### 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](http://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](http://herndonrocks.com/schedule.php) for more.

## June 2020

**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](http://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](mailto:julie.tahan@fairfaxcounty.gov). Visit [www.springfielddays.com](http://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](http://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 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. Visit [www.chalkonthewater.com](http://www.chalkonthewater.com).

**Taste of Reston.** Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Carnival games and rides with a family fun zone. Visit [www.restontaste.com](http://www.restontaste.com) for more.

**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](http://www.belovedyoga.com).

### FRIDAY-SUNDAY/JUNE 5-7

**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/](http://www.celebratefairfax.com/).

### 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. Visit [www.restontowncenter.com/concerts](http://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 Road, Great Falls. Visit [www.celebrategreatfalls.org/concerts-on-the-green/](http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org/concerts-on-the-green/).

**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](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/arts-in-the-parks) for more.

## July 2020

**Herndon 4<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.herndon-va.gov/recreation/special-events/4th-of-july) for more.

**Great Falls 4<sup>th</sup> 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/](http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org/4th-of-july-celebration-parade/)

**Vienna 4<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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](http://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](http://www.ekoji.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/parks/performances/braddock-nights](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/braddock-nights) for location and schedule.

## August 2020

**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. Friday features the free Big Truck Night event from 5-7:30 p.m. "No Horn" hour is from 5-6 p.m. Tractor Pull at 4 p.m. on Saturday. 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](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/frying-pan-park/4-h-fair) for details.





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