

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

2019-2020

McLean
CONNECTION

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. 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.
- ❖ **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 for more information. Visit www.shareofmclean.org
- ❖ **Herndon-Reston FISH** (Friendly Instant Sympathetic Help), 336 Victory Drive, Herndon, 703-391-0105 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. 703-437-1776 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
 - ❖ **Northern Virginia Family Service**. Just \$50 provides a complete holiday meal to a family of four. Donate at 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.

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

Additional Walks available.
 Find one near you at alz.org/walk
 or call **703.359.4440**.

WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S
 alzheimer's association®

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MIDDLE EASTERN FOOD FESTIVAL
 Labor Day Weekend
Saturday, Aug. 31, 11:00 am–11:00 pm
Sunday, Sept. 1, 12:00 noon–6:00 pm

Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic Church
 8501 Lewinsville Road, McLean, Virginia (near Spring Hill Road)
703-734-9566 • MiddleEasternFoodFestival.com

Free Admission!

Middle Eastern Food	Live Music & Folk Dancing
Kabobs	Moon Bounce
Gyros	Kids' Games
Grape Leaves	Petting Zoo
Falafel	Vendors
Fattoush	Backgammon & Chess
Baklava &	Church Tours
Other Favorites!	Icon Shop



Special Feature!
Roast Lamb Dinner
Sat., Aug. 31, 6-9 p.m.
Sun., Sept. 1, All Day



TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

SUBMIT YOUR LETTER TO THE EDITOR HERE
www.ConnectionNewspapers.com/contact/letter

NEWCOMERS

My Last Welcome Letter For Connection Newcomers

BY SHARON BULOVA,
CHAIRMAN
FAIRFAX COUNTY BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS



When 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

The 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 com-

munity 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 Department 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.



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

We 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

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

Here in our Newcomers and Community Guide, we 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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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.
- ❖ **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
- ❖ **Touching Heart** in Herndon is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to educate children to have giving hearts. 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. 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
- ❖ **Lamb Center**, 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 Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. 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/
- ❖ **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/. Volunteers are needed for these events as well. Register online at 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 or visit 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 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; 703-237-2035 x125; 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
- ❖ **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.bgcgw.org/fairfax

The Arts of Great Falls



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

For Artists

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



For the Community:

FREE Art Events

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



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or call 703-232-1575



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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" Herrity (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

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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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. 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.

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 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 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 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 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 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 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.

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/ 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/ 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 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 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 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/
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.

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 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 for a weekly lineup.

FRIDAYS/MAY-AUGUST

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

June 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 for more.

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

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

Lake Anne Chalk on the Water Festival. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Lake Anne Plaza, 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. Chalk on the Water is a two-day street-painting festival where participants will create 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.

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

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.

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/.

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.

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/.

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

July 2020

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

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

Vienna 4th of July Festival and Fireworks Show. Live musical entertainment, arts and crafts for kids, antique and classic car show and fireworks. Visit www.viennava.gov for more.

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

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

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 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 for details.



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