



# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

2019-2020

and Oakton  
**Vienna**  
**CONNECTION**

Crepe myrtle hangs over  
the W&OD trail during  
the summer months.

PHOTO BY LISA FAY/THE CONNECTION

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### CALENDAR

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

**Let us know  
about an  
upcoming event**

[connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar](http://connectionnewspapers.com/Calendar)

## 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 Embury 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 this year. Help us help our neighbors in need 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) for more info about Share.

❖ **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

SEE GIVE LOCALLY, PAGE 5

## 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**

Additional Walks available.  
Find one near you at [alz.org/walk](http://alz.org/walk)  
or call **703.359.4440**.



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# NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

## Mayor Welcomes You to the Town

### Mayor Laurie DiRocco on what's the best about living in Vienna.

BY LAURIE DIROCCO  
MAYOR OF VIENNA

I would like to welcome you to our lovely Town of Vienna. I think you will agree that Vienna is a special and memorable place. Before I share my favorite things about Vienna, let me provide some general information and a few facts and figures about our Town.

The Town of Vienna is 4.4 square miles with about 16,500 residents and 14 parks, including the W&OD trail and Town Green. Vienna has inviting residential neighborhoods, a vibrant business district with many unique and local shops, and some of the best-ranked schools in the country. The Town is known for its numerous community events, including the Fourth of July fireworks, Oktoberfest, and the Halloween Parade as well as its strong sense of hometown pride.

These facts and figures help explain why Vienna is a great place to live and work, but they don't reveal the true heart of Vienna. To me, Vienna is its numerous volunteers, many of whom are honored every year at my Mayor's Volunteer Recognition Ceremony. Some residents help an elderly neighbor with groceries and yard work while others help bring public art to the community.

To me, Vienna is the volunteer firefighters who drive Santa around in their 1946 antique truck to greet residents young and old. To me, Vienna is the place where Town police shut down Maple Avenue for the James Madison High School homecoming parade.

**I CHERISH** the Town's strong sense of history. Listed on the National Historic Registry, the Freeman Store and Museum on Church Street is a small, local gift store filled with historical displays and memorabilia. I always buy the newest Christmas ornament there.

I also appreciate the Town's original Little Library, which smells of wood and old books. Every year students at Louise Archer Elementary School, built in 1939, host a special day to celebrate the school's history and first educator.

I strive to honor the Town's rich history while planning for thoughtful growth. We recently completed renovation of the Town's community center, which was originally constructed in 1966. I am so excited for big windows that allow sunlight to shine through the walkways and the new full-size gymnasium.

The community center will be the Town's first green building and will be LEED silver certified. A few years ago, the Town adopted the Maple Avenue Corridor (MAC) Plan,



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

**Mayor Laurie DiRocco, right, with Bicycle Advisory Committee members Charlie Strunk and Beth Eachus. Vienna was designated a Bicycle Friendly Community last year by the League of American Bicyclists.**



PHOTO BY ANDREA WORKER/THE CONNECTION

**A summer Friday night, Aug. 18, 2017 at "Chillin' on Church St."**

### Mayor Laurie DiRocco's Top 10 Places/Events

1. Vienna Halloween Parade – the Town has hosted this parade on Maple Avenue for 70 years!
2. Northside Park – 26 acres of conservation land.
3. Town Green – hosts Town events and musical acts.
4. ViVa Vienna – Vienna Rotary hosts this Memorial Day weekend event and all proceeds go back to the community!
5. Oktoberfest – hosted by the Vienna Business Association.
6. Meadow Lane Park – lots of tree coverage makes this a great park for little ones in the summer.
7. Walk on the Hill – people stroll through the lovely Windover Heights neighborhood and view gardens while learning about environmental sustainability.
8. Church Street Stroll – shop at local businesses on Church Street while seeing Santa and roasting marshmallows.
9. Chillin' on Church – enjoyable summer events with cold drinks, music, and tasty food trucks.
10. Renovated Vienna Community Center – the central hub of the community!

which supports redevelopment along Vienna's main thoroughfare. The plan includes green buildings, mixed uses, outdoor seating, public art, and improved pedestrian walkways.

My husband and I love to walk around Town, especially to local restaurants. On any given day, you will see lots of people walking and biking in Town, and we strive to support these activities. The Town has a Transportation Safety Commission and a Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Commission that work on adding more sidewalks; implementing traffic-calming measures where needed; researching creative solutions to challenging intersections; and supporting Safe Routes to School. On Fridays at 9:30 a.m., I lead a walking group from Town Hall. Everyone is invited (please come join me!) and we usually walk about 3 miles. It is a great opportunity to see various parts of Town and to chat with residents. Last spring, we walked to see the oldest trees around Town.

The Town has a strong relationship with its schools. Currently, I am working with James Madison pyramid principals on a partnership in which students work on Town projects and help solve problems in the community. The new project-based learning program will help educate students about local government, teach them how to be active and engaged citizens, and possibly lead them to discover career directions.

**OK JUST A FEW MORE**, less well-known things that I truly love about Vienna.

Many people don't realize that Vienna has an eclectic music scene with Jammin' Java, School of Rock, and Vienna Jammers, to name a few. Right outside of Town is Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts. Additionally the Town Green hosts a variety of local bands. I can't forget to mention Vienna Idol, the Town's annual musical talent contest that raises money for the Khristin Kylo Memorial Fund.

You may not realize that the train depot on Dominion Road is home to the Northern Virginia Model Railroaders, who host monthly open houses so the public can view their model train displays.

Many people when they think of Church Street, think of Vienna Presbyterian Church, whose historical chapel sits on the corner of Church and Mill Street. But the First Baptist Church has been in existence longer than the Town itself, with its original location on Lawyers Road near Church Street. This year the First Baptist Church is celebrating 150 years in the Town of Vienna!

I believe Vienna's strong sense of community is created by its citizens and their desire for a caring and welcoming place to call home. I am so grateful to be mayor of this special Town. If you ever want to know more about the Town or have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at [ldirocco@viennava.gov](mailto:ldirocco@viennava.gov) or 703-255-6310. For more information, visit the Town's website at [www.viennava.gov](http://www.viennava.gov).

*\*First published in Newcomers & Community Guide 2017*



## NEWCOMERS

# Sharing Vienna, Oakton Experiences with Newcomers

## Grateful for Discovering Vienna

“Our family moved to Vienna five years ago from Louisville, Kentucky with our seven-year old daughter and a new baby girl on the way,” said Jeffrey Carpenter. “Both my wife and I had previously lived in Alexandria and in Washington, D.C. prior to starting a family, but in looking to move back to the D.C. area from Louisville with a growing family, our priorities had changed. We wanted to live in a city that was still close to D.C. and all of the economic vitality and cultural experiences it offers while also enjoying a safe, child-friendly neighborhood, excellent schools, and a home with a yard for the kid’s first dog. We found all of that and more in Vienna. Vienna is great because it has a small town feel with accessibility to large city life, kids can still play outside, ride a bike, and walk to a friend’s house in the neighborhood, neighbors come over for barbeques and host Halloween parties at their homes. The schools are committed to academic excellence while promoting citizenship and kindness. Our family is so grateful to have discovered Vienna and to have made it our home.”



**The Carpenter Children: Gabrielle, 12, and Cate Carpenter, 5, enjoy life in Vienna, especially around Halloween time.**

## A Family Night in Town

Brian and Joy Harrington are Vienna’s Parks and Rec dream duo. “We love living in Vienna,” said Joy Harrington. “The schools and sports programs, as well as the wealth of Community Center classes and events and beautiful parks for children, help to make Vienna a favorite spot for families. Everything we need is close and convenient to access. Brian and I have lived in Vienna our whole lives, 34 years, and are so grateful we could buy a home in Vienna and raise our children here. Both sets of our parents live in Vienna and my Grandmother decided to retire here too, to be near all of us. Vienna is our family tradition! Just last night we had a family night. We went swimming at Hunter Mill Pool and Tennis Club and then returned to see the Disney movie ‘Moana’ on the Town Green. It was so much fun seeing our friends and other families enjoying a great time right here in our hometown. Brian and I both work for Vienna Parks and Recreation, so we are near home and the children’s schools during the day. Living and working in Vienna makes it simple to participate in special events at school and the children are comfortable knowing we are usually nearby.”



**Harrington family photo: Joy, Brian, Isabella, 6, and David Harrington, 4. Joy and Brian say they are enjoying raising their children in Vienna.**

—LISA FAY

## Year-round Festival

The Head family are long time residents of Vienna. After raising four kids in the area, JJ Head has a good handle on the town. “We have lived in Vienna for 22 years. It is a wonderful place to raise a family. We love the small town feel, the tight knit community, the wonderful schools, youth sports, and the events that bring everyone together. Among our favorites are the Halloween parade, Viva Vienna, Holiday Stroll and most recently Chillin’ on Church Street. A great family activity is biking along the W&OD trail heading to Great Harvest Bread, Freeman House or the Farmers Market. Fairfax County has some of the best schools in the country. As a former elementary school teacher, I am very impressed with the schools in Vienna and Oakton. It was very



**The Heads: Dan, JJ, Abigail, 24, Emily, 22, Paxton, 21, and Brian Head, 27, love the events and amenities that Vienna has to offer.**

special when all my children were at Oakton Elementary at the same time,” said JJ Head.

Abigail Head, 24, said it was a great place to grow up. “It was really nice living in a big cul de sac near the woods right around our house where we could play games like cops and robbers, kick the can, kickball, basketball, explore in nature and build things like ice castles in the winter or little huts out of sticks with other kids our age in the neighborhood.”

## The Magic of Vienna

The Stunz family are somewhat icons in the Vienna community. “My grandad picked out Vienna as a great place to live after he graduated from college in Wisconsin in 1900 — he loved the easy commute to his job in D.C., he loved the people who lived here, and he loved the small town atmosphere; it really was a small town in the early 1900s,” said Anne Stunz. “I especially appreciate Vienna’s Department of Parks and Recreation. They create so many wonderful events and facilities for the community, and they really support history by working hard to keep the 1959 Freeman Store and 1897 Little Library in good repair and by helping Historic Vienna Inc with our programs. They are wonderful people. I love that Vienna keeps its unique identity through fun events all year that celebrate its sense of community — such as Viva Vienna, the Chillin’s on Church, Oktoberfest, Church Street Stroll, and all the events at the Town Green and elsewhere around town. I always think of the Freeman Store and Museum as the heart of Vienna. The town was brilliant to save this piece of its history back in the 1960s so that



**Brad Swanson and Anne Stunz, President of Vienna’s own Historic Vienna Inc., are engaged in town events and activities involving the Freeman Store.**

Vienna would never forget its small town roots.” Anne Stunz’s parents wrote a book titled “This Was Vienna” detailing Vienna from its birth. The book can be bought at the Freeman Store and Museum.

Brad Swanson, Stunz’s husband, added that, “When you fly over northern Virginia you see an undifferentiated mass of housing, roads and commerce. But somehow a part of that agglomeration, marked off by invisible lines, is a real community with an identity, a history and a continuing tradition that pulls people together whether they are longtime residents or new to the town. That, to me, is the magic of Vienna.”



## NEWCOMERS



**Allie Jensen has lived most of her life in close proximity to both Oakton and Vienna.**

### Vienna, Oakton: A Small Town Next to City Life

Allie Jensen had the privilege of growing up between two great towns. "I think Oakton and Vienna is great because it's a small town with its own unique traditions and spaces but it's also in close proximity to such a big city (D.C.), so you can really get a combination of the small town and big city life. My family has lived in Oakton since 2001, so 18 years."

### Where to Give Locally

FROM PAGE 2

- 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 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

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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](http://MiddleEasternFoodFestival.com)

### Free Admission!

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



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



# Experience RENEWAL

Westminster at Lake Ridge is changing! Transformations are currently underway and will bring a renewal of amenities and décor to the community. Near the historic town of Ocoquan, the serene location has all the small town charm and friendliness you desire, yet is just a few miles from the excitement of our nation's capital.

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## NEWCOMERS



The red caboose is a bright marker for the center of town.



Cocoa Vienna gets festive by putting out Santa's sleigh on their porch.



Santa and his elves enjoy a cup of coffee at Caffè Amouri.



The Freeman Store and Museum decorated for the Christmas holiday.

## Postcards from Vienna



Caffè Amouri transforms into "Caffè Wonderland" during the holidays.



Crepe myrtle hang over the W&OD trail during the summer months.



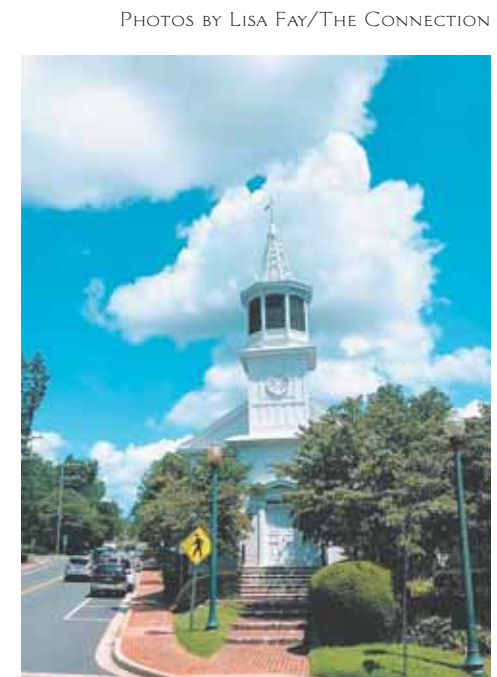
The inside of the Vienna Train Depot features old pictures of the depot.



Viva! Vienna! festival is celebrated every Memorial Day weekend in the town.



Church Street during Viva! Vienna! Vendors decorate the street.



The original part of Vienna Presbyterian Church.



Vienna's Little Library is open the first Sunday of each month, excluding January and February, from 1-4 p.m.



The Town Green has a small theater for local performers and events.



Diamond Spa sits on Church Street and offers a variety of services.



The Vienna Train Depot in the snow.

PHOTOS BY LISA FAY/THE CONNECTION



## 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](https://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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McLean, VA 22101  
703-790-0123, TTY: 711  
[www.mcleancenter.org](https://www.mcleancenter.org)



## NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

# 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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@LFSCConnection

Great Falls Connection: [www.twitter.com/GFConnection](http://www.twitter.com/GFConnection); @GFConnection

McLean Connection: [www.twitter.com/McLeanConnect](http://www.twitter.com/McLeanConnect); @McLeanConnect

Oak Hill/Herndon: [www.twitter.com/HerndonConnect](http://www.twitter.com/HerndonConnect); @HerndonConnect

Reston Connection: [www.twitter.com/RestonConnect](http://www.twitter.com/RestonConnect); @RestonConnect

Springfield Connection: [www.twitter.com/SprConnect](http://www.twitter.com/SprConnect); @SprConnect

Vienna and Oakton Connection: [www.twitter.com/ViennaConnect](http://www.twitter.com/ViennaConnect); @ViennaConnect

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# 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 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/](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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