

CLUB STUDIO

TYSONS CORNER **NOW OPEN**

1500 Cornerside Blvd. #A, Vienna



STATE-OF-THE-ART GYM / BOUTIQUE FITNESS STUDIOS / RECOVERY LAB

THE CONNECTION

CENTRE VIEW ♦ Chantilly ♦ Great Falls ♦ Herndon ♦ McLean ♦ Oak Hill ♦ Oakton
Reston ♦ Vienna ♦ Burke ♦ Fairfax ♦ Springfield ♦ Fairfax Station ♦ Lorton ♦ Clifton

Thousands Come to Back to School Festival

PAGE 3

Organized chaos with a smile at Mount Olive Baptist Church in Centreville as volunteers welcome those who pre-registered to receive school supplies.



CUE Bus System Rebrands in Fairfax City

PAGE 4

South Lakes Pantry Hits 2 Million-Pound Milestone

PAGE 12

PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION NATIONAL NIGHT OUT, PAGE 6 ♦ ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 10 ♦ CLASSIFIEDS, PAGE 14

AUGUST 14-20, 2024

ONLINE AT WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM



JD CALLANDER & ED BLANCHARD

Direct: (703) 606-7901 | (703) 712-1757

JDCallander@gmail.com

Ed@NewNovaHome.com

www.NewNovaHome.com

#1 Agent Companywide
Top 1% Realtors Nationwide
NVAR 90+ Million Dollar Sales Club

#1 Virginia Agent 2020 - NEWSWEEK



JD and ED Sold More Homes Last Year in 22101 Than Any Other Agent!

Per MLS

SOLD!



Sold for...\$2,350,000

6025 Woodland Terrace, McLean
GORGEOUS 2016 Arts & Crafts home with 3BR/4.5BA on 3 spacious levels located on over a half acre in sought-after Chesterbrook Woods! Designed by renowned architect Dwight McNeil and built by Joy Custom Design + Build. This finely detailed home features over 5300 sq ft of living space. The back of the house transitions beautifully to the sun-filled gourmet kitchen, breakfast area, and stunning family room. Spacious main level BR with en suite. Upper level features 2 spacious bedrooms with en suites. The lower level offers a spacious family room, rec room, wine cellar and full bath. **Chesterbrook, Longfellow, McLean Schools!**

BEST WASHINGTONIAN 2024

SOLD!

Sold in 5 days!



Sold for...\$1,550,000

6192 Hardy Drive, McLean
STUNNING 5BR/3BA split level home in Potomac Hills neighborhood. Step inside to discover tastefully updated modern features throughout the home! The main level offers a beautiful over-sized island, quartz countertops, and high-end appliances in the kitchen. Warm hardwood flooring and a wood burning fireplace welcomes with natural light flowing into the living, dining, and kitchen areas. Completing this level is a primary suite with two additional spacious BRs. Lovely sunroom overlooking the lush backyard. The LL features a light-filled fam room, 2 add'l BRs and full-bath. **Chesterbrook, Longfellow, McLean Schools!**

FOR SALE!

FRANKLIN PARK!



**2049 Rockingham Street
McLean, 22101
\$4,695,000
NEW CONSTRUCTION!**

SOLD!



Sold for...\$1,560,000

1466 Kirby Road, McLean
GORGEOUS 4BR/3BA brick home on 2 spacious finished levels situated on 1+ acre lot in sought-after Chesterbrook neighborhood. Expansive backyard featuring mature trees and beautiful plantings. Step inside and you'll be greeted by a sun-filled living room and dining room with a huge picture window overlooking the large back deck. Updated gourmet kitchen w/ ss appliance and new LVP. Large pantry/storage adjacent to the kitchen. The main level offers a primary BR w/ ensuite; 2 additional BR's and hall bath. The lower level offers a huge rec room; 4th BR; full bath. **Chesterbrook Longfellow, McLean Schools!**

SOLD!



**6144 Farver Road
McLean, 22101
\$1,550,000**

SOLD!



**311 Wrens Way
Falls Church City, 22046
\$1,080,000**

SOLD!



**6813 Tennyson Drive
McLean, 22101
\$2,550,000**

SOLD!



**1409 Layman Street
McLean, 22101
\$1,600,000**

SOLD!



**1639 Macon Street
McLean, 22101
\$2,215,000**

SOLD!



**1313 Merrie Ridge Rd
McLean, 22101
\$1,637,500**

Curious what your home is worth? Call to chat with JD and Ed today!

Back-to-School Festival Draws Nearly 3,000

Mount Olive Baptist Church in Centreville welcomes community members near and far.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

On Saturday, Aug. 10, Senior Pastor Rev. Jonathan Wilkins Sr. of Mount Olive Baptist Church in Centreville, supported 200 volunteers from the congregation as they ministered to a reported 2,700 guests who arrived at the church's parking lot and grounds for its first Back-to-School Festival. Guests sought free school supplies, haircuts, braiding and styling to start the FY 2024-25 school year and to enjoy the games, rides, fun and community-building.

Fairfax County Public Schools open Monday, Aug. 19, for the first day of classes.

Church members provided guests who had registered for their children for the event with free back-to-school supplies for their students, neatly packed per grade level in appropriate bookbags. Families arrived, not only from Centreville but also from Herndon, Reston, Sterling, and Manassas and more.

"Our guests come from all backgrounds, religions, and ethnicities. It's amazing; it's like a rainbow out here," Wilkins said.

Wilkins said that the church discovered that people are seeking community, particularly after the pandemic. Even two or three years later, people seek support and love. "That's really what we're opening our doors for — to open them to the community and provide a bridge," Wilkins said.

When asked what he thought the students present at the event would have done without the donated supplies, Wilkins said, "We shudder to think what they would have done." He added that some people were still trying to figure out how to get school supplies. The church had an enormous number of people looking for support from somewhere.

"The economy is what it is. We are situated in one of the most competitive housing markets, correct? Therefore, our vision is to provide goods and services by tying and connecting divine resources to human needs," Wilkins said. "That's what we're here to do."

Funding for the supplies and the event came from donations by local businesses, organizations and church members.

According to Capital One Shopping Research, updated July 14, 2024, "For one child, back-to-school supplies cost \$597 (K-12 average)," with a projected 2024 Back-to-School Household Spending, K-12 Average Household Spend of \$918.

The lead point person, Angela Caesar, recalled that Pastor Wilkins came to a committee on May 28 and said he had a vision and prayed about it. The goal was to con-



A very small portion of the nearly 3,000-person crowd can be seen at the first Back-to-School Festival held by Mount Olive Baptist Church in Centreville. Organizers plan for the festival to be an annual event.

PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION



Jeymi Diaz and his family join Senior Pastor Rev. Jonathan Wilkins, Sr. and Angela Caesar, event lead point person from Mount Olive Baptist Church in Centreville.



It can be a little scary for a young one to ride a sea serpent.



Lisa Shelton of Sterling, Darlene Bryant of Centreville, and Ann Hill of Chantilly worked three Saturdays with other volunteers to stuff the backpacks with school supplies.



A close-up look at a cheerful and colorful CUE bus.



Ceremony participants gather in front of one of the newly wrapped CUE buses.

Fairfax City Celebrates Its CUE Bus System

The rebranded initials stand for ‘City. University. Everyone.’

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

For more than four decades, Fairfax City’s CUE bus has reliably served the City’s residents, plus George Mason University students and faculty. These buses were painted white and accented by green, blue and yellow stripes.

Now, though, they sport a whole new look – dark blue with wraps featuring the shapes of people in bright yellow, blue and green. And instead of standing for “City. University. Energysaver,” the CUE initials now represent “City. University. Everyone.”

“We opted to keep the name and re-brand,” explained Transportation Director Wendy Sanford. “We felt that this really reflected what CUE stands for – that it’s a partnership between the City, the university and, really, everyone.”

She was speaking at a recent ceremony celebrating the changes and recognizing how significant a role the bus system plays in the lives of its users. Participants included City officials, members of its economic-development staff and chamber of commerce representatives.

Economic Development Director Chris Bruno acknowledged CUE’s importance to the business community. “The CUE bus system touches every single activity center within Fairfax City,” he said. “It provides connectivity and access between the university and every commercially zoned property here, and it also connects to the Vienna Metro Station for shoppers beyond Fairfax.”

“It’s important for the workforce, as well, and it’s something I want to underline,” he continued. “It’s a really great tool for businesses that have located or exist here in Fairfax City to move their workers and get them to their jobs.”

“For hospitality, retail and office workers, CUE offers the equivalent of a \$1,000 bonus through its fare-free program. We want busi-



From left are Wendy Sanford, Catherine Read, Chris Bruno, Tara Borwey (Fairfax City Economic Development), and Jennifer Rose.

ness owners to know that this is a significant benefit to operating a business in Fairfax City, and it’s a really great asset for us.”

As for the new wraps on the buses, Bruno said the City’s excited about them for two reasons. “We believe the brand update is more representative of the City,” he said. “In addition, when you see these CUE wrapped buses out there, they serve as a moving message to current and future businesses that Fairfax City Economic Development is here to support businesses in this City.”

Furthermore, he said CUE’s new wraps are also “a recognition of the importance of a transportation system in any city’s economic-development strategy. And CUE is one of our tools we want to celebrate.”

Sanford said CUE was delighted to partner with the City’s economic-development office. She then shared some key facts about the buses. “CUE runs seven days a week

“The same CUE, just CUE-ter.”

— Transportation Director Wendy Sanford

throughout the City, to GMU and to the Metro,” she said. Sanford also stressed that the majority of City residents are within a quarter mile of a CUE bus stop.

“It means that anyone living in the City can reach a stop very easily, in less than a 5-minute walk,” she said. “The bus can take you to your favorite restaurants or stores, to the university, to work or to the library. And CUE is free for everyone to ride, not just students. You just get onto the bus, and it takes you where you want to go. You don’t have to choose whether you’re going to be able to go to work and to the grocery store – you can do both. You can take the bus anywhere, and you can hop on and hop off.”

Sanford also noted CUE’s real-time, bus-arrival system called TransLoc, so riders don’t have to worry about having a schedule with them. Instead, they just download the app on their phones. “This app uses GPS

data to pinpoint your location and will tell you how many minutes until the next bus will be arriving,” she said.

In addition, all the buses have bike racks and are all wheelchair accessible. “We want everyone to feel comfortable riding the bus and to be able to ride it,” said Sanford. Then, as people applauded, she said, “We have the best bus drivers in the DMV; they’re friendly, talented and helpful. And chances are, your bus driver is going to know your name. We don’t have that many drivers so, if you’re a regular, you’re going to know them, they’re going to know you. It’s a feeling of safety, security and community.”

Last fall, Fairfax installed 10 Capital Bike-share stations in the City, and GMU installed three on campus. So, said Sanford, “You can always take the bus uphill and grab a bike to go downhill. You could also grab a scooter or walk. The point is, you have options, and CUE is a great one for all or part of your trip.”

She said the updated tagline, “City. University. Everyone,” reflects the system’s commitment to serving everyone while connecting the City and nearby areas. And although the 12 buses now feature a new look, said Sanford, “They’re the same CUE, just CUE-ter.”

Speaking next was Jennifer Rose, executive director of the Central Fairfax Chamber of Commerce. “You do have the most amazing bus service here in the City of Fairfax, and your bus drivers are the most outstanding, most professional folks,” she said. “They’re the ambassadors for the City, in many ways. They know all the best places to eat, where to go and where to stay. And our business owners and employers love that their employees can travel around town at no cost and that their customers can come and go for free – and conveniently and safely.”

As for Fairfax Mayor Catherine Read, she’s been a fan of the CUE buses for more than 43 years. “I moved into the first dormitory ever opened on George Mason University’s Fairfax campus, on Oct. 25, 1981,” she said. “And 1981 is when the CUE bus came into being. I arrived at college without a car so, at age 19, the CUE bus was my lifeline. When I graduated in 1984, there were 500 students living on campus here. Today there are 6,200 – and this bus is still operating and



TYSONS CORNER **NOW OPEN**

Welcome to a new cutting-edge fitness experience that brings top-of-the-line amenities, best in boutique studio classes, and wellness services together in one gym.



< GET YOUR FREE PASS
and try your first class free!



**STATE-OF-THE-ART GYM / BOUTIQUE FITNESS STUDIOS
BOX / CS4® / RIDE / HOT YOGA / REFORM / REBOUND
CRYOTHERAPY & RECOVERY LAB / KALOLOGIE® MEDSPA / HWPO TRAINING**



CLUB STUDIO NOW OPEN
TYSONS CORNER
1500 Cornerside Blvd. #A, Vienna
(703) 349-7656
www.clubstudiofitness.com

Certain amenities and services may be available for an additional fee. Images depict a typical Club Studio fitness club; locations may vary. ©2024 Fitness International, LLC. All rights reserved.

National Night Out 2024

Special events, public safety information and activities for children.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

On Tuesday, Aug. 6, during National Night Out 2024, officers from the Fairfax County Police Department, those from local town and city jurisdictions, and the county sheriff's deputies visited as many neighborhood gatherings as possible.

They engaged in dialogue, built relationships, and celebrated the strength of local communities focused on crime

prevention and community building.

National Night Out is held every year on the first Tuesday of August. The event promotes positive police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie with the intention of making every neighborhood safer.



PHOTO BY LISA HERNDON,
TOWN OF HERNDON POLICE

(From left) Eva Escobar, Opportunity Neighborhood Ambassador; Chief Maggie DeBoard, Herndon Police Department; and Keven LeBlanc, Herndon Town Councilmember, at National Night Out 2024.



PHOTO COURTESY OF FELLOWSHIP SQUARE

Police, fire, and public safety workers gathered with the Hunters Woods Fellowship House residents during National Night Out, a neighborhood-based community event focused on the seniors' safety needs and concerns.



PHOTO CREDIT SCOTT MAYHUGH

Janice Watson, Town of Herndon candidate for mayor, Keven LeBlanc, and Alex Burke at an FCDC caucus polling place Saturday, Aug. 10.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Pradip Dhakal, Town of Herndon candidate for mayor, talks with Town of Herndon residents Anne Regan and Miles Regan.

FCDC Endorses Town of Herndon Council Candidates

Political endorsement in a 'non-partisan' election.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

The Fairfax County Democratic Committee (FCDC) announced its endorsed candidates for Herndon Town Council in the 2024 General Election, scheduled for Nov. 5. FCDC did so online following its unassembled caucus on Aug. 10.

Pradip Dhakal and Keven LeBlanc Jr. are the two candidates vying for the nonpartisan elected position of Mayor of the Town of Herndon for the 2025–2026 term. They each requested that the FCDC endorse their candidacy, completed the FCDC online questionnaire and application, and submitted them with the requisite \$100 filing fee.

Dhakal won the FCDC endorsement caucus for the mayor of the Town of Herndon. He received 345 votes, or 56.93 percent, while LeBlanc received 261 votes, or 43.07 percent. The FCDC tallied 606 votes and one absentee to endorse the contested position.

"I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all the Herndon residents, neighbors, and friends who pre-registered and voted in the Herndon Caucus following the Fairfax County Democratic Committee (FCDC) process," Dhakal said.

Dhakal added, "I commend Keven for his dedication and engagement throughout this journey."

LeBlanc said that neither a party endorsement caucus nor a sample ballot could define or diminish "his love for this town."

All six seats for Herndon Town council

will be open in the general election on Nov. 5, 2024. In accordance with its bylaws, FCDC canceled the Town of Herndon councilmember caucus for endorsement and automatically endorsed all five candidates who requested it: Naila Alam, Cesar del Aguila, Kevin Garcia, Michael Lloyd and Soma Ramesh.

Four other candidates are also running for Herndon town councilmember: Tamim Chowdhury, Clark A. Hedrick, Stevan M. Porter, and Alexis "Alex" Reyes. They did not seek FCDC endorsements. Current Councilmember Donielle Scherff is not seeking reelection.

In an online statement, FCDC Chair Aaron Yohai expressed his satisfaction with the caucus, which reflected "the strong democratic principles the committee upholds. ... The participation and enthusiasm from the community was outstanding," Yohai said.

On July 18, former Town of Herndon mayor Lisa Merkel wrote in a chat during the virtual FCDC Dranesville District Committee Meeting, "With two good Democrats running [for Town of Herndon mayor], I still stand by my conviction that the entirety of the Herndon voters IN NOVEMBER should be making this decision, NOT a small group of people lucky enough to hear about an obscure caucus."

The Commonwealth's Registrant Counts By Locality reports the total number of voters registered as of 8/1/2024 for Herndon Precinct #1 is 4,486, Herndon #2 is 4,754, and Herndon #3 is 4,452. The total number of voters in the Town of Herndon is 13,692.

According to FCDC's online release about the Herndon Town Council caucus, the mayoral endorsement received 606 votes, accounting for 4.4 percent of the total registered voters.

Fairfax City Honors Its Volunteers of the Year

Fairfax City's Volunteer of the Year ceremony, hosted by the InterService Club Council, was held Wednesday, Aug. 7, at the Sherwood Center. Volunteers who help make Fairfax City a great place to live were recognized, and awards were presented to the City's fire and police First Responders of the Year. Below is the list of winners:

- City of Fairfax Fire, First Responder — Bryan Sullivan
- City of Fairfax Police, First Responder — Capt. Natalie M. Hinesley
- Central Fairfax Chamber of Commerce — Anthony Amos
- Chocolate Lovers Festival Committee — Laura Raymond
- Civitan Club of Fairfax — Linda Powell
- Fairfax Ferns Garden Club — Margaret Pfeifle
- Fairfax Harley Owners Group — Jim Egbert
- Fairfax Host Lions Club — Gordon Tillery, Jr.
- Fairfax Station Railroad Museum — Deborah Mueller
- Historic Fairfax City, Inc. — Albert L. Leightley II
- Independence Day Celebration Committee — Penny Rood
- InterService Club Council — Cathy Kelleher
- Kiwanis Club of Fairfax — Brad Mayfield
- Knights of Columbus-Father Diamond Council — Timothy T. Tilson
- Moose Lodge #2168 — Bridget Merz
- Optimist Club of Central Fairfax — Maxwell Osei Anokye



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATHERINE MACCAMMON

The honorees are (back row, from left) Janet Jaworski, Joan Black, Albert L. Leightley II, Paul Beechler, Ike Eichenbrenner (Boeing volunteers), Anthony Amos, Timothy T. Tilson, Jim Egbert, Gordon Tillery Jr. and Bryan Sullivan; and (front row, from left) Penny Rood, Deborah Mueller, Jennifer Pearl Hurst, Carolina Hurtado, Linda Powell, Capt. Natalie M. Hinesley and Bridget Merz.

- Rotary Club of Fairfax — Jennifer Pearl Hurst
- Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary — Carolina Hurtado
- Shelter House Inc. — Boeing Volunteers
- Shepherd's Center of Fairfax-Burke — Joan Black
- Woman's Club of Fairfax — Janet Jaworski
- Zonta Club of Fairfax — Paul Beechler.



SING WITH US!

Non-auditioned
choirs for adults 55+!

**ENCORE CHORALE
OF FAIRFAX**
Starting September 3

Tuesdays
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Burke United Methodist Church
6200 Burke Centre Pkwy, Burke

**ENCORE CHORALE
OF ALEXANDRIA**
Starting September 9

Mondays
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM
Church of the Good Shepherd
100 W. Luray Ave, Alexandria

encorecreativity.org



**AWARD-WINNING
SENIOR LIVING
IS COMING TO ALEXANDRIA**

MODEL APARTMENT SHOWINGS NOW AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT

Brightview has been making life extra bright for East Coast seniors and their families for 25 years. Join us for a Get To Know Brightview event and discover how we can make life brighter for you, too, when we open in spring 2025.

BRIGHTVIEW
SENIOR LIVING
ALEXANDRIA

DID YOU KNOW?
BRIGHTVIEW SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITIES
ARE MONTHLY RENTALS – NO HEFTY BUY-IN
FEES TO TIE UP YOUR ASSETS!

IT'S YOUR MOVE.
RSVP or schedule a visit to
our welcome center today.

800.666.9536

WELCOME CENTER NOW OPEN
6940 S. Kings Highway, Ste. 206 | Alexandria
COMMUNITY OPENING SPRING 2025
6509 Telegraph Road | Alexandria

www.BrightviewAlexandria.com

Independent Living | Assisted Living | Gallery Assisted Living | Dementia Care



GUNSTON CORNER VILLAGE CENTER
CLOSE AND CONVENIENT!

Monday - Friday 9AM - 7PM
Saturday 8AM - 6PM
Sunday 10AM - 4PM

(703) 495-9029

8220 Gunston Corner Lane
Lorton, VA 22079

\$2.00 DISCOUNT
For New Customers

\$2.00 DISCOUNT
For Successful Referrals

**Same Company, Same Employees,
Same Great Value - Now Celebrating 20 Years!**

TWO POOR TEACHERS

Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling



- Electrical (ELE)
- Gas Fitting (GFC)
- Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVA)
- Plumbing (PLB)
- Residential Building (RBC)

Fully Insured & Class A Licensed
Since 1999



Free Estimates 703-999-2929

Check if your contractor is licensed at the state level
<http://www.DPOR.virginia.gov>

Visit our website: www.twopoorteachers.com

NEWS

Stringfellow Road Closed Aug. 17

Detour in place during paving as part of Route 29 Widening Project.

Northbound and southbound Stringfellow Road (Route 645) between Route 29 and Centreville Farms Road will be closed to through traffic Saturday, Aug. 17 from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. for paving, according to the Virginia Department of Transportation.

Local traffic will still be able to use Stringfellow Road between Centreville Farms Road and Autumn Willow Drive; however, Stringfellow Road will be closed to all traffic in both directions between Autumn Willow Drive and Route 29.

Through traffic will be detoured via Route 29 and Centreville Farms Road back to Stringfellow Road. Drivers are asked to follow

detour signs.

The work is part of the Route 29 Widening Project, which is making improvements along Route 29 between Union Mill Road and Buckleys Gate Drive to improve safety, traffic flow and bicyclist and pedestrian accessibility and connectivity. The improvements include:

- ❖ Widening 1.5 miles of roadway from four lanes to six
- ❖ Improving sight distance
- ❖ Adding shared-use paths on both sides of Route 29
- ❖ Providing connectivity to pedestrian/bicycle trails at the Fairfax County Parkway/West Ox Road interchange

The project is scheduled for completion in spring 2026.



BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Celebrating the spruced-up, rebranded CUE buses in Fairfax City.

CUE Bus System

FROM PAGE 4

moving those students around, into and out of our City.”

Thanks to the Fairfax City Council, CUE became free to ride in 2020 – becoming the first, fare-free bus system in Virginia. Even now, only seven other systems have followed suit. And, said Read, “It’s an asset to everybody who needs, wants and relies on transit to get them to school, their jobs and healthcare.”

But that’s not all, she added. “There’s also an equity lens through which we need to look at why this CUE bus has existed for so many years, and why it was so important to make it fare free. There are jobs, restaurants, retail and cultural-arts events here, and this bus makes it easy for people to get into and around our City.”

Read also stressed that many visitors to Fairfax City don’t speak English as their first language. So, she asked, “What could be easier than

to get on a bus where you don’t have to figure out if you’ve got the right fare card or the right change? If visitors coming here understand that this bus is free and will take them where they want to go, it makes it easy for people whose primary language isn’t English.”

However, while calling the spruced-up CUE buses “vibrant, colorful and cheerful,” she also said some people in the City still don’t know they exist or are free. So she said Fairfax needs to do a better job of publicizing them. And she noted the CUE’s importance to young people, too.

“High-school and middle-school students take this bus to and from school,” said Read. “And it enables them to participate in before- and after school activities when they don’t have parents who can drop everything and pick them up or drop them off. Again, there’s an equity lens to having this kind of investment in good, public transit.”

WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Sign up for FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION to all of our papers



www.connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

NEWS

PHOTOS BY MERCIA HOBSON/THE CONNECTION



A little hairstyling and braiding pleases Julia Small, 7.



Miguel, 4, gets his hair cut so he looks sharp on the first day of school.

Back-to-School Festival

FROM PAGE 3

nect with the community, and Wilkens announced that the school supply event would take place on Saturday, Aug. 10.

“And that’s when we started this, on May 28, to get to this day right here,” Cesar said. “We had weekly meetings, 16 subcommittees, and one core committee.”

What was her biggest hurdle? Caesar said she didn’t have one, as the pastor had a clear vision. “Therefore, I knew the expectations,” Caesar said. “The church came together as a team. We had 125 volunteers on the planning committee and over 180 for the logistics.”

“Mount Olive Baptist Church showed up. I didn’t have a hurdle,” Caesar said.

State Farm Insurance G. STEPHEN DULANEY

IN GREAT FALLS



AUTO • HOME • LIFE
FINANCIAL SERVICES

Like A Good Neighbor, State Farm Is There.®

Open Saturdays

Complementary Insurance and Financial Review

Visit www.gstephendulaney.com



703-759-4155

731-C WALKER RD. • GREAT FALLS, VA

State Farm Insurance Companies
Home Office Bloomington, Illinois

Proud Supporter of Military Appreciation Mondays

BRIGHTVIEW
SENIOR LIVING
ALEXANDRIA

Independent Living
Assisted Living | Dementia Care
800.666.9536

BRIGHTVIEW
SENIOR LIVING
GREAT FALLS

Assisted Living | Dementia Care
703.912.0096

**EYEING A VIBRANT, SECURE FUTURE?
FOCUS ON WHAT MATTERS.**



INDEPENDENCE

Brightview’s award-winning communities inspire and engage residents while supporting their changing needs.



CHOICE

What will you do today?
At Brightview, it’s entirely up to you!



POSSIBILITIES

Our associates have one question for you:
Why not? Each day, residents explore new interests and embark on new adventures.



BrightviewSeniorLiving.com

ENTERTAINMENT

FCPA'S SUMMER

ENTERTAINMENT SERIES

Fairfax County Park Authority's Summer Entertainment Series presents more than 190 exciting performances at 17 locations all summer long. Choose from an array of free, live performances featuring classical to bluegrass music and everything in between. Enjoy performances from outstanding local and national touring groups including:

- (Aug. 16) The United States Air Force Strings – Mason District Park Amphitheater: Join the official string ensemble of the U.S. Air Force for an evening of music ranging from classical symphonic selections to classic rock, bluegrass and patriotic compositions.
- (Aug. 18) Cheryl Wheeler with Kenny White – Mason District Amphitheater: Sing along to folk music with famed singer-songwriter Cheryl Wheeler and pianist and singer Kenny White.
- (Aug. 23) Deanna Bogart – Grist Mill Park: Hear Deanna Bogart's dazzling keyboards, soulful saxophone, smoky vocals and cut-above songwriting.
- (Aug. 24) Bruce in the USA – Arrowbrook Centre Park: Jam on to your favorite tunes by Bruce Springsteen and The E Street Band.
- (Aug. 31) Cloud Cult – Arrowbrook Centre Park: End your summer on a high note with Cloud Cult, a band known for their unique alternative-orchestral-folk-rock sound and hailed as one of the "Top 10 Green Bands" by Rolling Stone. Performances are held outdoors and may be canceled in the event of inclement weather. Call 703-324-SHOW (7469) before leaving home for inclement weather updates.

FAMILY SKATE AND

DANCE NIGHT

This fall, the Family Skate and Dance Nights at Franconia Rec Center will feature a lively schedule. Skaters of all ages will enjoy the festive themes, tasty food and fun music of these skate nights hosted by the Fairfax County Park Authority.

Join the fun and break out your quad skates, inline skates or dancing shoes (bring your own skates/footwear) and take a spin around Franconia Rec Center's gym floor. Each skate night includes music from a guest DJ, as well as food, snacks and drinks available for purchase (Please note that outside food/drink is not permitted). Tickets for everyone (skaters, dancers, spectators and chaperones) cost \$10 and can be purchased in advance online. Or you buy them at the door for \$15.

SCHEDULE:

- Aug. 17: Back to School Flashback to the 90s and 00s (6-9 p.m.)
- Sept. 21: Come on Skaters, Let's Go Party! (Barbie™ themed) (6-9 p.m.)
- Oct. 26: Halloween Costume Party (6-10 p.m.)
- Nov. 16: Franconia Hold 'Em Skate and Dance Night (Country Night) (6-9 p.m.)
- Dec. 21: Holiday and Ugly Sweater Skate and Dance Night (6-9 p.m.)

FREE CONCERTS AT

BURKE LAKE PARK

Mark your calendars for 7 p.m. every Wednesday night through Aug. 21st at Burke Lake Park for an incredible line-up of



The 48th Annual Arlington County Fair takes place Aug. 14-18, 2024 at the Thomas Jefferson Community Center and Park in Arlington.

bands, food trucks, 2 Silos beer, and Peterson's Ice Cream. The atmosphere is informal, so bring a picnic blanket, lawn chairs, and relax with friends and family.

August 14 - SoHo Down
Food truck: Roaming Coyote

August 21 - Riptide
Food truck: Roaming Coyote

KIDZ KORNER EVENTS IN FAIRFAX CITY

FUNDAY MONDAY: Mondays, 10:30 – 11:15 am at Old Town Hall, 3999 University Drive, Fairfax. For more information: <https://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/cultural-arts>
Aug. 19 – Drew Blue Shoes Magic!
Aug. 26 – Storytime with Fairfax Library: "Ice Cream" theme

KIDZ KORNER: Saturdays, 10:30 – 11:15 am at Old Town Square, 10415 North Street, Fairfax. <https://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/parks-recreation/cultural-arts>

Aug. 17 – Children's Music with Marsha (of Marsha and the Positrons)

FAMILY FILMS AT SULLY HISTORIC SITE

Fairfax County Park Authority introduces another season of Starlight Cinema. Come enjoy this outdoor movie series with feature films for the entire family as well as pre-movie entertainment. Pack your picnics, blankets and chairs, and head out to enjoy movies under the stars — for free — all month long this August.

The Starlight Cinema gates open at 6 p.m. Opening children's entertainment begins at 7 p.m. with performances featuring music, magic, comedy and puppetry. The evening's feature film will begin at dark. Watch from your cars or on the lawn in front of the screen.

This year, the Starlight Cinema Series will be held at Sully Historic Site at 3650 Historic Sully Way, Chantilly. This year's performances will include:

- Aug. 17: Mr. Gabe and Friends and "Wish"
 - Aug. 24: Geoff Marsh and "Elemental"
- Movies are held outdoors and are subject to cancellation in case of inclement weather. Call 703-324-SHOW (7469) one hour before the start of pre-movie entertainment for rain cancellations. Learn more about the Starlight Cinema and

other performances being held throughout the summer by visiting the Summer Entertainment Series website.

AUG. 14-18 48th Annual Arlington County Fair.

At Thomas Jefferson Community Center and Park. The five-day extravaganza features a diverse array of food vendors, thrilling rides, friendly competitions, vendor markets, and so much more. Sensory-friendly hours will provide a quieter environment without the usual bells, whistles, and chimes on Saturday, August 17, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and Sunday, August 18, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The community is invited to the Opening Ceremony on Wednesday, August 14, at 5 p.m., which will feature local singers The Arlingtonges and a ribbon-cutting.

New at this year's Fair (*denotes free):

- ❖ Petting Zoo: Get up close and personal with your favorite farm animals, including goats, sheep, and a mini horse!
 - ❖ Solace Brewing Beer Garden: Enjoy a cold beer from Solace Brewing while listening to live music and enjoying the sights and sounds of the fairgrounds.
 - ❖ Children's Market: Young entrepreneurs will showcase their products and services on Saturday afternoon at the Fair.
 - ❖ Portable Planetarium Dome: Explore the cosmos in this unique viewing experience suitable for all ages, located inside the Thomas Jefferson Gym.
 - ❖ WOW Wheelz Lil' Racer Track: Kids, start your engines and join us on Thursday evening to zoom around an inflatable race track.
 - ❖ Headliner Bands: We are excited to welcome Pictrola, So Fetch, and The Uptown Band to this year's Fair. These energetic musicians will rock the main stage on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights of the Fair.
- Fairgoer favorites returning this year include:
- ❖ Virginia Museum of Fine Arts: The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts returns with an exhibit of some of its most popular works of art.
 - ❖ Pie Eating Championship: Compete for the title of pie-eating champion at our annual pie-eating championship, sponsored by Livin' The Pie Life, TriVistaUSA, and Team Showalter.
 - ❖ Big Trucks: Youngsters of all ages will delight in encountering the massive trucks on display, includ-



Bookstore Romance Day takes place on Saturday, Aug. 17, 2024 at Fonts Books & Gifts in McLean.

ing kid favorites: a backhoe, dump truck equipped with a plow, and a vacuum truck, accompanied by other surprise vehicles.

- ❖ Rocknoceros: Get ready to rock the house with weekend live kids' entertainment by Rocknoceros.

THURSDAY/AUG. 15

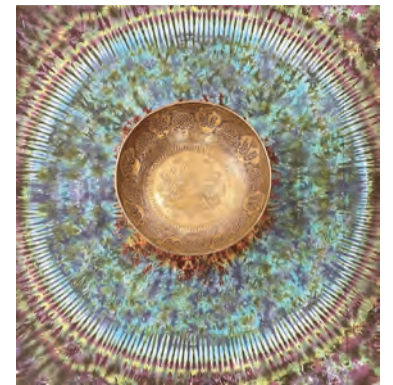
Summer Wine Soiree. 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. At Broad & Washington Restaurant, Falls Church. Broad & Washington invites guests to embark on a flavorful journey at its Summer Wine Soiree in collaboration with the restaurant, Thompson Italian. Guided by Thompson Italian's expert sommeliers, this exclusive tasting event will feature curated selections of wines and samples of signature dishes. Guests will be greeted with a welcome beverage and will leave with a Thompson Italian dessert box to enjoy at home. This event is free to attend, but tickets via Eventbrite are required for entry. Use Access Code SUMMERWINEBW.

SATURDAY/AUG. 17

Poetry Beneath the Stars. 7:30-8:30 p.m. At Turner Farm Park, 925 Springvale Road, Great Falls. Head to Turner Farm Park for an evening of contemplating the cosmos through poetry. Led by Fairfax County Poet Laureate Danielle Badra, this workshop will feature examples of poems inspired by the stars to ignite your creativity on a unique celestial journey. Participants will start indoors and be provided with examples of star-gazing poetry and prompts to craft their own poems. But that's not all! Weather permitting, you can take your poetry outdoors or enjoy a special treat: telescope viewing at the Roll Top Observatory. Please note, this will be Danielle Badra's final Poetry In The Parks event as Fairfax County Poet Laureate. Space is limited to ensure an intimate and engaging experience for all attendees.

SATURDAY/AUG. 17

Bookstore Romance Day. At Fonts Books & Gifts, Chesterbrook Plaza, 6262 Old Dominion Drive, McLean. Bookstore Romance Day is a national day designed to give independent bookstores an opportunity to celebrate Romance fiction—its books, readers, and writers—and to strengthen the relationships between bookstores and the Romance community. It is celebrated on the



A Neutrality Sound Bath workshop takes place on Sunday, Aug. 18, 2024 at Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton.

third Saturday in August. Fonts Books opened last November, so this is their first ever Bookstore Romance Day. The day's plans start at opening at 10 a.m.

SATURDAY/AUG. 17

2024 Springfield Bridge Walk. Celebrate the Springfield community and the local military community at the annual Springfield Bridge Walk. Since 2009, neighbors, businesses and civic organizations have gathered to walk over Veterans Bridge in the Springfield Revitalization District to recognize the renewal of the United States Army's Community Covenant. The short walk ends with a community celebration featuring refreshments, entertainment and the introduction of the new Fort Belvoir Garrison Commander. Staging at 9:30 a.m. at Springfield Plaza, 6998 Bland Street Walk at 10 a.m. at the intersection of Bland Street and Amherst Ave. Walk ends at 10:30 a.m. at American Legion Post 176, 6520 Amherst Ave.

SUNDAY/AUG. 18

Neutrality Sound Bath. 4-5:30 p.m. At Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Come and experience a huge AJNA Singing Bowl, harmonically paired with further instruments, inviting us into a powerful state of consciousness through Gamma brainwaves. Cost: \$35. Visit the website: <https://www.workhousearts.org/calendar/sound-bath>

THURSDAY/AUG. 22

"The President's Own" U.S. Marine Band Performs. 7 p.m. At National Museum of the Marine Corps, 1775 Semper Fidelis Way, Triangle. The premier band of the United States Marine Corps, "The President's Own" plays patriotic and martial favorites alongside selections from the wind band repertoire, works by contemporary composers, scores from film and theatre, and more. In case of inclement weather, check the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation's Facebook page [facebook.com/MarineCorpsHeritageFdn](https://www.facebook.com/MarineCorpsHeritageFdn)

FRIDAY/AUG. 23

Free Advocacy Writing Workshop. 6-8 p.m. At St. John Neuman Catholic Church, 11900 Lawyers Road, Reston. This free, non-partisan workshop is designed to equip you with the skills needed to write compelling opinion pieces, letters to the editor, and testimonies to elected officials. With the 2024 election on the horizon, now is the time to refine your advocacy writing and make your voice heard.

ENTERTAINMENT



The band Riptide will play on Aug. 21, 2024 at the Free Concerts at Burke Lake Park at 7 p.m.

SATURDAY/AUG. 24

Women's Equality Celebration. 1-4 p.m. At Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Honor Women's Equality Day with an afternoon of festivities commemorating the efforts and achievements of the groundbreaking activists that fought long and hard for women's enfranchisement. Visit the website: <https://www.workhousearts.org/calendar/women-equality>

SUNDAY/AUG. 25

Burke Historical Society Meeting. 3-4:30 p.m. At Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Bunnie Jordan, a quilt-maker, collector, teacher, and author, will speak on the long history of quilting in Virginia. Free.

TUESDAY/AUG. 27

Red Cross Blood Drive. 1:30-6 p.m. At Christ the King Lutheran Church, 10550 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Christ the King is having a Red Cross blood drive. Donors will receive a \$20 Amazon gift card via email! Register today at www.redcrossblood.org. Questions? Contact Melody Starya Mobley at 571-276-7356.

FREE SUMMER CONCERTS AT NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE MARINE CORPS

The Marine Corps Heritage Foundation has announced its annual Summer Concert Series schedule at the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Triangle, Virginia. The series will feature military bands performing music from traditional patriotic tunes to contemporary works and pop hits. All shows begin at 7 p.m. Visit marineheritage.org/eventcalendar-368789.

Thursday, August 22: "The President's Own" United States Marine Band will present a varied repertoire ranging from traditional concert band selections to the patriotic marches that made it famous.

Thursday, Aug. 29: "The President's Own" United States Marine Band returns to close the Summer Concert Series for 2024.

AUG. 31 AND SEPT. 1

31st Annual Middle Eastern Food Festival. 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday, and 12:30 to 5 p.m. Sunday.

www.connectionnewspapers.com

At Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic Church, 8501 Lewinsville Road, McLean. The festival will feature authentic Middle Eastern food, pastries, music and dancing, as well as vendors, church tours, and activities for both children and adults. A highlight of the event is the Saturday night, 7:00 p.m. "Hafli" ("party" in Arabic) that will feature live music and dancing. Join us and learn to dance the "Dabke," a traditional folk line dance. Visit www.MiddleEasternFoodFestival.com.

SATURDAY/AUG. 31

Local Author Showcase. 1-4 p.m. At Mary Riley Styles Library, 120 N. Virginia Ave. in Falls Church. The Northern Virginia Writers Club and the Mary Riley Styles Public Library are hosting a free local authors showcase. This fun and free afternoon event will feature 20 local authors, readings, books for sale, along with complimentary refreshments, and a raffle for a chance to win a reading bag filled with signed books. All ages are welcome, but this event is best for adults and high school aged children. Northern Virginia Writing Club members are diverse and write in a variety of genres offering something for every reader's taste. This is a great event to meet local authors, find a new favorite author, and even start your holiday shopping early.

FAIRFAX COUNTY FARMERS MARKETS 2024 SEASON

For 2024 Farmers Market season, dozens of local food producers have tons of fresh and healthy foods waiting for you at all 10 markets located throughout the county. Find locally grown produce, delicious baked goods and prepared foods at the farmers markets. Additionally, enjoy a variety of family-friendly activities from musical performances, games, and don't forget to bring your food scraps to support our community composting efforts.

WEDNESDAYS

McCutcheon/Mount Vernon; Through Dec. 18, 8 a.m. - noon; Sherwood Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria

Oakmont, Through Nov. 6, 8 a.m. - noon, Oakmont Recreation Center, 3200 Jermantown Road, Oakton



A Women's Equality Celebration takes place on Saturday, Aug. 24, 2024 at Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton.



The Burke Historical Society will feature quilt maker Bunnie Jordan on Sunday, Aug. 25, 2024 at Pohick Regional Library in Burke.

Wakefield, Through Oct. 30, 2-6 p.m., Wakefield Park, 8100 Braddock Road, Annandale

THURSDAYS

Annandale, Through Nov. 14, 8 a.m. - noon, Mason District Park, 6621 Columbia Pike, Annandale

Herndon, Through Nov. 7, 8 a.m. - noon, Old Town Herndon, 700 Block of Lynn St., Herndon (by the Red Caboose)

FRIDAYS

McLean, Through Nov. 15, 8 a.m. - noon, Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean

Kingstowne, Through Oct. 25, 3-7 p.m., In the Giant parking lot, 5870 Kingstowne Towne Center, Alexandria

SATURDAYS

Burke, Through Dec. 21, 8 a.m. - noon, VRE parking Lot, 5671 Roberts Parkway, Burke

Reston, Through Dec. 7, 8 a.m. - noon, Lake Anne Village Center, 1609-A Washington Plaza, Reston

SUNDAYS

Lorton, Through Nov. 10, 8 a.m. - noon, VRE parking lot, 8990 Lorton Station Blvd., Lorton

Visit the Farmers Market website for complete information about this year's markets - including details on SNAP benefits for eligible households available at designated locations. Contact the Community Horticulture Office at 702-642-0128.

AUG. 10 TO OCT. 13

Life's a Stitch. 11 a.m. to 12 pm. At Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. Life's a Stitch x4 looks at 4 very different ways that art quilts and fiber sculpture can use both humor and drama to express character and story. Website: <https://www.workhousearts.org/calendar/lifes-a-stitch>





"Learning knows no age limit! At OLLI Mason, our programming rewards curious individuals with fun experiences and deeper knowledge. For more than 30 years, OLLI Mason has provided its members with top-notch cultural and educational lectures as well as engaging social and trip opportunities."

- Executive Director Jennifer Disano

Rediscover the Sheer Love of Learning

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at George Mason University is a community where you can enjoy new experiences, informative seminars, fun-filled activities, and social gatherings—online and in-person.

FALL 2024 TERM
September 23 - November 15

Stay connected and engaged through our classes and events!
Registration begins on August 20th and continues throughout the term.

Join Today at: olli.gmu.edu Phone: 703-503-3384 Email: olli@gmu.edu

Special Promotion
\$300 Annual Membership
Fee for New Members!

The RESIDENCE at COLVIN RUN

Assisted Living & Memory Care

Boutique Senior Living with Great Falls at Its Heart

The Residence at Colvin Run offers more than a stress-free lifestyle, luxury amenities, and restaurant-style dining. Our Call Bell Quick-Response Program means, when a resident rings for help, a team member shows up quickly and reliably. We hold ourselves accountable by allowing you to check our response times by scanning the code below.

Call 703.223.5226 or visit IntegraCare.com to learn more and schedule a tour today!



Sign up for

FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION
to all of our papers



www.connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe



PHOTO BY AMBER BAGLEY

Volunteers put two fingers up, signifying the 2 million pound mark of food and toiletries distributed to those experiencing food insecurity by South Lakes PTSA Food Pantry as of July 18.



PHOTO BY AMBER BAGLEY

Some items, like fresh eggs, fruits and vegetables must be kept in coolers before distribution.

South Lakes Food Pantry Hits Major Milestone

7th Annual “Do It Your Way 0.5K” fundraiser to commemorate achievement.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

On Thursday, July 18, the South Lakes High School PTSA (Parents Teacher Student Association) Food Pantry marked a significant milestone in its journey. Founded in 2017, the pantry has distributed over 2 million pounds of food and toiletries to those experiencing food insecurity. Co-founder Roberta Gosling deemed the accomplishment “pretty incredible.”

According to the Pantry, Kimberly Retzer, principal of South Lakes High School, encouraged staff, teachers and PTSA leadership to incorporate the Pantry into the South Lakes community from day one. Since then, the Pantry has grown tremendously.

“It’s hard to believe that we started with 20–25 student shoppers each week, and today, during the school year, we often have 300 students shopping and 175 families coming through every week,” said pantry co-founder and Pantry liaison Abbe Pascal.

Even more astonishing are the hundreds of volunteers who pack bags filled with weekly donations and drive them from Good

Shepherd Lutheran Church in Herndon to South Lakes High School in Reston, ensuring that students and their families receive the necessary food and toiletries. More volunteers distribute the food, toiletries, and grocery gift cards.

In its seven-year journey supporting those in the community experiencing food insecurity, the SLHS Food Pantry has had “the wind at its back,” from donors, volunteers, the school, and the community. Volunteer Monica Russ described the behind-the-scenes action as “a true community effort.”

Trader Joe’s Reston, Wegmans, Safeway, and Whole Foods donate food weekly, while A Simple Gesture and Food for Neighbors donate biweekly. South Lakes School Pyramid supports the pantry with initiatives like the annual Stuff the Bus.

“The Pantry exemplifies the way our community comes together to support one another in a meaningful way,” Carlos Seward, the incoming principal of South Lakes High School, said.

The local community also comes together in other ways, such as participating in the ‘biggest FUNdraiser’ to support the pantry

and allow it to serve anyone in need living in the South Lakes Pyramid area. This area includes Dogwood, Forest Edge, Fox Mill, Hunters Woods, Lake Anne, Sunrise Valley, and Terraset elementary schools, as well as Langston Hughes Middle School and South Lakes itself.

On Sept. 29, join the SLHS PTSA Food Pantry organizers for their 7th Annual “Do It Your Way 0.5K.” Participate in person or virtually; same-day registration is available. It includes warm-up drills, music with DJ Randy Platts, celebrity starters, prizes, and

the all-important mid-race treats to keep you going.

“You know it’ll be the most rewarding 650 steps you have taken this year,” say the organizers. Participants will have the option to participate in several heats, including a “dog heat.”

This year, the fundraiser will celebrate the South Lakes High School PTSA Food Pantry’s distribution milestone, and organizers hope to break another record, in total funds raised. Visit the 7th Annual “Do It Your Way 0.5K to learn more.

Reston Community Center 2024 Preference Poll

Reston Community Center (RCC) announced it is seeking interested candidates to run for this year’s Preference Poll to fill three three-year term position seats on its nine-member Board of Governors responsible for oversight of RCC. All residents of Small District 5, aged 18 or older, are eligible to run for the appointment and must complete a Candidacy Statement for their names to appear on the Preference Poll ballot. Candidacy statements are online at www.restoncommunitycenter.com and available at RCC facilities beginning at 9:00 a.m. on August 1. Candidacy filing deadline is 5:00 p.m., August 15. For additional information, visit Featured, Preference Poll, Press Release, RCC in the News, Uncategorized, www.restoncommunitycenter.com, or call 703-476-4500.

— MERCIA HOBSON



Enjoy Your Next Chapter in Style

AT SUNRISE OF MCLEAN VILLAGE

Situated in the heart of McLean, Sunrise of McLean Village was designed with comfort and sophistication in mind.

- Beautiful outdoor living spaces
- Flexible and welcoming social spaces
- Elevated interior design
- Large windows and spacious suites

For a limited time, we're offering exclusive pricing on select suites.

**Book your personal tour by calling 703-962-4360
or visiting [SunriseMcLeanVillage.com](https://www.SunriseMcLeanVillage.com).**

 © 2024 Sunrise Senior Living


SUNRISE
SENIOR LIVING

MCLEAN VILLAGE

Call today and receive a
FREE SHOWER PACKAGE
PLUS \$1600 OFF



SAFE STEP
WALK-IN TUB

1-877-591-9950

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. CSLB 1082165 NSCB 0082999 0083445

Be prepared before the next power outage.



**It's not just a generator.
It's a power move.**

Receive a free 5-year warranty with qualifying purchase* - valued at \$535.

Call 844-947-1479 to schedule your free quote!

GENERAC

*Terms and Conditions apply.

LET THE PROS HANDLE IT! LeafFilter GUTTER PROTECTION



Say "NO" to Cleaning Out Your Gutters. Protect Your Home With LeafFilter.

20% OFF + **10% OFF**
Your Entire Purchase* Seniors + Military

++ We offer financing that fits your budget!¹

CALL TODAY FOR A FREE INSPECTION!
1-877-614-6667

* See Representative for full warranty details. *One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. †Subject to credit approval. Call for details. AR 366920923, AZ ROC 344027, CA 1035795, CT HIC 0671520, FL CBC056678, IA C127230, ID RCE-51604, LA 559544, MA 176447, MD MHIC111225, MI 262300173, 262300318, 262300328, 262300329, 262300330, 262300331, MN IR731804, MT 226192, ND 47304, NE 50145-22, 50145-23, NJ 13VH09953900, NM 408693, NV 86990, NY H-19114, H-52229, OR 218294, PA 179643, 069383, RI GC-41354, TN 10981, UT 10783658-5501, VA 2705169445, WA LEAFFN822JZ, WV WV056912.

CLASSIFIED
WWW.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM
TO ADVERTISE IN THIS PAPER, CALL BY MONDAY 11:00 AM 703-778-9411

Legals

ABC LICENSE
Hookah Lounge, LLC trading as Marrakesh Lounge, 761 B/763 A Elden Street, Herndon, VA 20170. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a retail license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Jalal Achir, Owner. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or 800-552-3200.

Legals

ABC LICENSE
Harris Teeter LLC trading as Harris Teeter Delivery Center, 6306 Gravel Ave STE D, Alexandria, Fairfax County, Virginia 22310-3218. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) AUTHORITY for a Internet Retailer; Wine and Beer Off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Taryn Mecia, Vice President Legal Compliance on behalf of Harris Teeter LLC. NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at www.abc.virginia.gov or (800) 552-3200.

Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE – Truist Bank, located at 440 Maple Ave E, Vienna, Virginia 22180, is in possession of assets owned by the following decedent, Patricia R. Dillard, who at the time of her death was domiciled outside of Virginia. In accordance with Va. Code Ann. § 64.2-609(A), Truist Bank hereby gives public notice of its intention to deliver the decedent's assets to the personal representative of decedent's estate, Michael J. Dillard, who has qualified as Personal Representative in accordance with the law of the decedent's domicile. Delivery is to be made after the lapse of thirty (30) days from the completion of due publication of this notice, pursuant to the Code, once a week for four successive weeks. Inquiries, including any notice of the appointment of a personal representative for decedent in Virginia or legal notice of any lien or encumbrance upon decedent's assets, should be directed to Truist Bank at the address above.

The Bath or Shower You've Always Wanted
IN AS LITTLE AS A DAY



\$1000 OFF*
AND
No Payments & No Interest For 18 Months*
OFFER EXPIRES 9/30/24

BCI BATH & SHOWER
CALL NOW (844) 945-1631

*Includes product and labor; bathtub, shower or walk-in tub and wall surround. This promotion cannot be combined with any other offer. Other restrictions may apply. This offer expires 9/30/24. Each dealership is independently owned and operated. **Third party financing is available for those customers who qualify. See your dealer for details. ©2024 BCI Acrylic, Inc.

Sign up for
FREE DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION
to all of our papers



www.connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

Find us on Facebook and become a fan!
www.Facebook.com/connectionnewspapers

THE CONNECTION
Newspapers & Online
The Connection to Your Community
www.connectionnewspapers.com

THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

McLean ♦ Vienna ♦ Oakton ♦ Great Falls
Reston ♦ Herndon ♦ Oak Hill
Chantilly ♦ CENTREVIEW ♦ Burke
Fairfax ♦ Springfield ♦ Fairfax Station

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

Twitter @followfairfax

An independent, locally owned weekly newspaper delivered to homes and businesses.
Published by
Local Media Connection LLC

1606 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Free digital edition delivered to your email box. Go to connectionnewspapers.com/subscribe

NEWS DEPARTMENT
fairfax@connectionnewspapers.com

Mary Kimm
Editor and Publisher
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com

Bonnie Hobbs
Community Reporter
703-778-9415
bhobbs@connectionnewspapers.com

Mercia Hobson
Staff Reporter
mhobson@connectionnewspapers.com

Mike Salmon
Contributing Writer
msalmon@connectionnewspapers.com

Ken Moore
Contributing Writer

ADVERTISING
For advertising information
sales@connectionnewspapers.com
703-778-9431

Debbie Funk
Display Advertising/National Sales
703-778-9444
debfunk@connectionnewspapers.com

David Griffin
Marketing Assistant
703-778-9431
dgriffin@connectionnewspapers.com

Classified & Employment Advertising
703-778-9431

Editor & Publisher
Mary Kimm
[@MaryKimm](mailto:mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com)

Publisher
Jerry Vernon
703-549-0004
jvernon@connectionnewspapers.com

In Memoriam
Managing Editor
Kemal Kurspahic

Art/Design:
Laurence Foong
Production Manager
Geovani Flores

CIRCULATION
Circulation Manager
Ann Oliver
circulation@connectionnewspapers.com

74th Annual Fairfax County 4-H Fair

Local 4-H members demonstrate their work.

The 74th annual Fairfax County 4-H Fair and Carnival was held at Frying Pan Farm Park in Herndon from Aug. 1-4. The event featured ticketed carnival games and rides, 4-H exhibits, and shows, fair food, live entertainment and farm animals. It also served as a showcase for 4-H members to demonstrate their work and earn accolades for their projects.

"This event was a blast to plan," said India Pearson, 4-H Extension Agent, Fairfax County. Fairfax County 4-H members work hard, living the 4-H motto, "To make the best better" a reality, she said. "This year was no exception," Pearson said.

4-H offers ten clubs in Fairfax County, each providing a specific project and allowing youth to explore various interests. For more information about Fairfax County



PHOTO VIA FACEBOOK FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

The Fairfax County 4-H Fair and Carnival

4-H programming, visit www.fairfaxcounty4h.com.

The Fairfax County Park Authority, Department of Neighborhood and Community Services, Fairfax County Office of Virginia Cooperative Extension, Fairfax County Park Foundation, and Friends of Frying Pan Farm Park partnered to present this year's event.



PHOTO FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY FAIR PROGRAM

Getting up close at the Fairfax County 4-H Fair

— MERCIA HOBSON

Providing Students Opportunities To Register To Vote

FCPS students advocate for the national High School Voter Empowerment Act.

BY MERCIA HOBSON
THE CONNECTION

As of Wednesday, Aug. 14, there are 82 days until Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 5. History verifies that every vote counts, and a single vote, even that of a high school student exercising the most fundamental right in a democratic society, could swing an election. However, that vote can only happen if the student registers to vote.

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) highlighted their July 31, 2024, TeacherDirect Bulletin with a reminder of the April 2, 2020, Code of Virginia amendment that added the provision, § 22.1-203.4 Public high schools; mandating that students have access to voter registration.

According to the legislation, "Each public high school shall provide to any enrolled student who is of voting age or is eligible to register to vote pursuant to § 24.2-403 (i) mail voter registration applications and voter registration information provided by the www.connectionnewspapers.com

Department of Elections or (ii) access to the Virginia online voter registration system on a school-owned computing device that is accessible to such student. Each student who is eligible to register to vote shall be provided the opportunity to complete an application form during the normal course of the school day."

VDOE also states in its bulletin that its history and social science program offers an informational presentation that provides additional content on school student voter registration:

"Any person who is 17 years old and will be eighteen years of age at the next general election shall be permitted to register in advance and vote in any intervening primary or special election."

Can you register to vote online? "Yes, if you have a Virginia driver's license, a learner's permit, or other DMV ID, you can. If not, then you can begin the registration process online."

Every vote matters. According to the Virginia Department of Education, in 2017, the

Virginia House of Delegates District 94 had a close vote; a recount resulted in a tie decided by drawing a name from a bowl; in 2004, a special election for the Commonwealth's attorney was held in Radford, Va., and decided by one vote.

FCPS Students Push Congressional Bills to Aid Student Voter Registration at Secondary Schools.

Students at Marshall High School in the Fairfax County Public School and others lobbied Congress to pass national legislation designating secondary schools as voter registration agencies.

On April 30, 2024, Samad Quraishi, a 3rd-year student at Marshall HS and executive director of the Centre for Voters Initiative & Action, and other student members of the Centre joined U.S. Rep. Frederica S. Wilson (D-FL-24) who introduced H.R.8192, the High School Voter Empowerment Act of 2024, and U.S. Sen. Laphonza R. Butler (D-CA), who introduced its related bill, S.4211, the High School Voter Empowerment Act of 2024. The students endorsed the bills and celebrated the introduction of the proposed legislation with elected officials. That bill has not yet become law.

Really Dina?



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

How long have we been married? Nearly 46 years, right? Yet, you felt the need to tell me, as an inducement to go to a Saturday-crowded local Farmer's Market to buy two tomatoes and six ears of corn: "Why don't you buy yourself a whoopie pie while you're there." Thanks, Dina. I hadn't thought of that. If there ever was a sentence/suggestion that didn't need to be uttered, it was that one: Get 'a whoopie pie? Are you serious? I'm getting six for \$9.95. (I wouldn't have considered running that errand if it were not for the whoopie pies at the other end.)

Certainly, Dina knows a few things about me after all these years. Things, let's say incontrovertible facts, that she never need think about. A few examples: I live and die with The Boston Red Sox, I love The Three Stooges, (the ones with Curly), I miss my late brother, Richard, I love my dog Burton, I'm no good with tools and repairs, and I love, sweets, especially chocolate-centric ones. I don't simply have a sweet tooth. I have sweet teeth.

Now was this comment from Dina a temporary lapse in her judgment or was it an early sign of older age? After all, we have been married since "before the flood," as my late mother so often said. We're not exactly spring chickens, we're more like old goats. We pretty much have been there and done that in the relationship business. We don't (or rather won't) finish one another's sentences (that would require listening attentively to what the other is saying), but we can, with reasonable confidence, list some of undeniable truths about each other. (If you think I'm going to list some of Dina's 'undeniable truths,' you're crazy. I may be a slow learner, but I'm not stupid. I wouldn't write that list with a 10-foot pen.

She could write anything she wants about me. I'm an open book, especially, every week in this space. I'm not very complicated. I do, eat, say, buy, joke and think the same things, over and over and over again. Some might say ad nauseum. I'd say more like a continuing opportunity. Dina, on the other hand is far more in tune with the real world than I am. She prefers variety in her life, except for me. I'm the exact opposite of variety. I am, to invoke an old "Firesign Theater" bit from the 70s: I'm not simply "the same old place," "I'm the old same place." Meaning, in this context anyway, I'm like Popeye the sailor man: "I y'am what I y'am." One of the great philosophers of the Baby Boomer generation.

Olive Oil never wondered if Popeye really liked spinach. If he did, he would have muttered something memorable. (Have you seen the very old Popeye cartoons? He was always muttering something under his breath. Classic stuff.) This column is sort of what I was muttering under my breath after Dina suggested that I buy myself a whoopie pie. Like I hadn't already thought of it. Thought of it? I was already thinking where I was going to hide the remaining five whoopie when I got home.

As the errand turned out, the line for produce was around the block. I was number 79. The last number I heard called was 31. That was my cue to leave - empty handed. I then went over to the bakery where the line was much shorter, and so "it wouldn't be a total loss," to invoke a favorite Three Stooges line, I did indeed buy my six whoopie pies. And they were delicious.

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

When Results Matter!

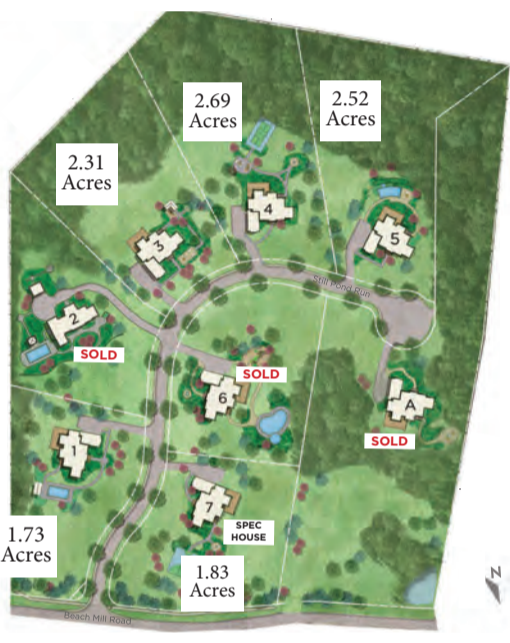
CALL ME TODAY!

703-757-3222

Sales@GreatFallsGreatHomes.com

NEW COMMUNITY

Collection homes revised and reimagined for today's lifestyles with exciting new spaces and elevations exemplifies exceptional design and attention to detail. With 4 models to choose from: Evanton, Winthrop, Vincent & Wyndham.



Great Falls \$2,999,999



Great Falls \$2,450,000



Vienna \$4,090,000



Reston \$1,399,000



McLean \$2,799,000



Great Falls \$2,399,000



Great Falls \$2,698,000



Clifton \$1,998,000



Great Falls \$2,099,000



Great Falls \$2,999,999



Great Falls \$2,599,000



Work with the #1 Realtor

DIANNE VAN VOLKENBURG

*Buy with Confidence,
Sell with Success*



YOUR HOME'S VALUE



LONG & FOSTER® REAL ESTATE

Forbes GLOBAL PROPERTIES

9841 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, VA 22066
703-759-9190 • GreatFallsGreatHomes.com

