

# MCC's 2025 Governing Board Election Culminates at McLean Day

### Dranesville Small District 1A residents are encouraged to vote during festival.

cLean, Va.— McLean Community Center encourages residents of Dranesville Small District 1A to take time to vote for candidates who are running for seats on its 11-member Governing Board while attending McLean Day activities. Voting for adults and youth is available on both days of the festival: Friday Night Carnival Rides on Friday, May 16, from 4 to 8 p.m. and on Saturday, May 17, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Residents can meet-and-greet youth candidates on Friday Night and adult candidates will be on hand to meet-and-greet at the full festival on Saturday. McLean Day is held at Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Rd.

The all-volunteer Governing Board provides oversight of MCC through policy guidance, strategic planning and financial stewardship. MCC divisions include the Robert Ames Alden Theatre and the Old Firehouse Teen Center. Three adult positions and two youth positions are open this year. The adult candidates who receive the three-highest vote counts will serve three-year (3) terms. Youth candidates, one from the McLean High School boundary area and one from the Langley High School boundary area, will serve one-year (1) terms. Youth candidates do not have to attend these schools to serve on the board.

## Adult Candidate Personal Statements

#### **Kim Anderson**

I have proudly called McLean home for 30 years. As a local business owner, I understand the community's needs and opportunities. I am running for the McLean Community Center Governing Board to help enrich



Kim Anderson

our programs, events and resources for residents of all ages. I am running for the McLean Community Center Governing Board to ensure its programs, events and resources continue to enrich residents of all ages. With experience and passion, I would be honored to serve and strengthen our community.

#### Anna Bartosiewicz

As a member of the MCC Governing Board, it has been my honor to build a strong, responsive partnership between the center's talented staff and the citizens of McLean these past three years. As a mom and McLean resident, I appreciate the MCC's fifty-year tradition of making world-class cul-

tural enrichment accessible to all of us. I am dedicated to helping MCC continue to grow and evolve as it welcomes and embraces everyone in our community. Having a place to come together strengthens



Anna Bartosiewicz

our bonds and fosters a shared sense of curiosity and belonging between neighbors.

#### Ron Keesing

I'm honored to serve as a current member of MCC's Governing Board and support its work bringing together all members of our diverse community. I'd like to continue assuring MCC delivers an extraordinary



Ron Keesing

array of services and programming; provides rich opportunities for every McLean resident to learn, play, celebrate and grow; embraces feedback to improve continuously; and strengthens our bonds as a community. As a technologist and business leader, and through my work on Fairfax County's Council on Economic Opportunity, I'll focus on making sure MCC continues to evolve and grow sustainably as it begins its next 50 years.

#### Liz Lawson

My husband, son and I moved to Northern Virginia in 2020. Since, we've attended camps, performances and festivals at MCC and have grown deeply appreciative of everything it offers our family and com-



Liz Lawson

munity. Support of the arts is incredibly important to me. I've worked in the field for 20 years, first in the music industry and currently as a New York Times bestselling author and believe my background will bring a unique perspective to MCC's Board. With your support, I'll work with the entire MCC team to help continue its tradition of diverse and inclusive programming for all.

#### **Christopher Roberts**

I've called McLean home for over 25 years. I raised my children here, and we enjoyed a wide range of programs/activities offered by MCC. I'm running for the board as a way of giving back to our community.

I've served on academic and corporate boards, and in senior management roles in public and private companies. I believe my professional experience will bring a fresh perspective to the board. If elected, I'll listen to your



**Christopher Roberts** 

feedback on existing programs and consider all suggestions and new ideas, while ensuring tax dollars entrusted to MCC are used wisely. Thank you for your vote.

#### Nan Tian

I've lived in Mc-Lean since 2009. I'm a mother of three teenage children who have benefited from numerous MCC programs for years. As an MCC board member, I will focus on expanding family-friendly events,



Nan Tian

promoting diversified cultural activities and listening to residents' needs. I hold a master's in public policy from Duke University and an MBA from the University of Maryland and have been working in international development for over 20 years. I believe in finding solutions through collaboration, innovation and teamwork, which would benefit MCC. I also volunteer in Chinese language education and advocate for the performing arts.

## Youth Candidate Personal Statements

## Langley High School Boundary Area Candidates

#### Anastasiia Dudnik-Dubiniak

My name is Anastasiia Dudnik-Dubiniak and I'm a sophomore at Langley High. My ambition of running for the MCC board is rooted in a genuine desire to enhance McLean's liveliness, vibrance and responsiveness to the diverse needs of its



Anastasiia Dudnik-Dubiniak

residents. I aim to create a lively and wel-

coming community, uniting us all by organizing inclusive and engaging events, such as movie nights, outdoor activities, fundraising events and promoting teen nonprofit startups. With my fresh perspective and dedication, I intend to amplify the voices of teens and enhance MCC's inclusivity statement by promoting a vibrant and welcoming community for all.

#### Katie Myshrall

I'm Katie Myshrall, a junior at Langley High School. I've been involved with the McLean Community Center my whole life. I've taken and taught dance classes at MCC for 12 years, and I've



Katie Myshrall

been an MCC Youth Ambassador. As a board member of the MCC, I will advocate for resources for teen events and programming. At Langley, I play in the orchestra, I'm on the varsity cheer and gymnastics teams, I'm a junior class officer and I'm an editor of the yearbook. I'm also a Gold Award Girl Scout. Please vote for me as your representative on the MCC board.

#### Aakriti Rustagi

gi, am running for the MCC Governing Board to ensure all youth in our community are represented equally and have a voice in decisions that affect them. As an MCC

I, Aakriti Rusta-



Aakriti Rustagi

Youth Ambassador, I am well-equipped with knowledge of MCC programs and services and have worked closely with youth board members. This experience has given me insight into the role's responsibilities and the dedication it requires. I am passionate, hardworking and detail-oriented and want to use my leadership skills to make a meaningful difference. I am committed to ensuring the MCC continues to support all areas of the community.

## McLean High School Boundary Area Candidates

#### **Buse Arici**

As an older sister, I've learned leadership values and responsibility from a young age. I'm running for MCC Governing Board to

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www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

# MCC's 2025 Governing Board Election

From Page 2

bring my passion for organization, determination and community to the table. Whether ľm journaling or



indulging in some chocolate, I try to reflect, grow and find joy in the simple things. Having lived in Turkey, Belgium and the USA, I've developed a global perspective that fuels my desire to create meaningful change. I strive to be part of a new generation of leaders, dedicated to serving our community and inspiring others to take part in advocating for one another.

#### Aanya Jain

I'm running to be a representative MCC the board! was born and raised in Mc-Lean and, without a



Aanya Jain

doubt, the MCC has played a pivotal role in my active involvement within my community. From a young age I was exposed to the diverse summer activities and plays kindly sponsored by MCC! Thanks to this exposure, I'm part of clubs like Raising Student Voices, where I can further my community engagement and advocacy. By getting the opportunity to serve on the board, I strive to help promote the magnificent programs MCC has and can't wait to represent the Highlanders!

#### Alexander Lee

Hello, I Alexander Lee, student at TJHSST and a former Longfellow and Chesterbrook student. I am



Alexander Lee

running for the MCC Governing Board to strengthen connections between MCC and local students. As my class council's treasurer, I have learned to listen, budget wisely and organize engaging events. I want MCC to showcase student talent in arts, innovation and more-helping young people grow and discover new possibilities. My goal is to make MCC a place where students not only

express themselves but also enjoy fun through events that bring our community together. I'd be honored to have your support!

#### Sean Noh

My name is Sean Noh, sophomore at Mc-Lean High School, and I'm running for the MCC Governing Board. Understanding



Sean Noh

the need for community advocacy, I've been a part of several public projects through my time in Raising Student Voices and our school's Environmental Committee, strengthening my organizational and collaborative skills. As a board member, I hope to cultivate an inclusive environment that voices the lives of McLean's diverse residents, pushing for growth and inclusivity in our community. I will also continue the MCC's work by bringing educational and cultural activities representing the opinions of teens in McLean.

#### Kathryn Thomas

MCC's commitment to fostering a positive youth environment and encouraging creativity is especially important to me, as it provided me

with many great experiences, allowing me to embrace others, my creativity and my community. Once participating



**Kathryn Thomas** 

in youth art classes and choir, I now showcase my artwork at the art show and enjoy McLean Day with friends. I understand the importance of giving back. In my spare time I work as a basketball and swim coach, granting me the opportunity to invest in community, something I hope to further advance as a candidate for the 2025 MCC Governing Board Election.

#### Venita Wang

Hi, I'm Venita Wang, a student at McLean High School. The MCC is a vital part of my life, and I'm passionate about giving back. I will prioritize developing innovative projects and strengthening connections between MCC and McLean residents. My goal is to ensure the

needs of our residents are met and that McLean is a welcoming and inclusive community for all. My leadership



Venita Wang

and volunteer experience, including serving as MCC Youth Ambassador and teaching at Hope Chinese School and other leadership roles have prepared me to make a real difference. Please vote Venita for the MCC Governing Board!

Write-in candidates are allowed. Write-in candidates must receive at least 10 votes from 10 residents of the center's tax district to have their votes counted. For vouth write-in candidates, the 10 votes must come from teens who live within the same high school boundary area as the candidate.

For more information on the MCC Governing Board Elections, call the center at 703-790-0123/ TTY: 711 or visit mcleancenter.org.

## A Free Family Fun Day in the Park

McLean Day 2025 is Saturday, May 17.

cLean, Va.— McLean Community Center's **l** annual party in the park, McLean Day, returns to Lewinsville Park on Friday, May 16 and Saturday, May 17. A free event that offers activities for all ages, it has been "the place to be" for more than 100 years. Beginning with Friday Night Carnival Rides from 2-10 p.m. on Friday, May 16, and continuing from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, May 17, this year's festival includes enhancements in celebration of MCC's 50th Anniversary. Admission to the festival is free; ride tickets, food and beverages will be for sale. The park is located at 1659 Chain Bridge Rd.

#### **Celebrating Its** 110th Anniversary

McLean Day has been in ex-



istence for 110 years. It began in 1915 as a school and community fundraiser put on by the McLean School and Civic League at Franklin Sherman School. Over the years, a host of community orga-

nizations kept it going until the mid-1970s when MCC began producing it and then moved it to its current home, Lewinsville Park, in 1988.

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The Governing Board and staff of the McLean Community Center (MCC) strongly encourage all qualified residents to vote for members of its 2025-2026 Governing Board.

#### **WHEN & WHERE:**

Friday, May 16, 4-8 p.m. or Saturday, May 17, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Lewinsville Park, 1659 Chain Bridge Rd.

#### **REQUIREMENTS TO VOTE**

- 1. You must be a resident of the MCC tax district (Dranesville Small District 1A); however, you need not be registered to vote in the general election.
- 2. You must be at least 18 years old on Friday, May 16, to vote for an adult candidate. Adults may vote for up to three candidates.
- 3. You must be 15 through 17 years old on Friday, May 16, to vote for youth candidates. Youth voters have two votes: one candidate in McLean High School boundary area and one candidate in Langley High School boundary
- 4. You must bring identification as proof of residency in the tax district, such as a driver's license, passport or utility bill, or you must sign a sworn affidavit statement.

In-person voting at McLean Day is open only to individuals who did not vote early by absentee ballot.

**QUESTIONS?** elections@mcleancenter.org or 703-790-0123/TTY: 711.







# A Free Family Fun Day in the Park

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#### Vote for MCC **Board Candidates**

The McLean Community Center's 2025 Governing Board Election will be held at the festival on Friday, May 16, from 4-8 p.m. at the Friday Night Carnival Rides, and on Saturday, May 17, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the festival. Fifteen Dranesville Small District 1A residents are running for seats on the board. Six adults are vying for three vacant adult seats, and nine teens are vying for two vacant student seats (one for the Langley High School boundary area and one for the McLean High School boundary area). Only residents of Dranesville Small District 1A are permitted to vote in the election. For more information, visit MCC's website, mcleancenter.org.

#### Friday Night Carnival Rides

Patrons can enjoy carnival rides on Friday, May 16, from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the park. Ticket prices vary, and some rides have height requirements. The rides are in two areas of the park, near the main entrance and toward the back of the park, where small carnival rides are located. Additionally, patrons can enjoy free bubble ball and field games on Friday night. Ride tickets and wristbands can be purchased in advance from Cole Rides through a link on the center's website, mcleancenter.org, or onsite on Friday and Saturday.

#### 50th Anniversary **Celebration Continues**

In recognition of the McLean Community Center's 50th Anniversary, several enhancements are planned for this year's festival. Virginia State Delegate Rip Sullivan and Dranesville District Supervisor Jimmy Bierman will present 50th Anniversary resolutions on the stage at the start of the event. A special 50th edition t-shirt will be offered to patrons who fill out an event survey. A 50th photo opportunity will be in the park and a free reusable water bottle will be distributed to patrons at the four information booths while they last. For more information on MCC's 50th, visit mcleancenter.org.

#### Festival Activities

Carnival amusements and rides are a big draw at McLean Dav. Large rides are in the parking lot near the main entrance. The Kids' Way area of the park offers ticketed rides especially for younger children. Popular costumed char-6 \* The Connection \* McLean Day 2025

acters will be available to interact with patrons and pose for photos on the porch of the white house. Other free activities include bubble ball, two rock-climbing walls, balloon twisters, a magician jugglers and a petting zoo.

#### Live Performances Onstage

Free performances will be offered throughout the festival on the Community Stage, which is centrally located. Students enrolled in dance classes at MCC will open the show at 11:05 a.m. by performing several routines they have learned. At noon, (the) Unruly Theatre Project, The Alden's teen improv group, will perform. MCC dance students will return to perform again at 12:30 p.m. At 2:15, The Sounds of Soul will perform the first of three sessions. Performing a combination of Motown classics mixed with some of the greatest pop and R&B hits ever written, the outstanding singers, dancers and songwriters of this group maintain a performance schedule of more than 325 shows per year. The show features hits from The Temptations, The Four Tops, Aretha Franklin, Whitney Houston, The Supremes, Lionel Richie, Tina Turner, Barry White, and more! McLean Citizens Association will present the Teen Character Awards at 3 p.m. followed by the return of The Sounds of Soul for a second show at 3:15 p.m. and a final performance at 4:15 p.m. There is also a Jugglers' Stage, located in the children's ride area, with free performances throughout the event.

#### Food and Beverage **Options Abound**

Returning this year is the Mc-Lean Day Beer and Wine Garden, offering a variety of beer and wine for patrons age 21 or older. In addition, some of the area's best gourmet food trucks will be on hand to

serve the crowds in the food court.

#### **Transportation Options Abound**

Parking is not available at Lewinsville Park on the day of the festival. Patrons can take free Fairfax Connector shuttles from three satellite locations to McLean Day. Free shuttle buses will run from the parking sites to the park starting at 10:25 a.m. and running through 6 p.m.

#### Shuttle Satellite Routes are as follows:

Red - McLean Baptist Church, 1367 Chain Bridge Rd, McLean, VA 22101, McLean, VA 22101. Patrons should meet the buses at the church entrance in the parking lot.

Yellow - McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Ave., Mc-Lean VA 22101. Patrons should meet near the main entrance of the center where signage indicates.

Blue – Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1545 Chain Bridge Rd., McLean, VA 22101. Patrons should meet the buses at the church entrance in the parking lot.

Patrons can also take Fairfax Connector Route 721 to stop ID 5429 for just \$2 each way. All Fairfax Connector Shuttles to McLean Dav are air-conditioned, ADA and wheelchair accessible, have low floor ramps or are lift-equipped. They also have two bike racks and allow service animals. For more information, visit the MCC website, mcleancenter.org.

#### Sponsors Help Make McLean Day Happen

McLean Day is produced by the McLean Community Center. Community-minded local businesses enhance festival offerings. To date, this year's sponsors are: Wheat's Landscaping (Park Beautification), Fairfax County Connector (Event



## McLean Day 2025 is Saturday, May 17.

Transportation); Fairfax County Park Authority (Venue), MARS, Inc. (Marketplace), McLean Properties (Picnic Tent - Food Court), Johns Hopkins Community Physicians (Picnic Tent - Kids' Way), Northwest Federal Credit Union (Balloon Twisters) and Lafayette Federal Credit Union (Climbing Walls).

#### Clean and Comfortable for All

For a third year, MCC has taken efforts to help McLean Day stay clean and green by hiring a company to manage and process all the waste and recyclable materials generated at the event. Patrons are encouraged to help by using the proper bins when disposing of items throughout the event.

#### **Additional Information**

Patrons are encouraged to be aware of their surroundings and

report suspicious activities to MCC staff, Police and Fire personnel. Balloons and controlled substances are not permitted on the park grounds. Only alcohol purchased from the MCC contracted beer and wine garden will be permitted onsite and within the designated area. Patrons are requested not to smoke cigarettes or vape on park grounds. Political candidates, exhibitors and other venders must contain their activities to their assigned booths. Soliciting or pamphleting is not allowed on the grounds of the park during Mc-

For festival updates, driving directions, shuttle bus stop locations and a festival area map, visit: mcleancenter.org/special-events or call MCC at 703-790-0123/TTY: 711. The center's telephone will be answered from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the day of the festival.

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# McLean Day 2025

## Guide to Sponsors, Exhibitors and Food

## Celebrating Our Hometown since 1915!

(See Map, Pages 4&5)

At press time, exhibitors include:

## **Sponsors**

Wheats

Connector Fairfax

Fairfax County Park Authority

Rotary Club of McLean

Mars

McLean Properties

Johns Hopkins

Lafayette Federal

Northwest Federal

### **General Exhibitors**

**Amaryllis Author Collective** 

**American Legion Post 270** 

**Bach to Rock** 

**Broadway Dental Association** 

**Capital Remodeling** 

**Christian Science Reading Room** 

Broadway Dental Associates - Dental Center of Tyson's Cor-

ner

**Dolley Madison Library** 

**Dranesville District Democratic Committee** 

Dranesville District Supervisor James N. Bierman Jr.

Fairfax County Department of Public Works Solid Waste

Management

Fairfax County Republican Committee

**Generations Wealth Management** 

Golden Agers LLC DBA Nurse Next Door McLean

**Golden Boot Soccer** 

**Green Valley Custom Builders** 

Heidi Pix

**IGWECO** 

**Integrated Psychology Associated Associates of McLean** 

**JaSole** 

**Langley Hill Friends Meeting** 

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

Maid Brigade of Alexandria

Mathnasiam of McLean

McLean Baptist Church

**McLean Citizens Association** 

**McLean Community Players** 

**McLean Family Dentistry** 

**McLean Trees Foundation** 

My Gym McLean

Nova Spine & Rehab Center

**Nuthing Bundt Cake** 

Palmerecare Chiropractic McLean

**Paw Mind Body** 

**Pet Evolution** 

**Prince William Home Improvement** 

**Primis Bank** 

Renewal by Anderson

**Riverbend Park** 

**Roof-ER** 

**Skinspirit McLean** 

**Stemtree Education Center of Vienna** 

The Brooksfield School

The Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints

Timber Pizza

Winsome For Governor

Fairfax-Falls Church Community Service Board

**Veterans of Foreign War Post 8241** 

## Marketplace

**AI For Abilities** 

**B Fabric Art** 

**Charles Schwab** 

**Chesterbrook United Methodist Church** 

**Craftmans Auto Care** 

DAR

**Dua Jewelers** 

**Fairfax County Public Schools** 

**Gwen's Blends** 

Just For You Baskets

**Lucite Creations** 

Manjul Rainzda

McLean Area AAUW

**McLean Historical Society** 

Musicfully

**National Capital Lyme Disease Associates** 

**NBJ Basket of Jewels** 

Plane Art

Sadiyas Touch

Sidney's Portraits

Friends of Pleasant Grove

The Nassar Group of Compass

**Ukraine Aid** 

Virginia Players Alliance

"WE" Adore Wood

**Wick Bliss A Candle Company** 

**Yniverse Studios** 













## McLean Community Center

The Center of It All

### **CLASSES**

- Fitness & **Culinary Arts**
- Dog Training
- Dance & Music Together
- Seniors in Action

## **SPECIAL EVENTS**

- McLean Day
- Independence **Fireworks**
- McLean 5k
- Holiday Art & Crafts Festival

## THE ALDEN **THEATRE**

- Professional **Artist Series**
- Summer Concerts
- Kids & Family Series
- Films & Lectures

## THE OLD **FIREHOUSE**

- Summer Camps
- After School **Programs** School Break
- Trips
- Family Events

1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean, VA 22101 703-790-0123, TTY: 711

mcleancenter.org







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