Newcomers & Community Guide

Fairfax Connection
Serving Areas of Burke

Insiders Edition 2013-2014

The Old Fairfax County Courthouse outside the corner of Chain Bridge Road and Main Street in the City of Fairfax.

Sightseeing in the Fairfax Area

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Obsessed With Politics? Fairfax County Welcomes You!

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Photo by Steve Hibbard/The Connection

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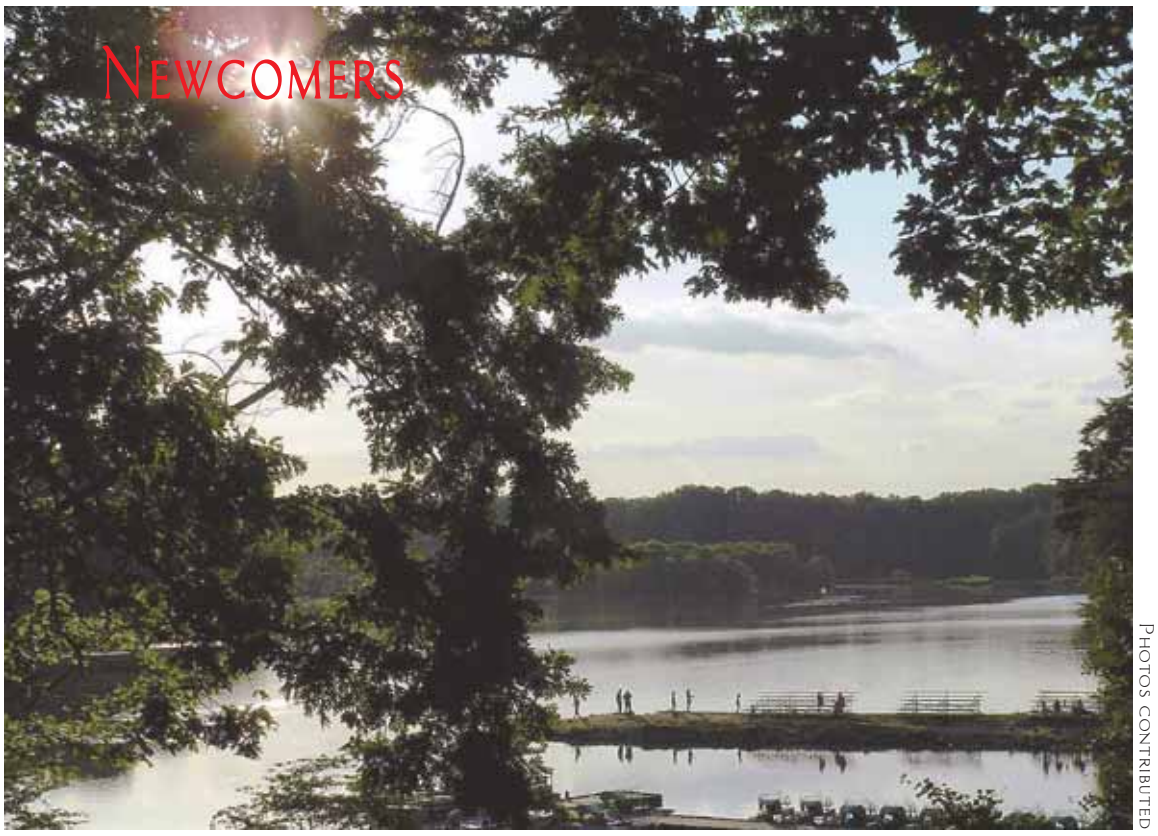

Photos contributed

If you are a bicyclist, there are many opportunities for you and your family to enjoy nature and a scenic ride. In addition to Accotink and Royal Lake trails, the Pohick Stream Valley Trail is part of the larger, 40-mile-long Cross Country Trail that runs from north to south across Fairfax County. The trail was recently extended to allow access between the VRE stations at Rolling Road and Burke Centre.

Be a Braddock Insider

What every newcomer should know about living, working and playing in the Braddock District.

By Supervisor John Cook (R-Braddock) and his staff of "insiders."

Braddock is very much a district of neighborhoods, a rarity in busy and booming Fairfax. Stretching from Annandale to the far edge of Fairfax by the Fairfax County Government Center, we are located in the center of Fairfax County. Braddock District contains key roads for the county such as Route 50, Route 29, Little River Turnpike, Braddock Road, the Fairfax County Parkway, Old Keene Mill, Rolling Road and 495. We are proud to have two institutes of higher learning, George Mason University and Northern Virginia Community College, which attract students from all over the world. Here's a short list of some must-do, must-see places, events and opportunities for newcomers (and old-timers) alike.

Wakefield Skatepark is one of two parks for skateboarders. Located at the Audrey Moore Rec Center, the park has been carefully designed and recently expanded to offer fun and excitement for any level of skateboarder.

POPULAR EATERIES

*Kilroys in the Ravensworth Shopping Center, Springfield
*Great Harvest Bread Company in Burke Town Center, Burke
*Josies Ice Cream & Frozen Yogurt in Burke Town Center, Burke
*Brions Grill in University Mall, Fairfax
*Swiss Bakery in Ravensworth Shopping Center, Springfield

GETTING AROUND—THE VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS STATION

The Virginia Railway Express (VRE) is a commuter rail service that operates Monday through Friday, from the Northern Virginia suburbs to Washington D.C. The VRE Station is a popular mode of transportation for many commuters. We have one location in the District at 10399 Premier Court, Burke, Virginia 22015. VRE does not operate service on weekends or federal holidays. For additional information, go to their website at www.vre.org.

HOW WE CAN HELP YOU—THE BRADDOCK DISTRICT STAFF

Our office is located at 9002 Burke Lake Road in Burke. Contact us at braddock@fairfaxcounty.gov or by calling 703-425-9003. We maintain office hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.
*Kiel Stone, chief of staff: Media Contacts, Boards & Commissions, Fairfax County Budget, Transportation Policy and Business Issues.
*Rosemary Ryan, senior staff assistant for Legislative Services: Land Use, Stormwater Management, Trash & Recycling, Senior Services, Environmental Issues and Facilities Management.
*Ann Sharp, senior staff assistant for Constituent Services: Braddock District Council (BDC), HOA's and Civic Associations, George Mason University, Northern Virginia Community College, Zoning Complaints, Health Code Violations, Road Maintenance, Traffic Calming, Parking Districts, Utilities, Crime and County History.
*Lindsey Smith, senior staff assistant for Administration: Scheduling, Office Management, Emergency Response, Braddock Neighborhood News, Information Technology, Park Issues, Animal Control, Website, Arts and Braddock Nights.
*Charlie Szold, communications director: Media Relations, Social Media, The Braddock Beacon, Cook Advisory, Braddock Website, Letters of Recognition.
*Rhiannon Duck, legislative aide: Human Services, Housing, Homelessness, Agigin/50+ issues, Tax issues.

BRADDOCK HALL IN THE BRADDOCK DISTRICT OFFICE

Located at 9002 Burke Lake Road in Burke, Braddock Hall offers area residents, not-for-profits, and community and

See Opportunities, Page 28

Sharon Bulova

Photo contributed

Welcome to Fairfax County!

By Sharon Bulova
Chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

Hello and welcome to Fairfax County! Congratulations on finding the best place in the country to live, work, play and grow older comfortably. Fairfax County is home to a fantastic public school system, top tier businesses and some of the best parks and open spaces in the DC Metro region.

The Fairfax County Public School system is consistently ranked among the best in America. We have a new superintendent, Dr. Karen Garza, and I look forward to working with her to make our world class school system even better.

Fairfax County is also home to wonderful institutes of higher learning. Northern Virginia Community College, with campuses in Annandale and all over Northern Virginia, boasts Guaranteed Access Agreements offering an affordable path to all Virginia's highly-rated public universities. NOVA also partners with the region's high schools to offer dual enrollment opportunities, giving students a head start on their college education. George Mason University in 2012 was named the top "Up-and-Coming University" by U.S. News and World Report. Mason was just this summer recognized as a top 100 university for research by Forbes magazine.

Fairfax County is home to almost 50 corporate or U.S. headquarters of major firms, and 10 Fortune 500 company headquarters. Hilton, Volkswagen, Bechtel and Northrop Grumman have all moved their corporate or U.S. headquarters to Fairfax County since 2007.

But it's not all big business here. About 97 percent of the companies in Fairfax County are small businesses with fewer than 100 employees and less than $1 million in annual revenue. Our business community is also diverse, boasting the largest number of foreign-owned firms in the region. Through the first six months of this year, our Economic Development Authority worked with 87 companies that will add more than 2,800 jobs to the county economy.

Fairfax County is home to more than 48,000 acres of parks and open space, and over 500 miles of hiking and biking trails. In 2010, our Park Authority won the coveted Gold Medal for Parks and Recreation from the National Recreation and Park Association and the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration.

As chairman of the Board of Supervisors, I am elected at-large by all registered voters in Fairfax County. If you have any questions or concerns, please email me at chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov or call my office at 703-324-2321. Thanks for making Fairfax County your home!

Newcomers

Mayor's Welcome to the City of Fairfax

By Scott Silverthorne

On behalf of the members of the Fairfax City Council, I want to welcome you.

Less than 20 miles outside our nation's capital, the City of Fairfax has played an important role throughout the history of the Commonwealth of Virginia and our nation. The city's size of 6.3 square miles and 23,000 residents gives our community the feel of a small town, while providing all the amenities of living in a large metropolitan area.

Our city enjoys a vibrant and historical downtown, strong business and residential communities, and an exciting variety of arts, cultural and recreational opportunities unparalleled in the Washington, D.C. area. We also have one of the nation's premier universities, George Mason University, adjacent to our community.

Over the past several years, we have been recognized for three significant achievements in local government:

❖ Forbes Magazine ranked the City of Fairfax one of the top three best places to live in the United States for a community of our size.

❖ Achieved AAA bond status—the highest credit rating attainable, citing the city's budget management, strong reserves and conservative fiscal management.

❖ The National Recreation and Parks Association awarded the City of Fairfax a Gold Medal at its National Congress. Only four jurisdictions have won this award in Virginia since its inception in 1965.

The City of Fairfax has also experienced tremendous progress over the past decade. We have invested in a new community center, new public library, a renovated and expanded City Hall, new police station, four public schools

See Mayor, Page 27

the best of my life

primary care nutrition screening specialists comprehensive care

Virginia's Largest Health System is now in Northern Virginia bringing a unique wellness focus to the region. Through the Sentara Healthcare 'Transformation of Care' initiative, we are leading change in collaborative care to support you in your goals for a lifetime of good health.

Comprehensive Care
Sentara Northern Virginia Medical Center
Sentara Weight Loss Center
Sentara Heart and Vascular Center
Sentara Northern Virginia Comprehensive Breast Center
Sentara Lake Ridge Emergency Care and Advanced Imaging
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Newcomers

Chamber Gives Voice to Businesses

The Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce (Fairfax Chamber), the Voice of Business in Northern Virginia, represents 650 member companies with nearly 500,000 employees throughout the region. Since 1925, the chamber has been working to build a strong business community by providing unparalleled access to business development and thought leadership opportunities; professional development and mentoring; business advocacy and strategic community partnerships.

From small, entrepreneurial startups to some of the country's largest corporations—businesses have leveraged the chamber to raise their profiles, grow revenue and develop new business relationships. The chamber facilitates industry-focused councils, thought leadership groups, community partnerships and many other opportunities for its member companies to expand their networks and raise their profiles in the highly competitive Northern Virginia market.

Photo contributed

Jim Corcoran, president & CEO, Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce

Visit www.FairfaxChamber.org for more information about the organization, members and events.

Chambers

FAIRFAX COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The chamber facilitates industry-focused councils, thought leadership groups, community partnerships and many other opportunities for its more than 600 member companies to expand their networks and raise their profiles in the highly competitive Northern Virginia market. http://www.fairfaxchamber.org/ or 703-479-9075.

CENTRAL FAIRFAX CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The chamber provides information and programs to businesses throughout Fairfax and was previously known as the City of Fairfax Chamber of Commerce. http://www.cfcc.org/.

LATVIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN THE AMERICAS

The Fairfax-based organization provides resources to Latvian-lead businesses, as well as American businesses hoping to expand into Latvia. http://www.latchamamericas.org.

SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSION

As part of the commonwealth's Division of Legislative Services, the commission provides resources and support to the businesses. http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpsm/osb/sbc/.

GREATER MERRIFIELD BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

The association provides advertising and networking opportunities in Vienna and parts of Fairfax. http://www.greatermerrifield.org.

PAKISTAN AMERICAN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION INC.

PABA is a non-profit, bilateral trade association that promotes business opportunities between Pakistan and the United States of America, and nurtures leadership skills within the Pakistani American business community. 703-627-1500 or http://www.pabausa.org/.

NORTHERN VIRGINIA BLACK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Alexandria-based organization provides resources to black-owned businesses in Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William counties. http://www.novabcc.org/.

ASIAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Located in Tysons, it offers programs to Asian and Pacific business communities in the region. http://www.asian-americanchamber.org/.

HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

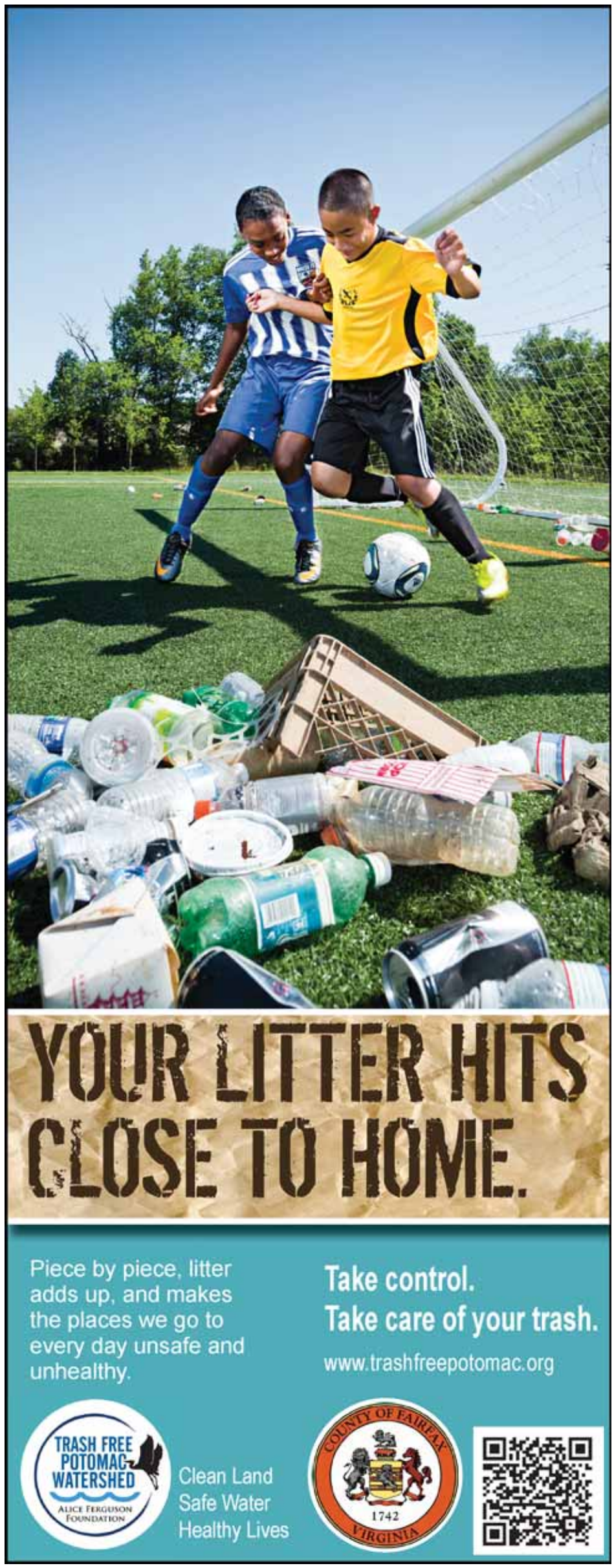
Located in Herndon, the organization serves Hispanic-lead businesses and those that work with the Hispanic community in the area. http://www.hccnva.org/.

US LEBANESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

A privately held business association founded in 2010 offering networking and resources to Lebanese Americans. 703-761-4949.

AFGHAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

AACC provides resources to members through business advice, conferences, seminars, networking events, publications and other avenues to stimulate U.S.-Afghanistan business and investment; also, sector-based Working Groups seek to reduce impediments to business and market progress for members. AACC also serves as a link between the private sector and government to encourage economic policies that result in increased business and investment between the U.S. and Afghanistan. 703-442-5005 or http://www.a-acc.org/.



Opinion

About the Connection

Newcomers and Community Guide 2013-2014

Editorial

As your local, weekly newspaper, the Vienna-Oakton Connection's mission is to bring the local news you need, to gather information about the best things in and near your community, to advocate for community good, to provide a forum for dialogue on local concerns, and to celebrate and record milestones and events in community and people's lives.

Here in our Newcomers and Community Guide, we've included an expanded and updated insider's look at the parks, plus details of how to vote in the upcoming elections, information on local government, nonprofits and business organizations, 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 e-mail or call us, contact us on Facebook or send us a tweet. We invite you to send letters to the editor or to send an e-mail 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, 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.

The paper you're reading, the Vienna—Oakton Connection 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.

The Connection Newspapers have won hundreds of press awards in just the past few years, including the Virginia Press Association Award for Journalistic Integrity and Community Service, and awards in news, art, business, special projects, sports, entertainment, design, photography, and much more.

We have staff and contributors here at the Connection with remarkable talent and experience, far greater than one might expect. While the last few years have brought many challenges to the newspaper business everywhere, affecting us as well, we continue to publish 15 distinct papers every week that serve their communities in distinct ways.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Email to editors@connectionnewspapers.com or submit online at http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/contact/letter/.

CONTACT:

Vienna-Oakton Connection, vienna@connectionnewspapers.com.

For advertising information, email sales@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9431.

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— Mary Kimm,
mkimm@connectionnewspapers.com,
@marykimm

Supervisors Give Us Their Best "Insider" Tips

Insiders' Tips

Fairfax County has a fantastic park and library system, with tons of activities to enjoy. One of my personal favorites is the Cardboard Boat Regatta at Lake Accotink Park every summer.

—Sharon Bulova

Everyone should experience Clifton Day at least once and discover one of the best kept secrets in Fairfax County—the magic and beauty of Clifton. It's a great day out in a beautiful town where you can sample all sorts of handicrafts, try some wine from the local winery, enjoy some delicious BBQ from the Clifton Lions Club (100 percent of proceeds go to charity) and finish the day with an ice cream at Peterson's. It's a fantastic day out for the whole family. This year's Clifton Day is on October 13th.

—Pat Herrity
(Springfield District Supervisor)

Newcomers to Dranesville should visit our beautiful Potomac riverfront parks. Scotts Run in McLean offers fantastic hiking trails and great views of the Potomac. Riverbend Park and Great Falls National Park in Great Falls have visitor centers, great trails, spectacular river views and scenic picnic areas.

—John W. Foust
(Dranesville District Supervisor)

My insider tip? Check out Merrifield!! There's more to Merrifield than a lot of people realize. We have new development going on around the Metro Station too—residential, retail, restaurants. Another new restaurant near the station opened just last week. Coming sometime this month the restaurants in the renovated Upscale Resale building (east of Merrifield Gardens on Lee Highway) will be opening too. Things are happening all over Merrifield.

—Linda Smyth
(Providence District Supervisor)

One of the hidden jewels in Fairfax County is the Centreville Historic District. This little village area is tucked away from the hectic pace of everyday life but is a remarkable presentation of the evolution of Fairfax County. While the primary reason it is remembered is its important role during the Civil War it was also the frontier for colonial America and the Gateway to the West. It also became one of the first suburbs in America during the 1920's and 30's when cars and housing became affordable to working class Americans and roads began to be built. Pieces of life from all these periods are preserved in the little village of Centreville!

—Michael Frey
(Sully District Supervisor)

Fairfax Connection

www.ConnectionNewspapers.com

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

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2012 Award Winning Newspaper
Virginia Press Association

Girl Scout

Local Girl Scout Troop Earns Bronze Award

Girl Scout Junior Troop # 1742 in Fairfax will be completing their efforts to earn the Bronze Award, a leadership adventure and the highest honor a Girl Scout Junior can achieve. In their pursuit to make a difference, these 12 girls from Willow Springs Elementary School chose to raise awareness and to support the research efforts of Cockayne Syndrome (CS), a rare disease that touched the life of one of the troop members in a very personal way. The disease results in slow growth in babies as well as rapid aging (a form of progeria). As part of their project, the girls researched the syndrome, spoke with families affected by the disease and collectively planned ways they could disseminate information to their neighborhood and to a broader population. They developed an informational brochure and a poster display and designed a plan to support the Cockayne Syndrome International Conference.

After months of research, planning and hard work, the girls began their campaign on Sunday, July 28 by hosting a lemonade stand in a local neighborhood and by serving treats while they shared information about the syndrome. The girls will culminate their efforts with participation in the Cockayne Syndrome International Conference in Alexandria Aug. 1-4. At the conference, the troop will split into smaller groups that rotate jobs over the course of three days. At the welcoming dinner, two girls will present a check from Troop 1742 to the CS Foundation. During the camp-in party, four girls will interact with the CS children and their siblings through a play, games and activities; and, on Saturday, the final group of girls will have a display in the lobby with the brochures and a poster featuring the information they researched on CS. The display is open to the general public as well as to conference attendees.

For more information or to assist with the troop's outreach, please contact Jann Canestra at 703-229-9994.

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Alternative Traditional Worship offered during 11 am worship
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Family Night for all ages, Wed. 7:15 pm
Children's Ministries and Nursery at All Services
Prayer services, home life groups & sports ministry
Discipleship - Mike Colón, Sr. Assoc. Pastor
& College/Young Adult Ministry

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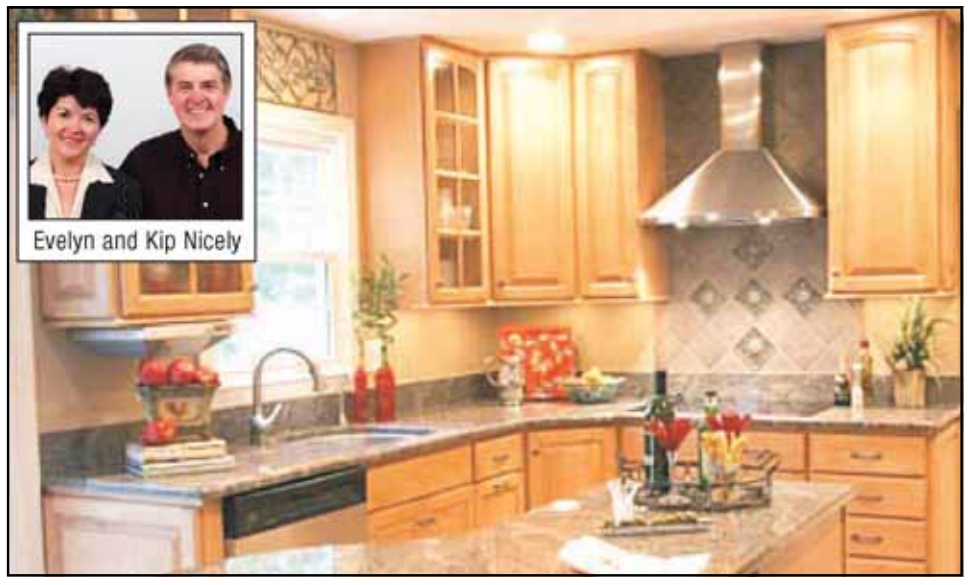

Are you living with an out-of-date kitchen? Not enough space for your dishes...much less to entertain guests the way you would like? For most people, the main purposes of a kitchen are to cook, eat and socialize. Why not own a kitchen that allows all of that to happen with ease?

Family owned and operated by Evelyn and Kip Nicely, Nicely Done Kitchens is dedicated to making sure each and every client is amazed with their new kitchen.

Evelyn and her highly professional team of designers strive to make every one of your ideas come true, while offering valuable recommendations from their years of experience. They will also take care of all the measuring, construction logistics and tedious details.

Feel free to stop by their newly-remodeled showroom to browse the gorgeous displays and get ideas for your new kitchen.

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The American Institute of Architects (AIA)
The American Society of Interior Designers (ASID)
The SEN Design Group (SEN), Nationally Ranked #5
The National Association of Remodeling Industry (NARI)
The Better Business Bureau of Washington, D.C. (BBB)

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News

Best Educated, Most Diverse

By Gerald Gordon

If you are a new resident of Fairfax County, or an employee working for a company new to the county, welcome!

You are in one of the most dynamic communities in the nation. Fairfax County has one of the best-educated and most diverse populations anywhere. We work at companies and organizations that provide critical goods and services to the community, nation and the world. And, we have a cosmopolitan quality of life that features great schools, parks, the arts and libraries as well as quick access to everything that Washington, D.C., has to offer.

You are part of a community that is the economic engine of the Washington metropolitan area and the Commonwealth of Virginia. We work hard to attract and retain the kind of diversified business base that provides high-quality jobs and brings in the best and brightest.

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors strongly supports this business growth because a strong economic base provides the means to offer high-quality public services for those who live and work here while minimizing the cost of those services for residents. That consistent support means that Fairfax County will continue to be a great place to work and to live for decades to come. Welcome!

Gerald L. Gordon, Ph.D. is president and CEO of the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority.

NEWCOMERS

Where to Find 'Mayor Scott' Burgers

City of Fairfax Mayor Scott Silverthorne gives "insider tips" to newcomers.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF FAIRFAX

City of Fairfax Mayor Scott Silverthorne

Q: Being mayor of the City of Fairfax has to be the ultimate "insider" position. What tips do you have for someone new to the city?

A: Volunteer, volunteer, volunteer! The best way to get to know your new community, and to get connected and engaged is to volunteer. There are so many boards, festivals and community associations in the city. I would suggest someone new to town to check out our new website, which lists a number of great ways for newcomers to get involved.

Q: Do you have a favorite restaurant or mom-and-pop bakery?

A: Believe it or not, the City of Fairfax has 180 restaurants, and I have done my best to go to as many as I possibly can. What I think is special is that we have a great variety of ethnic restaurants, something for every taste. Without picking, there really is a restaurant for everyone. If you haven't been to P.J. Skidoos in a while, you might notice something new on their menu. They have a "Mayor Scott" burger. I think it's bacon cheeseburger.

Q: Do you have a favorite park, bike or hiking trail?

A: I grew up adjacent to Daniels' Run Park, and it's always been my favorite. It's quiet, and has great biking and walking trails. You may not know this, but I was the "father" of the open-space initiative to devote 20 percent of land to parks. There are several other parks I like, but Daniels Run is still the prettiest and quietest park.

Q: Is there an organization or group you would recommend that newcomers join?

A: I think it depends on the person, but we are fortunate to have many strong service organizations. There's The Rotary, The Garden Club, Kiwanis Club, etc. We have so many great organizations that contribute to our community. There are so many different avenues and opportunities you can take to get involved. Service organizations are a great way to get started.

Q: What are the must-see/must-do events coming up in Fairfax?

A: Our fall festival is right around the corner. We typically have about more than 20,000 people visit for the festival. Really, we have a festival or event every other month, and there's always something to do. There's the Holiday Craft Festival, Fourth of July parade and fireworks, Spotlight on the Arts, Chocolate Lover's Festival.

Q: What would be on your personal list of things to do, places to see if you knew you were moving out of town?

A: Well, there's a little-known secret at the Fairfax Courthouse. George Washington's will is there, not at Mount Vernon. I haven't seen it, but that would be on my list. Also, see the original Fairfax Courthouse, built in 1799. It's all been restored, and they host weddings and other events. Also Old Town Hall, the Sherwood Community Center and historic Blenheim are must-see places.

Q: What makes the City of Fairfax special and distinct?

A: We are in the midst of a large area, yet we retain a unique sense of place and small-town feel that larger jurisdictions lose. There's a big difference between Fairfax County and City of Fairfax. For a small city, we have a lot going on, and I think people get the best of both worlds here.

Q: Anything new and notable?

A: Actually, yes. In a few weeks, we will debut a brand new website. It is the first major redo in 10 years, and it's awesome. One of the key features is functionality. Residents can find information quickly, pay bills, look-up events, those kinds of things. I would also like it to be a marketing arm, to promote the city, new businesses and all we have to offer.

—To find out more about the City of Fairfax, go to www.fairfaxva.gov.

—VICTORIA ROSS

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NEWCOMERS

Top Neighborhood Issues In the Braddock District

JOHN COOK
SUPERVISOR
(R-BRADDOCK DISTRICT)

Supervisor John Cook.

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Supporting HOA's and Civic Associations

We have more than 140 neighborhood associations in my district, a great testament to our residents' commitment to giving back to their community. Through my office, we're working hard to reach out to neighborhood leaders to give them whatever information and support they need. This September we're going to hold a "summit" to bring leaders from all HOA/CA's together to talk about what does and does not work in their neighborhoods. I think it will provide a great opportunity for connections to be made and ideas to be exchanged. The event will be Sept. 23 at 7:30 p.m. in the Kings Park Library. We live in an absolutely spectacular area, and much of that has to do with the dedicated women and men volunteering in their communities.

Residential Studio Housing Units

The Board of Supervisors is currently considering a change to the Fairfax County zoning code that would allow smaller, more affordable studio housing units to be built. A studio is a unit without a separate bedroom. This change is in response to the growing demand for these units, fueled both by a need to provide housing for those less fortunate and people with disabilities, as well as for young professionals looking for affordable options at the start of their careers. The new units should help some people live closer to work thereby reducing commuting times, give young people an opportunity to move out of their parents' homes, and increase transit use. The changes are designed to ensure that illegal boarding houses cannot become legal as studio unit buildings. The new units will not be large or numerous enough to change the character of our neighborhoods, but will allow private builders to meet a demand in the market. This proposal is being crafted very carefully by the Board of Supervisors, and I think it will ultimately be a significant benefit for Fairfax County.

> "As new residents to our district, I hope you will join your neighbors in pledging to drive slowly and safely, especially in residential areas."
> —Supervisor John Cook (R- Braddock)

Braddock Road Widening

There's going to be a transportation revolution in Fairfax County in the coming years as we continue working to connect this area to important job centers in and out of the county. As part of this ongoing effort, there are preliminary plans underway for the widening of Braddock Road between Burke Lake Road and 495. The road is already well over capacity, and can be a serious bottleneck at times. By widening the road, and adding Bus/HOV lanes, we can alleviate car traffic and help improve public transportation options for residents. In particular, the new Connector bus that uses the 495 Express Lanes will be able to run even faster, providing quick, easy and cheap service to Tysons. The troublesome intersection at Wakefield Chapel and Danbury Drive would also likely be fixed as part of construction. Look for a community planning meeting in 2014.

Neighborhood Speeding

We have all seen it, and worse, many of us have done it. The fact

SEE TOP ISSUES, PAGE 11

Top Issues

From Page 10

is it is dangerous, and puts our children at risk. I have pushed the board to address speeding in our neighborhoods. At my urging, the county has designed a public relations campaign urging people to slow down. Now the Board of Supervisors needs to fund it. We also need to restore funding for traffic calming in our neighborhoods. As new residents to our district, I hope you will join your neighbors in pledging to drive slowly and safely, especially in residential areas. If you think your neighborhood needs traffic calming, please contact me and I'll see what I can do.

Stormwater Management Ordinance

Stormwater runoff is a big water quality issue, particularly for places like Fairfax, which lies within the Chesapeake Bay watershed. In a more natural condition, land, which acts as a kind of filter, would soak up the rain. However, in a developed area like Fairfax, the water flows off of buildings and right over roads and parking lots, accumulating pollutants along the way. This water leads to storm drains, which lead directly to streams, not to a wastewater treatment facility.

Anything that goes down a storm drain goes directly to the nearest stream and ultimately to the Chesapeake Bay. As both federal and state regulations have been tightened on stormwater runoff, more and more stormwater management controls have been put into place. Currently, in response to actions coming from federal and state requirements, Fairfax County is developing a Stormwater Management Ordinance.

This will have a number of impacts, particularly on how development will manage stormwater runoff. Depending on the size of the development, this ordinance will require both new home builders and commercial developers to install facilities on site that handle the stormwater runoff, and could affect existing homeowners as well. I am working to reduce the impact on existing homeowners and to strike an appropriate balance between controlling runoff and not over-regulating private property. The board will continue reviewing this issue before the December 2013 deadline set by the state.

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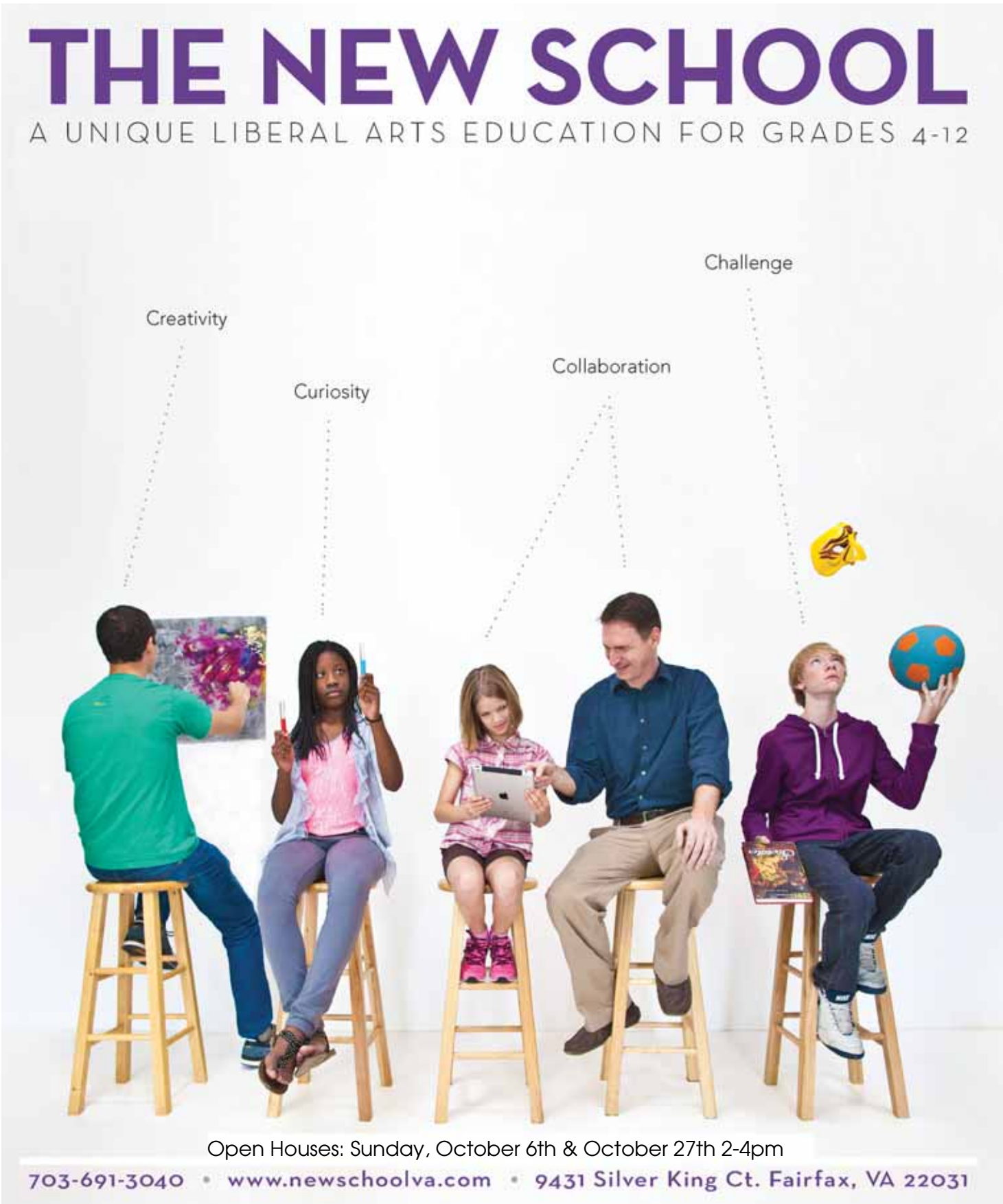

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Newcomers

Insiders' Tips

"Since I lived by Wolf Trap, years ago, they used to have fireworks on July 4th. Living here in The Virginian, it's convenient to stores and shopping centers. There are many activities at The Virginian—it's your choice. Every day there's something going on—exercise, Bingo, Bridge, card games and entertainment at night."
—Gladys Hane, 77, who lived in Vienna 44 years and worked as a preschool teacher at St. Paul's Lutheran in Falls Church.

"I have a great sense of security and well being here in The Virginian. It's a great area, being next to the district, with its monuments and variety of museums. In general, it's a wonderful place to live. I thoroughly enjoyed going out to Redskins Park and have had season tickets for the Redskins since 1992."
—Frank Reynolds, 83, who worked for the CIA and U.S. Air Force Reserve; originally from Louisiana and moved to Arlington in 1956.

What are some of the best things about living here?

Interviews conducted on Friday, Aug. 16 at The Virginian senior living community along Route 50 in Fairfax.

"The thing I really like is you have a lot of parks and walking trails. One of the best things is I don't have to cook; they've spoiled me rotten. There are lots of activities and trips to The Kennedy Center, to the shopping centers. I've gone over to tell stories to the students in the preschool next door."
—Tuck Wilson, 91, an Air Force wife married to an airline pilot, originally from Georgia.

"It's a taste of people from all walks of life and nationalities. I'm busy all the time. I'm chairman of the Health Care Committee [at The Virginian] and work as a liaison between nurses and patients. I love the greenery, the beautiful trees. I did ballroom dancing for 45 years.
—Jane Howard, 86, a military wife originally from El Paso, Texas, with four children.

"It's a nice place to live. People here are exceptionally nice. Every day I walk five miles a day—with five walks a day. If you don't exercise, you won't live long. Those muscles have to be used."
—Ocie Aston, 91, originally from Suffolk, Va., married for 65 years, and owned a fire alarm business.

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State Senator Marsden Shares 'Insider Tips' With Newcomers

Where to find Del. David Bulova bartending (maybe), and feel free to call Senator Marsden.

Photo by Victoria Ross/The Connection

State Sen. Dave Marsden (D-37) standing in front of Virginia's historic State Capitol building in Richmond last February.

Q: What tips do you have for newcomers to the city?

A: The possibilities for getting involved in a new community are endless. Throw yourself a "welcome to the neighborhood party" by having your new neighbors over. Join a civic club, Lions, rotary, etc. Join a church, the PTA, or the political party committee of your choice. Just don't sit there … get started today!

Q: Do you have a favorite restaurant or bakery?

A: The new Thai Restaurant called Celadon at 8412 Old Keene Mill Road. They moved in to a spot that I used for a campaign headquarters a few years ago—a much better use of the space.

Q: Do you have a favorite park, bike or hiking trail?

A: The trail around Burke Lake is exactly 5 miles. It is beautiful and you can walk it or bike it. A must see. Take the kids on a train ride or on the merry-go-round while you are there.

Q: Is there any organization you recommend that newcomers join?

A: The League of Woman Voters. Call them at 703-658-9150. Also, call up the Fairfax Board of Elections, 703-324-4735 or go to their website fairfaxcounty.gov/elections. They need officials to serve at polling places on Election Day and it pays! You can't beat non-partisan political involvement. My phone number is 703-964-6821. Call me if I can help with anything.

Q: What are the must-see, must-do events in Fairfax?

A: Burke Center Days, 6060 Burke Center Parkway, is a great two-day festival to get a feel for the community on Sept. 8-9 in the central part of my district. In the west it's Centreville Days on Oct. 19 at Rt. 28 and Lee Highway. The Annandale Parade is a hoot if you live in the eastern part of the district, October 26 at 10 a.m. Stick around for the festival which goes until 5 p.m.

Q: What would be on your personal list of things to do, places to see if you knew you were moving out of town?

A: My list of things to do before you leave town is, first … don't leave! This is a great place to live. But if you must, try to take in an event at the historic Gatsby's Tavern/Museum in Old Town Alexandria. Lots of costumes and fun. Virginia House of Delegates member David Bulova (his wife Gretchen runs the place) may be the bartender—exercise caution. Visit Robert E. Lee home at Arlington Cemetery, then check out Mount Vernon for George Washington and Oak Hill in Loudoun County for James Monroe. Great gardens. And the last question, even though you didn't ask, should you always vote? Yes!

Q: We always get to ask the last question. Back in January, you shared your New Year's resolution with us: "I will not eat anything that comes on a toothpick in Richmond this session and will work out at the YMCA every day." Did you keep that promise, senator?

A :(Long pause). Sure!

—Victoria Ross

'Insider' Information About State Senator David Marsden

David Marsden (D-37) is currently serving his second term as a senator in the Virginia General Assembly. A Fairfax County native, Marsden has a reputation in Richmond as being smart and down-to-earth, as quip with a quip as he is with salient facts about legislation and Virginia's colorful history. He also has the distinction of being one of our tallest legislators, standing about 6 feet and 4 inches, which makes it easier for him to literally "reach across the aisle."

Del. David Bulova (D-37) has shared a room with Marsden in Richmond since joining the House of Delegates together in 2006. Bulova said that evenings at the townhouse usually consist of John Stewart, pizza and a recap of the day's victories and defeats. "Dave is extremely smart, but also has a genuine humility and knows not to take ourselves too seriously. He loves history and the community he grew up in. When we were first elected, he gave me a four-inch thick book about Virginia history and told me it would put the dynamics of the General Assembly in perspective. He was right. As a volunteer with Gadsby's Tavern Museum in Alexandria I've tried to get him interested in 18th century re-enacting. He's declined to-date, claiming he looks more like FDR, which he does in a way."

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Every Year Is Election Year in Virginia

Northern Virginia has most two-party races on ballot.

By Victoria Ross
The Connection

While the Virginia governor's race is the one getting the most attention, both nationally and in the state, Virginia's House of Delegates race is shaping up to be the most competitive in a decade.

According to an official candidate list released last month by the Virginia State Board of Elections, 57 House seats will be contested this November—marking only the second time in the last decade where at least half of the 100 House seats will have more than one name on the ballot.

2013 is the second election cycle since the House Republican leadership redrew district boundaries following the 2010 Census. In 2011, voters in nearly two-thirds of the 100 House districts had no choice on the ballot.

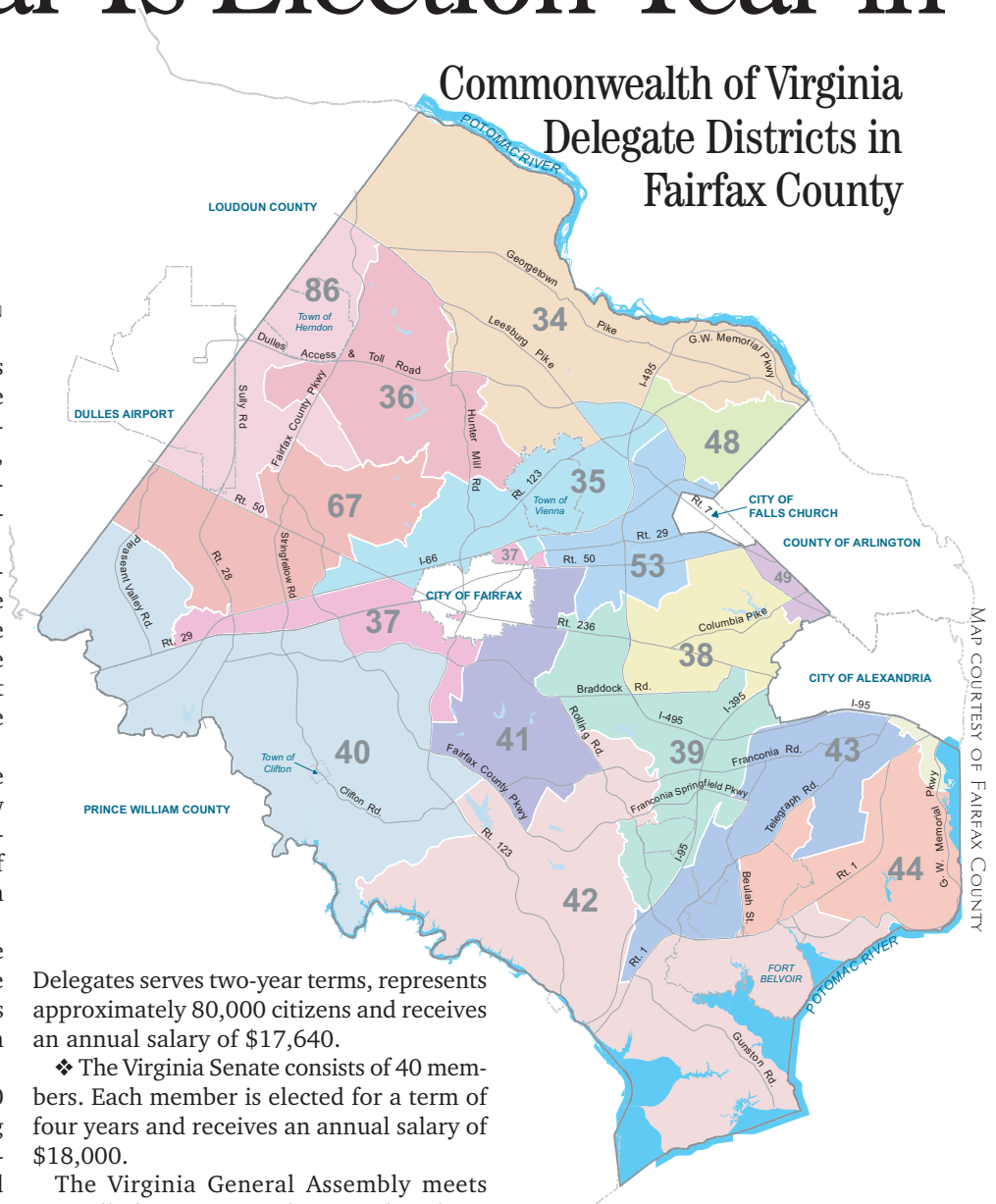
Of the 57 contested races, 44 include races with at least one Republican and one Democrat, and most of the two-party races on the ballot will take place in Northern Virginia (see chart.)

Throughout the state, 43 of the 100 House districts are uncontested, meaning there is only a single candidate on the ballot. Delegates Ken Plum (D-36) and Charniele Herring (D-43) are the only uncontested candidates in Fairfax County.

❖ Each member of the Virginia House of Delegates serves two-year terms, represents approximately 80,000 citizens and receives an annual salary of $17,640.

❖ The Virginia Senate consists of 40 members. Each member is elected for a term of four years and receives an annual salary of $18,000.

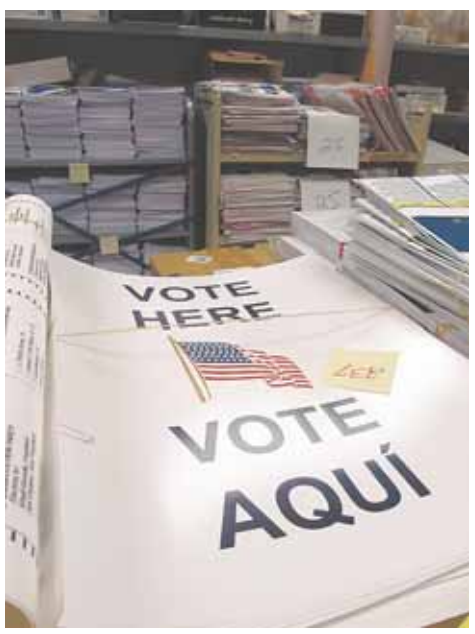
The Virginia General Assembly meets annually, beginning on the second Wednesday in January, for 60 days in even-numbered years and for 30 days in odd-numbered years, with an option to extend annual sessions for a maximum of 30 days.



Map courtesy of Fairfax County

Photos by Victoria Ross/The Connection

In addition to the optical scan voting machines, every polling place will be equipped with WINvote "touch-screen" machines, which have been used in Fairfax County since 2003. Luke Baranyk, voting machine custodian, demonstrates the touch-screen technology.



All voter information material must now be translated into Spanish to comply with new state mandates, and signs in Spanish and English hang in all of Fairfax County's polling precincts.

On the Ballot 2013

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www.terrymcauliffe.com
❖ **Ken T. Cuccinelli (R)**
www.cuccinelli.com
❖ **Robert C. Sarvis (L)**
www.robertsarvis.com

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❖ Ralph S. Northam (D)
www.northamforlg.com
❖ E.W. Jackson (R)
www.jacksonforlg.com

ATTORNEY GENERAL

❖ Mark R. Herring (R)
www.herringforag.com
❖ Mark D. Obenshain (R)
www.markobenshain.com

House of Delegates 2013 Elections

LOCAL RACES WITH MAJOR PARTY CHALLENGERS:

❖ District 34—Democrat Kathleen Murphy challenges Republican incumbent Barbara Comstock.
❖ District 35—Republican Leiann Leppin challenges Democratic incumbent Mark Keam
❖ District 37—Republican Patrice Winter challenges Democratic incumbent David Bulova
❖ District 39—Republican Joe Bury challenges Democratic incumbent Vivian Watts
❖ District 40—Democrat Jerrold Foltz challenges Republican incumbent Tim Hugo.
❖ District 41—Republican Fredy Burgos and Independent Christopher DeCarolo challenge Democratic incumbent Eileen Filler-Corn
❖ District 42—Democrat Ed Deitsch challenges Republican incumbent Dave Albo
❖ District 53—Democrat Marcus Simon faces Brad Tidwell (R) and Anothy Tellez (L) to replace retiring Del. Jim Scott (D)
❖ Distict 67—Democrat Hung Nguyen challenges Republican incumbent Jim Lemunyon
❖ District 86—Democrat Jennifer Boysko challenges Republican incumbent Tom Rust

LOCAL RACES WITH ONLY THIRD-PARTY CHALLENGERS:

❖ District 38—Jim Leslie challenges Democratic incumbent Kaye Kory
❖ District 43—Glenda Gail Parker challenges Democratic incumbent Mark Sickles
❖ District 44—Joe Glean challenges Democratic incumbent Scott Surovell
❖ District 45—Jeff Engle challenges Democratic incumbent Rob Krupicka
❖ District 47—Laura Delhomme challenges Democratic incumbent Patrick Hope
❖ District 48—Lindsey Bolton challenges Democratic incumbent Bob Brink
❖ District 49—Terry Modglin challenges Democratic incumbent Alfonso Lopez

Local Uncontested Races:

❖ District 36—Democratic incumbent Ken Plum
❖ District 46—Democratic incumbent Charniele Herring

Fairfax County Sheriff's Special Election

Stacey Ann Kincaid (D)
www.Staceykincaid.com
Bryan A. "B.A." Wolfe (R)
(no site listed on SBE)
Christopher F. DeCarlo (I)
www.honestlyandethics.com
Robert A. Rivera (I)
(no site listed on SBE)

School Bond Referendum

On Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 5, Fairfax County voters will be asked to vote YES or NO on the $250 million school bond question in the general election. The schools plan to use the money to:

❖ Build two new elementary schools, one in the Richmond Highway area and one in the Bailey's area

❖ Help renovate 22 schools including 17 elementary schools, two middle schools (Thoreau and Rocky Run) and three high schools (Langley, Herndon and Oakton)

❖ Buy land for the South West County High School

❖ Enhance the capacity of Westbriar Elementary and South Lakes High School

❖ Replace or improve infrastructure, such as roofs, major mechanical systems and parking lots.

See http://www.fcps.edu/news/bond13.shtml for more details.

Key Political Sources and Websites for Fairfax County Voters

❖ For a detailed list of candidate information, including websites, go to www.voterinfo.sbe.virginia.gov/PublicSite/Public/FT2/PublicElections.aspx.

The Virginia State Board of Elections page provides a detailed list of candidates, website information available for each candidate and sample ballots. Scroll down the "Locality" bar to Fairfax County to filter the election search, or go to "Elections" and scroll down to "November General 2013."

See Election Guide, Page 26

Schools

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. Deadline is Friday. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

Allison Wade of Fairfax was named to the Dean's List at New River Community College.

The following students received the DAR Youth Citizenship Medal from the Providence Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution: From Fairfax, **Brett Morrow** and **Anthu Cung**, Oak View Elementary School; **Sonia Chaudhary** and **Ian Drummond**, Greenbriar East Elementary School; **Sidhu Dogiparthi** and **Seon Woo Cho**, Greenbriar West Elementary School; **Yoshi Iketani** and **Emma Rowson**, Lees Corner Elementary School. From Fairfax Station, **Joshua Sawin** and **Dylan Syron**, Fairview Elementary School.

From Herndon, **Meghan Rock** of Oak Hill Elementary School.

The following students received the Outstanding Work in American History Medal from the Providence Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution: From Fairfax, **Steven Burris** and **Julia Zhou**, Oak View Elementary School; **Vraj Desai**, **Lara Demir**, **Rebekah Myers**, and **Justin Wang**, Greenbriar East Elementary School; **Lizzie Han** and **Vaishnavi Visveswaran**, Greenbriar West Elementary School; **Steven Sekar**, Lees Corner Elementary School. From Fairfax Station, **Ryan Smith** and **Cameron Johnstone**, Fairview Elementary School. From Herndon, **Kyle McClelland** and **Eli Kaufman**, Oak Hill Elementary School.

Christian T. Burruss of Fairfax received the National Merit Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University Scholarship. The W. T. Woodson High School graduate plans to study engineering.

Minyeop Lee of Fairfax received the National Merit University of Chicago Scholarship. Lee plans to study biochemistry.

Anagha K. Srikanth of Fairfax received the National Merit American University Scholarship after completing her high school education at W.T. Woodson High School and James W. Robinson Secondary School. Srikanth plans to study journalism.

Vaughn K. Varma of Fairfax received the National Merit Rochester Institute of Technology Scholarship. The Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology graduate plans to study mechanical engineering (robotics).

Amanda M. Nelson of Fairfax Station received the National Merit Denison University Scholarship. The Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology graduate plans to study neurosurgery.

Genevieve S. Gural of Clifton received the National Merit Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University Scholarship. The Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology graduate plans to study aerospace engineering.

Parks

An Insider's Guide to Major Parks in Fairfax County

National Parks

GF Great Falls National Park

9200 Old Dominion Drive, McLean
www.nps.gov/grfa
Great Falls Park is open daily from 7 a.m. until dark. The Visitor Center and bookstore are open from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. daily, spring through fall seasons. Picnic, hike along the Potomac River. Swimming and wading in the Potomac are prohibited.

GW George Washington Memorial Parkway

www.nps.gov/gwmp
703-289-2500
The GW Parkway includes more than 25 sites, ranging from historic homes to wildlife preserves. Join a ranger for a free program or explore sites independently. Some park sites, including Turkey Run Park, Theodore Roosevelt Island, Great Falls Park, etc., close at dark. The Parkway itself remains open 24 hours a day to vehicle traffic.

WT Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts

1551 Trap Road, Vienna
www.nps.gov/wotr/
The only national park dedicated to presenting the performing arts. From May through September, multiple amphitheaters in the park present musicals, dance, opera, jazz, and popular and country music. Explore the park without the crowds from October - April. The Barns at Wolf Trap offer indoor entertainment through the winter months.

State Park

MN Mason Neck State Park

7301 High Point Rd. Lorton
www.dcr.virginia.gov/state_parks/mas.shtml#
703-339-2385 or 703-339-2380 (visitor center)
masonneck@dcr.virginia.gov.
The park's visitor center was expanded in 2010 to include a new exhibit room, gift shop and meeting room. There are several exhibits in the center, and with a view of Belmont Bay. Visitor center staff can answer questions and provide information on park trails, facilities and local points of interest. Pond study, bird watching, canoe trips, nature walks and talks, and GPS adventures are just a few of the exciting programs offered by park rangers.

Regional Parks

BR Bull Run Marina Regional Park

7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville
www.nvrpa.org/park/bull_run/
Main park open all year for picnicking, hiking and family camping. Bull Run Public Shooting Center open all year. Group Camping open daily Jan. 7 though Nov. 11. Mini and disc golf open April through October. Hours vary.

BR Atlantis Waterpark

(at Bull Run Marina Regional Park)
7700 Bull Run Drive, Centreville
www.atlantisbullrun.com/
703-631-0552
Atlantis Waterpark features pools, a giant dumping bucket, waterslides, and fun-filled activities for all ages. Atlantis is open from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day, and is a member of the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority Family of Waterparks. Aantis also features picnic pavilions, a deck great for sunning and playing, as well as plenty of shade. Neptune Reef snack bar sells food, beverages and sweets.

Fountainhead Regional Park

FH Fountainhead Regional Park

7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station
www.nvrpa.org/park/fountainhead/
703-250-9124
The observation deck of the Marina Building at Fountainhead commands a spectacular view of the widest point of the Occoquan Reservoir. Summer activities include catfish tournaments, children's fishing tournament, paddleboat tours and more.

HO Hemlock Overlook Regional Park

13220 Yates Ford Road, Clifton
www.nvrpa.org/park/hemlock_overlook/
800-877-0954; 571-281-3556;
Hemlock Overlook Regional Park offers a variety of outdoor and environmental education. Programs at Hemlock Overlook are open to the public and groups by reservation. Only the hiking and horse trails may be used without prior arrangement.

MBG Meadowlark Botanical Gardens

9750 Meadowlark Gardens Court, Vienna
www.nvrpa.org/park/meadowlark_botanical_gardens/
703-255-3631
This 95-acre complex of large ornamental display gardens and unique native plant collections is open year round and include walking trails, lakes, more than 20 varieties of cherry trees, irises, peonies, an extensive shade garden, native wildflowers, gazebos, birds, butterflies, seasonal blooms and foliage. The Atrium's indoor tropical garden setting is a popular meeting, reception, wedding and workshop location. Interpretive displays accompany a restored 18th-century cabin. A picnic area beside the Gardens is available to visitors. Meadowlark presents gardening and horticulture workshops, tours, field trips, concerts and volunteer programs.

OR Occoquan Regional Park

9751 Ox Road, Lorton
www.nvrpa.org/park/occoquan/
703-690-2121
This park offers 400 acres of recreational space and a touch of the past with its historic brick kilns and the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial. Park lands, trails and associated waters are part of the Fairfax Cross-County Trail. Kayak rentals. One hour Tour Boat Rides on the Occoquan River to Belmont Bay and back. Offered Saturdays noon-5 p.m., Sunday 1- 8 p.m., April 2 through Nov. 27. $10 adults, $5 children 12 and under, under age 4 are free.

PB Pohick Bay Regional Park

6501 Pohick Bay Drive, Lorton
www.nvrpa.org/park/pohick_bay/
Pohick Bay is located on the Potomac River 25 miles south of the nation's capital. The boat launch facility is one of only three public access points to the Potomac River in northern Virginia. Pohick Bay offers canoes, kayaks, paddle boats and jon boats for rent on the weekends, as well as family and group camping, hiking, picnic areas and a large play area for children. For those interested in swimming, the park offers one of the largest, outdoor freeform pools on the east coast. Pohick Bay Regional Park, located on

Sources: *National Park Service, Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, Virginia State Parks and Fairfax County Park Authority. Map courtesy of Fairfax County Park Authority. Designed & compiled by Jean Card and Laurence Foong. Photos by Craig Sterbutzel.*

Mason Neck Pennisula is an ecologically fragile land that shelters an abundance of wildlife, including the bald eagle. Nature lovers can expect to see blue birds, osprey, heron, deer, beavers and rare sightings of river otters.

PB Pirates Cove Waterpark

(at Pohick Bay Regional Park)
6501 Pohick Bay Drive, Lorton
www.piratescovepohick.com
703-339-6102
Pirates Cove Waterpark is located at Pohick Bay Regional Park. Visitors can cool off under the 300-gallon dumping bucket, fire the water cannons and splash down the waterslide or search for buried treasure at Buccaneer Beach sand play area. Pirates Cove also features picnic pavilions, a deck for sunning and playing, as well as plenty of shade. Captain's Galley snack bar features food, beverages and sweets. Pirates Cove is open from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day.

PB Pohick Bay Golf Course

10301 Gunston Road, Lorton
www.nvrpa.org/park/pohick_bay_golf_course
703-339-8585
This scenic golf course is located on the Mason Neck Peninsula in Lorton. Pohick Bay's practice facility features a driving range with practice putting and chipping greens, and lessons from PGA pros. A full-service pro shop features an array of name-brand golf clubs, equipment and apparel. Other services include club making, custom club fitting, regripping, reshafting and tournament coordinating.

SR Sandy Run Regional Park

10450 Van Thompson Road, Fairfax Station
www.nvrpa.org/park/sandy_run/
703-690-4392
The park is open to the public for the purpose of education, training, practice, and racing for competitive and recreational sculling and rowing. Only shells and other boats authorized by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority may be launched from the docks or shoreline of Sandy Run. Sandy Run offers a facility for team training and competition for Olympic, college, high school and club canoe, kayak and crew athletes.

Arts Center

LAC Workhouse Arts Center

9601 Ox Road, Lorton
www.lortonarts.org
703-584-2900
The Workhouse Arts Center consists of seven studio buildings, the main galleries and the recently opened Youth Arts Center. Visitors are encouraged to interact with artists. In addition to visual arts, the Workhouse Arts Center is home to performing arts, including theater, film institute, musical and dance performances. The education department supports both the visual and performing arts, offering classes and workshops in a variety of disciplines. Future plans for the Workhouse include an event center, amphitheater, Workhouse Theatre, restaurants, apartments, music barn and garden/horticultural area. Other buildings on site, yet to be renovated, may provide for other activities such as a visitors center, a blacksmith shop, theatre scene shops and rehearsal space.

Frying Pan Farm Park, Herndon

The Claude Moore Colonial Farm at Turkey Run, McLean

Major Fairfax County Parks

BLP Burke Lake Park & Golf Course

7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station
volleyball, driving range, 18 hole, par 3, minigolf, trails, playground, campgrounds, fishing
883.4 acres, multiple resource park

CJP Clemyjontri Park

6317 Georgetown Pike, McLean
fitness, picnic areas and playgrounds
18.6 acres, special purpose park

ELP Ellanor C. Lawrence Park

5040 Walney Road, Chantilly
baseballl, soccer/football (unlit), basketball (unlit), community center, nature center, amphitheater, trails
650 acres, multiple resource park

FPF Frying Pan Farm Park

2717 West Ox Road, Herndon
historic structure, biking/equestrian/hiking trails, open areas, playground
135.3 acres, multiple resource park

GSG Green Spring Gardens

4603 Green Spring Road, Alexandria
Community Center, historic structure, biking/hiking trails, open areas, gardens
30.9 acres, special purpose park

HPP Hidden Pond Park

8511 Greeley Boulevard, Springfield
tennis (lit), nature center, amphitheater, hiking/nature trails, playground, fishing
25.6 acres, community park

HMP Huntley Meadows Park

3701 Lockheed Boulevard, Alexandria
nature center, historic structure, biking/hiking/nature trails, observation tower, boardwalk
1444.8 acres, natural resource park

W&OD Trail, Herndon

LAP Lake Accotink Park

7500 Accotink Park Road, Springfield
basketball, volleyball, minigolf, trails, picnic
448.1 acres, multiple resource park

LFP Lake Fairfax Park

1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston
softball (lit), soccer/football (unlit), amphitheater, carousel,campground, tour boat, picnic shelters
479 acres, multiple resource park

FRA Lee District Park

6601 Telegraph Road, Franconia
softball, soccer/football, tennis, basketball, volleyball, trails, treehouse, sprayground, accessible playground
138 acres, district park

MDP Mason District Park

6621 Columbia Pike, Annandale
softball (lit), soccer/football (unlit/lit), basketball (lit), tennis (lit), shuffleboard, dog park, amphitheater, biking/hiking/fitness
121.2 acres, district park

NWP Nottoway Park

9537 Courthouse Road, Vienna
baseball (lit), soccer/football (lit),basketball (lit), tennis (lit), trails, picnic
90.9 acres, district park

RBP Riverbend Park

8700 Potomac Hill Street, Great Falls
nature center, historic structure, biking/equestrian/hiking trails, picnic areas, craftroom
411.2 acres, multiple resource park

SRN Scotts Run Nature Preserve

7400 Georgetown Pike, McLean
historic structure, historic/hiking/nature trails, fishing
384.3 acres, natural resource park

SRD South Run District

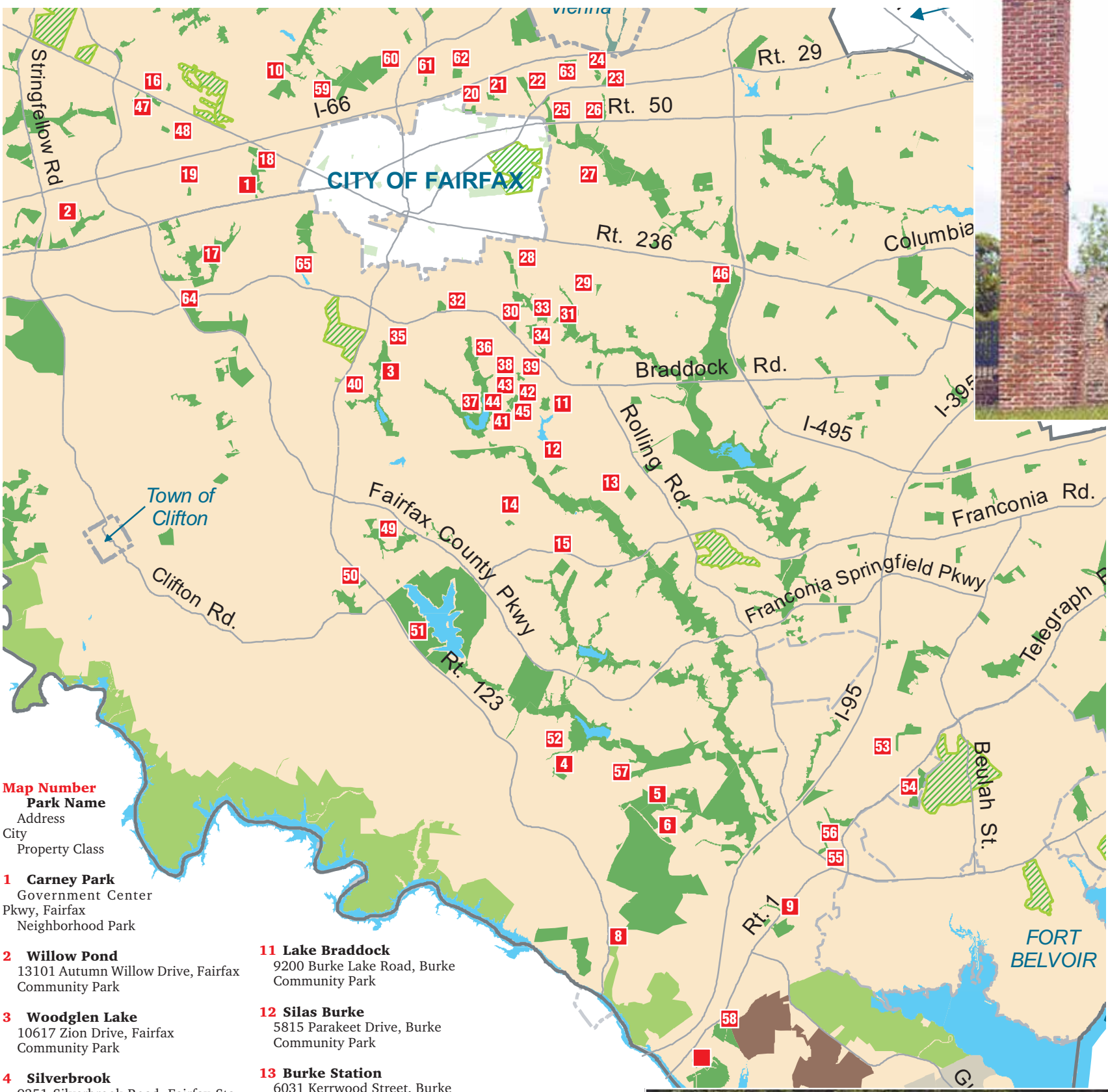
7550 Reservation Drive, Springfield
baseball, soccer/football, basketball, tennis, recenter, equestrian, playground, swimming
196 acres, district park

WFP Wakefield Park & RECenter

8100 Braddock Road, Annandale
softball, soccer/football, basketball, tennis, recenter, biking, fitness trail, skate park
292.6 acres, multiple resource park

Parks

A Guide to Fairfax County Parks in the Burke, Fairfax & Fairfax Station/Lorton/Clifton areas



Remains from the home that was once a part of the Mount Air Estate. The home was destroyed in a 1992 fire.

Photos by Renée Ruggles Featuring Burke Lake Park & Mount Air Historic Site

Map Number
Park Name
Address
City
Property Class

1 Carney Park
Government Center Pkwy, Fairfax
Neighborhood Park

2 Willow Pond
13101 Autumn Willow Drive, Fairfax
Community Park

3 Woodglen Lake
10617 Zion Drive, Fairfax
Community Park

4 Silverbrook
9351 Silverbrook Road, Fairfax Station
Community Park

5 Newington Heights
8590 Heller Road, Lorton
District Park

6 Laurel Hill
8515 Silverbrook Rd., Lorton
Countywide Park

7 Old Colchester Preserve
10646 Old Colchester Road, Lorton
Cultural Resource Park

8 Lorton West
9800 Ox Road, Lorton

9 Lower Potomac
9515 Richmond Highway, Lorton

10 Waples Mill Meadow
11329 Waples Mill Road, Oakton
Multiple Resource Park

11 Lake Braddock
9200 Burke Lake Road, Burke
Community Park

12 Silas Burke
5815 Parakeet Drive, Burke
Community Park

13 Burke Station
6031 Kerrwood Street, Burke
Community Park

14 Burke Ridge
9719 Burke Lake Road, Burke
Neighborhood Park

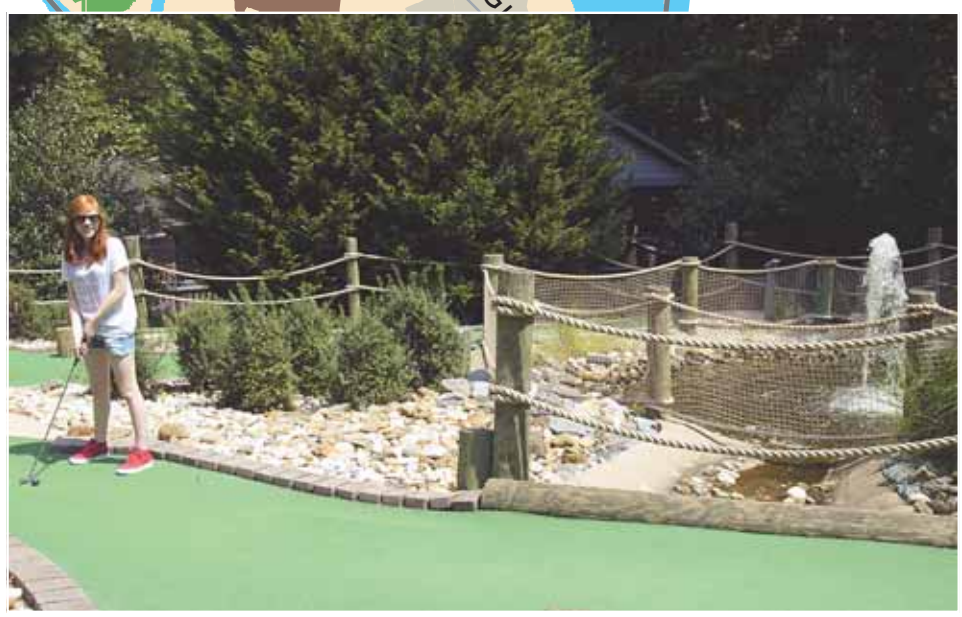
15 Rolling Valley West
6512 Sydenstricker Road, Burke
Community Park

16 Fair Oaks
3901 Fair Ridge Drive, Fairfax
Neighborhood Park

17 Brentwood
11903 Appling Valley Road, Fairfax
Neighborhood Park

18 Random Hills
11550 Random Hills Road, Fairfax
Neighborhood Park

19 Dixie Hill
4540 Dixie Hill Road, Fairfax
Neighborhood Park



Ariane W. takes her turn on the Burke Lake mini golf course. The teen is visiting from France and was spending the day with her grandmother.

One of many fun things to do at Burke Lake Park is taking a ride on the carousel. Nearby, sits a large, brightly colored play structure, providing the chance for even more fun.

The picturesque remains of a barn that grew and changed over time. As many as five barns, from different periods, were incorporated to accommodate the current needs of the estate.

20 Villa D'este
3120 Northwood Road, Fairfax
Neighborhood Park

21 Mosby Woods
9813 Five Oaks Road, Fairfax
Neighborhood Park

22 East Blake Lane
9540 Bel Glade Street, Fairfax
Community Park

23 Villa Lee
2901 Hunter Road, Fairfax
Neighborhood Park

24 Hideaway
2900 Glenvale Drive, Fairfax
Neighborhood Park

25 Towers
9350 Arlington Boulevard, Fairfax
Community Park

26 Armistead
8900 Arlington Boulevard, Fairfax
Neighborhood Park

27 Eakin (Mantua Section)
8928 Glenbrook Road, Fairfax
Neighborhood Park

28 Smokewood
4120 Whitacre Road, Fairfax
Neighborhood Park

29 Ashford East
4300 Guinea Road, Fairfax
Neighborhood Park

30 George Mason
9700 Braddock Road, Fairfax
Neighborhood Park

31 Rutherford
4710 Guinea Road, Fairfax
Community Park

32 University
10200 Braddock Road, Fairfax
Community Park

33 Olde Forge
4604 Twinbrook Road, Fairfax
Neighborhood Park

34 Surrey Square
4819 Twinbrook Road, Fairfax
Neighborhood Park

35 Country Club View
10609 Henrico Street, Fairfax
Community Park

36 Crooked Creek
9910 Commonwealth Blvd., Fairfax
Community Park

37 Royal Lake
5344 Gainsborough Drive, Fairfax
Community Park

38 Rolling Woods Estates
5208a Marvell Lane, Fairfax
Neighborhood Park

39 Twinbrook Road
5124 Twinbrook Road, Fairfax
Neighborhood Park

40 Middleridge
5425a Governor Yeardley Drive, Fairfax
Neighborhood Park

41 Greenfield
5349 Guinea Road, Fairfax
Neighborhood Park

42 Monticello
5315 Guinea Road, Fairfax
Community Park

43 Kings Park West
5216 Pommeroy Drive, Fairfax
Community Park

44 Lakeside
5216 Pommeroy Drive, Fairfax
Community Park

45 Herzell Woods
5328 Guinea Road, Fairfax
Neighborhood Park

46 Fairfax Hills
4304 Holly Lane, Annandale
Neighborhood Park

47 Fair Ridge
12300 Meadow Field Drive, Fairfax
Neighborhood Park

48 Ox Hill Battlefield
4134 West Ox Road, Fairfax
Cultural Resource Park

49 Poburn Woods
6325 Wendy Ann Court, Fairfax Station
Community Park

50 Brimstone
6600 Ox Road, Fairfax Station
Neighborhood Park

51 Burke Lake & Golf Course
7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station
Multiple Resource Park

Bulova's Home Park

Villa Park is where I jog and it is located in central Fairfax, with an entrance into the park off of Park Drive near Shirley Gate Road. This park has been left in its natural wooded condition and designated a Heritage Resource park to preserve features such as Native American quarries and work/chipping areas.

— Sharon Bulova
Board of Supervisors Chairman

Burke Lake Beats Skyline

I love a spot on the 4.5 mile loop trail at Burke Lake, past the dam and beyond a stand of heavily scented pine trees, where the forest opens up and you are in the presence of magnificent giant tulip poplar and oak trees. I usually just stop and look around for a few moments – it's a magical place that reminds me of Lothlorien, the fictional forest where the elves in Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings* live: *"There are no trees like the trees of that land. For in the autumn their leaves fall not, but turn to gold."* In late October, when the trees are at their peak, and the splendor is doubled in the reflection of the water, I'd rather be at Burke Lake than anywhere on Skyline Drive

— Mary Cortina
At-Large Member of the Park Authority Board

Dustin Peltola and Angelynn Do came to enjoy beautiful Burke Lake from a rowboat.

The Mount Air Historic Site is a peaceful place to explore.

52 Lake Mercer
9500 Silverbrook Road, Fairfax Station
Multiple Resource Park

53 Levell W Dupell
6812 Newington Road, Lorton
Community Park

54 Mount Air Historic Site
8600 Accotink Road, Lorton
Cultural Resource Park

55 Southgate
7438 Pohick Road, Lorton
Neighborhood Park

56 Pohick Estates
7450 Pollen Street, Lorton
Community Park

57 Newington Commons
8915 Hooes Road, Lorton
Neighborhood Park

58 Mason Neck West
10418 Old Colchester Road, Lorton
Community Park

59 Tattersall
3405 Miller Heights Road, Oakton
Community Park

60 Oak Marr
3200 Jermantown Road, Oakton
Multiple Resource Park

61 Borge Street
3030 Borge Street, Oakton
Neighborhood Park

62 Blake Lane School Site
10033 Blake Lane, Oakton
Community Park

63 Briarwood
2830 Zimpel Dr., Fairfax
Community Park

64 Patriot
12111 Braddock Road, Fairfax
District Park

65 Mountain Road District
15620 Braddock Road, Fairfax

Sightseeing Around Fairfax

The Fairfax County General District Court in the City of Fairfax.

PHOTOS BY STEVE HIBBARD/THE CONNECTION

Fairfax City Hall in the City of Fairfax.

This stone marks the scene of the opening conflict of the War of 1861-1865, when John O. Marr, captain of the Warrenton Rifles, who was the first soldier killed in action, fell 800 feet S, 46 W. (mag) of this spot, June 1, 1861. The stone was erected June 1, 1904 in the City of Fairfax.

John C. Cook
Braddock District Supervisor

Working for Neighborhoods and Keeping the Community Engaged, Informed and Involved

Braddock Neighbors:

One of my most important jobs as your County Supervisor is to keep you informed of county issues and important neighborhood events.

Signing up for our email newsletters is a great way to keep up with your community. We send out a monthly newsletter, the Braddock Beacon, and periodic updates called Cook Advisories.

You can sign up for the newsletter by texting "COOKNEWS" to 22828, or by going to http://bit.ly/13ssg1g.

Call us at: 703.425.9300
Visit us online at: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/braddock
Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/supervisorcook
Follow Supervisor Cook on Twitter: @JohnCookVA

Come in and see us at the office.
We are located at:
Kings Park Library
9002 Burke Lake Road
Burke, Virginia 22015

Every one of us has the exciting opportunity to shape our wonderful neighborhoods and make Fairfax County an even better place to work and live. That's why, here in Braddock I am continually encouraging folks to become active participants both in their community and in their local government. So come on out, step up and become an involved Braddock District resident.

Newcomers

The plaque at the Fairfax Court House, built in 1800.

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703-503-1112

GMU Center for the Arts.

Photos by Steve Hibbard/ The Connection

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The 3rd Annual "Jeans Day" October 18, 2013

Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce — The Voice of Business in Northern Virginia
The Connection — Newspapers & Online — The Connection to Your Community
Apple Federal Credit Union

Preventing and Ending Homelessness
Fairfax-Falls Church Community Partnership

To request this information in an alternative format or to request reasonable accommodations, call 703-324-9492, TTY711. A Fairfax County, VA Publication.
For more information contact glynda.hall@fairfaxcounty.gov or check our website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/homeless.

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SAT. AUG. 31 — 1:30, 4:30 & 7:30 PM
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SUN. SEPT. 8 — 2:00 PM, 5:00 PM

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What in the World Does a Supervisor Do, and Why Should We Care?

Local Government 101: Where the rubber meets the road.

By Victoria Ross
The Connection

We see them at just about every community event. They manage a budget larger than the budgets of four states, and rule over a county with a diverse, well-educated population of more than a million people.

The 10 members of the Fairfax County Supervisors have an intense, time-consuming, insanely detailed job, one that comes with enormous power and even more responsibilities.

They impact our lives in large and small ways, allocating money and resources in ways that can propel our community forward—or cost us our first-rate status in education, livability and culture.

Yet most of us, media included, are so focused on politics at the state and national level that we overlook the decision-makers in our own backyard.

As an electorate, we put the rest of the nation to shame when we turn out in record numbers to vote in top-of-the-ticket races. But when it's time to cast a ballot for county supervisors? We collectively shrug our shoulders, providing, at best, a 35 percent show of hands.

What do they even do at the county level that's important enough for us to care about in the first place?

A fair question.

So we asked them to tell us, in 250 words or less. Below are their unedited responses.

Fairfax County

From left to right: Catherine M. Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill District); Michael R. Frey (R-Sully District); John C. Cook (R-Braddock District); Gerald W. Hyland (D-Mount Vernon District); Sharon Bulova (D-chairman, at-large); Penelope A. Gross (D-Mason District, vice chairman); John W. Foust (D-Dranesville District); Jeffrey C. McKay (D-Lee District); Pat Herrity (R-Springfield District); Linda Q. Smyth (D-Providence District). Board members are elected for four-year terms. There is no legal limit to the number of terms a member can serve. Each board member, including the chairman, receives annual compensation of $75,000 per year. For more information on the BOS, go to http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/board/about-the-board-of-supervisors.htm.

What is a supervisor? How do you impact the lives of county residents and why should we care?

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SHARON BULOVA (D-AT-LARGE)

"Local government is where the rubber meets the road. Each year, when the Board of Supervisors approves the budget, we invest in our community's priorities. We boast a well-educated, informed and engaged community. It is critical to have Fairfax County residents at the table when we make important decisions that affect their daily life. This year we will make significant investments in transportation, thanks to new revenue approved by the General Assembly. We need our civic leaders to let us know what transportation improvements you would like to see in and around your community. We will also make critical investments in health and human services. We need to continue making progress toward our goal of ending homelessness as we know it in Fairfax County. Our economy is slowly recovering from the recession and development will begin to pick up. We will concentrate that development in areas that can support it in order to keep growing while protecting our older, stable neighborhoods. Growing our business community is key to our success and will help keep residential taxes low. We've added 2,800 jobs so far this year, and we will make sure our policies allow our local business to expand and keep Fairfax County attractive to firms looking to relocate. As a resident of Fairfax County, you have a strong voice in how your government operates. I encourage you to get involved and help shape the community you live in and keep Fairfax County the best place to live, work, play and grow older comfortably."

SUPERVISOR JEFF MCKAY (D-LEE)

"As Lee District Supervisor, constituent service is the most important thing I do. The supervisor's office is the first and sometimes the last resort. We hear from people who want a pothole filled and from those with human service needs. We hear from people asking if they need a permit to build a garage—and from those asking if their neighbor's construction has a permit. We help to resolve stormwater management problems, drainage issues, parking disputes, and many other issues—from animal control to zoning.

Land use is an important part of the Lee District supervisor's job and requires balancing the needs of property owners, neighbors, the larger community and the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

On a broader scale, I work with our state and federal government to get the best outcomes for our region and our district, for example Rail to Dulles and BRAC [Base Realignment and Closure Commission, which places, realigns and consolidates military installations in the DoD].

Local government is a balancing act walking on a thin tightrope. Virginia is a Dillon Rule state, unlike Maryland, a Home Rule state. In Virginia, counties can only enact laws and ordinances with enabling legislation from the General Assembly. Every year, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Legislative Committee (that I chair) prepares its legislative package with details of legislation that it supports or opposes. That package is presented to the General Assembly.

Public service is a 24/7 job. The rewards are in helping to shape the future of our district and our region and to making Lee District and Fairfax County a great place to live, work and raise a family.

SUPERVISOR JOHN FOUST (D-DRANESVILLE)

"As the Dranesville District supervisor, I represent the approximately 120,000 residents of the district on the board. I work with the chairman and the other eight supervisors on county policies, programs and projects for transportation, the environment, land use, health care, human services, housing, economic development and many other services that directly impact all county residents and businesses. We also formulate and approve the annual county budget (including the amount transferred to the school system), establish local tax rates, approve or reject land use proposals, and make appointments to

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The County Line

New Superintendent Relishes Opportunity

A fan of Baylor grad RG3 … not Cowboys.

Karen K. Garza, Ph.D.
Superintendent, Fairfax County Public Schools

I am honored and humbled to be the new superintendent of Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS). I arrived here from Lubbock, Texas, where I served for the past four years as the superintendent of the Lubbock Independent School District. The opportunity to lead a world-class school system like FCPS was one that I simply could not pass up. I am so appreciative of the very warm welcome my husband, Louis, and I have received since our arrival in June.

You should know that the question I have heard most in my first few weeks on the job is: "Are you a Dallas Cowboys fan?" I can state, unequivocally, the answer to that question is "No." In fact, we are big fans of Baylor grad RG3. Our family includes four grown children and five wonderful grandchildren. One child of ours is now in his third year as an elementary school teacher and, as a former teacher myself, it has been an exciting experience to watch as he grows into the job and learns the joys and, yes, the challenges of teaching. Where I am today is due, in large part, to the many excellent and caring teachers I had along the way. I have already met many FCPS teachers, principals and administrators and I have been so impressed with their commitment to our students. Together, we will make a great team.

Photo contributed

Karen K. Garza

One of my first goals is to work with the school board in developing a long-range strategic plan that will incorporate input from FCPS stakeholders including parents, students, educators and community members. The strategic plan will serve as a roadmap to improve academic achievement for all of our students.

I also believe it is important that we develop a graduate profile that clearly shows what our students need to know and be able to do when they leave FCPS for college and career opportunities. We will build upon the success of the past and, at the same time, confront our realities—achievement gaps, disparities in graduation rates among student groups and the increasing expectations for our schools while experiencing diminishing resources.

Here in Fairfax, not only do we have the talent and the expertise to solve the problems facing us in FCPS, but we are uniquely positioned to solve the most pressing issues facing public schools across the country. We want to lead the national discussion to develop new systems to measure teaching and learning. Standardized testing, while well intentioned, has gone too far and often results in narrowing the instructional focus of schools. We can develop new ways to measure how well our students are learning and how well our teachers are teaching without taking the joy out of either learning or teaching.

Photo by Deb Cobb/The Connection

Cassidy Austria receives her diploma and congratulations at the June 13 Robinson High School 2013 Commencement Ceremony. New superintendent of Fairfax County Public Schools Karen K. Garza calls FCPS "a world-class school system."

I plan to visit schools regularly because the best way for me to understand the needs and expectations of our school division is to talk with and listen to all of our stakeholders. The start of a new school year serves as a reminder that we have wonderful opportunities to make a difference in the lives of our students and that we are extremely fortunate to live in a community that values public education.

I invite you to share your ideas on ways to make the Fairfax County school system the very best it can be. I believe it is critical that we at FCPS hear from you. Please take a minute and visit www.fcps.edu and click on "Advice for Superintendent Garza." I wish you all a most enjoyable and successful school year and I look forward to meeting many of you in the days ahead.

Karen K. Garza is the new superintendent of Fairfax County Public Schools.

Board of Supervisors: What Do They Do?

From Page 22

various authorities and commissions that serve county residents and businesses.

One of the most important responsibilities of a district supervisor and his or her staff is constituent services. My staff and I assist Dranesville residents on issues that involve the county government, utilities and state government (especially VDOT). We regularly work with constituents on issues involving building and zoning code enforcement, traffic calming, storm water, human services, utility complaints, storm recovery and road and sidewalk maintenance.

Why is it important to vote in a county supervisor election? No level of government has more impact on our daily lives and the type of community we live in and will leave for our children. Residents should participate in the election process to ensure that they have a supervisor who shares their values, who will be effective on their behalf, and who actively solicits their input on major issues that affect their community."

SUPERVISOR MICHAEL FREY (R-SULLY)

"The Board of Supervisors doesn't do war and peace, but it's hard to argue that the Board of Supervisors is not responsible for most of the issues that people deal with every day. Whether the piece of property next door is developed for houses or a shopping center or parkland falls under the direct authority of the board. School funding, police and fire protection are the direct responsibility of the board. The county provides a host of programs and services—libraries, parks and recreation, transportation and planning, and a wide range of human services. These are areas of life that we all deal with every day and that affect the quality of life. In many instances it is this range of services that attracted people to choose to live here in the first place. It is critical that people watch the board, get involved in their local governmental processes and help shape our community. At a minimum, people should vote! If you don't vote you can't complain!"

SUPERVISOR JOHN COOK (R-BRADDOCK)

"More than any other elected official at any level of government, a county supervisor has the greatest effect on your everyday lives.

First, I believe strong neighborhoods are the foundation of our strong county. I work with civic and homeowners' associations, community pools, recreational leagues, scout troops and other organizations to help them provide a foundation for our neighborhoods. The county's '50+' plan is looking for communities to volunteer to be 'villages' where our seniors help each other so they can stay in their homes in their later years. Second, the county government provides among the best police and fire and rescue departments in the country, and we are building a more robust emergency response network that connects citizens with county agencies. We have a world-class public school system, which receives priority in the county budget. Our human service system combines government programs with faith-based and non-profit programs to help people with disabilities and people in need of a 'pick up' to get themselves on track. Third, we are rebuilding our infrastructure, from stormwater management systems that protect the environment, to parks and trails for recreation, to a water and sewer system that is clean and efficient.

As your supervisor, I am here to help make your neighborhood the best place it can be.

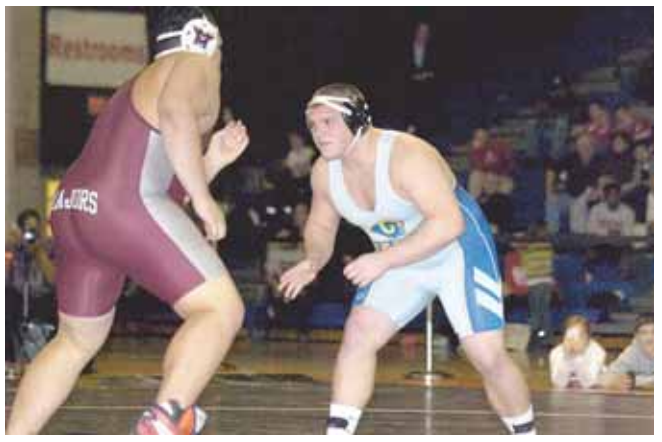
SUPERVISOR PAT HERRITY (R-SPRINGFIELD)

"I have always agreed with Thomas Jefferson's notion that government closest to the people is best, and you cannot get much closer to the people than being a supervisor. Supervisors' jobs are multi-faceted; we're the ones you call when you have a problem with your taxes, neighborhood blight, roads, or if you have trouble with county or state agencies. Supervisors hire the police chief and fund the police, fire department and health department. We're the ones who approve new commercial construction like in Tysons, or new Metro-rail and bus routes. In fact, I would go as far to say that about 80 percent of an individual's contact with government at any level is at our level. One of the most important jobs of the supervisor is constituent service. We work hard to address and resolve issues and problems for our residents, be they simple or complex. I also believe communication with constituents on issues that are important to them is a critical job of the supervisor—I hold town hall meetings, attend numerous events and community/HOA meetings and publish a newsletter—sign up at http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/springfield/herrity-report-newsletter.htm. I look forward to serving you.

LINDA SMYTH (D-PROVIDENCE)

"The Board of Supervisors collectively provides local government in Fairfax County. What does that mean? Supervisors set the local tax rates and approve the county budget, which provides funding for schools, parks, libraries, public safety and other public facilities and services. In other words, what we do touches our residents' everyday lives. And when residents have questions or problems, we are the ones they call for answers and solutions."

Get to Know Area High Schools' Sports



Robinson heavyweight Jake Pinkston won the 2012-13 Northern Region wrestling championship and went on to capture the state title, as well.

Photo by Craig Sterbutzel The Connection

Robinson: Wrestling Team Captured District, Region and State Championships

School: James W. Robinson Secondary School
Mascot: Rams
School colors: Blue and gold
Athletic director: Jeff Ferrell, 703-426-2126
❖Football coach: Dan Meier (interim)
❖The Rams qualified for the playoffs with a 5-5 regular-season record and lost to Chantilly in the region quarterfinals. Trey Taylor was replaced as head coach after two seasons.
❖Volleyball coach: Jill Cross
❖Boys' basketball coach: Brian Nel
❖Girls' basketball coach: T.J. Da
❖Wrestling coach: Bryan Hazard
❖Baseball coach: John James
❖Boys' soccer coach: Robert Garza
❖Rival school: Lake Braddock

What Happened Last Year: The wrestling team won district, region and state championships. Wrestler Jake Pinkston won the individual heavyweight state title. The boys' basketball team finished district runner-up and reached the region semifinals. The boys' lacrosse team finished district runner-up and reached the region semifinals. The boys' soccer team finished district runner-up. Girls' soccer coach Jim Rike reached 500 career victories.

Famous graduates: Rob Muzzio (1982 graduate) won back-to-back NCAA decathlon titles at George Mason University in 1984-85. He finished fifth in the decathlon for the United States at the 1992 Olympic Games. He is now an assistant coach for the Robinson track and field team. Chris Warren (1985) played running back at Division III Ferrum College before being drafted by the Seattle Seahawks in the fourth round of the 1990 NFL Draft. He played 11 seasons in the NFL with the Seahawks, Dallas Cowboys and Philadelphia Eagles, finishing with 7,696 yards, 52 touchdowns and four 1,000-yard seasons on the ground, and more than 12,000 all-purpose yards. He was a three-time Pro Bowl selection. Shawn Camp (1994) is a relief pitcher in the Arizona Diamondbacks organization. Javier Lopez (1995) is a relief pitcher for the San

Lake Braddock: The Girls' Cross Country Team Captured District, Region And State Titles

School: Lake Braddock Secondary School
Mascot: Bruins
School colors: Purple and gold
Athletic director: Mark Martino, 703-426-1001
❖Football coach: Jim Poythress (10th season)

The Bruins won their fourth consecutive district championship and earned the region's No. 2 seed with an 8-2 regular-season record. However, Lake Braddock lost in the quarterfinals to eventual region champion Oakton.
❖Volleyball coach: Aubrey Eaton
❖Field hockey coach: Marie Bounds
❖Cross country coach: Michael Mangan
❖Boys' basketball coach: Brian Metress
❖Girls' basketball coach: John Giannelli
❖Baseball coach: Jody Rutherford
❖Boys' soccer coach: Joe Soos
❖Rival school: Robinson

What Happened Last Year: The girls' cross country team won district, region and state championships. Sophie Chase won individual cross country district, region and state titles. The boys' cross country team won a district crown. Wrestler Rory Renzi won the 160-pound state championship. The girls' indoor track team finished state runner-up. The boys' basketball team won the district championship. The baseball team finished 23-5, winning the region championship and reaching the state semifinals. The boys' soccer team won a district

Photo by Craig Sterbutzel/The Connection

Sophie Chase, a 2013 Lake Braddock graduate, won the 2012 cross country state championship and the Bruins finished runner-up.

title and reached the region semifinals, finishing with a 13-1-5 record. The softball team won a district championship. The girls' lacrosse team finished district runner-up.

Historic Achievements: The boys' soccer program won state titles in 1982, 1983, 1988, 1989 and 1995. The girls' soccer program won state championships in 1987, 1989, 2003, 2006 and 2007. The baseball program won its first state title in 2012.

Famous graduates: Mia Hamm (1989 graduate) is considered one of the greatest women's soccer players of all time. She led the University of North Carolina to four national championships. She won Olympic gold medals with Team U.S.A. in 1996 and 2004, won World Cup titles in 1991 and 1999, and was named FIFA World Player of the Year in 2001 and 2002. Hubert Davis (1988) played basketball at the University of North Carolina and was selected by the

West Springfield: Alcorta Finished Runner-up at District, Region and State Meets

School: West Springfield High School
Mascot: Spartans
School colors: Blue and orange
Athletic director: Andy Muir, 703-913-3861
❖Football coach: Jason Eldredge (first season)

The Spartans started 5-1 in 2012 and made the playoffs with a 6-4 regular-season record. West Springfield lost to top-seed Westfield in the region quarterfinals.
❖Cross country coach: Chris Pellegrini
❖Volleyball coach: Stephanie Nor
❖Girls' basketball coach: Bill Gibson

West Springfield's Caroline Alcorta (3020) finished runner-up at the 2012 state cross country meet.

Photo by Craig Sterbutzel The Connection

❖Baseball coach: Jason Olms

What Happened Last Year: The field hockey team finished 16-4-1 and reached the region semifinals. Caroline Alcorta placed second at the region and state cross country meets. The girls' basketball team posted a 21-5 record, reaching the district semifinals and region quarterfinals.

Historic achievements: The baseball program has won three state championships, the last coming in 2010. The girls' basketball program won the district championship and reached the state playoffs each of the last three seasons.

Famous graduates: Bryn Renner (2009 graduate) was a highly-touted prep quarterback who is now the starting signal caller for the University of North Carolina. Kara Lawson (1999) was a star guard on the Spartans girls' basketball team before playing for the University of Tennessee and the WNBA's Sacramento Monarchs and Connecticut Sun. Lawson was a first-round selection (No. 5) of the Detroit Shock in 2003, but was traded to the Monarchs. She was part of Sacramento's 2005 championship team. Pitcher Joe Saunders (1999) led the Spartans to the 1998 state title and went on to pitch at Virginia Tech, where he compiled a 27-7 record. The Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim selected the lefthander in the first round (No. 12 overall) of the 2002 MLB draft. He now pitches for the Arizona Diamondbacks.

Quotable: "I knew in my heart [I needed] to push myself more. Last year [I thought], oh, I'm OK with this spot. But with this year [I thought], I know I can do this, I know I can get this place."

—Caroline Alcorta after finishing second at the 2012 state cross country meet.

Local Rivalry Colors High Schools' Sports Competition

Eric Bowles and the Woodson boys' basketball team reached the state tournament during the 2012-13 season.

Photo by Craig Sterbutzel The Connection

Woodson: Boys' Basketball Team Won the Region Championship

School: W.T. Woodson High School
Mascot: Cavaliers
School colors: Navy blue and white
Athletic director: Dan Checkosky, 703-503-4681
❖Football coach: Joe Dishun (third year)

The Cavaliers in 2012 finished 2-8 for the second consecutive season. After dropping five straight to open the year, Woodson won back-to-back games against T.C. Williams and Annandale. Woodson is 7-23 in three seasons following a 2009 region runner-up finish.

❖Volleyball coach: Len Palaschak
❖Boys' basketball coach: Doug Craig
❖Field hockey coach: Meg Jarrell
❖Baseball coach: Chris Warren
❖Girls' soccer coach: Warren Williams

What Happened Last Year: The boys' basketball team overcame a 19-point fourth-quarter deficit to beat Wakefield in overtime and win the region championship. The Cavaliers advanced to the state semifinals. The gymnastics team won a district title. The girls' lacrosse team won a district crown. The girls' soccer team won a district championship. The boys' soccer team finished district runner-up and reached the region semifinals.

Famous graduates: Andy Heck (1985 graduate) was a three-sport athlete who went on to play football at Notre Dame. He switched from tight end to offensive tackle and was a team captain and first-team All-American on the Fighting Irish's 1988 undefeated national championship team. The Seattle Seahawks selected Heck in the first round (No. 15 overall) of the 1989 NFL Draft. He played 12 seasons in the pros for the Seahawks, Chicago Bears and Washington Redskins. He played in 185 games and made 139 starts. Abe Thompson (2000) played soccer at the University of Maryland. FC Dallas selected him in the second round of the 2005 MLS Supplemental Draft. Michael Lahoud (2005) played soccer at Wake Forest University, where he helped the Demon Deacons win the 2007 national championship. Chivas USA selected Lahoud in the first round (No. 9 overall) of the 2009 MLS SuperDraft. Quotable: "We just told them … to just keep playing because we knew we could do it. We knew we could score a lot of points, we knew we could get hot and make some shots. We just went cold for about two quarters—we just couldn't throw it in the ocean. …There's no magic potion or anything. We just kept playing hard." —Woodson boys' basketball coach Doug Craig after the Cavaliers overcame a 19-point fourth-quarter deficit to win the region championship game.

Photo by Craig Sterbutzel/The Connection

Shannon Cosgrove, right, and the Fairfax field hockey team won the 2012 Liberty District title.

Fairfax: Field Hockey Program Has Won Three Consecutive District Titles

School: Fairfax High School
Mascot: Rebels
School colors: Blue and gold
Athletic director: Nancy Melnick, 703-219-2201
❖Football coach: Kevin Simonds (fourth year)

The Rebels were 5-2 at one point during the 2012 season, but dropped their final three games and missed the playoffs.

❖Field hockey coach: Amber Beaudoin
❖Volleyball coach: Tyler Freiheit
❖Boys' basketball coach: Mike Barbee
❖Girls' basketball coach: Marcus Konde

What Happened Last Year: The field hockey team won its fourth consecutive district championship and advanced to the region semifinals. The volleyball team posted a 21-8 record, finishing district runner-up.

Famous graduates: Bill Pulsipher (1991 graduate), a left-handed pitcher, was selected in the second round of the 1991 MLB Draft by the New York Mets. He was part of a promising young Mets pitching trio known as "Generation K," which included Jason Isringhausen and Paul Wilson. Isringhausen found success as a closer, but each pitcher's career was affected by injuries. Owen Schmitt (2003) played fullback in the NFL for the Seattle Seahawks, Philadelphia Eagles and Oakland Raiders. He played collegiately at West Virginia University and was a fifth-round selection of the Seahawks in the 2008 NFL Draft. "Good Morning America" weather anchor Sam Champion (1979) attended Fairfax High School.

Quotable: "Particularly the seniors; they've won four district titles in a row. There's really not much else left for them [to accomplish], and the hurdle of their entire high school career in hockey is we want to beat South County."

—Fairfax field hockey coach Amber Beaudoin during the 2012 region tournament. The Rebels would lose to South County in the semifinals.

Getting to Know Paul VI Sports

Girls' basketball team has won seven consecutive state titles.

School: Paul VI Catholic High School
Mascot: Panthers
School colors: Black and gold
Athletic director: Billy Emerson, 703-352-0925 ext. 318
❖Football coach: Gordon Leib (third year)

The Panthers finished with a 6-4 record in 2012, including a 42-20 victory over rival Bishop O'Connell in the season finale.

❖Volleyball coach: Sam Farrar
❖Boys' basketball coach: Glenn Farello
❖Girls' basketball coach: Scott Allen
❖Baseball coach: Jeff Nolan
❖Rival school: Bishop O'Connell

What Happened Last Year: The boys' and girls' cross country teams were state Catholic champions. The girls' basketball team won its seventh consecutive state championship and 14th in the last 17 years. The boys' basketball team won the Bass Pro Shops Tournament of Champions. The boys' lacrosse team posted a 20-4 record and finished WCAC and VISSA runner-up. The softball team finished state runner-up.

Famous alumni: San Diego Chargers receiver Eddie Royal and Oakland Raiders fullback Owen Schmitt attended, but did not graduate from Paul VI.

Photo contributed

The girls' varsity basketball team from Paul VI Catholic High School capped off their 29-4 season by winning their seventh consecutive VISAA Division I State Championship in March 2013.

Obsessed With Politics? Fairfax County Welcomes You!

What newcomers need to know to be politically-savvy insiders.

By Victoria Ross

The Connection

Fairfax County may be physically separated from Washington, D.C.—the ground-zero of All Things Political—but residents here are a politically-savvy bunch.

We know who Larry Sabato is—a prominent University of Virginia political analyst—and we pay attention to Not Larry Sabato—a Virginia politics blog by Ben Tribbett, a Fairfax County resident and self-described "vicious campaign insultant." We follow our politicians on Twitter and Facebook.

We know that Fairfax County won the "water wars," and we understand why Fairfax County parents get fired up over SLEEP and FAIRGRADE.

We know that "one and done" means our governor cannot succeed himself. And we've debated Virginia's Dillon Rule, the most vilified judicial doctrine in the state, which limits the authority of local governments.

Most importantly, we vote.

Fairfax County residents go to the polls in record numbers compared to their national counterparts. During last year's presidential election, voter turnout was 80.5 percent, significantly more than the lukewarm 53 percent of voters who turned out nationwide. In the past decade, voter turnout is trending higher in Fairfax County, while the reverse is true nationally, according to the Center for the Study of the American Electorate. By late September last year, nearly 90 percent of eligible voters, about 721,000 out of 800,000 people, had already registered to vote.

It shouldn't come as a surprise, then, that U.S. News ranked Fairfax County as one of the top 10 Cities for Political Junkies in a 2010 study, calling the county a place "where those obsessed with political affairs live."

Fairfax County has become much more competitive in recent years, turning reliably red and blue districts into 50 shades of purple, and putting the state into play in national elections.

Photo by Alex McVeigh/The Connection

Great Falls residents prepare to cast their vote Tuesday, Nov. 6 at the Great Falls Library. During last year's presidential election, voter turnout in Fairfax County was 80.5 percent, significantly more than the lukewarm 53 percent of voters who turned out nationwide.

In 2012, pollsters predicted that Obama's 2008 domination of Northern Virginia was a fluke. Instead, Northern Virginia (NoVa) handed Obama a historic victory with more than 60 percent of the vote, compared with 52.7 percent in "the Rest of Virginia" (RoVa).

Fairfax County residents are also more educated and well off than the country as whole—key factors that play into political participation. Prosperous, tight-knit communities are natural breeding grounds for political activity.

In 2013, Fairfax County residents are ready to cast their ballots for critical statewide offices, including the triumvirate of governor, lieutenant governor and attorney general. And while our state senators get to sit this race out, the Virginia's House of Delegates race is shaping up to be the most competitive in a decade.

According to an official candidate list released last month by the Virginia State Board of Elections, 57 House seats will be contested this November—marking only the second time in the last decade where at least half of the 100 House seats will have more than one name on the ballot.

If you're a newcomer—and you want to be an insider—start paying attention to politics.

Election Guide

From Page 14

❖ For more information on the state legislature, go to virginiageneralassembly.gov.

❖ Voters with any questions about voting this Election Day can visit two comprehensive websites for answers: The Virginia State Board of Elections website at www.sbe.virginia.gov and The Fairfax County Office of Elections website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/voterinfo.

❖ If you don't find the information you need at the websites, call the Office of Elections at 703-222-0776.

❖ Fairfax now has a free smartphone mobile app to check your registration and other voting information. Download the free app by searching Fairfax County Government at the App Store (coming soon to Android Market) or go to http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news/mobile/. Once you download the app, look for the "VOTE" icon.

Following are links to other sites election officials suggest voters check out before Election Day:

❖ Map Information: this site shows the 2011 adopted districts, precincts, boundary changes and polling place changes in Fairfax County. (Scroll down to find the maps.) http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb/1precinctchanges_adopted7262011.pdf.

❖ Voting Precincts: this site gives information on an individual's voting precincts on Fairfax County's website "My Neighborhood" pages at http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/gisapps/myneighborhood/.

❖ Voter Information, Directions to Polling Places: this State Board of Elections website has information useful now and for future elections. https://www.voterinfo.sbe.virginia.gov/PublicSite/Public/FT2/PublicLookup.aspx?Link=Registration .

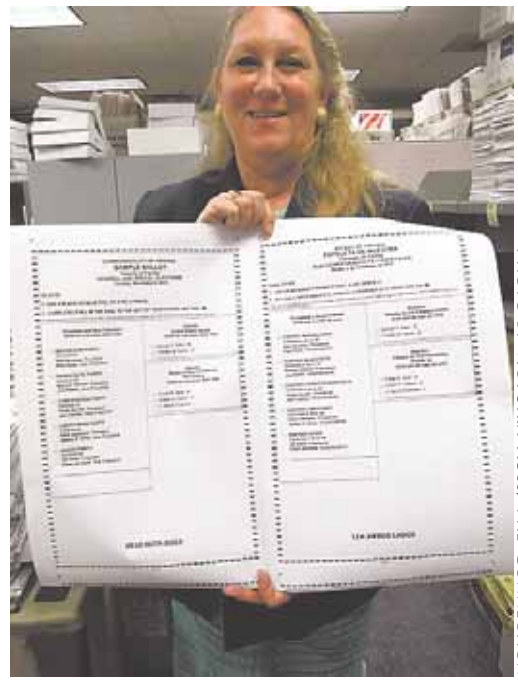


Photo by Victoria Ross/The Connection

Cameron Quinn, Fairfax County's chief elections official, holds up a sample ballot in the county's office of elections.

How to Register

Eligible voters in Fairfax County must be 18 years of age, current U.S. citizens and live within the county. Applications to register to vote by mail can be found at the Department of Motor Vehicles, public libraries, military recruitment offices, public assistance agency offices, government centers, Board of Supervisors offices, the citizen information desk at the Fairfax County Government Center lobby or at the Judicial Center information desk.

❖ To check if your registration is correct, go online at www.sbe.virginia.gov/register, or call the Office of Elections at 703-222-0776.

❖ If you are not registered, or need to update your registration, complete a Virginia Voter Registration Application, which you can download at http://www.sbe.virginia.gov, or call 703-222-0776.

Absentee Voting

Virginia does not have "no excuse" absentee voting. If you want to complete a Virginia Absentee Ballot Application, download from www.SBE.Virginia.gov, or call 703-222-0776. The application must be mailed or faxed to the Fairfax County General Registrar's Office. The office is located at 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 323, Fairfax. The registrar's fax number is 703-324-3725.

Virginia does offer in-person absentee voting. See www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb for details.

Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 5.

❖ Polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

❖ Voter Identification: When you arrive at your polling place, a voting official will verify that your name is on the registration list. Voters will be asked to present one valid form of identification. It can be any of the following:

❖ Virginia voter registration card

❖ Valid Virginia driver's license

❖ Military ID

❖ Any Federal, Virginia state or local government-issued ID

❖ Employer issued photo ID card

❖ Concealed handgun permit

❖ Valid student ID issued by any institution of higher education located in the Commonwealth of Virginia

❖ Current utility bill, bank statement, government check or paycheck indicating the name and address of the voter

❖ Social Security card (does not satisfy special federal ID requirements)

A voter who does not bring an acceptable ID to the polls will be offered a provisional ballot.

Important: Virginia's existing voter ID requirements will change in July, 2014. A law requiring photo identification at the polls was signed into law in May of 2013. This new photo identification requirement will not to take effect until July 1, 2014. The current law allows for the acceptance of all identification documents listed above.

Calendar

To have community events listed, send to south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416 with questions. The deadline for submissions is the Friday prior to publication; we recommend submitting your event two weeks ahead of time. To see more entertainment events, go to: http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2013/may/22/fairfax-county-calendar/.

THURSDAY/AUG. 29

Elikeh. 5-6:30 p.m., at Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax. Elikeh mixes Afro-beat with traditional Togolese polyrhythms to produce captivating tunes that are as listenable as they are danceable. www.elikeh.com.

FRIDAY/AUG. 30

Bruce Molsky and The Jumpsteady Boys. 7:30-8:30 p.m., at Royal Lake Park, 5344 Gainsborough Drive, Fairfax. Bruce Molsky performs Appalachian folk music on the fiddle, guitar and banjo. www.brucemolsky.com.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 15

Jeffrey Siegel's "Gershwin and Friends." 7 p.m., George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, MS 2F5, Fairfax. Steinway Piano Gallery of Washington, D.C. sponsors the acclaimed pianist's performance of American music. $19-$38, Mason ID permits 1 free ticket. cfa.gmu.edu and HyltonCenter.org.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 21

18th Annual CCÉ Irish Folk Festival. Noon-8:30 p.m. Sherwood Center at Van Dyck Park, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax; 3971 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. All are invited to enjoy the music, dance, language, and athletics of the Irish culture. Free admission and parking. 703-919-1031 or http://www.ccepotomac.org.

THURSDAY-SATURDAY/SEPT. 26-28

Friends of the Burke Centre Library Fall Used Book Sale. 1-9 p.m., Sept. 26; 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sept. 27; 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sept. 28 at Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. A variety of books will be sold at discounted prices. 703-249-1520.

FRIDAY/OCT. 4

"Twelfth Night." 8 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, MS 2F5, Fairfax. Aquila Theatre performs one of Shakespeare's comedies complete with an original musical score. $22-44; Mason ID permits 1 free ticket. cfa.gmu.edu.

Mayor

From Page 4

and purchased an additional 56 acres of open space. All of these, combined with an unprecedented private sector interest in our historic downtown and the redevelopment of Fairfax Boulevard, make this one of the most exciting times in our city's history.

I hope you will consider visiting the City of Fairfax. I'm certain you will discover why our many residents, visitors and business owners consider our community the "Heart of Northern Virginia."

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Fairfax Assembly of God
703-591-4284
Way of Faith Assembly of God
703-573-7221

Baptist
Braddock Missionary ... 703-830-4125
Calvary Hill…703-323-1347
Fairfax Baptist…703-273-1820
Fairfax Circle…703-573-7372
Greater Little Zion…703-764-9111
Iglesia Bautista La Gran Comiscica...703-323-5858
Judah Praise Fellowship Christian...703-758-1456
Northern Virginia Primitive Baptist...703-255-0637

Buddhist
Guhyasamaja Buddhist Center... 703-774-9692

Bible
Bancroft Bible Church... 703-425-3800

Catholic
St. Leo the Great Catholic... 703-273-5369
St. Mary of Sorrows Catholic Church... 703-978-4141
St. Paul Catholic Church... 703-968-3010

Coptic Orthodox
St. Mark...703-591-4444

Disciples of Christ
Fairfax Christian Church... 703-385-3520

Episcopal
Church of the Apostles
703-591-1974
Truro Episcopal...703-273-1300

Jewish
Congregation of Olam Tikvah... 703-425-1880
Chabad Lubavitch...703-426-1980

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Bethlehem Lutheran...703-978-3131
Christ Lutheran...703-273-4094
Kings of Kings...703-378-7272
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Pender United...703-278-8023

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Fairfax Church of Christ..703-631-2100
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Sovereign Grace Church...703-691-0600
Jesus Christ Crucified...703-385-9015
Metropolitan Community Church 703-691-0930
Salvation Army...703-385-9700
Shepherd's Heart...703-385-4833
Word of Life Church International... 703-978-7101

Pentecostal
The Greater Pentecostal Temple...703-385-9426

Presbyterian
Christ Presbyterian Chruch...703-278-8365
Fairfax Presbyterian...703-273-5300
Korean Presbyterian...703-321-8090
Providence Presbyterian...703-978-3934
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Opportunities Abound in Braddock District

From Page 3

educational groups the opportunity to use its 40-seat conference room at no cost to the user. Individuals or groups may reserve the room by calling our Office, 703-425-9300 and then submitting the application form (found along with rules of use at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/braddock/hall.htm). Braddock Hall is typically scheduled on a first come, first served basis. Braddock Hall can accommodate up to 40 people at tables and up to 80 people in a forum setting. The room contains tables and chairs, a podium as well as a projection screen and is equipped with cable access. Free wireless Internet connection is available, but no computer or media equipment is available to groups or individuals using Braddock Hall.

PARKS AND RECREATION:

CYCLISTS, SKATEBOARDERS, PETS

Residents of the Braddock District are fortunate to have some of the most beautiful parkland and trails in Fairfax County. Lake Accotink Park, located in the southeastern part of Braddock, is one of three county parks that has a large accessible lake as well as picnic areas, concessions, a carousel, miniature golf and boats and bicycles to rent. The Accotink Trail runs throughout the park and is accessible by many points. Royal Lake Park, in the Kings Park area of Braddock, is another lakefront park with a beautiful trail that runs around the perimeter.

If you're a bicyclist, we have many opportunities for you and your family to get out and enjoy some fun rides. Besides the Accotink and Royal Lake trails, the Pohick Stream Valley Trail is part of the larger, 40-mile-long Cross County Trail that runs from north to south across Fairfax County. This trail was just recently extended to allow access between the Rolling Road and Burke Centre VRE stations.

*Go to the Park Authority website to search for many other places to get out and enjoy nature in Braddock.

LEARN SOMETHING NEW?

Opportunities abound for all ages and interests.

George Mason University, Virginia's largest public college campus, is located in the Braddock District, six miles west of the Beltway off Braddock Road and Route 123, and has multiple programs available to the public of all ages. Here is a sample:

All Ages

*Observatory

Phone: 703-993-9558

Web: physics.gmu.edu/~hgeller/observing.html

The observatory at the Fairfax Campus building Research 1 offers a number of informal night sky observing sessions throughout the academic year, and is open to the public. There is a 16" diameter Dobsonian telescope in the observatory atop the pier; a 12 inch Schmidt-Cassegrain telescope used on the patio; and a 6" refractor originally built by Mason students in 1975. Observing sessions will be canceled if the sky is more than half overcast one hour before the session is scheduled to begin, or if it is too windy (>35mph) to open the observatory dome. Please check the website for the observing schedule and/or cancellation information. Observing sessions last approximately 1.5 hours weather permitting.

*Potomac Arts Academy

Phone: 703-993-9889

Web: www.potomacacademy.org

Mason's Potomac Arts Academy, part of the College of Visual and Performing Arts, offers the highest caliber of artistic instruction in an accessible and nurturing environment for community members of all ages, skill levels and socioeconomic backgrounds. Music, theater, visual arts, computer gaming and other classes and workshops are available.

Youth

*Summer Camps and Programs

Phone: 703-993-1005

Web: summercamps.gmu.edu

A wide variety of summer camps and programs are offered to youth in the areas of art, technology, academics, sports, recreation and radio.

*George Mason Institute of Forensics

Phone: 703-993-4119

Web: www.gmuforensics.org/gmif/index.htm

Hosted in the summer, the Institute of Forensics is open to any area high school student who desires to learn more about forensics.

*High School Debate Tournament and Institute

Phone: 703-993-1093

The George Mason University Debate Union sponsors the following:

*The High School Debate Tournament

The tournament, hosted in January, is open to all regularly enrolled high school students throughout the United States. The tournament includes five divisions of debate: novice, junior varsity and varsity policy debate, and Lincoln Douglas and Public Forum debate.

*The Patriot Classic High School Debate Institute

Phone: 703-993-1093

Hosted in the summer, the institute is open to any area high school student who desires to learn more about debating.

*Northern Virginia Writing Project Student Summer Institute

Phone: 703-993-1168

Web: www.nvwp.org (click on "Young Writers")

An enrichment program designed for students in grades five through 12 who have a serious interest in the creative writing process. Applications become available in March.

Adults

*Center for Global Education

Phone: 703-993-2154; Email: cge@gmu.edu

Web: globaled.gmu.edu

The Center for Global Education (CGE) is the university's study-abroad office and provides a wide array of opportunities for Mason students and the general public. CGE services include advising, issuing International Student ID Cards, a travel and study-abroad resource library, as well as study-abroad information sessions. The center's various educational opportunities are open to students and the general public for credit and audit.

*Short-term Study Tours. CGE's short-term programs are the most popular and are offered during the spring, summer, and winter academic breaks. Study tours are led by Mason faculty and cover a variety of topics, including business, ecology, politics, geography, theater, history, culture and trade in more than 30 countries. Short-term programs also include intensive language programs.

*Office of International Programs and Services

Phone: 703-993-2970; Email: oips@gmu.edu

Web: oips.gmu.edu

International students, faculty and staff are a vital part of the Mason community, representing approximately 135 countries. The Office of International Programs and Services provides a variety of services, resources and events to this segment of our population, including working with local community groups to facilitate connections between international students and local families and enabling international students to visit local public schools for cultural learning activities. Please call if you are interested in participating.

Seniors

*Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

Phone: 703-503-3384

Web: www.olli.gmu.edu

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI), a nonprofit organization affiliated with Mason, offers a variety of daytime courses, special events and other activities for older adults. There are no exams or college credit, and no college degree is required. Members pay annual dues. Programs are offered at Tallwood House, adjacent to Mason's Fairfax Campus; Lake Anne in Reston, Virginia; and the Mason in Loudoun site.

*Arts & Entertainment

Stellar performances, concerts, sports events and more at The Patriot Center.

*The Patriot Center for the Performing Arts and the Center for the Arts provides a steady stream of performances available to the public throughout the year. The Patriot Center is a 10,000-seat arena that hosts Mason basketball games, concerts and family shows. Bruce Springsteen, Keith Urban, Bob Dylan, Ricardo Arjona, Enrique Iglesias, the Harlem Globetrotters and Disney on Ice are some of the performers appearing at the arena over the past 26 years.

For information about the Patriot Center call 703-993-3000 *Tickets can be purchased through the box office or any Ticketmaster outlet. They can also be purchased through Phonecharge at 1-800-745-3000. Phonecharge is open daily from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tickets may also be purchased online at www.ticketmaster.com.

Additional Phone Numbers:

Accessible Seating 703-993-3035

Group Sales 202-661-5061

Mason Season Tickets 703-993-3270

*Friends of the Center for the Arts

Phone: 703-993-4188

Web: cfa.gmu.edu/friends

The Friends of the Center for the Arts offers the opportunity to support the Great Performances at Mason professional artist series and provides a number of volunteer opportunities not available to others, including hosting a meet-and-greet lobby table at an event, ushering at a performance, or hosting a performance discussion series in your home.

NORTHERN VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Begun in 1964, Northern Virginia Community College main campus is located in Braddock District off Little River Turnpike and Wakefield Chapel Road. It offers a quality and convenient educational experience at an affordable price. NOVA is the largest educational institution in Virginia and the second-largest community college in the United States, comprising of more than 75,000 students and 2,600 faculty and staff members. NOVA is also one of the most internationally diverse colleges in the United States, with a student body consisting of individuals from more than 180 countries.

NOVA encourages senior citizens to enroll in its credit and non-credit classes. Qualified senior citizens are entitled to register and pay no tuition on a space-available basis for certain types of courses. Participation requires that the student have (1) reached the age of 60 and (2) had legal domicile in Virginia for one year. A senior citizen is entitled to enroll and pay no tuition on a space-available basis for various courses, including credit and non-credit courses. For more information, go to http://www.nvcc.edu.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW—

POPULAR BRADDOCK EVENTS

& FESTIVALS:

*Braddock Nights Concert Series

This series of free musical performances held at Lake Accotink Park and Royal Lake Park throughout the summer presents a wide array of performances from classical to bluegrass and everything in between. The atmosphere is informal and you're encouraged to bring a picnic dinner, blankets and lawn chairs and relax with friends and family to celebrate the end of the workweek. Concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. More information online at http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances/. Volunteers are always welcome! If you have an interest in music or just enjoy being with people, we'd love to have your help. For more information, please contact my office at 703-425-9300.

*Concerts at the Corner

Live music concerts at the Plaza Stage at Fairfax Corner on Thursday nights 6:30-8:30 p.m. in June, July and August. For schedule check www.FairfaxCorner.com. Fairfax Corner is located on Monument Drive.

*Oak Hill Day—Sept. 29, noon to 4 p.m. at Oak Hill House on Braeburn Drive. Celebrate our local history and historians at Oak Hill Day. Come enjoy the unique opportunity to tour the grounds and first floor of the house and celebrate the beautiful 18th Century Georgian-style home. Call 703-425-9300 for more information.

*Burke Centre Festival, Sept. 8 & 9—The 35th Annual Burke Centre Festival Conservancy, 6060 Burke Centre Parkway. Admission is free. For additional information see http://www.burkecentreweb.com/sub_category_list.asp?category=37&title=Annual+Festival and the Year in the Arts section of the Newcomers Guide.

*Taste of Braddock—First Wednesday in December, the Braddock Supervisor hosts an Open House for all Braddock District residents. Food is provided by area restaurants.

*Mason Day—George Mason University's longest standing tradition, now includes carnival rides, food and local entertainment. Held the last week in April on the Mason Campus, it is open to the public. Mason faculty and students may attend free. There is a fee for all others. Check www.gmu.edu for more information.

Photo contributed

George Mason University's Patriot Center in Fairfax was constructed in 1985. A 10,000 seat sports and entertainment arena, the center is host to more than 120 events every year ranging from GMU basketballs games, Washington Wizards basketball training camp, rock concerts, presidential candidates and the Ringling Brothers Circus.

Braddock District Fast Facts (2012)

2012 Population—124,881

Households—42, 076

2012 Estimated Median Market Value of Single Family Detached Housing—$487, 728

2012 Industrial and Commercial Floor Total Area—8,870,350

Best Links for Braddock Newcomers

Braddock website—http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/braddock/

Braddock Facebook—https://www.facebook.com/#!/SupervisorCook

Braddock Twitter—www.twitter.com/johncookva

Non-profits

Lorton Community Action Center

Operates the Act ll Thrift Shop at 9506 Richmond Highway, Lorton. Sales from the shop generate funds for LCAC and clients also shop there. LCAC is seeking monetary donations, volunteers and collecting gift cards and food baskets for Thanksgiving, gifts and food baskets for Christmas, and warm coats. 703-339-8611 or www.lortonaction.org.

South County Cares

South County Church congregation members and south county area community members work together on local and international projects aid efforts. www.southcountycares.org.

FACETS

FACETS helps parents, their children and individuals who suffer the effects of poverty in the Fairfax area. FACETS is always in need of volunteers, and offers a variety of one-time and ongoing opportunities, including a monthly Youth Volunteer Night. 703-865-4251 or http://facetscares.org/.

Lamb Center

A day center for the homeless, currently seeking donations and general volunteers. 703-691-3178 or www.thelambcenter.org.

Fairfax City Area FISH

Working with the Office of Coordinated Services Planning and Fairfax County Department of Human Services, FISH (Friendly Immediate Sympathetic Help) helps local citizens who are in temporary need of life's basic necessities such as food, clothing and financial assistance for rent, mortgage payments, utilities and medical treatments. FISH also provides limited transportation for doctor appointments and food delivery. 703-222-0880 or http://fairfaxfish.org/.

Comfort for America's Uniformed Services

CAUSE ensures that recuperating service members have opportunities for recreation and social interaction and receive concrete signs of appreciation. 703-591-4968 or cause-usa.org.

Food for Others

The non-profit provides a safety net for people who suddenly face unforeseen emergencies such as a family illness or the loss of a job or a spouse. 703-207-9173 or www.foodforothers.com.

Our Daily Bread

The Holiday Program helps those in need with food for the holidays and gifts for their children, making last year's holiday season brighter for approximately 3,000 families. For more information on their holiday programs, including how to sponsor a family, go to www.odbfairfax.com/holiday.

Fairfax Families for Kids

Fairfax Families4Kids gives youth ages 12 to 21, currently living in foster care or out of foster care, the opportunity to participate in group and individual mentoring, and spend quality time in the community engaged in regularly scheduled, structured group activities. The youth also participate in community service projects. http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ncs/fairfaxfamilies4kids.htm.

Boys and Girls Club

Aims to help youth become confident, civic-minded, responsible adults through programs focused on education/career development, health and life skills, leadership, the arts, sports and recreation, and mentoring. http://www.bgcgw.org/fairfax/.

Employment

Zone 2: • Burke • Fairfax • Springfield

703-917-6464

Zone 2 Ad Deadline: Wednesday 11 a.m.

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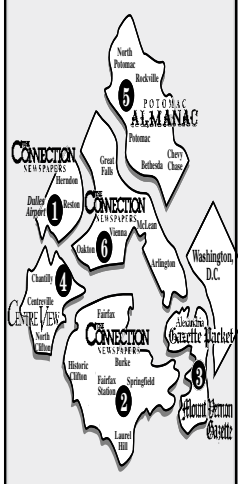

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21 Announcements

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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

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