

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

A Photo Tour of Vienna Landmarks

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE, PAGE 12

Like to ride bikes? Why not take a trip to the Washington and Old Dominion Railroad trail that runs right through downtown Vienna. W&OD park is great for walking, running, bicycling and more.

Celebrating Middle Eastern Food, Culture

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Marshall High Welcomes New Principal

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PHOTO BY CAROLINE BURR/THE CONNECTION



Author of “Conscious Classroom Management” Rick Smith speaks to new teachers on the first day of the FCPS Great Beginnings induction program.



New teachers practice role-playing exercises during the keynote speech of Rick Smith at South County High School.

FCPS Inducts 1,200 New Teachers

“Great Beginnings” program at South County High School prepares new and transferring teachers for their first week.

BY TIM PETERSON
THE CONNECTION

As summer vacation in Fairfax County winds down, the hallways and classrooms at South County High school are already buzzing. Beginning Aug. 18, roughly 1,200 new and returning teachers — as well as those new to the school system — took part in a week-long induction program called “Great Beginnings: The Next Generation.”

The summer institute — now in its 15th year and sponsored for the sixth year by the Apple Federal Credit Union Education Foundation — is a kickoff for the year-round support offered to new teachers by the FCPS office of professional practice and instructional services. Fairfax resident Richard Culp is one of the educational specialists in that outfit, who says that getting teachers off on the right foot and establishing a support network is critical to their success — and retaining them as teachers.

“Your first year of teaching is mostly about survival,” Culp said. Great Beginnings, which includes full days of keynote speakers, subject- or grade level-based breakout sessions called “cohorts” and designated time for networking, is all about establishing order early.

“Right now,” Culp continued, “what’s on their mind is ‘What is my classroom going to look like, where are my resources, how am I going to set up routines and proce-



Kathleen Walts, FCPS director of Pre-K through 12 professional learning and school support, helps check in teachers at the Great Beginnings induction.

dures for classroom management?” That’s what we focus on this whole week, and prepare them for what exactly they’re going to do when they meet those kids that first Tuesday after Labor Day.”

FOR GREAT BEGINNINGS 2014, the host venue changed to South County after having been held at Hayfield Secondary School for several years. Also new this year, organizers reached out to second- and third-year teachers, as well as providing a pilot for teachers in West Potomac and Mount Vernon High School pyramids. Keynote speakers included FCPS at large board member Ilryong Moon, 2013 Virginia Teacher of the Year Melissa Porfirio and

“Conscious Classroom Management” author Rick Smith.

Smith’s talk featured numerous strategies for dealing with stressful classroom situations, with interactive role-play opportunities for teachers to try out tools like “Soft Eyes.”

Mentorship is a statewide requirement from the Virginia Department of Education, and in Fairfax County, that includes one-on-one support, after-school classes and reaching out to non-classroom employees like occupational therapists and speech and language pathologists.

According to Culp and director of Pre-K through 12 professional learning and school support Kathleen Walts, teacher develop-

ment and retention are two major challenges and areas of focus. “Statistics show that 50 percent of the new teachers in classrooms today will not still be teaching in five years,” said Culp, “and our goal is to make sure that Fairfax County isn’t part of that.”

— Richard Culp,
educational specialist

“It’s really important for us to continue the teacher’s learning,” added Walts, a Manassas resident, “so that we can ensure that they’re not only high quality in their first year, but they continue to learn and grow as teachers, and continue to impact our students across the board.”

CURRENTLY, Fairfax County sits above the national average, with a 93 percent retention rate of teachers after their first year. Walts attributes that success in part to the relationships teachers of various experience levels and schools form with one another during the summer institute.

“In those relationships they’re learning with coaches,” said Walts. “And I think that part of it alone is significant in their development.”

They will spend time for the entire year with those cohorts, and continue to learn and grow together as a group.”

“It’s not part of the teachers’ evaluation process,” said Culp. “We’re there to support them. They feel free to speak to their coaches, their mentor about things that are challenging them, and know that that conversation isn’t going to go beyond.”

According to Culp and Walts, the nearly 1,200 fresh faces are all enthusiastic and eager to start molding minds. Their job is to keep them that way for weeks, months and years to come.

PHOTOS BY TIM PETERSON/THE CONNECTION

Marshall High Welcomes New Principal

The school looks forward to “utilizing new building to its full potential.”

This year, Marshall High School welcomes its new principal, Jeff Litz, along with new additions constructed in the school’s \$55 million renovation. “Over the summer, Marshall’s biggest focus has been renovating. Over the school year, our focus will be to utilize our new building to its greatest potential,” Litz said. “The Davis Center is the last instructional place to be completed and we expect to have all furniture moved in very soon. The whole project is to be completed by Nov. 14.” The high school looks forward to hosting a grand opening in June for the Marshall community to celebrate the new state-of-the-art building. With 1,850 students enrolled

at Marshall this year, the administration hopes to maintain their “small school, big heart” motto.

“Any school’s biggest challenge is providing the highest quality of education for every student,” Assistant Principal Dan Daus said. “Some students advocate very well for themselves while others don’t, so that’s where we come in. We want to motivate kids without pushing them too hard.” One program that is highly valued by the students of Marshall High School is ethics day. “At the end of the year, seniors are surveyed about their likes and dislikes for the school year.

Ethics day was one of the seniors’ favorite experiences,” said Litz. “We’ve made ethics day really relevant for our students in working with a cyber ethics module and dealing with social media issues. Unfortunately, this is something students and administrators have to deal with a lot but this program really gave our seniors an opportunity to work like adults.”

— LIZZY BROWN-KAISER

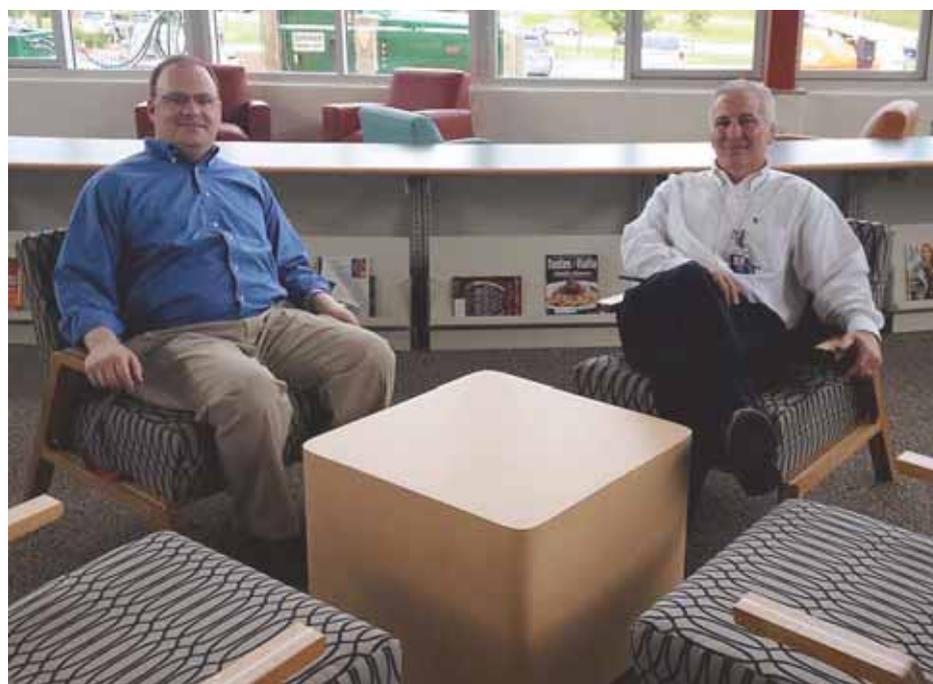


PHOTO BY LIZZY BROWN-KAISER/THE CONNECTION

From left – Marshall High School’s new Principal Jeff Litz and Assistant Principal Dan Daus in the school’s brand new library that was inspired by a Barnes & Noble bookstore.

The Shepherd’s Center of Oakton-Vienna Launches New Website

The Board of Directors of the Shepherd’s Center of Oakton-Vienna (SCOV) has announced the launch of their newly designed website at www.scov.org

Michelle Scott, Executive Director for SCOV, said, “With more than 17 years of providing support to enhance the lives of local seniors, we don’t do it the same way we did when we started. And while our last website wasn’t made 17 years ago, it definitely wasn’t reflective of the innovative work we’re doing in the Northern Virginia area.

As a nonprofit charitable organization, SCOV is here to communicate with, listen to, grow and engage our community of clients, volunteers and supporters. We depend on this community to fulfill our mission. We’ve put a lot of work into this website along with the dedicated help of volunteers; Jean Bastien and Michelle Kang, and we’re excited to share it. A website should spread current and useful information, it should be easy to navigate and share, and ideally, our visitors will enjoy this new site. We designed our website to allow us to update it easily, getting our clients, volunteers and supporters our current and useful information quickly.”

Founded in 1997, the Shepherd’s Center of Oakton-Vienna is a volunteer-based organization dedicated to providing opportunities for adults (50+) to seek rewarding lives and to live independently in their homes for as long as possible. In 2013 SCOV provided services and programs to more than 3,000 older adults. In 2012, SCOV was voted the Best Nonprofit of the Year by the Vienna Tysons Regional Chamber of



COURTESY OF SHEPHERD’S CENTER OF OAKTON-VIENNA

Michelle Scott, Executive Director of the Shepherd’s Center of Oakton-Vienna (SCOV) is pictured displaying newly launched website for SCOV.

Commerce. Each year more than 200 volunteers at SCOV serve as medical drivers, companion drivers, friendly callers and visitors, health and wellness educators, office assistants, fundraisers, and grant writers. These volunteers run programs such as SCOV’s Lunch n’ Life, Adventures in Learning, trips and outings, special events, and caregivers’ support group.

SCOV’s signature fundraiser will be held on Oct. 26, starring “Capitol Steps.” For tickets visit: <http://scov.org/fundraiser>

To learn more about SCOV visit their new website at www.scov.org or call Michelle Scott, Executive Director at 703-281-5088, director@scov.org



PHOTO COURTESY OF T.R. COOK OF COOKS PHOTO ART STUDIO

From left — Chief James A Morris, Officer Patrick “Pat” Kiley and Sgt. Peter Elias.

Vienna Police Officer Honored Officer Kiley receives Charles A. Robinson Respect for Law Award.

On June 18, the Vienna Optimist Club held their annual banquet to honor the 2013 Charles A. Robinson Respect for Law Enforcement Award recipients at the Marco Polo Restaurant in Vienna. Officer Patrick “Pat” Kiley was chosen as the Town of Vienna Police Department’s Optimist Club award winner. This award is given annually to one

Vienna Police officer and one Fairfax County Police officer after having been nominated by their respective commanders. The award is named after long time Vienna Mayor Charles “Charlie” A. Robinson.

Officer Kiley has been a member of the

Vienna Police Department since 2011 and is currently assigned to the Patrol Section.

In his nomination of Officer Kiley, Sgt. Peter Elias wrote: “Officer Kiley has a very positive attitude and is always upbeat which motivates everyone around him. He really

cares about the citizens of the Town of Vienna and this is reflected in his self initiated service to the community.”

Officer Kiley is a Field Training Instructor, Intoxilizer Operator and a Patrol Mountain Bike Officer.

Officer Kiley graduated from East Carolina University with a bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice.



PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

Young Holy Transfiguration church members help out during the food festival held over Labor Day weekend for two days.



PHOTO COURTESY OF HOLY TRANSFIGURATION MELKITE GREEK-CATHOLIC CHURCH, McLEAN

Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic church volunteers sell sweets hand-made by church members. The festival will sell 12,000 pieces of sweets over the two-day festival on Labor Day weekend.

Middle Eastern Food Festival Returns for 22nd Year

Festival hosted by Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic Church features, food and sweets, family activities and traditional culture.

21st Annual Middle Eastern Food Festival

Labor Day weekend, Saturday, Aug. 30, 11a.m. to 11p.m.; Sunday, Aug. 31, noon to 6 p.m., Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic Church, 8501 Lewinsville Road, McLean. Middle Eastern dishes – from shawarma wraps to plated dinners - sweets, Arabic coffee, and activities for families and children. Lamb dinner Saturday at 6 p.m. and Sunday, all day, \$14.

For more information, go to www.MiddleEasternFoodFestival.com or call 703-734-9566. Free admission.

BY DONNA MANZ
THE CONNECTION

Food and festival-lovers alert! The annual Labor Day weekend Middle Eastern Food Festival is upon the McLean/Vienna area once again. And if you've wondered how a Northern Virginia foodfest can go through 200 pounds of lamb, 400 pounds of beef, 450 pounds of chicken, 180 pounds of butter and 12,000 pieces of sweets, this is your opportunity to find out.

On Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 30 - 31, Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic Church, on Lewinsville Road in McLean hosts its annual Labor Day weekend Middle Eastern Food Festival, featuring an abundance of meats, savories and sweets, folkloric music, and activities for children. The two-day festival is open to the public and no admission is charged. "This is our opportunity to share our foods and traditions with the community," said sweets chair, Samira Bailey.

Baking and food preparation began in June. The freezers in the church kitchen hold hundreds of cookies. "We use the best ingredients we can find," said Bailey. "We bring in our traditional foods, especially the holiday sweets. To us, holidays are very important and food and sweets are a part of family traditions." Many of the sweets are symbolic, Bailey said, and Grandma, Auntie, and Mama would remind the children why they were making what they were. Baklava, a favorite Arabic treat in America, would have been served at weddings and births. "When there is baklava, there's something to be happy about," Bailey said. And desserts are not served at funerals, only at "happy occasions."

THE FESTIVAL'S MAIN ROLE is to share the food traditions, culture and faith of Holy

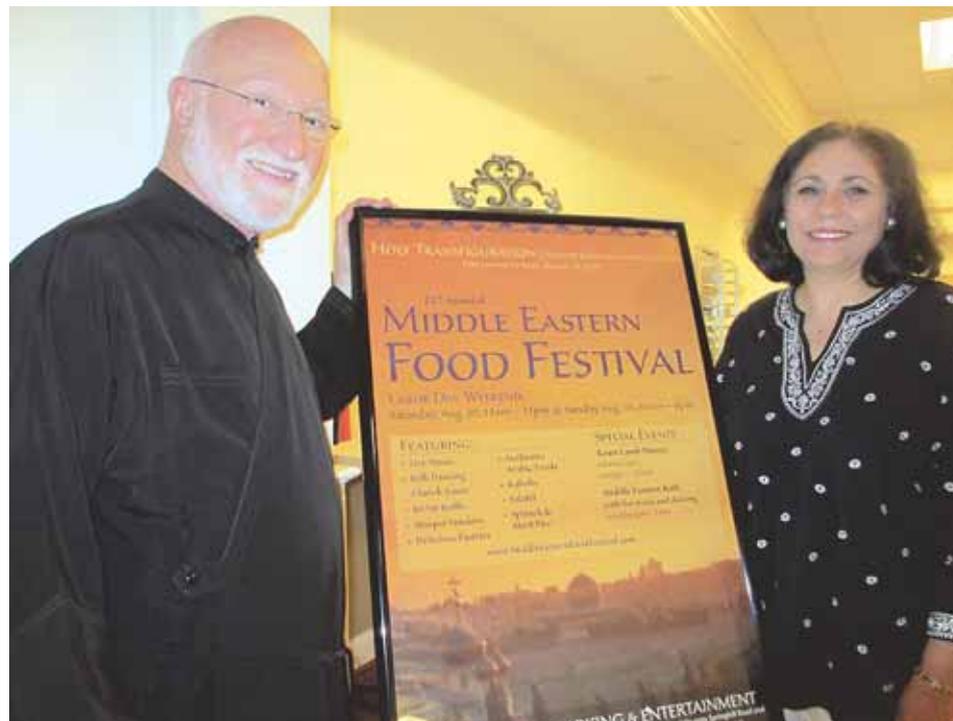


PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

Father Joseph Francavilla and Middle Eastern Food Festival "sweets" chair Samira Bailey, of Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic Church in McLean, are ready for the church's 21st Annual Middle Eastern Food Festival on Labor Day weekend.

Transfiguration parishioners with others outside the church. Family and hospitality are treasured. "When you share a meal with someone, especially at their table, then there is a bond created, a bond of hospitality and friendship," said Holy Transfiguration pastor, Father Joseph Francavilla. "So, how can I be your enemy if I've broken bread with you?"

He said the food festival builds bridges of understanding between different cultures and different faiths.

The festival draws diverse ethnic groups, various faiths, from through the metro-D.C. area, who share communal dining tables.

In its 21st year, the festival has helped

raised funds for the church. In 2013, parishioners decided to donate 10 percent of the proceeds from the festival to children of refugees in the Middle East. They will be doing the same this year. "The children are the most vulnerable," said Father Francavilla. "They don't understand what is going on around them. They see the hardships, the bodies." Refugees, said the priest, come to churches for help because social assistance in the Middle East countries is poor. "Even the churches are being overwhelmed," he said. "We give assistance to anyone who asks, regardless of faith." Church and community response was generous last year. Along with the congrega-

tion, festival guests donated to the fund. Father Francavilla said the church took what it made and added to it, rounding off the figure to \$10,000 and sending the money to bishops in the dioceses of Egypt Syria, and Lebanon. In September, Patriarch of the Melkite Greek-Catholic Church, coming from Syria, will accept the contribution.

Father Francavilla said the festival has been voted the "best" Labor Day food festival by readers of Washingtonian magazine.

"You should come because it's a chance for you to have a wonderful time, eat delicious food, make new friends and learn about our faith and our folklore," said Bailey.

ADMISSION to the festival and parking are free. Sweets are sold by the piece – and keep in-mind that there are 12,000 pieces – and entrees and a la carte are sold by plates. Shawarma wraps (lamb, beef or chicken) and chicken shish kebab sell for about \$8 each. Mixed platters range from about \$7 to \$10, and the spit-roasted lamb dinner is priced at \$14. A la carte items range from \$3 to \$6 each. Sweets prices vary, and the baklava and the date or nut-filled maamoul are stand-outs.

Kids' activities include pony rides and a bounce house. Vendors sell Middle Eastern goods, and, on the back lawn, meats are grilled, carved and served.

For more information, go to www.MiddleEasternFoodFestival.com or call 703-734-9566.

FAITH NOTES

Faith Notes are for announcements and events in the faith community. Send to vienna@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday.

Temple Beth Torah, a Reform Jewish congregation and member of the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ), holds services and Religious School in the heart of Chantilly. The congregation offers the Northern Virginia Jewish community services that provide numerous spiritual, educational, support and social opportunities including religious school for member children age 3 through Bar/Bat Mitzvah and confirmation. Our congregation welcomes all members of the community to attend any of our services or events. For more information, a newsletter, or a membership package call Jennifer Harding, 703-217-8938 or visit www.BethTorah.net

Upcoming service and event schedule:

❖ Shabbat Service, Friday, Sept. 5, 7:30 p.m., New/Prospective Member Shabbat

❖ Religious School, Sunday, Sept. 7, 10:30 a.m. - First day of religious school

❖ Picnic, Sunday, Sept. 7, 12:30 p.m. - Annual Brotherhood Picnic, Frying Pan Farm Park

❖ Ladies' Book Club, Tuesday, Oct. 14, 7:30 - Join us for this "pot-luck" style book club that meets every other month on the second Tuesday of the month. This club is open to all women. Plan to bring a drink or appetizer to share. We will be discussing "This is Where I Leave You" by Jonathan Tropper.

Community Rally and Family Fun Day will be held at The Hunger Church, Charles Wesley United Methodist Church, 6817 Dean Drive, McLean on

Sunday, Sept. 7, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday School for all ages - 9 to 10 a.m.

Outdoor Worship Service - 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Family Fun and BBQ Picnic - 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Enjoy a fun filled Rally Day and Family Fun Day featuring an outdoor worship service, barbeque picnic lunch, and family fun activities, including a moon bounce, games, crafts, and more. The event is casual and bring your own lawn chair or blanket, if you prefer.

We hope to see you for study, worship, fellowship, and fun. www.TheHungerChurch.org

The Antioch Christian Church offers a time of Prayer and Healing on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. for anyone wanting encouragement and healing through prayers. People are available to pray with you or for you. Antioch Christian Church is located at 1860 Beulah Road in Vienna. www.antiochdoc.org

The Jewish Social Services Agency (JSSA) offers a wide variety of support groups for those with emotional, social, and physical challenges. www.jssa.org/growth-learning

HAVEN of Northern Virginia offers a variety of free bereavement support groups, meeting on a weekly basis. 703-941-7000 or www.havenofnova.org

McLean Bible Church Fitness Class at Body & Soul Fitness. Gain balance, energy and strength at 9:45 a.m. Mondays and Fridays. Free childcare for registered students. bodyandsoul@mcleanbible.org

St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church, 1830 Kirby Road in McLean, holds a third Sunday service every month at 10:15 a.m. which allows children to play active roles in the music and as greeters and ushers. Traditional services are every Sunday at 8:15 and 10:15 a.m.

Vienna Christian Healing Rooms are open, every Saturday, 1-5 p.m., at 8200 Bell Lane. A team of Christians is available to anyone requesting prayer. Free and open to the public. 703-698-9779 or www.viennachristianhealingrooms.com

Chesterbrook United Methodist Church is at 1711 Kirby Road, McLean. Worship service is at 11 a.m. Sunday school is at 9:30 a.m. for adults and children. 703-356-7100 or www.ChesterbrookUMC.org

Centering Prayer Group meets Fridays, 9:30 a.m. at Andrew Chapel United Methodist Church, 1301 Trap Road, Vienna. The hour includes a brief reading related to Centering Prayer, followed by a 20-minute prayer period. E-mail Martha Thomas at mmthomas211@hotmail.com or call the church at 703-759-3509.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington and the Jewish Outreach Institute offer the Mothers/Parents Circle, an umbrella of free educational events and resources. Jewish rituals, ethics and the creation of a Jewish home, regular meetings and group Shabbats and holidays. Participants include Sha'are Shalom, Congregation Beth Emeth, Temple Rodef Shalom and the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia. ShalomDC.org



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Back to School: Good Steps, Good Intentions

The first day of school in Fairfax County is Tuesday, Sept. 2, but Monday, Sept. 8 is the beginning of something important.

For the first time in decades, elementary school students will have a full day of school on Mondays instead of being sent home hours early. This action makes so much sense in for families with children in elementary school. The ability of Superintendent Karen Garza to facilitate this change to go into effect right away is remarkable, and we hope a promise for more changes ahead.

Earlier this week, the American Academy of Pediatrics issued a policy statement calling for later start times — not earlier than 8:30 a.m. — for high school and middle school students. It's

not impossible although some school systems would have you believe that it can't be done. It's time to make that change in Fairfax County.

The science is undisputed. From the abstract: "A substantial body of research has now demonstrated that delaying school start times is an effective countermeasure to chronic sleep

EDITORIAL

loss and has a wide range of potential benefits to students with regard to physical and mental health, safety, and academic achievement. The American Academy of Pediatrics strongly supports the efforts of school districts to optimize sleep in students and urges high schools and middle schools to aim for start times that allow students the opportunity to achieve optimal levels of sleep (8.5–9.5 hours) and to improve physical (eg, reduced obesity risk) and mental

(eg, lower rates of depression) health, safety (eg, drowsy driving crashes), academic performance, and quality of life."

You can read the report here: <http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/early/2014/08/19/peds.2014-1697.full.pdf>

Back to school nights begin this week and run into October. For parents and students, there is no more important event that to turn up at Back to School Nights for your children, introduce yourself to teachers and open the lines of communication. Here is a link to a daunting list of Back to School Nights in Fairfax County:

<http://www.fcps.edu/news/backtoschool/bts-chronological.shtml>

— MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'Real Jobs' and 'Real Taxes'

To the Editor:

In Leesburg on August 21, Supervisor John Foust, in discussing his opponent Delegate Barbara Comstock, said "I don't think [Comstock's] even had a real job." This is a stunning statement given that he surely knows that Delegate Comstock, a lawyer, has served as a congressional staffer, a federal employee, a partner in a law firm, and a small business owner. This is in addition to serving for three terms in the Virginia General Assembly and raising three children.

Why does Supervisor Foust think these jobs are not "real?" Was this an effort to persuade his audience, that Delegate Comstock is unqualified for the U.S. Congress because she is unfamiliar with the work place? Or was this an effort to distract from the real domestic and foreign policy issues that should be debated by those who aspire to serve in the U.S. Congress? Or merely an attempt to demean Delegate Comstock?

Northern Virginia voters need to know if Supervisor Foust believes that federal employees, congressional staffers, lawyers, and small business owners are not working "real" jobs. They are paying "real" taxes - something near and dear to Supervisor Foust judging from his voting record to increased property taxes and his proposal for a restaurant/meals tax.

The 10th Congressional District has been represented with honor, integrity and distinction for the past 34 years by Congressman Frank Wolf. Voters deserve to hear the candidates' views on crucial economic and foreign policy issues that will come before Congress. I expect Supervisor Foust to discuss

the substantive issues and refrain from personal attacks on Delegate Comstock.

Sara Brady
Vienna

Running for 'Real Job'

To the Editor:

Fairfax County Supervisor John W. Foust, Democratic congressional candidate from Northern Virginia, seems to have discovered one of those worse-than cures to treat political foot-in-mouth disease: suggest you do not consider elective office to be a real job, then list your opponent's superior qualifications and experience to serve in the post you seek for yourself.

In the course of his "Women's Priorities Tour," Mr. Foust questioned whether his opponent, Republican state Delegate Barbara Comstock, has "even had a real job." Presumably, Mr. Foust knew at the time that Comstock is an elected official, so one may fairly ask, with some trepidation perhaps, whether Mr. Foust considers being an elected public official a real job.

Of course he may have simply forgotten Ms. Comstock's current job, though in attempting to soothe the inevitable rash of outrage over his initial statement, Mr. Foust remembered that Ms. Comstock had once been employed by a congressional committee and also by the Justice Department. As reported, and as Mr. Foust no doubt knew but did not say for obvious reasons, Ms. Comstock was also once a top aide to Congressman Frank Wolf (R-Va.), whose pending retirement has created the vacancy for which Ms. Comstock and Mr. Foust are

competing.

Not a very good balm to be applied by someone who has no federal experience himself but wants the real job of congressman.

Tyler Posey
McLean

Well-deserved Endorsements

To the Editor:

The recent endorsement of Barbara Comstock by both the

National Association Realtors and the Virginia Association of Realtors is not only well deserved, but speaks volumes as to the impact that both Barbara and Congressman Frank Wolf have played in helping further both our local economy and that of the country. As a Virginia resident for nearly 30 years and a Realtor for nine years, I know firsthand what Barbara has meant to our community. Barbara received these endorsements because of her longstanding commitment to pro-growth economic policies and common sense legislation. I am confident that she will be a strong voice in furthering this approach once she is elected to the U.S. Congress.

Having met Barbara Comstock in 2009 when she was running her first campaign for state delegate, I have proudly endorsed her since then. I say proudly because she has yet to disappoint either myself, or our community, in what she has accomplished in Richmond. Whether it's stepping in to break deadlocks on roadway construction projects or ensuring that communities impacted by past storms received the appropriate attention, she has always been there. I have no idea how she manages to do so, but Barbara is always there for

Memorial Day remembrances, Fourth of July parades or our local Military Appreciation Monday events.

I personally can't wait to see how she takes this same level of commitment, energy and unabashed patriotism to the Hill as our next Congresswoman!

Bob Nelson
Great Falls

Facing Homelessness

To the Editor:

In his opinion piece ("Homelessness: Source of Trauma for Children," Connectionm August 13-19, 2014), Dean Klein, the Director of Fairfax County's Office to Prevent and End Homelessness, clearly enumerated the reality for hundreds of homeless families and their children in the County. While most of them are working, these families do not earn enough income for them to access affordable housing. According to a study completed by George Mason University in 2012, nearly half the households earning less than \$40,000 in annual income in the Mount Vernon and Woodlawn communities have trouble finding or maintaining housing for their families.

At Good Shepherd Housing & Family Services, a 40-year-old homeless services and affordable housing provider serving the Mount Vernon community, we have seen many such families struggling to access affordable housing. They are living on the brink of homelessness — or are, in fact, experiencing a spell of homelessness. Last year we helped

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SPORTS



PHOTOS BY JON ROETMAN

McLean will operate out of the spread offense under first-year head coach Shaun Blair and coordinator Chris Weiler.

Blair Looks to Instill Winning Culture at McLean

Highlanders trying for first playoff berth since 2011.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

Shaun Blair spent eight seasons as an assistant coach with two of the more successful high school football programs in Northern Virginia. Now a first-time head coach, Blair, 35, is in charge of transforming an average team into a winner.

Blair enters the 2014 season as the head coach of the McLean football team. He takes over a program that finished 15-16 over the last three seasons, including a trip to the playoffs in 2011. From 2007-2013, McLean posted a 31-42 record, including an 8-3 mark in 2010, with three playoff appearances, but no postseason victories.

Winning seasons and playoff victories were part of the culture at Blair's previous two coaching stops. From 2006-2010, he was an offensive assistant at Robinson under then-head coach Mark Bendorf, who led the Rams to state championships in 1997 and 2001. In Blair's last two seasons with Robinson, the Rams went 19-5 with a pair of playoff wins.

From 2011-2013, Blair was a defensive assistant at Lake Braddock under head coach Jim Poythress, who led the Bruins to the state playoffs in 2009 and 2010. In Blair's three seasons with Lake Braddock, the Bruins went 28-8 and reached the 2013 region semifinals.

"Bringing that kind of football culture from what the Burke area has been exposed to with Coach Bendorf and Coach Poythress [is a focal point]," Blair



Jordan Cole will be an impact player as receiver and safety for the McLean High football team.

said, "[along with] instilling values about school and your program and playing for more than yourself."

Offensively, Blair and coordinator Chris Weiler have implemented a spread attack led by senior quarterback Brian Maffei.

"He is one tough guy," Blair said. "... His development has been exponential from the kid we've seen on film."

Maffei's top receiving threat is senior Jordan Cole. Tight end Owen Pilewski will also figure into the passing game.

Leading the way on the ground will be running back Chris Merrill.

"He's elusive," Blair said. "The thing that sets him apart is he has phenomenal vision. He sees it all develop as he's carrying the football."

Jack Holland, Tom Shue and Pilewski could also receive carries.

Defensively, the Highlanders will operate out of a base 4-3

alignment. Cole and Shue will be the safeties. Senior Nelson Sera is an enforcer at middle linebacker.

"He gets [to the ball carrier]," Blair said, "with a pretty angry attitude."

Sam Higbee will be another difference maker at linebacker. Brandon Hill is a standout along the defensive line. Blair said one goal for the Highlanders is to improve by one game from last year's 5-5 record, giving McLean a winning season. Another goal is to get in the playoffs.

"They're a proud group of young men," Blair said, "and we want to get a game better than they've been before."

McLean will open the season on the road against Washington-Lee at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 5. The Highlanders' first home game is Sept. 19 against Falls Church.



PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Oakton sophomore Maddie Rouse, right, scored two goals during the Cougars' 5-1 victory over Osbourn Park on Monday.

Oakton Field Hockey Bounces Back

The Oakton field hockey team trailed early in its contest against Osbourn Park on Monday as the Yellow Jackets scored in the opening minutes.

As it turned out, a little adversity was all the Cougars needed to get going.

Oakton responded with a pair of first-half goals and added three in the second half during a 5-1 victory over Osbourn Park at the Under the Lights tournament at Lee High School.

Sophomore Maddie Rouse and junior Makenzie Brooks each scored a pair of goals for Oakton, and senior Sydney Applegate had one.

"I think it was almost good for [Osborn Park] to score because it woke [the Cougars] up and made them realize they need to be ready as soon as they're going into the game," first-year Oakton head coach Allison Ryneski said. "I think they responded very well as we

dominated pretty much the rest of the first half."

Rouse's goal with less than 19 minutes remaining in the first half tied the score at 1-all. Brooks scored with less than 15 minutes left in the opening half, giving the Cougars a lead they wouldn't relinquish.

"Definitely, that's what we needed," Oakton senior Jackie Toye said of Osbourn Park's early goal. "Sometimes it just takes that mistake in order for us to get going again. From that point on, we seemed a lot more with it, our passes were better and we just overall played a lot better."

Ryneski said Toye and senior Devon Thomas are two of Oakton's top players.

"They know the game," Ryneski said, "[and they] know where to put the ball."

Oakton will travel to face Madison at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 3.

— JON ROETMAN



Madeline Weaver and the Oakton field hockey team overcame an early Osbourn Park goal to beat the Yellow Jackets 5-1 on Monday.

CALENDAR

Send announcements to north@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is Friday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged.

THURSDAY/AUG. 28

The Band Perry. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap - The Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Performance by country-pop trio The Band Perry. \$35-\$60. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

Artists Meet for Coffee. 8:30-10 a.m. Katie's Coffeehouse, Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Local Artists meet for Coffee; do drop in! 703-759-2759.

Patrick Henry Book Club. 1:00 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Discussion on The Big Burn by Timothy Egan. 703-938-0405.

FRIDAY/AUG. 29

Pokemon League. 3 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Come play Pokemon with friends. 703-938-0405.

SATURDAY/AUG. 30

21st Annual Middle Eastern Food Festival. 11 a.m. - 11 p.m. Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic Church, 8501 Lewinsville Road, McLean. Middle Eastern dishes - from shawarma wraps to plated dinners - sweets, Arabic coffee, and activities for families and children. Visit www.MiddleEasternFoodFestival.com or call 703-734-9566. Free admission.

Free Tai Chi Beginners' Practice. 8-9 a.m. McLean Central Park basketball court, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd, McLean. Open to all, including first-timers, every Saturday morning. 703-759-9141 or www.freetaichi.org/practice.shtml.

Great Falls Farmers Market. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Great Falls Village, 778 Walker Road, Great Falls. Don't forget to bring your recyclable bag. www.greatfallsfarmersmarket.org.

The Fresh Beat Band Live in Concert! 2 p.m. Wolf Trap - The Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Performance by Nick Jr.'s TV band. \$25-\$50. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

SUNDAY/AUG. 31

George Benson with Special Guest Andreas Varady. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap - The Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Jazz and pop performance. \$25-\$55. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 2

Colvin Run Tuesday Dance for Everyone. 6:30-10 p.m. Colvin Run Community Gall, 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Come participate in weekly dance lessons ranging from 'Dance of the Month to General with Hustle, Shug, Latin and more. Admissions: \$12. 703-435-5620 or Ed Cottrell, EdCottrell@MACP.org.



PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic Church volunteers will sell traditional dishes and hand-made sweets at the 21st Annual Middle Eastern Food Festival on Labor Day weekend, Aug. 30-31 at 8501 Lewinsville Road, McLean.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 4

Gipsy Kings with Special Guest Ole' Noys. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap, The Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Rumba to guitar rhythms of flamenco's royal family! Admissions: \$35-\$50. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 5

Cirque Dreams - Jungle Fantasy. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap, The Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Come and watch the acrobatics in a musical adventure that New York Magazine calls "the grandest circus spectacle east of Vegas." Admissions: \$25-\$50. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

Old Firehouse Teen Center Back-to-School Party for 7th-9th graders. 7-10 p.m. OFTC, 1440

Chain Bridge Road, McLean. Come celebrate the end of summer and beginning of school. \$5-\$10. www.mcleancenter.org or 703-790-0123.

Drop-in Chess. 4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Weekly drop-in chess games in the library meeting room. All ages welcome.

Look at the Stars! Open Observatory. 7:30-10:30 p.m. Turner Farm Park, Springvale Road, Great Falls. Friday night viewings of the sky at the observatory park. Visit <http://www.analemma.org> for more information.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 6

Cirque Dreams - Jungle Fantasy. 7:30 p.m. Wolf Trap, The Filene

Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. The second night of this production at an earlier time. Watch the acrobatics in a musical adventure that New York Magazine calls "the grandest circus spectacle east of Vegas." Admissions: \$25-\$50. 1-877-WOLFTRAP.

Cars & Coffee. 7-9 a.m. Katie's Coffee House, 760 Walker Road, Great Falls. Every Saturday come find an assortment of antique, custom, exotic, sports cars and more! With coffee!

Great Falls Farmers Market. 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Great Falls Village, 778 Walker Road, Great Falls. Bring your recyclable bag and participate in the local movement. Farmers from around the area sell their vegetables, fruits, crepes, drinks and more.

Jody Marshall. 5 - 7 p.m. The Palladium Civic Place Green, 1445 Laughlin Avenue, McLean. Outdoor Celtic and folk music. Free. 703-288-9505.

Vienna Woman's Club Open House/Membership Drive. 1 - 4 p.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Ave E, Vienna. viennawomansclub.org.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 7

Colbie Caillat Gypsy Heart Tour. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap, The Filene Center, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna. Grammy award-winning pop star comes to Wolf Trap for a one-night performance. Admissions: \$30-\$100. Philip Cangelosi, 703-255-1900 ext 1729.

Grinding Grain at Colvin Run Mill. 12-3 p.m. Colvin Run Mill, 10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Come watch the miller grind grain; cornmeal, grits, whole wheat for sale in General Store. 703-759-2771.

Vale Club Open House. 1 - 3 p.m. Vale School House, 3124 Fox Mill Road, Oakton. The Friends of Vale School House/Vale Club will host an open house for prospective members. Come visit the historic schoolhouse and hear about the organization. www.valeschoolhouse.org

MONDAY, SEPT. 8

Read to the Dog. 4:30-5:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Beginning readers can practice reading to a furry friend. Call to sign-up. 703-757-8560.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 9

Colvin Run's Dance for Everyone. 6:30-10 p.m. Colvin Run Community Gall, 10201 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls. Come participate in weekly dance lessons ranging from 'Dance of the Month to General with Hustle, Shug, Latin and more. Admissions: \$12. 703-435-5620 or Ed Cottrell, EdCottrell@MACP.org.

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 6

nearly 120 of these families in our area to find permanent affordable housing.

As Dean Klein noted, the consequences of homelessness do not end quickly. Especially when children are involved and have suffered the trauma of homelessness, the effects may be lifelong. Moreover, they suffer from emotional or behavioral problems that interfere with learning at almost three times the rate of other children. Children should never have to wonder where they'll be sleeping on any given night. In our County some 700 children do wonder.

Here at Good Shepherd Housing, we work hard to ame-

liorate the problems these homeless children face. We ensure that formerly homeless children in our housing programs do not miss out on educational, social and recreational activities simply because their families have low-incomes.

Because of generously donated funds, we provide these children with school supplies and new winter coats and pay for their after school activities and summer camps.

At Good Shepherd Housing we are doing all we can to provide our community's working poor with a fresh start toward stable housing and a better life.

David Levine

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Center Street rehabilitation continues.

Summertime Works Ongoing in Vienna

Summertime doesn't mean break time for the Town of Vienna. Carefully planned and funded projects continue to enhance safety and quality of life for Vienna residents and guests.

Projects completed this summer by the Town's Public Works Department include rehabilitation of the roadway, curb, gutter and sidewalk along Echols Street Southeast between Branch Road and Delano Drive, including the intersection with Delano Drive Southeast; and construction of the missing section of sidewalk on the Maple Avenue East service drive between Saratoga Way and Westbriar Drive Northeast. The Beulah Road Northeast Walk to Downtown Project completed the missing section of sidewalk between Maple Avenue and Church Street in Vienna's commercial corridor, to provide safe routes for residents to walk to businesses, restaurants and bus stops.

Currently, Center Street South in front of Town Hall is nearing the end of reconstruction to lower the crown of the road and repave it;

and sidewalk, curb, gutter and drainage improvements continue on Courthouse Road Southwest from Nutley Street to the Town line near the Dog Park. A Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Grant through the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) was utilized to assist with financing the project near the Vienna Metro Rail Station because the enhancements provide transportation options to facilitate the use of mass transit.

Also, at Nutley Street and Courthouse Road, the grant is allowing the Town of Vienna to replace the traffic signals with a 4-pole configuration that includes underground wiring and push-button activated pedestrian audible countdown signals. The old traffic signals created confusion because they did not line up with the traffic lanes.

Ongoing is the Saint Roman's Drive Pipe Stem Water Line Replacements, which entails replacing non-standard sized water mains in the four private driveways to the pipe-stem lots along

Saint Roman's Drive. And, the Maple Avenue West Streetscape Project includes installation of brick pavers, landscaping and other streetscape options from the Lawyers Road/Courthouse Road intersection to the western Town boundary. This will harmonize the overall appearance of Maple Avenue. The project also includes a new mid-block pedestrian signal and crosswalk.

The intricate process for such projects entails Town staff's involvement in planning, designing, acquiring easements, permitting, bidding and contracting services while communicating with residents and Town leaders.

Vienna Public Works staff maintains 65 miles of roadways within the Town's corporate boundary, roughly 73 miles of public sidewalks, 131 miles of water distribution piping, 84 miles of sanitary sewer mains, and about 2,000 water valves. Public Works staff also maintains 850 fire hydrants, around 2,000 manholes, 231 decorative acorn streetlights and 895 regular streetlights.

SCHOOL NOTES

Send school notes to vienna@connectionnewspapers.com by Friday.

Curtis A. Khol, Jr., of Vienna, graduated from the United States Naval Academy in May 2014 and was commissioned as an Ensign in the United States Navy. Ensign Khol graduated with Distinction (top 10 percent) and received a Bachelor of Science Degree from the Systems Engineering Honors Program.

Matthew Kent, of Vienna, was named to the Dean's List at Carnegie

Mellon University for the fall semester of 2013.

Lindsay Weber, a 2010 graduate of James Madison High School, has been named to the Dean's List for the fall semester of 2013 at Radford University.

Julian Kell, of Vienna, was named to the Dean's List at University of New England for the fall semester of 2013.

Aline Dolinh, 15, is a sophomore at Oakton High School in Vienna and has been appointed as the National Student

Poet by the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities. Dolinh will participate in readings and workshops at libraries, museums and schools in Virginia as well as create community service projects to expand their reach while increasing engagement in the literary arts.

Kate E. DeWeese, daughter of Randi and Steve DeWeese of Vienna, graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School, and first-year student in the Bachelor of Arts Program, has been inducted into Alpha Lambda Delta honor society at Bucknell University.

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And Another Thing I'm "Righting" On

By KENNETH B. LOURIE



Not only did last week's CT Scan indicate shrinkage, where necessary – and stability, where hoped for – it also accomplished these hoped-for goals after only two months of chemotherapy (still infused every three weeks) rather than the normal three months of chemotherapy. So depending on how the calendar/treatment schedule actually fell, I probably received two fewer infusions than usual, yet all the radiological indications – and interpretations – continue to be encouraging; after five and a half years, no less. I think I'm entitled to use the word amazing – and lucky, too.

Certainly I've made lifestyle changes, as you regular readers know, though I'm hardly the poster child for outliving-your-terminal-stage-IV-non-small-cell-lung-cancer-diagnosis. I haven't incorporated all the suggestions made to me, but I have listened – and learned, of course. Still, I'm proud of the path I've traveled, which wouldn't have happened without the help and guidance of friends and family who I trusted, and who I know had my best interests at heart. And I have survived, thrived almost, because of their persistence.

But change is not, and has not been easy for me. In fact, "change" might as well be a four-letter word, although I do use my share; never in print, and less frequently in public probably wouldn't kill me. But I'm also good at rationalizing my behavior – both good and bad, so doing/not doing and providing plausible, semi-defensible explanations (maybe even denials) has become one of my best mechanisms. Ultimately, my bottom line in all of these attempts at modifying my behavior is stress reduction – which equates to self-preservation, if you want to know the truth – and doing so in a way that is consistent with my personality, allowing me to maintain the effort. I don't suppose starting and stopping would solve much. It's sort of like a placebo effect. If I think something I'm doing is working, then maybe it is. The mind is a terrible thing to waste and I want to give it every opportunity to bring me back to "normal" health. For all I know, some new pill I've started, some new behavior I've assimilated, something (like sugar) I've reduced is all working together to make me whole again. And since I generally don't look for trouble – considering that trouble has already found me, I try to leave well enough alone until a little birdie tells me otherwise (anybody, anywhere; any source, anyhow; any medium, any way). Now I don't want to knee-jerk myself into a decision. I'll make a few inquiries, I'll do a little research, but overall, I won't make the pursuit my life's work.

In spite of it all, and in spite of me and my peculiarities, I approach this week's five-and-a-half-year, post-diagnosis anniversary with less fear and trepidation than perhaps I should. But as I've said many times previously, and again in this column: "What do I know?" Enough to keep me up and at 'em and alive and reasonably well, I suppose. And way more than I had a right to expect and almost too much to understand. I've never asked "why me?" but I've always thought "why not me?" And so it goes – and has gone; maybe my level of ignorance has been a sort of bliss. However, if I really understood what ails me, I might not be so glib about it.

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

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THURSDAY/AUG. 28
Computer-one-on-one. 11 a.m.10304
Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Learn how to work with the Internet, Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. 703-242-4020.

FRIDAY/AUG. 29
Drop-In-Chess. 1 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. All skill levels welcome. 703-757-8560.
English Conversation Group. 10 a.m. Patrick Henry Library, 101 Maple Avenue East, Vienna. Practice English conversational skills. 703-938-0405.

TUESDAY/SEPT. 9
American Red Cross Blood Donation. 8 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Federal Highway Administration, 6300 Georgetown Pike, McLean. redcross.org or 1-800-RED-CROSS.

MONDAY/SEPT. 15
MCC Governing Board Work Session and Public Hearing on FY 2016 Budget. 7:30 p.m. McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean.
Open to the public. www.mcleancenter.org or 703-790-0123.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 18
Chapter Meeting Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 227. 7:30 p.m. Neighbor's Restaurant, 262D Cedar Lane, Vienna. Vietnam War veteran, journalist, and author Marc Leepson will discuss latest book, "What So Proudly We Haired: Francis Scott Key, A Life." Free. Call Len Ignatowski, 703-255-0353 or www.vva227.org.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 27
McLean Child Safety Inspection. 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Lewinsville Center, 1609 Great Falls Street, McLean. The Mclean District Police Station holds child safety seat inspections once per month.

SATURDAY/OCT. 25
McLean Child Safety Inspection. 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Lewinsville Center, 1609 Great Falls Street, McLean. The Mclean District Police Station holds child safety seat inspections once per month.

SATURDAY/NOV. 22
McLean Child Safety Inspection. 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Lewinsville Center, 1609 Great Falls Street, McLean. The Mclean District Police Station holds child safety seat inspections once per month.

ONGOING
Vienna Toastmasters. 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., at the Vienna Community Center on the 2nd floor room opposite the elevator, 120 Cherry St., S.E., Vienna. A friendly place to get comfortable with public speaking and impromptu speaking for new and experienced speakers. Open to the public.
Run With the Doctor. Every other Saturday at 7 a.m. 8230 Boone Blvd, Tysons Corner. The Center for Orthopedics and Sports Medicine offers its services in a convenient format to runners at this running event. Free. facebook.com/runwiththedoctor.
Senior Fall Prevention Classes. 1:30-2:30 p.m. and 2-3 p.m., The Woodlands Retirement Community, 4320 Forest Hill Drive, Fairfax. Classes are held in a heated indoor pool and are designed to work on balance and core muscles. \$10. 703-667-9800.
Coffee/Tea Poetry Group. Poets and poetry lovers seek to form a group to meet once a month at a local coffee/tea shop to enjoy each other's creations. 703-819-1690.
Virginia Sheriff's Institute Scholarship Program. Those enrolled in a Virginia college or university who are pursuing a degree in the field of criminal justice are eligible for the Virginia Sheriff's Institute Scholarship Program; recommendation letter needed. 703-246-3251, shf-pio@fairfaxcounty.gov or http://vasheriffsinstitute.org/scholarship/.
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- ❖ **Bonnie Hobbs**, *Centre View* – General news writing.
- ❖ **Kenneth Lourie**, *Potomac Almanac* – Sports Column.
- ❖ **Michael Lee Pope**, *Arlington Connection* – In-depth or investigative reporting: •Uncovering Secret Government
- ❖ **Michael Lee Pope**, *Alexandria Gazette Packet* – Education writing: •Alexandria Education Dollars
- ❖ **Michael Lee Pope**, *Mount Vernon Gazette* – Business and financial writing: •Car Title Loans
- ❖ **Jeanne Theismann**, *Alexandria Gazette Packet* – Public safety writing.
- ❖ **Jeanne Theismann**, *Alexandria Gazette Packet* – Personal service writing.
- ❖ **Mary Kimm**, **Laurence Foong**, **Geovani Flores**, **Marilyn Campbell**, **John Byrd**, **Tim Peterson** and **Jean Card**, *Vienna/Oakton Connection* – Specialty pages or sections: •HomeLifeStyle
- ❖ **Jean Card**, **Laurence Foong**, **Renee Ruggles** and **Craig Sterbutzel**, *Mount Vernon Gazette* – Informational graphics: •Fairfax County parks
- ❖ **Staff**, *Potomac Almanac* – Insiders Edition: Newcomers & Community Guide



Michael Lee Pope



Bonnie Hobbs



Jeanne Theismann



Jean Card



Steven Mauren



Laurence Foong



Geovani Flores



Marilyn Campbell



Steve Artley



John Bordner



Victoria Ross



Mary Kimm



Ken Moore



Kenneth Lourie



Louise Krafft



Alex McVeigh



John Byrd



Tim Peterson

Second Place Winners

- ❖ **Steven Mauren**, **Jeanne Theismann**, **John Bordner**, **Jean Card**, **Geovani Flores** and **Laurence Foong**, *Alexandria Gazette Packet* – Special sections or special editions: Insider's Guide.
- ❖ **Steve Artley**, *Alexandria Gazette Packet* – Illustrations – Eminent Domain.
- ❖ **Jean Card**, *Mount Vernon Gazette* – Page design.

- ❖ **Mary Kimm**, *Alexandria Gazette Packet* – Editorial writing.
- ❖ **Alex McVeigh**, *Great Falls Connection* – In-depth or investigative reporting.



Renee Ruggles



Craig Sterbutzel

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Steve Artley, *Alexandria Gazette Packet* – Illustrations – Eminent Domain.

- ❖ **Ken Moore**, *Potomac Almanac* – Medical Science Reporting
- ❖ **Michael Lee Pope**, *Arlington Connection* – Health, science and environmental writing.
- ❖ **Michael Lee Pope**, *Alexandria Gazette Packet* – Government writing.
- ❖ **Victoria Ross**, *Burke Connection* – Feature series or continuing story.
- ❖ **Victoria Ross**, *Fairfax Connection* – Personal service writing.
- ❖ **Jeanne Theismann**, *Alexandria Gazette Packet* – Column writing.
- ❖ **Staff**, *Potomac Almanac* – HomeLifeStyle



Louise Krafft, *Alexandria Gazette Packet* – Feature photo: Summer Fun.

Third Place Winners

- ❖ **Steve Artley**, *Alexandria Gazette Packet* – Illustrations.
- ❖ **Mary Kimm**, *Fairfax Connection* – Editorial writing.
- ❖ **Louise Krafft**, *Alexandria Gazette Packet* – Feature photo: Summer Fun.
- ❖ **Donna Manz**, *Vienna/Oakton Connection* – Feature writing portfolio.
- ❖ **Michael Lee Pope**, *Arlington Connection* – Education writing.

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

2014-2015

PHOTO BY RENÉE RUGGLES/THE CONNECTION

and Oakton
Vienna
CONNECTION

Dionne Casimir entertained daughter Zahnye with bubbles while they waited for the evening's concert to begin at Nottoway Park.

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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Welcome to Fairfax County

BY SHARON BULOVA/CHAIRMAN
FAIRFAX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Welcome to Fairfax County, the best place in the country to live, work and play. Fairfax County is home to a fantastic public school system, top tier business and shopping opportunities, compassionate human services, and some of the best parks and open spaces in the D.C. Metropolitan region. This summer featured the long-awaited opening of the WMATA Silver Line, which connects the Reston and the Tysons areas of the county to the entire Metrorail system.

Last June, I cut the ribbon to open a new segment of our Fairfax County Cross County Trail, named after former Chairman (now congressman) Gerry Connolly. It was his vision, while serving on our board, to build and connect trail sections to make it possible for someone to hike through all nine county magisterial districts. The northern end of the trail begins in Great Falls National Park at the breathtaking Potomac River and travels south to the historic Occoquan River.

The trail passes through stream valleys and meadows, then winds through fascinating Laurel Hill, site of the former Lorton Prison. In addition to parkland and a golf course, these grounds are now home to the Workhouse Arts Center where visitors can watch artists in action and enjoy plays, performances and community events such as



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Thumbs up for Silver Line: The long-awaited opening of the WMATA Silver Line, which connects the Reston and the Tysons areas of the county to the Metrorail system.

Springfest every April.

Fairfax County has something for everyone. Northern Virginia Community College offers more than 160 degrees at the associate's level and numerous certificate programs. Its partnership with George Mason University provides families and stu-

dents with a seamless, cost-effective path to a four-year degree.

George Mason University, recently named one of the top five "Up-and-Coming Universities" by U.S. News and World Report, is also recognized as one of America's Best College Buys by Forbes magazine. Under the

presidency of Dr. Angel Cabrera, Mason is fast taking its place as a university for the world.

Fairfax County is known for its business-friendly climate. Time Magazine has described us as "the epicenter of the Washington region's job boom" and "one of the great economic success stories of our time." Although home to eight Fortune 500 company headquarters (corporate giants such as Northrop Grumman and Booz Allen Hamilton) about 97 percent of the companies in Fairfax County are small businesses with fewer than 100 employees. We are a great location for startups.

Of course, Fairfax County's greatest asset is a population that is welcoming and engaged. People from all over the globe have made Fairfax County their home, enriching our community with diverse cultures and entrepreneurship. Visit Fairfax County's website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov to learn more about what Fairfax has to offer.

As chairman of the Board of Supervisors, I am elected at-large by all registered voters. My office is here to serve you. If you have any questions or concerns, please email me at chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov or call me at 703-324-2321. I hope you will sign up to receive my monthly Bulova By-line newsletter that will keep you up-to-date on what is happening and how you can participate in all that Fairfax County has to offer you and your family.

Thanks for making Fairfax County your home.



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Sunday afternoon traffic on Maple Avenue.



Residents say improving Follin Lane will worsen speeding, destroy the tree canopy and endanger people's lives.

What's on the Horizon for Town of Vienna

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Maple Avenue Corridor

On the horizon for local residents are a transportation project, a plan to help W&OD trail users and Church Street businesses, plus a major expansion and renovation of the Vienna Community Center.

The Vienna Town Council is considering the creation of the Maple Avenue Corridor (MAC) zoning district. It's been evaluated since 2001, and—so everyone's views would be represented—the late Mayor Jane

Seeman and the Town Council appointed a broad variety of people to a 17-member steering committee involved in this project.

Proponents of the new zoning district point out the town's changing demographics, new businesses and mainly by-right development. And they say having new rules in place for this section of Vienna would give the Town more control over develop-

ment and protect its small-town character.

The MAC's purpose is to guide and direct density, support local businesses and encourage economic development. It's also voluntary, so businesses don't have to join it. But they can ask to be rezoned

SEE TOP ISSUES, PAGE 4

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE



PHOTOS BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Vienna's Community Center will receive a renovation and a new gym.

Top Issues Facing Vienna

FROM PAGE 3

in and the decision would be up to the Town Council. If they do become part of it, it's hoped that they'll use the MAC guidelines to create more walkable, mixed-use developments.

Maple Avenue currently carries 33,000 vehicles per day through the Corridor. So those in favor of the plan say that, with improved pedestrian connections, people could park once and go from business to business, instead of driving from parking lot to parking lot.

Furthermore, under by-right zoning, the Town has little ability to address traffic. But the new zoning would allow it to require traffic studies, proffers and multimodal traffic, as well as less driveway access to businesses from Maple Avenue. It could also mean less delay of other vehicles and reduced risk of crashes.

Under the MAC proposal, open space is promoted and businesses wishing to add outdoor tables or displays won't have to go through a public hearing. It would also decrease the amount of impervious area and allow businesses to go from three to four stories, but no higher than 54 feet.

However, a group called Citizens of Vienna is protesting the plan, saying it would permit four-story buildings close to the sidewalk and possibly add 1,000-plus parking spaces to the already-congested thoroughfare. They contend that the changes would be detrimental to Vienna's small-town charm and would prefer the Town Council instead provide tax subsidies to small businesses.

The Council held its second public hearing on the matter on Aug. 18 and will continue to receive comments until Sept. 8.

Follin Lane Project

For a couple years now, the Town of Vienna has planned to improve Follin Lane between Maple Avenue and Echols Street. But when project consultants held a June 26 meeting to share the details with nearby

residents, it ended up alarming them, instead.

And at the July 7 Town Council meeting, neighbors Loretta Roby and Sean McClorey explained their objections. Both cited serious problems and asked the Council members to think twice before proceeding with this project.

"I live on the corner of Hine [Street] and Follin, and it's one of the most dangerous intersections in Vienna," said McClorey. "There have been many accidents there, and the most recent one destroyed part of my fence – and the auto's trajectory was heading right toward my house."

As part of the Follin Lane Project, he said, "The Town plans to level the grade of the road there and remove the brush. And that will mean a clear and present danger, not only to my property, but to my four children."

The \$2 million road project consists of reconstructing Follin, widening it and installing sidewalks, storm drains, curbs and gutters. In November 2011, Vienna applied for \$1 million in VDOT FY '13 Revenue Sharing Funds and was awarded the money on June 26, 2012.

A mother of two, Roby lives on Mashey Drive and her property backs up to Follin, so this project is upsetting to her, as well as her neighbors. "We have safety concerns, and we're worried about the traffic flow," she said. "We're also upset that the tree canopy along Follin – including a beautiful, healthy, 60-year-old tree – will be taken down and not replaced."

Roby said widening Follin from two to three lanes and making it flat will result in drivers going even faster than they do now through the Follin/Hine intersection to reach the Town's throughway, Maple Avenue.

"And with a sidewalk added, pedestrians who don't walk there now will walk there and get hit by a speeding car," she said. "So we implore the Town Council to reconsider this plan."

SEE TOP ISSUES, PAGE 9

AREA DEMOGRAPHICS

Great Falls

Zip code: **22066**
 Population: **18,099**
 Race: **White-14,428 (79.7%), Black/African American-370 (2%), American Indian and Alaska Native-29 (0.2%), Asian-2,548 (14.1%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-778 (4.3%)**
 Total housing units: **6,153**
 Owner-occupied housing units: **5,497 (94.3%)**
 Households with individuals under 18 years: **2,678**
 Households with individuals 65 years and over: **1,526**
 Median household income: **207,949**
 Mean family income: **305,426**
 Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home: **24.8%**
 Source: U.S. Census 2010; American Community Survey 2012

McLean

Zip code: **22102**
 Population: **21,985**
 Race: **White-14,668 (66.7%), Black/African American-14,688 (66.7%), American Indian and Alaska Native-43 (0.2%), Asian-5,175 (23.5%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-1,481 (6.7%)**
 Total housing units: **10,471**
 Owner-occupied housing units: **5,476 (56.2%)**
 Households with individuals under 18 years: **2,626**
 Households with individuals 65 years and over: **2,075**
 Median household income: **117,885**
 Mean family income: **261,962**
 Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home: **41.3%**

Zip code: **22101**
 Population: **29,887**
 Race: **White-24,098 (80.6%), Black/African American-498 (1.7%), American Indian and Alaska Native-42 (0.1%), Asian-4,130 (13.8%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-1,549 (5.2%)**
 Total housing units: **11,345**
 Owner-occupied housing units: **9,034 (83.1%)**
 Households with individuals under 18 years: **4,190 (38.5%)**
 Households with individuals 65 years and over: **3,813 (35.1%)**
 Median household income: **175,926**
 Mean family income: **273,397**
 Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home: **28.7%**

Zip code: **22043**
 Population: **24,302**
 Race: **White-15,725 (64.7%), Black/African American-1,095 (4.5%), American Indian and Alaska Native-107 (0.4%), Asian-4,732 (19.5%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-4,013 (16.5%)**
 Total housing units: **9,735**
 Owner-occupied housing units: **5,575 (59.5%)**
 Households with individuals under 18 years: **2,985 (31.9%)**
 Households with individuals 65 years and over: **1,847 (19.7%)**
 Median household income: **102,057**
 Mean family income: **141,315**
 Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home: **39.6%**
 Source: U.S. Census 2010; American Community Survey 2012

Vienna/Oakton

Zip code: **22182**
 Population: **24,863**
 Race: **White-18,425 (74.1%), Black/African American-695 (2.8%), American Indian and Alaska Native-22 (0.1%), Asian-4,594 (18.5%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-1,304 (5.2%)**
 Total housing units: **9,020**
 Owner-occupied housing units: **7,099 (82.5%)**
 Households with individuals under 18 years: **3,530**
 Households with individuals 65 years and over: **2,233**
 Median household income: **164,388**
 Mean family income: **217,756**
 Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home: **29.8%**

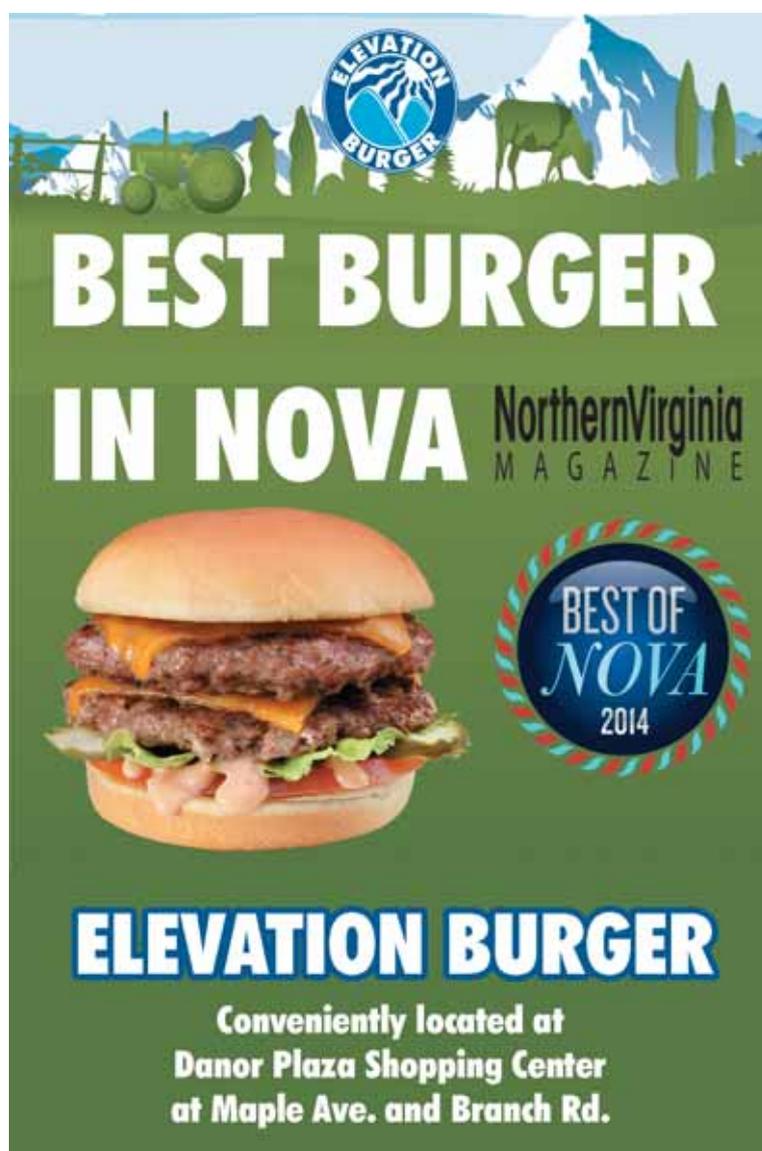
Zip code: **22181**
 Population: **14,879**
 Race: **White-11,274 (75.8%), Black/African American-416 (2.8%), American Indian and Alaska Native-45 (0.3%), Asian-2,230 (15%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-1,197 (8%)**
 Total housing units: **5,429**
 Owner-occupied housing units: **4,234 (79%)**
 Households with individuals under 18 years: **2,055 (38.3%)**
 Households with individuals 65 years and over: **1,231 (23%)**
 Median household income: **157,036**
 Mean family income: **209,649**
 Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home: **29.4%**

Zip code: **22180**
 Population: **23,491**
 Race: **White-16,854 (71.7%), Black/African American-768 (3.3%), American Indian and Alaska Native-74 (0.3%), Asian-3,907 (16.6%), Hispanic or Latino (of any race)-2,628 (11.2%)**
 Total housing units: **8,386**
 Owner-occupied housing units: **6,379 (75.2%)**
 Households with individuals under 18 years: **3,172 (37.4%)**
 Households with individuals 65 years and over: **2,093 (24.7%)**
 Median household income: **125,905**
 Mean family income: **168,627**
 Population 5 years and over who speaks a language other than English at home: **34.7%**
 Source: U.S. Census 2010; American Community Survey 2012

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Fairfax County Animal Shelter

The Fairfax County Animal Shelter (FCAS) estimates that between 4,000 and 5,000 small animals come through its doors each year, according to its website. The shelter deals primarily with dogs and cats, but also other small animals like rabbits and birds. A foster program is available through FCAS for the care of dogs and cats, and families who wish to be part of the foster program must go through a training session before taking animals into their homes. Other volunteer opportunities with the shelter range from telephone assistant to pet groomer and bather to cat socializer. Potential volunteers may submit an online application at fairfaxcounty.gov/animalshelter, and must attend a volunteer orientation. For more information on volunteering or adopting a pet, visit the shelter's website, or call 703-830-1100.



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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

About the Connection

As your local, weekly newspaper, the Connection's mission is to deliver the local news you need, to try to make sense of what is happening in your community, 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 achievements, milestones and events in the community and people's lives.

Here in our Newcomers and Community Guide, we've included an expanded and updated version of our award-winning Insider's Guide to 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 email with feedback about our coverage.

We want to know if someone in your family or your community published a book, started a business, became an Eagle Scout, raised money for a good cause, accomplished some feat like running a marathon, supporting a cause or having art included in an art show. We publish photos and notes about personal milestones and community events, including births, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, awards and obituaries. We are also interested in events at your church, mosque, synagogue, community center, pool, school, club, etc. Email us a note about the event, being sure to include when and where the photo was taken and the names of all the people who are in a photo. We also publish notes about news and events from local businesses. Notes about openings, new employees and anniversaries are welcome. It is especially important to us to let people know about events ahead of time in our calendar of events. We appreciate getting notice at least

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two weeks ahead of the event, and we encourage photos.

Your community Connection newspaper is one of 15 papers published by the independent, locally owned Local Media Connection LLC, serving the suburbs of Metropolitan Washington in Northern Virginia and Potomac, Md.

Our flagship paper, the Alexandria Gazette Packet, is one of the oldest continuously publishing papers in the country, beginning publication in 1784.

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, Best in Show for our Insiders Guide to the Parks, first place for our community guides, plus 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. We continue to publish 15 distinct papers

every week that serve their communities in distinct ways. We welcome contributing writers, with the caveat that our freelance pay is nominal; if you are interested in covering news or events in your community, email editors@connectionnewspapers.com. We offer summer and year-round educational internships with information at www.connectionnewspapers.com/internships.

In addition to our weekly coverage, we have monthly special focus pages on Wellbeing; Education, Learning, Fun, and HomeLifeStyle, plus other seasonal specials including Real Estate, Senior Living, Fall Fun, Food and Entertainment (also Winter, Spring and Summer), a twice a year Pet Connection, and others. If you have story ideas for these, email editors@connectionnewspapers.com; if are interested in marketing, email sales@connectionnewspapers.com.

MARY KIMM.

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM.

@MARYKIMM

CHAMBERS

Find a comprehensive online listing of county business resources at www.fairfaxcountyeda.org/business-resources.

Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce

The chamber covers all of McLean and the majority of Tysons Corner. www.mcleanchamber.org.

Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce

The chamber offers business-related programs and services to members in the region. www.vtrcc.org/.

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.

www.fairfaxchamber.org/ or 703-479-9075.-0

Asian American Chamber of Commerce

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

U.S. Lebanese Chamber of Commerce

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

Great Falls Business and Professional Association

Advances community welfare by encouraging high business and professional ethics and practices. Supports patronage of local retail and professional services. Supports Celebrate Great Falls Day, the Great Falls Freedom Memorial and other community developments and events. 703-759-3011, 703-759-4155 or www.greatfallsbpa.com.

Vienna & Oakton
CONNECTION

**NEWCOMERS
& COMMUNITY GUIDE**

IS PRODUCED BY

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LOCAL MEDIA CONNECTION LLC

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FOR MORE INFORMATION,

CALL 703-778-9431 OR EMAIL

SALES@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

NONPROFITS

FACETS

FACETS began as a meal distribution outreach effort in 1988, today is an established nonprofit organization with programs to provide shelter, food, and medical attention for those unable to provide for themselves. FACETS offers a multifaceted array of volunteer opportunities across all of our programs to include administrative and office opportunities at our main office in Fairfax City. Take a moment to learn more about available volunteer opportunities, then kindly sign up for an orientation where you will learn more about becoming a volunteer for FACETS as well as complete an application. 703-352-5090 or <http://facetscares.org/>

Affordable Housing Corporation (AHC)

AHC, a nonprofit developer of affordable housing, operates in Vienna to provide quality homes for low- and moderate-income families. AHC also offers services for residents and homeownership opportunities. www.ahcinc.org/index.html.

Northern Virginia Family Service

NVFS addresses the needs of many communities in our region by providing services like foster care and multicultural human services. See extensive volunteer opportunities on their website. 703-385-3267 or www.nvfs.org/.

Committee for Helping Others (CHO)

CHO is a Vienna organization committed to providing simple, loving charity to those in need. CHO is currently seeking volunteer drivers for their furniture and transportation programs. Their 14th Annual Thanksgiving Interfaith Service is Tuesday, Nov. 20, 7:30 p.m. at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 2589 Chain Bridge Road. 703-281-7614 or www.cho-va.com.

Family PASS

Family PASS strives to step in before families lose their housing by providing rental subsidies, extensive case management and other assistance including education, job training, child care, food, transportation, health care, help with children's issues and counseling. Volunteer opportunities include drivers, event hosts, food drive organizers and tutors. 703-242-6474 or <http://familypassfairfax.org/>.

So Others Might Eat

SOME is a 40-plus-year-old Washington, D.C. based organization with church partnerships throughout Northern Virginia and a storage facility in Vienna. SOME works to meet the immediate daily needs of needy adults and children with food, clothing and health care, with the goal of breaking the cycle of homelessness by offering services such as affordable housing, job training, addiction treatment and counseling, to the poor, the elderly and individuals with mental illness. www.some.org/.

AFCEA Educational Foundation

AFCEA provides educational scholarships and continuing education and training programs for people in the hard sciences disciplines related to the Department of Defense. www.afcea.org/education/scholarships/.

SEE NONPROFITS, PAGE 7

NONPROFITS

FROM PAGE 6

Kurdish Human Rights Watch

KHRW began in 1989 with the mission to enable Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), refugees, asylee newcomers and homeless individuals to achieve self-sufficiency and economic independence through direct assistance and capacity-building. Volunteers and advocates can adopt a refugee or refugee family, sponsor a critically ill child from Iraq to receive medical care, promote women and democracy in Iraq, promote human rights in Iran, and donate to the scholarship fund for refugee youth. 703-385-3806, admin@khrw.org, or www.khrw.org.

Friends of Guest House

Offers structure, supervision, support and assistance to female ex-offenders who sincerely want to improve their lives and break the cycle of incarceration. Friends of Guest House

offers the only program for women of its kind in Northern Virginia, and receives countless inquiries every year. Volunteers provide a wide range of services, including (but not limited to): computer training, planning, coordinating and taking clients on field trips, assisting with writing resumes, grocery shopping, leading exercise classes, providing legal assistance, GED tutoring and preparation, clerical, office and yard work, and researching & coordinating external resources (for example, job leads, housing opportunities, dental care, etc.) info@friendsofguesthouse.org, http://friendsofguesthouse.org/ or 703-549-8072.

Homestretch

Created in 1990, Homestretch is the largest provider of transitional housing in Fairfax County and offers a wide variety of services that are focused on helping the homeless better their lives through education. Individual and group

SEE NONPROFITS, PAGE 10



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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Vienna Stands Above the Rest

Year-round activities and events create small-town feel and sense of community.

BY DONNA MANZ
THE CONNECTION

Laurie DiRocco was voted in as Vienna's new mayor this year. Months before her death, former Mayor M. Jane Seeman had previously announced she would not run for re-election in 2014. The Connection chatted with Mayor DiRocco about Vienna, what makes it special and what issues confront the town.

How would you describe Vienna to a newcomer or visitor?

Mayor DiRocco: "We are a very active community, very community-focused and service-oriented. We're a unique, small town located in a metropolitan area.

Around the town, there are a diversity of events and activities. We have ViVa! Vienna!, the 4th of July celebration, Oktoberfest, the Halloween parade, Church Street holiday stroll and, now, First Night Vienna. Thousands of people from throughout the greater-Vienna area come in for these activities and events. Everything is family-focused.

There are concerts on the Town Green and other events there. Right in that cluster is the Freeman House, the caboose, Little Library, the W & OD trail.

Events are year-round and there's something for every age.

For a town just four and a half square miles, we have a lot of parks, a lot of green space. Northside Park, reached from the end of Mill Street, is a conservation area, not a recreational park. Meadow Lane Park is very popular with young children and there are tennis courts there, too. The Town Green is a park. Vienna



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Laurie DiRocco, Mayor of the Town of Vienna, and her daughter, Allie DiRocco, at ViVa! Vienna! with the Food Network crew.

maintains its small-town feel."

What enhancements, improvements or visions are either budgeted or planned?

Mayor DiRocco: The first phase of the community center renovation was budgeted under a 2013 bond. A new gymnasium will be added to the rear of the existing building. It will be a regulation high school gym with a two-lane track running around the sides.

The building will be gutted during this phase of the renovation

which begins in summer of 2015. It is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2016. Classes will be moved to other locations.

Also budgeted is money for lots of infrastructure. The big thing to remember is that the Town is regularly investing in infrastructure. We're always thoughtful of interest rates. We keep our debt in check, keeping our AAA bond rating.

The Council recently formed two new safety committees that

report directly to the Transportation Safety Commission — the Bicycle Advisory Committee and the Pedestrian Advisory Committee. They are tasked with identifying connections for bicyclists and pedestrians to move around town safely and make connections to crucial areas, such as schools, the library, Town Green and parks.

The BAC and PAC will make recommendations to the Transportation Safety Committee. Those recommendations will then be prioritized into the capital improvement plan."

Please, explain what the Maple Avenue Vision is.

Mayor DiRocco: "The focus of the Maple Avenue Corridor [MAC] Vision is to have a vibrant commercial district, making sure we have all the businesses and services our residents want.

A map [of the commercial district] was developed by a steering committee made up of residents, business owners, members of Town boards and commissions, property owners and a Town consultant to create the Maple Avenue Corridor Ordinance. Right now, the Council is having public hearings on this. We'll vote on the map in September."

What is the Town Council looking at over the next few years?

Mayor DiRocco: "We continually fund infrastructure. That includes pipes, sidewalks, roads ... A parking garage is not something that is currently planned, but, it's something the Council will definitely consider. Location is one of the things we have to evaluate.

Next year is the Town of Vienna's 125th anniversary. We're going to have a work session in November about various celebrations to commemorate it. We've got a lot of people who want to be involved ... HVI [Historic Vienna, Inc.], VBA [Vienna Business Association] and citizens."

CELEBRATING ARTS

A sample of upcoming theatre, music and arts events in the Vienna area.

Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts

Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Rd, Vienna. Wolf Trap is the only National Park dedicated to the performing arts, which hosts an opera company and touring shows. 703-255-1800 or www.wolftrap.org.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 4

Russian Flair. 8 p.m. Filene Center, 1645 Trap Rd, Vienna. Celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Gypsy Kings with special opening guest Ole' Noys. 703-255-1900 or <http://www.wolftrap.org/>. Admissions \$35-\$50.

FRIDAY/SEPT. 5

Cirque Dreams: Jungle Fantasy. 8 p.m. Filene Center, 1645 Trap Rd, Vienna. Watch Cirque du Soleil showcase amazing acts of physical skill with aerial acts, tumblers, gymnasts, contortionists and more. 703-255-1900 or <http://www.wolftrap.org/>. Admissions \$25-\$50.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 7

Colbie Caillat. 8 p.m. Filene Center, 1645 Trap Rd, Vienna. Listen to Grammy Award-winning singer Colbie Caillat on her Gypsy Heart Tour performing her most popular hits with special guest Alex & Sierra. 703-255-1900 or <http://www.wolftrap.org/>. Admissions \$30-\$50.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 13

Wolf Trap Ball. 7 p.m. Filene Center, 1645 Trap Rd, Vienna. The Wolf Trap Ball is held in partnership with the Embassy of the United Arab Emirates and is held to support the Wolf Trap Foundation Arts and Education Programs. 703-255-1900 or <http://www.wolftrap.org/>. Admissions \$7,500-\$100,000.

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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Top Issues Facing Vienna

FROM PAGE 4

Community Center Renovation

If all goes well, the new and improved Vienna Community Center will make its debut on its 50th anniversary in April 2016.

The scope of the work involves renovating and enlarging the 48-year-old Community Center on Cherry Street S.E. The two-story building is 28,814 square feet and is used for classes, club meetings, craft fairs, sports and other events.

But it needs more parking, a gym large enough for league play, high-tech wiring for laptops, plus new electrical and HVAC (heating and air conditioning) systems. In addition, repairs must be made to the classroom floors and walls, and a new roof must be put on. So all these improvements will now be made, including construction of an 8,000-square-foot gym in the back.

The project is funded by the town's Capital Improvement bud-

get, courtesy of a \$4 million bond issue in December 2013. But Parks and Recreation Director Cathy Salgado anticipates another \$1 million will be needed before it's all done.

However, since the larger gym will rest slightly on school property, the town will have to make a formal agreement with the school system for use of that land. The Park Authority wants an 18-foot trail, a 4-6-foot sidewalk and a 60-foot parking area as part of the project, so the site doesn't have any extra space on it.

The Town Council has also decided to seek LEED Silver certification for the revamped Community Center. LEED stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design and is a "green" building-certification program recognizing best-in-class building strategies and practices. The Community Center will be Vienna's first building to have this special designation.

It means that as much of the facility as possible will be sustainable. And having a building with energy-efficient windows, heating and air conditioning will also

make it cost less to operate – which will result in a financial savings to the Town in the long run.

The bidding process for the work will go from January until March 2015, with groundbreaking anticipated in April 2015 and expected completion of the project a year later.

Train Station Parking Expanded

After much discussion and public comment, The Town of Vienna has granted conservation and parking easements to the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority.

As a result, the Vienna Train Station parking lot will be expanded and people using the W&OD Trail will no longer have to take up parking spaces on Church Street that can be used by customers.

Near the intersection of Dominion Road N.E. and Ayr Hill Avenue N.E., the train-station lot contains 23 parking spaces. But its use has been restricted to trail users and

visitors to the train station.

But when there's a great deal of park use – especially on the weekends – the recreational users are parking on the streets, instead, much to the dismay of the business owners. Indeed, the merchants and businesses along Church, Mill Street and Dominion have long complained that there's not enough parking.

However, the Park Authority will now build 16 more spaces on the east side of the train-station lot and make that entire lot available for public parking, as well as for trail users. In return, Vienna will grant it a conservation easement on Town-owned, unimproved, wooded land near Ninovan Road, adjacent to the W&OD Trail. This easement will preserve the land in its natural state with only low-impact or educational activities allowed on it.

Expanding the train-station parking lot will also cause the children's Discovery Garden – which has been there for 10 years – to be moved. However, Parks and Recreation Director Cathy Salgado

SEE TOP ISSUES, PAGE 19

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Questions? E-mail sales@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9431



NONPROFITS

FROM PAGE 7

volunteer opportunities available. 703-237-2035, <http://homestretchva.org/> or info@homestretch-inc.org.

New Hope Housing

In 1978, it opened the first homeless shelter in Fairfax County. New Hope Housing is the oldest and largest provider of shelter to the homeless of Northern Virginia. Its mission is to provide both shelter and the tools to build a better life. Volunteering positions include working with children, working with adult residents and working with shelter or post-shelter housing options. 703-799-6503, admin@newhopehousing.org, or <http://www.newhopehousing.org/>.

Pathway Homes

Established in 1980, Pathways focuses on providing housing and support services to individuals with serious mental illnesses, with the mission to help these individuals reach their full potential and lead stable lives. They offer both in-home programs, semi-independent houses and assisted living facilities. Volunteer positions include one on one interaction, group work, and more. info@pathwayhomes.org, 703-876-0390, www.pathwayhomes.org.

Shelter House

Shelter House follows the Housing First model, with the main priority to re-house every family that begins one of their six unique housing programs. Formed in 1981, when several ecumenical groups came together to better serve Fairfax County's low-income population. Volunteer opportunities vary by shelter; see website for details. 703-955-7876, info@shelterhouse.org, www.shelterhouse.org.

Volunteers of America-Chesapeake

One of the nation's largest and most comprehensive human services organizations with a history covering over a century, VOAC operates the Baileys Crossroads Community Shelter, and provides assistance through medical care, counseling, education and training for people in poverty. Volunteer opportunities vary by location; more information can be found on the website. 301-459-2020, info@VOAches.org, www.voaches.org.

Alternative House

Alternative House is a housing service with programs like Assisting Young Mothers and, in cooperation with Fairfax County Public Schools, the Homeless Youth Initiative, which provides safe transitional housing to homeless students. Volunteer opportunities include drivers, event hosts, food drive organizers and tutors. 703-242-6474 or <http://familypassfairfax.org/>.

The Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna

SCOV is a volunteer-based organization dedicated to providing opportunities for adults (50-plus) to seek rewarding lives and to live independently in their homes for as long as possible. In 2012 SCOV provided services and programs to more than 3,000 older adults and was voted the Best Nonprofit of the Year by the Vienna Tysons Regional Chamber of Commerce. Volunteers at SCOV serve as medical drivers, companion drivers, friendly callers and visitors, health and wellness counselors, fundraisers and grant writers. 703-281-5088, director@scov.org or www.scov.org.

American Association of University Women (AAUW)

The Vienna Branch of AAUW represent a diverse cross-section of Vienna and Oakton area women working together to promote equity and education for women. The organizations holds educational talks, monthly meetings and does work on projects to contribute to the community. <http://aauw-va.aauw.net/branches/vienna/>

Rotary Club of Vienna

The Rotary Foundation, Vienna Chapter was founded in 1965, and during the past year, Vienna Rotary donated \$168,000 to local schools, nonprofits and the Town of Vienna. The chapter works to support local efforts like festival ViVa! Vienna! and holds programs like the "New Generations" program, Interact, which focuses on helping youth ages 12-18 develop good character. 703-255-4742 or www.rotary.org/en/Pages/ridefault.aspx.

Optimist Club of Greater Vienna

The Optimist Club of Greater Vienna is an all volunteer, community service organization. Members donate their time, energy and funds to serve the youth of the greater Vienna community including students at James Madison High School, George Marshall High School, Oakton High School, all schools in their school pyramid, local Scout Troops, sports teams and youth groups. Their website provides an overview of the Optimists' many activities. www.optimistclubofgreatervienna.org.

The Vienna Host Lions Club

The 42 members of the local chapter of the world's largest service club do service projects in the spirit of their motto, "We Serve." They collect eyeglasses and hearing aids and prepare them for those who need them, fundraise with "White Cane Days" to donate to 13 organizations which help the blind, and they sell Christmas trees and participate in holiday bazaars to raise funds for hearing, youth, welfare, and safety and civic organizations. See where the money goes and how you can help online. 630-571-5466 or <http://e-clubhouse.org/sites/viennahostlionsva/index.php>.

SPECIAL CONNECTIONS CALENDAR

Advertising Deadlines are the previous Thursday unless noted.

SEPTEMBER	Publishing Dates	HomeLifeStyle.....	Publishing Dates
	9/10/14	HomeLifeStyle.....	11/12/14
	9/17/14	Holiday Entertainment & Gift Guide I.....	11/19/14
	9/24/14	A+	11/25/14
OCTOBER		Thanksgiving is November 27.	
Wellbeing	10/1/14	DECEMBER	
HomeLifeStyle PULLOUT:		Wellbeing.....	12/3/14
Deadline is 9/25/14.....	10/8/14	HomeLifeStyle: Home for the Holidays.....	12/10/14
A+ Camps & Schools.....	10/15/14	Hanukkah begins December 16.	
Election Preview I	10/22/14	Holiday Entertainment & Gift Guide II.....	12/16/14
Election Preview II.....	10/29/14	A+ Camps & Schools.....	12/16/14
NOVEMBER		CHILDREN'S CONNECTION.....	12/24/14
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- Reston Connection
- Springfield Connection
- Vienna/Oakton Connection

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

New at Marshall, Oakton High

BY PATTY REED

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER/PROVIDENCE DISTRICT

Welcome to the 2014-2015 school year! As the 10th largest school system in the nation, Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) continues to evolve and focus. We reorganized, created a Portrait of a Graduate

(<http://www.fcps.edu/supt/portrait/index.shtml>), began to develop a strategic plan and multi-year budget. We are preparing students for life in a global economy, and are moving away from rote memorization to 21st century skills of communication, collaboration, creativity and critical thinking. We are taking steps to attract and retain the best teachers.

What is not new is a trend of increasing enrollment, poverty and non-English speakers, inadequate facilities, and strained budgets.

Each of our 196 schools is a unique shining star. Today, I am highlighting two schools in the Providence District: Marshall HS and Oakton HS.

Marshall High School

Marshall, aligned with Region 2, is led by Assistant Superintendent Dr. Fabio Zuluaga, Executive Principal Jay Pearson, and Executive Principal for School Improvement Terry Dade.

Marshall High School received national recognition for their new "Statesman Station" which provides students and staff with healthy menu options. Principal Jay Pearson was recognized as "FCPS Principal of the Year," and has since been promoted to Executive Principal, Region 2. We welcomed Mr. Jeffrey (Jeff) Litz as the new Principal for Marshall High School effective Aug. 18, 2014. Marshall

continues to experience change through their building renovation which began in the summer of 2011 and is expected to be completed in December of 2014. This

renovation will provide additional educational space, a complete refurbishment of the entire facility, including a new, high efficient mechanical and electrical system, additional parking, new kiss and ride and an underground cistern to collect rainwater for irrigation.

The Marshall Academy is a designated Governor's School for their science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) Academy. In July, Air Force Association CyberPatriot National Commissioner Bernie Skoch named FCPS a

CyberPatriot Center of Excellence. Superintendent Dr. Karen Garza and I attended, along with industry professionals, CyberPatriot students, and representatives from Northrop Grumman, CyberPatriot's presenting sponsor. The Center of Excellence designation is awarded to communities and institutions that provide leadership and support to further the educational experiences of their students through the CyberPatriot program. Marshall Academy's cyber security

club is a three-time national finalist in CyberPatriot competitions. CyberPatriot established the Centers of Excellence program in 2011, and thus far, only four

other entities have been recognized nationally.

Oakton High School

Oakton, aligned with Region 1, is led by Assistant Superintendent Douglas Tyson and Executive Principal Evangeline Petrich.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Dylan Staniszewski, Class of 2013, presents her photographs at Oakton High School's 2013 Exhibition of Learning.

Charged with envisioning the Oakton High School graduate of the 21st century, an interdisciplinary team of ninth-grade teachers met in 2011 to discover and capitalize on cross-curricular connections. As a result, the team established

Freshman Learning Goals – real-world, interdisciplinary skills upon which students reflect throughout the year by maintaining portfolios and presenting their work to the community at an Exhibition of Learning and to faculty through a final Presentation of Learning. Oakton has designed a unified Portfolio Learning Program requiring critical thinking, communication, creativity, collaboration, and citizenship for all Oakton students. Through innovative leadership in best

practices, including interdisciplinary collaboration and an emphasis on project-based learning (PBL), Oakton High School is a pioneer in changing the face of 21st century learning for FCPS.

Oakton High School continues to outgrow its current facility with projected student enrollment of more than 2,240 students for September, 2014. The school will house 13 temporary classrooms this fall to accommodate the student body.

The Oakton High School renovation will begin with the planning process this fall.

Based on current conditions, we expect that the construction funding for the project will be contained in the 2017 Bond Referendum with a construction start in 2018.

As we continue moving towards later high school start times for 2015, we have worked closely with all stakeholders, including sports organizations, to minimize impacts to after-school activities. I am grateful for the cooperation of all involved as we focus on well-rounded students— stellar academic achievement, along with physical and emotional well-being.

I encourage you to get involved with your local schools—whether you are a parent, employed worker, retired individual or an empty nester. We recognize

that we all have a stake and role in helping each child to reach his or her potential. I am proud to represent the Providence District and look forward to seeing you in the schools and communities!

A County of 186,785 Students

BY KAREN K. GARZA
SUPERINTENDENT OF FAIRFAX
COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

COMMENTARY



PHOTO COURTESY OF FCPS

Welcome to the 2014-15 school year. The start of a new school year is always an exciting time for students, parents, and educators. Our dedicated staff has been working hard to prepare for another school year that builds on our tradition of excellence at Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS). Fairfax is a community that embraces its newest residents and the cultural diversity that makes our county such a desirable place to be. For many families and businesses, the decision to relocate to a new area is often dependent on the quality of the local public schools. FCPS has a well-deserved national reputation for excellence.

As we enter a new school year, we are projecting an enrollment of 186,785 making FCPS the nation's 10th largest school district. Fairfax County high schools are among the most academically rigorous in the U.S. and are cited every year as among the top high schools in the country. Our classrooms are led by teachers who inspire, motivate, and prepare students with the knowledge and skills they will need for the future. Our dedicated teachers promote the success of every student and create a caring learning environment where every student is valued and recognized as an active learner.

Working closely with our school board, parents, teachers, and community stakeholders, we have made a number of positive and exciting changes for our system during my first year as superintendent. We developed the FCPS Portrait of a Graduate that will serve as a foundation on which to build a long-range strategic plan for the school system and will lessen the focus on standardized, high-stakes testing and place greater emphasis on engaged students, project-based learning, and authentic assessments of student learning. The Portrait of a Graduate will ensure that our students are collaborators, communicators, creative and

critical thinkers, global citizens, and goal-directed and resilient individuals when they leave FCPS.

Other significant changes that we have made include:

- ❖ The launch of full-day Mondays for all elementary students. The change will increase instructional time for students and dedicated planning time for teachers. The change to full day Mondays received overwhelming support in our community and will benefit students, teachers, and our families.

- ❖ A new standard school calendar that eliminates the need to make up inclement weather days at the end of the school year if fewer than 13 days are missed while providing two full weeks for winter break.

- ❖ The new Bailey's Upper Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences. A first of its kind for Fairfax County, this new school is being converted from a five-story office building at 6245 Leesburg Pike to provide enrollment relief for the overcrowded Bailey's Elementary School for the Arts and Sciences. The new campus will house grades 3-5, while the existing campus will house preschool to grade 2.

- ❖ A new CrisisLink text messaging tool for students and parents needing mental health support and resources. Crisis line staff respond to the text messages 24 hours a day. The text number is 703-997-5444.

The future remains very bright for FCPS families, students, and employees. I look forward to welcoming your children to our schools on Sept. 2 and making this year an exciting and rewarding year for all of our students.

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE



Right next to a park of the W&OD trail that borders the Vienna's Town Green, is an old Norfolk Southern Railway caboose in Vienna Centennial Park that was repainted and named W&OD Caboose #503. Visit www.optimistclubofgreatervienna.org for more information about the Caboose's open house schedule.



Only open on the first Sunday of each month from 1 p.m. - 4 p.m., The Little Library is one of the oldest in Fairfax County. Noted as the "Original Vienna Library," the tiny house sits on the border of the Town Green.



PHOTOS BY CAROLINE BURR/THE CONNECTION

Located not too far from Vienna's downtown area, are 95 acres of natural beauty at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens. Vienna resident, Aniko Tottossy who works at the Gardens' visitor center, says that Meadowlark is "the best secret in Vienna. It's beautiful all year round, has a very reasonable admission fee."



Open Wednesday through Sunday from noon to 4 p.m., The Freeman Store and Museum is one of Virginia's historic landmarks. Built in 1859, first known as the Lydecker General Store, the building had also served as a post office used by both the Federal and Confederate armies during the American Civil War. Named after Leon Freeman, first president of Vienna's Volunteer Fire Department, the house was sold to and restored by the Town of Vienna in 1976 as a United State Bicentennial project. Since then, the Freeman Store and Museum has been open to the public and is a little piece of Civil War History

A Photo Tour of Vienna Landmarks

A few of Vienna's must-see places.

BY CAROLINE BURR
THE CONNECTION

From its community-oriented atmosphere to its historic downtown, the town of Vienna has much to offer its newcomers, residents and guests. While walking down Historic Church Street, one can stop at Freeman House and Museum, ride a bike along the Washington and Old Dominion trail, have a chili dog at the locals' favorite Vienna Inn or enjoy one of the numerous free events at the Vienna Town Green located in the heart of downtown.



With walking trails, gazebos, lakes and an abundant collection of tree and flower varieties, Meadowlark has something for everyone. Don't forget to come back in December for Meadowlark's Winter Walk of Lights.



Like to ride bikes? Why not take a trip to the Washington and Old Dominion Railroad trail that runs right through downtown Vienna. W&OD is a rail trail that runs from Shirlington to Purcellville, Va. - 45 miles of paved trail built on the roadbed of the former W&OD railroad, this trail weaves through Northern Virginia's countryside and urban life. W&OD park is great for walking, running, bicycling and more.



The Vienna Town Green is located in the heart of downtown at 144 Maple Avenue East. The Town Green frequently welcomes musical quests and hosts a Free Concert Series on the Green every summer. A little more than two acres in size, the Green features a formal lawn, plaza and an amphitheater.



Opened in 1960, the Vienna Inn has become not only a landmark but also a tradition in Vienna. Whether people return for another chili dog or the friendly and charming atmosphere, not much has changed since the day it opened. Frequent visitor, David Mansfield of Vienna, says he "comes here for the all-inclusive atmosphere. You run into all types of people here and they have a friendly staff." The Vienna Inn is located at 120 East Maple Avenue.

INSIDERS' TIPS

What is So Great About Living in Vienna?

— MACKENZIE REAGAN

Kathy Nickell, works in marketing

"[Vienna has] all the advantages of D.C. while still maintaining a small-town sense of community. [There are plenty of] events for all ages, libraries, churches and friendly businesses. I have a daughter at Madison [High School], one of the town's excellent schools."



Prudy Brown, 40-year resident

"What's the best community event in Vienna? When my children were young, [they enjoyed] the Halloween parade. Vienna has a nice small-town feel and a close-knit community." (Brown volunteers as a Master Gardener through the county's Green Spring Gardens Virginia Cooperative Extension program, giving gardening advice and troubleshooting tips.)



Gary Moonan, works in IT; 17-year resident

"Vienna is great because it's a welcoming and friendly community. [There's] the W&OD Trail," where Moonan rides his bike, and historic places like Church Street's Freeman Store, originally built in 1859. "The history is what makes it unique." Other downtown Vienna highlights include "shops like Caffè Amouri," a locally-owned coffee shop.



Annette Lane, acupuncturist; 20-year resident

"The small-town feel combined with big-city amenities is what makes Vienna special. There's a variety of restaurants and a nice mix of cultures in the downtown area. Additionally, the schools are good, and the people are super nice."



Marilyn Parks, government employee, resident for 20 years

"One highlight of the city? It has a lot of community spirit. People seem to come together here. Another is Waters Field, home to local youth sports teams. [Vienna is] a nice place to live."



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 amphitheatres 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.

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

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 through 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.



One of the beautiful features of the grounds at Meadowlark is the Korean Bell Tower and its surrounding garden.

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.

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.

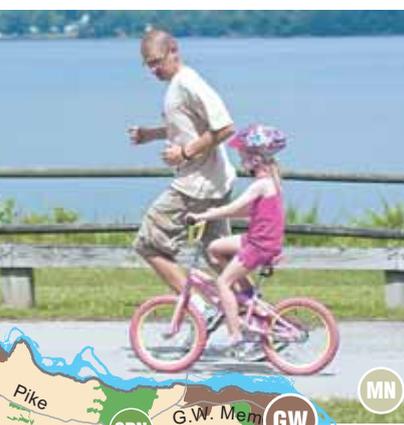
PB Pohick Bay Regional Park

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.

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 Renée Ruggles.



Belmont Bay provides a beautiful backdrop as Scott McLallen jogs beside his daughter Lucy, while she gains confidence riding without training wheels at Mason Neck State Park.



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 Mason Neck Peninsula 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



A stunning spot to fish, found in the middle of Great Falls National Park.

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.

Major Fairfax County Parks

BLP Burke Lake Park & Golf Course

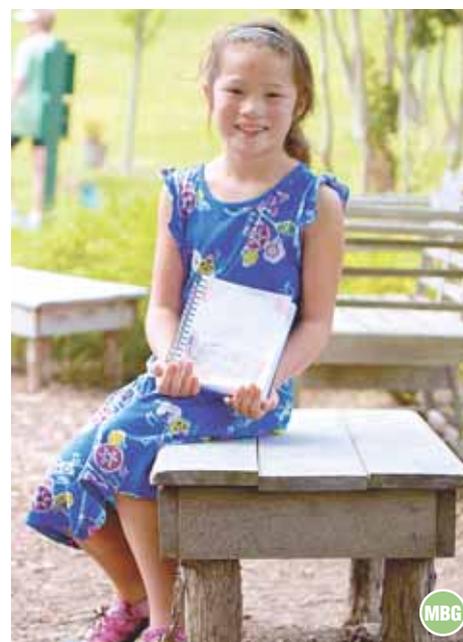
7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station
volleyball, driving range, 18 hole, par 3, minigolf, trails, playground, campgrounds, fishing
883.4 acres, multiple resource park

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
baseball, soccer/football (unlit), basketball (unlit), community center, nature center, amphitheater, trails
650 acres, multiple resource park



Charlotte, from Vienna, shares a sketch that she made of the bridge, across the pond from the Children's Garden at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens.

FPP 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

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, craft room
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, rec center, equestrian, playground, swimming
196 acres, district park

WFP Wakefield Park & RECenter

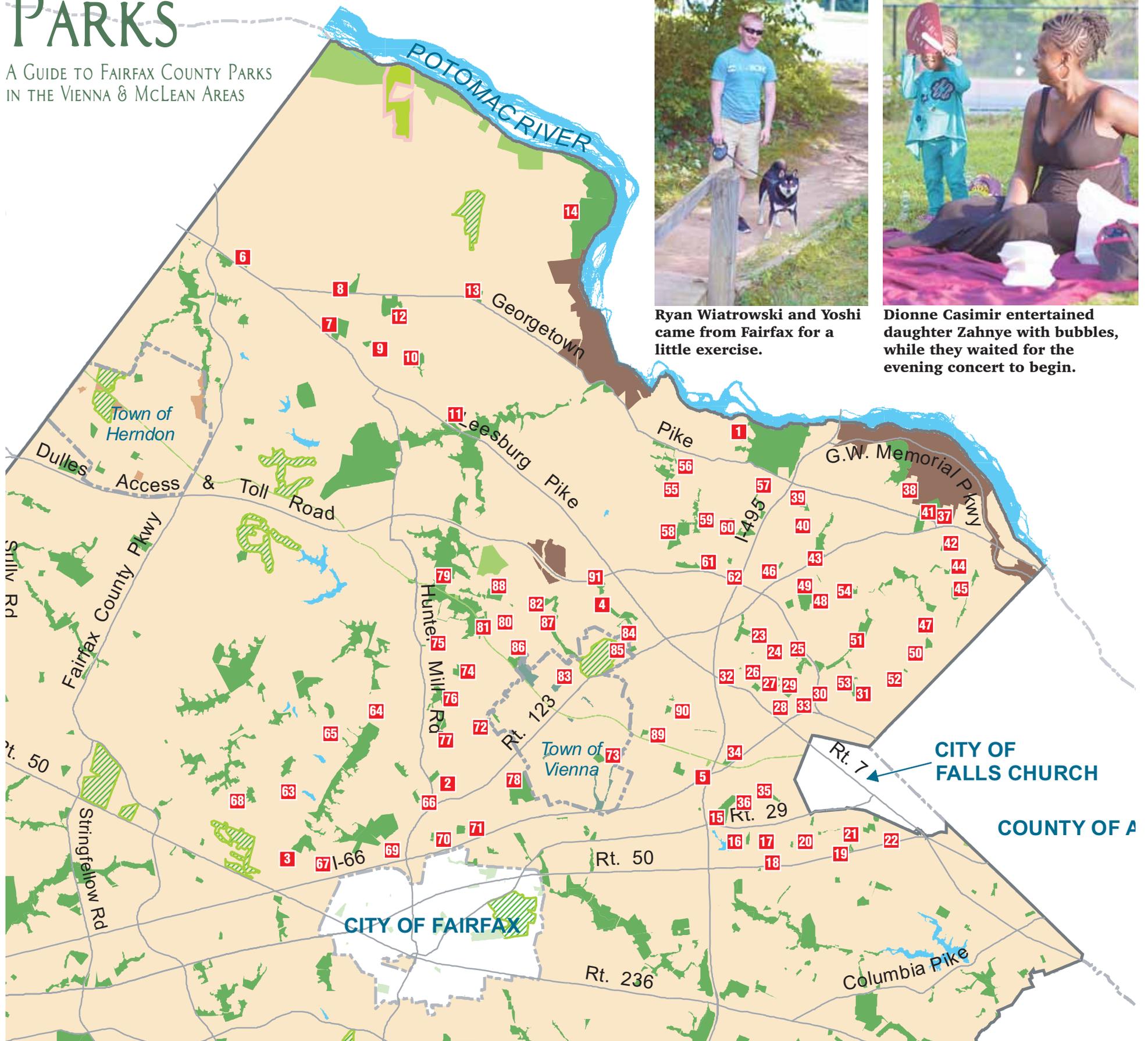
8100 Braddock Road, Annandale
softball, soccer/football, basketball, tennis, rec center, biking, fitness trail, skate park
292.6 acres, multiple resource park



The Meredith family came to the Mason Neck State Park, from Arlington, to do some exploring and wildlife spotting.

PARKS

A GUIDE TO FAIRFAX COUNTY PARKS
IN THE VIENNA & MCLEAN AREAS



Ryan Wiatrowski and Yoshi came from Fairfax for a little exercise.



Dionne Casimir entertained daughter Zahnye with bubbles, while they waited for the evening concert to begin.



Map Number Park Name
Address, City
Property Class

- 1 Tollbrook Ridge**
720 Boyle Lane, McLean
Neighborhood Park
- 2 Oakton Community**
2841 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton
Community Park
- 3 Waples Mill Meadow**
11329 Waples Mill Road, Oakton
Multiple Resource Park
- 4 Heritage Resource**
Westwood Ct, Vienna
- 5 Dunn Loring**
2540 Gallows Road, Vienna
Community Park

6 Holly Knolls
1010 Redberry Court, Great Falls
Neighborhood Park

- 7 Great Falls Nike**
1089 Utterback Store Road, Great Falls
District Park
- 8 Windermere**
11000 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls
Community Park
- 9 Lockmeade**
1104 Riva Ridge Drive, Great Falls
Community Park
- 10 Lexington Estates**
10401 Shesue Street, Great Falls
Neighborhood Park
- 11 Colvin Run Mill Site**
10017 Colvin Run Road, Great Falls
Cultural Resource Park

12 The Turner Farm
925 Springvale Road, Great Falls
Community Park

- 13 Great Falls Grange**
9818 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls
Community Park
- 14 Riverbend**
8700 Potomac Hill Street, Great Falls
Multiple Resource Park
- 15 Jefferson District**
7900 Lee Highway, Falls Church
Multiple Resource Park
- 16 Pine Spring**
7600 Willow Lane, Falls Church
Neighborhood Park
- 17 Tyler**
7216 Rice Street, Falls Church
Neighborhood Park



Nottoway Park offers plenty of open space and athletic fields. A great setting for a pickup volleyball game.



Not all parks have swings. But, Nottoway Park has a big set and, local kids, Harry, Virginia, Emily, and Sydney came to enjoy them.

- | | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|---|
| <p>18 Devonshire
2826 Edgehill Ave, Falls Church Neighborhood Park</p> <p>19 Jefferson Village
2932 East Tripps Run Rd., Falls Church Community Park</p> <p>20 John Mastenbrook-Greenway Downs
2858 Woodlawn Avenue, Falls Church Neighborhood Park</p> <p>21 James Lee School Site
2855 Annandale Road, Falls Church Community Park</p> <p>22 Azalea
2905 Cleave Drive, Falls Church Neighborhood Park</p> <p>23 Westgate
7508 Magarity Road, Falls Church Community Park</p> <p>24 Pimmit View
1905 Storm Drive, Falls Church Neighborhood Park</p> <p>25 Olney
1840 Olney Road, Falls Church Community Park</p> <p>26 Fisher
7620 Fisher Drive, Falls Church Neighborhood Park</p> <p>27 Tysons Pimmit
2026 Burfoot Street, Falls Church Neighborhood Park</p> <p>28 Pimmit Hills
2061 Arch Drive, Falls Church Neighborhood Park</p> <p>29 Griffith
2013 Griffith Road, Falls Church Neighborhood Park</p> <p>30 Mt Royal
7141 Idylwood Road, Falls Church Neighborhood Park</p> <p>31 Haycock Longfellow
6650 Kirby Court, Falls Church Community Park</p> <p>32 Lisle
7744 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church Neighborhood Park</p> <p>33 Lemon Road
7210 Idylwood Road, Falls Church Neighborhood Park</p> <p>34 Idylwood
7715 Virginia Lane, Falls Church Community Park</p> | <p>35 Hollywood Road
2700 Hollywood Road, Falls Church Neighborhood Park</p> <p>36 Lee Landing
2780 Hollywood Rd., Falls Church Neighborhood Park</p> <p>37 Langley Fork
6250 Georgetown Pike, McLean District Park</p> <p>38 Langley Oaks
6504 Bright Mountain Road, McLean Natural Resource Park</p> <p>39 Cooper Intermediate School
977 Balls Hill Road, McLean Community Park</p> <p>40 Churchill Road
7098 Thrasher Place, McLean Community Park</p> <p>41 Clemyjontri
6317 Georgetown Pike, McLean Special Purpose Park</p> <p>42 Dolley Madison Estates
6139 Long Meadow Road, McLean Neighborhood Park</p> <p>43 McLean Central
1468 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean Community Park</p> <p>44 Potomac Hills
6125 Kinyon Place, McLean Community Park</p> <p>45 Marie Butler Leven Preserve
1501 Kirby Road, McLean Special Purpose Park</p> <p>46 McLean Knolls
1400 Balls Hill Road, McLean Neighborhood Park</p> <p>47 Linway Terrace
6246 Linway Terrace, McLean Community Park</p> <p>48 McLean High
1609 Davidson Rd, McLean Community Park</p> <p>49 Lewinsville
1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean District Park</p> <p>50 Chesterbrook School Site
1753 Kirby Road, McLean Community Park</p> <p>51 Kent Gardens
6621 Byrnes Drive, McLean Community Park</p> <p>52 Franklin Woods
1938 Birch Road, McLean Neighborhood Park</p> | <p>53 Kirby
2020 Kirby Road, McLean Neighborhood Park</p> <p>54 Bryn Mawr
6700 Tennyson Drive, McLean Neighborhood Park</p> <p>55 Old Dominion School Site
8211 Hunting Hill Lane, McLean Community Park</p> <p>56 Greenway Heights
8203 Riding Ridge Place, McLean Community Park</p> <p>57 Scotts Run Nature Preserve
7400 Georgetown Pike, McLean Natural Resource Park</p> <p>58 Spring Hill
1239 Spring Hill Road, McLean District Park</p> <p>59 McLean Hunt
8003 Old Falls Road, McLean Neighborhood Park</p> <p>60 Timberly
1173 Swinks Mill Road, McLean Community Park</p> <p>61 McLean Hamlet
8119 Dunsinane Court, McLean Community Park</p> <p>62 Falstaff
7717 Falstaff Road, McLean Neighborhood Park</p> <p>63 Foxvale
3104 Hunt Road, Oakton Community Park</p> <p>64 Gabrielson Gardens
2514 Leeds Drive, Oakton Special Purpose Park</p> <p>65 Clarke's Landing
11100 Vale Road, Oakton Community Park</p> <p>66 Oakborough Square
2890 Oakborough Square, Oakton Neighborhood Park</p> <p>67 Tattersall
3405 Miller Heights Road, Oakton Community Park</p> <p>68 Wayland Street
11813a Wayland Steet, Oakton Community Park</p> <p>69 Oak Marr
3200 Jermantown Road, Oakton Multiple Resource Park</p> <p>70 Borge Street
3030 Borge Street, Oakton Neighborhood Park</p> | <p>71 Blake Lane School Site
10033 Blake Lane, Oakton Community Park</p> <p>72 Peterson Lane
575 Malcolm Road NW, Vienna Neighborhood Park</p> <p>73 Cunningham
1001 Park Street, SE, Vienna Community Park</p> <p>74 Lawyers Road School Site
10049 Lawyers Road, Vienna Neighborhood Park</p> <p>75 Fox Hunters
10319 Lawyers Road, Vienna Neighborhood Park</p> <p>76 Kemper
10206 Garrett Street, Vienna Community Park</p> <p>77 Ashlawn
10230 Dunfries Road, Vienna Community Park</p> <p>78 Nottoway
9537 Courthouse Road, Vienna District Park</p> <p>79 Tamarack
1850 Horseback Trail, Vienna Community Park</p> <p>80 Symphony Hills
9675 Clarks Crossing Road, Vienna Neighborhood Park</p> <p>81 Clarks Crossing
9850 Clarks Crossing Road, Vienna District Park</p> | <p>82 Wolf Trails
9328 Old Courthouse Road, Vienna Community Park</p> <p>83 Foxstone
1910 Creek Crossing Road, Vienna Community Park</p> <p>84 Raglan Road
8590 Raglan Road, Vienna Community Park</p> <p>85 Freedom Hill
8531 Old Courthouse Road, Vienna Cultural Resource Park</p> <p>86 Eudora
2027 Labrador Lane, Vienna Community Park</p> <p>87 Waverly
1801 Abbotsford Drive, Vienna Community Park</p> <p>88 Lahey Lost Valley
9750 Brookmeadow Drive, Vienna Cultural Resource Park</p> <p>89 Tysons Woods
8425 Overlook Street, Vienna Neighborhood Park</p> <p>90 Briarcliff
2158 Silentree Road, Vienna Neighborhood Park</p> <p>91 Ashgrove
8881 Ashgrove House Lane, Vienna Cultural Resource Park</p> |
|--|--|--|---|---|

PHOTOS BY RENÉE RUGGLES
FEATURING NOTTOWAY PARK



Shenandoah Run, a popular local group, performs for the crowd at Nottoway Park. The "Nottoway Nights" concert series runs on Thursday evenings, during the summer.

ENTERTAINMENT

Year-round Festivals

A list of annual community events in the area.

LIST COMPILED BY EMMA HARRIS

August 2014

SATURDAY/AUG. 30

Lake Anne Jazz & Blues Festival. 1 p.m. Lake Anne Plaza (Waterfront), 1609 Washington Plaza, Reston. Showcasing a variety of talented local emerging artists and national jazz performers. Visit lakeanneplaza.com/event/8th-annual-jazz-blues-festival/30.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/AUG. 30-31

War of 1812 Signature Event. Noon-5 p.m. Alexandria Waterfront, 3 Cameron Street, Alexandria. Visitors are invited to delight in interactive historical exhibits, boating activities and food trucks. Features a tug-of-war, cricket match and yacht race as well. 703-746-4242. Free. Visit www.visitAlexandriaVA.com/1812

September 2014

MONDAY/SEPT. 1 - SUNDAY/SEPT. 7

Annual Workhouse Clay National Ceramics Exhibition. Workhouse Arts Center, 9518 Workhouse Way, Lorton. This exhibition represents the depth and breadth of contemporary functional and sculptural ceramic artworks being created throughout the country. Visit http://www.workhouseceramics.org/index.php?p=1_15_Clay-National-2014.

MONDAY/SEPT. 1

Herndon Labor Day Festival. 12-6 p.m. Herndon Town Green, 777 Lynn Street, Herndon. Downtown Herndon celebrates Labor Day with an annual festival - °great music, a craft show, food, wineries, micro-brews and culinary demonstrations will all be there. Visit www.herndon-va.gov

SATURDAY/SEPT. 6

Virginia Indian Festival. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Riverbend Park, 8700 Potomac Hills Street, Great Falls. Tribal dancing, songs and drumming make history come alive each September at the Virginia Indian Festival at Riverbend Park. Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/parktakes/quicktakes/#FA14QT7.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 6-7

37th Annual Burke Centre Festival. 9:30 a.m.-10 p.m. 6060 Burke Centre Parkway, Burke. Burke Centre's signature event, which celebrates the spirit of the community each year with rides, activities and live entertainment for all ages to enjoy. Visit http://www.burkecentreweb.com/sub_category_list.asp?category=37&title=Annual+Festival.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 7

Reston Triathlon. 7 a.m. Lake Audubon, Twin Branches Road, Reston. Swim, bike and run in the "Reston World Championships." Visit www.restontriathlon.org/tri.

THURSDAY/SEPT. 11-18

16th Annual Fall for the Book Festival. George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. A week-long, multiple-venue, regional festival that brings together people of all ages and interests. Visit www.fallforthebook.org.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 13

18th Annual CÉ Irish Folk Festival. Noon-8:30 p.m. Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax and The Auld Shebeen Irish Pub, 3971 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax. All are invited to enjoy, free of charge, the "pure drop" - the beauty and depth of Irish music, dance, language and sport as it has taken root and come into full flower in our community. Visit <http://www.fairfaxva.gov/about-us/special-events/fairfax-irish-folk-festival>

Silver Live Music and Food Truck Festival. 12-10 p.m. 1800 Tysons Blvd., McLean. Listen to performances from renowned local and national



PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

From fabulous to creepy, children marched in the 2013 Halloween parade in Vienna. This year's parade will be on Wednesday, Oct. 29.

acts and find displays of fine arts and a variety of refreshments to benefit the Spirit of Hope Children's Foundation. Visit tysonspartnership.org/event-calendar/tysons-world-music-festival/.

Lorton's Fall Festival. 11 a.m. Lorton Station Town Center, 8998 Lorton Station Blvd., Lorton. Enjoy a magic booth, pumpkin painting, photo booth, games, prizes and more. Visit www.lortonstationtowncenter.com/calendar-of-events.html

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 13-14

King Street Art Festival. 10 a.m.-7p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday. Old Town, King Street, Alexandria. At this community festival, art enthusiasts can discover spectacular paintings, life-size sculptures, jewelry, photography, ceramics and more. Visit www.artfestival.com/Festivals/Alexandria_Festival_of_the_Arts_Alexandria_Virginia_September.ASPX

SATURDAY/SEPT. 20

5K/10K Dulles Day on the Runway. 7:30 a.m. 14390 Air and Space Museum Pkwy., Chantilly. The full length of the runway will be closed off for runners to experience a flat, fast course and a unique look at the airport grounds. All race proceeds will benefit Special Olympics Virginia, the Committee for Dulles Community Outreach and the Washington Airports Task Force. Visit <http://committeefordulles.org/5-10K.html>.

Dulles Day Plane Pull. 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Dulles International Airport. Teams of 25 are pitted against one another to see who can pull a 164,000+ pound Airbus 12 feet the fastest in Special Olympics Virginia's "heaviest" fundraiser. Visit <http://www.planepull.com>.

Beer, Bourbon & BBQ Fest. 12-6 p.m. 8025 Galleria Drive, McLean. Attend for a day of beer sippin', bourbon tastin', music listenin', cigar smokin' and barbecue eatin'. Your admission buys a sampling glass so you can enjoy all you care to taste while attending seminars in the tasting theater and enjoying live music all day. Visit www.tysonspartnership.org/event-calendar/tysons-bbq-bourbon-and-beer-festival.

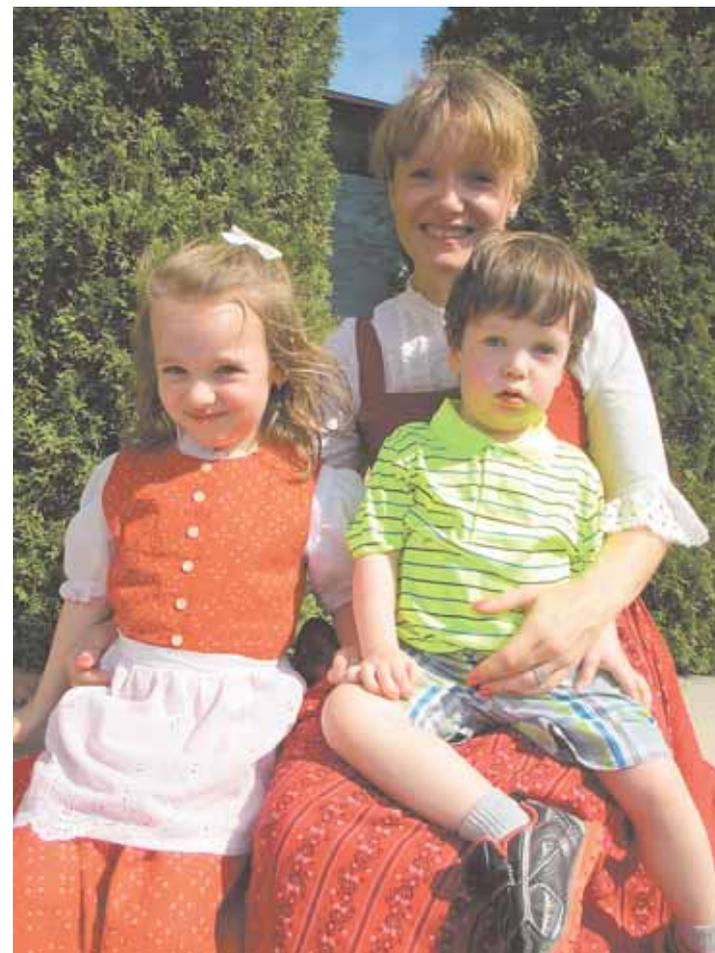


PHOTO BY DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION

Rebecah Graves and her daughter, Laylah, 6, wore traditional Bavarian dresses to the 2013 Vienna Oktoberfest. This year's festival will be on Saturday, Oct. 4.

Mount Vernon Colonial Market and Fair. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. Fifty colonial-attired artisans demonstrate 18th-century crafts and sell traditional wares such as baskets, woodcarvings, tin and ironwork, leatherworkings, weavings, furniture and much more. Visit <http://www.mountvernon.org/plan-your-visit/calendar/events/colonial-market-fair/>

Paint Herndon Celebrate the Arts. 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. ArtSpace Herndon, 750 Center Street, Herndon. The annual Paint Herndon event is a celebration of the arts and the anniversary of the opening of ArtSpace Herndon, complete with a painting competition. Visit www.artspaceherndon.com/paint-herndon/.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 20-21

2nd Annual Arlington Festival of the Arts. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Highland Street in the Clarendon District, Arlington. More than 100 artists will showcase their work including paintings, jewelry, pottery, glass, and much more. Visit artfestival.com for more.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 21

Herndon Kids Triathlon. 7:30 a.m. Herndon Community Center, 814 Ferndale Avenue, Herndon. This kids triathlon gives youngsters an opportunity to compete in one of the fastest growing sports in the United States. The event is designed for any youth, ages 6-16, regardless of athletic ability or prior triathlon experience. Visit www.herndon-va.gov.

SATURDAY/SEPT. 27

Clarendon Day. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Near Clarendon Metro station, 3100 Wilson Blvd., Arlington. A celebration of the Clarendon neighborhood and a showcase for the people who make the neighborhood great with activities, live entertainment and food. Visit www.clarendon.org/clarendon-day.

Reston Multicultural Festival. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston. A celebration of

the diversity and community spirit that is found in Reston, this annual event brings together the people of Reston to celebrate the rich medley of cultures. Visit <http://www.restoncommunitycenter.com/MulticulturalFestival.shtml>.

SUNDAY/SEPT. 28

Walk to End Alzheimer's. 3 p.m. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Walk and fundraise to further the care, support and research efforts of the Alzheimer's Association. Visit <http://act.alz.org/site/TR/Walk/GeneralInformation?cid=5817&type=f information&id=18124>

NatureFest. 1-5 p.m. Runnymede Park, 195 Herndon Parkway, Herndon. Explore various nature stations throughout the park including butterflies, bees, life in the meadow, web of life and much more with live animal shows throughout the day. Visit www.herndon-va.gov.

October 2014

THURSDAY/OCT. 2

3rd Annual Reston Town Center Help the Homeless Walk. 12 p.m. Reston Town Center, 11959 Market St, Reston. Walk from Mayflowers Floral Design Studio on The Promenade to the Embry Rucker Community Shelter and back. Funds will enable Cornerstones to provide essential resources and services for individuals and families in the community who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Visit http://www.cornerstonesva.org/events_list/hth.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 3-5

Fall Wine Festival and Sunset Tour. 6-9 p.m. Mount Vernon Estate, 3200 George Washington Memorial Pkwy., Mount Vernon. Enjoy live blues and spectacular views of the Potomac River while sampling wine from 16 Virginia wineries. Visitors learn about the successes and failures of our Founding Father's wine endeavors, enjoy

SEE ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 19

ENTERTAINMENT

Great Falls citizens of all ages were encouraged to take part in the parade and participate in the July 4th celebration this year.



PHOTO BY NIKKI CHESHIRE/THE CONNECTION

FROM PAGE 18

live blues music, and meet "George and Martha Washington" on the Mansion's piazza. Visit www.mountvernon.org.

SATURDAY/OCT. 4

Art on the Avenue. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. 2301 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria. A multicultural arts festival celebrating the community's diversity through the arts in the Del Ray neighborhood in Alexandria, Virginia. Visit www.artontheavenue.org.

Oktoberfest Vienna. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Historic Church Street, Vienna. Enjoy beer, wine, food, music, kids activities and more. Visit <http://viennaoktoberfest.org/>

SUNDAY/OCT. 5

McLean Project for the Arts ArtFest. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. McLean Central Park, 468 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean. The park is transformed into a lively landscape of mini art galleries showcasing and offering for sale the work of a diverse group of 50 juried artists. Visit www.mpaart.org.

19th Annual Paws for a Cause 3K Walk. 12 p.m. Weber's Pet Supermarket, 11021 Lee Highway, Fairfax. Paws for a Cause benefits Fairfax Pets on Wheels, Inc., an all-volunteer organization dedicated to providing pet visitation to residents of nursing homes and hospitals since 1987. Visit www.fpow.org/event-685795.

SATURDAY-SUNDAY/OCT. 11-12

Oktober Fest Reston. Reston Town Center, 11900 Market St., Reston. Enjoy food, wine, beer, live entertainment, a carnival and the Anthem Great Pumpkin 5K at Northern Virginia's largest fall festival. Visit <http://www.oktoberfestreston.com>.

SATURDAY/OCT. 11

Fall Festival in Old Town Historic Fairfax. 10209 Main Street, Fairfax. What started out as a small market for artisans has grown to a festival with over 400 arts, crafts and food vendors, children's activities and entertainment for all ages. Visit <http://www.fairfaxva.gov/about-us/special-events/fall-festival>.

Top Issues Facing Vienna

FROM PAGE 9

has assured both the Council and the members of the Ayr Hill Garden Club, who maintain the garden, that it can be shifted to the caboose site in the nearby Centennial Park area.

She said the Town would partner with the garden club to construct a raised bed there and install a walkway around its perimeter. The Town will provide the materials for the raised bed and will work with the club to help with the move.



DONNA MANZ/THE CONNECTION
Vienna Mayor Jane Seeman when she announced her retirement in January.

Memorial to Seeman

After serving on the Vienna Town Council, M. Jane Seeman was Vienna's mayor for 14 years until her death from lung cancer on Feb. 23.

She was beloved by family, friends and colleagues and Town residents. So now, the Town Council members are considering the best way to honor her memory.

During a June work session of the Town Council, Mayor Laurie DiRocco said the Council could work together on it with the businesses, residents, civic organizations and churches who want to participate.

Carole Wolfand, chairman of the Vienna Business Assn. Board of Directors, said the business she owns, Vienna Paint & Decorating, ran a promotion to raise

money to enhance something within the Town that everyone could enjoy. The effort yielded \$8,600.

"As Jane became more ill, I gave her the check so that, if we decided to do something, the money's already there," said Wolfand. "Jane, her daughter [Linda Colbert] and I talked about doing a memorial to her in the town. A group of us chatted about public art and Jane's visions of the Town green. I think the best idea is to involve the Town and its residents."

Postnet owner James Cudney said he'd like "to build an identity in Vienna and come up with initiatives and projects to create public art in the Town." And Councilwoman Edythe Kelleher noted that "Linda Sullivan of the Fairfax County Arts Council spoke with people about it and has their ideas."

DiRocco said the Town will have to decide what kind of memorial it wants and if it'll be art or something else. Cudney suggested that businesses could make donations specifically for the memorial to the Town. And DiRocco said a committee should be created "to look at the [memorial] options and vet the artists."

Wolfand said it should be a combination of the Town, businesses and residents, and Councilman Howard Springsteen said this committee could then come back with a recommendation regarding the memorial.

MIDDLE EASTERN FOOD FESTIVAL

Labor Day Weekend

Saturday, Aug. 30, 11:00 am-11:00 pm

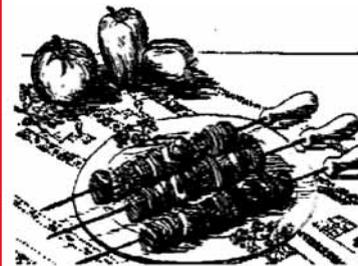
Sunday, Aug. 31, 12:00 noon-6:00 pm

Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic Church
8501 Lewinsville Road, McLean, Virginia (near Spring Hill Road)

703-734-9566 • www.holytransfiguration.org

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| Gyros | Kids' Games |
| Grape Leaves | Vendors |
| Falafel | Backgammon & Chess |
| Fattoush | 50-50 Raffle |
| Baklava & | Church Tours |
| Other Favorites! | Icon Shop |



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Sat., Aug. 30, 6-9 p.m.
Sun., Aug. 31, All Day



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What's on the Ballot; How to Vote

Election Day is Nov. 4, 2014, but you can vote as early as Sept. 19.

Every year is Election Year in Virginia. This year, every Virginia voter will choose one member of the U.S. Senate and their member of the U.S. House of Representatives. Two of Northern Virginia's three house seats are open seats with the retirement of two longstanding members, Jim Moran (D-8) and Frank Wolf (R-10).

This area has very high rates of voter registration, but voter turnout varies significantly from year to year. For example, two years ago in 2012, a presidential election year, 71.78 percent of Virginia registered voters turned out to vote. But in 2010, more comparable to this year, only 44.01 percent of Virginia registered voters turned out to vote.

In Fairfax County, with a population around 1,130,900, there are 713,025 registered voters as of July 1, 2014, up from 676,802 in 2012. (Population data from U.S. Census and voter data from Virginia Department of Elections.)

In Alexandria, with a population of about 148,900, there are 97,883 total registered voters as of July 1, 2014. That's down from 101,887 total registered voters as of July 2, 2012.

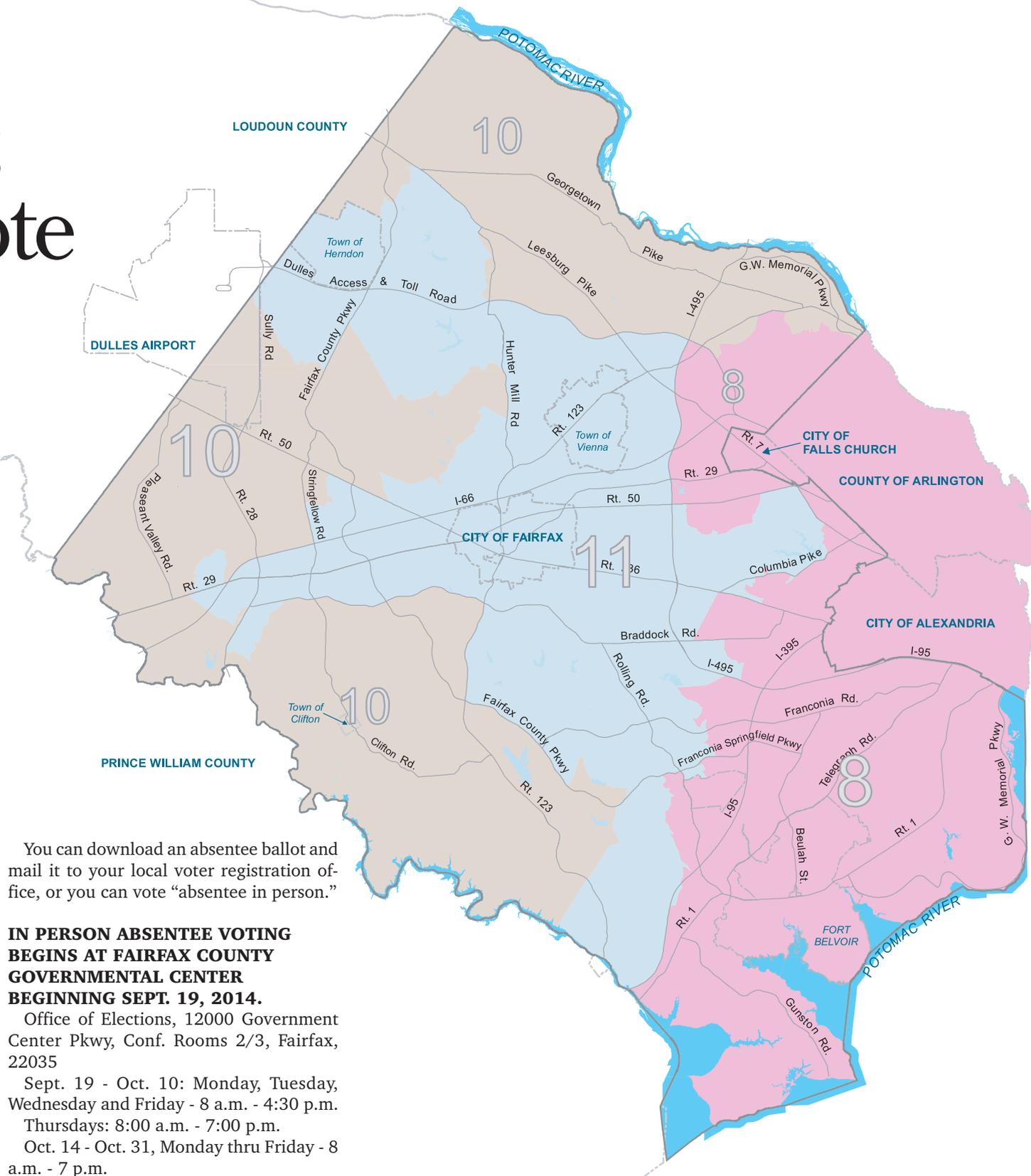
In Arlington, with a population of about 224,900, there are 162,100 total registered voters as of July 1, 2014, up from 157,236 on July 2, 2012.

REGISTER, CHANGE OF ADDRESS: In order to vote on Election Day, you must be registered at your current address no later than Oct. 13, 2014. You can check your registration status online by going to www.sbe.virginia.gov.

VOTING EARLY, ABSENTEE

Virtually every voter in Virginia is eligible to vote absentee, which includes voting in-person absentee at a variety of locations between Sept. 19 and Nov. 1.

There are many reasons that voters are allowed to vote absentee, but the most broad of these applies to almost anyone with a job: "Any person who, in the regular and orderly course of his business, profession, or occupation, will be at his place of work and commuting to and from his home to his place of work for eleven or more hours of the thirteen that the polls are open (6 a.m. to 7 p.m.)."



MAP PROVIDED BY FAIRFAX COUNTY GOVERNMENT

You can download an absentee ballot and mail it to your local voter registration office, or you can vote "absentee in person."

IN PERSON ABSENTEE VOTING BEGINS AT FAIRFAX COUNTY GOVERNMENTAL CENTER BEGINNING SEPT. 19, 2014.

Office of Elections, 12000 Government Center Pkwy, Conf. Rooms 2/3, Fairfax, 22035

Sept. 19 - Oct. 10: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday - 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Thursdays: 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Oct. 14 - Oct. 31, Monday thru Friday - 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Saturdays, Sept. 27, Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25 and Nov. 1, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Closed Monday, Oct. 13 for Columbus Day

SATELLITE VOTING LOCATIONS BEGIN FRIDAY OCT. 14

- Franconia Governmental Center - 6121 Franconia Rd., Alexandria, 22310
 - Dolley Madison Library - 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean, 22101
 - North County Human Services Bldg. - 1850 Cameron Glen Dr, Reston, 20190
 - West Springfield Governmental Center - 6140 Rolling Rd., Springfield, 22152
 - Mason Governmental Center - 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale, 22003
 - Mount Vernon Governmental Center - 2511 Parkers Ln., Alexandria 22306
 - Sully District Governmental Center - 4900 Stonecroft Blvd., Chantilly 20151
- Monday - Friday, Oct. 14 - 31, 3:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Map of Congressional districts serving Fairfax County.

7 p.m.
Saturdays, Sept. 27, Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25 and Nov. 1, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Closed Monday, Oct. 13 for Columbus Day

For more, call 703-222-0776 or visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/absentee.htm>

WHAT'S ON THE BALLOT?

Every voter in Virginia will vote for U.S. Senator and their member in the U.S. House of Representatives.

One constitutional question will appear on all Virginia ballots, Proposed Constitutional Amendment - Question: Shall the Constitution of Virginia be amended to allow the General Assembly to exempt from taxation the real property of the surviving

spouse of any member of the armed forces of the United States who was killed in action, where the surviving spouse occupies the real property as his or her principal place of residence and has not remarried?

U.S. SENATE

One-term incumbent Sen. Mark R. Warner (D) is challenged by Republican Ed W. Gillespie and Libertarian Robert C. Sarvis.

• Republican Ed W. Gillespie, www.edforsenate.com

• Democrat Mark R. Warner, www.markwarnerva.com

• Libertarian Robert C. Sarvis, www.robertsarvis.com

SEE EVERY YEAR, PAGE 21

NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE

Every Year is Election Year in Virginia

FROM PAGE 20

THE 8TH DISTRICT is an open seat because of the retirement of incumbent Rep. Jim Moran (D), who was elected in 1990. Democrat Donald S. Beyer Jr. will face Republican Micah K. Edmond plus three independent candidates. The 8th district includes all of Alexandria and Arlington, plus parts of Fairfax County including Mount Vernon, Lorton and parts of McLean, Tysons and Falls Church.

◊ Republican Micah K. Edmond, www.micahedmond.com

◊ Democrat Donald S. Beyer Jr., www.friendsofdonbeyer.com

◊ Libertarian Jeffrey S. Carson, jeffreycarson.com/

◊ Independent Green Gerard C. "Gerry" Blais III, www.votejoinrun.us

◊ Independent Gwendolyn J. Beck, www.gwendolynbeck.com

IN THE 10TH DISTRICT, an open seat was created by the retirement of Frank Wolf (R), who was elected to office in 1982. Both major party candidates are elected officials from McLean, with Republican Barbara Comstock, a member of the Virginia House

of Delegates, facing Democrat John Foust, a member of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. The 10th district sprawls from McLean to Winchester, and includes Great Falls, Chantilly, parts of Fairfax Station, the Town of Clifton, part of Burke and Springfield.

◊ Republican Barbara J. Comstock, www.barbaracomstockforcongress.com

◊ Democrat John W. Foust, www.foustforvirginia.com

◊ Libertarian William B. Redpath, billredpath.com

◊ Independent Green Dianne L. Blais, www.votejoinrun.us

◊ Independent Brad A. Eickholt, www.eickholt4congress.com/

IN THE 11TH DISTRICT, Gerry Connolly (D), former chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, elected to congress in 2008, will face Republican Suzanne K. Scholte and two independent candidates.

◊ Republican Suzanne K. Scholte, www.suzannescholteforcongress.com/

◊ Democrat Gerald E. "Gerry" Connolly, incumbent, www.gerryconnolly.com

◊ Green Joe F. Galdo www.joegaldo.com

◊ Libertarian Marc M. Harrold, www.marcharrold4congress.com

IN FAIRFAX COUNTY, all voters will vote yes or no for more money for transportation projects. **Transportation Improvements Bond Question:** Shall the Board of Supervisors contract a debt, borrow money and issue bonds of Fairfax County, Virginia, in addition to bonds previously authorized for transportation improvements and facilities, in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$100,000,000 for the purpose of providing funds to finance the cost of constructing, reconstructing, improving and acquiring transportation facilities, including improvements to primary and secondary State highways, improvements related to transit, improvements for pedestrians and bicycles, and ancillary related improvements and facilities?

IN THE CITY OF FAIRFAX, voters will also vote on an advisory Referendum regarding length of term for Offices of Mayor, City Council and School Board, and whether the term of office should be increased from two years to four years.

New Voter Identification Requirements

As of this summer, there are new requirements for voter identification that voters must bring with them to the polling place.

Virginia law requires all voters to provide an acceptable form of photo identification at the polls. Voters arriving to the polls without photo ID will be allowed to vote a provisional ballot and will have until noon on the Friday after the election to deliver a copy of identification to their locality's electoral board in order for their provisional ballot to be counted.

Virginia's photo ID requirements also apply to absentee voters who vote in-person in all elections.

Here are the "acceptable" forms of identification:

◊ Valid Virginia Driver's License or Identification Card

◊ Valid Virginia DMV issued Veteran's ID card

◊ Valid United States Passport

◊ Other government-issued photo identification cards (must be issued by US Government, the Commonwealth of Virginia, or a political subdivision of the Commonwealth)

◊ Valid college or university student photo identification card, must be from an institution of higher education located in Virginia.

◊ Employee identification card containing a photograph of the voter and issued by an employer of the voter in the ordinary course of the employer's business

◊ or a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card obtained through any local general registrar's office

"Valid" is defined as a genuine document, bearing the photograph of the

voter, and is not expired for more than 12 months.

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

DON'T HAVE ONE OF THESE?

Any registered voter who does not possess one of the above mentioned forms of photo ID, may apply for a free Virginia Voter Photo Identification from any general registrar's office in the Commonwealth. Voters applying for the Virginia Voter Photo ID Card will have to complete the Virginia Voter Photo Identification Card Application, have their picture taken, and sign the digital signature pad. Once the application is processed, the card will be mailed directly to the voter.

Provisional Ballot Process

A voter who arrives at the polling place without an acceptable form of photo identification will be given the opportunity to vote a provisional ballot. After completing the provisional ballot, the individual voting will be given written instructions from the election officials on how to submit a copy of his/her identification so that his/her vote can be counted.

A voter will have until noon on the Friday following the election to deliver a copy of the identification to the local electoral board. Voters may submit a copy of their ID via fax, email, in-person submission, or through USPS or commercial delivery service. Please note that the copy of the ID must be delivered to the electoral board by noon on Friday, or the provisional ballot cannot be counted. A Friday postmark will not be sufficient. Writ-

ten notice given to the voter will provide the necessary information, including email, fax, and address of where the ID should be delivered.

IF YOU VOTE A PROVISIONAL BALLOT but don't have an "acceptable ID," you can appear in-person in the office of the general registrar in the locality in which the provisional ballot was cast by noon on Friday following the election and apply for a Virginia Voter Photo ID Card. At the completion of the application process, the voter may request a Temporary Identification Document. This document can be provided to the electoral board as acceptable identification and the voter's provisional ballot will be counted.

SOURCE: Virginia Department of Elections, www.sbe.virginia.gov

For More Election Information:

Fairfax County Board of Elections, 703-222-0776, www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb/
12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Suite 232, Fairfax, 22035; FAX 703-324-2205; email voting@fairfaxcounty.gov

City of Fairfax General Registrar, 703-385-7890, <http://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/general-registrar>

10455 Armstrong Street, Sisson House, Fairfax, 22030; FAX 703-591-8364; email generalregistrar@fairfaxva.gov

State Board of Elections, 804 864-8901 Toll Free: 800 552-9745 FAX: 804 371-0194

email: info@sbe.virginia.gov

<http://www.sbe.virginia.gov>

Fairfax's Success Story

50 Years in the Making

BY GERALD L. GORDON, PH.D.

If you are a newcomer to Fairfax County, allow me to welcome you to one of the most dynamic communities anywhere in the world to live and work. It was the vision of many people to create this kind of community, so please allow me to offer a quick history lesson.

The Capital Beltway was completed in 1964. The same year the iconic highway opened, the Virginia General Assembly passed a law that created what is now called the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority. In the last 50 years, creation and growth of a diversified business community and local economy transformed a sleepy bedroom community in the shadow of the nation's capital into what Time magazine has called "one of the great economic success stories of our time."

How much of a success story? Fairfax County was home to no Fortune 500 companies in 1964, and today 10 of those businesses are based here. That's more than 30 states. Today more than 400 foreign-owned businesses have a presence here, as do four companies on Black Enterprise magazine's list of the 100 largest African American-owned companies, three companies on HispanicBusiness.com's list of the 100 largest Hispanic-owned companies, and top companies that are Asian-, woman- and veteran-owned.

Today Fairfax County is the second-largest suburban office market in the United States. Almost no matter where you live, you can see how the county continues to evolve as a business location. The first phase of Metro's Silver Line rail service further enhances the attractiveness of Tysons Corner and Reston, while the second phase will link Herndon and Washington Dulles International Airport to the rest of the Washington region in 2018.

Southeastern Fairfax County (Springfield, Lorton and the Richmond Highway corridor) are becoming important office centers thanks to growth at Fort Belvoir. The Mosaic District in Merrifield is a popular destination, and the Springfield Town Center opening this fall promises to be a magnet for that area.

As I suggested earlier, this evolution of Fairfax County has been no accident. It has been a strategy driven by a consistent vision: A strong and consistent economic development program that attracts companies and helps them stay and grow here creates job opportunities, builds a strong commercial tax base that holds down residential taxes, and allows the Board of Supervisors to provide high-quality public services that enhance the quality of life here.

Yes, Fairfax County has changed tremendously since 1964. But, even with all the progress that has happened, we believe even better times lay ahead.

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



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- lost (adj): 1. unable to find the way.
2. not appreciated or understood.
3. no longer owned or known

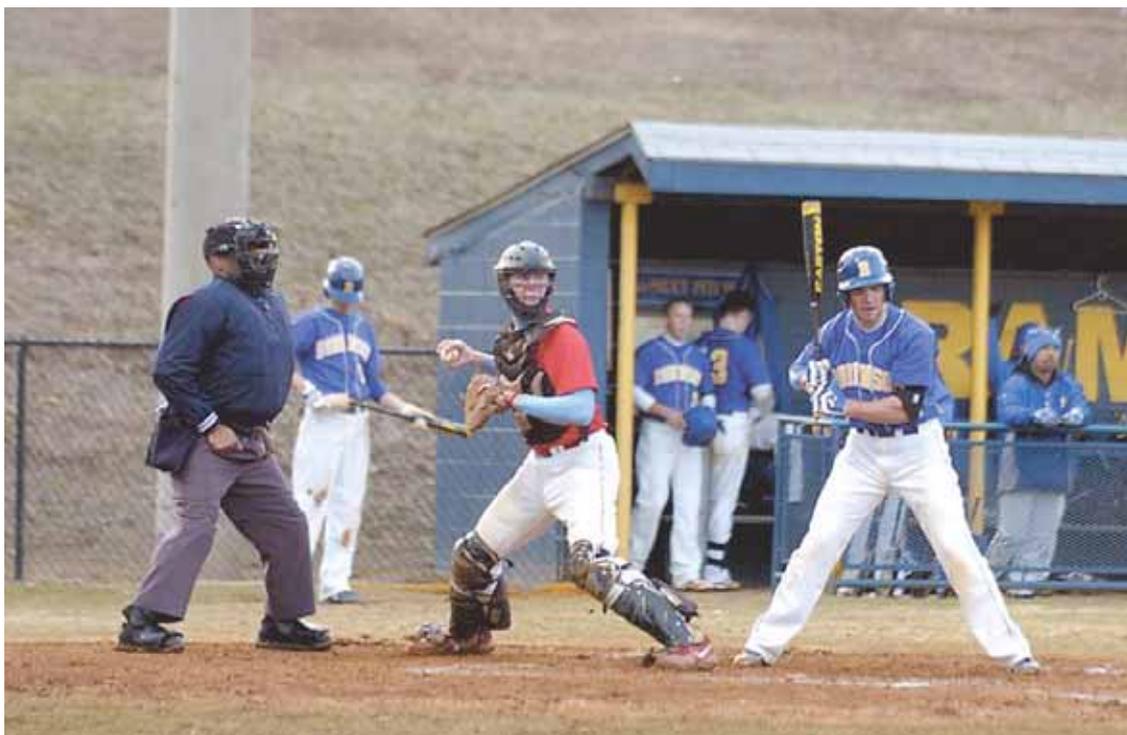


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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE



CONNECTION FILE PHOTO

Catcher Mitch Blackstone, seen early in the 2014 season, and the Marshall baseball team won the Conference 13 title in 2014.

Getting to Know Marshall Sports

Baseball team won Conference 13.

What Happened Last Year: The baseball, girls' lacrosse, girls' soccer and softball teams won Conference 13 titles.

From The Connection's Top 100 Athletes:

22. Pete Schourek, a 1987 graduate, was a pitching star for the Statesmen, who was selected by the New York Mets in the second round of the 1987 MLB Draft.

From BJ Koubaroulis' 2006 profile for The Connection's Top 100 Athletes: "Pete Schourek gained national notoriety in 1995 when he finished second to Major League Baseball pitching sensation Greg Maddux in the race for the National League Cy Young Award — awarded to baseball's top pitchers each year. Schourek nailed down 18 wins that season and picked up the Game 1 victory for the Cincinnati Reds in their eventual five-game series victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers in the National League Division Series.

"... Schourek dominated his way through his high school days and was an all-state selection by the time he was drafted by the New York Mets in the second round of the 1987 Major League Baseball amateur draft. He signed a contract on June 11, 1987 and made his major league debut in April of 1991. ... Schourek's 11-year major league career included time with the New York Mets, Cincinnati Reds, Houston Astros, Boston Red Sox and Pittsburgh Pirates. In time spent with those teams, Schourek compiled a career 4.59 earned run average, 66-77 record in 176 starts and 288 games in 1,149 innings. After four surgeries on his elbow (1986, 1996, 1997, 2000), Schourek walked away from the majors, telling the Connection in a 2004 article that his arm could not withstand the constant pounding required to pitch in the big leagues after all of his surgeries. But that was not before he had his time to shine in 1995 when he finished second in the National League Cy Young voting after posting an 18-7 record in 29 starts (190.3 innings pitched) while giving up 68 earned runs and striking out 160 batters."

George C. Marshall High School

Mascot: Statesmen.
School Colors: Scarlet and Columbia blue.
Athletic Director: Joe Swarm, 703-714-5409.
Football Coach: George Masten (first year).
The Statesmen went winless for the second consecutive season, finishing 0-10.
Field Hockey Coach: Christina Carroll
Boys' Basketball Coach: Dan Hale.
Girls' Basketball Coach: Chad Scott.
Baseball Coach: Aaron Tarr.
Rival School: Madison.

"Every season, we try to schedule really good teams at the beginning so that we can try to see where we're at. Last year when we did that, it was a little bit of a disaster — I mean, these guys beat us [15-4]. This year, [it was] 6-5, with us coming out feeling like we let the game get away from us at the end."

— Baseball coach Aaron Tarr after his team lost a close game to Robinson during the 2014 season.

36. Nick Sorenson, a 1995 graduate, was a three-sport star at Marshall, playing football, baseball and basketball. He went on to play 10 seasons in the NFL as a defensive back. He's currently an assistant coach with the Seattle Seahawks.

47. Keith Lyle, a 1990 graduate, was a football standout for the Statesmen. He was selected in the third round of the 1994 NFL Draft.

Local REAL ESTATE

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

January~June, 2014 Top Sales in Vienna, Oakton, Reston, Oak Hill and Herndon



3 2005 Carrhill Road, Vienna — \$1,835,000



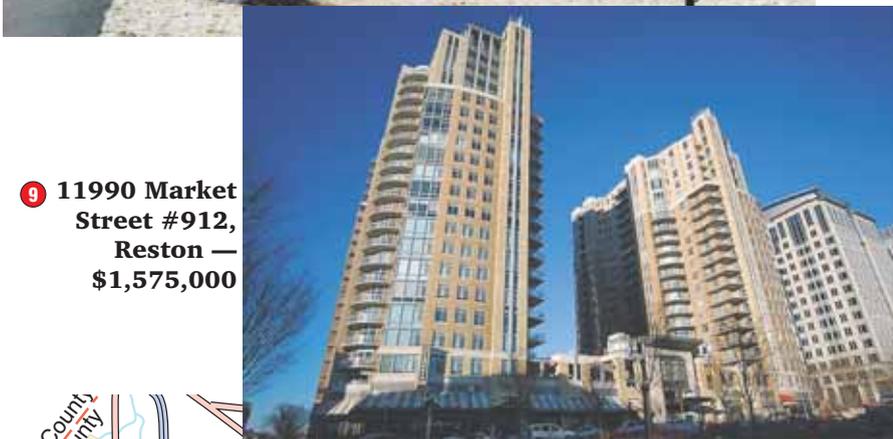
2 2604 Hannah Farm Court, Oakton — \$1,875,000



8 11600 Hunting Crest Lane, Vienna — \$1,700,000



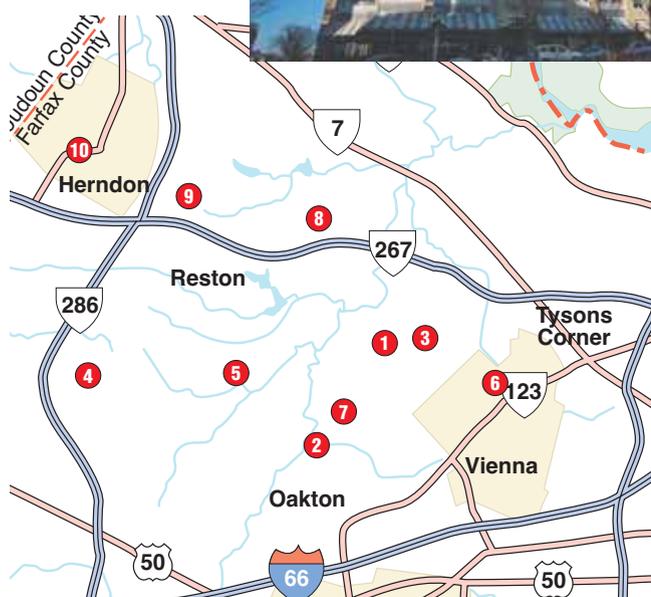
5 2538 Donns Way, Oakton — \$1,730,000



9 11990 Market Street #912, Reston — \$1,575,000



10 11728 Shaker Knolls Court, Herndon — \$1,445,339



Address	BR	FB	HB	...	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot AC	PostalCode	Subdivision	Date Sold
1 10216 WENDOVER DR	9	9	1		VIENNA		\$2,750,000	Detached	1.72	22181	WENDOVER	04/30/14
2 2604 HANNAH FARM CT	6	5	2		OAKTON		\$1,875,000	Detached	2.01	22124	HANNAH HILLS	06/26/14
3 2005 CARRHILL RD	5	6	1		VIENNA		\$1,835,000	Detached	0.58	22181	WENDOVER	06/09/14
4 3182 MARY ETIA LN	7	7	2		OAK HILL		\$1,800,000	Detached	0.83	20171	SHADETREE ESTATES	04/30/14
5 2538 DONNS WAY	5	5	2		OAKTON		\$1,730,000	Detached	1.96	22124	BRIDGES OF OAKTON	04/30/14
6 501 NELSON DR NE	5	5	1		VIENNA		\$1,711,811	Detached	0.50	22180	BEULAH HEIGHTS	05/19/14
7 10406 OAKTON HILLS CT NE	5	5	2		OAKTON		\$1,700,000	Detached	1.72	22124	OAKTON HILLS ESTATES	01/08/14
8 11600 HUNTING CREST LN	5	5	1		VIENNA		\$1,700,000	Detached	1.76	22182	BACHMAN PROPERTY	02/27/14
9 11990 MARKET ST #912	3	3	0		RESTON		\$1,575,000	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors		20190	MIDTOWN AT RESTON TOWN	05/01/14
10 11728 SHAKER KNOLLS CT	4	4	1		HERNDON		\$1,445,339	Detached	1.01	20170	SHAKER KNOLLS	04/29/14

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NEWCOMERS & COMMUNITY GUIDE



The Oakton girls' cross country team won the 2013 6A state championship.



Kelly Koshuta and the Madison girls' basketball team reached the region semifinals during the 2013-14 season.

Getting to know Madison, Oakton Sports

Madison: Girls' basketball one win shy of the state tournament.

What Happened Last Year: The girls' basketball team finished Conference 6 runner-up and reached the region semifinals. The lacrosse team went 15-2, won the conference championship and reached the region semifinals. The baseball team went 21-3 and won the conference championship. The softball team finished 19-6 and reached the region quarterfinals.

From The Connection's Top 100 Athletes: 11. Bob Brower, a 1978 graduate, excelled in four sports for the Warhawks. He went on to play football and baseball at Duke University, and later played four years of Major League Baseball for the Texas Rangers. In his best season, 1987, Brower batted .261 with 14 home runs and 46 RBIs in 127 games.

From BJ Koubaroulis' 2006 profile for The Connection's Top 100 Athletes: "Bob Brower, a 1978 graduate and the only athlete ever to letter in four sports in one year at James Madison High School, is one of those legendary figures. The type of figure whose name has grown in local sports lore. The plaque on Madison's wall of fame just outside the gymnasium in which Brower's No. 10 jersey was retired, reads: 'One of the greatest athletes ever at JM.' ...

Brower was an all-region selection in all four of his sports: baseball, basketball, football and track.

'He crushed the ball. It went over the fence and into the parking lot,' remembered former NFL and Clemson football player Billy Davis, who was a sophomore at Mt. Vernon in the spring of 1978 when he watched Brower's towering home run sail nearly 420 feet. 'He was a stud.'"

James Madison High School

Mascot: Warhawks.
School Colors: Red and black.
Athletic Director: Meghan Foley, 703-319-2360.
Football Coach: Lenny Schultz (fourth year).
The Warhawks avoided a winless 2013 campaign by defeating Marshall in the regular-season finale. Madison finished 1-9.
Volleyball Coach: Carrie Hall
Boys' Basketball Coach: Kevin Roller.
Girls' Basketball Coach: Kirsten Stone.
Baseball Coach: Mark Gjormand.
Softball Coach: Jim Adkins.
Girls' Lacrosse Coach: Amanda Counts.
Rival Schools: Oakton, Marshall.

18. Katie Smrcka-Duffy, a 1996 graduate, was a basketball star at the high school and college levels. She helped the Warhawks win the 1996 region title before playing collegiately at North Carolina State and Georgetown. She was selected in the fourth round of the 2001 WNBA draft by the Sacramento Monarchs.

From Koubaroulis' 2006 profile for The Connection's Top 100 Athletes: "Smrcka-Duffy averaged 28.8 points per game, eight rebounds, 4.7 steals, 3.7 assists and shot 52.4-percent from the field and 34.4-percent from the three-point line as a senior en route to being named the Washington Post's All-Met Player of the Year. In her time at Madison, she led the Warhawks to a 104-12 overall record. Smrcka-Duffy remains one of the greatest girls basketball players ever to emerge from the Northern Region. She left high school in 1996 with her name printed seven times in the Virginia High School League record books including a second place finish in career points (2,463) and points in a single season (950). She was sixth all-time for most three-pointers made in a career (179) — an accomplishment that Deegan finds more interesting than any of Smrcka-Duffy's other accomplishments."

25. Jay Franklin, a 1971 graduate, was a baseball star for the Warhawks. The San Diego Padres selected him with the No. 2 overall pick in the 1971 draft, but his ca-

reer was cut short by injuries.

Oakton: The girls' cross country team won the 2013 6A state title

What Happened Last Year: The girls' cross country team won the 6A state championship. John Stoney won the boys' individual state cross country title. The girls' basketball team won the Conference 5 championship. The baseball team repeated as conference/district champion.

From The Connection's Top 100 Athletes: *42. Eugene Chung, a 1987 graduate, was a two-way lineman for the Oakton football team who went on to play at Virginia Tech and was selected by the Buffalo Bills in the first round of the 1992 NFL Draft.

From BJ Koubaroulis' 2006 profile for The Connection's Top 100 Athletes: "Chung, who eventually grew to 6-feet 4-inches tall and 295-pounds, was an offensive and defensive lineman who sculpted his body into that of a Div. 1 collegiate prospect and an eventual NFL draft pick. He bought in to former Oakton coach Bob Herb's weight room regiment — a new school of thought in the Northern Region. ... But before Chung could go on to find success at Virginia Tech and in the NFL, he would suffer through trying times at Oakton, at least before his senior year. Chung's mother died when he was young and his father passed away days before the New England Patriots made him the 13th overall pick in the 1992 NFL draft (first Asian player to be selected in the first round.) He championed a defense that helped Oakton fight back from a winless streak that spanned both the 1985 and in 1986 seasons. Oakton finished in last place in the Northern District with an 0-9-1 record in 1986.

"... Chung went on to become a selection for the Football Writers Association

Oakton High School

Mascot: Cougars.
School Colors: Burgundy and gold.
Athletic Director: Pat Full, 703-319-2760.
Football Coach: Jason Rowley (fourth year).
The Cougars started the 2013 season 4-1, but struggled when they hit the Conference 5 portion of their schedule. Oakton defeated Herndon in the regular-season finale to finish 5-5.
Field Hockey Coach: Allison Ryneski.
Volleyball Coach: Dan Courain.
Boys' Basketball Coach: Dave Brooks.
Girls' Basketball Coach: Fred Priester.
Baseball Coach: Justin Janis.
Boys' Soccer Coach: Todd Spitalny.
Rival School: Madison.

All-America team following his senior season at Virginia Tech. He was the first offensive lineman to win first-team All-America honors. He started every game at tackle for the Hokies in 1991, allowing just one sack in 730 plays. He was honored as the National Lineman of the Year by the Washington Gridiron Club. He played with the New England Patriots in the NFL from 1992-1994 before playing brief stints with Jacksonville, Indianapolis, and Kansas City."

*83. Jasmine Thomas, a 2007 graduate, was a basketball star for the Cougars. She played collegiately at Duke University before starting her WNBA career. She has played for the Washington Mystics and the Atlanta Dream.

From Koubaroulis' 2006 profile for The Connection's Top 100 Athletes, when Thomas had yet to graduate: "Jasmine Thomas is only a rising senior in high school. The career statistics for Thomas, arguably one of the greatest — if not the greatest — Northern Region girls' basketball player, have not been finalized. But it is the Oakton guard's accomplishments, coupled with her potential, that has, at such a young age, already catapulted her into Northern Region lore.

'I think Jasmine is going to surpass all of them,' said Oakton girls basketball coach Fred Priester after naming some of the region's greatest girls basketball players."