

WELLBEING

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and Oakton  
Vienna  
CONNECTION

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Alice Yang (12) and the Oakton girls' volleyball team won the NVVA Invitational on Aug. 29 in Sterling.

# Tournament Champions

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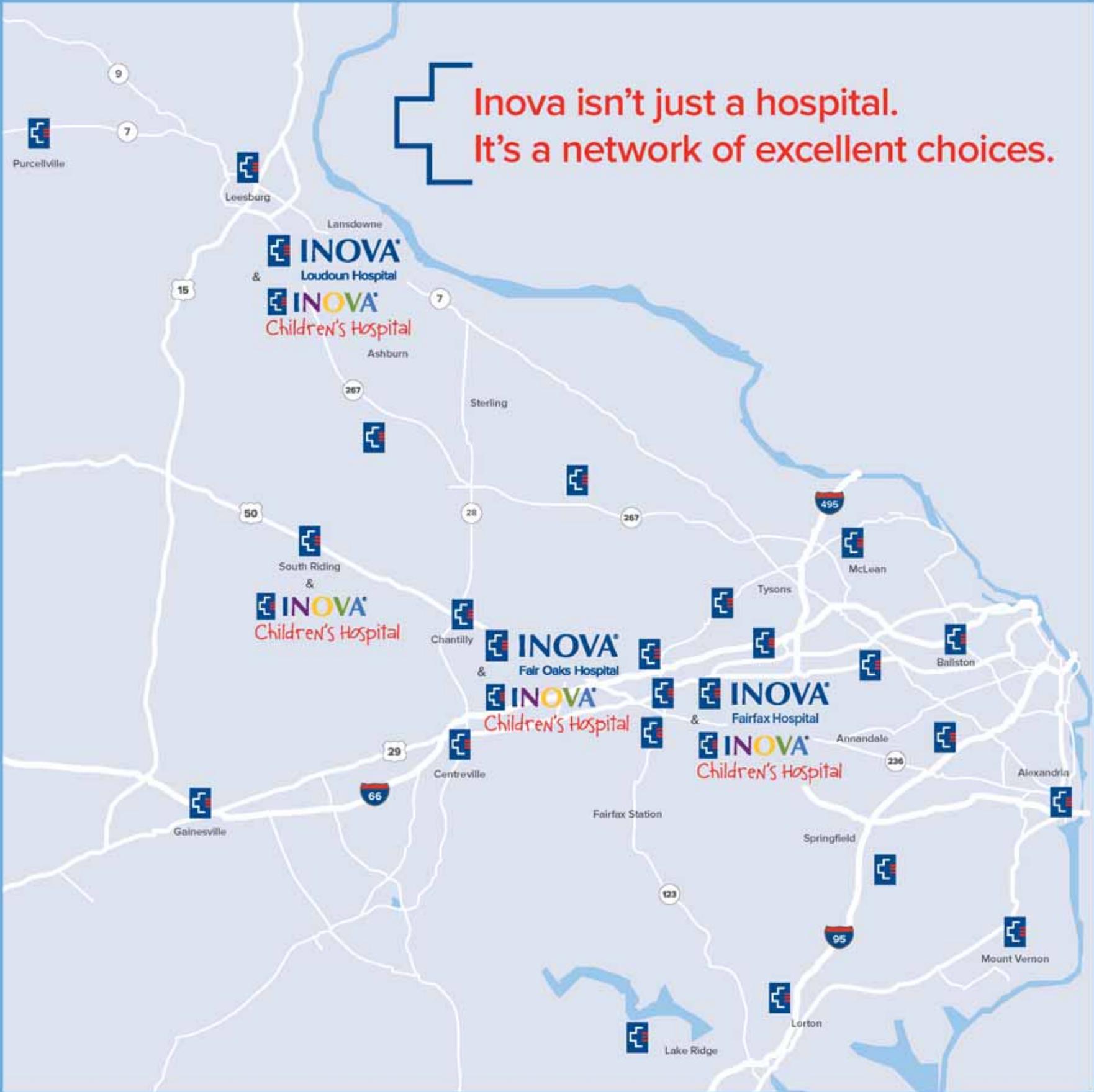
PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

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FILE PHOTO

Sign at Turner Farm Park. Many people in Great Falls would like to see Turner Farmhouse one of the first properties to be considered for the Resident Curator Program.



Lewinsville House at 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, Lewinsville Park.

# Historic Sites: Resident Curators?

In exchange for rehabilitating the property, the curator gains use of the property and pays no rent.

The Virginia General Assembly enacted legislation in January 2011 to ensure that local jurisdictions establish a Resident Curator Project.

Fairfax County is the first Virginia locality to pursue establishing such a project.

The Resident Curator Project Team held its inaugural meeting Monday, Aug. 24 in the Fairfax County Government Center.

Nineteen county properties made at least an initial cut from a list of 340 sites on the Fairfax County Inventory of Historic Sites.

Resident Curator Project Team will hold public information meetings and issue requests for information as details of the program develop.

Possible properties include:

In Great Falls, there's the Turner Farm House on Georgetown Pike and the Purple House on Walker Road.

In McLean, the Pimmit Barn on Cherri Drive, Lewinsville House on Chain Bridge Road have potential for being considered.

In Vienna, Lahey Lost Valley House on Brookmeadow Drive, the Ashgrove House on Ashgrove House Lane and Hunter House, on Courthouse Road, could qualify.

In Herndon, Leesburg Pike is home to the McDannald House and Dranesville Tavern that have historic qualifications.

In Oakton, there's the Gabrielson House on Leeds Road.

Lorton had the most properties of any town, including the Barrett House, Stepson House, and the Hannah P. Clark House, all three on Furnace Road, the Minnick House on Old Colchester Road, the Lipscomb House (Physician's House).

Most of the properties are owned by the Fairfax County Park Authority, with the ex-



Lahey Lost Valley House, 9750 Brookmeadow Drive, Vienna, in Lahey Lost Valley Park was ranked second on a list for consideration for the resident curator program.

ception of Physician's House in Lorton and Purple House in Great Falls, both owned by the Board of Supervisors.

"The end goal is to rehabilitate and maintain underutilized historic properties and provide periodic public access to appreciate the historical significance of the properties," according to county documents.

"EACH OF THESE properties is so unique," Cindy Walsh, of the Park Authority's Resource Management Division, said at the inaugural meeting on Monday, Aug. 24. Walsh said she had heard not only from individuals who would be interested in living and restoring historic sites, but nonprofits, citizens associations, wineries, restaurants, art galleries, and a beekeeper.

The group will meet in September to try to determine how to proceed.

For example, the group knows there's a lot of interest in Turner Farm House in Great Falls, including from Great Falls Citizens Association, but Turner Farm House could be a very complicated process with master plan process that needs to be followed.

"I have people who are really interested in Turner Farm," said project manager

Denice Dressel, Park Authority Resident Curator Project manager. On the other hand, starting with a historic house on the list that is already ready for residential use compatible with Planning and Zoning might quicken getting started, said Michael Thompson from the Fairfax County Park Authority Board. Request for information and proposals, part of the process, would be significantly different depending on which properties are considered, he said.

"It's critical knowing which properties are on the table," said Christopher Daniel, from the Architectural Review Board.

The next group meeting is scheduled for September, and more will be known by that time. The group already has compiled lists ranking properties in terms of historic and publicly owned prerequisites, whether properties have been underutilized, the conditions of the properties, the public interest, location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, if properties have electricity, water and sewer utilities in place.

**RESIDENT CURATOR PROGRAMS** identify publicly-owned historic properties with no immediate or practical public use

## Possible Sites

A report commissioned by Fairfax County in 2014 ranked some of the possible properties for the Resident Curator Program in the order shown here. County staff caution that planning for the program is in its earliest stages and speculation about any particular property is premature.

Name, Address, Park

- ❖ Barrett House, Furnace Road, Lorton, Laurel Hill Park
- ❖ Lahey Lost Valley House, 9750 Brookmeadow Drive, Vienna, Lahey Lost Valley Park
- ❖ Gabrielson House 2514 Leeds Road, Oakton, Difficult Run Stream Valley Park
- ❖ Lamond House, 7509 Fort Hunt Road, Alexandria, McCutcheon Park
- ❖ Physician's House (Lipscomb House), Unnamed Service Road, Lorton
- ❖ Stepson House, Furnace Road, Lorton, Laurel Hill Park
- ❖ Ash Grove, 8881 Ashgrove House Lane, Vienna, Ash Grove Historic Site
- ❖ Hannah P. Clark House (Enyedi House), 10605 Furnace Road, Lorton, Old Colchester Park and Preserve
- ❖ Hunter House, 9537 Courthouse Road, Vienna, Nottoway Park
- ❖ Minnick House, 10419 Old Colchester Road, Lorton, Mason Neck West Park
- ❖ Turner Farm House, 10609 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls, Turner Farm Park
- ❖ Banks Property, 7400 Old Telegraph Road, Alexandria, Olander and Margaret Banks Neighborhood Park
- ❖ Lewinsville House, 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, Lewinsville Park
- ❖ Pimmit Barn, 1845 Cherri Drive, McLean
- ❖ Dranesville Tavern 11919 Leesburg Pike, Herndon, Dravesville Tavern Historic Site
- ❖ Stone Mansion, 3900 Stoneybrooke Drive, Alexandria, Stoneybrooke Park
- ❖ Clark House 6332 Bancroft Mews Drive, Falls Church, Clark House Park
- ❖ Purple House, 720 Walker Road, Great Falls
- ❖ McDannald House, 11903 Leesburg Pike, Herndon, Dranesville Tavern Historic Site

**SOURCE:** Fairfax County Resident Curator Program Study, 2014 Final Report by John Milner Associates Inc. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/plandev/downloads/resident-curator-program-final-report.pdf>

and through an open and competitive process, select outside parties with skills, resources and vision to rehabilitate a property in accordance with accepted preservation standards for historic buildings. In exchange for rehabilitating the property, the curator gains use of the property and pays no rent.

— KEN MOORE

## How to Vote; It Matters

Voting begins in two weeks, Sept. 18.

**E**lection Day is Nov. 3, and on that day, virtually every state and local office is on the ballot. In-person absentee voting begins Sept. 18, barely two weeks from now. Virginia Law allows voters to absentee vote if they could be “working and commuting for 11 or more hours between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Election Day.” You’re allowed to count your worst possible commute in estimating how many hours you might be working and commuting on Election Day.

On Election Day, Nov. 3, polls are open from 6 a.m. - 7 p.m.

To vote on Election Day, you must be registered at your current address no later than Oct. 13, 2015.

You can check your registration status online by going to [www.sbe.virginia.gov](http://www.sbe.virginia.gov).

It’s also worth noting that new, more restrictive voter identification regulations took effect last year.

**FAIRFAX COUNTY:** Each voter in Fairfax County can make choices in one State Senate district, one House of Delegates district, Clerk

of the Court, Commonwealth’s Attorney, Sheriff, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, District member of the Board of Supervisors, Soil and Water Conservation Board (vote for 3), School Bond for \$310 million, Public Safety Bond for \$151 million. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming.htm>

As of last 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 U.S. Government, the Commonwealth of Virginia, or a political sub-

division 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; 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.

Any registered voter 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.

### For More Election Information

Fairfax County Board of Elections, 703-222-0776, <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/elections/upcoming.htm>

12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Suite 232, Fairfax, 22035; FAX 703-324-2205; email [voting@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:voting@fairfaxcounty.gov)

State Board of Elections, 804 864-8901 Toll Free: 800 552-9745 FAX: 804 371-0194 email: [info@sbe.virginia.gov](mailto:info@sbe.virginia.gov) <http://www.sbe.virginia.gov>

EDITORIAL

## Mystery of a Hitchhiker Helping a defeated figure in a pretty beach dress and flip-flops.

By JOAN BRADY

**M**y mother told me never to pick up hitchhikers. Or maybe she told me never to hitchhike. Probably both. But I did hitchhike twice in a single day, I was desperate, alone and needed help. I was 20 years old.

The first guy who picked me up had one hand on the wheel and the other down his pants. And the second told me that he was a burlesque cleaner and told me that women hired him to vacuum their homes and then vacuum off his clothes. I’m lucky I made it back to college without incident.

All of that ran quickly through my head a few weeks ago as I was driving home from dinner with my husband and saw a young woman, walking and crying, with her thumb stuck tentatively out.

I turned around and we passed her again in an attempt to assess the situation. Her need vs. our safety and the time it would take if we got involved. Her thumb wasn’t out anymore, but she was still crying. I u-turned again and we pulled over.

Jim rolled down his window, and asked, “Are you ok?”

“I’ve had better nights,” she sobbed.

“Do you have an address where you want to go?”

She was able to provide an address, albeit in the opposite direction of the way she was walking. It was about a 10-minute drive away. Jim unlocked the car door and she slipped inside.

We rode in an uncomfortable silence, punctuated only by her sobs, as I ran through a mental checklist. What happened to her? Where is her purse? Should we ask if we should call the police? She didn’t appear injured, but maybe there were injuries that we could not see? Is the address we are going to a safe place to drop her off? The questions ran in circles in my head.

I suggested she check the back seat for a box of tissues. Her sobs slowed as she grabbed a handful.

I asked if she was a student. She said no, and half laughed through her tears. “I’m 30, which makes it even more ridiculous that I am in this situation.”

What situation? What happened? I wanted to ask. But didn’t. She didn’t have a trace of an



The hitchhiker

PHOTO BY JOAN BRADY

accent, so we were surprised when she told us she was was not American-born. Her father was U.S. military and her mother had been unwilling to move to the U.S. After years of trying to convince her mother to emigrate, this young woman had come on her own.

As we talked, her tears stopped to an intermittent snuffle.

“Can I ask you why you stopped?” she asked.

“Joan saw you as we drove by,” Jim answered. “We turned around because she said you looked like you were in trouble.” The tears returned.

“We’ve all been in your shoes at some point or another. And hitchhiking isn’t safe. We thought it was better if we picked you up than

someone else.”

Silence and then: “I’m not religious. I don’t even believe in God. But I think God put you in my path for a reason. Things have been really bad lately.”

“Everyone goes through bad stretches. You have to figure out how to focus on the positive, but also to learn from times like these and remember them. It’s what you do with these experiences that matters,” Jim counseled her.

I watched in the rear view mirror as she nodded tearfully.

There were so many questions destined to be unasked and unanswered as we pulled up at the address she had given us.

She thanked us again, told us she would pay-it-forward and walked into the apartment building, a defeated figure in a pretty beach dress and flip-flops.

Her story will likely remain a mystery that will haunt us for a long time to come.

*Joan Brady is a professional photographer; award-winning columnist; mentor and advocate for current and former foster children; a volunteer with paws4People, Fairfax Families4Kids, and others; and a resident of Great Falls. Reach her at [joan@joanbradyphotography.com](mailto:joan@joanbradyphotography.com)*

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## WEEK IN VIENNA

### The Town of Vienna Community Center Renovation Update

On Monday, Aug. 24, the Vienna Town Council awarded IFB 16-04 to Keller Brothers, Inc. for the expansion and renovation of the Vienna Community Center. Construction is expected to begin mid-September with The Lukmire Partnership as the lead architectural and engineering firm.

The groundbreaking ceremony for the new facility will be held directly in front of the current Vienna Community Center. Information regarding the specific date and time of the groundbreaking ceremony will be provided in the coming weeks.

Beginning Sept. 4, the Vienna Community Center will cease all operations at its 120 Cherry Street

location. On Sept. 8, the Community Center office operations will resume at the Cedar Park Shopping Center, 262-M Cedar Lane SE, Vienna. Classes and programs will be held at Vienna Baptist Church, Vienna Presbyterian Church, Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, Patrick Henry Library, Town Hall and the Bowman House. Office hours will be from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Saturday and Sunday the Community Center will be closed.

The Club Phoenix Teen Center will also be moving to the Cedar Park Shopping Center and will be open for use starting Sept. 8. The Teen Center staff will continue to provide the youth with stellar activities.

and other activities. Opportunities to volunteer for other services are also available. No long-term commitment, and hours are flexible to fit your schedule. Visit [www.scov.org](http://www.scov.org) or contact the Volunteer Coordinator at 703-281-5086 or email [volunteer@scov.org](mailto:volunteer@scov.org).

### The Shepherd's Center Needs Volunteers

The Shepherd's Center of Oakton-Vienna has an urgent need for volunteer drivers to take area seniors to medical appointments

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## WELLBEING

# Workplace Fitness

Employer-based health and wellness programs are good for business.

BY MARILYN CAMPBELL  
THE CONNECTION

It's Wednesday afternoon and a cohort of George Mason University staff, students and faculty hit the pavement. Clad in attire ranging from running shorts and brightly colored sneakers to neutral walking shoes and business suits, the group takes part in "Who's Walking Wednesdays," part of an initiative to get moving for health and wellness.

"It's really important to connect faculty and staff into well-being and wellness practices," said Janet Walker, life/work connections manager at George Mason University. "It benefits everybody in terms of their own personal health and wellness. It creates a community where people interact over more than just work."

The effort underscores the role of workplace health and fitness programs can play in decreasing stress and improving overall well-being.

A National Institutes of Health study of more than 29,000 employees who participated in comprehensive workplace health programs that included components such as fitness, weight control and smoking cessation, showed a 14-percent decline in illness over a two-year period, as well as a six-percent increase in productivity.

Workplace health programs can also consist of health education, fitness programs, health coaching and screenings.

"There's all sorts of research about how time spent outdoors and taking walking breaks at work fosters creativity and problem solving," said Jeanne Bliss, director of marketing, Center for the

Advancement of Well-being at George Mason.

Bliss says university officials hope to impact the well-being of 10 million people within the next four years through the center. "We want to be a replicable model for well-being," she said. "That has been one of our strategic 10-year goals."

"We're in a position to help the next generation in terms of how they connect with their own workforce in terms of health and well-being," said Brandice Valentino, director of well-being programs and mindful living coordinator at the Center for the Advancement of Well-being. "Our programs focus on topics for well-being and integrating mindfulness practices."

Amy K. Turner, executive director of Innovation Health, a Northern Virginia health insurance company formed as a result of a partnership between Aetna and Inova, says her company has improved the health of its workforce through tailored employee wellness programs.

Innovation Health has also created corporate wellness programs for its corporate clients.

In fact, the company received the Loudon Chamber of Commerce Healthy Business Award, which honors the winners of the Loudon Healthy Business Challenge, a competition designed to recognize Northern Virginia businesses that have improved the health of their workforce through tailored employee wellness programs.

A group mentality is one of the keys. Group fitness activity can lead to success, say experts. "I feel like when you do it in a group and



PHOTO COURTESY OF GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

Staff, students and faculty at George Mason University take part in "Who's Walking Wednesdays," an effort to increase physical activity and well-being. Research shows that workplace health programs can lead to increased productivity.

you're part of a group, you're more committed," said Turner. "It holds people accountable and promotes success."

"Our 'Get Active Challenge' is where employees set fitness goals and challenge other teams within their corporation," she said. "It

engages employees to work together in teams, challenges them. We've found that it improves employee satisfaction."

## Fairfax County Announces Drug Take-Back Day on Sept. 26

The Unified Prevention Coalition of Fairfax County, in partnership with Fairfax County Neighborhood and Community Services, Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board, Fairfax County Police Department, Covanta, the Drug Enforcement Agency and more than 130 local pharmacies will host its fourth annual Drug Take-Back Day, Operation Medicine Cabinet Cleanout, on Saturday, Sept. 26. According to the 2013-2014 Fairfax County Youth Survey, over 13 percent of high school seniors have used painkillers without a doctor's order. Moreover, four out of five heroin abusers report prior abuse of prescription drugs.

"There is an alarming connection between prescription drug

abuse and heroin abuse," said Whitney Strand, executive director for the Unified Prevention Coalition. "To combat this community issue, we need to provide a free, safe, confidential, and eco-friendly solution for Fairfax County's young adults. Operation Medicine Cabinet Cleanout, with the help of countless local partners and law enforcement, achieves just that."

Individuals can bring unused or expired medications (pills or liquids – no pressurized canisters or needles) to any of the eight local Fairfax County district police stations for disposal from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 26.

Drop-off sites  
 ♦Fair Oaks District Station, 12300 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax, VA 22033

♦Franconia District Station, 6121 Franconia Road, Alexandria,

VA 22310  
 ♦West Springfield District Station, 6140 Rolling Road, Springfield, VA 22152  
 ♦Mason District Station, 6507 Columbia Pike Annandale, VA 22003  
 ♦McLean District Station, 1437 Balls Hill Road McLean, Virginia 22101  
 ♦Sully District Station, 4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly, VA 20151  
 ♦Reston District Station, 1801 Cameron Glen Drive, Reston, VA 20190  
 ♦Mount Vernon District Station, 2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306  
 For more information about proper disposal of medications year-round, please visit [www.unifiedpreventioncoalition.org](http://www.unifiedpreventioncoalition.org).

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\$1,548,000  
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ROUND HILL, VA - A long winding drive, past a picturesque pond, leads to an exquisite brick & stucco colonial on 10+ gorgeous acres. 12 room residence includes 4 BR, 5.5 BA, stunning family room with vaulted ceilings and full stone wall fireplace; tiled sun room w/ wet bar. Pool, spa...  
\$1,145,000  
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PURCELLVILLE, VA Stunning custom home in the heart of Loudoun County's Wine Country next-door to Hillsborough Vineyards. Beautiful sunset views! The grand foyer with hardwood floors opens into the living room and formal dining room. Enjoy the views from the gourmet kitchen!  
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MARSHALL, VA - Exquisite property with 1st floor master suite, HW floors, saltillo tiles, plus carpet, 5 fireplaces, 2 offices, Viking/Miele appliances, high speed internet, extensive gardens, tankless water heater, 3 bay garage w/ courtyard, 2 paddocks, 9' ceilings. Many updates and improvements!  
\$1,150,000  
Walter Woodson 703-499-4961

ROUND HILL, VA Fantastic home in desirable Devonshire. Newly updated 4-6 BR, 4 BA cape cod on 3 acres w/ room for pool. Low maintenance exterior. New paint inside & out, new SS appliances. Main lvl master suite, finished lower level w/ aupaar/ inlaw suite/kitchenette, tons of storage, Trex deck, Trane HVAC, Verizon Fios.  
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MARSHALL, VA - Charming cottage with 3 BR 2.5 BA. Perfect weekend or full-time living. Amenities include Viking range, soapstone counters, exquisite hardwood floors, restful porches, wood-burning fireplace, French doors. 2,200+/- sq ft, fenced yard. Peaceful home about 10 minutes from Middleburg.  
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LEESBURG, VA - Rarely available 3BR, 2BA condo with golf course views. Corner unit at the back of community backing to trees. Nicely kept condo with hardwood floors, washer and dryer in unit, and extra storage. Great investment opportunity, currently rented on a m/to m lease 1200 month, tenant would love to stay. Convenient commuter location with quick access to RT7, RT15, and Dulles Greenway.  
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THE CONNECTION NEWSPAPERS

# Oakton Volleyball Wins NVVA Invitational

**Cougars sweep five opponents in Sterling tournament.**

BY JON ROETMAN  
THE CONNECTION

**T**he Oakton volleyball team cruised through pool play undefeated at the NVVA Invitational on Saturday in Sterling, earning a spot in the championship match.

Unfortunately for the Cougars, the quickness with which they dispatched opponents early in the tournament led to roughly three hours of down time.

Oakton players found ways to stay busy while waiting to compete in the first-place match, including bouncing on yoga balls, listening to music and dancing. When it came time to play, the Cougars made their way to court No. 1 at the Virginia Volleyball Center and made quick work of McLean, defeating the Highlanders 2-0 (25-20, 25-17) on Aug. 29 to win the tournament title.

**OAKTON** swept each of its five two-set matches.

“Obviously, they showed they can come back and get ready quickly,” fourth-year Oakton head coach Dan Courain said. “It was a nice test for me, also, [to] see how quickly they can get ready ... to play.”

The Cougars defeated Edison, Washington-Lee, South County and South Lakes during pool play.

“It shows that we’re a team to compete with,” senior middle hitter Emily Heier said, “and it shows that we have the power and the team to beat really tough teams.”

Heier led Oakton with nine kills during



The Oakton volleyball team won the NVVA Invitational on Aug. 29.

PHOTO BY  
CRAIG STERBUTZEL/  
THE CONNECTION

**Oakton senior Emily Heier (14) had a team-high nine kills against McLean in the championship match of the NVVA Invitational on Aug. 29.**

the championship match. She also had two aces.

Junior outside hitter Alice Yang and sophomore outside hitter Grace Cozad each had six kills against McLean, and senior middle hitter Caitlin Becker had two. Senior setter Meghan Wood had three aces.

“For the people [who were] on the team last year, it’s a huge confidence booster,” Yang said of winning the tournament, “because we’re, I think, so much better compared to what we were last year.”

Oakton went 17-12 and finished Conference 5 runner-up in 2014, losing to Westfield in the conference championship match. The Cougars lost to Fairfax in the opening round of the 6A North region tournament.

Yang, a VHSL second-team all-state selection, and Heier were Oakton’s primary

threats in 2014. Courain is hopeful other Cougars will step up and help shoulder the load in 2015.

“One thing we’re hoping for this year is actually to see a little less of [Yang and Heier],” Courain said, “because we have more key players.”

Cozad and senior opposite hitter Coral Hulcher are expected to be key offensive contributors. Junior libero Lexi Barker, a transfer from Dallas, and senior defensive specialist Alex Marquis are also standouts.

Yang was named tournament MVP. Heier and Wood were also named to the all-tournament team, along with McLean’s Madison McArthur and Autumn Brenner, and Fairfax’s Savannah Powers and Taris Pittman. “I think this is the deepest team we’ve had at Oakton,” Courain said.

“We’ve got 12 girls who can play. ... Our

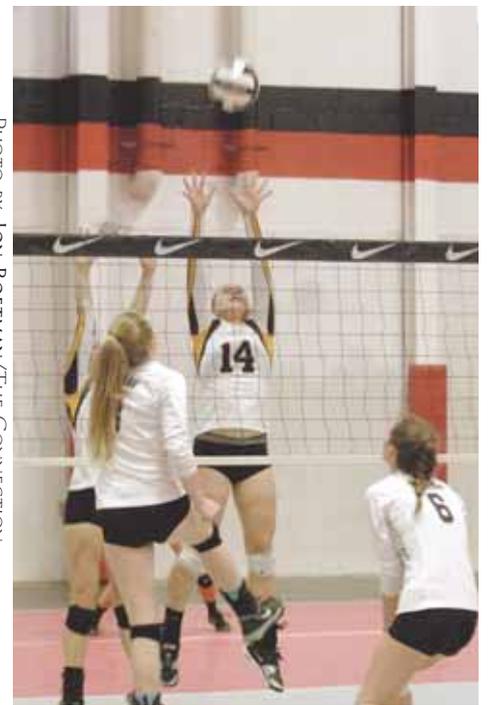


PHOTO BY JON ROETMAN/THE CONNECTION

practices are spectacular. We’ve got 12 girls out there who are really pushing to compete out there on the court ... [and would] probably start on almost every other team out there.”

Oakton will travel to face Tuscarora at 7:15 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 3.

**THE COUGARS’ FIRST** home match is Sept. 10 against South County.

“Right now we’ve got a target on our back and we know that every team is going to give us their best,” Courain said. “They’ve got to know they need to be ready and hopefully they’re not complacent with this because a tournament in August is nice, it’s good to boost the confidence, but the tournaments in October and November are the ones we want to be able to compete in and do well [in].”

## Oakton Field Hockey Competitive at LB Tourney

**T**he Oakton field hockey team played in four competitive contests during the Blast ALS tournament at Lake Braddock Secondary School, but the Cougars’ offensive struggles led to a 1-3 record.

Each of Oakton’s four games was decided by one goal during the two-day event Aug. 26-27, but the Cougars scored just one goal.

On the first day, Oakton opened with a 1-0 loss to Centreville, but responded with a 1-0 win over defending 6A North region champion Fairfax. Senior forward Mackenzie Brooks scored for the Cougars.

On the second day, Oakton lost to Woodson and Lake Braddock, each game ending with a 1-0 final score.

“Unfortunately we could not find the backboard in three of our games, but dominated most of them,” second-year Oakton head coach Allison Ryneski wrote in an email. “We only have seven returning players so learning to play with a new team and a new offensive line will take some time. I am very excited for the new team and see-



**Junior midfielder Catherine Leighty and the Oakton field hockey team went 1-3 during the Blast ALS tournament at Lake Braddock, Aug. 26-27.**

PHOTO BY JON ROETMAN

ing what they will accomplish in the games ahead.” Senior goalkeeper Katie Smith returns for Oakton and is part of what Ryneski called a “very strong” defense. Senior defenders Jenna Colturi and Jenna Ollen, and junior defender Carly Golden also return.

Brooks, senior midfielder Sarah Clinton, and junior forward Maddie Rouse are returning front-line players.

Oakton went 6-10-1 last season and failed to qualify for the regional tournament.

“My expectation for the girls this year is to push themselves to be better athletes on and off the field,” Ryneski wrote. “Our theme for this year is to work hard because many times hard work beats talent when talent fails to work hard. I want the girls to see how their hard work in the long pre-season will pay off during the season.”

Oakton lost to West Springfield 1-0 on Monday, dropping its record to 1-4. The Cougars will host Langley at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 2.

— JON ROETMAN

# CALENDAR

Send announcements to [north@connectionnewspapers.com](mailto:north@connectionnewspapers.com). Deadline is Friday for the following week's paper. Photos/artwork encouraged.

## ONGOING

**Summer Reading Program.** Friday-Sunday, through Sept. 5. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. at Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike Great Falls. Attend summer events and check out books. All ages. Visit <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/gf/>.

**Great Falls Concerts on the Green.** Sundays, through Sept. 6. 6-8 p.m. at Great Falls Village Centre Green. Come out on Sundays and listen to some live music. Visit <http://www.celebrategreatfalls.org/concerts-on-the-green/>.

**"Gold Rush."** Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. through Sept. 26. at Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW, Vienna. Artwork with "gold" as the theme. This can be interpreted in many ways, gold colors, gold coins, golden hair, gold leaf and more. The show is open to the public, and visitors can also view small items of original art, scarves, jewelry, notecards etc. All hand made by VAS artists - great for gifts.

**Vienna's Summer on the Green Concert Series.** Fridays-Sundays, through Sept. 27. 6:30 p.m. at Vienna Town Green, 144 Maple Avenue E, Vienna. Come out on the weekend and listen to some good music. Visit <http://www.viennava.gov/DocumentCenter/View/2640>

## WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 2

**Pokemon League.** 4:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Drop-in and play Pokemon with your friends.

**Oak Marr Farmers Market.** 8 a.m. - noon. Wednesdays, May 6- Nov. 18. Oak Marr Park & RECENTER, 3200 Jermantown Road, Oakton. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/viennamkt.htm>

## THURSDAY/SEPT. 3

**Emi Sunshine.** 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Avenue, East, Vienna. Ten-year-old Emi Sunshine, a future country music legend, has been getting standing ovations wherever she has performed this year.

**Reading Buddies.** 4:30 p.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Teen Volunteers available to read to or with beginning readers. Ages 3-9.

**STEM Project.** 4 p.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean. National Honor Society tutoring project in STEM subjects for elementary school students.

## FRIDAY/SEPT. 4

**Playdate Cafe.** 10 a.m. Great Falls Library, 9830 Georgetown Pike, Great Falls. Toys and play space for children. Coffee and conversation for grownups. Ages birth-5.

**McLean Farmers Market.** 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Fridays, May 1-Nov. 20. 1659 Chain Bridge Road, McLean. [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/mcleanmkt.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/farmersmarkets/mcleanmkt.htm)

## SATURDAY-SUNDAY/SEPT. 5-6

**22nd Annual Middle Eastern Food Festival.** Saturday: 11 a.m. - 11 p.m. Sunday: 12-6 p.m. Holy Transfiguration Melkite Greek-Catholic Church, 8501 Lewinsville Road, McLean. The Festival will feature authentic Middle Eastern food, pastries, music and dancing, as well as vendors, church tours, and activities for both children and adults.



See and hear model trolleys and diesel trains plus Thomas and some of his friends in the Historic Vienna Train Station along the W&OD trail just past the Caboose on Sept. 12 from 1-5 p.m. at 231 Dominion Road NE, Vienna.

[www.MiddleEasternFoodFestival.com](http://www.MiddleEasternFoodFestival.com).

## WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 9

**Jammin' Juniors Concert: Bari Koral Family Rock Band.** 12:30 p.m. McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd., McLean. Free admission

**Alden Theatre Usher Event.** 7-8:30 p.m. 1234 Ingleside Avenue, McLean. Want to be a part of the arts? Learn how you can become an usher at The Alden.

**McLean Newcomers and Neighbors' Monthly Coffee.** 11-12 a.m. Regency Apartments Community Room, 1800 Old Meadows Road, McLean. Non-members are invited to come meet the club members and to hear about their various activities. For further information contact: Elaine Varner, [emvarner@verizon.net](mailto:emvarner@verizon.net).

**Small Wonders.** 10:30 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Short stories for you and your child. Age 13-23 months with adult.

## THURSDAY/SEPT. 10

**Textures in Watercolor.** 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Vienna Art Center, 115 Pleasant St., NW, Vienna. At the Vienna Art Society's monthly members' meeting, watercolor artist Rachel Kazan will demonstrate "Textures in Watercolor" Learn fun ways to use saran wrap, salt, rubbing alcohol and gesso to make wonderful textures in watercolor that can be used for rocks, mountains, water, feathers and other highly textured objects. In addition, you can use layers of saran wrap painting to create a batik effect in watercolor. [www.ViennaArtsSociety.com](http://www.ViennaArtsSociety.com)

**My First Book Club.** 4:30 p.m. Dolley Madison Library, 1244 Oak Ridge Ave., McLean. A book discussion group for boys and girls. Ask for title. Grades Kindergarten - 2.

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 12

**National Grandparents Day Celebration.** 10:30 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Grandparents are invited to bring their grandchildren for a Grandparents Day celebration, which will include storytime and craft-making. To participate in craft, families are encouraged to bring a picture of themselves. Age 3-7 with adult.

**Great Tastes of Tysons Festival.** 12-6 p.m. Lerner Town Square at Tysons II, 8025 Galleria Drive. World-renowned chefs, international wines and foods, outdoor grilling, workshops and more. Visit <http://tastetysons.com/> for more.

**Model Trains and Thomas at Open**

**House.** 1 to 5 p.m. 231 Dominion Road NE, Vienna. See and hear model trolleys and steam and diesel trains plus Thomas and some of his friends in the Historic Vienna Train Station along the W&OD trail just past the Caboose. The layout reflects the mountainous terrain and towns of Western North Carolina with award winning structures. [www.nvmr.org](http://www.nvmr.org).

**Oakton Farmers Market.** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Year round. Unity of Fairfax Church, 2854 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton. [www.smartmarkets.org/](http://www.smartmarkets.org/)

**Vienna Farmers Market.** 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Faith Baptist Church Parking Lot, 301 Center Street South, Vienna. [www.viennafarmersmarket.com](http://www.viennafarmersmarket.com).

## MONDAY/SEPT. 14

**Legos in the Library.** 4 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Have fun and make new friends. Hundreds of Legos await you and your creativity.

## TUESDAY/SEPT. 15

**Canasta Group.** 12:30 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Enjoy socializing while you play Canasta with this weekly group meeting.

## WEDNESDAY/SEPT. 16

**Jammin' Juniors Concert. Two of a Kind.** 12:30 p.m. McLean Central Park, 1468 Dolley Madison Blvd. Free admission.

**Toddler Tales.** 10:30 a.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Stories and activities for you and your toddler. Age 2-3 with adult.

## THURSDAY/SEPT. 17

**Oakton Book Discussion Group.** 7 p.m. Oakton Library, 10304 Lynnhaven Place, Oakton. Come and join Oakton's book discussion group. The September selection is Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline. Adults.

## SATURDAY/SEPT. 19

**Beer, Bourbon & BBQ Festival.** 12-6 p.m. Lerner Town Square at Tysons II, 8025 Galleria Drive. A great day of beer sippin', bourbon tastin', music listenin', cigar smokin', and barbecue eatin'.

**Ice Cream Social Fundraiser.** 4-7 p.m. Nottoway Park, shelter 1, 9610 Courthouse Road, Vienna. An ice cream social fundraiser to raise money for Girl Up, a United Nations Foundation campaign that works to empower adolescent girls in developing countries.

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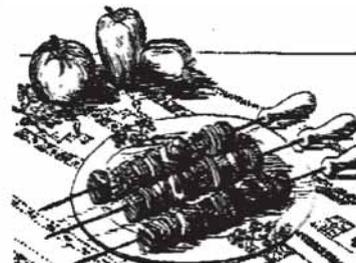
Sunday, Sept. 6, 12:00 noon-6:00 pm

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<b>Falafel</b>	<b>Vendors</b>
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**ABC LICENSE**  
Target Stores, Inc. trading as Target Store T3210, 1500 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA 22209. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer Off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages.  
Rachel Vegas, VP  
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

### 21 Announcements

**ABC LICENSE**  
Collins Restaurant Group, LLC trading as Arosto at Dunn Loring Station, 2676 Avenir Pl. Unit J, Vienna, VA 22180. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Wine and Beer on Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Paul Collins, owner  
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered at [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200.

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MMSJ, Inc. trading as Basillini Italian Restaurant, 235 Maple Ave. E, Vienna, VA 22180. The above establishment is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL (ABC) for a Beer and Wine on and off Premises license to sell or manufacture alcoholic beverages. Caroline Kamel, secretary  
NOTE: Objections to the issuance of this license must be submitted to ABC no later than 30 days from the publishing date of the first of two required newspaper legal notices. Objections should be registered to [www.abc.virginia.gov](http://www.abc.virginia.gov) or 800-552-3200

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**Accountant** - Prepare accounting records, financial statements, and tax returns in accordance with tax law and procedural standards. Respond to audits and information requests from Federal and State governments. Prepare accounting data for annual income tax filing. Prepare and ensure timely filing of all monthly, quarterly, and annual Federal financial reports. Meet tax filing deadlines for monthly, quarterly, and annual state and local tax returns, sales tax returns, property tax returns, and business tax returns. Update and maintain tax related accounting journals, ledgers, and other records detailing financial business transactions. Prepare budget reports for comparison between budgeted costs to actual costs. Process payroll and check preparation. Report to management regarding company's finances.

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# Citing Student Mental Health as a Priority New student representative on School Board shares focus of his predecessor.

BY JISU KIM  
THE CONNECTION

**D**ressed in a suit and tie to a casual meeting at Ted's Bulletin, it's not hard to tell that Ben Press, a rising senior at James Madison High School, is no ordinary teenager. As Fairfax County Public Schools students prepare for yet another school year, Press is preparing for a role that comes with many more responsibilities than those of a regular student: the student representative to the FCPS School Board.

The student representative is elected each year by the Student Advisory Council, and his or her main role is to represent the FCPS student body and advocate for students' opinions in the School Board. However, Press believes that the job holds much more, saying that he plans to "engage students, interact with board members, and become that bridge between the two populations."

Press has been a leader in both the school and county levels, serving in the SAC and the School

Health Advisory Committee, where he focused on student mental health, which also served as his main point in his platform when he ran for student representative.

"It [mental health] is important to me because I've seen close friends suffer from mental health challenges, and the widespread scale of these issues made it clear to me that they weren't isolated," said Press.

Harris LaTeef, a former Langley High School student and the preceding student representative, stands with Press on the importance of focusing on mental health as a county.

"I think I've said this at board meeting many times — you can be a genius, you can be smart, you can work really hard, but if you don't have your physical and mental health, the education that Fairfax County is providing you is completely worthless," said LaTeef, citing the later start times that passed this year as one of his biggest accomplishments as the student representative because of its impact on student mental health.



**Ben Press and Harris LaTeef, incoming and outgoing student representatives on the Fairfax County School Board.**

Another challenge coming towards FCPS next year is the budget. With talk of cutting extracurricular activities and compromising class size, figuring out the budget will be the top priority for the School Board in the coming year.

"I'd like to create a budget that reflects the community's values. I want us to create a budget that helps students and is sustainable

and create a budget framework that students can continually advocate," said Press, mentioning this as one of his main goals as student representative.

In the midst of upcoming challenges, the 45th FCPS student representative remains hopeful and excited for the future of FCPS and continuing his term throughout the school year.

"We have long maintained the commitment to educating the whole child, which is unique in many divisions in many areas. That's why FCPS is a standard of excellence — we care about our students and educate them in life skills. If you look at our Portrait of a Graduate program, those [FCPS graduates] are people who are ready for 21st century jobs," said Press.

Outside of FCPS, Press works as a student representative with multiple advocacy organizations including Real Food for Kids and the Fairfax County Council of PTAs. At Madison High, he serves as a member of the Student Government, a peer tutor, and the DECA Chapter president.

He is also a member of the National, History, French, and DECA Honor Societies. He is an Eagle Scout and has served as the Lodge Chief of the 4,000-member Amangamek Wipit Lodge of the Order of the Arrow, Scouting's Honor Society, and as a youth member of the National Capital Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America's Executive Board.

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